



Chester Zoo News

AND GUIDE

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY
ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, UPTON - BY - CHESTER

February 1978

Price 12p

The North of England Zoological Society
ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, UPTON-BY-CHESTER

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COVER

Orang-utan "Paul"

By courtesy of J. Whitworth

Annual subscription — Two Pounds and Thirty Pence, postage paid
Telephone Chester 20106/7/8

COVER PHOTOGRAPH

We are very sorry to have to report the death of "Paul", our famous Orang-utan. Unfortunately after a long illness we were obliged to have him humanely destroyed. He was about 30 years of age when he died. Life expectancy in the wild is 30/40 years, so that we feel he had had a good life span but wish that he might have lived longer. He was presented to us by the late Mr. Alan Johnson in 1958.

"Paul" has been a very popular animal with the visitors; during recent years he could be seen almost daily on his own in the outside enclosure opposite the Rainbow Souvenir Shop, near the North Entrance. For many years he lived happily with another Orang-utan "Jimmy" who died in 1969.

STOCKTAKING

The annual stocktaking has been carried out in the various departments, and at December 31st 1977 the collection of mammals, birds and reptiles was estimated to consist of:

Mammals	793 specimens of 126 species
Birds	2,183 specimens of 274 species
Reptiles and Amphibians	212 specimens of 77 species
Fishes	1,000 specimens of 11 species

BREEDING RESULTS FOR 1977

	MAMMALS		
	No. Born	No. Reared	Sex M.F
Alpaca (<i>Lama pacos</i>)	3	1	0.1
Bison, American (<i>Bos bison</i>)	1	1	0.1
Blackbuck (<i>Antilope cervicapra</i>)	1	1	0.1
Cattle, Highland (<i>Bos taurus</i>)	2	1	0.1
Chimpanzee (<i>Pan troglodytes</i>)	2	2	1.1
Deer, Fallow (<i>Dama dama</i>)	4	2	1.1
Deer, Pere David's (<i>Elaphurus davidianus</i>)	3	3	1.2
Eland (<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>)	2	2	0.2

Mammals— <i>cont'd.</i>	No.	No.	Sex
	Born	Reared	M.F.
Elephant, Indian (<i>Elephas maximus</i>)	1	1	1.0
Gazelle, Arabian (<i>Gazella arabica</i>)	8	5	2.3
Giraffe (<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>)	1	0	1.0
Goat, Bagot (<i>Capra hircus</i>)	1	1	1.0
Guanaco (<i>Lama guanicoe</i>)	1	1	0.1
Jaguar (<i>Panthera onca</i>)	1	1	
Kinkajou (<i>Potos flavus</i>)	1	1	1.0
Lechwe, Red (<i>Kobus leche</i>)	9	4	3.1
Lemur, Ring-tailed (<i>Lemur catta</i>)	2	2	1.1
Leopard, Black (<i>Panthera pardus</i>)	2	2	1.1
Leopard, Common (<i>Panthera pardus</i>)	4	3	2.1
Lynx, European (<i>Felis lynx lynx</i>)	2	1	1.0
Monkey, Baboon Hamadryas (<i>Papio hamadryas</i>)	5	4	1.3
Monkey, Barbary Ape (<i>Macaca sylvana</i>)	1	0	0.0
Monkey, Green (<i>Cercopithecus sabaesus</i>)	2	1	1.0
Monkey, Patas (<i>Erythrocebus patas</i>)	2	1	0.1
Monkey, Squirrel (<i>Saimiri sciureus</i>)	3	2	2.0
Monkey, Talapoin (<i>Cercopithecus talapoin</i>)	1	0	0.0
Nilgai (<i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>)	2	1	1.0
Orang-Utan (<i>Pongo pygmaeus</i>)	1	1	1.0
Reindeer (<i>Rangifer tarandus</i>)	1	1	1.0
Sheep, Soay (<i>Ovis aries</i>)	9	9	
Squirrel, Sierra Leone Striped (<i>Fumisciurus pyrrhopus leonis</i>)	7	6	
Tigers, Bengal (<i>Panthera tigris</i>)	2	2	0.2
Viscacha, Plains (<i>Lagostomus maximus</i>)	1	1	1.0
Wallaby, Bennett's (<i>Wallabia rufogrisea</i>)	2	7	
Wapiti (<i>Cervus canadensis</i>)	1	1	0.1
Zebra, Common (<i>Equus burchelli granti</i>)	3	3	3.0

