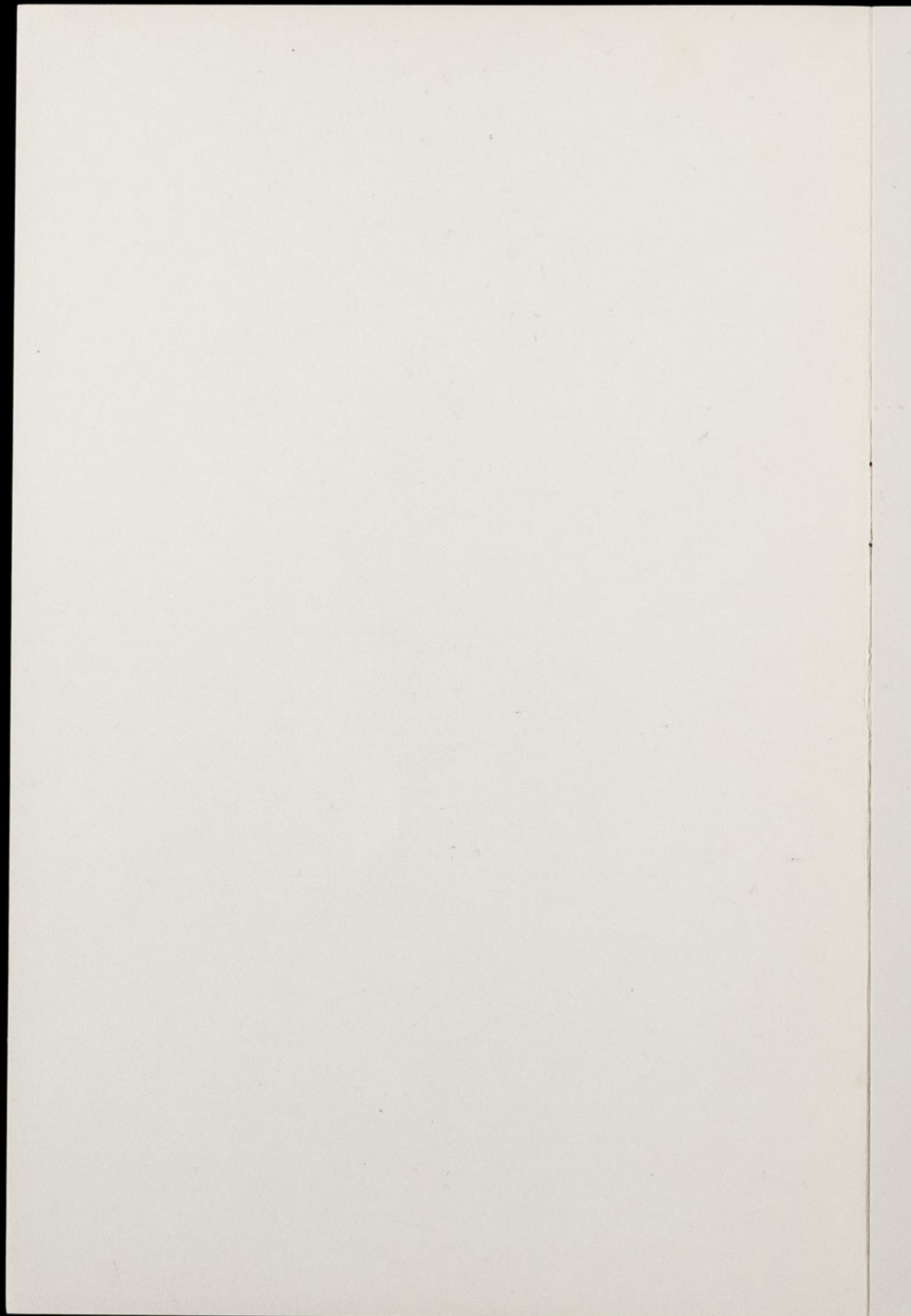




**CHESTER ZOO NEWS**  
**AND GUIDE**

March 1974

Price 6p



# The North of England Zoological Society

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, UPTON-BY-CHESTER

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*COVER: Orang utan (Pongo pygmaeus) Lola with baby, Judi;*  
*see page two.*

*By Courtesy of K. W. Green, A.R.P.S.*

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### ARRIVALS AND BIRTHS

There is wonderful news for readers this month. A baby Orang utan (*Pongo pygmaeus*) has been born at Chester Zoo. Furthermore, the baby is a female, a welcome addition to our predominantly male group and she is being cared for, so far most expertly, by her mother, Lola. She has been named Judi and she features on this month's cover.

