Slimbridge expands with £4.1million of Nationa!



Sir Peter Scott feeding birds at Slimbridge WWT

£4.1million from the National Lottery sets Slimbridge Wetland Centre, Gloucestershire, on the flight path for a three-year redevelopment programme.

Described as “the patron saint of conservation” by Sir David Attenborough, Scott’s pioneering instinct led to the inception of the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT) in 1946. Slimbridge became a centre for science and conservation and, unusually for the time, open to the public.

[quote=Ros Kerslake, HLF Chief Executive]"As we live increasingly urbanised lives, our natural heritage is more important than ever and deserves strong support from The National Lottery.”[/quote]

Ros Kerslake, Chief Executive of HLF, said: “Slimbridge’s role within the conservation world is well known, with Sir Peter Scott positioned as one of the founding fathers of the modern movement. As we live increasingly urbanised lives, our natural heritage is more important than ever and deserves strong support from The National Lottery.”

Legacy

The WWT team will continue Sir Peter's legacy through a range of attractions that show how his work has influenced modern conservation. Developments to Scott's own home will also give a glimpse into the history of the site.

Greater access to spectacular views

A new multi-level, fully wheelchair accessible bird hide with open rooftop terrace will give visitors spectacular access to thousands of waders and geese. At the centre of the site, a walk-through aviary will allow visitors to get a birds-eye view of a typical British wetland and all the species that rely on it, including birds that are rare in the wild.

Attached to the aviary, a Living Wetland Theatre will offer an open-air venue for live and interactive demonstrations of conservation in action and spectacular birds from around the world. Stars of the show will be free-flying pelicans, magpie geese and diving whistling ducks.



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Sir Peter Scott at Slimbridge. WWT

Wildfowl and Wetland Trust to tell story of Sir Peter Scott thanks to National Lottery