

CHESTER ZOO NEWS



and Cheshire & Borderlands Visiter

No. 10
Spring 1997

New Format

We hope that you will like our new magazine-size Zoo News. Easier to pick up, easier to keep, its 40 pages been printed for the Zoo by Chronicle Newspapers of Chester

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KARHA

GROWING UP
BEAUTIFULLY
See Page 20-21

50p
WHEN
SOLD



CONSERVING RARE AND ENDANGERED ANIMALS

Great Year for Zoo

If you want to see how good a year 1996 was for the Zoo - just come along and see the improvements that have been made. A huge new aviary for the Andean Condors, a wonderful new 'Let's Make' craft centre, the Aquarium with a waterproof roof, the Monkey Islands landscaping complete - with a formal opening scheduled for mid 1997, a new elephant nursery area with hot and cold running water and all around the zoo, new signs to explain what is going on. We must express our gratitude to generous help from NWS Bank in Chester and the estate of Sally, late dowager Duchess of Westminster for a bequest that made the *Condor Cliffs* aviary possible.

World class

This visible progress shows our determination to make Chester a world class zoo. Because we are a charitable trust rather than a company paying dividends to investors and needing to keep the stock market happy, all our surpluses go to make the zoo even better. As the zoo's letterheads proclaim, 'animals are our only shareholders'

10,000+

We made our membership target three years early. Marketing Division had targeted the millennium for the 10,000th member - it happened in December 1996. What a wonderful way to show the support we enjoy. Its almost an eight fold growth in ten years.

ZOO VIEW

Karha the star!

Undoubtedly, seeing the baby elephant, Karha, has been highpoint of most of the visits to the zoo this year. She has repaid all the care and attention of Curator of Mammals, Nick Ellerton's team by more than tripling her weight (around 355 kilos in January 1997 compared with a birthweight of 104 kilos) and is already beginning to take some solid food. She has become a part of the our herd, with frequent 'get to know you' time spent with the females of the group. And, with a very special 'double' she starred on the BBC's *Blue Peter*, both for her debut and naming, and for her first birthday in December 1996.

To everyone who has helped her in the first year, we say heartfelt 'thanks' But to emphasise the joint zoo breeding programmes for elephants (and remember that Karha's mother Thi came to Chester from London and her Father, Chang from Denmark), we've had two 'guests elephants' from Twycross Zoo, on short term breeding loan. Its too early to give positive news of pregnancy, but see what odds you can get on a 'double event' in 1998!

Fair exchange.

The best compliment to Chester and our methods is when dedicated animal staff hand in their notice, having been offered posts at other zoos! So we wish every success to Gavin Bouchier on appointment to Perth Zoo in Australia, and Jim Forrest who moves to Edinburgh Zoo to look after the provisioning for their collection. You can be sure that the Chester message will be well and truly explained.

We fought above our weight.

The Zoo failed in its battle to persuade Whitehall and Brussels that EEC funding should not be given to the Cheshire Oaks Aquarium - and so there will be a battle royal to maintain visitor levels in 1998. We will certainly make sure that everyone who visits the zoo will get a first class, full day of enjoyment and animal experience. In sheer value for money, we can't be beaten (remember *The Times* survey that made us best value in the whole country) and a recent *Daily Mail* review where we gained 80% satisfaction levels, higher than any other major zoo.

Full House

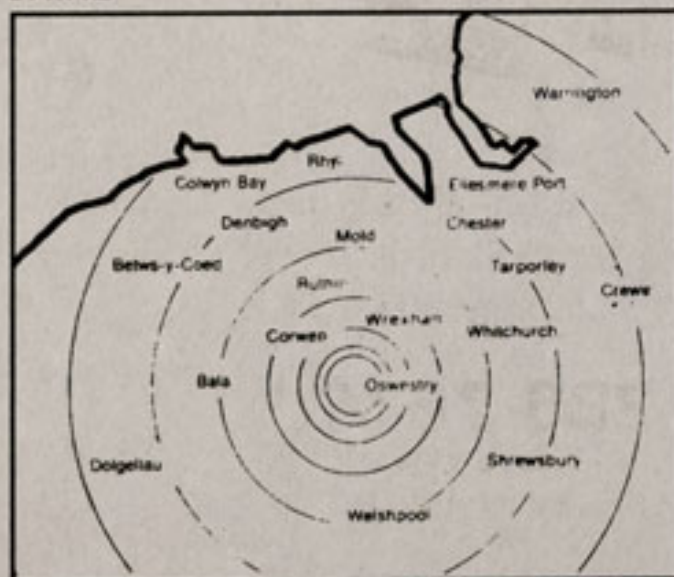
How encouraging for us to have the lecture hall 'full up' signs up right through the year for the special presentations organised by education Division to support schools and colleges teaching GNVQ, GCSE, A Level and degree courses in Leisure and Travel & Tourism.



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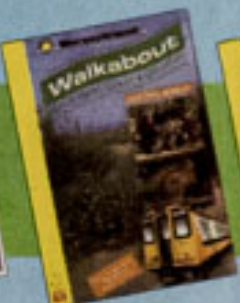
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1996 PHOTO WINNERS



REAL TALENT

The Zoo's expert panel of judges, Trevor Roden, Photo Manager of the Chester Chronicle, Dr David Cooke FRPS and Mark Vyse of Cathedral Cameras, awarded The Eric Kirkland Trophy, and title 'Zoo Print Photographer of 1996' (plus a Canon Sureshot Z 115 camera) to John Burland from Sheffield for his stunning shots of Karha (left), with the top slide award and Ken Green Trophy (and the second Canon Sure Shot Z115 camera) to Graham Roberts from Chester for the pair of Orang utans (below). Alan Barrow from Bromborough won the Bridgemere Gardens Trophy and a voucher for £50 for the crocosmia slide (below). John Burland also won the special Karha Trophy, judged by Council member, Miss Jean Dixon who had presented an elegant soapstone statuette as a special prize. Runner up (prints) with a £100 Crewe Camera Exchange Voucher award was Mrs J Heworth, and third prize for prints, with a £60 Ness Laboratory voucher went to Mr P Johnson.



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1996 PHOTO WINNERS



Suzy Jackson from Halifax was judged Junior Photographer of the Year - winning Emma's Trophy and a Canon Telemax camera for the Orang print (right).

Staff honours and a £50 Ness voucher went to Keeper Terry Whittaker for the Serval (above) whilst Slide runner up (£50 Crewe Camera Exchange Voucher) was Alistair Homer from Wilmslow with the well taken Serval (top). 3rd Prize (slides) (Ness £40 voucher) was Maxwell Knowles (Zebras). Runner up (Gardens) (£50 KJP/Hargreaves voucher) was Stephen Ryan with a stunning rose slide. Junior runner up was Simon Burgess with a Stanley Blue Crane (Colour Centre Voucher for £30)

Apart from Alistair Homer (taking exams) all the winners and the three judges came to presentation at the Zoo on Saturday 25th January, with a special buffet in the Oakfield. Photo coverage was by The Chester Chronicle



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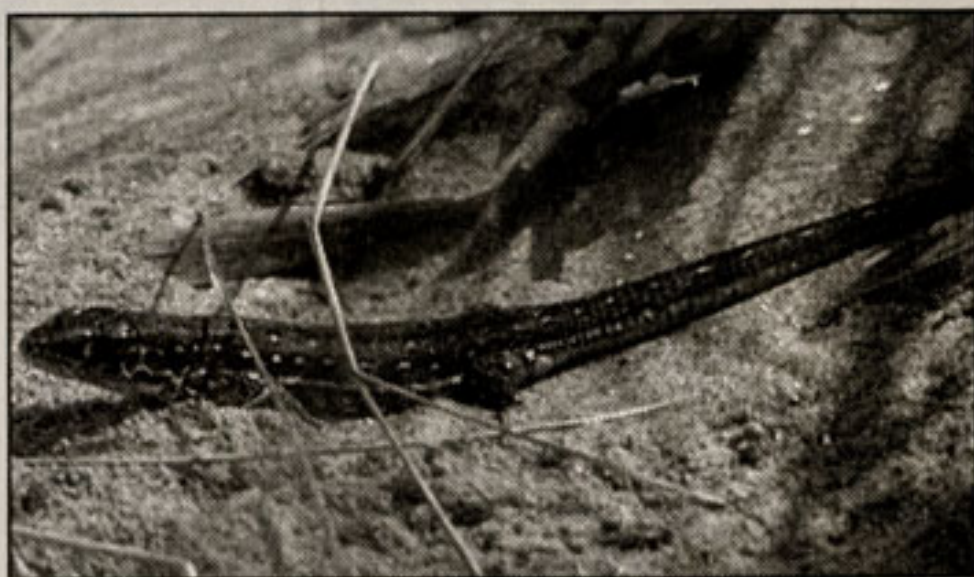
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CONSERVING RARE AND ENDANGERED ANIMALS

SAVING THE SAND LIZARDS

Sand Lizards are the most endangered British reptile. To start them breeding - you need a sand dune. So after consultations with Herpetologist, Keith Brown, we built one, just alongside the Tropical Realm. With funding help from English Nature (species recovery programme), The World Wide Fund for Nature, The Countryside Council for Wales and the Herpetological Trust, we have reproduced the lizard's habitat of a coastal sand dune, complete with dense marram grass. Opened officially by the Lord Mayor of Chester, Councillor John Short in May 1996, with children from nearby Acresfield School watching, we are delighted to report that the first eggs hatched successfully. We hope in due course we will have a steady stream of lizards for release back to suitably protected sites on the coasts of North Wales and Merseyside.



DUKE MEETS KARHA

The Zoo's President, The Duke of Westminster, was a welcome guest in the elephant house in December, just after he had opened the new Condor Aviary after a legacy from his late Aunt. It just was two days before Karha's first birthday and she was on her best behaviour, before the fun and games of the birthday itself, when she was weighed against a whole class of youngsters from Acresfield School and given a couple of hot baths for the TV cameras! (see page 20 and 21).



FIVE OF THE BEST



Amongst the awards we received in 1996, there was a silver from the North West Tourist Board for being runner up in the large attractions category, a Certificate of Merit for being the best large tourist attraction in Britain in Bloom, a Special Award in the Chester in Bloom awards, a special award in the Duke of Westminster's Award Scheme for Business and Industry in the North West and from America, a Golden Paw award for the excellence of our World Wide Web (Internet) site, designed and maintained by Zoo member, John Benbow.

This was the first award to a zoo outside the United States. See John's work by accessing the net on <http://www.demon.co.uk/chesterzoo>

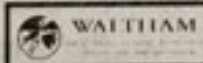
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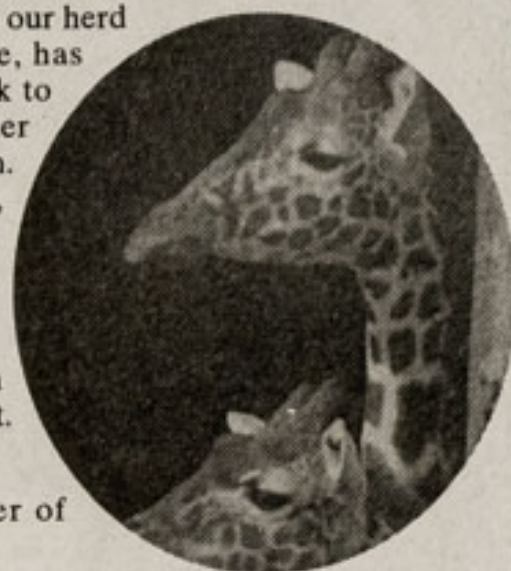
ANIMALS ARE OUR ONLY SHAREHOLDERS

NOW WE ARE SIX

The arrival of the sixth giraffe to our herd - Geraldine - from Whipsnade, has brought the Chester group back to the levels that many of our older visitors remember with affection. With three young females - Penny, Samara and Geraldine - the likelihood of a succession of calves becomes a real probability - and as Mia grows up, we hope that there will be other youngsters on the huge paddock for her to meet.

The two males in the group are Daley and Cormac, the father of young Mia.

Giraffe section Head Charlie McKenzie, who has 26 years experience at Chester Zoo, with Tim Rowlands, senior keeper and next in charge, is delighted with the growing herd of giraffes. There have been important improvements in the giraffe house too - new doors, a new measuring scale, improvements inside and landscaping of the paddock itself which the giraffes share with the tiny gazelles. Visitors really appreciate the feeding platform, which is close to the picnic benches by the paddock, so that the giraffes feed very close to our youngsters, the children's measuring scale in the middle of the picnic site - and the site of the special 'windlass' feeding apparatus that pulls branches in to the air so that the giraffes can feed naturally.



MAMA AND MIA

Meet Samara and her youngster Mia, born in April 1996, and the first giraffe calf in the zoo for 15 years. Mia is a great favourite with visitors, who are amazed at the speed with which she can move across the paddock and her tiny size, relative to the rest of the group. But she is now really beginning to grow, both in height (approaching 2 metres) and filling out and looking stockier rather than fragile!

Photo: Andrew Price

Getting to the Zoo by bus ... no problem



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Crosville 

NEW FREE FLIGHT AVIARY FOR ANDEAN CONDORS



Zoo Director, Dr Gordon McGregor Reid at the mike welcomes Zoo President, The Duke of Westminster (rt.), watched by Zoo Chairman, Mrs Beatrice Jones (left). On the left, one of the condors flies across the enormous aviary.



Landscaping of the aviary, mastermind by Curator of Birds, Dr Roger Wilkinson, his deputy, Mark Pilgrim and Project Engineer, Ken Roberts. Contractors were Cotterills of Widnes.



Llama skeleton.



