

2010 a mixed year for users -

closures on the hottest weekends, maintenance & repair problems in the gym, noise-bleeds in the studios, pre-Christmas Winter Swim postponed by snow... no wonder people got a bit fed-up!

a hard year for the staff – breakdowns & break-ins, lack of experienced staff to support new manager Catherine Fleming, groans & grumbles & almost a sit-in from gym members

Much of this was discussed at the annual forum & AGM on 16th October the cafe was crowded out, a full complement of Fusion Managers & Lambeth Officers was present, there were great refreshments from the cafe staff + free coffee courtesy of Fusion

BLU gave flowers to Heritage Education Officer, **Gethan Dick**, whose posting, sadly, has now finished. Her leaving present to Lido lovers, created with Myles Quin, is a beautiful book, **Memories of Water**, reflecting their words in the pool itself, now gone since the pool has been repainted. It is a numbered edition of 100 – there may be a few left at Lido Reception, price £15

Yvonne Levy was elected chairperson of BLU. 4 new members were added to BLU committee which now has 7 gym members in its ranks. The Steering Group which meets regularly with Lambeth & Fusion has 5 BLU members of which 4 belong to the gym

The views of all present were aired & noted for action. A certain amount of twittering took place (Full minutes & list of committee members on our website)

Over the winter

The pool has been refurbished, painted a summery blue with white lines on the bottom to discourage collisions. Lines down the whole width of the pool were done after a majority online voted for them - 36% - a 'first to the deep end' system in place - no proportional voting here!

Water Music

On December 22 there was carol singing by the pool accompanied by the awesome & stoical Croydon Brass Band + burgers & mulled wine from The Lido Cafe. Marvellous! This should become an annual event. £184 was raised for St. Christopher's Hospice

The Lido Cafe produced some great Christmas Fare. See www.thelidocafe.co.uk for future menus, events (jazz/flamenco +) & exhibitions

The Car Park – Lambeth has given Fusion the go-ahead to deter non-Lido or non-Park users from abusing this facility

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2011 is BLU's 10th Birthday - watch this space! celebratory ideas welcome

a great start to the year - winter swim on 8th January - steel band, burgers & mulled wine (again) certificates of achievement for swimmers & spectators. Alan Robinson won the prize draw – a Lido season ticket – he was delighted!

Swimming Season proper starts April 4th (hurrah for Spring!) & runs until end of October. Wetsuits on offer at Intersport, Herne Hill. Try training for a triathlon with Windrush who use both gym & pool: www.windrushtri.ning.com

Whippersnappers thrive & are developing a programme for children with disabilities in a Dulwich Park lodge. For more info on their many vibrant activities see www.whippersnappers.org.

Fusion now gives **off-Peak rates** as well as **concessions for over 60s**. They are planning **children's classes** & are currently advertising a **half-term kids' camp** for 3-12 year olds. See www.fusion-lifestyle.com/centres/Brockwell_Lido (news) or check at Lido Reception

Studio dance classes Fusion now offer Ballet Tone & Zumba. Privately run classes include flamenco for adults & children & belly dancing for women www.empressbellydance.com + the delightful 'Pilateens' for 8 to 17 year olds: <http://pilateswithzoe.vpweb.co.uk> If you would like to review any of these we'll add your words to the next BLUprint – we aim to include more on drysiders - doubts & dreams, moans & plaudits

BLU is renovating its website – we'd love your input – ideas, suggestions, skills. Let us know what you want from your website...

Ex-BLU committee member Peter Lowe tells us his wife, Krista, recovered from breast cancer, is climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro a for cancer charity. Give via www.justgiving.com/Krista-Lowe or www.thehaven.org.uk

Stop Press Lido manager **Catherine Fleming** is leaving to be replaced by **Craig Hawtin**. He will take over in February. BLU members have met him & are pressing your interests & concerns

Thanks to 60 members for sending us your emails & saving BLU money, time & energy. If you still need the postal version & haven't told us please do so or soon you may no longer receive it