



BLU UPDATE MAY 2012

The **Modern Movement** weekend was a success, despite the off-putting weather. A handful of brave swimmers jumped in to celebrate the delayed midwinter swim and the water must have felt as cold as it would have been on the last Saturday before Christmas. The Mayor of Lambeth paid a visit to the BLU stand (under Windrush Tri Club's gazebo, thank you!) where Peter Bradley showed the Mayor a photo of his predecessor at the opening ceremony of the Lido in 1937. Students from Camberwell College of Art organised some very entertaining happenings, including inflatable boat races, and the Ingham Swing Ensemble played Cole Porter hits. Only the sun was missing.

Plans for the major **gym refurbishment** are on schedule and should begin at the beginning of June. Fusion will advise users of partial closures while the replacement of equipment takes place and they do not predict total closing of the gym at any point. Problems with TV screens on equipment were a result of the digital re-tune and all seem to be working now.

We hope that the **spa problems** are coming to an end. The new handrail on the hydrotherapy pool has been fitted and everything seems to be back in working order. Please report any further problems to staff and on a "please tell us what you think" (PTUWYT) card, available from reception.

Plans for regulating use of the **car park** are still not finalised. It looks as though there will be no permits, but parking will be free only for the first two hours. In the meantime, the car park has re-opened. A further two closure periods will be needed but we don't yet have dates for those. We are looking forward to eight extra **bike racks** and a **new path** down the slope from the perimeter park path.

If you are 16 or older, can swim 500 metres and run 5kms, and you haven't signed up for the **Aquathlon** on 27th May you can still do so at <http://www.windrushtri.co.uk/page/windrush-aquathlon> This promises to be a great event and we hope it will become an annual one. Because of this event the pool will be closed to non-Aquathlon swimmers from 09.00-10.30am on the day. The pool will operate an early bird swim from 08.00-08.45am and will re-open to the public at 10.30am. Why don't you stay and watch the Aquathlon competitors?

During May, **The Lido Café** is open to swimmers (and Choice members who can access the café via poolside) from 8am, and other customers from 9am on weekdays. At weekends, it is open to everyone from 9am.

From June, there will be poolside access from 7.30am with the main door open from 8am. Weekend opening will be at 8am for everyone. There are plans for a new beach hut with a more exciting food selection. You can sign up to receive news. <http://www.thelidocafe.co.uk>

This year's **lifeguards**, who are now employed directly by Fusion, have won praise for their resilience in dreadful weather and for welcoming swimmers, often by name! Say hallo and you may get a special greeting too!

Fusion are about to launch a new method for **booking a swim ticket online**. This will avoid the need to queue on busy days and enable Fusion to alert swimmers to any change in the pool programme. Details will be announced soon.

There are plans to improve the look of the Lido from the park and from poolside with the peeling **black facade** on the roof being re-painted soon.

Kayaking starts Sunday 13 May - 6pm-7.30pm. Bring your own boat or get your club kayaks to the Lido. Fantastic opportunity to practise your rolls, strokes and rescues. Clean water, hot showers and meet up with other kayakers for a drink afterwards. Pay £8 for the 1.5 hour session to the Lido when you arrive

Lambeth Archives invite you to the launch of their new book, Lambeth Architecture, 1914-1939, Tuesday 29th May at the Prince of Wales (opposite the Ritzy Cinema and Lambeth Town Hall.) 6:30 for 7pm. Also if you are interested in sport, architecture and heritage see <http://www.playedinbritain.co.uk/played-in-london-events.php>

Don't forget **Whippersnappers** when planning a party for your children. And take a look at all the classes and activities they offer. www.whippersnappers.org

Summer Cinema at the Lido. Anchorman on Friday 20th July. Book and vote for your favourite film to be shown on Wednesday 29th August at www.thelunacinema.com

BLU uses [Twitter](#) to send out swift and regular information including Fusion's daily report on water temperatures. Sign up to keep up-to-date.
The **Gym and Spa Facebook Forum** on Facebook is another good way of keeping up to date with Lido news.

STOP PRESS: Operations Manager, Ferenc Katona is leaving to take up a job nearer home. Lido users will miss him and we wish him well.