BIRDS BRED DURING 1977

	No.	Reared
Avadavat, Green (<i>Amandava formosa</i>)	1	1
Avadavat, Red (<i>Amandava amandava</i>)	2	2
Budgerigar (<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>)	2	2
Bulbul, Red-whiskered (<i>Pycnonotus jocosus peguensis</i>)	1	1
Cockatiel (<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>)	29	29

Birds—cont'd.	<i>No. Reared</i>	
Conure, Crimson-bellied (<i>Pyrrhura rhodogaster</i>)	3	3
Conure, Lesser Patagonian (<i>Cyanoliseus patagonus</i>)	3	3
Conure, Nanday (<i>Nandayus nanday</i>)	3	3
Conure, Sun (<i>Aratinga solstitialis</i>)	2	2
Dove, Barbary (<i>Streptopelia risoria</i>)	2	2
Dove, Java (<i>Streptopelids roseogrisea</i>)	8	8
Dove, Laughing (<i>Stigmatopelia senegalensis</i>)	2	2
Duck, Carolina (<i>Aix sponsa</i>)	5	5
Duck, Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)	50	50
Duck, Mandarin (<i>Aix galericulata</i>)	2	2
Duck, Bahama Pintail (<i>Anas bahamensis</i>)	2	2
Duck, Pintail (<i>Anas acuta acuta</i>)	3	3
Duck, Rosy-billed Pochard (<i>Netta peposaca</i>)	3	3
Duck, Sheld (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)	1	1
Duck, Shoveler Red (<i>Anas platalea</i>)	7	7
Duck, Tufted (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>)	1	1
Duck, Wigeon Chiloe (<i>Anas sibilatrix</i>)	3	3
Finch, Bengalese (<i>Lonchura striata</i>)	14	14
Finch, Cut-throat (<i>Amadina fasciata</i>)	5	5
Finch, Green (<i>Chloris chloris</i>)	4	4
Finch, Green Singing (<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>)	2	2
Finch, Saffron (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>)	1	1
Finch, Zebra (<i>Taeniopygia castanotis</i>)	12	12
Goose, Bar-headed (<i>Anser indicus</i>)	3	3
Goose, Canada (<i>Branta canadensis</i>)	4	4
Goose, Maned (<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>)	8	8
Goose, Lesser Snow (<i>Anser c. coerulescens</i>)	2	2
Guineafowl, Common (<i>Numida meleagris</i>)	19	19
Heron, Night (<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>)	1	1
Ibis, Glossy (<i>Plegadis falcinellus falcinellus</i>)	1	1
Ibis, Straw-necked (<i>Threskiornis spinicollis</i>)	1	1
Jay, Plush-crested (<i>Cyanocorax chrysops</i>)	4	0
Jay, San Blas (<i>Cyanocorax sanblasiana nelsoni</i>)	1	1
Jungle-fowl, Red (<i>Gallus gallus</i>)	16	16
Kookaburra (<i>Dacelo gigas</i>)	2	1
Linnet (<i>Acanthis cannabina</i>)	4	4
Lorikeet, Ornate (<i>Trichoglossus ornatus</i>)	8	8
Lorikeet, Swainson's (<i>Trichoglossus moluccanus</i>)	6	6
Lovebird, Fischer's (<i>Agapornis fischeri</i>)	4	4

Birds—cont'd.	<i>No. Reared</i>	
Lovebird, Peach-faced (<i>Agapornis roseicollis</i>)	7	7
Mynah, Jungle (<i>Aethiopsar fuscus</i>)	2	2
Nun, Tri-coloured (<i>Munia malacca</i>)	4	4
Owl, Barn (<i>Tyto alba affinis</i>)	3	3
Owl, Great Eagle (<i>Bubo bubo</i>)	1	1
Parakeet, Barraband (<i>Polytelis swainsoni</i>)	1	1
Parakeet, Quaker (<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>)	5	5
Parakeet, Splendid (<i>Neophema splendida</i>)	2	2
Parrot, Amazon Blue-fronted (<i>Amazona aestiva</i>)	1	1
Parrot, Eclectus Red-sided (<i>Eclectus goodsoni</i>)	3	3
Parrotlet, Guiana (<i>Forpus p. passerinus</i>)	9	9
Peacock, Common (<i>Pavo cristatus</i>)	4	4
Pheasant, Silver (<i>Gennaesus nycthemerus</i>)	5	5
Rail, Weka (<i>Gallirallus australis greyi</i>)	3	3
Rhea (<i>Rhea americana</i>)	2	2
Sibia, Black-headed (<i>Leioptila capistrata</i>)	1	1
Silverbill (<i>Euodice malabarica cantans</i>)	7	7
Sparrow, Java (<i>Padda oryzivora</i>)	2	2
Spicebird (<i>Munia punctulata</i>)	7	7
Starling, Glossy (<i>Lamprocolius nitens</i>)	2	2
Starling, Jerdon's (<i>Sturnus burmanicus</i>)	3	3
Swan, Mute (<i>Cygnus olor</i>)	3	3
Waxbill, Orange-cheeked (<i>Estrilda melpoda</i>)	2	2
Waxbill, Red-eared (<i>Estrilda troglodytes</i>)	2	2
Waxbill, St. Helena (<i>Estrilda astrild astrild</i>)	2	2
Waxbill, Sundervall's (<i>Estrilda rhodopyga</i>)	3	3
Weaver, Red-billed (<i>Quelea quelea</i>)	2	2
Whydah, Pin-tailed (<i>Vidua macroura</i>)	1	1

