



SEA LIFE Trust Cornish Seal Sanctuary
Press release

EMBARGOED UNTIL 10AM, THURSDAY 5th MAY

‘Fund Our Future’: Cornish Seal Sanctuary launches £1.3million fundraising campaign for redevelopment project

The Cornish Seal Sanctuary has officially launched a new £1.3million fundraising campaign, as part of a major redevelopment project at the charity’s site in Gweek.

The campaign, dubbed ‘Fund Our Future’, is all about raising vital funds to futureproof the Sanctuary and provide world-class facilities for seal conservation for the next generation.

As part of the project, the charity will be replacing four pools currently on site over the next two years in one of the biggest re-development projects the charity has seen in its 64-year history.

From a state-of-the-art filtration system, to improved access for our animal care team, the new pools will be centred around exceeding all recommended standards in marine mammal care to date.

Jana Sirova, Head of Sanctuaries at SEA LIFE Trust, said: “With more than 60 years already under our belts, the Cornish Seal Sanctuary is embedded into the hearts of our local residents and guests alike.

“From grandparents who remember visiting as children, to the youngsters now coming through our doors for the first time, our work continues to inspire generations to care for and support our wild marine species.

“This campaign, one of our biggest to date, is all about safeguarding our future and putting the Cornish Seal Sanctuary at the heart of world-class animal welfare for years to come, allowing us to remain as world-leaders in seal conservation and care.”

With the launch of the campaign, the charity is now appealing to supporters and the wider community to help them reach their fundraising target.

Every penny raised from the campaign will go towards building these essential facilities, so the charity can continue to provide expert animal care and educate communities about the marine conservation.

Tamara Cooper, Curator of the Cornish Seal Sanctuary, said: “These pools are the original pools that Ken Jones built when he moved the Sanctuary from St Agnes to Gweek back in 1975.

“And while our team is still able to deliver world-leading care to the animals we support here on site, the new pools will transform life for our staff here, as well as provide more space, better filtration and enhanced enrichment opportunities for our marine residents.

“We can’t do it without the help of our supporters, though, and we need all the help we can get to bring this vision to life.”

The new development will also see a brand-new underwater viewing area with seating, as well as increased education spaces to build community engagement with schools and organisations across Cornwall and beyond.

To donate, head to our website at <https://sealsanctuary.sealifetrust.org/> to make an online donation.

You can also text SEAL followed by your donation amount to 70490. Please note texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message.

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

Goals for Fund Our Future:

With the beginning of the project set to get underway later this year, the charity aims to:

- Build a state-of-the-art filtration system (dramatically improving water quality and clarity for our animals and visiting guests alike)
- Provide better access to pools for our animal carers (giving them more space to train and enrich our residents)
- Create a new, undercover viewing area with seating and education spaces
- Exceed recommended standards in marine mammal care
- Inspire the next generation to help us take our work forward

For interviews, images and more information, please contact Hazel King (Marketing Manager) on hazel.king@sealifetrust.com or call 07920518727 / 01326 221361.