

AUTUMN 1991



Chester  
**Zoo**  
**Life**

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# Chez Nous

## The Monorail



◆ View from the monorail over the sealion pool.

By the time this issue has gone to press, the Zoofari Overhead Railway will, at long last, be operating. When we ordered the system last Autumn, we hoped that it would be operational by Easter. The construction of the railway itself proceeded almost to plan. The four trains took slightly longer than expected and the commissioning took far longer than anybody anticipated. Even so, we have taken delivery in only 10 months. Sadly, those four extra months were potentially high revenue earning months.

As the railway is being financed as a self funding project, independent of the day to day running of the zoo, we have been able to re-adjust the financial arrangements to accommodate the delay without significant effect on the rest of our operation.

The delay in commissioning has not been entirely due to a simple underestimate of time it would take to check all the myriad of wiring circuits and all the possible combinations of messages passing between the trains and the central control box, and between the trains themselves. It was also contributed by the need to make the system - the first such system in the area - as safe as possible, checking the design in fine detail for possible

sources of hazard and providing the means to eliminate these and counteract any possible consequences.

We believe that the safeguards against collision and against fire are of the highest quality, and we look forward to long and satisfactory service from our four trains. Indeed, the "breakdown" on the day H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent came, was entirely due to the safety protection circuits being over sensitive. In a rather perverse way, everything "worked" perfectly!

At first sight it might appear that a computer controlled railway is an extravagance, and that we should have stayed with driver-operated trains. It is not easy to make a straight forward comparison, but the cost of paying for and maintaining the electronic control system will be about £15,000 p.a. The cost of the extra drivers we would need to employ would be of the order of £30,000 p.a. Furthermore, computer controlled systems generally fail, if they fail at all, by stopping. Driver operated systems tend to fail by running into the back of the train in front. I am sure we made the right decision.

## Red Crowned Cranes

The hatching of two Red-crowned Crane chicks, one in the incubator and one by the parents, is a wonderful achievement, so soon after we were able to sort out the impasse of having two birds of the same sex, by swapping one of our males for a female from the International Crane Foundation, Baraboo, Wisconsin. Though it is still very early days, at the time of writing both chicks are doing well.

◆ The parent-hatched Red-Crowned Crane chick, out on the paddock.



## London Zoo

The news is that London Zoo has decided to carry on for at least another year. We wish them every success and hope that the anxiety that must have been hanging heavily over all who work there will soon be dispelled. The whole episode would have been much easier to follow had the media taken the trouble to distinguish more precisely between the activities of the Zoological Society of London and those of one of its constituent parts, the London Zoo. Also, the habit of giving as "news" decisions expected to be taken in the immediate future, often without confirming what was decided (i.e. the real news), has contributed to the difficulty of those not directly involved in understanding what has been going on.

## Peter Wait

At the end of September, our Senior Curator, Peter Wait, will be retiring after 23 years service in the zoo. He has been a much valued colleague, and we will all miss his unflappable nature and wealth of knowledge of the zoo and its animals.

Peter's contribution to the zoo has extended beyond the "hands-on" practical work, which he enjoys so much. He has spent hundreds of evenings giving talks to groups all over the region, illustrated from his own vast library of photographs he has taken in the zoo. He has been a regular contributor to Zoo Life, and has also written a children's book about the animals in Chester Zoo.

Over the years Peter's wife, Maveen, has stopped being surprised at the creatures he has brought home for a little tender loving care. All sorts of newly born animals, whose mothers were unable to rear them, have shared the Wait's home, including chimpanzees, tiger cubs, pot-bellied pigs and many others.

Although retired, Peter will still be living close to the zoo, and doubtless we will see a lot of him. We wish him and Maveen every happiness as they take life a little easier!



*Michael R. Brambell*

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# NOTICE BOARD

## MEMBERS' MEETINGS 1991/92

12th OCTOBER 1991 - 2.30 pm

in the Lecture Hall

"Gardeners Question Time". Panel will consist of retired Head Gardener Mr Walter Worth, Head Gardener Mr Eric Rudman, and Deputy Head Gardener Mr John Johnson.

We would welcome questions in advance of this meeting (post to Maureen, Membership Office by Friday 27 September) as our panel might be able to illustrate their answers with slides. Can cover any topic - from "how can I liven up the 6ft hedge at the bottom of my garden" to "exotic fruits now found in our supermarkets"! If you have any problem plants - bring them along for a consultation!

16th NOVEMBER 1991 - 2.30 pm

in the Lecture Hall

Mrs S Wilkinson - "Badgers"

7th DECEMBER 1991

Members' Christmas lunch in Oakfield Restaurant at 12 noon; talk by Mr H W Schofield entitled "Bats, Living on the Brink" will start at 2.30 pm in the Lecture Hall. Ring Maureen (0244 380280 ex 203) to reserve your place for the Christmas lunch. Members are welcome to come to the meeting without taking lunch.

11th JANUARY 1992 - 2.30 pm

in the Lecture Hall

Mr Eric Bird - "Wild Africa" - the people and birds of Northern Africa.

15th FEBRUARY 1992 - 2.30 pm

in the Lecture Hall

Professor E D Morgan - "A world of sex and violence" - a chemist's view of insects!

14th MARCH 1992 - 2.30 pm

in the Lecture Hall

Birkenhead International Slide Salon - "The world's best natural history slides" with commentary by the well known nature photographer Mike McNamee.

Also in March - President's Evening (date not yet arranged)

11th APRIL 1992 - 2.30 pm

in the Lecture Hall

"A Zoo Review" by the Director, Dr M R Brambell

9th MAY 1992 - AGM - 2.30 pm

in the Lecture Hall.

