

hampton pool trust

# Poolside Chat

News from the charity securing the future of Hampton Pool

SUMMER 2014

**Hampton Pool Trust is a small independent not for profit company and educational charity.**

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

Registered in England No 1870925, limited by guarantee. Charity No 294117



**Would you like to become a member or Trustee of Hampton Pool Trust?**

Hampton Pool Trust members are passionate about the facility and how it is run. If you care about the future of the pool then why not become a member of the 'company', or even a Trustee?

#### A company?

Hampton Pool Trust is registered as both a charity *and* a company. The company owns the building and the pool and exists to secure the long term future of the pool for community use.

#### Limited liability and responsibility

Each member of the company is liable in the unlikely scenario of bankruptcy – but it is limited to only £25. There are over 40 members of the company and they elect the Board of Trustees who are responsible for the general oversight of the running of the pool.

#### Become a Trustee

HPT Trustees attend a Board meeting once a month to oversee YMCA LSW's (our appointed managing agent) day-to-day operations of the pool and to progress the HPT strategic plan.

Sound interesting? If you are passionate about Hampton Pool and would like to join the team aiming to make it an inspiration for the popularity of sustainable, open air swimming, and the good management of a local community facility, then please contact [daphne.wharton@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:daphne.wharton@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk)

#### Get in touch

We welcome your contributions and feedback. Please drop us a line at [info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk)



## Facing the future, brightly

by Michael White, Hampton Pool Trustee

**We stand at a pivotal moment in the operational life of Hampton Pool. We have been in the process of discussing and consulting with users and members as we look to put the right level of investment and development into the pool to, quite literally, build on its enormous historical success and to safeguard this vital community asset.**

The recent HPT AGM and Open Forum have underlined to the Board just how important it is to keep everyone informed regarding our plans, where we are now and how we're planning to proceed. As you will read in the Chair's notes on page 2, the HPT Board has been in the process of closely evaluating separate bids from three management contractors (including YMCA LSW) for the development of the facility's buildings and services and ongoing management of the pool.

#### Preserving the unique character of the pool

You can be assured that one aspect of our evaluation process is to ensure that the unique character of the pool is preserved, in whichever development is selected, without turning it into a bland, homogenised leisure facility whilst still building and developing a first-class facility that we can all be proud of and that will >>page 3

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*We are a charity that depends on voluntary assistance and donations to secure the future of the pool.*

*If you can help in any way, please get in touch with us at [info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk)*

*Thanks to the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Hampton Fuel Allotment Charity and the local community for their financial support.*

### FUNDRAISING FOR THE FUTURE OF HAMPTON POOL

## SUMMER PICNIC CONCERTS

Heaven 17 & Darts / 10cc / Chas & Dave & The Blockheads / AWB & JTQ / Rumours of Fleetwood Mac & Nearly Dan

Buy your tickets now online at [www.hamptonpool.co.uk](http://www.hamptonpool.co.uk) before they're all gone!

# HPT Chair's letter

Welcome to our summer 2014 edition of Poolside Chat

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## Meet the Trustees

Jo Coles, Newsletters and Roadshows

I have always enjoyed swimming but over the last 10 years swimming has become an increasingly important part of my life. It is almost a kind of therapy, keeping me physically and mentally fit. I am an artist (using my maiden name of Joanne Tinker) and work from my studio at home. This can sometimes be a very lonely profession so incorporating a swim into my day is great as, not only do I get some physical activity, but I also meet and chat to fellow swimmers, many of whom have become good friends.

I decided, after helping out at one of the summer concerts last year, that I would like to get more involved at Hampton Pool and help out as and when I could. This led to me becoming a trustee in November 2013 and now I have the responsibility of organising the pool's roadshows and newsletter. The roadshows start in May and I am looking forward to promoting the pool, swimming lessons, swimming and social clubs, Summer Picnic Concerts and all the other great activities that Hampton Pool can offer the public.

The pool's newsletter *Poolside Chat* is produced twice a year and is a great platform to shout out about how lucky we are to have this fantastic outdoor pool.