REPTILES BRED DURING 1977

	<i>Reared</i>
Lizard, Anolis (<i>Anolis e. equestris</i>)	1
Boa, Rainbow (<i>Epicrates cenchris</i>)	1
Gecko, Leopard (<i>Eublepharis macularis</i>)	7
Gecko, Tocko (<i>Gekko gekko</i>)	1
Skink, Solomon Island (<i>Corucia zebrata</i>)	6
Rattlesnake, Pigmy (<i>Sistrurus m. miliarius</i>)	3
Hybrid Rat-snake (<i>Elaphe obsoleta quadrivittata x Elaphe obsoleta obsoleta</i>)	10

HIGHLIGHTS—1977

The highlight of the year undoubtedly occurred on the 8th May last with the birth of the Indian elephant, and although this event has been well-covered in other issues of the Chester Zoo News we feel it should be mentioned in this issue of the magazine.

A competition organised by the B.B.C. "Blue Peter" Programme predictably named him "Jubilee", and brought in 17,000 postcards to prove the popularity of the animal. The second and third most popular names suggested were "Chester" and "Jumbole". Jubilee has been a star attraction and one of the few animals in the collection that visitors know by name. He has not given the keepers any problems at all and various stages of development have been noted with interest. He has grown from an estimated 180-lbs. or so at birth to about 400-lbs. at present. Though still suckling from his mother "Judy", he is now eating a normal elephant diet, and from a rather shaky beginning has full control over his trunk. His voice has also developed from a small squeal to quite a powerful trumpet.

Other births include five successful rearings of Arabian Gazelles. This brings our herd to sixteen. Unfortunately this rare and beautiful gazelle has not always proved to be the best of parents and three of the five bred have had to be hand-reared from birth. This in itself has proved quite interesting as each animal has been entirely different in character. They have all been reared on pasteurized cow's milk with "Abidec" added as a supplement. Hay and grass were offered from two weeks old and taken readily with soft fruit and some cereal. A 200 Watt heating lamp was used in each case to keep the animals warm. On going outside the house into the garden a marked preference was shown to eat a small quantity of soil but this did no apparent harm.

Regular readers will remember the Kinkajou and the Viscacha—subsequently named "Pedro" and "Pancho" respectively—two other hand-reared babies born and abandoned by their parents earlier in the year. We are pleased to report that their progress has been maintained and they are proving to be popular members of the collection. A mate was purchased recently for the Viscacha and readily

accepted. Both these animals can be seen in the Small Mammal House, Enclosure 84 on the Zoo Plan.

Recently there have been a number of births in the Cat House, namely, five Leopards, including two Black cubs, one Jaguar to increase our numbers to eight of these good looking cats, and two Tiger cubs bred by "Pharoah" and "Isis", our two older Bengal Tigers. Readers may be interested to know that our Cat population, helped by other meat eaters in the Zoo, consumes approximately 30-cwt. of meat weekly. The tigers, now numbering eleven, each have a daily joint of 15lbs., the Lions a 10-lb. joint, the Jaguars, Leopards and Pumas a 4/5-lb. joint, and the smaller Cats 2/3-lbs. This food is supplemented by fowl and rabbits; these are given regularly from our Animal Breeding Unit.

In Enclosure 68 which contains two Kangaroo paddocks, visitors may be lucky enough to see a Grey Kangaroo baby having a look at the outside world from the safety of its mother's pouch. In the adjacent paddock a baby Red Kangaroo may also be seen in the pouch.