## ADOPTERS' DAYS 1991

The two dates for this year's annual "Adopta" days are Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th October.

Come and join us for a day of fun at the zoo - it's our way of saying "thank-you" to all our adopters for continuing to support us. As usual, keepers will be available to answer your questions, and lots of other activities are planned.

## AN EVENING OF ELEPHANTS.

The U.K. Elephant Keepers' Workshop has arranged a special evening in the zoo's lecture hall on Monday 23 September. Dr. R. Sukumar, from the Centre for Ecological Science, Bangalore, India, will be presenting "An Evening of Asian Elephant Conservation." The ticket price is £5.00, and includes a light buffet. Any proceeds from the evening will help to ensure the continuing success of future elephant workshops. Tickets are available from Neil Spooner in the elephant house, or by post, from Julie Whitear at the zoo.



## MEMBERS' TRIP TO EDINBURGH

By Peter Taplin, one of the 26 members who joined the weekend trip to Edinburgh Zoo in June.



◆ This picture was taken by last year's Chester Zoo Photographer of the Year Geoff Mansell, at Edinburgh Zoo.

On Saturday evening, we walked in to the city to explore. Edinburgh is beautiful, and one evening is not sufficient time even to scratch the surface.

After a splendid Sunday breakfast, we were taken to the zoo, where Curator Miranda Stevenson welcomed us. She promised to meet us for the Penguin Walk - a joyful speciality of the zoo, which is purely voluntary on the part of the penguins. We rushed around the steeply sloping grounds, endeavouring to see as much as possible. The animal accommodation at Edinburgh is of a high standard, and we viewed their three cheetah cubs with mixed feelings.

There was an excellent talk about chimpanzees by a member of the education staff, who was equipped with a portable P.A. system.

After a superb lunch in the Members' House, we met the Director, who showed us the £500,000 plans for the extension and modernisation of the penguin accommodation.

Really good organisation is unobtrusive. Maria Warrington, who conceived, planned and executed the whole thing, put in an enormous amount of work, and we are very grateful to her.

N.B. As a result of the trip, a donation of nearly £170 was made to our Lion-tailed macaque appeal. A collection raised over £35.00 and the rest came from a single donation.

## EMMA'S A STAR!

Until a few months ago, there were just two animals at Chester Zoo that visitors asked for by name - Jubilee the Elephant, and Boris the Chimp!

But since Black Rhinos Esther and Parky produced their first baby at the end of February, young Emma has definitely been the star.

Visitors are queuing up to see her. She has appeared on several television programmes, met the Duchess of Kent, and made a television commercial!

Watch out for her on a Granada TV programme called "Quest" on 1 October at 7.30 pm, and on "Brookside" on 20 September.

## Stolen Bird Recovered.

One small bird made very big news in July. The zoo's male Blue Throated Conure was stolen from one of the round aviaries on the lawn. A small hole was cut in the mesh, and the bird must have been grabbed and pulled through. His mate was sitting on six eggs - the first clutch the pair had produced - and she was used to being fed by the male. Bird staff were doubtful if she would be able to feed herself, and hatch and rear the chicks unaided.

The television and radio stations and newspapers responded very readily to a request for maximum publicity about the theft, and as a result, a woman from Manchester telephoned the zoo to say the bird had come into her possession, and she would like to return it. She arrived at the zoo a couple of hours later, handed over the box containing the bird to Dr Roger Wilkinson, and quickly drove off again.

Two days after his disappearance, the conure was back in the aviary, constantly flying in and out of the nesting box, as if to reassure his mate that he was safely back home.

## Fund Raising Party

Saturday 21 September  
Supper Party at Glendale,  
87 Mill Lane, Upton-by-Chester.

All proceeds in aid of the Lion-Tailed Macaque Appeal. Tickets are £6.00, from Maureen Allsopp, Membership Secretary at the zoo. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.



## WHO'S WHO IN THE ELEPHANT HOUSE.



Visitors to the elephant house over recent months have been very appreciative of the new information panels hanging there. They give easy-to-read information about Asian elephants in general, and details of each of the zoo's seven elephants. The old idea that if too much information is put up, no-one will read it, has been totally disproved.

The illustrations for the panels, which enable visitors to identify the animals they can see, have been produced by Philip Whalley - a very talented artist, who knows the elephants very well indeed because he is a keeper on the elephant section!

Journalist Colin Tudge, whose book "Last Animals at the Zoo" has just been published, has written and produced the panels. His next Chester Zoo project is a similar set of panels for the Rhinoceros House. The artist for these is another of our talented keepers Senior Rhino Keeper, John Willis!

## SILVER SUCCESS



The Cheshire Gardens Consortium, in their second appearance at the Chelsea Flower Show, have won their second silver medal.

The gardens in the consortium are Chester Zoo, Arley Hall, Tatton Park, Ness Gardens and the Arboretum at Jodrell Bank.

The centrepiece for the garden was a statue of one of the three wise men, on his camel, by sculptor Sean Crampton. This was left to the zoo in the will of Sally, Duchess of Westminster, and when the garden's designer, Bill Williams, saw it - he knew it was just what he needed to clinch that silver medal!

By chance, another exhibitor at Chelsea was Sean Crampton's nephew. He reported that the sculptor was delighted to hear that his camel had been left to the zoo - he was afraid it would have ended up in a sale-room.

