

Guildford Lido Newsletter

Let's recap an amazing 2025 at Guildford Lido!

Welcome to the Guildford Lido newsletter! 

Here at Guildford Lido, community is at the heart of everything we do, and it is important to us to create a space where everyone feels welcome, supported and part of something together.

This bi-monthly newsletter will keep you up to date with everything happening at Guildford Lido, including upcoming events, on-site projects and the latest news from our team. If you have any ideas for content you would like to see within the newsletter, please email us at: lido.membership@freedom-leisure.co.uk

A message from the General Manager, Fin Broekhuizen

I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly rewarding and exciting 2025 here at Guildford Lido.

It's been my first year at the Lido and I've thoroughly enjoyed being part of this vibrant community. I'm already looking forward to many more successful and positive years ahead.

Last year saw the introduction of several new initiatives including: Evening Lane Swim sessions, a Serenity Stretch class, Swimming Lessons and Adult Swimfit classes. We also hosted several Saturday evening private hire events for local schools and organisations, and have been proud to support a local charity offering mental health focused swimming sessions.



Thanks to the incredible weather in the Summer, our general swim sessions sold out on eight occasions - a real testament to the continued popularity and support for the Lido. I'd like to extend my sincere thank you to everyone who visited us in 2025, and to those who took the time to provide both positive and constructive feedback.

We were also pleased to host a number of clubs throughout the year, including Dorking Swim Club, Godalming Swimming Club, Phoenix Triathlon and Guildford Underwater Hockey Club.



We excitingly launched our full-time Winter Swimming programme, with the entire pool open, at all times. It's been a fantastic success - from introducing our brand new swimming memberships to hosting our first-ever Guildford Lido Open Day and welcoming many new and returning swimmers over the December and January for our Festive Swim sessions.



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We know there are still areas where we can continue to improve the site, including upgraded shower facilities, additional bike parking and the installation of a swimming sports clock - all of which we hope to progress over the coming months. We're also proud to have already introduced new hair-drying facilities in the outdoor changing rooms, which many of you are using and enjoying!



Finally, we're delighted to share that **Freedom Leisure has secured the management of Guildford Lido for a further 10 years**, and we are looking forward to the projects and developments this will bring.



Thank you once again for your continued support. If you'd like to share feedback, ideas or suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact me directly at: finley.broekhuizen@freedom-leisure.co.uk

Lido Café

The Lido Café has offered a delicious selection of paninis, hot & cold drinks and a range of tasty breakfast snacks throughout the season.

A standout moment from this season was the unannounced visit from the Environmental Health and Food Safety Inspectorate, that took place in June.

We're proud to share that the poolside Café successfully retained its 5-star Food Hygiene rating, reflecting the team's continued commitment to maintaining the highest standards.



Open Day

On Saturday 18th October, we hosted our Open Day which saw 1300+ visitors attend the site, to see the best of what Guildford Lido had to offer.

We had a range of activities and offerings available on the day, from the launch of our hugely popular Guildford Lido swimming hats, to free breakfast butties and activities such as Mermaid Swimming and Aqua Aerobics!

We also welcomed lots of special guests who ran stalls around the site promoting their work within the industry of aquatics. Thank you to everyone who came and supported the Lido Open Day - we hope you enjoyed the event!



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Festive Swims

Over the Christmas period from 24th December 2025 to 1st January 2026, the site welcomed 2000+ visitors.

Our Festive Swims were a huge success, with an overwhelming amount of positive feedback, particularly the Christmas Day session.

Customers and staff alike enjoyed swimming together with Christmas music playing - and some even wore Christmas hats! Our slides were open for a one-off Winter special, creating a fantastic atmosphere and a truly memorable experience.



Aqua Aerobics

This year, we saw the return of the popular Aqua Aerobics at Guildford Lido.

These sessions took place every Wednesday from 7:00 - 7:45pm. This year, we welcomed a new instructor, Lyndsey, whose classes have quickly become incredibly popular.

Well done to those brave enough who continued to attend these classes throughout the Winter Programme!

From January 2026, Aqua Aerobics will continue on Tuesday evenings, 7:00 - 7:45pm.

We hope to see you there!



The Pool

Last year, the Lido welcomed thousands more visitors compared to the previous years' season - reflecting the continued success of our lane swim sessions and growing community support.

We've worked hard to maintain the highest water quality standards, including using our pool vacuum every evening and carrying out thorough monthly scrub-downs to keep algae levels to a minimum. In addition, algaeicide is regularly added to ensure consistently clean and safe swimming conditions.



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Pool Temperature

We take the pool temperature from the centre of the pool, nearest to the first lifeguard chair as you enter.

We aim to maintain the water temperature between 19°C and 20°C at all times, and provide regular updates via our Facebook and Instagram stories.

