



Introduction:

Building Connections Through Nature at the Aquadrome

Marcus Day - Community Engagement Officer, Rickmansworth Aquadrome Project (2025–2026)

Background: Experience in community engagement, public participation and creative project design.

Purpose of my role:

Listen to and represent community voices.

Encourage understanding of biodiversity, heritage and wellbeing.

Build positive relationships between residents, council and project partners.





The Year Ahead – My Focus

Engagement, Education and Evidence

Engagement:

Community events, surveys, drop-ins, partnership building. Reach new audiences: schools, families, under-represented groups.

Education:

Public learning around ecology, heritage and sustainability. Use activities to influence positive environmental behaviour.

Evidence:

Gather measurable feedback to shape the final delivery plan. Track participation, awareness and behavioural change.





Turning Ideas into Action

The Activity Plan will define:

Who we reach (audiences & partners). **What** we deliver (events, learning, volunteering).

How we evaluate (impact, inclusion, sustainability).

Key priorities:

Access & inclusion: activities for all ages and abilities.

Environmental awareness: wildlife walks, citizen science, educational trails.

Heritage connection: interpretation, storytelling, Aquadrome history and creative arts.

Health & wellbeing: outdoor mindfulness, natural play and active events.





Early Ideas and Next Steps

Ideas in Development & Community Collaboration

Activity ideas already tested:

Bat Walks, Mini-Beast Hunts, Wellbeing events, Drop-in consultations.

Potential new activities:

Wildlife Discovery Trail with QR-linked audio interpretation.

Community Conservation Days - with citizen science and habitat restoration.

Youth Volunteering Projects – co-designed with local schools & organisations.

Stories by the Water – arts/heritage workshops connecting people to place.

Next steps:

Continue data gathering through events and surveys.

Develop partnerships with local groups, schools and ColneCAN.

Draft the first Activity Plan outline





Information Updates:

- Official Website
- Social Media Channels
- •Email Newsletters
- Public Meetings & Consultations
- Printed Publications
- Partnership Channels
- •Noticeboards & Public Displays