THE  TIMES

## CHESTER ZOO

*Best Value*

**Tourist Attraction  
in the UK**

*According to The Times newspaper on 20 June this year, Chester Zoo offers greater value for money than any other tourist attraction in the country.*

The Top People's newspaper carried a list of the ten top best value attractions, based on adult entry charge divided by average length of visit. Chester Zoo, with an average cost-per-hour of £1.15, tops the list.

## TOP AWARD FOR BIRD SECTION

## IS THIS A RECORD?

*Twin ring tailed lemurs born in the zoo in June prompted Peter Wait to recall their Grandmother.*

Many people will remember the BBC programme "Animal Magic" hosted by Johnnie Morris, and also Dottie, the ring tailed lemur who accompanied Johnnie in many programmes.

Dottie lived at Bristol Zoo, and in July '73, we exchanged a young female with Bristol and received Dottie's three year old daughter, called Coata.

Coata produced twins the following year, and has produced young every year since with one exception. Each year up to 1987, the births were always in March, with 20 days difference in the birthdays. Since then Coata has preferred May and June to produce her offspring, and we forgive her for forgetting in 1989!

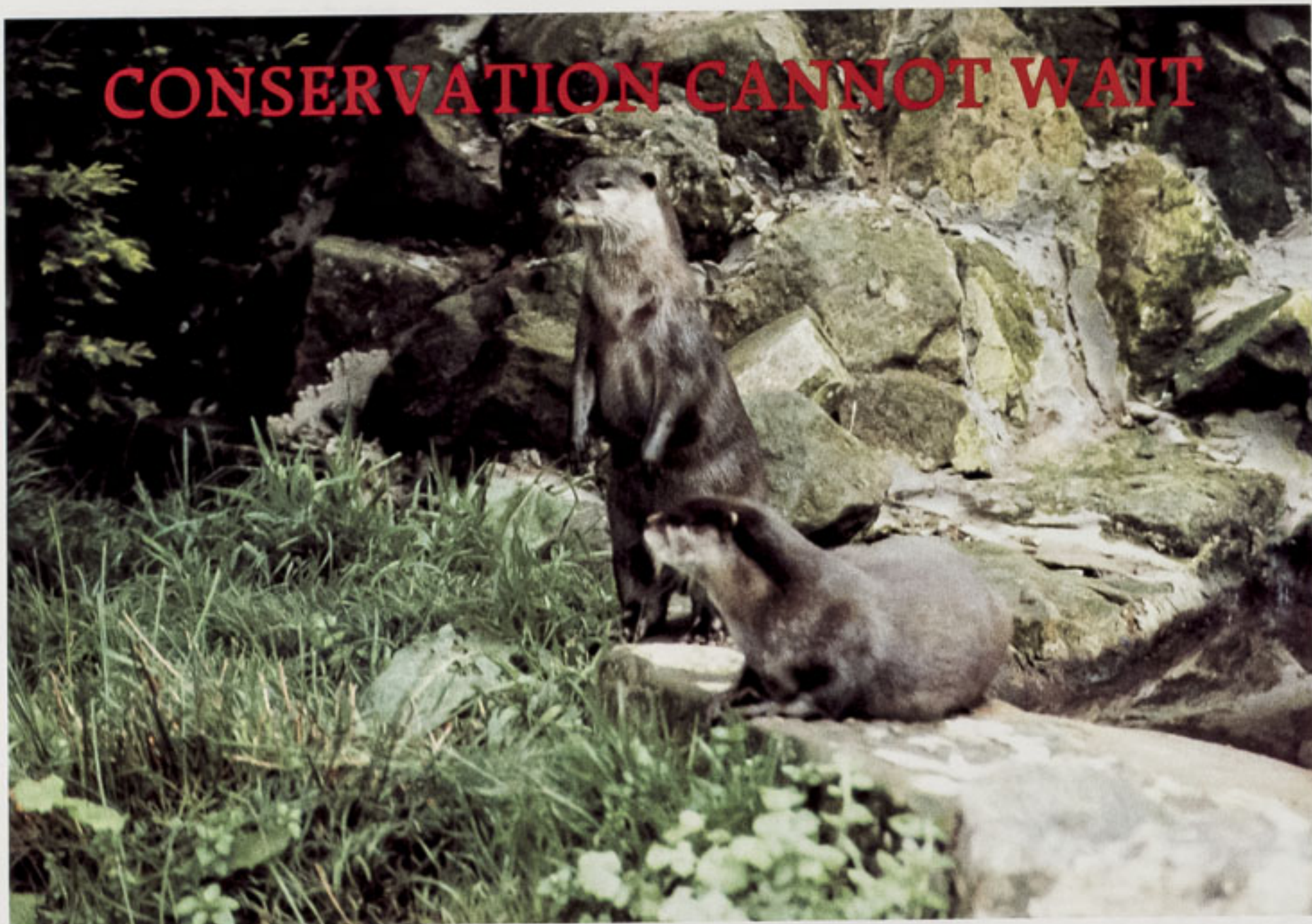
Including her latest set of twins born in June, her number of babies born at Chester is 32. I believe 15 sets of twins and two singles to be something of a record for lemurs or any other primate. I'd certainly be interested to hear from any zoo colleague who knows of a more prolific animal!



The zoo's bird staff won a prestigious award earlier this year, when the Foreign Bird Federation, together with Cage and Aviary Birds Magazine, named Chester "Zoo of the Year." The annual competition, open to all aviculturists and zoos, is for the most successful series of breedings of foreign birds in the UK. Chester was judged to be the best in the Zoo and Bird Garden category.

Brian Hughes, Secretary of the Foreign Bird Federation, said; "We get more entries in this category every year, so to win this coveted award is a great achievement." Our photograph shows Curator of Birds Dr. Roger Wilkinson receiving the plaque from Brian Hughes, on behalf of all of his hard-working staff.

