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## Chairman's perspective

Welcome to our summer 2011 Poolside Chat Daphne Wharton Hampton Pool Trust Chair

The 2011 summer season started with plenty of splashes thanks to the exceptionally fine weather in April and May. Over 50,000 swimmers of all ages enjoyed the pleasure of open air swimming in the tropical temperatures and unique environment of Hampton Pool

### HPT initiatives

Since the last newsletter a number of initiatives have been realized. In January Hampton Pool Trust published its long term strategy and in February held two public meetings - you can read more about this on page 2. I hope that you've had a chance to look at the new HPT notice board in reception. This features a brief history of the trust and its endeavours to safeguard the existence of Hampton Pool as a community facility since 1985. There's also information about the trustees and Trust activities.

### Meet the trustees

A series of "meet the trustee" sessions is coming up over the next few months. Dates

are as follows:

- Saturday 2 July 10am to 12 noon
- Saturday 9 July 11 am to 1pm
- Wednesday 6 July 7am to 11am
- Thursday 7 July 5.30pm to 7.30pm.

HPT trustees will be keen to hear your views about Hampton Pool and answer questions about the work of the Trust.

### Summer events

Summer Picnic Concerts will return in 2012 with Hampton Pool's best ever concert season. In the meantime, this year's Family Fun Day on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July promises to be a fantastic experience. I hope to see you there. Our Summer Road Shows are also in full swing and thanks to all who have helped with these important events

Enjoy your summer at Hampton Pool!

### New for teenagers

13-15 Gym Sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Friday These sessions are designed for teenagers to improve their fitness under a supervised instructor

Hampton Pool Trust (HPT) exists to oversee the general business of running Hampton Pool and to secure the pool's long term future for community use. There are about 70 members of the Company who are all passionate about Hampton Pool.

The Board of Trustees is elected by the members. The YMCA London South West has been appointed to act as the managing agent.

For further information about becoming a member of Hampton Pool Trust or help with fundraising contact  
Daphne.wharton@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk

Did you know outdoor swimming is becoming more popular in the UK? Check out these two good resources for more information <http://www.outdoorswimmingsociety.com> and [www.Lidos.org](http://www.Lidos.org).

Did you know 1195 people celebrated Christmas day 2010 with a swim at Hampton Pool?

Did you know that on July 15 there will be a Moon Light Swim at Hampton Pool?

## Strategy Consultation

By Mark James

Strategy and Finance Director

The cold weather didn't deter a healthy turnout to the February consultation meetings. Views were aired and discussed after Mark James, HPT's director looking at strategy and finance, gave a straightforward introduction to the vision and strategy.

### The vision

Just in case you haven't read the new document, the vision is as follows:

"Hampton Pool – a safe, welcoming, enjoyable, sustainable and inspirational heated open air swimming pool, all year round."

### The strategy

To achieve this, we need to follow a strategy with three themes:

## The bottom line

Hampton Pool Operations had a successful financial year 2010 to 2011. Visitor numbers and income have been increasing in recent years due to a combination of circumstances: the refurbishment of the facility, the contracting out of pool operations to YMCA LSW and the introduction of all year round swimming lessons.

### Call for fundraising skills

A significant part of the surplus generated by operations is paid to HPT for investing in pool improvements. However, this is insignificant in terms of providing adequate funds for upkeep and maintenance of the facility to 21st century standards.

The HPT strategic plan includes necessary but unsexy upgrades such as an improved car park surface and pool surround, more office and storage space. It also envisages an extension to the footprint of the building to increase the size of the changing rooms and other interior rooms and provide a meeting room for HPT Trust and clubs. All these items need to be prioritised and costed and funding identified. We are looking at a guestimated total project cost of around £1m. So fundraising and identifying funding opportunities is going to be an important part of the work of HPT for the foreseeable future. If you have skills in these areas and would like to help please contact [Daphne.wharton@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:Daphne.wharton@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk)



1. To enhance the existing facilities and create new attractions
2. To strive for excellence in customer service and the running of the trust itself
3. To make the pool operations more sustainable and an inspiration to other open pools

that extended opening hours would mean more noise.

