

Winter 2012



MudMag

Guess what?!

You, your friends and your family are about to have more FUN here than ever before as RSPB Conwy is having a make-over!

Conwy nature reserve is a very special place. The wildlife here is incredible. You can see fantastic birds like lapwings and herons, rare flowers and plants, wild horses and stoats. Can you remember what you saw here recently?

You can make and do all sort of things here too, like a bug hotel to see creepy-crawlies, have a go at pond dipping and see newts, play Bird Bingo or make messy bird cakes.

But, it's going to get even better! Would you like to hear about our plans? We promise you... it's very exciting!

Tegi

Have you seen what has emerged from the mud?

Gwyn, the digger driver from Y Bala, dug out three big piles of earth from the bank. We thought the piles looked like the Loch Ness monster. The next thing we knew Tegi was born! He has been named after the monster in Llyn Bala. A BIG thank you to Gwyn for creating the Welsh dragon using a digger!

But...shhhh,

Tegi is asleep until he has a nice green coat of grass, and then children will be able to play on him!



Conwy Connections is an initiative part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Government and is a component element of the Countryside Council for Wales' Communities and Nature strategic project.

Photos by: Laura Kudelska

room with a view



Have you noticed a big hole next to the coffee shop? This is where Tegi came from. And this is where the new observatory is going to be built. It's going to be a brilliant place to watch wildlife. This building will be built out of straw bales, making it very environmentally friendly.



What else is going on?

We're building a new play area! We think this is the most exciting part of the whole makeover! You'll also have a new picnic area, a wildflower and a minibeast habitat... a tunnel...and a timber climbing frame! This will be your special place, where you can discover wildlife and have lots of fun.

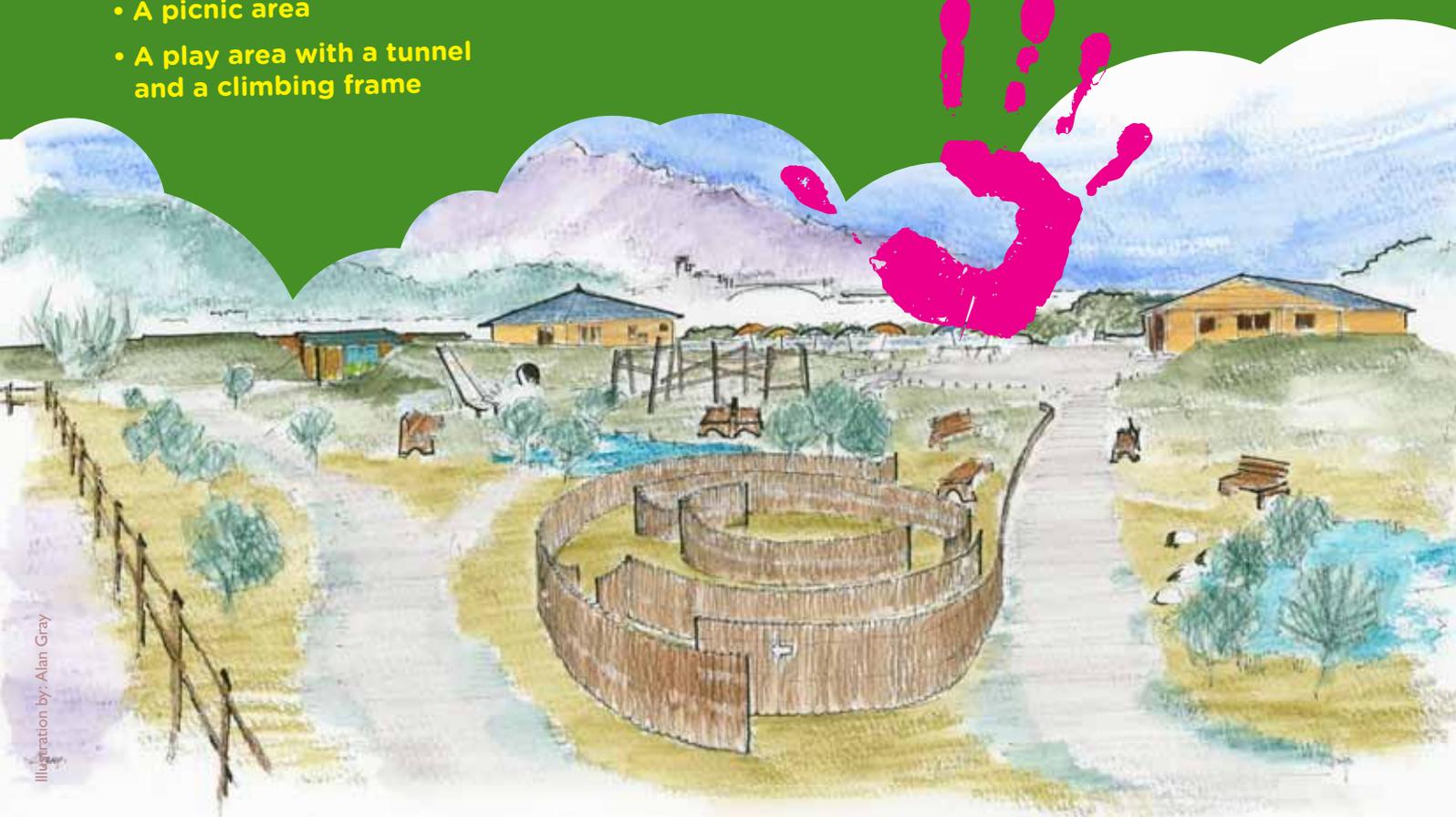
So, let's see what we've told you about so far:

- Tegi: is it a dragon or is it a dinosaur...or is it a dragosaur?!
- A special straw bale building to watch birds across the lagoon
- A picnic area
- A play area with a tunnel and a climbing frame

But wait, there's more!

- A new path has been built in the car park, so everyone feels safe when arriving at the reserve.
- Solar panels will be installed on the roof of the Coffee Shop, so the reserve's water is heated from the sun. This is great for the environment.

The play area will open in spring 2014. We know this is a long time away. How old will you be then?! But other stuff will be opened sooner, so you'll just have to come visit us regularly so you can keep a close eye on the building work and see it all coming together.





Thanks for helping with the ideas



It wasn't just RSPB staff that came up with these great ideas. Children of your age, including our Wildlife Explorers group, helped us to come up with fantastic ideas, as we wanted to be sure that the new play area is what you wanted, and somewhere you'll have loads of fun.

Above are the Wildlife Explorers group thinking hard about ideas. Thanks guys.



Lights...Camera...

ACTION!!



Have you got what it takes to be a presenter?

Have you heard of Chris Packham or Michaela Strachan? This is your chance to have a go at being in front of the camera, just like them. We're looking for a lively, passionate-about-wildlife presenter, to work with us on a film about the makeover in 2013. If you think you've got what it takes, call us on 01492 584091 and make sure you ask your parents first.

Have fun
with our fab

Birdsearch



Can you find these?

- Blue tit
- Sparrow
- Chaffinch
- Robin
- Starling
- Magpie
- Pigeon
- Blackbird



B	A	T	S	Y	R	O	B	I	N
L	T	N	T	L	U	E	S	I	O
U	C	H	A	F	F	I	N	C	H
E	L	O	R	M	I	R	D	Y	S
T	U	W	L	A	K	E	I	A	P
I	Q	P	I	G	E	O	N	S	A
T	M	D	N	P	Y	A	E	W	R
A	S	P	G	I	S	I	A	A	R
V	H	R	G	E	O	B	D	E	O
B	L	A	C	K	B	I	R	D	W

For more info and activities visit:
www.rspb.org.uk/youth

Cartoon by Andy Hamilton and Anthony Rule.

In the
Meantime...

Naturally Christmas

Saturday 1 December and Sunday 2
December, 9.30am to 5.00pm
Price: free

Watch RSPB Conwy turn into a winter wildlife wonderland! Go on a Santa trail, buy gifts from the shop and enjoy lovely mug of hot chocolate in the Coffee Shop.

Perfect!



RSPB Cymru would like to thank those whose donations support RSPB Conwy nature reserve and visitor facilities, including The Crown Estate, Cemlyn Jones Trust, Environment Wales, Tesco, Conwy Town Council and RSPB Conwy Support Group.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity: England and Wales no. 207076, Scotland no. SC037654

at RSPB Conwy

Christmas Campfire

Sunday 16 December, 2.00pm to 3.30pm
Price: Wildlife Explorers £4, non-members
£6. Booking essential and for payment
details, see www.rspb.org.uk/conwy

Help us gather firewood, then build a campfire and toast marshmallows! Discover how to make a "s'more"!

Suitable for ages 4 to 12 yrs.

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