## CONSERVATION CANNOT WAIT



### (And that applies to buildings too)

Estate Engineer Steve O'Brien has managed to cross off quite a lot of jobs from his endless list this year! Many long awaited projects have been completed, and many more are well on the way.

Visitors used to taking a short cut across the old bridge behind the giraffe house, now find themselves in an attractive picnic spot. The bridge has gone, and the islands have been extended to provide extra space for the giraffes to share their paddock with the scimitar horned oryx.

In the Tropical House, the area once occupied by gorillas, has now been landscaped by the gardeners, and turned into very attractive aviaries for hornbills. Outside, the old gorilla islands are now a "Krypton Factor" course for lion-tailed macaques, where they put on a wonderful show of balancing skills for visitors.

There's a new entrance to the Tropical House, and over £15,000 has been spent on new heating for the reptiles, to maintain an even temperature.

The otter pool has been extended, and they now have a waterfall. The

first steps in the plans for turning the old stable block, between the lion and tiger enclosures, into a conference centre, have begun, as work continues on re-roofing the area.

The Pere David deer have been given a new house, and the flamingo lake has been linked with the lake around the lemur island, allowing the two species - Chilean and Caribbean - to be kept as separate but adjacent flocks.

Plans for the Autumn and Winter include the development of the area enclosed by the access bridge over Flag Lane, Flag Lane itself and the Monkey House Road for a mixed Asian exhibit. This will include approximately 500 square metres of covered shelter and 9500 square metres of paddock area.

Islands are to be constructed around the monkey house, to give outside viewing. The islands are to be surrounded by water and low fencing. Construction of two Birds of Prey aviaries alongside the monkey house road leading to Damage Farm will replace some of the existing aviaries.

All this is, of course, in addition to the usual on-going maintenance and painting programmes.

◆ Above: The otters appreciate their new landscaping.

◆ Below: Lion-tailed macaques enjoy the climbing equipment on their island.



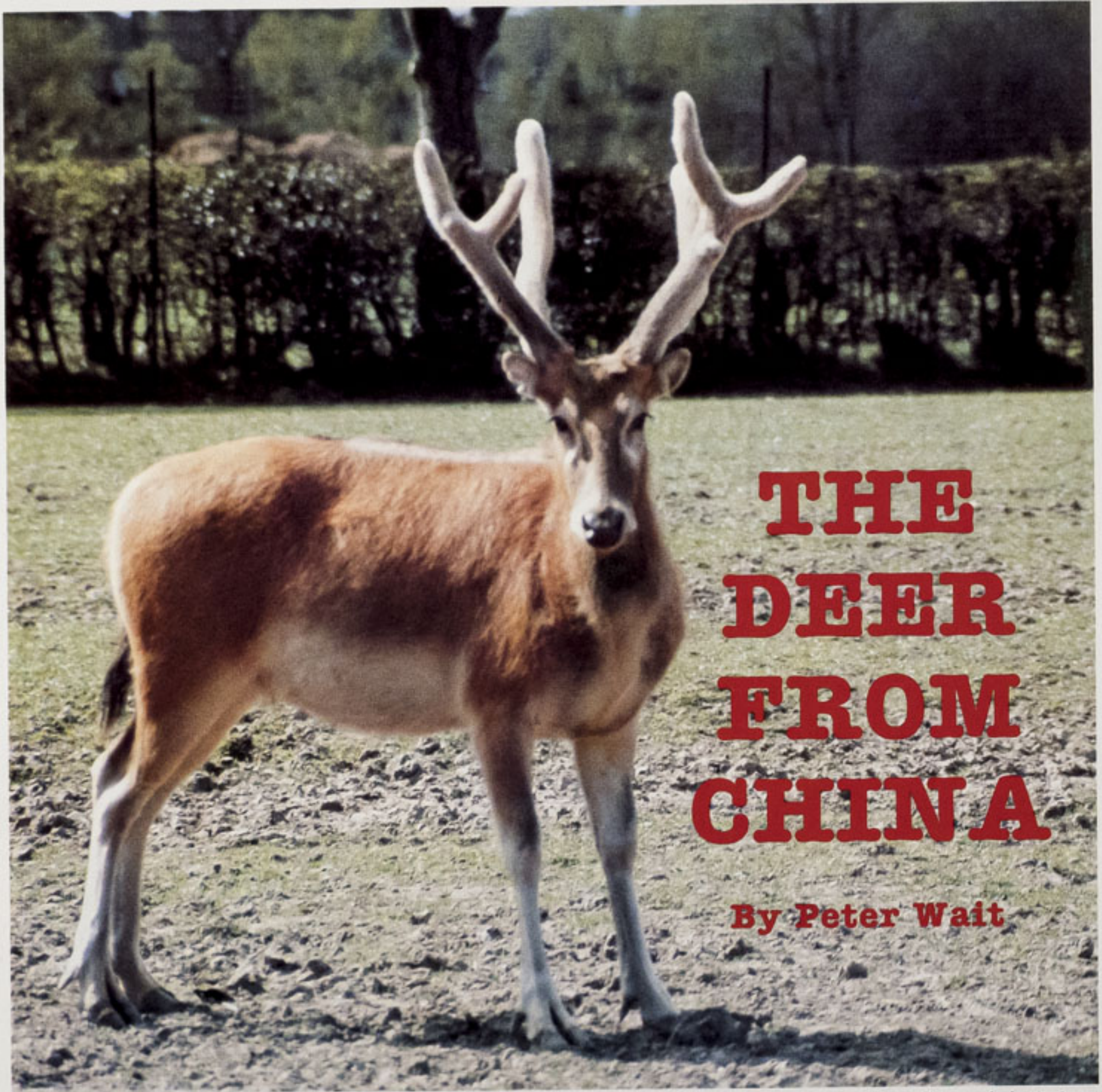
# Birds of a Feather!