If anyone reading this would like to share their story about the pool, then please do get in touch at [joanne.coles@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:joanne.coles@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk). Thank you. ●

2014 has been like the proverbial curates egg. The year started with the devastating news that Marshall Lees Hampton Pool project founder had died unexpectedly on Sunday 19 January after a brief illness.



<< Marshall Lees speaking at the 25th celebrations at Hampton Pool in 2009

prior to his death. The 16 resolutions were grouped under 5 headings: to strengthen the relationship between Hampton Pool Trust and the local community of Hampton and Hampton Hill; to appoint a paid professional to assist the Board; to strengthen three roles which have a common purpose the HPT Board; YMCA's operational role and volunteer fundraising; to employ professional help to manage the due diligence

investigation of alternative management contractors (the current contract ends in 2017); and to develop the business of Hampton Pool. For a full copy of the resolutions please see [www.hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](http://www.hamptonpooltrust.org.uk). The Board has agreed to consider the resolutions and report back to members within a reasonable time what they have accepted and what they have rejected giving their reasons.

## Moving forward positively

The Board, having carefully considered three potential management contractors, are pleased to announce it has decided to renew the contract with the YMCA LSW. The Board and the YMCA LSW have worked well together within a partnership approach since 2007 and the pool has seen significant improvements in usage, continuity of management and infrastructure. We look forward to an exciting new chapter in the relationship as we work together to develop the business of Hampton Pool. This means that we can progress the building project that came out of the HPT 5 Year Strategic Plan of 2011. The Y has introduced HPT to Wimshurst Partners, an architectural practice who have put together a series of concept sketches which can be viewed on the HPT website. The Trust is planning to start the first stage of the project by 2015.

## Refreshing news

More good news is that we are planning to open a new improved poolside kiosk this summer, which will serve ice creams, cold drinks, snacks, coffees and Paninis. Its situation next to the learner pool means that hungry kids and parents and the less mobile can go straight over to it without having to go up the stairs to the café. Of course, if you prefer to sit out in the sun and enjoy the view from our first floor terrace you will be made most welcome by our Sun Deck Café team who can serve you a wide range of refreshments and hot and cold food.

Marshall was the project founder of Hampton Pool as a community run venture. It all started in 1983 when he became the prime mover and leader of the *Sink or Swim* campaign to have Hampton Pool re-opened – it had been closed by the council in 1981. By late 1984 some £60,000 had been raised and the council agreed to transfer the licence to operate the site to the community venture. Hampton Pool Ltd (now Hampton Pool Trust Ltd) was set up and by the summer of 1985 the refurbished and – for the first time – heated Pool was re-opened.

Marshall was the Chairman of the Company from the beginning until 1995, when he became a local councillor. Although he took a break from the Board from 1996 to 2002 he was always deeply involved with the pool and played a major part in all the milestone events including the renewal of the tank and the roof of the main building in 2004, the refurbishment of the interior in 2006 and bringing in YMCA London South West to be the operator in 2007. No job was ever too big or small for Marshall to get involved and give his all. As a result the struggling campaign of 1983 has blossomed in the last thirty years to be a thriving and important community facility, from 25,000 users in the first season to 250,000 last year.

No project of this magnitude could succeed without a very large number of people giving a great deal of effort and one of Marshall's great talents was to find the right people and persuade them to become involved and he never ceased to be looking for new people and new talent. This thriving community and the community facility they have created will be his lasting legacy. He will be greatly missed.

## Marshall's AGM resolutions

At the Hampton Pool Trust AGM in March, Carrie Lees proposed 16 resolutions which Marshall had been working on for two months

>> 10cc return for the third time to Hampton Pool on Friday 18 July after their sell out concert in 2010



## Concert sell outs

Remember to check out the Trust's exciting line up of bands for this year's Summer Picnic Concerts, some of which have already sold out! I hope that you will support this important fundraiser for the pool. If you would like to help preserve Hampton Pool for the future and would like to make a donation to the building project fund the Trust has set up *BT MyDonate* to facilitate donations – this can be accessed from the Hampton Pool website.

