

"Our Zoo News & Guide"

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CHESTER ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

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GUIDE.

HOW TO SEE THE ZOO.

On entering the Zoo visitors who desire to see all the exhibits should follow the arrows in rotation of their numbers. It is of course possible to take other routes and many walks are not arrowed at all, but the visitors who have limited time at their disposal are advised to follow the arrows if they wish to see all the main exhibits.

One of the first exhibits to be met are the Malayan Bears, these come from the Malay Peninsular. They are most playful, but unfortunately cannot be trusted and visitors must on no account touch them. Their enclosure is one of the first permanent structures the Society undertook. It was originally intended for Racoons but was later adopted for the bears on account of the very fine Oak Tree which grew in the centre. To-day it is hard to believe that not only was the tree a wonderful specimen in perfect health when the bears were first put in but the enclosure was also covered with grass, but bears love burrowing in the ground and at times turn their enclosure into a regular mud heap.

After the bears we come to various animals and birds till we arrive at the next permanent establishment, The Aquarium. This is constructed in the basement of the house and consists of both Tropical and Cold Water Fish. The varieties of which are labelled on each tank.

Leaving the Aquarium we pass on our left the site for the Open Air Lion enclosure which is under construction. When completed it will be one of, if not the largest in the country.

We next pass into what was in the old days when the Zoo was a private residence, the Court Yard, on our right are some old bear pens which will be scrapped as soon as other accommodation is found for the bears which are there at present.

Next we enter the Monkey House, and in here we have a very fine collection, particularly of Chimpanzees. They are great favourites on account of their intelligence and amusing antics. Chimpanzees are considered to be the nearest animal to man. Our collection includes a specimen of the rare Checko variety.

Moving onwards we arrive at the first new house the Society built, The Lion House. It was opened on the 19th of October, 1938, by the Right Hon. Viscount Leverhume. This house is part of the larger scheme of the Lion enclosure and the animals will be able to go out at will when the enclosure is finished. The cages in this house are perhaps the largest of any in this country and the animals not only have plenty of room but ample light which is arranged over them.

We leave the Lions and pass the Quarantine House, which visitors are usually permitted to enter. Leaving the Court Yard we proceed through the Conservatory where Botanical interests vie with Zoological claims.

Still following the arrows we pass many aviaries and come to the Polar Bear, etc. Here we can either go over the Terrace to the Birds of Prey and other Avaries or take the Avenue straight ahead to the Waterfowl. If we do the latter and take the path to the right it will take us through the Bird Sanctuary till we emerge once again by the lawns and the large enclosure containing Peafowl and Crowned Cranes.

This description is of necessity very brief, actually while following the arrows the visitors will have passed several hundred specimens of Mammals, Birds and Reptiles. Should you as our patrons agree that the many improvements are required please help us by recommending your friends to patronize the Zoo or become a member, thus helping the Society in its objects.



The Month goes by.

We have now had one month of war, and its greatest effect so far on the Zoo has been the depleted attendances. These have fallen considerably, particularly now that the petrol rationing has come into force, making our task much harder.

From all parts of the country we hear of cases where livestock has been wantonly destroyed. Livestock, which it will be very difficult in some cases to replace. Furthermore, we cannot help but feel that the British spirit of keeping calm and acting with judgment in a crisis has been missing in many cases; in other words a good many people got the jitters.

From many quarters we have received inquiries as to what will happen to the animals should an air raid take place. If this happened and a bomb dropped on the cage and destroyed it, surely it would destroy the animal also. Should it happen to escape, we would, however, shoot it immediately, but why destroy animals now, when the chances of a raid taking place are probably one in a thousand.

As far as educational purposes are concerned Zoological Gardens are a distinct asset in the country and should be preserved as far as possible, anyone who has had any experience of Zoos, realises how difficult it is to restart a public Zoological Gardens.

At the present time we know that everything possible must be done in the National interest, and if the keeping of an animal or bird impaired our efficiency then, and only then, are we justified in destroying it.

We have tightened our belts and generally organised the staff and Zoo as economically as possible and we hope that through the adoption scheme we shall be able to carry on through the war.

