



hampton pool trust

# Poolside Chat

The newsletter from the charity securing the future of Hampton Pool

Winter Issue 2023

## A Winter Warmer at Hampton Pool

Chair's Welcome by Jane Savidge



This Chair's welcome to Poolside Chat is my last as Chair of Hampton Pool Trust as I will be stepping down in January 2024. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to chair the charity responsible for Hampton Pool. Work has been underway to recruit a new chair and we are close to confirming the appointment. We look forward to introducing the Chair to pool users early next year.

I have enjoyed writing these introductions to keep you in touch with our work and developments at the pool and this winter issue is no exception. We are at a significant point in the lead up to the start of the Hampton Pool building redevelopment. The approval to proceed granted by Richmond Planning and the Greater London Authority in February 2022 ends in February 2025. 2024 is therefore critical for Hampton Pool and HPT as we must raise sufficient additional funding to make a material start on construction before our planning permission runs out.

Updates about the building have appeared in previous newsletters as Trust plans to develop the building have a long history. The question everyone asks, whether members of the charity, pool staff or pool users, is what is happening and when.

As both the 'what' and the 'when' depend on having funding in place to start construction, this issue has a particular focus on fundraising and how the pool community can help. It also includes an update on our latest Summer Picnic Concerts season, as our largest annual fundraiser; an insight into what's happening at the pool; and a profile of Teddington Masters Swimming Club, a local sports club using Hampton Pool for club sessions and training.

*Continued over...*

### Get on board

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

Our vision is to secure the future of Hampton Pool as a safe, sustainable, open-air environment for warm-water swimming and related activities to be enjoyed year-round by the community and to support health and wellbeing.

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:*

Jane Savidge – Chair  
Rick Kershaw – Finance Director  
Mark Sherwin – Company Secretary  
Nigel Brown  
Marguerite Cameron  
Mark Corris  
Mark Doyle  
Grahame Hadden  
Roxanne Glaud  
Stuart Leamy  
Jill Livesey  
Katie Sullivan  
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](https://hamptonpooltrust.org.uk) for more information on improvements.

Please follow [hamptonpooltrust](https://hamptonpooltrust.org.uk) on [Facebook](#), [X](#) and [Instagram](#)

**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)**

## A Winter Warmer at Hampton Pool *continued*

One of the simplest things our pool customers can do to help is to spread the word about the special experience of swimming at Hampton Pool in winter. The water and changing rooms are warm and the atmosphere is magical! Please keep on visiting and if you are also able to help with our fundraising by donating or volunteering that's even better. ≈

### Hampton Pool in the Media

Some of you may have spotted the familiar backdrop of Hampton Pool in a recent film and TV advert for summer products! We regularly get a mention in the press, often included in top picks lists of lidos and swimming pools!

*"Hampton is well worth a trip, especially having celebrated the lido's centenary last year. There are two heated pools; the primary one is 36m, while the second is a learner pool for children and their parents. They're open year-round, including Christmas, ... Once you're done here, head out to Royal Bushy Park, which is next door."* **Evening Standard**, 4 September 2023

## Teddington Swimming Club Masters Profile

With a membership that's grown to 234 members this year, Teddington Swimming Club Masters (TSCM) are a successful sports club who train regularly at Hampton Pool. *From an interview with Andy Hooper:*



We are very proud of the success we and our swimmers have achieved this year. In March, the team won the Bracknell Masters open competition. July saw one swimmer go to the World Masters Championships in Japan and secure a Gold and two Bronze places. In September, two of our swimmers represented Great Britain in the European Down Syndrome Swimming Championships where one of them gained a Silver and a Bronze and both helped GB to finish as the competition overall winners. In October, at the Great Britain Masters swimming championships in Sheffield, out of 276 clubs represented, we secured second place in the overall Team competition. Individually we had 42 top three finishes (17 Gold, 18 Silver and 8 Bronze) and in team relays we had 24 top three finishes (6 Gold, 13 Silver and 5 Bronze).