One great disappointment last year was the death of "Bertie", a young Giraffe. This animal was rejected by its mother, despite efforts by the staff to persuade her to accept it. Finally it was decided to hand-rear, and goat milk was used for this purpose. "Bertie" thrived on this and looked a picture of health. Suddenly, with no warning he died from a Streptococcal Septicaemia for which he had no resistance. Possibly if he had had milk from his mother there would have been antibodies in the milk to combat a disease such as this. It does serve as a reminder that at no time can a keeper become complacent when rearing young animals.

* * *

Perhaps one of the highlights of the breeding and rearing of birds in the Zoo was that of one Glossy Ibis. So far as we are aware this bird has been bred only once in this country and that was at the beginning of the century.

For two consecutive years we have bred the San Blas Jay. Unfortunately great difficulty was experienced in obtaining live

CHESTER ZOO

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND
ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY
ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS

FOR A COMPLETE TOUR OF THE ZOO — Follow Nos 1-16 to 1st Entrance
or Nos. 16-116 from North Entrance then return to Nos 1-14

**Chester Zoo is Open Daily
from 9.00 a.m. until dusk.**

To LECTURE HALL
(Private)



1. SOUTH ENTRANCE

2. Peacock Enclosure
3. Wapiti Paddock
4. Coati Enclosure
5. Aviaries
6. Milk Bar
7. CORONATION HALL
8. CLOAKROOM, FIRST AID, TOILETS, MOTHER AND BABY ROOM
9. CAFETERIA
10. Picnic Lawn
11. Bears
12. Sunken Garden
13. Kiosk
14. AQUARIUM
15. NORTH ENTRANCE
16. PUSH CHAIRS, WHEEL CHAIRS, LOST CHILDREN
17. PARROT HOUSE
18. Free Flight Aviary
19. APE HOUSE
20. Shop and Kiosk
21. Aviaries and Picnic Lawn
22. TOILETS
23. Tuatara Exhibit
24. Peccaries
25. Waterbus Halt
26. Birds of Prey Aviaries
27. Condor Aviary
28. Jackal and Hyaena Enclosures
29. Animal Enclosure
30. Porcupine Enclosure
31. Coypus
32. Beavers
33. Giraffe House

34. Camel House
35. Waterbus Halt
36. TROPICAL, NOCTURNAL & REPTILE HOUSES
37. CHIMPANZEES
38. Floribunda Rose Garden
39. Mammal House
40. Gibbon Island
41. H.T. Rose Garden
42. Aviaries
43. Flamingos
44. Waterfowl Enclosure
45. Waterfowl Enclosure
46. Waterfowl Enclosure
47. Penguins
48. Sealions
49. Rock Garden
50. Polar Bears
51. Cat Enclosure
52. Waterfowl Enclosure
53. Anteaters
54. BIRD HOUSE
55. FOUNTAIN RESTAURANT
56. Ape Nursery
57. TOILETS
59. SOUVENIR SHOP
60. TOILETS
61. OAKFIELD RESTAURANT

62. P.O. Telephone
63. Aviary
64. Animal Enclosure
65. Animal Enclosure
66. Ornamental Rock Garden
67. Malayan Bears
68. Kangaroo Enclosure
69. Aviary
70. Cheetahs
71. WATERBUS BOOKING OFFICE AND KIOSK
72. Waterbus Halt
73. Fountain Flower Gardens
74. Rose Garden
75. Red Lechwe
76. Red Lechwe
77. Deer or Antelope Enclosure
78. Waterbus Halt
79. Zebra and Deer Enclosure
80. Kamchatka Bears
81. ELEPHANTS
82. Hippos
83. Tapirs
84. Small Mammal House
85. Waterfowl Enclosure
86. Ankole Cattle
87. Emus and Cranes
88. Stork Enclosures
89. Baboon Pens
90. Cat House
91. Big Cat Enclosures