We can't guarantee a heat wave this summer but with our year round 28°C water temperature we can guarantee a Mediterranean/ Caribbean swim experience! **So forget about those crowded airports and delayed flights. Just come down to Hampton Pool!**

Enjoy your summer swimming, exercising, relaxing and being entertained at Hampton Pool. ●

Daphne Wharton

Daphne Wharton, Hampton Pool Trust Chair

# HPT initiatives

Insights into our long term strategy and how we are going to achieve it

## Facing the future, brightly

by **Michael White**, Hampton Pool Trustee

<< continued from front cover generate the levels of support and income that will see Hampton Pool secure for many years to come.

We have received three well thought out and well presented proposals from the three organisations all keen to partner (or remain) with us at the pool. They have all addressed some of the key issues often raised by members and users alike:

- state of the car park
- changing rooms
- catering provision
- speed of access on busy days
- sustainable energy

Each proposal also seeks to develop the gym, the studio, additional storage and to ensure that we become more disabled user-friendly. Developments will be phased rather than completed all at once in an effort to minimise disruption for all but, some level of disruption is inevitable and we will do our very best to keep everyone informed as soon as we can with notices, website and social media updates (Facebook and Twitter). Please keep checking for updates as we get closer to the start of building works.

In terms of timescales, again, we will keep you updated when we have accurate information and once we have confirmed which bid has been successful.

### Financial impact

The Trust has been very successful in saving funds to invest in the future and, in partnership with our chosen management contractor, will commit to the funding of the project. We will still need additional grant-aid funding to complete this project and we are exploring very closely the three bidding contractor's level of experience and success in community fundraising.

In conclusion, the next few years are going to be exciting, challenging but hopefully not too frustrating as we seek to safeguard the future of our unique Hampton Pool. If you have any questions, please contact the Trust at, [info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk). ●



## Swimming clubs

### Hampton Great Whites

by **Ella Linden**, Hampton Great Whites swimming club member

I have been a member of Great Whites since I was eight years old, seven years ago! We have been involved in some really fun challenges.

For example last year we participated in a charity 24 hour swim in groups of five, swimming for 30 minutes with two hour breaks whilst the rest of each group swam their half hour slot. We were able to do this due to our amazing teacher, Adam, who managed to swim the whole 24 hours by himself. Great Whites is a brilliant opportunity, and I have since then taken part in the Swimathon for charity, used swimming as part of the physical aspect for my *Duke of Edinburgh Award* and as part of my PE GCSE.

Through swimming I have made many friends, many of whom I wouldn't have met otherwise, meeting them three times a week all year round even in the holidays when it is difficult to get to see each other.



Great Whites is special in many ways. Running throughout the year is just one of those ways. Another is the non competitive aspect as it is a club tailored for you whether you want to learn better technique, how to improve your speed or just have fun hanging out with your friends.

Being part of this club has developed my love for swimming and I can't wait for new challenges come the rest of the year. ●



# Fundraising SUMMER PICNIC CONCERTS

Buy your tickets now online at [www.hamptonpool.co.uk](http://www.hamptonpool.co.uk) before they're all gone! Tickets also available from reception.

## Sell out season!

by **Tim Lawes**, Finance Director and Trustee

One of the joys of producing the Summer Picnic Concerts season is that I get to see even more great live music than I would do otherwise. There are four evenings of Top 10 hitmaking original artists and a couple of evenings of the countries best tribute acts. **Please avoid disappointment by getting your tickets as soon as you can. One of our evenings is already sold out and is soon to be joined by at least two more.**

### Party starting 11 July!

This year's season starts on Friday 11 July with **Darts** opening for **Heaven 17**. Darts, the chart topping doo-wop, rock and roll and R&B revival band will start the series with a real party atmosphere.

Heaven 17 bring their pioneering electronic dance sound from the eighties with their own classic songs, together with those that Martyn Ware wrote for and performed with The Human League. *Heaven 17 live by Richard Price*



On Saturday 12 July, **Nearly Dan**, a sell out in 2013, will be joyfully laying down that Steely Dan groove to open for **Rumours of Fleetwood Mac**, a sell out in 2012, with their spine-tingling performances ranging from the early Peter Green songs right through to the later hits from the Christine McVie, Stevie Nicks and Lindsey Buckingham years. A fantastic close to a great opening weekend

Opening for **10cc** on Friday 18 July is 10cc's Graham Gouldman's **Heart Full of Songs**. With glorious, close harmony, semi acoustic performances of Graham's hits for Herman's Hermits, the Hollies, the Yardbirds and more, it will be a wonderful, uplifting set. After an interval Graham and the rest of 10cc come back to give you a stunning 90 minutes of the best of 10cc. They sold out at the Pool in 2010 and always give their all. A wonderful evening.