However, we are not just about competitive swimming, TSCM seeks to promote lifelong fitness for adults aged 18 and over through regular swimming. Our coaching team provide high-quality structured training sessions in a friendly, supportive and fun atmosphere.

Swimmers of diverse backgrounds and abilities are welcome. We offer membership for adults looking to return to swimming and our 'Developmental Masters' which has a focus on technique. There are options for those who just want to train for fitness and looking to compete in Masters competitive events and we've even had a number of swimmers join us to train and complete cross-channel swims!"

If you would like to find out more, further information is on our website: [bit.ly/3GbRYyr](https://bit.ly/3GbRYyr)

## What's occurring! Winter at Hampton Pool

*an introduction to the work of the team, by duty manager **Gabriel Ganesh***

**We have welcomed lots of new members of the team in the last few months, including seven new lifeguards and five new swim teachers, enabling us to extend our range of classes.**

Spending time together as a team is important to us and Caolan, one of our duty managers, recently launched a staff running club, a 5k run every Friday morning in Bushy Park. Helping us build the team as well as keeping us fit!

There's a great atmosphere at the pool at this time of the year and we are working hard to get everything ready for the season. The Christmas tree is a magnificent 25ft this year and 1.6km of Christmas lights are being installed around the site, put in place by our trusted team of lifeguards. They have all been trained and have come up with lots of creative ideas, including energy efficient measures around the pool and for the tree.

hampton pool

# Christmas Market

9:00-15:00  
SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER

Live music from 12:00-15:00



**Step into a world of holiday magic at our Christmas Market**

We're looking forward to hosting our second Christmas Market on Saturday 9 December. The market is free to enter, located by the pool and will showcase selected community traders and charities. You will find sportswear, food and drink and live music. We can't wait to welcome you to Hampton Pool at its magical best. ≈



# Pool Building: what's holding things up?

Covid, global conflicts, energy price rises and the cost of living crisis have had a financial impact, increasing the cost of constructing our new pool building, restricting grants and reducing the surplus available to repay loans.

Due to this, Hampton Pool Trust Board have prioritised what can be achieved in a first phase of work using funds already collected and more limited grants.

The current Phase One plan includes the lift to the upper floor; a roof over part of the sun deck to create an indoor space for winter shelter; a year-round café and community space; and a place to install solar photo voltaic (PV) panels; and other energy saving infrastructure.

On the ground floor, moving the entrance to replace the current studio will make space to redevelop and upgrade the changing rooms. A new larger studio will be built next to the new entrance giving increased capacity for classes. The new gym, a second studio and major work on the plant room are delayed, with the aim to address these over a longer period as part of a second phase.

All the Phase One elements are critical to the full development: ensuring that the refurbished building is accessible and sustainable; meets customer expectations; and supports the future of the building. Phase One must not compromise later phases or the essential revenue streams for the continuing operation of the pool.



As Trustees of the charity, HPT Board have a responsibility to protect the financial resources of the Trust so that we do not put Hampton Pool at risk. We must assure ourselves that when we give the green light to start construction, we have sufficient resources confirmed to complete a standalone first phase of the building development. We must also provide assurances to both The Royal Parks and London Borough of Richmond.

Although we could 'value engineer' the works now, the Board view is that to remove any of the Phase One elements would compromise the scheme. We are therefore working hard to raise further funding to close the gap and we hope to have your continuing help with this in 2024.

We have significant work to do to reach the £5 million needed but hope that grant applications currently submitted or under development, combined with a further search for support from potential funders will get us closer and with help from pool users and the community we can finally get there. Grant applications currently submitted include an application to the Swimming Pool Support Capital Fund and to Richmond Community Infrastructure Fund and further applications are at planning stage. ≈

## Christmas at Hampton Pool

Christmas is coming up fast and we have some fantastic fundraising events and activities.



Come and find us at Christmas Fairs through the festive season, including the fabulous **Hampton Pool Christmas Market** on **Saturday 9 December** at Hampton Pool (see page 2).

