

hampton pool trust

# Poolside Chat

The newsletter from the charity securing the future of Hampton Pool

Winter Issue 2020

## Thank you for all your support

Chair's Welcome by Jane Savidge



*The Pool at Christmas under Covid safety measures*

As 2020 draws to a close, we move into 2021 on a more upbeat note, with roll out of the vaccine underway and a sense of hope in the air. Progress with a nationwide vaccination programme should allow Covid-19 restrictions to be gradually eased through the course of next year, which, in due course, will allow the Pool to return to a more normal way of operating.

Despite the considerable challenges we have all experienced, we were heartened by the way in which the Pool staff worked so hard to bring us out of the two periods of lockdown efficiently, allowing Hampton Pool to open swiftly, ahead of many other outdoor pools and lidos, albeit with restrictions in place. We have been helped by the amazing support of so many of you, our Trust members, pool customers and neighbours, who have returned to the Pool to swim and exercise. *Continued over...*

### Get on board

Hampton Pool Trust (HPT) is a small, independent, not for profit company and educational charity.

It is run by volunteers from the local community with a vision to maintain Hampton Pool as a safe, welcoming, enjoyable, sustainable and inspirational heated, public open air swimming environment, all year round.

The Trust owns the building and the Pool and exists to secure the long-term future of the Pool for community use. Hampton Pool is managed on behalf of Hampton Pool Trust by YMCA St Paul's Group.

Both are registered charities. There are over 400 members of Hampton Pool Trust who care deeply about the facility and how it is run.

Please contact the Trust at the address below if you too would like to become a member – or even a Trustee.

*The HPT Board of Trustees are:*

Ralph Arundell  
Deborah Boland  
Marguerite Cameron  
Andy Cowper  
Sandra Cummings  
Mark Doyle  
Alex Fell  
Grahame Hadden  
Jean Hughes Bell  
Tim Lawes  
Stuart Leamy  
Sam Murphy  
Jane Savidge – Chair  
Daphne Wharton  
Michael White

Please contact the Trust by email at [info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk)

Please visit [hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](http://hamptonpooltrust.org.uk) for more information on improvements

**Do you have a story you'd like to share? To contact the Trust, please send your message to [info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk)**

# Thank you for all your support *continued*

Jane Savidge, Chair

Hampton Pool Trust also begins the new year a step closer to being able to redevelop the Pool buildings and infrastructure to secure the Pool for the future. In November, Richmond Council's Planning Committee unanimously approved plans that will allow us to upgrade and enhance our buildings to extend the facilities on the site and to improve the experience of all those visiting the Pool. Whilst there are further stages in the approval process to work through, we are hopeful that our plans will soon become a reality. You can read more about the planning process overleaf.

Hampton Pool has been at the heart of our local community for almost 100 years. We move into 2021 as determined as ever to protect the unique opportunity it provides to swim outdoors in heated water on the edge of beautiful Bushy Park, 365 days a year.

Whatever the Christmas period means for you this year, we wish you, your family and friends health and happiness. 📍



Morning swims have proved to be very popular after both restarts and are usually fully booked.

## Hampton Pool Trust launches a new website

Hampton Pool Trust's website is now a 'one stop shop' for all our activities, having incorporated our Summer Picnic Concerts and Building Development pages into the main site.



We've completely overhauled and updated the site – please do check it out:

[www.hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](http://www.hamptonpooltrust.org.uk) 📍

## Reopening rules

# Help Stop the Spread



We now require customers to **wear a face covering** at all times whilst in the building, including outside in the queue before their session starts and when ordering at the café.



