

## The World's Largest Water Lily



**Pictured:** The giant tennis ball mosaic. **Source:** Anna France-Williams @anna\_fw Twitter page.

## WaterAid Wows Wimbledon

**T**he Wimbledon Foundation and WaterAid created a giant tennis ball mosaic near No 1 Court showing 10-year-old Tefy, from Antsakambahiny village in Madagascar, enjoying clean water. The design is to highlight how more than 11,000 children's lives could be transformed during the tournament with access to clean water. Because of the charity's work, Tefy now has clean water at school and near his home. He said, "We no longer fetch water down the hill anymore

since we have taps in our school. The water here is very clean and fresh." The amazing artwork created by artists from 'Sand in Your Eye' took 12 hours to complete. Finn, aged nine, and Darcey, eight, who are both part of the Wimbledon Junior Tennis Initiative, helped to put the final 100 balls into place. Finn said, "I can't imagine not having clean water. I love the mosaic and I think the work that WaterAid does to help children is really good."

Experts have found a new, giant, water lily species for the first time since 1837. Scientists at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew in London, announced that it had been hiding in plain sight whilst living among their other plants in their Herbarium for 177 years! It had been previously mistaken for a different species of giant water lily. The giant water lily, that grows in Bolivia, has been confirmed as a distinct species (using DNA analysis) and named Victoria

boliviana. The third species of giant water lily to be identified is also the largest, with leaves growing more than 3m wide! Some people think that the water lilies have grown so large so that they can compete with other plants for sunlight. "The lily pads could definitely take the weight of a young child," says Natalia Przelomska, a member of the research team at Kew Gardens.



**Pictured:** The world's largest water lily, being measured at Kew gardens. **Source:** Kew Science Twitter page.

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# Hurt Tortoise Finds New Hope

Chester Zoo's new special ploughshare tortoise, Hope, was rescued from smugglers and could now help save his species from extinction! The Madagascar tortoise was found in a suitcase at Hong Kong airport in 2019, with 56 other endangered tortoises. Upon inspection, it was discovered that one of his front legs was damaged and was thereafter amputated. To help him balance and get around, wheels were fitted to the bottom of his shell by a local animal rescue centre. The ploughshare tortoise is categorised as Critically Endangered - there are less than 300 in the wild. Zookeepers say that Hope's under-shell roller supports were upgraded whilst he was at Chester Zoo, and he is now moving around his new habitat even more speedily than his three tortoise companions. Chester Zoo tweeted, "This is three-legged ploughshare tortoise, Hope... the RAREST tortoise in the world. He was RESCUED from illegal smugglers after being snatched from the forests of Madagascar. Hope is one of the last of his kind, and he's here to help save his species from extinction!"



**Pictured:** Hope, the three-legged ploughshare tortoise.  
**Source:** Chester Zoo Twitter page.

Last week's topic:  
**Is it important for everyone to have a hobby?**



It is good to have hobbies because otherwise you could be bored. It is also a great way to make new friends!  
**Class 2B -  
Beamont Primary School**

Yes, because its not fun when you don't do anything and most people don't like being bored in their free time.  
**Emir**

Yes, It is important to have a hobby because it motivates us.  
**Anshika**

It is good to have a hobby because it is something that you enjoy and it will improve your mental health. You shouldn't be forced to do it because that takes all the fun out of it.  
**Bella**

**Let us know what you think about this week's news?**

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 Picture News Ltd,  
Colber Lane,  
Bishop Thornton,  
Harrogate,  
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