Of the three female Orang utans living at the zoo, Lola was the last one we imagined would have been a good mother and staff were fully prepared that her baby would have to be hand reared. Events showed just how wrong we were. Lola arrived at Chester Zoo in November 1971 and was then estimated between four and a half and five years old, which puts her present age at approximately seven years. In her former home, also a zoo, she had lived with another two Orang utans, a male and a female, but these animals had paired and would have nothing to do with her. In fact Lola was rather a bully and up to the onset of her pregnancy was still very boisterous, although at Chester she has been kept in check by the more aggressive males in the group.

Her early history is somewhat obscure. She entered this country in 1968, coming from Bandung in Java. The date of her birth is not known but presumably she was captured from the wild and she is reputed to be a member of the Sumatran race of Orang utan.

Zoo staff first suspected that Lola might be pregnant at the end of last summer and subsequent tests proved positive. As her weight increased, she was watched carefully and eventually the commencement of milk secretion was noted. A few weeks before we believed the baby was due to be born, Lola was separated from the main group and transferred to a den where there was plenty of wood wool.

On the afternoon of Monday, 11th February, it was evident that the foetus had dropped into a lower position and at about four o'clock the first indications of labour were observed. Periodically that evening her progress was checked and the baby was born some time between the late hours of Monday night and the early hours of

Tuesday morning. When staff looked in again and saw the baby for the first time, it had been cleaned and Lola was holding it lovingly. Nevertheless almost eighteen hours passed before staff witnessed suckling and even then, for the first two days, the baby did not feed as often as we would have liked.

On the third day it was noted with some relief that the number of feeds had increased and since then a rate of between six and eight per day has been maintained. For a short while the mother was reluctant to let the baby suckle from the right mamma whenever it became swollen, as obviously this caused her some discomfort. However, as the baby seemed satisfied, there was no interference from staff and eventually she resumed feeding from both mammae.

Judi has almost doubled in size since her birth and she is becoming increasingly active. She climbs about Lola's body clinging to the long red hair, sometimes riding on her mother's back or lying across the top of her head. She is also more confident and will suckle even when staff are in the process of feeding Lola.

As far as Lola is concerned, a better mother could not be found. She is most gentle and attentive, cleaning the baby diligently and guiding it to her teats. By hugging it to her chest and wrapping her arms around it, she ensures that the baby is warm and whenever it whimpers, she rocks backwards and forwards patting its head reassuringly. Her keeper has noticed also that Lola tries to give extra milk to the baby in an unusual way. Like most nursing mothers, Lola requires plenty of liquids, particularly milk. On several occasions she has been seen to retain milk in her mouth and then gently put her lips to the baby's lips and pass the milk into Judi's mouth. The first time this occurred she alarmed both her keeper and herself by giving the baby too much milk. Judi began to choke but Lola patted her hurriedly on the back and the baby soon recovered.

Before the birth of Judi there were seven Orang utans in the main group in the Ape House, comprising four males and three females. Paul, the only other Orang in the collection, is too large to associate with this group and he lives in an adjacent enclosure. The father of the baby is believed to be a seven year old Bornean Orangutan named Barry. He and Lola were observed mating last

summer and the gestation period for this species is between eight and nine months. When he arrived at Chester Zoo in April 1968 in company with another two males, Dennis and David, Barry was estimated to be one year old. At the moment he appears to be the dominant male in the group, despite the fact that both Dennis and David are his seniors by several months.

Judi is not the first Orang utan to be born at Chester. In 1968 a female named Josephine produced a male baby which was rejected and hand reared successfully. This youngster is named Rajang and readers may recall that he was also in the news recently after he had broken his left femur. We are pleased to report that his progress remains good and the intramedullary pin introduced into the femur should be removed shortly.

The only other members of the young Orang utan group not already mentioned by name are Ramona and Martha. Ramona is the youngest of the three females and is now five and a half years old. It is hoped that in a year or two she will become a mate for Rajang.

Martha is almost ten years old, the eldest female, and she is also pregnant! At the time of writing her baby is not due for some months but at night she is being separated from the main group. Her sleeping den is adjacent to that occupied by Lola and Judi and she has shown an interest in the baby. Martha is a particularly gentle animal, so there is every chance that she will follow Lola's maternal example.