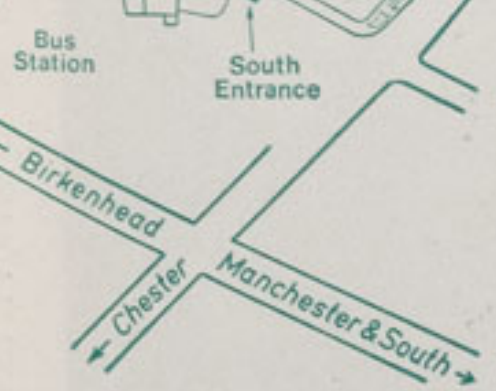
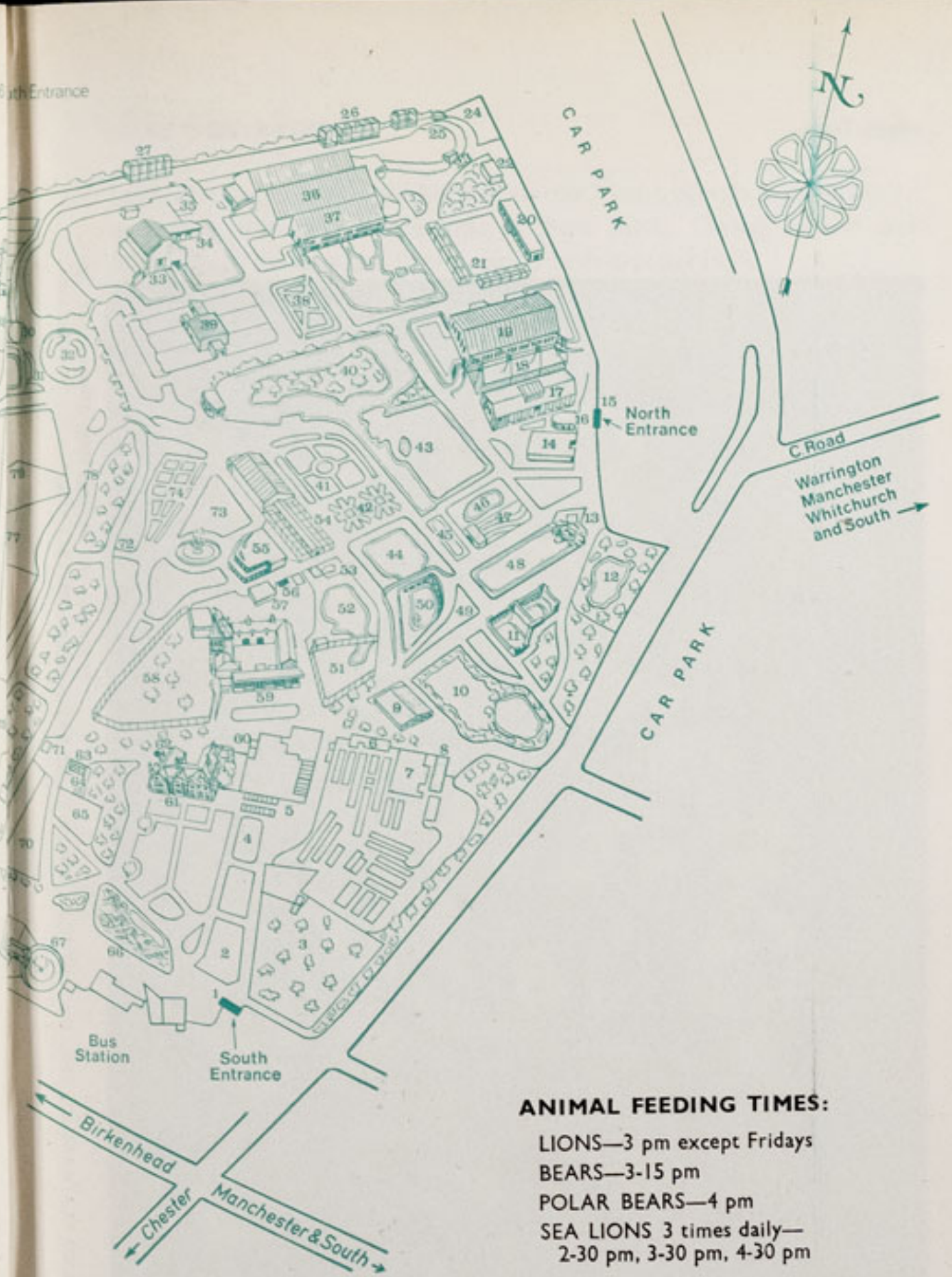
92. Antelope Paddock
93. Antelope Paddock
94. Antelope Paddock
95. Zebras
96. Zebras
97. Waterfowl Enclosure
98. Waterfowl Enclosure
99. Waterfowl Enclosure
100. Blackbuck
101. Wallabies
102. Animal Enclosure
103. Wallabies
104. Pere David's Paddock

105. Llamas
- 105a. Llamas
106. Arabian Gazelles
107. Animal Paddock
108. Bison
109. Pere David's Deer Paddock
110. Prairie Marmots, Alpacas
111. Antelope Enclosure
112. RHINOS
113. TOILETS
114. Mpita Snack Bar
115. Antelope Enclosure
116. MONKEY HOUSE