We are operating pre-booked sessions only



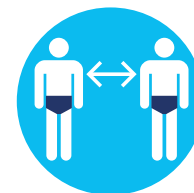
Pre-book your session using our app



Do not enter if you have any Covid-19 symptoms



Arrive changed and ready to exercise



Maintain social distancing at all times



Be wise and sanitise



We are cashless – contactless payments only



Stay safe and enjoy your visit to Hampton Pool

## Health Screening Questions

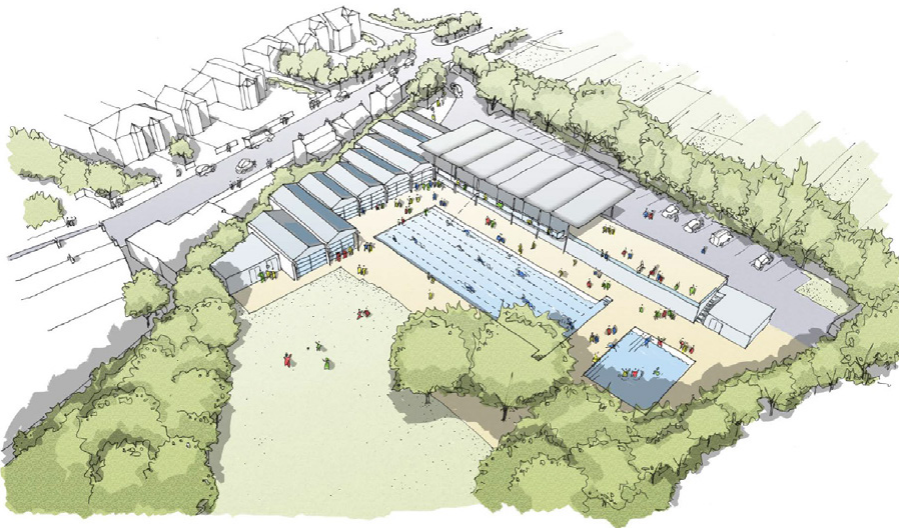
1. Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
2. Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath or sore throat?
3. Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
4. Have you had new loss of taste or smell?
5. Have you had vomiting or diarrhoea in the last 24 hours?

If you have any of these symptoms, please do not use Hampton Pool



# Building a sustainable future for Hampton Pool

Hampton Pool Trust's proposals to develop Hampton Pool to provide fit-for-purpose buildings and infrastructure were approved by the London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames Planning Committee on 18 November.



Our plans, which had previously been approved at Stage 1 by the Greater London Authority, meet all aspects of the London Plan and borough requirements, and as such they were recommended for approval by Richmond Planning Department, a decision that was agreed unanimously by the councillors on the Planning Committee.

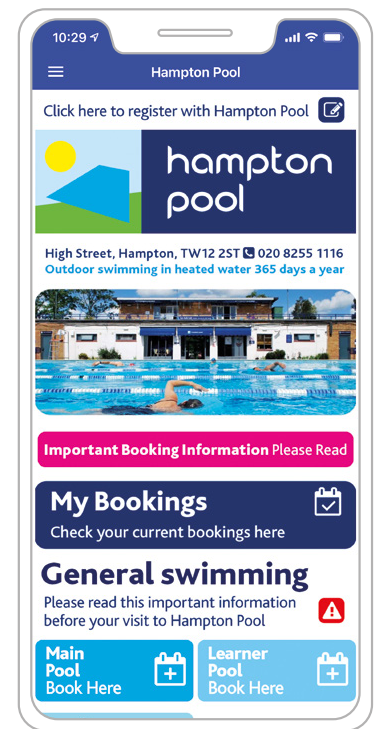
With planning permission in place, we now go back to the Greater London Authority for Stage 2 approval. From there we move on to the detailed design development and mobilising our fundraising campaign ahead of construction.

The plans, which were developed with the support of the YMCA and were approved by Hampton Pool Trust members in 2018, represent the Trust's vision to secure the long-term future of the Pool by upgrading the facilities. Originally submitted to the Council in 2016, the plans have developed significantly in response to changes in sustainable technology and context. The new development will retain the focus on swimming and the open-air ethos of Hampton Pool whilst ensuring stable income during the winter months when swimming numbers are lower.



Full details of the plans, the planning officer report can be found here [bit.ly/3h5EpUd](https://bit.ly/3h5EpUd) and the webcast of the Planning Committee can be found here [bit.ly/3mtL4bN](https://bit.ly/3mtL4bN) on Richmond Council's website. 