◆ Right: This lovely mother and baby picture, taken by Chris Vere, shows one of the two Chilean Flamingo chicks hatched on the island this Summer, with its mother.

◆ Below: Ann Morris is well used to husband Paul bringing his work home. And as Paul is one of the zoo's birdkeepers, Ann usually finds this "homework" needs care and food. Here she is pictured with one of the two Great Horned Owls she helped to hand rear earlier this year.







# THE DEER FROM CHINA

By Peter Wait

*Photographs by M. Coupe.*

The Pere David's deer cannot claim to be the most handsome of animals, but it does have one of the most interesting histories. The Chinese gave it the name of SSU-PU-HSIANG - meaning "four in one." They thought it resembled four different animals; the goat, the deer, the cow and the horse.

Their present name is a tribute to Pere Armand David, a French missionary and keen naturalist, who was on a fact finding mission to China in the mid 1800's.

During his travels, he observed a herd of deer in the Imperial Hunting Park near Peking, which he could not recognise as a named species. Pere

David could find no information on the deer he had seen in the park, so by bribing a guard he obtained some bones and a skin from a culled animal and sent these to France for identification. They were a species unknown to the Western world at that time and the French zoologist, M. Milne Edwards, was given the task of classifying them. He also gave the deer the name MILU, the common name still used in countries around the world.

History does not make it clear how long the deer had been in the park, but it was the only place where they existed and they were jealously guarded.

However, once the secret that they

were there was out, the Emperor, bowing to pressure from Western diplomats, fortunately allowed a few live specimens to go to Europe. One pair went to London Zoo in 1869.

The Chinese population of deer disappeared around the turn of the century, firstly during heavy flooding and finally during the Boxer uprising when the remaining herd was killed for food by villagers and troops.

The then Duke of Bedford, hearing of this disaster, collected 18 deer from around Europe and started a breeding programme at Woburn. As the herd increased, surplus animals went into zoological collections. Eight decades

later, there are around 1500 living animals, registered in the studbook.

The foresight of zoo directors in allowing the Duke of Bedford to have their stock, saved this unusual animal from total extinction, and is an example of what can be achieved by careful captive conservation.

#### Origins

The original range of the Pere David's deer is unknown. It was probably the marshy areas of Northern China, though fossilized remains have been found in Japan. It is also unknown how the herd was preserved in the Imperial Hunting Park, or when the wild population became extinct. Perhaps it will never be.

Although placed in a genus of its own, the Pere David's deer is closely related to the Red deer and has been known to hybridise with it, and produce fertile progeny.

#### Size

It is a tall, heavily built animal, standing 1.3 m. tall, weighing 160 - 200 kgs when mature. The tail is long compared with other deer species - up to 50cms long. The claws on the cloven hooves are long and spread, rather like the reindeer, and make a clicking sound when walking. This may suggest that

they originally evolved to travel over snow or marshy ground. The males have backward facing antlers carrying up to six points, and the antlers may be shed twice in one year.

In Winter the coat is soft, thick and duller in colour than the much redder Summer pelage. Males have the vestiges of a mane with longer hair on the neck and throat.

#### Breeding

The female becomes sexually mature in the second year, breeding at three. Males, though probably mature at the same time, would not get the chance to mate should older males be present. The rut normally takes place in June and July and a single calf, (occasionally twins) is born the following April and May. Calves are a yellowish red colour, with white spots. They appear to be quite independent soon after birth, and form creches with other calves, leaving only to suckle from mother.

The males are quite vocal, especially during the rut. This call consists of a series of grunting roars, each decreasing in volume. Natural food is mainly grass, but browse and aquatic plants are readily taken. They enjoy a mud wallow, or wading in water.

#### History at Chester

The first Pere David's deer, a male, came to the zoo from Bristol in March 1959, and was followed by a female in July from the old Wellingborough Zoo. Another female came from Wellingborough a year later, and the first calf was born in May 1961. Since then there have been 73 births in the collection. In the same period two males have been received to strengthen the blood lines.

#### Rehabilitation

A total of 49 animals have gone to other collections, including 11 to China in 1986. They were part of a consignment of 40 (36 female and 4 male) exported for release into the wild. Other collections involved in the shipment were Glasgow, Edinburgh, London and Marwell.

It is a species that thrives in captive conditions, and our herd soared to 35 during 1982 - a number far in excess of to-day's requirements. The original small group were moved on to the grass paddock, now used by the bison when the zoo extended into that area in 1959, and some were moved again to their present paddock beyond the cat house soon after it was built in 1974. Their life span in zoos is up to 20 years.



# Christmas is Coming. . .

Sorry to mention it so early - but the next issue of Zoo Life won't be out until the first week of December!



## Christmas Fare.

The Oakfield restaurant will again be serving traditional Christmas lunches throughout December, and seasonal dinner menus on selected evenings. The lunch menu, which includes a glass of mulled wine on arrival, three courses plus coffee and petit fours, is £12.20 adults, and £6.15 children. The four course evening menu, including mulled wine and coffee, is £14.55.

There's a special offer if you can get into the Christmas spirit early! During the first week of December, from 2nd - 6th inclusive, there is a complimentary bottle of house wine for each four people taking lunch. This offer also applies to evening diners on 3rd and 5th December.