CONDOR CLIFFS



Expertly built simulated rockfaces, with a choice of nesting sites, forms the far boundary of the aviary.

This huge new free flight aviary allows the Andean Condors (who have a 7 foot wingspan and are amongst the largest species flying birds) to really stretch their wings. Over 10,000 cubic metres in size, it has a suspended nylon mesh, giving great strength and lightness as well as weather resistance. Snow just falls through the mesh, and smaller birds - at their peril - can fly through too. It follows the techniques pioneered in the zoo with the Mauritius Kestrels and the Europe on the Edge aviaries.

The rockface forms the boundary to Flag Lane, complete with nesting caves and appropriate vegetations. The side walls and pool of the brown bear enclosure have been modified, and refurbished. The main old public viewing area is to the East, and there is a great view from the bridge. The new, 3 metre waterfall adds to the landscaping, which is completed by the skeleton of a 'llama' (see left) and skull, to remind us of the bird's diet.

Cotterills of Widnes were the main contractors of the aviary, finished on schedule and to specification.

The interpretative panels, designed by the Education Division, in conjunction with Michael Coupe, with artwork by zoo artist Les Grandy, complete the display. The Condor Cliffs name on the wall is by Turtle Graphics.

This major improvement was made possible by a generous legacy from the estate of Sally, late Dowager Duchess of Westminster and aunt of the Duke. She was an intrepid traveller and great friend of the zoo. 'She will certainly approve of this' said the Duke as he formally declared the aviary open. Condors are considered endangered on the fringes of their range in South America. So far, the zoo has raised 10 chicks.

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CHRISTMAS JOURNEY

Once again the volunteers and staff provided superb Christmas Journeys to delight and amaze visitors in December. The new *Let's Make Centre* became Father Christmas's grotto, with reindeer alongside. The new route began at the main entrance, with donkeys, camels, cattle and children's farm animals adding their own magic. To everyone who helped, a great thank you. Details of the 1997 Journeys will be available in the autumn - a SAE to Education Division, Chester Zoo, Upton by Chester CH 2 1 LH will speed details, as soon as they are available..

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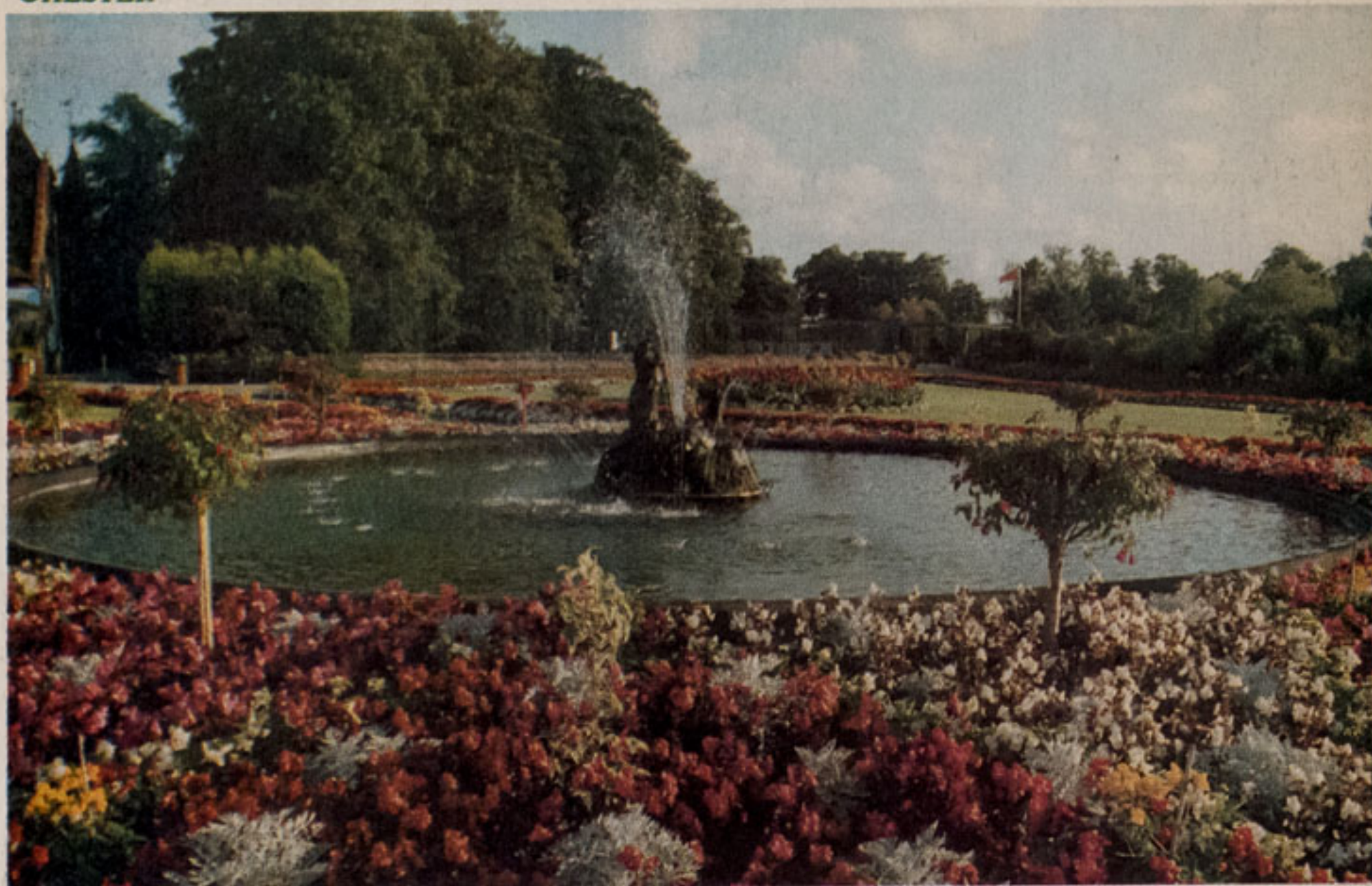
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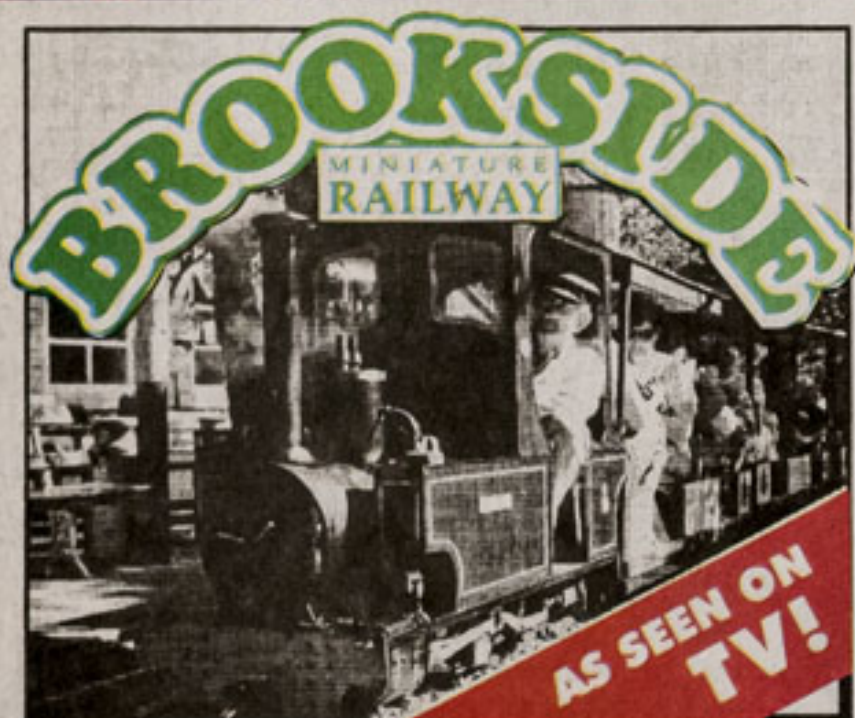
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CONSERVING RARE AND ENDANGERED ANIMALS



Glory of the gardens

Magnificent, prize winning garden displays have become a tradition at the zoo. Eric Rudman's dedicated team make sure that there is a great spring display - then come Whitsun, its all out in a matter of days and the summer beds are in. Then it's mowing the lawns, looking after the flowers, watering from our own artesian wells - and getting the greenhouses ready. In between all this - we win our fair share of awards too. See page 6.



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Meet Jack Frost

Would you believe it - John Frost (aka Jack) is one of the senior keepers who look after the reindeer, so was a natural for the newspapers at Christmas. Troy is the reindeer! *Picture courtesy The Sun.*





ANIMALS ARE OUR ONLY SHAREHOLDERS

TOP OF THE POPS IN THE TROPS

or Tropical Realm

1. Alligators. Quiet, but deadly. Powerful animals in their warm home.

2. Partula snails - see how we saved one sub species after it fell to one single animal (Hermaphrodites do it their way).



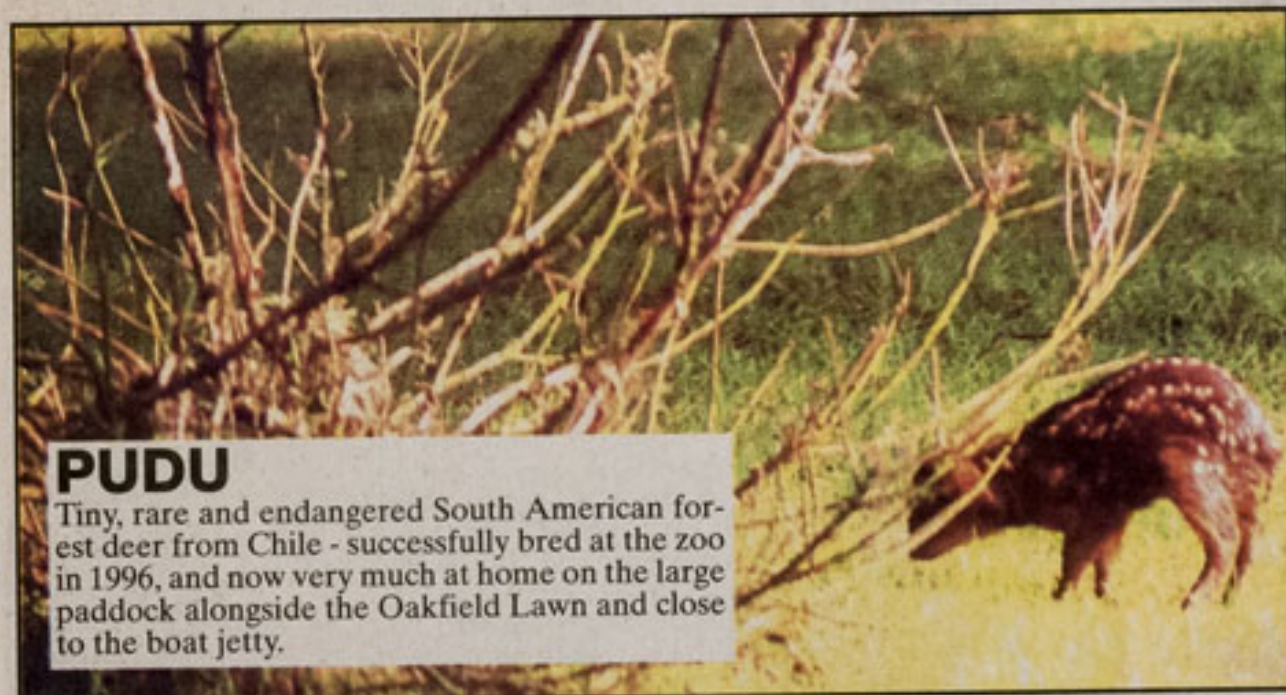
3. Hornbills in their aviaries. The female is sealed into the nest to rear the chicks

4. Tuataras - the only ones in Europe. A vestigial third eye and half normal heartbeat!

Contemporaries of the dinosaurs, these New Zealand reptiles can live to 100 +

5. Enormous Koi in the pools.
6. Banana and palm trees, and lush tropical vegetation.
7. Palm weavers' nests
8. Push button sounds as you come in.
9. Free flying birds - best seen from the top balcony viewpoints.
10. Magnificent aviary birds - sun bitterns, toucans, and Bali starlings.
11. Snakes alive - cobras, rattlesnakes, boa constrictors!
12. Pixie Frogs - actually toads - the size of a soup plate.

It's an interdisciplinary site, with Keith Brown our Herpetologist, and Isolde McGeorge senior reptile keeper in overall charge, with inputs from the Tropical Bird team, gardeners and the aquarists. And in between, look out for the volunteers with their Tropical Realm experience cart. Amazing variety, and always warm. (Ice cream outside)



PUDU

Tiny, rare and endangered South American forest deer from Chile - successfully bred at the zoo in 1996, and now very much at home on the large paddock alongside the Oakfield Lawn and close to the boat jetty.