Saturday 19 July has musical legends **Chas and Dave** following up their recent critically acclaimed, stonkingly good sell out concert at the Royal Albert Hall. They will open the evening at the more intimate Hampton Pool, followed by **The Blockheads**, another great band with virtually all the original musicians, at the top for their game and with a great recent album, who will keep the audience on their feet until the end of the evening.

Our Friday 25 July concert with the **Rollin' Stoned**, followed by the **Bootleg Beatles**, has now completely sold out. The final night, Saturday 26 July opens with another Pool favourite, the **James Taylor Quartet**, this time with a horn section and vocalist Yvonne Yanney. I've paid my own money to see JTQ more than a few times over the years and I will again. What will be a great set in its own right will set the scene for this year's finale, the **Average White Band**, appearing prior to their season at Ronnie Scott's. See them in Hampton first – playing a longer set – for a less expensive ticket price.

So that's 11 great bands playing over 15 hours of great live music in the intimate environs of Hampton Pool. ●



Scan with your smartphone to buy tickets online now!

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# Poolside Swim & BBQ Club news

Join the club! Do you like the idea of sharing the pool with a sociable group of Hampton Pool enthusiasts? You can find information of how to become a member of this friendly club on the pool website.

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## Summertime special

Barbara Perry, Poolside Swim and BBQ Club Chair

There are a few changes for club this year, in particular all club sessions now have professional lifeguards. This means club members are doing fewer poolside duties although all members are expected to do voluntary work for the pool.

The club has four exclusive swim sessions in the pool – Saturday and Sunday mornings from 8.00 to 9.00am, Sunday evening from 6.15pm until about 8.30/9.00pm and Tuesday evenings from 7.00 to 8.30pm. The barbecue is lit for the evening sessions so you can bring food to barbecue after your evening swim. If you want to know more details about the club look online or ask for a leaflet at the pool.

Although I swim all year I always look forward to the club season starting again in April. It always feels good to swim in less crowded sessions with people you know and catch up with events over winter. Anyway don't take my word about club, these are some comments from club members on what the club means for them.

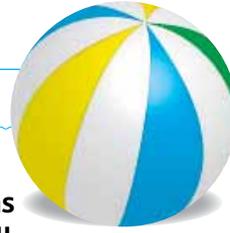
### Some thoughts from PS & BBQ Club members

"Having been a member of the club since its formation, some 30 years ago, I still enjoy the camaraderie that it offers, the possibility of swimming in crystal clear water on Saturday and Sunday mornings and friendly barbecues in the evening club sessions. The club is part of the very ethos of the pool and has provided many directors to the Hampton Pool Trust, people who care about the pool, a feeling which is very much present in the membership today. As well as providing an opportunity for like-minded members to get together to swim and socialise, it provides a collective of people who are ready to support the pool in all its fund raising activities, including the Summer Picnic Concerts, the awareness raising road shows at local fetes and summer fairs." **Ronald Simms**

"Winter was long and very wet this year but Spring is well and truly here. I can tell because once again we are meeting up with all those friends we haven't seen since September when we were regularly chatting over the amazing concoctions on the BBQ (and of course being staggered Ron could eat the salmon he had just cooked!).

"It's a pleasure swimming during club times when it is much quieter than public sessions. Soon the boule will be out on the grass and there will be competition/arguments between young and old.

"Club members are, as we speak, signing up to help at local spring and summer fairs to publicise the pool and the concerts, always a fun couple of hours. I especially liked helping at the Strawberry Hill House fair.



"It won't be long before there will be one thousand plus people enjoying the amazing music at the Hampton Pool Summer Picnic Concert series. Over the last few years, club members have had a huge amount of fun helping to make these such enjoyable and successful events both in terms of revenue raised and raising the profile of the pool.