ANIMAL FEEDING TIMES:

- LIONS—3 pm except Fridays
BEARS—3-15 pm
POLAR BEARS—4 pm
SEA LIONS 3 times daily—
2-30 pm, 3-30 pm, 4-30 pm

ANIMALS MAY BE MOVED
FROM TIME TO TIME



C. Road
Warrington
Manchester
Whitchurch
and South



By courtesy of J. Walker, Daily Mirror

"SOJEE" AND "LAIKASHA", THE TWO BENGAL TIGER CUBS BRED RECENTLY TO "ISIS" AND "PHAROAH"

food. We had a major set-back with our locust breeding programme and were only able to rear one of these birds. Owing to the lack of live food we also lost four young Plush-crested Jays.

The Ornate and Swainson's Lorikeets did particularly well. Another highlight was the breeding of the Blue-fronted Amazon Parrot. This is the first time this particular species has been bred in Chester Zoo, and it is still rarely bred in other collections in this country.

We have been breeding Eclectus Parrots regularly for the past ten years, and they have now produced the first females. Previously all the youngsters have been males.

A single Pin-tailed Whydah was bred in the Oakfield Aviaries. This is particularly interesting because the species is parasitic and lays its eggs in Waxbills' nests—very similar to the habits of the Cuckoo, the only difference being that the Pin-tailed Whydah removes one egg of the host bird and lays its own alongside the other eggs in the clutch. The young Pin-tailed Whydah is then reared with young Waxbills and these are not thrown out, as with the Cuckoo.

Our very rare and beautiful Crimson-bellied Conures reared three youngsters and we now have seven of these birds in the collection.

The waterfowl did particularly well, due to the fact that we have a very good keeper on the Waterfowl Section who spent much time and effort collecting eggs and hatching them under bantams. We were particularly pleased with the rearing of eight Maned Geese.

Nine Guiana Parrotlets were reared last year and continue to thrive. Surplus specimens are exchanged for other species of parrotlets; we would like to build up a comprehensive collection of parrotlets in order to carry out some serious behavioural and breeding studies.

Our Weka Rails again produced three youngsters being reared. Unfortunately, owing to vandalism, these birds escaped into the



By courtesy of J. Glyn Jones

GREAT EAGLE OWL (*Bubo bubo*)

surrounding countryside and have not been recovered. Large holes had been cut into the aviary wire.

It has been most gratifying to find that some of our research work has been included in "Rails of the World" by Dillon Ripley, the species chosen being the Weka and Slaty-breasted Rails. In "Birds of Paradise and Bower Birds" by William T. Cooper and Joseph M. Forshaw, the Superb Bird of Paradise has been selected.

* * *

Our large breeding group of Prehensile-tailed Skinks continues to thrive. A photograph of six young Skinks, which we can now safely say have been reared successfully, is on Page 12 of the September 1977 issue of the magazine, followed by a write-up in the November issue.

Not much scientific data is recorded on the Prehensile-tailed Skink, and we hope to develop some of our own data in regard to the breeding and rearing of these reptiles.

ADMISSION TO THE ZOO

Largely due to the interest shown in the breeding of the baby elephant, admissions to the Zoological Gardens showed an increase from 932,258 in 1976 to 978,870 in 1977. Of these 263,385 visitors entered the Tropical House, and 234,615 the Aquarium.