## Christmas Journey

This has become a tradition for many families. Our magical Christmas journey, organised by the Education Division, with much help from the F.E.D.s, will take place again this year on seven December evenings. A booking form is enclosed - and we

really do advise early booking on this one, as it has become a very popular event.

## Grand Raffle

With this issue of the magazine, you will find a couple of books of raffle tickets for our Grand Annual Fund Raising Draw. The proceeds will once again go to the appeal for raising £10,000 to build a new lion-tailed macaque enclosure, so we hope that members will support this with their usual generosity!

The raffle will be drawn at the members' meeting on Saturday 16 November, so please make sure your ticket stubs and cheques are returned by then. We have some wonderful prizes this year - including several opportunities to meet Father Christmas in very unusual locations! You could win a family ticket to see the Old Gentleman in the air, courtesy of British Airways; on water, courtesy of Mersey Ferries; on rail, courtesy of Llangollen and Ffestiniog Railways - and by candlelight, at the Cheshire Candle Workshops!



## Christmas Cards

We have two beautiful and exclusive designs this year, both drawn and designed by Elephant Keeper, Phil Whalley. One of the designs - of course! - is an elephant, and the other is young Emma, our Black Rhino born in February. Phil's sketch of Emma which is used for the cards is shown above.

The cards will be A5 in size (half the size of this page), and we can arrange overprinting with your name and message if required.

See the enclosed sheet for details on how to order your cards.



## ZOO GARDENS RETAIN TOP AWARD

The North West's most prestigious garden award has been won by Chester Zoo for the fourth time in six years. The award is for the Best Large Tourist Attraction category in the Britain in Bloom competition.

The zoo's gardens are always spectacular, but this Summer, as the judges confirmed, they have been extra-special. The roses in particular have been a wonderful display of colour and perfume. Head Gardener Eric Rudman and his team should bloom with pride at their results. Marketing Manager Chris Vere took his camera out to catch some of the glory of the gardens.

◆ Head Gardener Eric Rudman collected the trophy from Jean Alexander (Coronation Street's Hilda Ogden) at the Southport Flower Show in August.



# JU NEWS



## JUNIOR MEMBERS' FIELD TRIPS AND MEETINGS FOR 1991/1992

### PENNINGTON FLASH - LANCASHIRE Saturday 14th September 1991

We had an excellent day when we last visited the fascinating 'Flash' at Pennington and we are lucky once again to have the Senior Warden, Pauline Mellor to take us around to highlight some of the most interesting birds and plants in this large nature reserve.

We will leave the Zoo's Staff Car Park at 10.00 am, returning at 4.00 pm. Over eights are welcome, and you should bring a picnic lunch and wellies.

### TATTON PARK, KNUTSFORD THE DEER RUT Saturday 26th October 1991

We are hoping to visit the Home Farm at Tatton during the morning, and then spend the afternoon in the Deer Park, with the Head Ranger at Tatton who will explain the rut of the Red Deer and show us around the Deer Farm. We will leave the Zoo's Staff Car Park at 10.00 am, returning at 4.00 pm. Over tens are welcome, and wellies and a picnic lunch should be brought along.

### LEIGHTON MOSS - SILVERDALE Saturday 30th November 1991

This is a special trip being arranged for the Junior Members by the RSPB at their Reserve near Carnforth in

Lancashire. A must for those of you who are interested in seeing the fantastic numbers of migrating waterfowl which use this reserve as a stopping-off point during November on their long migrations. An early start, for over ten year olds from the Staff Car Park at 8.45 am, returning around 5.00 pm. Very warm clothes, waterproofs and wellies must be worn for this trip, and remember to bring a picnic.

### THE CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE ZOO Saturday 14th December 1991

Once again we will have our annual Christmas party in the Jubilee, where the disco's volume does not disturb the animals! Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy the music and games, and join in with the hamburger/hot dog supper. Juniors should arrive at the Staff Entrance at 7.00 pm, and parents may walk you over to the Jubilee. Collection should be arranged for 10.00 pm.

### THE CONTACT SESSION AT THE ZOO Saturday 18th January 1992

It was unthinkable to leave this event, one of our most popular days every year, out of the calendar this year so we will meet again to get to know

some of the friendlier residents of the Zoo a little better. Regular stars include the Rhino Iguana, Tarantulas, Snakes, Lizards, Wallabies, and Ducks, but there may be a few surprises too. We will meet outside the Oakfield at 2.00 pm, and walk down to the Lecture Hall. Juniors may drift away from the Lecture Hall after 3.15 pm, but everyone must be back at the Oakfield for collection at 4.00 pm. Over eights are welcome.

### FEBRUARY MEETING - AT THE ZOO Saturday 22nd or Saturday 29th February 1992

More details will be available later about this meeting. Watch this Space in the Winter Edition of Chester Zoo Life!

### TRACKS & SIGNS - AT THE ZOO Saturday 21st March 1992

Another of our very popular events, when Juniors hunt through enclosures to find footprints from which to take plaster casts. It is all the better for us if it has been a wet and muddy week, but it does mean that old clothes and wellies are essential items to wear. We will meet outside the Oakfield at 11.00 am, and meet back there at the end of the day at 4.00 pm. Over eights are invited to join-in and do remember to bring a packed lunch.