So – why not come and join us and meet and make new friends whilst enjoying the warm waters of the pool?" **Jane Yelland**

“Going to local fairs and fetes and assisting with promoting the pool gives me a sense of pride as Hampton Pool really is a very special place to be part of thanks to the long standing members who fought tirelessly to prevent it from closure years ago.”

"I moved to the area eight years ago and still kick myself that it took me four years to discover Hampton Pool and everything it has to offer. I have always loved swimming and as someone who lives in a flat with no garden or outside space the pool is a lovely escape for me – every time I visit I feel as though I am on holiday!

"There is a real community spirit amongst the members who are friendly, fun, kind and very supportive of each other whether sharing our picnics on balmy evenings after a swim on Sunday or Tuesday or catching up over a bacon baguette and porridge after a refreshing early morning dip bathed in sunshine on the Sun Deck with views over the pool and out to Bushy Park.

"The pool has become a large part of my life now and once the PS & BBQ Club season starts my week is punctuated by healthy and relaxing visits. Getting involved with helping at the concerts has been great fun and it's a true credit to the organisers that the pool attracts such great bands – even if it rains everyone still has a great time (only once last year)! Going to local fairs and fetes and assisting with promoting the pool gives me a sense of pride as Hampton Pool really is a very special place to be part of thanks to the long standing members who fought tirelessly to prevent it from closure nearly 30 years ago. New members are always welcome and their support helps to keep Hampton Pool here for everyone." **Hilary Watson**

## Operations update

Hampton Pool is managed on behalf of Hampton Pool Trust by YMCA London South West. The ethos of this arrangement is 'Partnership working within a management agreement'

Angela Garrett,  
YMCA LSW Chief Operations Officer

What could be nicer than sitting outside the Sun Deck Café at ten in the morning – the weather warm and sunny, drinking wonderful coffee and eating a bowl of Dabbie's porridge?

The noise from the *Body Energy* class, full of energetic people, and Richard Mason's *Circuits* class group – he has them all working out, in and outside of the gym – are training very hard. The learner pool is full of parents and toddlers splashing away and having lots of fun. The main pool, with its crystal clear warm water, has got people swimming up and down. On the side of the pool, our resident duck is waiting to get into the pool to show off his paddling skills.

How lucky are we to have a facility like this right on our doorstep? Something for everyone.

We have successfully seen over 260,000 people into the pool in the last financial year, records figures. An excellent year for the pool!

### YMCA general facts on Y+Fitness

- The YMCA is the largest voluntary sector provider of health and wellbeing services promoting physical activity.
- Over 6,000 people have worked out with Y+Fitness this year – 2,800 as members and over 3,000 'Pay as you go'. Despite the recession and increased competition, membership is up on last year. Y+ is a social enterprise with surpluses used to fund our community projects.
- With obesity levels at 24% for men, 26% for women and only 36% of people taking the recommended amount of exercise, affordable and accessible facilities are needed. We have delivered in partnership different programmes:
  - New group exercise classes including *Tango*, *Bhangra Fusion* and *Adult Ballet* have been introduced.
  - We run over 200 classes each week with something for everyone for all ages, levels of fitness and ability.
- YMCA LSW celebrates 140th birthday this year.

### Looking back

The last year at Hampton Pool has been exciting, challenging and ultimately rewarding. We know we still have work to do – not least in the areas of improving our environmental sustainability – which we are continually working towards improvements.

Thank you for the continuous support towards Hampton Pool and YMCA LSW. You can contact me at any time at [AngelaGarrett@ymcalsw.org](mailto:AngelaGarrett@ymcalsw.org) or 020 8399 5427. ●

### Staff news:

Hampton Pool Lifeguard **George Vine**, ran the Brighton marathon in 3 hours, 53 minutes and 22 seconds in aid of Royal Hospital Neuro-disability. You can support his achievement at [www.justgiving.com/george-vine](http://www.justgiving.com/george-vine)

Write to **Jo Coles**, HPT Chair and editor of Poolside Chat by email [joanne.coles@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:joanne.coles@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk) or by letter to Hampton Pool Trust, Hampton Pool, High Street, Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 2ST.