Look out for the Santa Sleigh touring Hampton on **Tuesday 12 December from 6.00pm**. A super opportunity to say hello to Father Christmas who will be out and about in Hampton that night.

Join us for **Carols by the Pool** on **Wednesday 13 December from 7.00pm** and come along with friends and family for a Christmas Day swim. Always a very special day for Hampton Pool!

Look out for announcements about our Summer Picnic Concerts line up for 2024 early in the new year and **Save the Date – 14 July 2024** – for our Grand Summer Auction! ≈

## Community fundraising for Hampton Pool Building Development

A huge thank you to the Poolside Swim & BBQ Club who support Hampton Pool by running the bar at the Summer Picnic Concerts and who support all the HPT activities we run through the year.

A shout out to Aqua (aqua aerobics) class customers whose fundraising for the new building included the Fun Auction at White House in Hampton which raised £770 and more recently the Aqua Raffle.

We are grateful to all our volunteers and to the communities and groups who use the pool for assisting us with fundraising and for your continuing support. ≈



## Where there's a will...

Over the years Hampton Pool Trust has been fortunate to receive occasional legacies from passionate supporters of the pool. These help us secure the future of our amazing swimming pool.

If you would like to help us in the longer term, please consider making a gift in your will to Hampton Pool Trust, a registered charity no. 294117.



Photo: Jane Hobbs

Some larger charities have the infrastructure to provide a free will writing service. As a small charity Hampton Pool Trust does not currently offer this but we can direct you to sources of advice. ≈

# Hampton Pool Summer Picnic Concerts

Hampton Pool's most important annual fundraiser, the Summer Picnic Concerts went well despite poor weather, raising £100,000 towards our building fund.

This is thanks to our many volunteers who plan and run the events and the support from the staff and lifeguards at the pool.



**FUN FOR YOU & FUNDRAISING FOR THE POOL**  
**GREAT MUSIC BY THE POOL**

**TICKETS FROM MARCH: [HAMPTONPOOLTRUST.ORG.UK/CONCERTS](https://hamptonpooltrust.org.uk/concerts)**



*'Hello Again', The Neil Diamond Songbook closing this year's fundraising Summer Picnic Concerts*

As usual we had a wide range of performers, with **ABC**, **Fairport Convention**, **Seth Lakeman** and **Natalie Imbruglia**, plus a range of tribute acts. Four events sold out completely with the remaining two very close. Poor weather on three evenings reduced attendance but this didn't stop those attending in heavy rain on the final night joining in with a rousing version of 'Sweet Caroline'!

And our customers had a great time! 900 people responded to our annual survey; the vast majority very positive. Responses recognised the quality of the artists, the atmosphere, the venue and the community feel.

We are already starting work on the 2024 events, which we hope will be just as successful. The funds raised are incredibly important to the Trust so we would like to thank all who joined us this year. We hope to see you again next summer. ≈

**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 Trust and the Pool

We are grateful for your continuing support through these difficult times. Here are some of the ways you can continue to support Hampton Pool Trust and the pool.

**1 Pre-book or drop in for a swim, gym session or a fitness class.**

The pool is amazing all year round, a little quieter and most magical in the winter. If we can keep customers visiting through the winter it will help us financially towards the building work ahead. Our ever-popular Moonlight Swims are continuing too!

**2 Support our fundraising by coming along to our fundraising events, over Christmas and beyond.**

**3 Make a donation via JustGiving**

Donations large and small can be made using *Just Giving* (which allows us to collect Gift Aid) and by making a donation at one of our Trust events.



**JustGiving™**

**4 Buy some Hampton Pool branded merchandise** – on sale from Hampton Pool Trust stall and at Hampton Pool reception (bags, shoes, swim hats, mugs and more).



*Lisa Tolley tote bag ideal for swim gear*



*Swim hats (3 styles – one with 2 sides)*

**5 Raise funds while you shop**  
Hampton Pool Trust has recently registered with *Easyfundraising*: [bit.ly/417JfY5](https://bit.ly/417JfY5). ≈