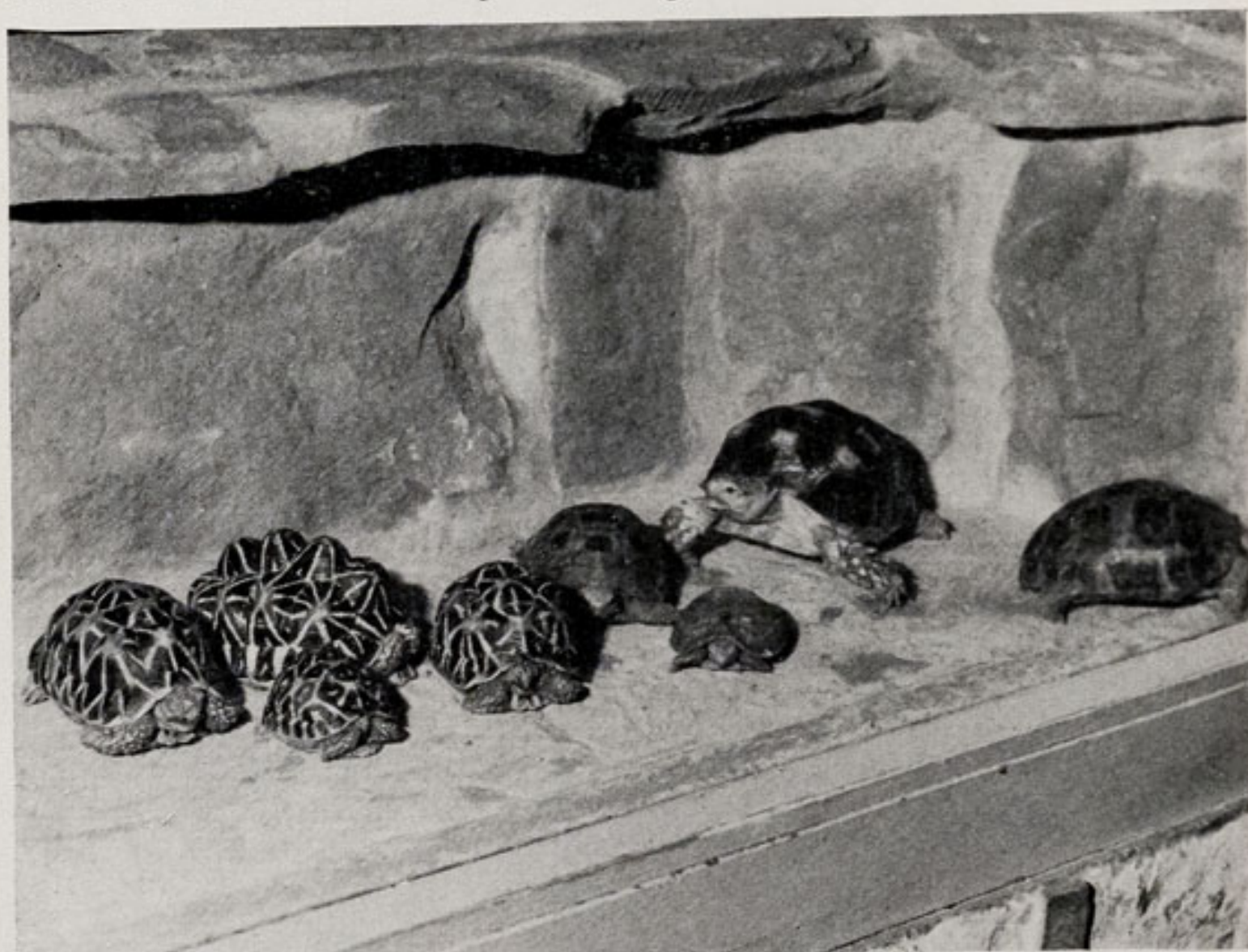
OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY—1977

In the June 1977 issue of the magazine we recorded the re-naming of the sunken garden (originally the Donkey's Nest) near the North Entrance "The Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Garden". The Society was pleased to accept a bronze in the form of a Fountain sculptured by Mr. Seán Rice, and this was sited in the Garden. The Official Opening of the Garden and Unveiling of the Sculpture were performed by Dinah, Lady Tollemache. The Sculpture depicts the massive figure of Noah calling on the Four Winds to quell the Deluge. A sum of money had been awarded to Mr. Rice by the

Constance Fund (now taken over by the Royal Society of British Sculptors) for the purpose of creating a commemorative sculpture. A photograph taken after the official opening was published in the July issue of the magazine.

REPTILE NEWS

A new exhibit in the Reptile House is that of some small tortoises. The Curator of Reptiles has given them their own enclosure



By courtesy of K. W. Green, A.R.P.S.

TORTOISE ENCLOSURE

within the Tortoise Vivarium. The enclosure contains the following species:

- Spurred Tortoise (*Geochelone sulcata*), the distribution being Africa, Sudan and Senegal.
- Starred Tortoise (*Geochelone elegans*), the distribution being India, Ceylon and Pakistan.
- Brown Tortoise (*Geochelone emys*), the distribution being Burma, Thailand and Malaya.

The tortoises can now be observed more closely and the exhibit is proving to be a source of delight to the youngsters. The diet for the tortoises consists of cabbage leaves, banana, tomato and lettuce.

GARDENING NOTES

The winter here has been one of varying temperatures so far with frost, snow, wind and rain, but there have been more gales and strong winds than usual. Fortunately, however, little damage has been done to the gardens except for a few panes of glass blown out of the greenhouses.