Unfortunately visitors will not be able to see Lola and Judi for some weeks but progress reports and photographs of them will be published frequently in the "Zoo News".

Another baby born at the zoo this month, a little female De Brazza Monkey (*Cercopithecus neglectus*), did not fare quite so well initially. The delivery took place on the floor of the enclosure but immediately afterwards the mother deserted her offspring and it was soon apparent that she had no intention of returning. The baby was removed, wrapped carefully and taken to the veterinary laboratory to be cleaned.

Wrapped again in cotton wool, she was then taken to the home of the Curator where the first task was to warm her thoroughly. Her first feed consisted of a bottle of glucose and water which was repeated at two hourly intervals for the initial twelve hours. At this stage the glucose was substituted by a milk mixture which the baby accepted readily. At the present time she is still taking bottles every two hours, day and night, and the task of administering these feeds is shared by the Curator, who looks after her at night, and the staff of the Monkey House where she spends each day. She has been named Emma by her keepers and she can be seen in the photograph on page six, taken just before one of her feeds.

Unlike the higher apes, Chimpanzees and Orangs for instance, which are relatively helpless until several weeks after birth, a baby belonging to the Cercopithecoid family is agile at a very early stage and this is presenting a few problems for Emma's foster parents. The little monkey can climb about her box unaided and, at night especially, ensuring she is always warm is a difficult task. She has been given a large woolly teddy bear as a substitute mother and to this she clings fiercely. So far Emma is thriving and we are optimistic that she will be reared.

This was the first incident of rejection in our De Brazza group and one reason may have been that the mother, Brenda, had a youngster already which was barely one year old. Brenda arrived at the zoo in September 1968 and now has bred four times, the previous three babies being reared successfully. Unfortunately in November last year, we lost the old breeding male De Brazza Monkey, Sydney. He had been a resident here since 1960 and as he was well grown on arrival, he lived to a respectable age. Nevertheless we were sorry to lose him.

A Hamadryas Baboon (*Papio hamadryas*) has also been born recently and this baby can be seen with the rest of the group in one of the enclosures marked No. 89 on the zoo plan.

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In these days, an aim of every zoological garden should be to aid conservation and one way in which this can be achieved is to



BABY DE BRAZZA MONKEY (*Cercopithecus neglectus*) EMMA

*K. W. Green, A.R.P.S.*

breed sufficient animals to restock zoos and thus obviate the need to take specimens from the wild state. During the past month, two exchanges have been effected which involved only zoo bred animals.

In the first case a straight exchange was made with another zoo of a male Common Zebra (*Equus burchelli granti*) for a female of the same species. The stallion sent from Chester was approximately four and a half years old and was one of many foals produced by a female named Lucy. The mare received is two and a half years old. The consequence of the exchange is a healthy ratio of two males to six females in our Common Zebra herd.

The other exchange has enabled the creation of a second, unrelated pair of Black Panthers (*Panthera pardus*). The new arrival is a one year old female Panther, for which was traded a female Hamadryas Baboon, born in January 1972, and two male Bennett's Wallabies, also bred at Chester.

The female's new mate will be Rastus, a male Black Panther of almost seven years. Satan and Jezebel, the original pair and the parents of Rastus, are still in the collection but have not reproduced for several years. On the other hand, it is already known that Rastus is a competent breeding male, as three cubs resulted from his mating of a normally coloured Common Leopard last year. These cubs bore the mother's spotted coat but the outcome of any mating between Rastus and the new female should be black offspring.

Following the death last year of Matilda, the old Dromedary (*Camelus dromedarius*), we were left with only the pair of Bactrian Camels on exhibition. Within the past month the female of a pair of Dromedaries or Arabian Camels acquired as replacements has arrived and she will be joined shortly by the male. For those in doubt, the Arabian Camel has only one hump as opposed to the Bactrian's two. There are no truly wild Arabian Camels left—all are either domesticated or individuals which have escaped and are living freely.