### SHUGBOROUGH PARK FARM STAFFORD Saturday 25th April 1992

A new visit this year to the excellent centre for rare domestic breeds such as Longhorn Cattle, Bagot Goats, Leicester Longwool Sheep, Tamworth and Gloucester Old Spot Pigs. We will also see demonstrations of traditional farm crafts, including butter and cheese making, farmhouse cookery and spinning. The Shire Horses can be seen at work, and there is a Noah's Ark touch area for the smaller animals. The restored corn mill and waterwheel complete the picture of a working estate farm of the pre-Victorian era. The bus will leave the Staff Car Park at 9.00 am, returning around 5.00 pm. Over eights are invited along and a picnic lunch will be needed. I suggest you bring wellies with you separately as you may not need to wear them, but just in case .....

### THE CHESTNUT CENTRE DERBYSHIRE Saturday 16th May 1992

We had such a wonderful day when we visited the Chestnut Centre in 1991 that we could not resist planning to re-visit again this year. An excellent opportunity to see Otters, Badgers, Owls and other birds of prey, set in the spectacular scenery of the Derbyshire countryside.

The bus will leave the Staff Car Park at 9.30 am, returning around 5.00 pm. Come equipped for the outdoors in May, and bring a picnic. Over eights are welcome.

### ANGLESEY SEA ZOO AND LLANDWYN ISLAND Saturday 13th June 1992

Now for something completely different - this will be a long summer's-day trip to see the Sea Zoo on Anglesey and to visit Newborough Forest and the sand dunes of Llandwyn Island. An early start for this one, with the bus setting off from the Staff Car Park at 8.00 am and returning around 6.00 pm. A large picnic lunch to keep you going all day should be brought along. Over tens invited.

### DAY HELPING A KEEPER Saturday 18th July 1992

The most-looked-forward-to event of the year, when Juniors are invited to spend a day working alongside one of the Keepers. As the work involved is quite strenuous, we have to limit this event to the over twelves only. You will need a packed lunch, and you must wear wellies. We will meet outside the Oakfield at 10.30 am, and the day will finish for the Juniors at 4.00 pm.

◆ Far left: The Junior Members' trip to The Chestnut Centre in Derbyshire was a great day. Roger and Carol Heap, who run the centre, took a group each, and were very welcoming hosts. Our pictures show the two groups of Juniors - one with Carol and one with Roger.

◆ Above: Always the most popular day of the Junior Calendar - Helping a Keeper! Juniors are shown here helping out in the elephant section, with keepers Mick Jones and Phil Whalley.

### PLEASE NOTE

Bookings must be made for all events. Please ring Penny at the Zoo not more than two weeks before any event if you would like to attend. Places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis and may be limited. For those trips which involve either a bus trip, or the provision of food or materials, a charge will have to be made in order for us to cover basic costs, but we do try to keep this as low as possible and it will vary according to what is provided. This list is provisional, and in exceptional circumstances, we may have to alter the dates and times of some of the trips. You will not be informed of such changes individually, so you must keep an eye on the magazine when it comes out each quarter to check that you are up-to-date with Junior Members' News.

Penny Rudd  
Junior Members' Club Leader.

# Arrivals Births and Hatchings

MAY, JUNE, JULY 1991

**MAMMALS**

Rodrigue's Island Fruitbat	Pteropus rodricensis	0.0.9	born 1 DNS
Ring-tailed Lemur	Lemur catta	0.0.2	born
Lion-tailed Macaque	Macaca silenus	1.0	exchange
Capybara Hydrochoerus	hydrochaeris	0.0.1	born
Scottish Wildcat	Felis sylvestris	1.0	exchange
Przewalski Horse	Equus przewalskii	1.0	born
Onager Equus	hemionus onager	1.2	born 0.1 DNS
Guanaco	Lama guanicoe	0.2	born
Bactrian Camel	Camelus bactrianus	0.1	born
Pere David's Deer	Elaphurus davidianus	1.1	born
Reindeer	Rangifer tarandus	0.3	born 2 DNS
Eland	Taurotragus oryx	1.0	1 DNS
Scimitar-horned Oryx	Oryx damah	2.0	1 DNS
Wildebeeste	Connochaetes taurinus	1.1.2	born
Red Lechwe	Kobus leche	5.6	born
Blackbuck	Antelope cervicapra	1.2	born
Arabian Gazelle	Gazella g. arabica	3.1	born
Bison	Bison bison	0.2	born

