

July 2002



Dear BLU Member,

We are writing to give you an update on:

- Pool opening hours
- The work to secure a long-term future for the Lido
- What you as a BLU member can do to support the Lido

News from the Lido

The pool is open:

- 6.45 to 10.00 and 12.00 to 6.00 Monday to Friday and longer if the weather is hot
- 12.00 to 6.00 on Saturday and Sunday
- Weekend Brunch: 10.00

Season tickets are available from Paddy, Casey or Nigel.

BBQs are planned for most Friday evenings at 8.00 but call 0207 274 3088 for confirmation and to book.

The Future of the Lido

We want to update you on the work that members of BLU Steering Group have been involved in with Lambeth Council throughout the winter months. After the public meeting in January, the level of public support ensured that Lambeth set up a working party (to advise the council on the long term structure of the Lido), and that BLU was well represented (3 of the 6 places). The working party also includes a representative from Friends of Brockwell Park, the Brockwell Park Management Advisory Committee (MAC) and the Herne Hill Forum. A council officer facilitates the working party which is advised by one of the partners of the leisure consultancy which produced the original review of options. This working party has met once a fortnight and will continue to meet regularly.

We are working in collaboration with other local groups and the council in order to represent the strong local feeling about the future of the pool. The group is being guided by the recommendations set out in the consultant's report which were discussed at the January consultative meeting and reported in the last BLU newsletter. The Council, in consultation with BLU, has drafted an invitation to express interest in tendering to develop an activity on a site adjacent to the Lido that would generate sufficient income to subsidise the Lido. Although the consultant's report suggested that a health and fitness centre might be the most appropriate, BLU has worked to ensure that the invitation to express interest is open to a wide range of voluntary or commercial organisations, provided they can outline a plan that would provide a sustainable future for the Lido and meet stringent park planning regulations. This document is now out and available on the Lambeth and BLU websites at www.lambeth.gov.uk and www.brockwelllido.com.

By the middle of August the working party expects to receive expressions of interest from a range of companies and community associations who are prepared to manage and maintain the Lido and develop an adjacent site for an appropriate income generating activity. The BLU Steering Group is working hard in this climate to protect what its members value about the way that the Lido is presently run. We have done this by setting criteria for the tender document and by commenting on the contract that will be drawn up. The document also provides for ongoing involvement of a local community group in monitoring the future management and running of the Lido.

What Can You Do?

- **Look at the invitation to express interest document on the web site and call it to the attention of any commercial or voluntary organisation that might be interested.**
- **Make certain that other Lido users know about BLU and that they can join through the web site at brockwelllido.com, or by writing to Brockwell Lido Users, PO Box 27857, London, SE24 9YP. There will also be membership application cards available at the Lambeth Country Show on July 20 and 21.**
- **The final decision about the future of the Lido will be made by councillors. BLU is inviting them to come to the Lido to learn more about it. Please ensure that your local councillors know that the Lido is an important local issue.**
- **Don't wait for the perfect sunny day to enjoy the Lido! There are many non-swimming activities at the Lido--BBQs, Yoga, Tai Chi, African Drumming, Meditation, and children's music workshops. Ring for information.**