

Conwy Culture Centre Update

October 2019



Building and exhibitions update:

Work at the Culture Centre site is continuing at a great pace. Passers-by will now notice that the glazing is in place and the exterior is really beginning to take its final shape. The landscaping work is ongoing; the external classroom has been built using stone from the Old School to create an amphitheatre for outdoor learning and storytelling. The last exciting piece of work is to finish our accessible sensory garden, which we are developing together with local group *Incredible Edible*.

The team is busy adding the finishing touches to plans for the interior, which will include innovative heritage exhibitions, a brand new library, archive and café.

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Ariennir y Ganolfan Diwylliant gan Gronfa Dreftadaeth y Loteri Genedlaethol, Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy, Llywodraeth Cymru (yr Is-adran Amgueddfeydd, Archifau a Llyfrgelloedd), Cymunedau Gwledig Llywodraeth Cymru – Rhaglen Datblygu Gwledig 2014-2020, a ariennir gan Gronfa Amaethyddol Ewrop ar gyfer Datblygu Gwledig a Llywodraeth Cymru, Cronfa Cymunedol Gwynt y Môr mewn partneriaeth ag Ymddiriedolaeth Celfyddau Conwy, a Chyngor Celfyddau Cymru.

The Culture Centre is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Conwy County Borough Council, the Welsh Government (Museums, Archives, Libraries Division), the Welsh Government Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government, Gwynt y Mor Community Fund in partnership with Conwy Arts Trust, and Arts Council Wales.

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Café

As some of you may have seen on social media the café contract has been awarded to local business Deli Catering Ltd. Bethan Rogerson and Sally Williams are well known for their baking skills and they are currently finalising a menu of tasty, affordable and healthy lunches and snacks using local ingredients. We will be publishing their menu soon, so stay tuned!

The Conwy Eisteddfod:

As one of the largest cultural events in Wales, the Eisteddfod was a perfect venue to promote and celebrate the Culture Centre project. On the 3rd of August visitors to the Conwy Council tent were given the chance to meet the Culture Centre Staff team and listen to a presentation about the project as well as take a look at our new reminiscence collections which are now available for loan.

A big thank you to our partners and friends over at these museums for getting involved with us, and we look forward to working more closely together with them in the future.



Taster sessions:

Since the project started we have delivered a whopping 110 taster sessions with total of 3,103 individuals (both children and adults) having taken part. We wish to extend our thanks to our partners, our residential artists and to all those who have come to see us and support us. Let's have many more sessions in the future!

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Llanrwst Revealed

As a follow up to the Conwy Revealed exhibition, the team of young people involved visited the surrounding areas of Llanrwst, looking to capture the culture, heritage and natural beauty of the area. With help by Oriel Colwyn and Conwy Youth Service staff, 29 of their best photos would later be put on display at Llanrwst Library for visitors to see. A big thanks to all those who took part; their work was smashing and we look forward to seeing what comes out for them in the future!

Young Ambassador

Following the success of the Young Ambassador project, more activities have been scheduled to take place in the meantime. These include a historic cooking session, using cooking recipes from the past to make yummy historic treats, as well as site visits to learn more about the mining heritage of Conwy. We look forward to hearing more from them in the future!

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Raising awareness via social media:

Our Facebook Page (Diwylliant Conwy Culture) has now hit 500 likes! A big thank you to those who are following us! Don't forget that if you know of anyone who wants to keep up with the project, they can follow us for frequent posts about the latest news regarding building progress, promotional material for activities, and much more: so spread the word!

Also, for those on Twitter, we are pleased to announce the launch of our new Twitter page! Visit Twitter and follow us on Diwylliant Conwy Culture to keep up to date with the project.



Dawns i Bawb:

Dawns i Bawb have been leading a series of dance workshops and performances, using the Centre's reminiscence collections in helping people living with dementia and Parkinson's reclaim their identity. This project has been positively received by all groups involved, including visits to sites such as Llys Eilian, Colwyn Bay, and have helped us develop upon the idea of a dementia-aware and dementia friendly community within the centre itself.

Welsh Language Group:

Our Welsh Language group members have been busy these last few months, getting to grips with practising, using and enjoying the Welsh language. The sessions are all free and are located in the current library building in the centre town and will be moving to the culture centre with us when we open.

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On the 11th of July the group had a go using the CommonVoice app; software which is used to teach computers how to understand languages for text-to-speech applications. This session focused on teaching the computers “used Welsh”. The Welsh Language Group meets on the third Thursday of every month. The next meeting is set to take place on the 17th of October. If you or anyone you know is interested in taking part, please contact Conwy Library for more details.

Culture Centre Opening date and hours:

We are pleased to be able to announce the opening date of the Culture Centre! The Culture Centre will be open to the public on the 9/12/19; including the area library, café, arts and exhibition space and sensory garden. The Archive collections will be moving over to the new building early in the New Year and the Archive will open in spring 2020; keep an eye on our newsletter and social media pages for any updates in the meantime!

What's next?

Watch this space for updates about our sensory garden activity programme which start in the New Year and will offer lots of opportunities for everyone. We are also working on our spring/summer programme for activities, exhibitions and events in the centre and throughout the county, so get in touch if you have ideas to share!

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Library	
Monday	9:30am – 5:00pm
Tuesday	10:00am – 7:00pm
Wednesday	9:30am – 5:00pm
Thursday	9:30am – 5:00pm
Friday	9:30am – 5:00pm
Saturday	10:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday	CLOSED
Archives	
Monday	10:00am – 4:30pm
Tuesday	10:00am – 7:00pm
Wednesday	10:00am – 4:30pm
Thursday	10:00am – 4:30pm
Friday	CLOSED
Saturday	
Sunday	
Café	
Easter to End of September	
Monday to Saturday	8.00 am to 6.00pm.
Sunday	9.00am - 5.00pm.
End of September until Easter	
Monday to Saturday	9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday	10.00am – 4.00pm

Official opening times for the Culture Centre when it opens on the 9/12/19:

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