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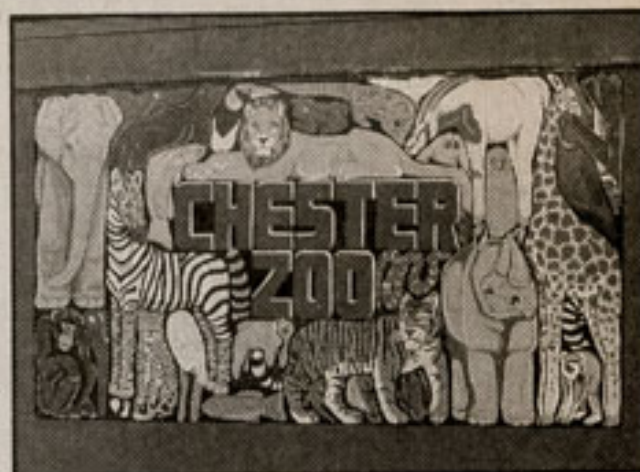
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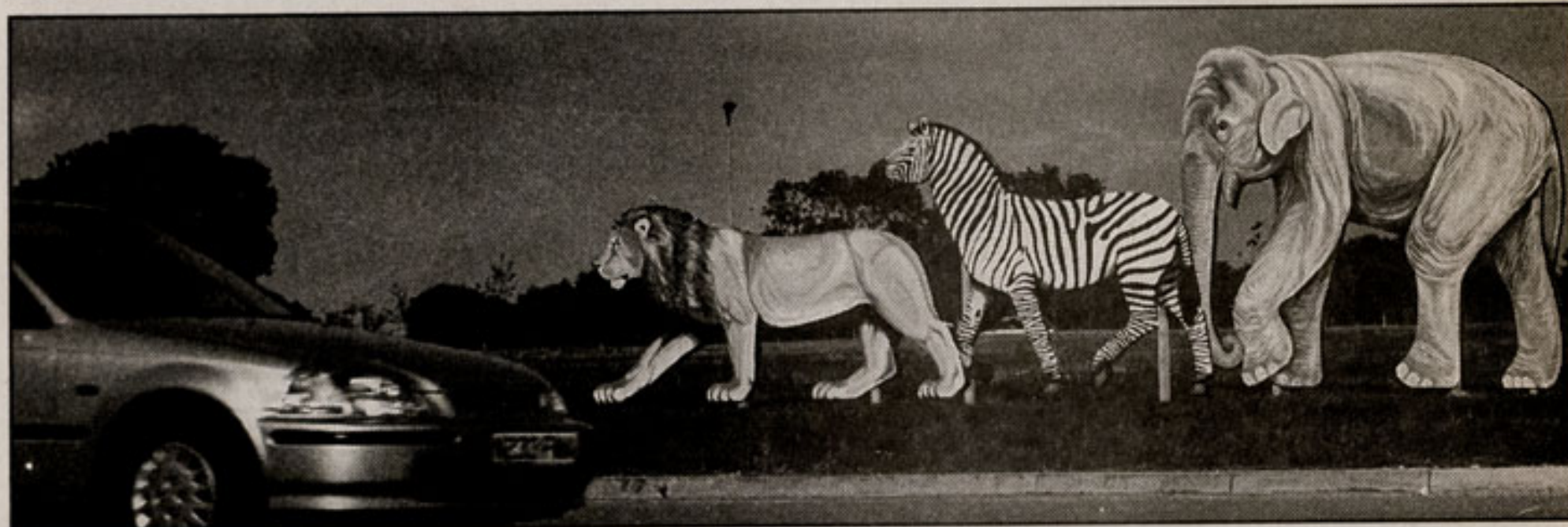
OUR EXTRAORDINARY ARTIST AT WORK

Hannah Lawson was our 'artist in residence' for in 1994, and gained a prestigious place at the Royal College of Art for 1996 (with the help of her zoo work). With time before the course began, she had several 'commissions'. 'Paint my delivery van,' asked Stores and Gatehouse Manager, Peter Thompson. Result on the right.

'Reassure visitors that they are near the zoo, even though it may look unfamiliar' asked Zoo Director, Dr Gordon McGregor Reid - the result was the letters to make the word Chester Zoo *(above) and the life size animals (below). How many do you know *Answers below.



*How many did you know? Answer - Crocodile, Horse, Elephant, Snake, Turaco, Elephant nosed trunkfish, Roan antelope, Zebra, Otter, Ocelot.



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Haigh Country Park, Haigh, Wigan



ZOOS for all

Disabled visitors can enjoy the zoo. Two generous donations, a loan vehicle from Ross Care and funds for the third from the City of Chester mean we have three electric 4 wheel scooters, available from the Gatehouse. Please book (extension 225). Wheelchairs are available from First Aid at the main entrance. Except the boats and Oakfield downstairs toilets, the zoo is wheelchair accessible. There are 4 toilets for disabled people (see zoo maps) and for the blind or partially sighted, there are special tape tours and tactile maps (from Information). Education (ext 205) can give details of tours for the deaf (these must be arranged in advance).



WE NEED EDUCATION TO SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT OUR WORK



SPLENDID FACILITIES

The Zoo Education Division can provide schools and colleges with resource material, keyed to the National Curriculum, on many aspects of our work. This ranges from Primary through to degree standards. There are special facilities for teachers to visit the zoo, and suggested work material for school visits. Very popular are the new Travel and Tourism presentation courses (with a back up pack) run in our Lecture Theatre. Our reference library is available for student use - 12 noon to 2 PM on weekdays. Details (01244) 380280.

Ask for a complete Education Pack. In Jubilee Square, is the splendid new *Let's Make Centre*, with funding from our friends at Chester based NWS Bank. Our volunteers man this, and the nearby Brass Rubbings Centre is in East Zoo. Also look out for the popular Story Time on the Jubilee Lawn, when volunteers with theatrical talents tell old fashioned stories to the delight of young and old. The volunteers plan to have guided tours, and provide the popular 'information

cards' at prime sites in the zoo, to answer questions and allow visitors to handle wonders like elephants teeth, snake skins, or ostrich eggs.

We have the *Things to do shop* close to the Jubilee which acts as an information point too.

Volunteer help is always appreciated, either to help man facilities for visitors, or provide essential office back up. If you think you can help, apply informally to our Head of Education services, Steve McKeown for full details

Vale Royal

...a place for all seasons

Vale Royal, located in the heart of Cheshire, offers something for everyone all year round.

Breathtaking countryside, unique heritage, traditional shopping and a host of places of interest.

Add to this an excellent range of accommodation and places to eat and you have Vale Royal...

...a place for all seasons.

For further information contact the Tourism Officer, Vale Royal Borough Council, Wyvern House, The Drummer, Winsford, Cheshire CW7 1AH. Telephone: 01606 867531



VR VALE ROYAL
The heart of Cheshire
VALE ROYAL BOROUGH COUNCIL

ENDANGERED YOUNGSTERS BORN IN 1996



(Above) Second litter of Asiatic lion cubs, born in May.

(Below) Red Crowned Crane chicks.

Photo by Mike Maloney, Chief Photographer, *Mirror Group*



The Class of 96

'Fleet Street' and Chester's professional lensmen join zoo staff to bring you favourite pictures of rare and endangered youngsters born in 1996.

(Above) Young Herman, the Bactrian Camel with mother Nadia.

Photo by Andrew Price, View Finder Pictures

(Below) There's always fun and games on Chimpanzee Island.



EAST LANCASHIRE RAILWAY

Bolton Street, Bury, Lancs BL9 0EY

RE-LIVE THE GOLDEN AGE OF STEAM



BURY-RAMSBOTTOM-RAWTENSTALL

Scenic views of the West Pennine Moors on a 16-mile round trip. Passengers may break their journey at any station on route. Buffet at Bury, Bolton Street Station and on most trains. Hourly service, every weekend.

**Further information:
 Tel: 0161 - 764 7790**

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Shunter Evening	April 26th
Thomas the Tank Engine	May 3rd/4th/5th
Traction & Vintage Vehicle	May 10th/11th
Diesel Week	July 5th - 13th
Teddy Bears Picnic	August 25th
Diesel Weekend	September 12th/13th/14th
Thomas the Tank Engine	October 4th/5th
Autumn Steam Gala	October 25th/26th
Santa Specials	December

DRIVE A STEAM ENGINE
 FOR DETAILS CONTACT LOIS ON 01772 685984

Information Line: 01891 517131

FERRIES FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

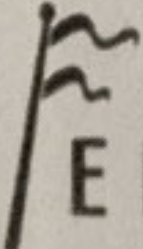
Spend a day the Ferries way!

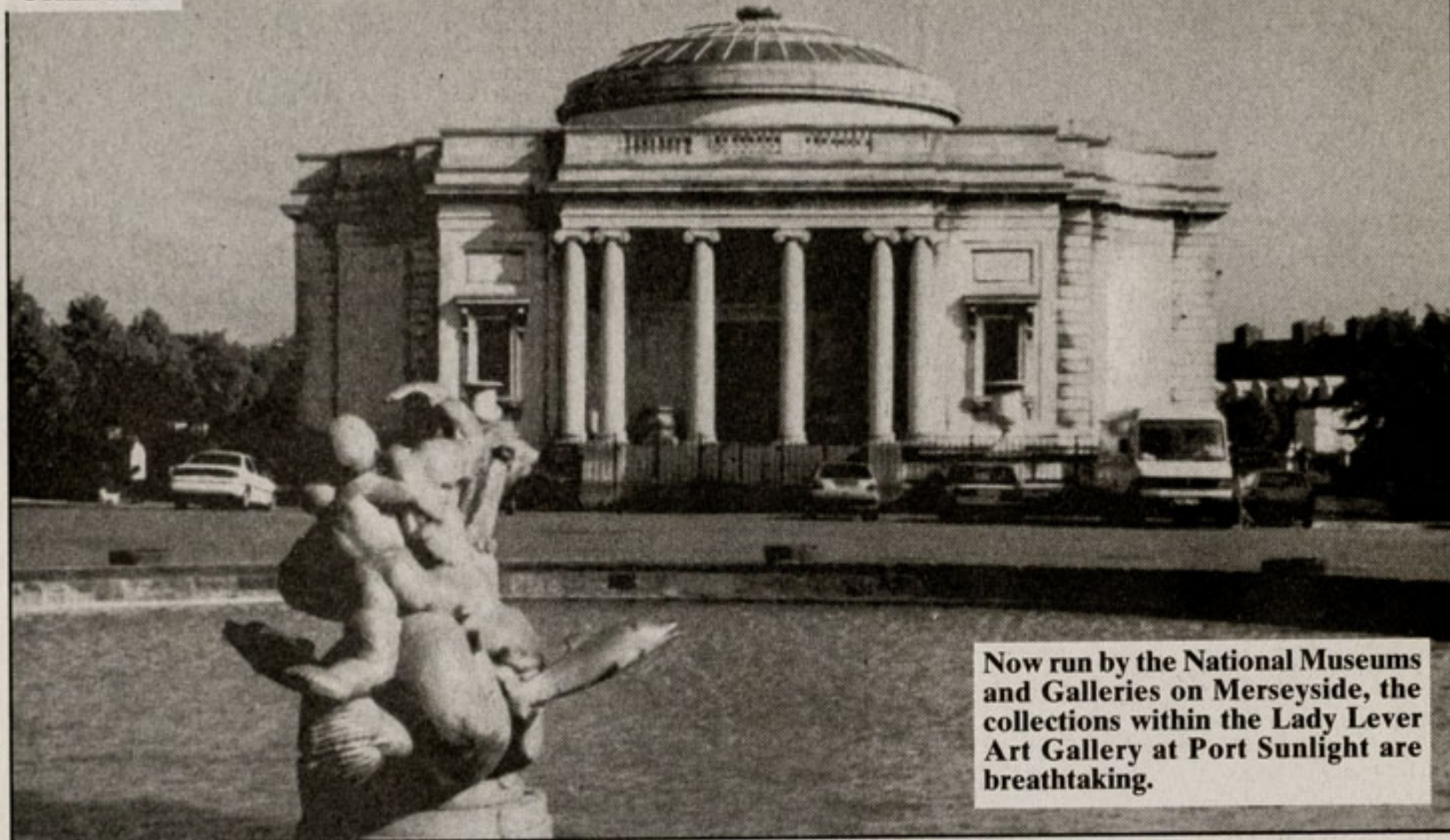
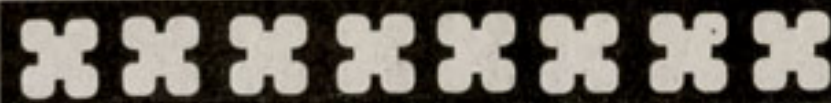
Hear the tales of the river on the Captain's commentary

Enjoy a tasty bite at Woodside Ferry Restaurant or enjoy a snack on board

Explore Seacombe Aquarium, meet creatures from the deep and get splashed by the wave machine

Sightseeing cruises run every day from 10.00am.
Special children's cruises run throughout the year.
For information on these and much, much more call us on
(0151) 330 1444

MERSEY  FERRIES



Now run by the National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside, the collections within the Lady Lever Art Gallery at Port Sunlight are breathtaking.

YOUR FAVOURITE DAYS OUT

Take a spin to ...

Quarry Bank Mill

Weaving a yarn and telling the tale of King Cotton's reign

- Restaurant
- Gift Shop
- Country Park
- 50-ton working water wheel

Styal
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 4LA
(off Junction 5
of M56)

13



01625 527468



Quarry Bank Mill
is a Registered Charity



Visit Port Sunlight

Port Sunlight is the picturesque 19th century garden village on the Wirral, founded in 1888 by William Hesketh Lever for his soap factory workers and named after his famous Sunlight soap. The village features the Lady Lever Art Gallery with its outstanding collections of art.

The Port Sunlight Heritage Centre explores the history of the village and its community through the original plans, a scale model of the village, a video of early film footage, and a recreated Victorian kitchen furnished in the style of an original Port Sunlight worker's cottage. Guided tours of this picturesque village can be arranged for group bookings.