The response to our appeal for people to adopt the animals has been very gratifying. Unfortunately this scheme has been misunderstood by many people through a very misleading article in one of the newspapers. They thought that they could take the animals or birds to their homes and take care of them there.

We have received scores of letters from all parts of the country with reference to this scheme, and many people have offered to adopt one of our exhibits.

Once again we publish a list of the latter, together with the names and addresses of the people who have already adopted something and paid their first week's keep.

May we point out that it is not necessary to adopt an animal or bird for the duration of the war. As will be seen by the list, some animals have only been taken for one week. The Society, however, is very grateful for any period of adoption, as every little helps.

We have received as a gift some very fine birds from Mr. Partridge of the Southmore Foreign Bird Farm, these include Lilac-breasted and European Rollers, Martial Eagle, Saddle-billed Stork, two pairs of Ibis, which brings our total number of this species to eight birds in four varieties, also a very fine Nanking Night Heron and a Hammer-headed Stork. From Mr. Freme, of Connahs Quay, we have also received a present of several varieties of Geese and Ducks, which have been a very welcome addition to our water fowl enclosure.

The Zoo has now an excellent collection and one well worth keeping together; we hope that our readers will help in the adoption scheme as the cost of the food is not the only expense that we have to face and we must make an effort to hold together the Zoo which has been such a struggle to establish.

On the 25th of September more than 1,000 evacuees were admitted in the Zoo free. Many were the amusing remarks we heard. One little boy remarked as they were assembling at the barrier "Who pays for this?" Another bright spark rejoined, "Mr. Chamberlain, of course, he said that we were to be well looked after."

It was surprising what a large number of these evacuees, mainly from Liverpool, were visiting a Zoo for the first time in their lives. The animals were a source of bewilderment to them, their only idea of these animals from foreign lands had been from pictures, and their amazement at seeing them alive at close quarters was truly remarkable.

The Zoo will prove an ideal place for the teachers to bring their charges and the special educational rate of 2d. per child has been extended to any weekday during the coming winter, the only stipulation being that there must be adequate teachers to take charge, and we appeal to them to make the trips instructive and we will give any assistance we can to further this end. The opportunity to give nature lessons with first-class material at hand should appeal strongly to those whose duty it is to look after the children's welfare.

The Aquarium offers unlimited scope for instructive training in water life, the various methods of reproduction and the family cares of the fish are almost

continually on view, and will naturally improve the minds of the children who until a few weeks ago had only seen fish in the stores or a bowl.

We are pleased to report that the lion cubs are growing splendidly, but so far their mother has been very reluctant to allow them to come into the lion house in view of the public, of course they have not lost anything by this. Behind the Lion house they have a fine open air cage and from this they have had easy access through a hole into the adjoining field where they have had their complete freedom. Never have they been tempted to wander more than a few yards away from their mother's watchful eye as she stood in the outer cage on guard.

The Society is very grateful to Mr. J. W. Cutmore, 65, Derby Lane, Old Swan, Liverpool, for his very kind gift of Ornithological books for the library. Slowly but very surely a collection of Natural History books are being collected, which will form a very valuable asset to the Society. Dr. Graham Renshaw has from time to time presented many valuable books and we hope that the day is not far distant when a library can be suitably furnished for members.

It is very strange but several of the most popular animals have had no enquiries for their adoption. "Big Boy," who always appears to be the most popular of the Chimpanzees has not yet had one enquiry; "Trotsky," the most attractive Russian Bear, and still only a cub, has only been adopted for two weeks. "Won Lung", also a popular bear, has been ignored.

On the other hand "Tarzana" and "Jimmy" soon found adoptors; the Genets, Ocelot and Monkeys, having many enquiries and several adoptions have taken place, but by far the greatest enquiries have been for the Cane Rat which nobody ever seemed to notice, and if all the people interested in him had been successful in adopting him he would have had security for the rest of his life.

It only goes to prove that very often the most insignificant animal commands the sympathy of the majority.

One satirical person (who needless to say did not give his name or address) said that he would be willing to adopt the wild animal from Berchtesgaden, if we could produce him in a strong cage and guarantee his safe keeping. It would, he remarked, be much cheaper to keep a dog like him than to pay the 7/6 in the £ on his income.