The most up-to-date temperature is also clearly displayed on the whiteboard at the entrance for your convenience. If you have any questions about the pool and the temperature, please speak to a member of the team.

Deckchairs

In 2025, we introduced deckchair hire to our online booking system, and they quickly became a customer favourite!

Demand has been so high that we've sold out on numerous occasions and even expanded our stock to keep up.

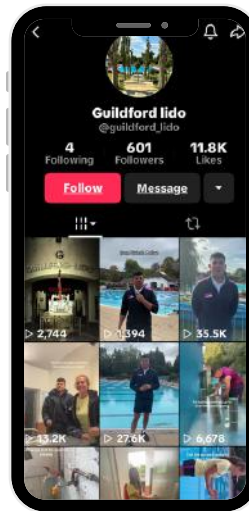


Social Media

We've been working hard to maintain a consistent presence across all of our social media platforms, ensuring regular and engaging content for our audience.

As part of our continued efforts to grow and connect with our community, we're excited to announce the launch of brand-new Tiktok account for Guildford Lido!

While we're proud of the progress we've made so far, we also recognise that there's always room to improve and innovate. We're committed to exploring new ways to strengthen our online presence and better engage with our audience across all channels.



Upcoming Events - 2026

Here are some of the upcoming events taking place in 2026, that we can look forward to.

Snow Moon, Moonlight Swim

Sunday 1st February

4:00 - 7:00pm

Lunar Eclipse, Moonlight Swim

Tuesday 3rd March

4:00 - 7:00pm

Swimathon, Swimming Challenge

Friday 20th, Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd March

7:00 - 10:00am

Swim The Night, Swimming Challenge

Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th April

24 hour swim challenge



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Upcoming Projects - 2026

2026 brings lots of exciting changes to Guildford Lido! Have you seen our on-site display board outlining the upcoming projects?

Here's what's coming...

February 2026 - CCTV

Entire new CCTV system to be installed around the site. We expect these works to be carried out in February.

Paddling Pool and Slide Plant Room Upgrades

We will be installing new back-washable sand filters to significantly improve water quality in these areas. This will be taking place prior to the start of the Summer Programme.

March 2026 - Pool Covers

The long awaited pool covers are due to be installed in March.

March 2026 - Floodlights

We will be installing 4 new permanent outdoor floodlights to support all year round opening and to replace the temporary lighting, currently in place. We are looking to install these in March.

September 2026 - Padel Courts

The existing Burrito Loco building will be replaced with brand-new Padel courts, with works scheduled to take place in September. This sport combines the best of Tennis and Squash, and is one of the fastest growing sports in the world.

September 2026 - Reformer Pilates Studio

The current Lido gym will be transformed into a dedicated Reformer Pilates studio, supporting Pilates and other instructor-led classes, with completion planned for September.

Sauna Cabins & Ice Baths

Brand new sauna cabins and ice baths are expected to arrive at the Lido towards the end of 2026.

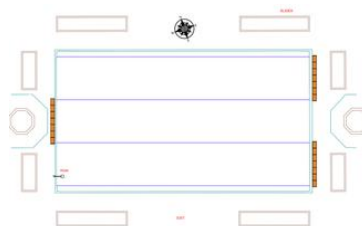


Image reference: Pool Covers plans

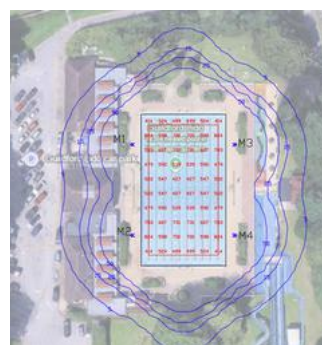


Image reference:
Poolside Lighting plans

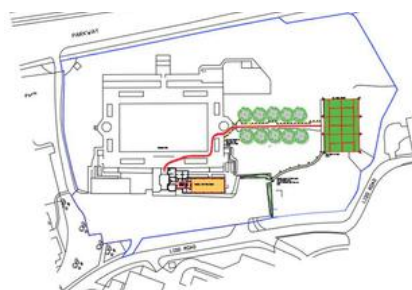


Image reference: Padel Courts plans

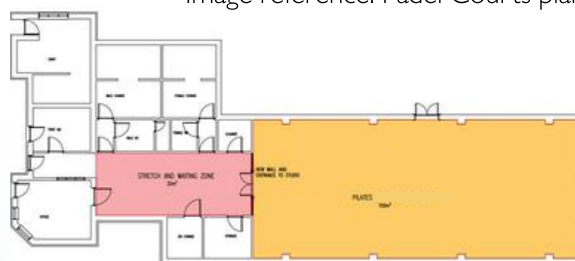


Image reference:
Reformer Pilates
Studio plans