Opening times April to end of October:

10.00 am - 4.00 pm daily

Rest of year: Mon - Fri 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

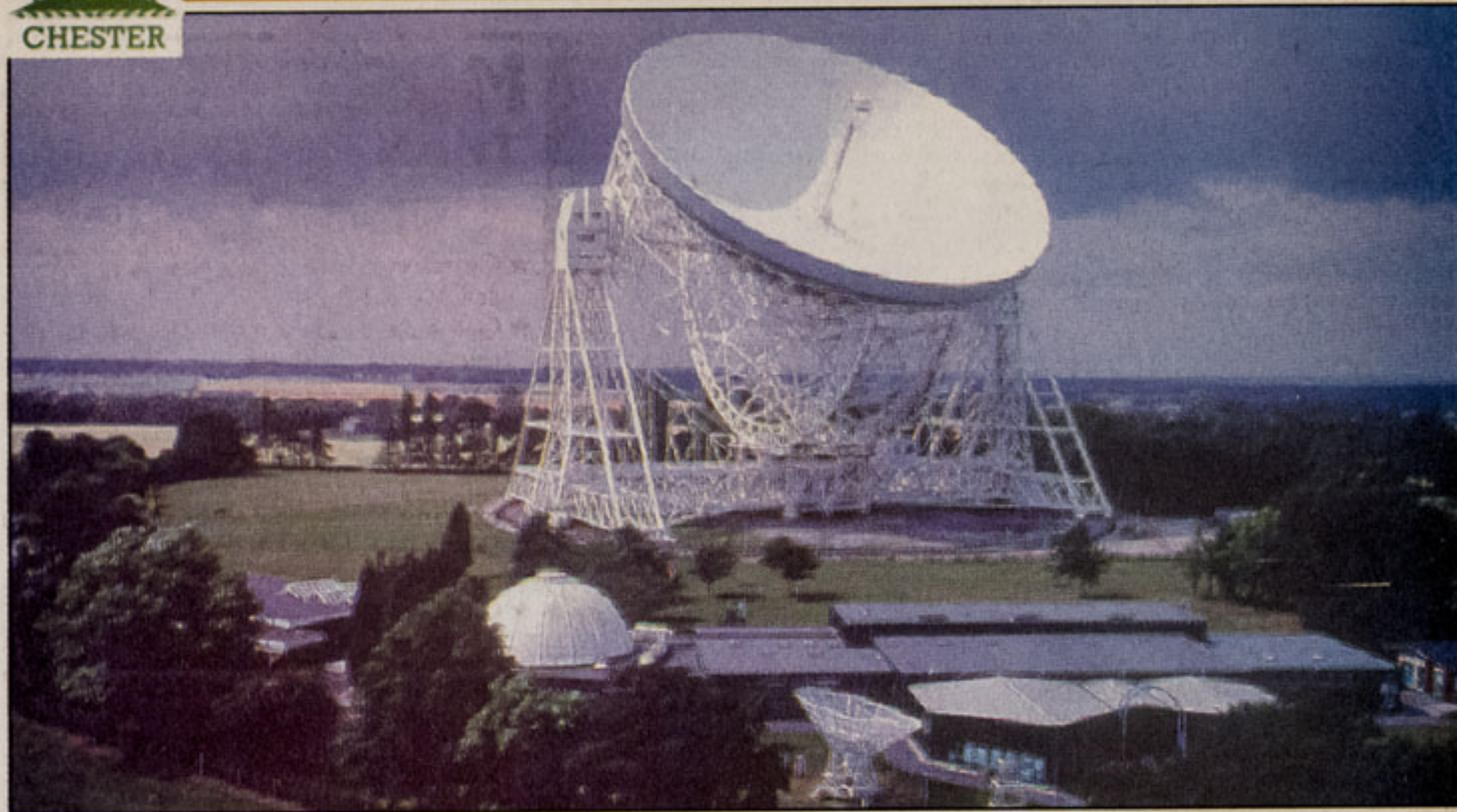
PORT SUNLIGHT HERITAGE CENTRE

95 Greendale Road, Port Sunlight, Wirral L62 4XE

0151-644 6466

3





SO MANY PLACES TO VISIT

Chris Vere continues his guided tour

8



BRIDGEMERE ~ A Garden Lovers Paradise

Acre upon acre of gardens, plants, shops and restaurant. We grow more plants in more varieties than anywhere in Europe.

The Garden Kingdom Television Garden

Encompasses 25 different gardens, including Chelsea gold medal winners, a French rose garden, Victorian and cottage gardens and the Gardeners' Diary garden where the weekly programme is filmed.

Restaurant and coffee shop. Home cooked menus, breakfast through to supper.

Garden, gift and bookshop

Events all year

FREE ADMISSION, CAR AND COACH PARKING

Small charge to Garden Kingdom Television Gardens.

Open daily: Summer until 8.00pm - Winter 5.00pm

(Closed Christmas and Boxing Day)

Bridgemere on A51 between Woore & Nantwich
 Junctions 15 and 16 on M6 follow signs 45 minutes from
 Chester or Telford. 30 minutes from Stoke-on-Trent.

Bridgemere Garden World

Nr Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 7QB

Telephone: 01270 521100



I cannot resist ice cream, and if you share my tastes, then I recommend a tasting trip to Tattenhall to the Ice Cream Farm. Cheshire milk makes Cheshire cream makes great ice cream. There are over thirty varieties - so I work it out that on a fortnightly visit, I can easily sample a new taste each time. It is a real working dairy farm, and Caroline's Pantry serves delicious teas and snacks. Or takes some Cheshire Farm Ice Cream home with you? Under the same management is the **Cheshire Workshops** site, high above the Cheshire Plain at Burwardsley. Free admission, play area for children, unique candle based crafts and a well stocked gift shop make this a great 'stopping off spot.' Cheesemaking is the latest venture!

Most easterly of the attractions in our consortium is **Quarry Bank Mill** and the adjacent Styal Country Park. This is one of the those rare discovery sites that you can visit and visit again - and it is so easy to get to from the M 56 - Junction 5 and follow the brown and white tourism signs. The mill is a Georgian water powered cotton mill, with an important place in the evolution from cottage industry to huge steam driven mills. You can see what life was like for the cotton workers, and there are demonstrations and hands on displays for you to see. The Apprentice House, close by, was home to the pauper children of the 1830's - and although we think that their twelve hour shifts may have been excessive - this was in fact a way to give many of them a skill for life and an opportunity to get away from the hideous slums of the industrial revolution towns like Manchester, where life expectancy might be as low as 35! Home made meals in the Mill Kitchen, and the Mill shop sells items woven on site. The mill is a National Trust property.

Not far from the Mill is amazing **Jodrell Bank**, with its gigantic Lovell radio telescope which is visible for miles around with its 76m bowl. (above left) dominating the Cheshire landscape. See the stars in the night sky in the planetarium, exploring the universe with ease from your seats. Marvel at the science exhibition centre, with exhibits that explain space, energy and satellites. Outside, there is the arboretum and its



AND AROUND CHESHIRE

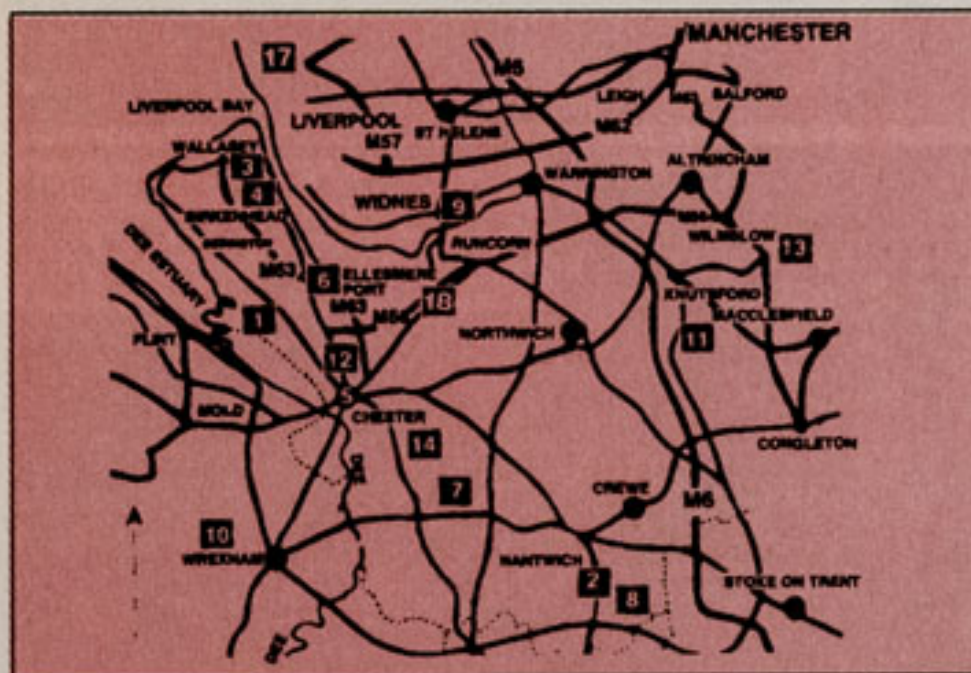


wildlife. Open 7 days a week, with a large car park. There is an exciting range of science related gifts in the shop and a large cafe with good value food.

Moving westwards along the M 56, hop over the Runcorn Bridge to **Catalyst** - the museum of the chemical industry - which is so important in Cheshire. It is well signed and offers a delightful and totally different interface to science. There are dozens of interactive opportunities with the Chemicals for Life exhibits, multi media opportunities, games puzzles and computer based quizzes. Open Tuesdays - Sundays (and Bank Holiday Mondays)

There is a warm welcome at Farmworld at Erddig, near Wrexham (just off the A 483 bypass at the junction with the A 5152). As our most recent member, it has with all the sights, sounds and smells of a working farm. Feed the lambs, watch the herd of cows being milked, take a tractor tour, and meet the stars of the site, including Brutus the bull, Roderick the stag and Silver the Shire Horse. Its a great place for a children's birthday party or a school educational trip. Bring wellies. Find out even more if you have an Internet connection on www.farmworld.co.uk!

Port Sunlight Village, astride the A 41 Birkenhead - Chester Road, was built by William Hesketh Lever for his employees in the soap factory. It retains much of its model village charm today (try the village trail), with well kept lawns and wide vistas, The Heritage Centre in Greendale Road will give you the story of Sunlight Soap. The jewel in the crown is the Lady Lever Art Gallery (National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside) with its collections of 18th century paintings and a world famous Wedgewood collection.



Ness Gardens

University of Liverpool
Botanic Gardens

Ness, Neston, South Wirral L64 4AY
(10 miles NW of Chester, off A540)
Loveliest of learning gardens,
with beauty and interest all year
round. Visit our Coffee Shops
which provide home-made cakes
and light meals. Gift Shop, Plant
Sales Area, Visitor Centre and
Picnic Area.

A LOVELY DAY OUT
Admission Charge

Telephone
0151-353 0123



1

MORE STARS THAN HOLLYWOOD

**MORE SPACE THAN YOU
COULD IMAGINE**

- ★ Get physical with our hands-on science exhibits
- ★ Get close to the gigantic Lovell radio telescope
- ★ Experience fascinating exhibitions on space, astronomy, satellites and energy
- ★ Explore the Universe through our exciting Planetarium show
- ★ Discover the trees and wildlife of our stunning Arboretum
- ★ Cafe. Large car park. Shop

OPEN 7 DAYS

Summer : From 3rd weekend in March to last weekend in Oct.

10.30am - 5.30pm

Winter: OPEN WEEKENDS ONLY

Plus Holidays & Half Terms

11am - 4.30pm

13



Jodrell Bank

SCIENCE CENTRE
& ARBORETUM
MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE
TEL: 01477 571339

THE CHESHIRE EXPERIENCE

So Much To See And Do

- Licensed Restaurant with Stunning Panoramic Views
- Unique Candle Wheel
- Food Hall
- Gift Shop
- Kiddies Play Area
- Parties Welcome



