



Witches Coven / Ashia Oozeer

Letter from the editor

By Richard Cudlip: rjcudlip@gmail.com

This edition of Bec Chat is brought to you direct from downtown Salt Lake City, where I am visiting my sister. We seem to have swapped weather with the UK, with shirt sleeve weather during the day here instead of the usual snow. All I hear from home is how cold it's been, with plummeting water temperatures to match, and even some of the snow that the skiers here in SLC would kill for.

I haven't managed to swim yet, but will be going here on Sunday;



It's the [Homestead Crater](#), a geothermal spring and I will be providing a full report in the next Bec Chat!

Elsewhere, it has been a busy month of races at the Lido, the highlight being the Presidents' Cup. And there is a welcome return of David's water temperature data. I hope you enjoy this edition and don't forget that all new content is gratefully received at rjcudlip@gmail.com.

Stay safe,

Richard

The Temp-Table Returns!

By David Dunham

This Autumn the water temperatures have been varied. The average for October was the highest since 2005 while there was a considerable drop towards the end of November when one day the pool was 3.5°. This was good news for some Sunday swimmers as one width came into force.

Whatever the weather it was good to see so many back after lockdown.

	2018	2019	2020	2021
September	15.0°C	16.5°C	11.5°C	17.0°C
	59.0°F	62.5°F	51.5°F	63.0°F
October	12.0°C	13.0°C	11.0°C	15.0°C
	54.0°F	55.0°F	52.0°F	51.0°F
November	7.5°C	7.5°C	🤔🤔	6.5°C
	54.0°F	55.0°F	🤔🤔	51.0°F

Couldn't let this section pass without noting the very rare occurrence captured by Lisa Peake recently – agreement on the temperature between David and the lifeguards!



Presidents' Cup

by Richard Cudlip/Nicki Smith

Presidential sweeping / Nicki Smith



There was a fantastic turnout for the Presidents' Cup on Sunday 7th November and amidst the usual chaos there was a clear winner.

Ben Thompson, in his first qualifying race, took home the main prize with Rob Hughes in second place followed by Ann Brimelow in third. Questions re handicapping should be sent directly to the handicapping committee.

And while we are on the subject of race winners, we have evidence of another winner of a Sunday race below. Nick Kerrison won on Sunday 14th November and was the lucky recipient of a fabulous sweatshirt. Rumours that SLSC are about to be sponsored by B&Q have not yet been denied by the committee.



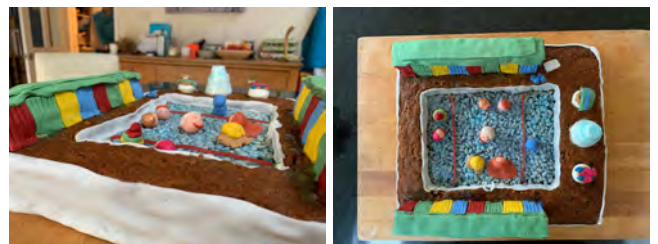
Ben amongst the Presidents and Vice-Presidents / Nicky Smith

Special mention also to Janet for the gift of two SLSC branded brooms and the sweeping lesson which Brian Daly was so grateful to receive.



Cake/Lido or Lido/Cake

Huge congratulations to Tim Slorick and Cate Noble for the magnificent Lido cake made for a fellow Lido goer. Perhaps they should be thinking of entering The Great British Bake Off? It does also beg the question, which came first the Lido or the Cake?



SLSC v SSC Gala

By Dierdre Ward / SSC

It was a lovely day – the drop in temperature overnight was alleviated by the sun coming out. We had 33 swimmers turn up – a nice mix of people joining us for the first time and those who have witnessed the chaos before and still signed up again. It was great to have a fantastic 40s and under category turnout which we've not had for a few years with some memorable speedy clashes and I love to see our Over 60s shine.

The relays were mildly chaotic as always – it was decided at the last minute to start from a different end to what we usually do and someone joined the wrong relay race causing mild confusion but these are the things that make it a great day out.

South London were magnificent as always. Egg's commentating has to be heard to be believed and never to be repeated and they were as magnanimous in their defeat as I hope we were in our win.

"A great day trip to the south!"

Many thanks also go to Nick Hungerford and Poppy Lenton for capturing on camera the spirit of the morning.





South London's "Egg", with vice President Robin and Captain Deirdre



Team Serpentine, 2021

Lido Crawl 2021

By various SLSC members

So nice to see the Lido Crawl back up and running in what appeared to be Baltic conditions. Many thanks to Ian Clark for organising and whose pictures I may, or may not, have stolen from Facebook.

Chilly start at Tooting – not many photos from Base Camp, clearly everyone too excited for the adventure ahead;



Second Leg – The Serpentine





Third Leg – Parliament Hill Lido



Final Leg – Hampstead Men's Pond



For those who haven't experienced the Lido Crawl before it's great fun but definitely quite a challenge when temperatures are hovering around 4-5 degrees! Normal format is an early start at Tooting, then make your way by whichever mode of transport you prefer, cycle, run, drive etc.. to swim at The Serpentine, Parliament Hill Lido and finally in the Men's Ponds at Hampstead. Clean, dry changes of kit are a must for each leg as your editor found to his cost the only time he went on the crawl!

Marine Girls at The Lido

By Richard Cudlip/Jenny Landreth – original photos and story by Janette Beckman and Penny Kiley.

A few years ago the picture below appeared on Twitter and caused quite a stir amongst those of us with a Lido and 80s indie music connection.



Marine Girls wait in vain for the Café to open

The picture is of the Marine Girls, who had a brief but influential pop career back in the day. The eagle eyed amongst you will recognise Tracey Thorn who, of course, went on to great things with Everything But The Girl.

Jenny Landreth picked up on the picture along with a few others, and through the power of Twitter connections found the original Melody Maker article, along with its writer. Not only that, Tracey Thorn herself joined in the fun with memories of that photoshoot.

So thanks to Jenny, we can see the original front cover of the paper, and another photo showing the iconic changing rooms.