Regular visitors will remember Matilda, as she lived in the Camel House from 1959 to the time of her death. She was also a zoo bred animal and had originated from Dublin Zoo. Earlier last

# CHESTER ZOO

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND  
ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS



1. SOUTH ENTRANCE
2. Peacock Enclosure
3. Wapiti Paddock
4. Lesser Pandas
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. RAINBOW CAFE AND SHOP
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 AND REPTILE HOUSES
37. CHIMPANZEEES
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. Gazelles
47. Penguins
48. Sealions
49. Rock Garden
50. Polar Bears
51. Tigers
52. Waterfowl Enclosure
53. Anteaters
54. BIRD HOUSE
55. FOUNTAIN RESTAURANT
56. Ape Nursery
57. TOILETS
58. Lions
59. SOUVENIR SHOP
60. TOILETS
61. OAKFIELD RESTAURANT
62. P.O. Telephone
63. Gibbon Pen
64. Animal Enclosure
65. Cheetahs
66. Ornamental Rock Garden
67. Malayan Bears
68. Animal Enclosure
69. Aviary
70. Wallabies
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. Gazelles and Emus
88. Stork Enclosures
89. Baboon Pens
90. Cat House
91. Lions and Tigers
92. Antelope and Ostrich
93. Antelope Enclosure
94. Antelope Enclosure
95. Zebras and Llamas
96. MONKEY HOUSE
97. Waterfowl Enclosure
98. Wallabies and Waterfowl
99. Cranes and Waterfowl
100. Blackbuck

101. Alpacas
102. Bison Paddock
103. Pere David's Deer Paddock
104. Eland and Marmots
105. RHINO HOUSE
106. TOILETS
107. Mpila Snack Bar and Kiosk
108. Antelope Enclosure
109. Antelope Enclosure

Animals may be moved from time to time.

FOR A COMPLETE TOUR OF THE ZOO -  
Follow Nos.1-109 from South Entrance or Nos.16-109 from North Entrance then return to Nos.1-14

**ANIMAL FEEDING TIMES:**  
LIONS—3 pm except Fridays  
BEARS—3-15 pm  
POLAR BEARS—4 pm  
SEA LIONS 3 times daily—  
2-40 pm, 3-40 pm, 4-40 pm

year she became severely stricken with arthritis and ultimately could not stand. After some consultation it was agreed that euthanasia was the best course of action and this was effected quickly and painlessly.

### AQUARIUM NEWS

Most of the new specimens in the Aquarium have been presentations. A Red Devil Cichlid (*Cichlasoma erythraeum*), two Salvin's Cichlids (*Cichlasoma salvini*), a *Tilapia zilli*, two *Tilapia maria* and a Giant Gourami (*Osphronemus goramy*) were received in one donation. The Giant Gourami is eighteen inches in length, virtually fully grown for this species, and is altogether a spectacular specimen. All the above fishes can be located in the larger community tanks.

Five Pike (*Esox lucius*) were another presentation and it is proposed that these will be exhibited in one of two large tanks adjoining the Penguin Pools, No. 47. At the present time the other tank is occupied by American Rainbow Trout. Until their new accommodation is ready, the five Pike are being held in a tank offshow from the public.

The Pike is a familiar fish of British lakes and rivers and the new specimens were caught locally. The name Pike is synonymous with a voracious predator and certainly this fish will eat almost any animal unfortunate enough to come within range, including insects, young water birds, many kinds of fishes and even other Pike. This species is also a popular game fish and individuals reach lengths of between four and five feet, with weights of 50 and 60 lbs. The five specimens acquired are young as yet, two weighing 1 lb, one 2 lbs and two 3 lbs, but they should have plenty of room for growth in their large tank. It is hoped they will provide an interesting exhibit.

With the presentation of a pair of Pink-tailed Australian Rainbow Fishes (*Melanotaenia fluviatalis*), three species of Australian Rainbows are now represented in this collection. The other two species are the Blue or Red-tailed (*Melanotaenia nigrans*) and the Black-lined Australian Rainbows (*Melanotaenia maccullochi*). Shortly after arrival, the Pink-tailed pair spawned and hatched eggs in a nursery tank and the resulting fry are being reared successfully.