• FREE ADMISSION

BURWARDSLEY TEL: 01829 770401

- OVER 30 DIFFERENT ICE CREAMS TO TASTE •
- WORKING DAIRY FARM •



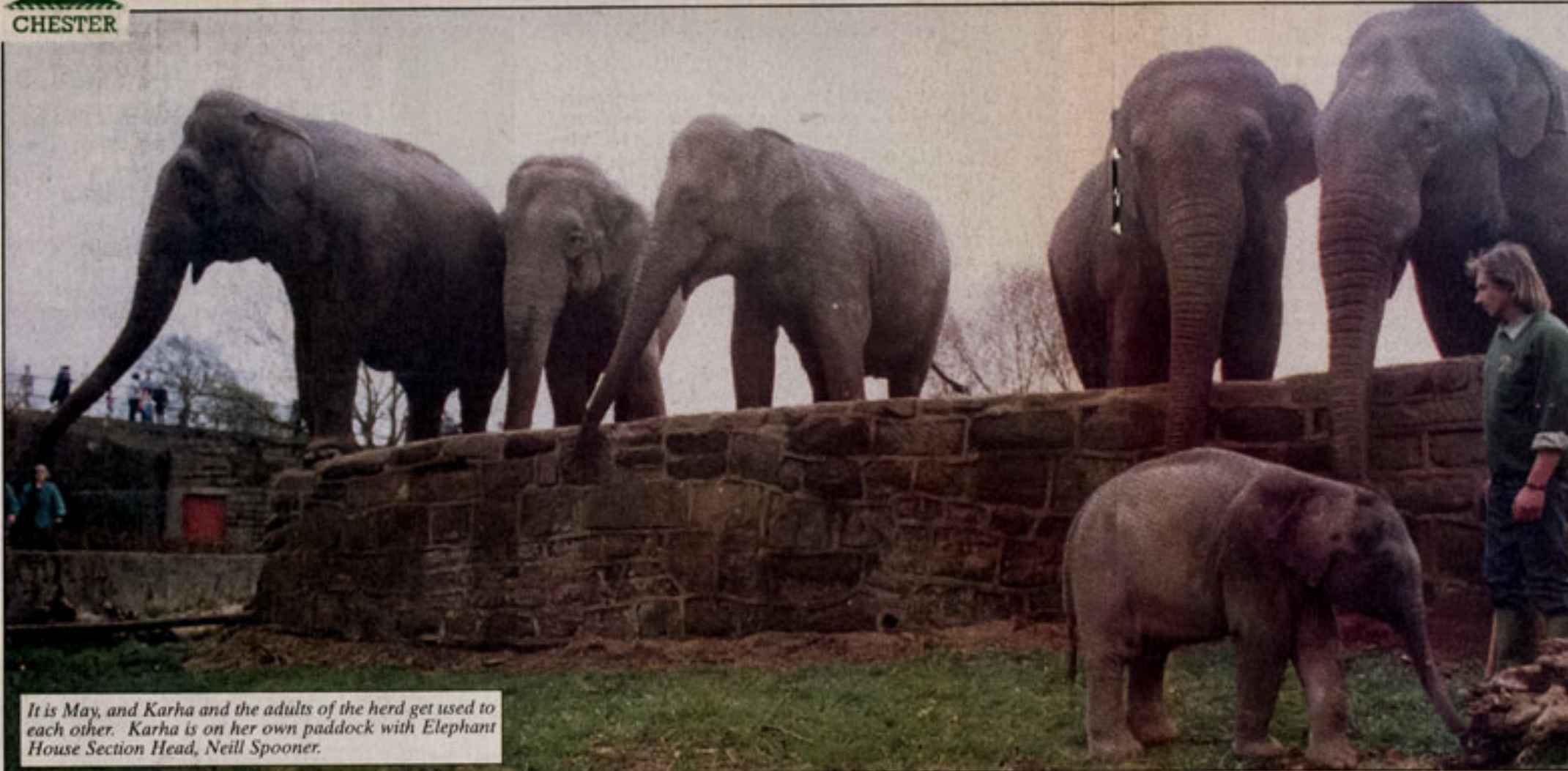
Carolines Pantry
Tea Rooms

FREE
ADMISSION

7

TATTENHALL TEL: 01829 770995

KARHA IS AN INTERNATIONAL BREEDING SUCCESS, WITH HER MOTHER FROM LONDON ZOO AND FATHER FROM DENMARK



It is May, and Karha and the adults of the herd get used to each other. Karha is on her own paddock with Elephant House Section Head, Neill Spooner.



It is vital for Karha to spend time getting used to the other elephants in the herd.

ALWAYS



FROM ALL KIOSKS AND CAFES IN THE ZOO



A first birthday treat in December 1996. Three youngsters from Acresfield School celebrate Karha's birthday by helping her have a bath.

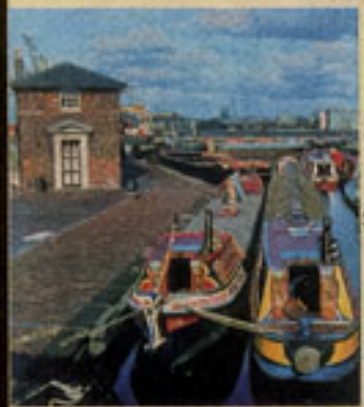
KARHA'S YEAR

With two BBC Blue Peter shows to her credit, TV appearances by the score and her book a sell out, Karha was the star of 1996 - with her dedicated team of keepers too! At the year end, she had more than tripled her birthweight, was beginning to take some solid food and had developed real character. She has grown accustomed to the other elephants in the herd, and now has her own nursery with running hot & cold water for baths on most days. As the first UK result of the international breeding programme, with mother, Thi from London, and father Chang from Denmark, Karha is a very important elephant!



On the scales, Karha was 355 kilos. The entire class of youngsters were only 50 kilos more!

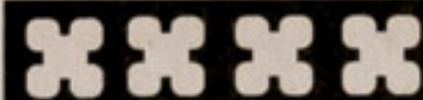
THE BOAT MUSEUM



Set within a historic dock complex with the world's largest floating collection of canal craft. A video sets the scene while, eight indoor exhibitions tell the history of canals. Together with period cottages, Power Hall, Blacksmith's Forge and Lock demonstrations. Shop. Chandlery. Café. Boat Trips. Free Parking, facilities for the disabled.

OPEN: Summer 10-5pm daily; winter 11-4pm (closed Thursday and Friday). Admission charge.

Tel: 0151 355 5017
Ellesmere Port, junction 9 off M53



COUNTY WIDE GUIDE

Start with a good guide - and you can't do better than the attractively priced publications of the County Council - the Tourism Map, Gardens Guide, Cycleway Guide, Family Leisure Guide - all available from the County Tourism and Marketing Unit at Goldsmith House in Hamilton Place in Chester. (01244 603107). Their free Great Days Out Guide to Cheshire is invaluable, and has an easy to follow map too. Pick up one at any of the Tourist Information Centres or Cheshire Libraries.

It's the combination of rich countryside to the South, and the towns and cities of the plain that makes Cheshire so attractive - with the industrial North providing museums and the canal links and easy access through the M 53 motorway links to Merseyside, The Wirral and Mersey Tunnels. East - west there is the M 62 and M 56 and the Runcorn Bridge. To the South there is the M 6. Happily now, the interminable roadworks at Warrington with the new bridge over the Ship Canal appear to be finished!

Walk the canal towpaths of the Shropshire Union and the Trent & Mersey Canals, certainly see the amazing Anderton Boat Lift and savour the living history at the Boat Museum at Ellesmere Port. Remember the importance of the salt industry - there is the Lion Salt Works to see at Marston near Northwich - the last open pan salt works in Cheshire - and at nearby Northwich in the old workhouse is the Salt Museum. For living history - look at the wonderful castles - Peckforton and Beeston on their high perched ridges, or Cholmondeley (built in 1811 - who would realise that). How about walking the 51 km of the Sandstone Trail across central Cheshire from Frodsham to Grindley Brook (The Zoo Juniors have done part of this with their leader Penny Rudd), or the Gritstone Trail touching the edge of the Pennines?

Historic homes include Tatton - (don't forget to enjoy nearby Knutsford, 'Cranford' of the novel,) and Capesthorpe home of the Lord Lieutenant, Colonel Bromley Davenport. Gawsthorpe is worth the journey. Visit the Eaton Hall Estate - home of the Duke of Westminster - the openings are usually three times a year, with receipts donated to charity. Arley Hall between Knutsford and Warrington is well worth the drive - and nearby Stockley Working Farm is a must for the youngsters. To the east of the County - there is historical Lyme Park - well known as a TV setting (and Brookside with its Garden Centre and miniature railway is a treat to enjoy). Macclesfield has its unique Silk Museum and Paradise Silk Mill. Jodrell Bank is close by - and always seems to have something new to show. The Arboretum is one of our favourite spots.

The Cheshire Show is one of the leading events of the year. The Zoo Ark is always there. The site is now at now at Tabley, with the Cuckoo Clock Museum close by.

1930'S WORKING FARM • MEDIEVAL OLD HALL • MAGNIFICENT MANSION

DISCOVER TATTON park

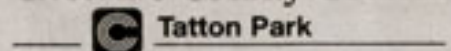


THE NORTH'S MOST POPULAR HISTORIC ATTRACTION

Tatton Park is one of England's greatest country estates. Five separate and unique sites are set in 1000 acres of beautiful deer park with two large lakes.

Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 6QN
 Infoline: 01565 750250, Junc. 19 M6, Junc. 7 M56

Cheshire County Council



60 ACRE GARDENS • DEER PARK • OUTDOOR & SAILING CENTRE

"Discover Cheshire's Secret Oasis"



P
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NORTON



R
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MUSEUM & GARDENS

2 for the price of 1 full
 paying adult before 31/10/97

Open everyday from 12 noon

Junction 11 M56 Warrington and
 follow the Norton Priory Signs

Tel: (01928) 569895

TUDOR ROAD, MANOR PARK, RUNCORN

this VOUCHER not valid on public holidays

Registered Charity No. 504870



PECKFORTON CASTLE

Open Daily 10am-6pm Easter
 March 28th until Sept 14th

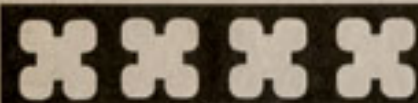
01829 260930

Medieval Re-enactment 1.30pm & 3.30pm
 Every Sunday in Season

Bring this ad to admit one FREE child with paying adult

Licensed Tea Rooms - Curios
 Four Animatronic Tour Guide Figures
 Location for 'Robin Hood' Movie 1991
 Admission Adult £2.50 - Concessions £1.50
 FREE Parking - 12 miles east of Chester

Castle Open All Year Round For
 Civil Weddings - Chapel Blessings - Receptions - Banquets - Private and Corporate Functions



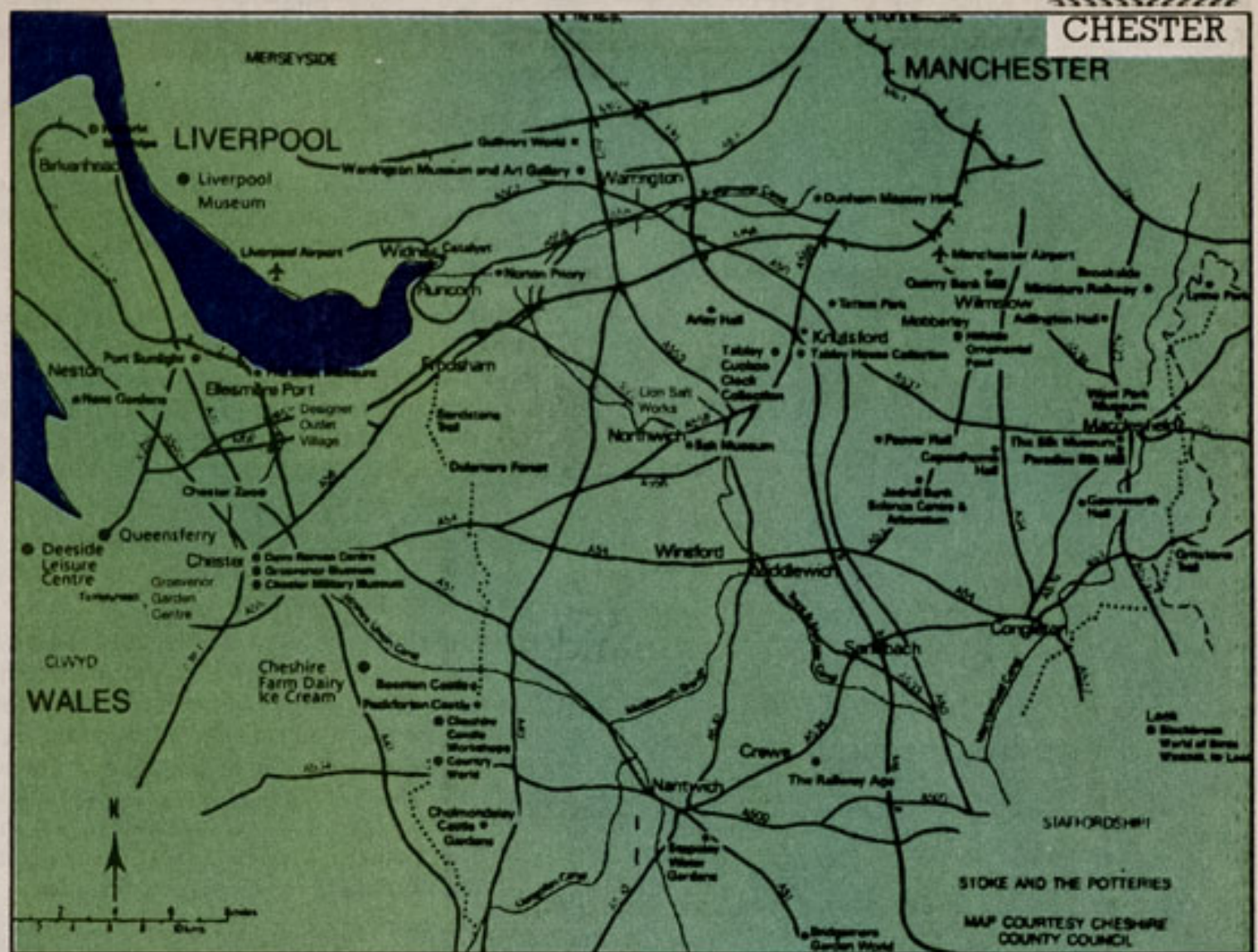
OUR CHESHIRE VISITER



Go North - and Warrington has its museum, with lively exhibitions to see, and a pedestrianised town centre and the Golden Square Shopping Centre. Gulliver's World is a theme park for the younger family, and there's some splendid Swedish styles shopping at Ikea, Toys'R'Us and the huge Marks & Spencer superstore alongside the M 62 (but you can't get to them from the Burtonwood services!).

Wilmslow is close to Mobberley and the Hillside Ornamental Fowl. Quarry Bank Mill and Dunham Massey Hall are attractive National Trust properties

To the west of the Country - South Wirral has Neston Village, and nearby Ness Botanic Gardens with views out over the Dee Estuary, and Parkgate - now quiet and peaceful but once the packet port for Ireland. The influence of the Lever empire is seen at its best in Thornton Hough - one of the most attractive villages in Cheshire as well as Port Sunlight Garden Village.



CHESHIRE PLANNER



**CHOLMONDELEY CASTLE GARDENS,
MALPAS • CHESHIRE
Telephone: 01829 720383**

Extensive pleasure gardens dominated by romantic Gothic Castle built in 1801 of local sandstone. Imaginatively laid out with fine trees & water gardens.