### Regular consultation group for all

The meetings were an opportunity for a forthright and satisfying airing of ideas and strongly held concerns, Trustees were grateful for all the comments. And one suggestion has already been taken up – to set up a regular consultation group where anyone with an interest in the pool can discuss ideas and issues with HPT trustees.

### The consultation meetings

In total over 60 people attended the two consultation meetings and represented many points of view. There were positive suggestions about the ethos of the pool, encouragement for more volunteers and communications with the local community. There was also a suggestion, not for the first time, to enlarge the pool to 50 metres. There were also many views from neighbouring residents who were concerned about the noise from the Summer Picnic Concerts and

### Get involved

The key thing about the vision and the strategy is that it's an aspiration and will rely on the time and energy of volunteers to make it a reality. If you'd like to get involved and make your contribution, please contact [Daphne.wharton@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:Daphne.wharton@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk)



## Enjoy tropical temperatures all year round

Remember the pool is open 365 days a year and the water is always heated to a Caribbean 28°C. If you are a hot day visitor come back and check us out at other times in the year – you may find the quieter sessions to your liking and join the increasing number of all year round swimmers who make Hampton Pool part of their healthy lifestyle.



# Reducing our carbon footprint

By Grahame Hadden Technical Director

Carbon footprints and energy saving are enduring topics of debate. At Hampton pool we've long been very conscious of our own carbon footprint. Heating a large tank of water to 28 C year round with gas heaters could be seen as not being very eco-friendly! So we've been taking steps to reduce our overall energy consumption and looking at ways to reduce our carbon footprint. Here's a snapshot of what we've achieved so far and possibilities for further progress in the future. [continued below]

## Reducing our carbon footprint key dates and initiatives

**2004** – Main building roof was renewed with an insulated and waterproof covering.

**2005** – Condensing boilers replaced the learner pool heaters. Lighting power consumption reduced by half while quadrupling light output when the car park's inefficient 500-watt halogen lights on were replaced with metal halide discharge flood lights. Seven day timers were also fitted so that weekends could have different timings to weekdays.

**2006** – Main building floor was insulated and raised to provide a level access throughout the building for DDA compliance and also provide for under floor heating in the changing rooms. Many of the windows and the entrance lobby were replaced with double glazed windows and doors. Self-closing double glazed doors were fitted to the changing rooms replacing the open roller shutters.

**2007** – All light fittings in the building replaced with energy saving fittings. In the main building, timers have been fitted to vending machines and other equipment to ensure that the machines are turned off at night.

**2009** – The main pool heaters were replaced with a bank of eight new condensing pool heaters that are sequence and demand controlled programmed. Our gas consumption has reduced as a result.

**2010** – Double glazed windows were fitted to the changing rooms

**The future** – We're looking to heat the pool with alternative energies. Solar thermal is key for heating the pool water and photovoltaic solar power would make a major contribution to our electrical energy consumption and make use of feed in tariffs. The latest developments in Solar technologies which now includes combined PV panel with solar thermal were viewed at the Eco Build show at the Excel exhibition centre earlier this year.. Investigations into ground source heating and heat pumps are being considered to augment the current gas pool boilers.

## Hampton Pool Quarterly Consultative Group

The first meeting of the Hampton Pool Quarterly Consultative Group took place on 5 may 2011

The **QCG** is hosted jointly by Hampton Pool Trust and the YMCA London South West. Its aim is to involve representatives from Hampton Pool stakeholder groups in the operation of the pool. Members include local ward councilors, the Hampton Fuel allotment Trust, the Head of Sport and Fitness LBRUT, Poolside Swim and BBQ Club, Hampton Pool Water Polo Club, local residents, Thames Turbo Triathlon Club, the Royal Parks and a general swim representative. The group would also like a representative for gym users and swimming lessons to join. If you think that you would like to join the group please contact [daphne.wharton@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:daphne.wharton@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk)

A wide variety of topics were discussed at the meeting, including pool operations, quality assurance and future plans for the pool. Stakeholder concerns and issues were raised and discussed proactively. A chairperson will be elected at the next meeting which is scheduled for the end of July.