## Our Booking App



In order to manage numbers and to comply with the Government's requirements for tracing, all swim, gym and classes sessions must be booked in advance via our app or online.

Both require you to be registered with us. Unfortunately, we will be unable to admit anyone without a pre-booked slot.



Download the YMCA SPG Booking App and select Hampton Pool as your 'club'.



<https://apple.co/3p0IWtH>



<https://bit.ly/38f0Amv>

## We're always keen to hear your views

Feedback from customers and local residents is always important to us, but never more so than this year.



With so many changes to our operating procedures required by the Government since entering lockdown in March, a customer survey approximately six weeks after the Pool reopened in the summer helped us to understand levels of confidence in the safety measures we had put in place. We were delighted that, of the 270 respondents, 96% were satisfied with the safety measures in place.

More recently we conducted another survey of our users, this time to find out more about the travel choices made when visiting the Pool and what,

if anything, would encourage pool users to walk or cycle to us. This has revealed that currently 45% of visitors arrive by car, 35% use mixed modes of transport and 24% cycle, walk or use public transport. Themes from survey responses include requests for improved bike racks providing weather protection, improvements in access for pedestrians and cyclists and improvements in CCTV and lighting. We're currently working on these and intending to improve access to the site and increase the number of on-site secure bike racks. We've applied to the Community Fund for some financial support for this but we won't know the outcome of our application for another couple of months.



45% arrive by car



35% mixed modes of transport



24% cycle, walk or use public transport

Surveys aren't the only way we seek the views of our users and stakeholders. As well as regular informal meetings with Trust members and an online feedback form on the Hampton Pool website, we also host the Hampton Pool Consultative Group. Comprised of stakeholder groups that include neighbours, local councillors and user groups, and attended by representatives of Hampton Pool Trust and the YMCA as operators of the Pool, the group provides an opportunity for stakeholders to hear about recent developments and for an open exchange of views. [P](#)

## Help us raise funds whilst you shop!

Hampton Pool Trust is now registered with Amazon Smile.

smile.amazon.co.uk

Amazon will donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases back to Hampton Pool Trust, so when you go online to do your shopping, please log in to Amazon via [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) and search for Hampton Pool Trust. It costs you nothing, but will help us to raise vital funds for the Pool. Thank you! [P](#)

hampton pool trust

Hampton Pool is managed on behalf of Hampton Pool Trust by YMCA St Paul's Group. Both are registered charities.

YMCA

## How you can support Hampton Pool

### There are lots of ways you can support the Pool

We've all missed out on enjoying a swim or a poolside class during the recent second lockdown, but there are still lots of ways you can support Hampton Pool. Here are just a few of the things you can do:

#### 1. Pre-book a swim on a milder day (or even when it's chilly!)

Our water temperature is maintained at 28°C, so you can enjoy a swim even when the sun isn't shining. We're open all year round and steam rising from the water during a winter swim can make for a truly magical experience. Booking a swim in one of our less popular slots will also help to ensure there's sufficient space for everyone who wants to come along.

#### 2. Buy a ticket to one of our 2021 Summer Picnic Concerts

We're really grateful to the vast majority of our 2020 ticket holders who have been able to hang on to their tickets for the rescheduled concerts next year. If you haven't yet bought your tickets, perhaps because you were waiting to find out whether the concerts would happen, our booking website is open for five of the six concert dates for 2021, so why not get something in your diary to look forward to? You can find the concerts information at: [www.hamptonpooltrust.org.uk/concerts](https://www.hamptonpooltrust.org.uk/concerts).

#### 3. Donate via JustGiving

If you're not ready to come back to the Pool just yet, but you'd like to support us anyway, you can make a donation on our JustGiving page – just head to [JustGiving](https://www.justgiving.com/HamptonPool) and search for 'Hampton Pool'. We're always grateful for your support, no matter what the size of the donation, and will ensure the money helps to secure the future of Hampton Pool for generations to come. [P](#)

JustGiving™