Lovely lakeside walks • Lakeside picnic area • Rare breeds of farm animals including llamas • Tearoom
• Attractive Gift Shop • Plants for sale in the kitchen garden • Ancient Private Chapel in the park

OPEN GOOD FRIDAY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 28th

**Good Friday, Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays
11.30-5.30pm. Wednesdays and Thursdays 12.00-5.00pm**

ADMISSION: Adults £2.50 OAPS £2.00 Children 75p

*Situated off A41 Chester/Whitchurch Road and A49
Whitchurch/Tarporley Road*



Stockley Farm, Smithy Farmhouse, Arley, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 6LZ
Tel: 01565 777323 Fax: 01565 777501

A GREAT DAY OUT FOR ALL THE FAMILY

- Tractor and trailer ride •
- Hands-on experience with feeding and caring for our animals •
- Watch cows being milked in our computerised milking parlour •
- Indoor & outdoor picnic area •
- Browse in our Gift Shop •
- Try some real dairy ice-cream and enjoy a light snack in our cafe •
- Bounce in the straw or enjoy our adventure playground and toy tractors •

OPEN from March 31 to October 6 1997, every Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays. Open every day in August except Mondays. From 12 noon to 5.30pm. Last tractor up to the farm is 4.30pm. Follow signs for Arley Hall and AA signs for Stockley Working Farm.

For more information call : 01565 777323.

Prices: £3.00 adults, £2.00 children, OAP's £2.00. Family ticket £9.00 (to include 2 adults and 2 children). Season Tickets available also, Stockley Farm is suitable for the disabled.

CHESTER - ENGLAND'S WALLED CITY

As Boswell wrote to Dr Johnson

'Chester pleases my fancy more than any town I ever saw.'....



With 2,000 years of history, from Roman garrison, major English medieval Port and regional centre, thorough 18th century prosperity, Chester retains much of the charm of its past - with near-complete Walls and the amazing first floor shopping arcades - the Rows.

Get the facts first - try the **Town Hall Tourist Information Centre**, (TIC) (01244 313126/318356) or the **Chester Visitor Centre** in Vicars Lane (01244 351609) (or if you arrive by train, the **Visitor Centre** is almost on the platform!) All three can help find accommodation and sell tickets. **The Visitors' Guide**, tells you where to stay - from the excellent Youth Hostel to the exquisite Grosvenor Hotel. The City's weekly newspaper, **The Chronicle** (Friday) lists everything. There is free monthly **What's on Guide** from the TIC.

The joy of Chester is that it is so compact that you can walk everywhere. **Guide Friday** buses circle the main streets. Giving you giraffe-like eyes, the hop-on, hop-off service saves the feet and temper.

On *the must see list* are the **Walls and Gates**, with the Eastgate Clock - claimed to be the most photographed clock in the country after Big Ben, and wonderful views to the Welsh hills and the Roodee racecourse - once the port before it silted. The 13th Century **Rows** are half timbered galleried shops high above the street, where the merchants could live and sell their goods. The **Cathedral of St Werbergh**, in red sandstone dates back 900 years, and is a close neighbour to the impressive 19th Century **Town Hall**. Don't miss the Roman heritage - the **Amphitheatre**, and the **Dewa Roman Experience** in Pierpont Lane. Join a Roman soldier on patrol. The Town Hall Tourist Information centre will tell you how..

The two great gathering places are the **Town Hall Square** -with the Cathedral and Grosvenor and Forum Shopping precincts close by, and the **Cross** (left) which was the cross roads of the Roman City. Here you can hear and see Dave McGuire, Town Crier in action.

Stroll down to the **Groves** on the banks of the River Dee There are boat trips and themed cruises. Canal trips start from the Mill Hotel in Milton Street. The **Military Museum** close to the Castle. treasures the memories of the four local regiments. Nearby is the **Grosvenor Museum** with wildlife and historical galleries. See **The Toy Museum** in Lower Bridge Street and the **Broadcasting Museum** in Bridge Street

Shopping and Eating - choose from a galaxy - from a book shop in a medieval crypt to the latest in shopping malls with all the big names. Eastgate is one of the top ten UK shopping streets. Pubs, cafes, teashops and restaurants will suit every taste and pocket.

1997 has the **Mystery Plays** (every five years) featuring Noah's Flood (and the Zoo's Ark). There's racing at the **Roodee**, the Dee Rowing Regatta, the wonders of **Grosvenor Park** close to the River, the **Gateway Theatre** and the **Market Hall**.

You cannot be bored in Chester.

EXPLORE CHESTER

By Guide Friday Open Top Bus



Your Chester Zoo ticket entitles you to a £1 (50p child) discount off your Guide Friday tour ticket.

- One of the best ways of seeing the city.
- Trained guides.
- Tickets valid all day - get on and off as often as you please.
- Complete tour, 1 hour.
- Tours depart frequently from bus stops around the city centre.
- Buy your tickets from the tour bus driver, Visitor Centre, Crosville Bus Station or Tourist Information Centre (at the Town Hall and Railway Station).

**For more information
 Telephone: (01244) 347457**



The Cheshire Military Museum at The Castle, Chester has excellent displays of memorabilia from 1690 to the present day - from Boyne to Bosnia!

For 1997 the 200 years of the Cheshire Yeomanry are celebrated with a specially commissioned tableau depicting the last mounted British cavalry action in 1941. The new Art & the Army gallery features embroidery. Try the Victorian luggage quiz!

Small charge - Open 10 to 5 daily.

NOW OPEN FOR BOOKINGS

CHESTER

UK

HOLiDAYshop

We are now taking bookings for all these

UK tour operators:

**RAINBOW • SHEARINGS • SUPERBREAK
HIGHLIFE BREAKS • WARNER HOLIDAYS
GOLDEN RAIL • HOSEASONS**

01244 402111/318356

**CHESTER U.K. HOLIDAY SHOP, TOWN HALL,
NORTHGATE STREET, CHESTER CH1 2HJ**

CONSERVING RARE AND ENDANGERED ANIMALS

Photo Dr. Roger Wilkinson



Back from the edge. World population of the Mauritius Kestrel was down to six birds before conservational breeding programmes, jointly managed by Jersey Zoo and the Government of Mauritius succeeded in raising it to over 150. We have played our part in helping re-introduce this species.

ANIMALS

The Zoo



Chester Zoo is run as a centre of excellence for animal related education, welfare, benign scientific study, and above all, conservation. As the table below shows, over a third of the species in our care are designated 'endangered' by world authorities. Our energies must be towards making sure that these species survive in our Ark. This means that our curators and keepers liaise with other zoos around the world, so that the best breeding results are achieved. Our 'animal travel agency', run by Senior Animal Division Administrative Officer, Penny Rudd co-ordinates animal movements all over the world, dealing swiftly with the myriad paperwork needed. Lion cubs have gone to Moscow,



CHESTER ZOO CONSERVATION SCOREBOARD

- 500+ Species
- 212 'endangered'
- 158 of these successfully bred
- 31 Reintroduction programmes with Chester involvement

(Source: Zoo Guide Book)



Blackbrook World of Birds

Enjoy a day with a difference amongst an amazing collection of birds in an attractive moorland setting. Cranes, owls, waterfowl, pheasants and many more!

Also children's farm and pet area, Reptile and Insect House, Aquarium, Talks & Displays.

Gift Shop with light refreshments. Picnic areas inside and out. Open Daily from April 1st to October 31st 11.30am-5.30pm. Also November 1st to March 31st weekends only. Situated off A523 (Leek to Ashbourne Road).

Blackbrook World of Birds, Winkhill, Nr Leek, Staffs.

Tel: 01538 308293 or 01565 873282



ANIMALS ARE OUR ONLY SHAREHOLDERS

IN DANGER

Mission

an Orang utan went to Southern France, a Chimpanzee to Africa, an Orang Utan has flown in from Australia - and many many more, both inside this country and abroad.!

Increasingly, we export our animal management skills and information to countries in the Third world, so that we can pass on what we know. We are members of the World Conservation Union, and the World Zoo Organisation - and through these two international bodies, Chester played a major role in writing the World Zoo Conservation Strategy in 1993, which is a landmark policy document linking major zoos right across the world in a common purpose.



Our nearest relatives

With over 80 youngsters born and reared in our colony, we are making sure that our nearest relatives are less threatened. We are closer to chimpanzees - genetically - than chimps are to gorillas!

Experience the Wetland Adventure for children and the thrill of feeding rare, exotic ducks, geese, swans and flamingos by hand. **All this and lots more.**

MARTIN MERE

Martin Mere, Burscough. Located six miles from Ormskirk, 10 miles from Southport. Signposted from M61, M58 and M6, off A59. **Tel: 01704 895181**

WINDMILL animal farm

A Great Family Day



A GREAT FAMILY DAY
OPEN Easter - Mid Sept, 10am-5pm Daily, Oct-Easter, Weekends & School Holidays
Red Cat Lane, Burscough, close to Martin Mere.
01704 892282

it's wild by nature



WWT

TWYXCROSS ZOO

The Internationally renowned Conservation Centre

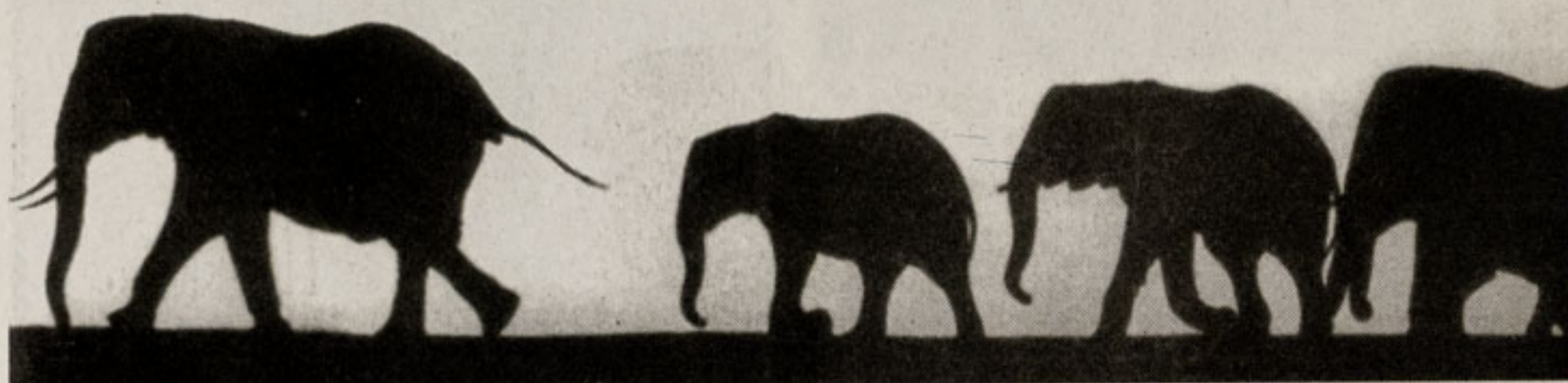
On A444 Burton Nuneaton Rd directly off M42 J11
 OPEN DAILY FROM 10AM (Closed Christmas Day)

- ★ Over 1000 animals in 50 acres of parkland
- ★ Breeding endangered species
- ★ Pet's corner
- ★ Children's adventure playground
- ★ Free parking, gift shops, cafeterias, licensed bar, picnic areas
- ★ Plus summer attractions

Tel: 01827 880250

CONSERVING RARE AND ENDANGERED ANIMALS

African elephants - Knowsley Safari Park has the largest herd in the UK.



WORKING TOGETHER FOR

Editor's note

There is so much to chose in our area, and this page lists the majority of wildlife attractions close to Chester. But please note that these details are not necessarily exhaustive, and inclusion (or omission) does not imply endorsement (or otherwise) from Chester Zoo.

Most UK Zoos are members of the Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain and Ireland. The Federation maintains a small secretariat in London, and helps with inter zoo liaison and publicity for its 50+ members as well as being a focus for interchange of information on a world wide basis. The address is Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain & Ireland, c/o Zoological Gardens, Regents Park, London NW 1 4 RY. Telephone 0171 586 0230. FAX 0171 722 4427

Of the Federation members in area, **Blackpool Zoo** in East Drive,

Stanley Park, Blackpool (Telephone 01253 765027) is run by the Borough of Blackpool in an inland parkland setting, away from the promenade and Pleasure Beach. The site is over 32 acres, and features wide open spaces for visitors, and generally level access everywhere and a wheelchair service for disabled visitors as well as mother and baby facilities and pushchairs for toddlers. Having welcomed visitors for 25 years, there are buses from the town centre in the season, and free parking. See animal meals being prepared in the kitchen, and rattle round the park on Wild west miniature train. Chester has exchanged camels with Blackpool, and our Junior members reckon it one of their best trips. Penguins swim in clear water, there is a gibbon island, and gorillas are always popular with the visitors.

The **Welsh Mountain Zoo** at Colwyn Bay - 01492 532938 - is attractively landscaped on a hill site that over looks the town a mile or so away. There is a free mini bus connection to the railway station. The recently built Chimp Encounter uses multimedia techniques, there are daily displays of falconry and a Sea lion feeding with keeper's commentary. Red squirrels, European otters, Pine Martens, Welsh Polecats, Fallow deer and ravens are some of the species of British wildlife. Youngsters will enjoy the Jungle adventureland and Tarzan Trails. New for 1997 is Bear Island.

Twycross Zoo in the Midlands (01827 880250), near Atherstone has a world wide reputation for its breeding of primates, and has the only Bonobos in the UK. Once known as Pigmy Chimpanzees, their intelligence is amazing. In a parkland setting, Twycross has been a very popular destination for Zoo Member's Visits, and presently we have two of their young cow elephants, Minbu and Tonzi on breeding loan. There are adventure playgrounds for children, first class education facilities and free parking.

