

BLU UPDATE April 2014



April hath put a spirit of youth in everything.

Shakespeare Sonnet XCVIII

Please read on. There's plenty of Lido news this month!!

The clocks have gone forward, **the pool is now open every day** and the water temperature is more than 14 degrees C. If you can't make it early to the pool, do remember that on weekdays it stays open until 1300 and opens again at 1600 until 2000. At weekends it is open continuously from 0800-1800. Last entry half an hour earlier.

Easter holiday hours

Fri 18th - 0800-2000. Pool 0800-1730

Sat 20th Normal opening times. Pool 0800-1730

Sun 21st Normal opening times. Pool 0800-1730

Mon 22nd 0800-2000. Pool. 0800-1730

May bank holiday hours

Mon 5th - 0800-2000 Pool 0800-1730

Mon 26th - 0800-2000 Pool 0800-1730

Brixton Beach is back! Well, at least for the next few weeks. As those of you who swim will know, the **wet side changing rooms** were built without drains. Crazy, we know! So the floors develop pools of often dirty water, and the damp has loosened some floor tiles. BLU has been pushing Fusion to get the problem fixed. Last autumn the plan was for this to be done during the winter. That didn't happen, unfortunately, but it now will. The changing rooms will have a complete refurbishment, and, above all, drains. By the time you read this, work should be underway and will take six weeks. The dryside changing facilities will be available for use but only during quiet times, so, if the weather is hot and the crowds flock to the pool, rekindle your memories of Brixton Beach and bring a large towel for changing. Portaloos will be available poolside. There will still be the usual three showers round the pool (cold only at the deep end). So be prepared for a few weeks' inconvenience - but it should be great when the work is done.

At long last the **car park** regulation scheme was launched on 1st April and has not been treated as a joke. It has been very successful so far, with disabled bays being clear for genuine users, and commuters absent. Another issue BLU has been actively campaigning about for years and we are delighted that action has been taken. But do remember, as well as disabled bays, you must not park in motorcycle bays or in areas not marked out as a parking space, otherwise you may receive a parking charge.

Are you over 50? Do you wish there were more **classes** tailored to your needs? Or maybe you are recovering from injury, or pregnant, or post-natal? Or just new to group exercise classes? Or just looking for a “gentle” class. Please let BLU know if you would be interested in such a class; give us an idea of what sort of class would suit your needs and what such a class might be called to attract interest.

We raised several issues to do with the **gym and spa** at our latest monthly meeting with Clare, General Manager, and we look forward to action in these areas. We have also asked for a general **clean-up** around the pool, including sprucing up the decking and clearing all rubbish, and this should be completed very soon. Clare has promised that water temperatures will be featured on screens in reception, once they are working again.

Fusion tells us that, because of the lack of storage space, **lost property** is only kept for seven days before being discarded. So don't leave it too long to claim your mislaid swimsuit or trainers.

Thanks to Fusion for extending pool opening hours during the winter swim season, in response to requests on two lovely warm days.

The **Brockwell Icicles** recently fielded an eight-strong, all girl team at the Winter Swimming World Championships in Rovaniemi, right on the Arctic Circle in Finnish Lapland! The swimming area consisted of a 25m-long oblong cut into the frozen river, with water temperatures at minus 1C - quite a contrast to the 14 degree balmy waters at Brockwell of late. Over three days of racing, they put in a respectable performance against over 1,200 competitors from across the globe - most notably Talya Tibbon coming 4th in the 50m freestyle and Clare Reynolds 12th in the 25m breaststroke in their age categories. A fantastic and surreal experience. Next stop Siberia 2016! More details on Icicle Katie's blog: <http://entirelysurroundedbywater.blogspot.co.uk/>

The Lido Café is looking for new staff. They are currently recruiting for baristas/ bar staff, waiters and kitchen staff. If you are interested or know anyone who is, please email jobs@thelidocafe.co.uk

There are still some vacancies for **summer lifeguards**. Contact tara.harris@fusion-lifestyle.com

The **Modern Movement** event is taking place on 3rd and 4th May from 1000-1630. For the seventh year, twentieth century furniture, artefacts and fashion will be on view and for sale around the pool. The Lido Café's beach hut will be open selling hot and cold drinks, beer and snacks

On 17th May at 21.15 Herne Hill **Free Film Festival** is showing *Beasts of the Southern Wild*, the perfect film to watch sitting next to Brockwell Lido. The Lido Café will be offering a BBQ, beer and more. Wrap up well if you're coming to the Brockwell Bathtub. Details at <http://www.freefilmfestivals.org/whats-on/herne-hill.html>

Continuing with the film theme, **Luna Cinema** are showing three films at the Lido this summer, *Jaws*, *Captain Philips* and one to be decided by public vote. Details and booking at <http://www.thelunacinema.com/brockwell-lido/4583851636>

We are going to have a **Fun Palace** at the Lido in October. Watch this space for more information and follow the group on Facebook- Fun Palace at the Lido.

Windrush, the Triathlon club that trains at the Lido, has launched a junior section. Membership is only £5 a year, and children (8+) can train in running, swimming and cycling at very reasonable rates. You can pick up a leaflet at the Lido or see details at www.windrushtri.co.uk.

Brockwell Park Community Partners need to know how you feel about the improvements made to Brockwell Park. Please complete the brief online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BrockwellPark>. Or use your smart phone to scan code on posters in the park.

Remember the beautiful **wildflower slope** behind the Lido last summer? On Sunday, 27th April from 1030-1230 you can help plant seeds for this year's display.

Monthly **Car Boot Fairs** run by Friends of Brockwell Park will be held in the car park between 0900 and 1300 on 11th May, 8th June, 13th July, 10th August and 14th September. Sellers' cars (£10) admitted from 7am.

BLU was sad to hear of the death of **June Sas-Terlecka** who had swum at the Lido for many years and who contributed her memories to the book 'Out of the Blue' written by Peter Bradley. The Lido was always a special place for her, despite not being able to swim there much during the past few years. She will be missed.

Brockwell Lido Users

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