1. Ibis Enclosure. (Unadopted). 7/- per week.
2. Ocelot (Thomas). 3/0 per week. Adopted by Dr. G. A. Fulton "Thornfield," Wigan Road, Bryn, Near Wigan. 12 weeks.
3. Malayan Bear (Sally). 2/- per week. Adopted by Master R. and Miss A. Fulton, Bryn, Near Wigan. Duration of War.

4. Malayan Bear (Sammy). (Unadopted). 2/6 per week.
5. Malayan Bear (Roger). (Unadopted). 2/- per wk.
6. Malayan Bear (Teeny). 2/- per week. Adopted by Miss P. Holmes, The Nook, Newton Park, Chester. 2 weeks.
7. Wallaby (Timothy). 2/- per week. Adopted by Master Kemmel Pease, Dee Banks, Chester. 8 weeks.
8. Wallaby. (Unadopted). 2/- per week.
9. Rhea (Boomer). (Unadopted). 3/- per week.
10. Pie Bald Sheep (4). (Unadopted). 2/- per wk.
11. Tourco Aviary. (Unadopted). 4/- per week.
12. Budgerigar Aviary. (Unadopted). 3/- per wk.
13. Pelican (Pelly). (Unadopted). 3/- per week.
14. Pelican (Nippy). (Unadopted). 2/6 per week.
15. Himalayan Bear (Won Lung). (Unadopted). 3/- per week.
16. Russian Bear (Trotsky). 4/- per week. Adopted by Miss A. Shuttleworth, Shaw, Near Oldham, Lancs. 2 weeks.
17. Canadian Bear (Eve). 3/- per week. Adopted by Mrs. Rivers Pease, Dee Banks, Chester, 8 weeks.
18. Monkey (Nigger). (Unadopted). 1/6 per week.
19. Mona Monkey. 1/- per week. Adopted by Major and Mrs. Elliot, Chester. 5 weeks.
20. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
21. Monkey. 1/- per week. Adopted by Miss O'Keefe, Ville au Roi, Guernsey. Duration War.
22. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
23. Monkey. 1/- per week. Adopted by Mrs. Kent, Abbey Road, Sale. Duration of War.
24. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
25. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
26. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
27. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
28. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
29. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
30. Rhesus Monkey (Bernard). 9d. per week. (Adopted by Miss E. D. Brown, Putney Bridge Road, London, S.W.15. 2 weeks.
31. Cage of Rhesus Monkeys. (Unadopted). 5/- per week.
32. Chimpanzee (Big Boy). (Unadopted). 9/- per week.
33. Chimpanzee (Mary Ellen). (Unadopted). 9/- per week.
34. Chimpanzee (Jimmy). 10/- per week. Adopted by Mrs. Johnson, Birkdale, Southport. Duration of War.
35. Chimpanzee. (Tarzana). 10/- per week. Adopted by Mr. A. C. Johnson, Eight Oaks, Knutsford. 10 weeks.
36. Chimpanzee (Kiki). (Unadopted). 10/6 per wk.
37. Viscacha. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
38. Genet (Sleek). (Unadopted). 9d. per week.
39. Palm Civet. (Unadopted). 9d. per week.
40. Genet (Beauty). 9d. per week. Adopted by Mr. T. P. Brown, The Hawthorns, Christleton. 3 weeks.