Once the animal collection at **Knowsley** rivalled that of the Zoological Society of London, but on the death of the 13th Earl of Derby, the collection was dispersed. Now the Safari Park, with some 200 hectares (over 450 acres) which was opened in 1971 is a major attraction, with the largest group of African Elephants in the country, lions, tigers, zebra and wildebeest - one of the largest herds in conservation.



OPEN TO VISITORS:
Each Wednesday, Saturday &
Sunday and Bank Holiday
Mondays
11.30am to 5pm Easter until
31st October JULY and
AUGUST - OPEN DAILY
except Thursdays

Groups taken by arrangements on other days

Hillside Ornamental Fowl

Mobberley, Nr Knutsford, Cheshire

Tel: 01565 873282

(adjacent to the Roebuck Inn)

*An unusual and varied
collection of birds including
penguins, pelicans, flamingos
and waterfowl in
an award winning
setting.*



ANIMAL WORLD & THE BUTTERFLY HOUSE

Come along for a fascinating day out at Moss Bank Park, Bolton Experience the sights & sounds of a tropical rain forest, & see some of the world's most beautiful butterflies & moths in free flight, amongst waterfalls & streams.

IT'S FREE!

Activities include:

Animal World & Butterfly House, Old English Walled Garden, Extensive Children's Play Area, Miniature Railway, Rock Garden, Pitch & Putt, Tennis Courts.
Refreshments available in the Park.

Why not come along for a superb day out? Open Daily from 10am-5pm, Park Open 24hrs.
Moss Bank Park, Moss Bank Way, Bolton Tel: 01204 846157



ANIMALS ARE OUR ONLY SHAREHOLDERS



ANIMAL CONSERVATION

The 90 or so baboons of the Monkey Jungle climb over visitors' cars, and it is important to keep windows tightly closed. Ostriches are new to the site. Three white rhino calves have been born at Knowsley, and there are high hopes of further births. There are extra visitor facilities, including a new restaurant and souvenir centre, linked by covered walkways once the 5 mile circuit through the reserves is complete. There is a splendid new Pet's Corner, completed in 1996 and a swan sanctuary. See the reptile house, sea lion feeding, and try the miniature railway ride. Picnic sites and large car park. The park closes during the winter period.

Specialist Collections.

The **Chestnut Centre** at Chapel en le Frith in Derbyshire is always popular with our Junior Members. It is a haven for otters and owls - 01298 814099. Remember that the Peak District does catch quite a lot of rain, and be prepared for the odd passing shower.

The **Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust** at Martin Mere, near Burscough (01704 895181) has extensive facilities both for the serious bird enthusiast, and for those who enjoy a informative visit. The adventure playground for youngsters is extremely well laid out, and deservedly popular, and visitor facilities include a well stocked shop, cafeteria, and free parking. You can feed the birds on most of the lakes and enjoy ample information about the site.

The **Blackbrook World of Birds** at Winkhill near Leek in Staffordshire (01565 873282) has cranes, owls, waterfowl and pheasants in an attractive moorland setting, and is open from Easter until the end of October. Under the same management is Hillside Ornamental Fowl near Mobberley, Knutsford, Cheshire (01565 873282) with penguins, pelicans, ibis and flamingos in an award winning haven for birds.. In 1996, the first King Penguin chick arrived A great spot for afternoon tea with a difference!

Further away in the Lake District **The Owl Centre** at Muncaster near Ravenglass (01229 717614) has been visited by our Members.

Stapeley Water Gardens has a well stocked and lively animal collection within The Palms - their huge tropical centre with its own restaurant and education facilities (01270 628628)



- Over 400 Animals
- Fun & Educational
- Regular Feeding Times
- Free Parking
- Mother & Baby Room
- Great Value Day Out

BLACKPOOL ZOO, EAST PARK DRIVE, FY3 8PP
(01253) 765027

Aquaria

Anglesey Sea Zoo (01248 430411) is an aquarium with a difference, and has some excellent surprises. Winding lanes lead you there from the Menai Straits Bridge - great place for picnics. The Zoo Junior Members love it. Close by are the **Pili Palas Butterfly Farm** (01248 712474) and **Foel Farm Park** with animal feeding, play areas and tractor rides (01248 430646). The two **Sea Life Centres** in our area are at Rhyl (01745 344660) and Blackpool (01253 22445). The **Seacombe Submarine** is a Merseyside aquarium with a difference at the Seacombe Ferry terminal (0151 630 1030) and the **Liverpool Museum Aquarium and Vivarium** is at William Brown Street, Liverpool (0151 207 0001/5451)



On A58 Prescot By-Pass, exit 2 off M57

Enjoy a five-mile safari through 450 acres of historic parkland containing large groups of lions, tigers, monkeys, elephants, wildebeest, buffalos, rhinos, zebra, camels and many others.

View the animals from the comfort of your car in their spacious and natural surroundings.

New restaurant & souvenir centre for this year.

Also sea lion shows, amusement park, pets' corner, reptile house, picnic areas, large car/coach parks, disabled facilities.

Games Reserves open daily from 10am-4pm

KNOWSLEY SAFARI PARK
Prescot, Merseyside L34 4AN
Telephone: 0151 430 9009



Karha's new bathroom

A is for Aalborg in Denmark, one of Europe's Sustainable Cities (like Chester) and co-hosts with Chester of the 1997 International Zoo Marketing Conference. At the top tip of Denmark, you'll be made very welcome at its Zoo. ! Aquaria - favourites are the Sea Zoo in Anglesey, at Bolton (Central Library Building), Liverpool Museum, Sea Life Centres at Rhyl and Blackpool and the Seacombe Submarine at the Mersey Ferry Terminal. And don't forget Chester Zoo's impressive results with Aquarists Mike Crumpler and Justin Bell. Ark Shop - at the Zoo's entrance for a great range of gifts. Animal Adoptions - talk to Mary McManus on 01244 650204

B for Boat Museum at Ellesmere Port, the Welsh wonders of Bodnant Gardens and Bodelwyddan Castle (do them together), Blackbrook World of Birds near Leek in Staffordshire and Bridgemere and Brookside Garden Centres in Cheshire. Blackpool for its Zoo in Stanley Park and Borderlands - west of Chester, see page 34 - 35.



THE BUNNY FARM

Lots of Bunnies & Other Farm Animals



ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND



FARM TRAIL



Open Daily 10.30am - 5.30pm
from Easter to October

(Closed Mondays except Bank Holidays)

Open every day during July and August

Admission £2.75 Adults, £1.75 Children, £2.25

Senior Citizens, £8.00 Family Rate (2+2)

Find us on the A5104 approx 2 miles from Corwen

Tel: (01490) 413180

Corwen, North Wales



Bring this ad along for one free child admission with two full paying adults

Bunny Farm - head for Corwen. See advertisement below to save money. Bistro - best around is Tom Henry's in Burscough St, Ormskirk. 01695 578580. Save money see page 11.

C for the Crosville Buses that speed visitors to the Zoo (40 and 40a from the Bus Exchange), Chester City (see page 24) The Chestnut Centre for its Giant Otters and Owls (Chapel en le Frith in Derbyshire) Cholmondeley Castle near Malpas, Cheshire - and Catalyst at Widnes, Museum of the Chemical industry. Cheshire Oaks - biggest shopping mall in the UK - Junction 10 on the M53. Condor Cliffs - the huge new aviary at the zoo - complete with llama 'skeleton'.

D for Deeside Leisure Centre - see how you cut the ice! Nearby Kentucky Fried Chicken has tasty offers for you (see page 9).

E is for the East Lancs Railway - try a steam train from Bury to Rawtenstall. Eating outdoors. The Zoo has a great range of sandwiches, handy kiosks and vending machines and some great picnic lawns.

F - The Firs Pottery Shop - always new ideas - see page 11. Fergie - one of the Zoo's Sea Lions, Ferries cross the Mersey, Farms - Farmworld near Erddig, Windmill Animal Farm by Martin Mere near Burscough, Tatton's Home Farm, Stockley near Northwich - all give children a real experience. FFI - Fauna & Flora International - Penny Rudd at the Zoo will give you the details - 01244 650215. Fun cameras - on sale in our Zoo shops.

G for Guide Friday whose open top buses show you Chester (keep your ticket - it saves you money on zoo entry). Gardens - Ness, Chester Zoo, Bodnant, Tatton, and Garden Centres - Brookfield, Bridgemere, Stapeley, The Grosvenor in Chester - all great value. Guide Book - Chester's guide has a free child's ticket inside and full zoo maps. You will be lost without it!

H for Haigh Hall - just outside Wigan, with its Country Park and Frangers, Hawkstone Park and Follies near Shrewsbury - a real eye opener, Hillside near Mobberley with its birds. Haven holidays - you can win one in our Painting Competition - page 38,

I is for Ice Cream - and in the zoo this means the wonders of Walls. Cheshire Dairy Ice Cream - the Ice Cream Farm at Tattenhall is your place. IMAX is the amazing cinema at Bradford with the largest screen in the UK and some wonderful wildlife films. Internet - Chester is the first UK zoo with a site and has already won a Golden Paws prize. See WWW.

J is for Jodrell Bank, where you can reach for the stars, Jubilee the Elephant who is 20 this year and Jamboree Days - in the autumn at the Zoo when youth groups get special discounts. Jane Lawson runs the Group Sales Office at the Zoo and can advise on (almost) any function you want. 01244 650209.



TO GO AND WHAT TO DO

Kis for Karha - the baby elephant who has taken the UK by storm. She's now getting on for 400 kilos, beginning to take solid food and has her own nursery now, with hot and cold water. You will have seen her on TV too - *Blue Peter* and Granada. Souvenirs, post cards T Shirts - all at the Ark Shop at the Entrance. Knowsley Safari Park, with its African elephants - gets better and better. KFC - that's Kentucky Fried Chicken in Ellesmere Port and Queensferry (see page 9). Kodak - film suppliers at the Zoo - and batteries, videotape and cameras all at the Ark and Fountain Shops.

Lis for Liverpool - home of the Museums and Galleries on Merseyside - and the Mersey ferries and Royal Liver Assurance who can give helpful hints on your finances - 0800 66 11 11. Let's Make Centre at the zoo - now in Jubilee Square thanks to help from NWS Bank.

Mfor Martin Mere with wonderful birds at Burscough, Mersey Ferries, McDonalds - always a hit with the children with branches in Chester at Foregate Street, Bromborough - (Drive in) - Widnes - (Drive in), and at Cheshire Oaks and Ellesmere Port, - see the back page. Membership of the Zoo - Maureen on 01244 650203 will tell you how to join. Museums - Boat Museum at Ellesmere Port, The Grosvenor and the Military Museum in Chester, Catalyst at Widnes, Liverpool Museum, and Yesteryear at Stapeley. Highly recommended Monkey Islands - see how the Zoo has transformed the old Monkey house - now there are outside islands, with moats, great waterfalls and so much more space. Fully open in the late Spring - Phase I - with Black Macaques now open. Merseyrail - get a ticket from any of their stations that includes rail, bus and zoo entry at a special price. Merseysbus - their 11c/12c Sunday services are handy to know about, linking Liverpool to the Zoo. Mia - the zoo's baby giraffe.

N- Norton Priory at Runcorn - a delight. Drop by in this haven of calm. Well signed. (special offer - p22).

Ofor the wings of a dove - well - see them free flying in the Tropical realm at the Zoo - and Ostriches at Chester and Knowsley.

P- Peckforton Castle - one of the great gothic sites - well known in films (special offer pg.22). Award winning Visitor attraction of the year on Merseyside - Port Sunlight Heritage Centre, with a Trail, and secret of the soaps. Penguins hear the keeper's commentary everyday at 4pm at the Zoo. Park N'Ride - revolutionising access to Chester. Or let the girls go to Chester and rest of the family to the zoo. Upton Park and Ride - just off the A41 and close to the zoo entrance. President of the Zoo - that is the Duke of Westminster, who opened Condor Cliffs last year after a bequest from his late aunt, Sally Duchess of Westminster. 'She will like this' he said.

Qfor Quarry Bank Mill near Styal - a refreshing day out, - part of the National Trust.

Rfor railways - choose the Zoo's monorail, miniature at Knowsley, Moss Bank Park, Bolton, Brookside and Blackpool Zoo, narrow gauge at Welshpool and Llanfair, and the Ffestiniog, standard gauge at Bury, and Llangollen and the Railway Age at Crewe..

Sfor Steam that gets in your eyes from railways, Stapeley Water Gardens, Stockley Farm, Shopping - the Designer Outlet Village at Cheshire Oaks is the spot. Or choose the City of Chester with its unique first floor rows.

Tfor Tatton - where Sam Yould of radio fame is the Head Gardener, and there is so much to see. Twycross Zoo - one of our favourites, and two of their young elephants have had a breeding trip to meet Chang at Chester. Trams - ride the rails at Birkenhead from the Woodside Ferry or choose nostalgia at Crich in Derbyshire. Tom Henrys at Ormskirk - Best bistro around. 01695 578580.

Uis Upali. Who is Upali U ask ? We'll tell you after Easter ! Clue above right.

Vis for Vale Royal, with great tourism opportunities see page 13.

Wis Why not get off to Wigan Pier with its The Way We Were exhibition, Victorian schoolroom, canal boat trips, the great mill engine at Trencherfield - it is a great day out for the family, and there's nearby Haigh Hall too. Wales - it begins just over the Grosvenor Bridge, Welsh Mountain Zoo at Colwyn Bay with so much to see. Windmill Farm near Burscough for contact with farm animals, the Welshpool and Llanfair Railway and Wirral - the sea surrounded Metropolitan Borough just up the motorway or A 41. Ferries, Aquarium, Hamilton Square, New Brighton Promenade, Walks and views, its all their for the asking at Wirral Leisure Services on 0151 647 2366. WWW - check the zoo site on <http://www.demon.co.uk/chesterzoo>. It is maintained by John Benbow - a very talented member.