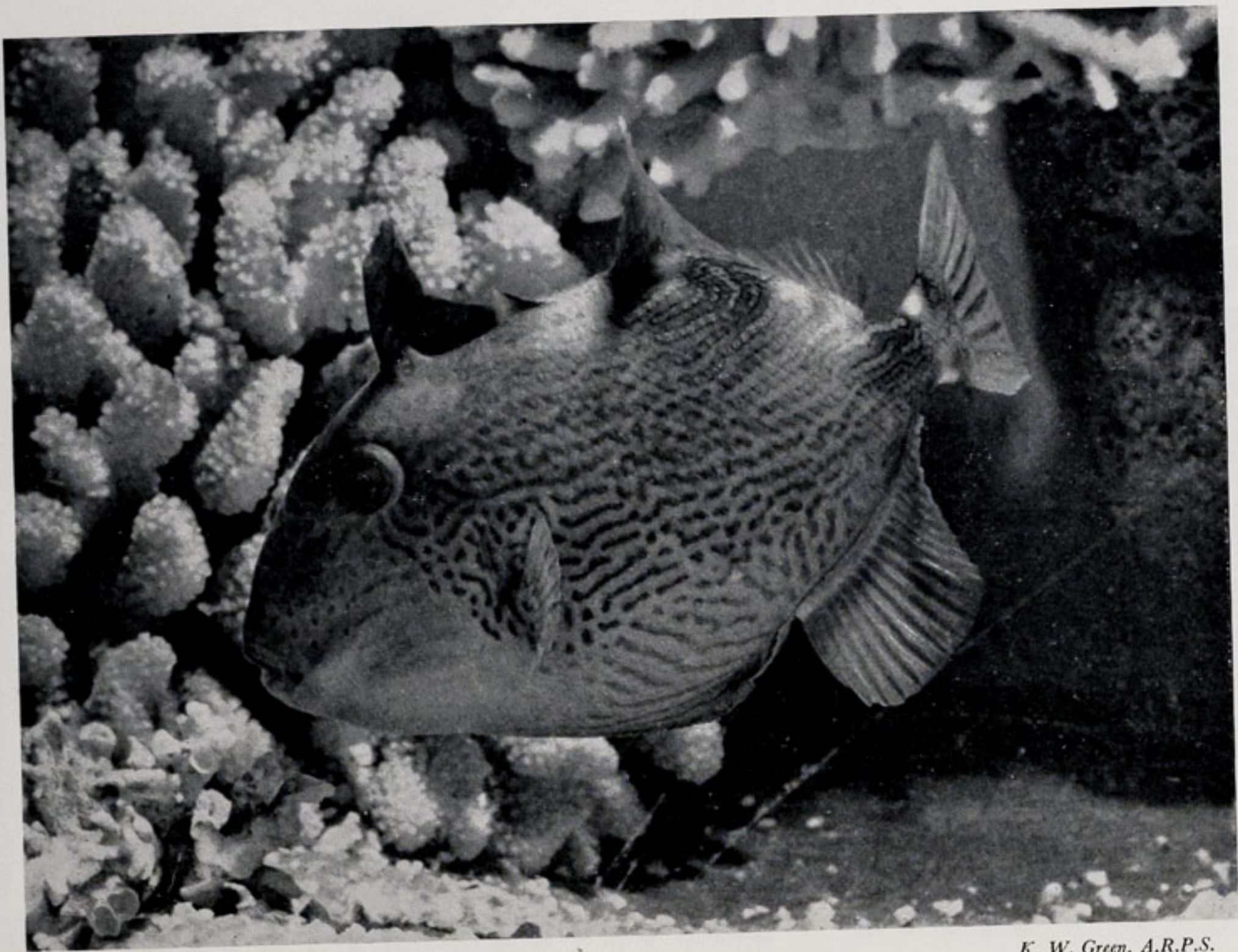
Other donations included several young *Girardinus metallicus*, which are members of the live-bearing tooth carp family found only in the New World. Males of this species reach two inches in length and the larger females three inches. Though not on show at the time of writing, it is envisaged that the *Girardinus* will be introduced shortly into an exhibition tank.

A number of young Apollo Sharks (*Luciosoma serigerum*) acquired recently are on display but it has not been possible to release them into the main Apollo tank, as there they would be attacked by the adult sharks. Instead they can be seen in the Gourami tank which will be their home until they have grown sufficiently to be able to join the larger members of their own species.

Several Whiting and Grey Mullet, both fishes which frequent British coastal waters, have been added to the local marine tanks. All are young fishes, averaging little more than one inch in length.

There are two additions to the tropical marine section, a small Cleaner Wrasse (*Labroides dimidiatus*), the second of this species to be acquired, and a Butterfly Fish (*Chaetodon melanotus*) which joins our growing collection of members of this beautiful, coral-dwelling family. This particular variety of Butterfly Fish has a basically yellow body with silvery flanks, across which are narrow, blackish, diagonal lines. A broader black stripe is present on either side of the head which passes vertically through the eye and also there is a black spot on each flank near to the tail.