**BIRDS**

Emu Dromalus	novaeollandiae	0.0.2	hatched
Humboldts Penguin	Spheniscus humboldti	0.0.5	h'chd 1 DNS
White Stork	Ciconia ciconia	0.0.5	h'chd 2 DNS
Waldrapp Ibis	Geronticus eremita	0.0.7	h'chd 5 DNS
Chilean Flamingo	Phoenicopterus chilensis	0.0.2	hatched
Cereopsis Goose	Cereopsis novaeollandiae	1.1	presented
Emperor Goose	Anser canagicus	0.0.4	hatched
Ruddy-headed Goose	Chloephaga rubidiceps	0.0.4	hatched
Common Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna	0.0.13	h'chd 1 DNS
Tufted Duck	Aythya fuligula	0.0.9	hatched
Red-crested	Pochard Netta rufina	0.0.5	hatched
Mandarin Duck	Aix galericulata	0.0.23	h'chd 14 DNS
Carolina Wood Duck	Aix sponsa	0.0.10	h'chd 1 DNS
White-winged Wood Duck	Cairina scutulata	0.0.4	hatched
Hooded Merganser	Mergus cucullatus	0.0.4	h'chd 3 DNS
Ruddy Duck	Oxyura jamaicensis	0.0.3	h'chd 1 DNS
Variable	Chacalaca Ortalis motmot	0.0.1	hatched
Barefaced Currassow	Crax fasciolata	0.0.4	hatched
Californian Quail	Lophortyx californica	0.0.12	hatched
Roul Roul Partridge	Rollulus roulroul	0.0.4	hatched
Satyr Tragopan	Tragopan satyra	0.0.2	hatched
Temminck's Tragopan	Tragopan temmincki	0.0.11	hatched
Himalayan Monal	Lophophorus impeyanus	0.0.8	hatched
White Eared Pheasant	Chrysoptilon crossoptilon	0.0.3	hatched
Golden Pheasant	Chrysoptilon pictus	0.0.7	hatched
Lady Amherst's Pheasant	Chrysolophus amherstiae	1.0	loan
Palawan Peacock			
Pheasant	Polyplectron emphanum	0.0.1	hatched
Edwards' Pheasant	Lophura edwardsi	0.0.9	hatched
Red-crowned Crane	Grus japonensis	0.0.2	hatched
Sarus Crane	Grus antigone	0.0.2	hatched
		0.2	loan
Common Peafowl	Pavo cristatus	0.0.5	hatched
Blacksmith's Plover	Vanellus armatus	0.0.6	hatched
Crowned Plover	Vanellus coronatus	0.0.4	hatched
Pink Pigeon	Nesoenas mayeri	1.0	loan
Diamond Dove	Geopelia cuneata	0.0.2	hatched
Celebes Quail Dove	Gallicolumba tristigmata	0.0.1	h'chd DNS
Pink-necked Green Pigeon	Treron vernans	0.0.3	hatched

**BIRDS**

Musk Lorikeet	Glossopsitta concinna	0.0.1	hatched
Musschenbroeks Lorikeet	Neopsitta musschenbroeki	0.0.1	hatched
Great Vasa Parrot	Coracopsis vasa	0.0.4	hatched
Derbyan Parakeet	Psittacula derbiana	0.0.3	hatched
Blue & Yellow Macaw	Ara ararauna	0.0.3	hatched
Patagonian Conure	Cyanoliseus patagonus	0.0.7	h'chd 1 DNS
Slender-billed Parakeet	Enicognathus leptorhynchus	0.2	purchased
Schalows Touraco	Tauraco schalowi	0.0.2	hatched
Barn Owl	Tyto alba	0.0.5	hatched
European Eagle Owl	Bubo bubo	0.0.1	hatched
Spectacled Owl	Pulsatrix perspicillata	0.1.0	loan
		0.0.1	hatched
Snowy Owl	Nyctea scandiaca	0.0.4	hatched
Kookaburra	Dacelo novaeguineae	0.0.1	hatched
Trumpeter Hornbill	Bycanistes bucinator	0.0.2	hatched
Channel-billed Toucan	Ramphastos vitellinus	0.0.2	hatched
Red eared Bulbul	Pycnonotus jocosus	0.0.7	h'chd 1 DNS
Chinese Bulbul	Pyconotus sinensis	0.0.1	hatched
Fairy Bluebird	Irena puella	0.0.2	hatched
Orange-headed Ground Thrush	Zoothra citrina	0.0.5	h'chd 2 DNS
Silver eared Mesia	Leiothrix argentauris	0.0.4	h'chd 2 DNS
Mexican House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus	0.0.22	h'chd 2 DNS
White-headed Buffalo Weaver	Dinemellia dinimelli	0.0.2	hatched
Java Sparrow	Padda oryzivora	0.0.1	hatched
Purple Glossy Starling	Lamprotornis purpureus	0.0.3	hatched
Superb Spree Starling	Spreo superbus	0.0.5	5 DNS
Coletto Mynah	Sarcops calvus	1.0	loan
Azure-winged Magpie	Cyanopica cyana	0.0.5	4 DNS
Red-billed Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax	0.0.2	1 DNS

**REPTILES**

Asian Box Turtle	Cuora amboinensis	0.0.1	bred
Carolina Box Turtle	Terrapene ornata carolinensis	0.0.1	bred
Leopard Gecko	Eublepharis macularius	0.0.63	bred
Green Iguana	Iguana iguana	0.0.2	bred
Spiny Iguana	Ctenosaura similis	0.0.3	bred
Philippine Sailfin Lizard	Hydrosaurus pustulatus	0.0.5	bred
Malayan Sailfin Lizard	Hydrosaurus amboinensis	0.0.8	bred
Brown Basilisk	Basiliscus basiliscus	0.0.12	bred
Gaboon Viper	Bitis gabonica	1.1	exchanged

**AMPHIBIANS**

Axolotl	Amblystoma mexicanum		bred
Japanese Fire-bellied Newt	Cynops pyrrhogaster		bred
Clawed Frog	Xenopus laevis		bred

**FISH**

Turquoise Discus	Symphysodon sp.		bred
Lake Tebera Rainbow Fish	Melanotaenia herbert axelrodi		bred
Panda Catfish	Coredoras panda		bred
(no common name)	Placidochromis electra		bred
(no common name)	Pseudotropheus aurora	7	exchanged
Yellowfin	Pseudotropheus acei	10	exchanged
Oceanic Seahorse	Hippocampus kuda	5	exchanged
Cave Fish	Garra barreimiae		bred

Key: Col. 1 = Male, Col. 2 = Female, Col. 3 = Young, or unknown

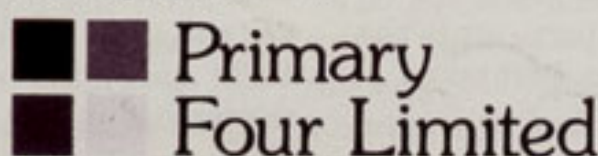
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