## Operations By Angela Garrett Operations Director YMCA LSW



### Swimming and so much more

YMCA London South West, like Hampton Pool Trust is a registered charity. Our successful partnership with Hampton Pool Trust has resulted in ongoing improvements to the facilities. We're now into our fifth year in the day-to-day running of Hampton Pool, having introduced new programmes and extended opening times, and helping the pool increase its appeal to a wider community.

The recent fantastic weather has had a huge impact on the pool and the Sun Deck Café has had its best April ever. The word's spreading about Hampton Pool and now it's attracting people from afar. To find out what's on offer pick up a programme from reception or visit the Hampton Pool website at

[www.hamptonpool.co.uk](http://www.hamptonpool.co.uk)

# Hampton Pool success spreads far and wide

In recent years Hampton Pool has become increasingly successful. Attendances continue to rise, doubling in 10 years to over 180,000 people this year. Many other outdoor pools are not so lucky. Numbers dwindle from year to year, while short summer only opening, unheated cold water and no other facilities limit their appeal. It is little wonder that pools around the country continue to close. [continued in right side column below]

By Grahame Hadden Technical Director

## Poolside Swim and BBQ Club

### Poolside Swim and BBQ club

We've enjoyed a wonderful start to our club season, with the warm weather in April and May giving us many opportunities for outdoor swimming with evening barbecues afterwards. As well as enjoying the pool itself, we've been helping the main board to promote our lovely pool at various local events. And we play an active part in the new Stakeholders Group for the pool.

### Keeping up appearances

When it comes to keeping the pool looking its best, we do our bit too. For example, have you noticed the hanging baskets around the pool? They were sourced locally by club member, Betsy Edwards. Another

member, Pippa Fraser-Smith, has "adopted" the two borders by the main entrance to the poolside and they are thriving under her care.

Thinking of joining?

If you are interested in the club, we're a social and swimming club for families and other swimmers with a friendly and relaxed ambience. Lane swimming is available at all club sessions but there is plenty of room for families to enjoy themselves in both the main pool and the smaller teaching pool. We have exclusive use of Hampton Pool from April to the end of September during club sessions. The club provides voluntary support to Hampton Open Air Pool, so club members should be prepared to help with events in aid of the pool. For more information about club's seasonal discount see [www.hamptonpool.co.uk](http://www.hamptonpool.co.uk)

But the good news is some pools are being regenerated and Hampton Pool is playing a part. Local support groups from other pools see Hampton Pool as an inspiration. They've been to visit, they've swum and they've asked for help. Members of the Hampton Pool Trust and staff members from YMCA have contributed ideas, discussed business plans, provided information, visited and spoken at public meetings. We have supported pools from Bristol to Ipswich, High Wycombe to St Albans in Christchurch New Zealand.

Two years ago Portishead Pool in Bristol was reopened after a public campaign that was supported by two Hampton Pool Trustees. Closer to home, Holywell Mead Pool in High Wycombe was closed by the council. Two years on the pool is reopening on 27 May for the 2011 summer season. <http://www.holywellmeadpool.org.uk>

A long campaign has been running in Ipswich to reopen Broom Hill Pool. We have actively supported their campaign which has been running for 8 years <http://www.savebroomhillpool.org/>

And finally St Albans- in New Zealand!! We have received several emails asking for advice and their campaign is underway. <http://www.stalbans-pavilionandpool.org.nz>



### Swimathon for Marie Curie Cancer Care at Hampton Pool

Hampton Pool participated in the 2011 Swimathon April 8-10. Thanks to David Makriel (above) for organising the smooth running of the event. Swimathon photographers visited the pool to feature the venue and the participants on their website. See <http://www.swimathon.org/photoGallery.php?startImage=16> for more pictures of the Swimathon at Hampton Pool.

Hampton Pool is an independently run registered charity  
Thanks to the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Hampton Fuel Allotment  
Charity and the local community for their financial support

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