The Decorated Triggerfish (*Pseudobalistes fuscus*) is an interesting tropical marine fish, as it undergoes three distinct phases during its life—juvenile, sub-adult and adult—and in each bears quite different body markings. In the sub-adult stage, illustrated in the photograph on page twelve, the general body colour is olive-green with an extensive patterning of iridescent bluish-green broken lines and dots. Our single specimen has now reached a point when its sub-adult patterning of lines is fading and ultimately it will become a handsome, bluish-green fish which has a network of fine dots covering the body. Its present size is almost six inches but when fully grown it could reach a length of eight inches.



DECORATED TRIGGERFISH (*Pseudobalistes fuscus*)

*K. W. Green, A.R.P.S.*

### COMPLETION OF NEW ENCLOSURES

The photographs on the following pages are views of the final two enclosures to be completed in the group on sites No. 100 and 101. A more detailed description of the work executed in this area appeared in the December 1973 issue but briefly the finished accommodation comprises five enclosures, one considerably smaller than the rest and completely concreted, and four large, mainly grassed paddocks. Of these, four including the smaller enclosure, are connected to the block of indoor quarters which can be seen in the photographs. The design of this sandstone building is very similar to that of the new Zebra House, No. 95, constructed in 1972.

The indoor accommodation serving the fifth enclosure is contained in a separate building. Soil from the aha excavations has been piled against the side and rear walls of this latter building, forming a partial hillock. This means that from the new pathway, the structure is completely hidden by an earth slope (see left of the photograph on page fourteen.) Each of the paddocks is connected to the next by a gate and thus animals can be moved from one section to another with relative ease.

The last two paddocks to be completed are situated at the rear of the main block of indoor quarters, i.e. the photographs look to the north (see zoo plan). At the moment one is occupied by Arabian Gazelles and the other by Bennett's Wallabies and Alpacas. With the provision of such a spacious area for the Gazelles it has been possible to integrate a larger number of them into one group and there are now two males and seven females living together in this enclosure. The remaining Gazelles in the collection will be formed into a second group which, when the weather becomes warmer, will be introduced into enclosure No. 46.

A pathway extends all the way around the new enclosures, at intervals along which seats have been placed to allow visitors to pause and enjoy the animals and also the many shrubs in the new border created between the pathway and the low, sandstone, aha wall. Over five hundred shrubs have been planted here, all grown on from cuttings in our nurseries, and the varieties which can be seen are



NEW ENCLOSURES: ARABIAN GAZELLE Paddock

*K. W. Green, A.R.P.S.*



NEW ENCLOSURES: ALPACA AND BENNETT'S WALLABY PADDOCK

*K. W. Green, A.R.P.S.*

*Rhus typhina*, *Viburnum tinus*, *Senecio greyii*, *Phlomis fruticosa*, *Genista hispanica*, *Ribes sanguinea*, *Leycesteria formosa*, *Weigela*, *Olearia haastii* and *Helleborus foeticus*, together with *Philadelphus*, *Deutzias*, *Hypericums*, *Berberis*, *Escallonias*, *Veronicas*, *Potentillas* and *Buddleias*, all in variety. As the shrub border is situated between the pathway and the enclosures, it was necessary to select mainly dwarf growing varieties to ensure an unimpeded view of the animals. However at intervals of twenty feet a taller shrub has been planted, either *Rhus typhina* or *Viburnum tinus*, which will enhance the appearance of the border without disrupting the public's view of the animals.

Three Horse Chestnut and one Lime tree have been planted in the sandstone bays incorporated in the perimeter wall. Readers will note from the photograph on page fifteen that there are similar provisions for trees at intervals along the fences dividing the enclosures. Planted here are Manchester Poplars and *Berberis wilsonii* hybrids. Forest trees, such as Horse Chestnuts and Limes, are not suitable subjects for these dividing bays, as their roots would soon break through the sandstone walls. On the other hand, when planted in the bays of the perimeter wall, there is plenty of room beneath the pathway for the roots of the forest trees to spread without causing damage.

### SUBSCRIPTION FORMS

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 shop. An annual subscription (12 issues) costs £1.05, postage paid, which can either be handed over the counter at the shop 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.**

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