

Conwy Culture Centre Update

September 2018

The building Project

Since our last newsletter in April the building project has been progressing well. If you venture up on the town walls you get a great view into the site. The deep hole that has been excavated will become our new state of the art store for our precious archive and museum collections. The first of its kind in the UK, this basement store will save energy by using the constant temperature of the earth to maintain the perfect environment for sensitive materials. The next stage of the project is to lay the foundations and the project timetable is on track ready for the Centre to open in autumn 2019. Wynne Construction are looking to offer some construction placements as part of the build, so if you or someone you know might be interested then get in touch.



Exhibitions, events and training

Staff at the Archive are busy working with the Culture Centre volunteers to catalogue, repackage and prepare our collections for the 'Big Move' next year. Staff have also been running some taster sessions in researching family history and will soon be running an accredited course with limited places still available.



The first of our youth projects has begun, led by Conwy Youth Service and Oriol Colwyn. Conwy Revealed has equipped young people from the county with new skills in photography through an accredited course exploring the heritage of buildings in Conwy town.

Conwy Culture Centre will open in autumn 2019 and will feature a new Area Library for Conwy, Deganwy and Llandudno Junction together with the county Archive and Museum Collections, interactive displays and a dedicated community and arts space.

The Centre will be based on the junction of Town Ditch and Bangor Road, Conwy,

Get involved!

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We have also just appointed three artists to work on collecting and expressing the memories of Ysgol Bodlondeb. Sian Hutchinson, Graham Hembrough and Lisa Heledd-Jones will be talking to former pupils, staff and the wider community and the results of the project will be exhibited at the centre. The artists will be based at Conwy Library and will be holding a number of drop-in sessions beginning on the 5th November and everyone is welcome.

Our first exhibition at the new Centre will be about the People of Conwy. Our Roadshow is now touring the county to collect people's stories and memories, and so far we have visited Rowen Carnival and Llanfairfechan Library. The next roadshow session will be at Conwy library as part of the Honey Fair on 13th of September, and the library will open all day, so come down and see us.



We are working together with the Conwy Arts Trust on the Culture Centre project and the centre will include an arts space allowing for projects that bring the arts and heritage together. As part of our arts programme we have started running some artist's taster sessions inspired by our historic collections. The first of these has been with Conwy Adoption Support Group and inspired by Ice Age objects from Kendrick's Cave on the Great Orme.



We are committed to creating a Culture Centre that is accessible and enjoyable for all, and the project is working to establish a steering group to enable us to work towards Dementia Friendly status. We are also talking to a range of groups about ideas for a sensory garden and accessible interpretation and will be updating with more information on this in our next newsletter.



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