41. Agouti (Billy). 9d. per week. Adopted by Miss J. H. Bird, 9, Vais Terrace, Stockton-on-heath. 28 weeks.
42. Agouti (Ferdinand). 9d. per week. Adopted by Mrs. T. Bevan, Gort House, Petersham, Surrey. Duration of War.
43. Mandrill (Sarah). (Unadopted). 2/- per week.
44. Drill. (Unadopted). 2/- per week.
45. Pig Tailed Ape (Amos). (Unadopted). 1/6 per week.
46. White Collared Mangaby. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
47. Sooty Mangaby. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
48. Jarva Monkey (Sola). (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
49. White Collared Mangaby. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
50. White Collared Mangaby. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
51. Putty Nosed Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per wk.
52. White Collared Mangaby. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
53. Sooty Mangaby. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
54. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
55. Sooty Mangaby. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
56. Jarva Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
57. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
58. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
59. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
60. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
61. Monkey. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
62. Pair of Rats (Scamp and Mischief). 9d. per week. Adopted by Mrs. Kent, Abbey Road, Sale. Duration of War.
63. Cane Rat. 9d. per week. Adopted by Mr. Partington, Upton Heath.
64. Porcupine. (Unadopted). 9d. per week.
65. Lion (Patrick). 14/6 per week. Adopted by Miss S. A. L. Evans, 35, Brownlow Street, Weymouth. 1 week.
66. Lioness (Faith). (Unadopted). 14/- per week.
67. Lioness (Hope). (Unadopted). 14/- per week.
68. Lioness (Charity). (Unadopted). 14/- per wk.
69. Lion Cub. 1/- per week. Adopted by Miss June Mottershead, Zoological Gardens, Chester, 4 weeks.
70. Lion Cub. 1/- per week. Adopted by Miss Kathleen Childe, Ethelda Drive, Newton. 4 wks.
71. Lion Cub. (Unadopted).
72. Vulture Aviary. (Unadopted). 5/- per week.
73. Dingo. (Unadopted). 2/- per week.
74. Dingo (Nellie). (Unadopted). 2/- per week.
75. Dingo. (Unadopted). 2/- per week.
76. Dingo. (Unadopted). 2/- per week.
77. Hyena. (Unadopted). 5/6 per week.
78. Aligators and Crocodiles. (Unadopted). 2/- per week.
79. Aviary of Rollers. (Unadopted). 2/6 per week.
80. Long Mixed Aviary. (Unadopted). 5/- per wk.
81. Parrot Aviary. (Unadopted). 6/- per week.
82. Sulphur Crested Cockatoo. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
83. Sulphur Crested Cockatoo (Cocky). (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
84. Sulphur Crested Cockatoo. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
85. Pair of Black Cockatoos. (Unadopted). 1/6 per week.
86. Pair of Kosate Cockatoos. (Unadopted). 1/6 per week.
87. Leadbeaten Cockatoo. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
88. Blue and Red Macaw (Rob Rob). (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
89. Blue and Red Macaw (Billy). (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
90. Severe Macaw (Mack). (Unadopted). 6d. wk.
91. Lesser Sulphur Crested Cockatoo. (Unadopted). 9d. per week.
92. Aviary of African Grey Parrot. (Unadopted). 5/- per week.
93. Slender Billed Cockatoo (Cocky). 1/- per week. Adopted by Mr. H. Farrington, Sutton Weaver, Warrington. 10 weeks.
94. Polar Bear (Punch). 14/- per week. Adopted by Miss Tomkyns-Grafton, Ambleside, Windermere. 4 weeks.
95. Waterfowl Enclosure. (Unadopted). 3/6 per wk.
96. Penguin (Charlie). 1/6 per week. Adopted by Miss J. Walker, Burton, Nr. Wrexham. 2 weeks.
97. Martial Eagle. (Unadopted). 2/- per week.
98. African Hawk. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
99. Pair of Black Kites. (Unadopted). 1/9 per wk.
100. Eagle Owl. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
101. Aviary Tawny Owls. (Unadopted). 1/- pr. wk.
102. Buzzard. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
103. Aviary of Finches. (Unadopted). 1/- per wk.
104. Aviary. (Unadopted). 2/- per week.
105. Aviary of Jackdaws and Jays. (Unadopted). 3/- per week.
106. Aviary of Budgerigars. (Unadopted). 1/6 wk.
107. Aviary of Mixed Parrakeets. 2/6 per week. Adopted by Mr. Bland, 3, Station Approach, Hoylake. Duration of War.
108. Aviary of Woodpeckers. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
109. Aviary of Mixed Parrots and Love Birds. (Unadopted). 8/- per week.
110. Pair of Marabou Storks. (Unadopted). 5/- per week.
111. Eight Crowned Cranes. (Unadopted). 5/- per week.
112. One Saddlebilled Stork. (Unadopted). 2/6 per week.
113. Several Fancy Pheasants. (Unadopted). 2/- per week.
114. One Pair Guinea Fowl. (Unadopted). 1/- per week.
115. Three Peafowl. (Unadopted). 5/- per week.
116. Aquarium. (Unadopted). 20/- per week.
117. Capabara. (Peter). 1/6 per week.