From now on we shall be busy producing plants for the coming summer. Seeds of some plants which take a long time to grow or to germinate have already been sown. These include Begonia, Lobelia and Antirrhinum. Five thousand Geraniums were potted into peat pots at the end of January. Other plants which were wintered in the boxes where we rooted them, have also been potted in peat pots. These include Gazania, Mesembryanthemum and Verbena for the rockeries, and the silver foliage plants we use for edging borders such as *Chrysanthemum poterifolia*, *Helichrysum petiolaris* and *Leucophytum Brownii*. The latter is the plant which looks "as if it has defoliated sprigs painted an aluminium-colour". Many visitors ask about this plant and we have given this description. Leaf cuttings of Begonia Rex and winter-flowering Begonia put in in January are now rooted. We have a propagation unit in which to root most cuttings.

As they come into flower, orchids from the collection are being placed in a group in the Tropical House. Winter work of pruning in the Tropical House, checking ties and stakes, is now being done. Well rotted manure is formed in the big beds and a top dressing of fresh compost is put on the trough. We were fortunate to have two large plants of *Strelitzia Reginae* given to us and these have been planted in the Tropical House. The well-known common name is "Bird of Paradise". This plant originates from South Africa and was first introduced to this country in the middle of the eighteenth century. It belongs to the same family as the banana, which is *Musaceae*. *Strelitzia* was named after Charlotte of the House of Mecklenburg-

Strelitzia, who was the Queen of George III. *Strelitzia Reginae* grows to four feet high and flowers from October to March in this country. Two other species of *Strelitzia* grow to a height of 25 feet, and appear like a huge fan.

In the Monkey House *Bougainvillaea* grown on a frame 15-feet high has been pruned. This involves cutting the past year's growth back to the main stem, leaving two buds to break out this year. At one end of the Monkey House is a *Plumbago capensis* trained on a frame 10-feet wide and 15-feet high. This has to be pruned each year in the same way. In the summer it has a lovely pale blue flower. The species originates from South Africa, Cape of Good Hope. The common name is "Leadwort", first introduced here in the mid-eighteenth century.

The Rubber Trees over the monkey enclosures grow quickly in the summer and require to be cut to admit the light. The remaining leaves have then to be cleaned with a damp sponge. Several good species of the variegated Rubber Trees are well established over the enclosures.

One tree of *Jacaranda* is growing between the monkey enclosures for its ornamental fern-like foliage. *Jacaranda* is a Brazilian name and the species originates from that country where it grows to 50-feet high. It is grown easily from seed but because of its vigorous growth is useful in a pot for only two or three years.

Another tender shrub growing on a frame behind the group of pot plants in the Pachyderm House also originates from Brazil. This is *Tibouchina semidecandra* which has a lovely purple flower about two inches across, containing antlers, giving it the common name of "Brazilian Spider Flower".

SUBSCRIPTIONS

New readers of the CHESTER ZOO NEWS who would like to receive the magazine regularly may be interested to know that subscription forms can be obtained from the souvenir shops. An annual subscription (12 issues) costs £2.30, postage paid, which can either be handed over the counter at the shops or posted with the completed form to the Director-Secretary, Chester Zoo, Chester.

The following notice is displayed on several boards in the grounds
Please comply with it at all times

FEEDING OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS

IT IS AN OFFENCE for any member of the public to offer food of any description to any Animal or Bird in Chester Zoo.

This regulation is made for the sake of the health of the Animals and Birds. Since the **NO FEEDING** rule was introduced, the number of deaths has dropped appreciably and sickness due to wrong feeding has been virtually eliminated.

What you may be offering to an animal may only be a sweet or an inoffensive piece of bread, but it can mean a death sentence for the animal. For example, a cough drop, which may relieve your cough, can cause instant death to many Animals and Birds in the Zoo.

You must not lose sight of the fact that you are only one of over a million visitors who visit the Zoo annually. If for instance an elephant had one bun from only one tenth of a day's visitors during the summer, it would eat between three and four thousand. You can guess the result.

We realise what a temptation it is for visitors, particularly children, to feed our Animals and Birds and this is why we invite members of the public to be present at the official feeding times.

This is a polite warning to you, asking you not to feed the animals. If you ignore it, the Keepers are authorised to ask you to leave the Gardens.

If you really love Animals and Birds, you will appreciate the wisdom of the ruling — **No feeding by members of the public.**

**PLEASE HELP US TO KEEP OUR COLLECTION OF
ANIMALS NOT ONLY ALIVE BUT IN FIRST CLASS
CONDITION**

Printed in England by
W. H. Evans & Sons Ltd.
Sealand Road Trading Estate
Chester