Xis for the expressway - the great A 55 that links the Welsh Coast to Chester.

Ynot have your party at the Zoo - Jane or Sue will tell you all you need to know - 01244 650209.

Zis still for the Zorilla - a pungent pole cat. (Who thought Zebra was last!) and Zurich Zoo who sent us two black rhinos and Upali (right).



Upali is coming! ▶



CHESTNUT CENTRE

The Chestnut Centre, founded in 1984, is set in the hills of the Peak District National Park and houses Europe's largest collection of multi-specied otters and owls including Britain's only pair of giant otters.

Our award winning otter and owl enclosures are situated on an extensive circular nature trail which meanders through the historic wooded parkland laid out by previous occupiers of nearby Ford Hall.

Otter and Owl conservation park

Wander along the tree and stream lined walks and experience the close and exciting proximity of this world of otters and owls in near natural surroundings.

OPEN ALL YEAR

Chestnut Centre Conservation Park
 Castleton Road, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire SK12 6PE
 Tel. 01298 814099 Fax. 01298 816213



NORTH WALES VISITER



Cleaning inside tanks at the Sea Zoo, Anglesey



Bodnant Garden

Tal-y-Cafn, Colwyn Bay, Clwyd

Eighty acres of magnificent garden in the beautiful Conwy Valley, Rhododendrons, camellias and magnolias in Spring, with the famous Laburnum Arch and azaleas flowering mid May to mid June. The summer months give a show of Hardaceous plants, water lillies, hydrangeous and roses, followed by superb Autumn colour.

Open mid-March to end of October, daily 10am-5pm. Refreshments Pavilion ~ Plant Sales area ~ Gift Shop.

8 miles south of Llandudno and Colwyn Bay off A470
Telephone: (01492) 650460 Fax: (01492) 650448

AMAZING WALES

Just down the road is the wonderland of Wales. Linked to Chester via the A 55 Expressway - you can be in Anglesey in an hour. Here are some of the special things that await you - and inland - for we are in Borderlands Country too. The Zoo is a member of the North Wales Tourism, The Welsh Borderlands Consortium and a regular contributor to Marcher Sound radio station.



BODELWYDDAN CASTLE

St Asaph (off the A55)

Magnificent Victorian Castle and Estate

- Stunning furnished rooms with collections from the National Portrait Gallery, V&A and Royal Academy.
- Hands-on Victorian amusements and inventions galleries
- Exhibitions and events programme
- Grounds, gardens, woodland walk, picnic and children's activity areas.

A GREAT DAY OUT FOR ALL THE FAMILY

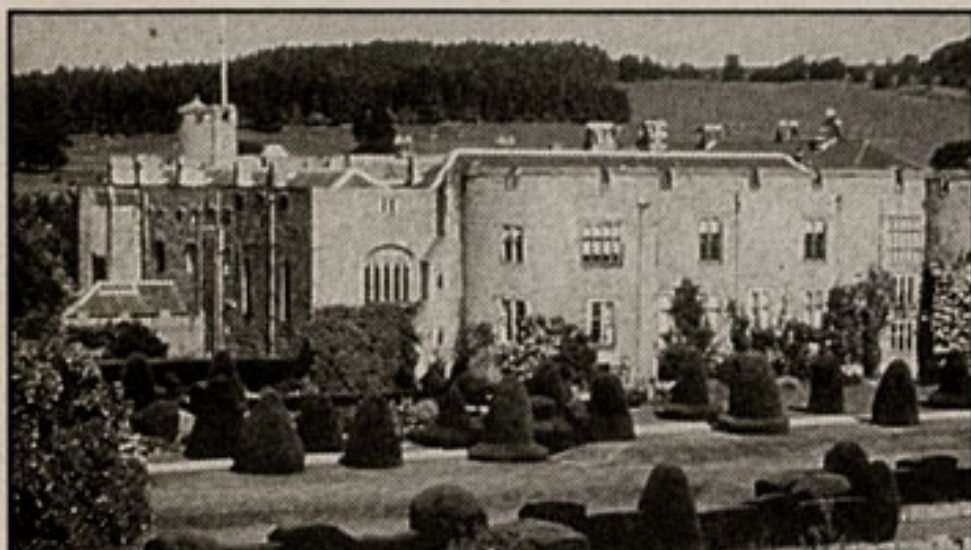
• OPEN ALL YEAR •

Winner of the Museum of the Year Award

Tel: 01745 584060 Fax: 01745 584563, Bodelwyddan Castle Trust
A Registered Charity



NORTH WALES VISITER



From Chester - head along the A 55, and then the A 483 for Wrexham. The children will love Farmworld at Erddig, and Erddig itself, described as 'the most evocative upstairs downstairs house in Britain' must be seen. Its National Trust companion - Chirk Castle (above) - is further south on the A 483. Take the A 5 westwards for historic Llangollen, with its wharf and steam railway, and further on at Corwen, indulge yourself in rabbitry at the Bunny Farm. A494 for Bala and lakeside railway - and on to Blaenau Ffestioniog for arguably one of the finest narrow gauge railway experiences - the Ffestiniog. Slate Caverns at Llechwedd and nearby Italianate Portmerion, see the dream of Sir Clough William Ellis.

Visit the castles at Harlech, Caernarfon, Beaumaris on Anglesey and Conwy which - like Chester, has its walls almost intact. Don't miss the Butterfly Jungle and nearby Bodnant Gardens. In Southern Anglesey at Brynsiencyn are the Sea Zoo and Foel Park Farm - a great duo for the children. Walk down the rabbit hole at the Alice in Wonderland centre in Llandudno. Do the Zoo at Colwyn Bay, Sea Life Centre and Sunworld at Rhyl. Haven has sites at Presthaven and Tyn Mawr. Bodelwyddan beckons on the A 55 at St Asaph with its wonderful Victorian hands-on amusements, 19th century portraits from the National Portrait Gallery and furniture from the Victoria & Albert Museum. Bargains at nearby Tweedmill Factory Shopping. On no account miss the Greenfield Valley Heritage Park near Holywell, or Loggerheads Country Park near Mold.

Drive south for another favourite narrow gauge railway - the Welshpool and Llanfair, which ambles through picturesque and ever changing countryside - over steep hills and past quiet farms along a secluded river valley from a bustling market town to a peaceful farming community. Dedicated yet friendly staff maintain a tradition of railway working that has all but disappeared from the modern world. 01938 810441. Its great.



- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Anglesey Sea Zoo | 9. Ruthin Craft Centre |
| 2. Foel Farm Park | 10. Loggerheads Country Park |
| 3. Pili Palas | 11. Bersham Ironworks |
| 4. Conwy and Conwy Butterfly Jungle | 12. Alice in Wonderland Visitor Centre |
| 5. Bodnant Gardens | 13. St. David's Hotel |
| 6. Welsh Mountain Zoo | 14. Erddig |
| 7. Sea Life Centre | 15. Chirk |
| 8. Bodelwyddan Castle | 16. Greenfield Valley |

WELSHPOOL & LLANFAIR RAILWAY

Take a trip round the World!

On the Welshpool and Llanfair Narrow Gauge Railway.

- ★ Steam trains from three continents.
- ★ A 16-mile trip through beautiful Mid-Wales
- ★ Services Easter to October, and Christmas
- ★ Stations are alongside the A458 Shrewsbury - Dolgellau road.

Telephone:

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a world full of surprises.*

Shipwreck, Conger Eels,
Waves, Big Fish Forest.
NEW Touching Ray Pool
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Prices held for 1997

Full facilities

Ring us for details.

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ANGLESEY SEA ZOO,

BRYNSIENCYN

ISLE OF ANGLESEY

A LAND TO DISCOVER



Erddig - The National Trust's evocative 'upstairs downstairs' house and gardens - close to Wrexham



Plas Newydd and the Ladies of Llangollen Plas Newydd a Ladis Llangollen

Plas Newydd was once the home of 'The Ladies of Llangollen'. They lived there together from 1780-1829 and became celebrated throughout the country as the story of their romantic friendship spread throughout Regency Society. Today, the house retains the Gothic features that they introduced, while the grounds contain the peace and tranquility that the ladies sought.

Prices: Adults £2.00; Children £1.00; Family £5.00. 15% off for groups of 20+ 1 teacher free in school groups of 1-10. Free access to pre-school curriculum groups from Denbighshire schools.

Plas Newydd, Hill Street, Llangollen, Denbs LL20 8AW.
 Tel: (01978) 861314



The North Wales BORDERLANDS

Set in the scenic countryside, only a few miles from bustling Chester and the Zoo are the family attractions that make the North Wales Borderlands Tourist consortium. Step back in time to find medieval castles and historic houses. Drive through remote moorland, mountain passes and attractive market towns, including Llangollen home to the world famous international Musical Eisteddfod which is from 8th - 13th July 1997. For the energetic, try hillwalking, cycling, rock climbing and scrambling, canoeing or orienteering. Children of all ages will love the variety that is on offer - a working farm, industrial heritage parks, the Llangollen Steam Railway, canal trips, the wonderful National Trust properties at Erddig (above) and Chirk Castle - and the official BBC Dr Who Exhibition.

Award
 Winners



ERDDIG, WREXHAM

Off A483 Wrexham By-Pass, just south of town

- ★ Pony Rides On George, Crystal, Max or Tiffany
- ★ Meet Silver the Shire Horse
- ★ See Brutus the Stag
- ★ Feed the Lambs ★ Cafe
- ★ Tractor Tours ★ Shop

A 300 acre working farm with adventure playground cuddle corner and lots more.

OPEN everyday Feb-mid Nov
 local for schools

01978 840697

Check out Chirk Castle



for a great family day out

A 700 year old marcher fortress, with a dramatic dungeon and a drum tower at each corner

Elegant state rooms, beautiful formal gardens, National Trust shop & licenced tea room

Events throughout the season include:-
 children's fun days with Trusty the Hedgehog;
 open air plays, inc Peter Pan, and educational days giving a taste of life at the castle during Elizabethan times

Open daily ex. Mon & Tues until 28 September
 (open bank holiday Mondays)

4 Oct - 2 Nov: Sat & Sun only

Garden 11am - 6pm Castle 12 - 5pm

(Last admissions 4.30pm)

Adult £4.40

Child £2.20

Family (2 + 2) £11 National Trust members free

For information ☎01691 777701



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 THE NATIONAL TRUST



A LAND TO DISCOVER

BORDERLANDS WHO'S WHO

OUR HOTELS:

The St David's and the All Season's Lodge off the A 55 in Flintshire; Bryn Awel and Beaufort Park in Mold. The Hand, the Royal and Bryn Howel at Llangollen and Bodidris Hall at nearby Llandegla, the Hand at Chirk, Cross Lanes at Marchiel, near Wrexham and Ruthin Castle; Rossett Hall and Llyndir Hall at Rossett - all assure you of a warm welcome.

Our Llangollen Farm and Country Houses offer excellent bed and breakfast facilities.

ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE:

Chester Zoo and the Boat Museum at Ellesmere Port, Chirk Castle, Erddig Hall and nearby Farmworld, Greenfield Valley Heritage Park near Holywell and Loggerheads Country Park near Mold.

In Llangollen, visit the railway, wharf and Dr Who exhibition, Plas Newydd house and the 1997 International Eisteddfod. Also try Plas Madoc Leisure Centre near Wrexham or the Tweedmill Factory Shopping centre at St Asaph.

To get all the details, and some great value money saving vouchers, fill in the coupon below right and we'll send the Borderlands Alliance Attractions Brochure. Or, telephone us on 01978 842277



Erddig Hall, Garden & Country Park Near Wrexham

The most evocative upstairs-downstairs house in Britain.

Magnificent gardens.

Woodland walks in the country park.

Outdoor Musical Events

11 July Fabulous Fats 7pm

A tribute to Thomas "Fats" Waller

26 July Madam Butterfly 7pm

A Fully Costumed Opera

1997 Opening arrangements

22 March - 2 Nov daily, Saturday to Wednesday

Garden 11am - 6pm House 12 - 5pm

(July & August - Garden 10am - 6pm)

(4 Oct - 2 Nov: Garden 11am - 5pm, House 12 - 4pm)

For further information ☎01978 355314



YR YMDDIRIEDOLAETH GENEDLAETHOL
THE NATIONAL TRUST

Discover the



GREENFIELD VALLEY

The Borderlands' best kept secret

Museum of Buildings & Farm



Open. 22nd March - 31st October. Every day from 10 am - 5pm
Adults £1.60. Senior Citizen 80p. Children 80p (under 5's free)
Saver Ticket £4.00 (Based on 2 adults + 2 children)

The Greenfield Valley can be found by following the A548 (Coast Road) to Greenfield where there is free coach and car parking. From the A55 leave at the Holywell exit and follow the B5121 where there is also free car parking.

Greenfield Valley,
Greenfield, Holywell,
Flintshire. CH8 7QB
Telephone (01352) 714172



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St. David's Park Hotel
Golf Club

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION TELEPHONE

01244 520800

St. David's Park, Ewloe, St. Chester, Flintshire, CH8 5XB

If you would like to receive further information, please complete and return the following coupon and return to:

**NORTH WALES BORDERLANDS
AGRICULTURAL HOUSE
CORKSCREW LANE
WREXHAM LL14 6HG**

I would like further information on:
● Attractions
● Hotels

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Address

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Postcode.....CZN

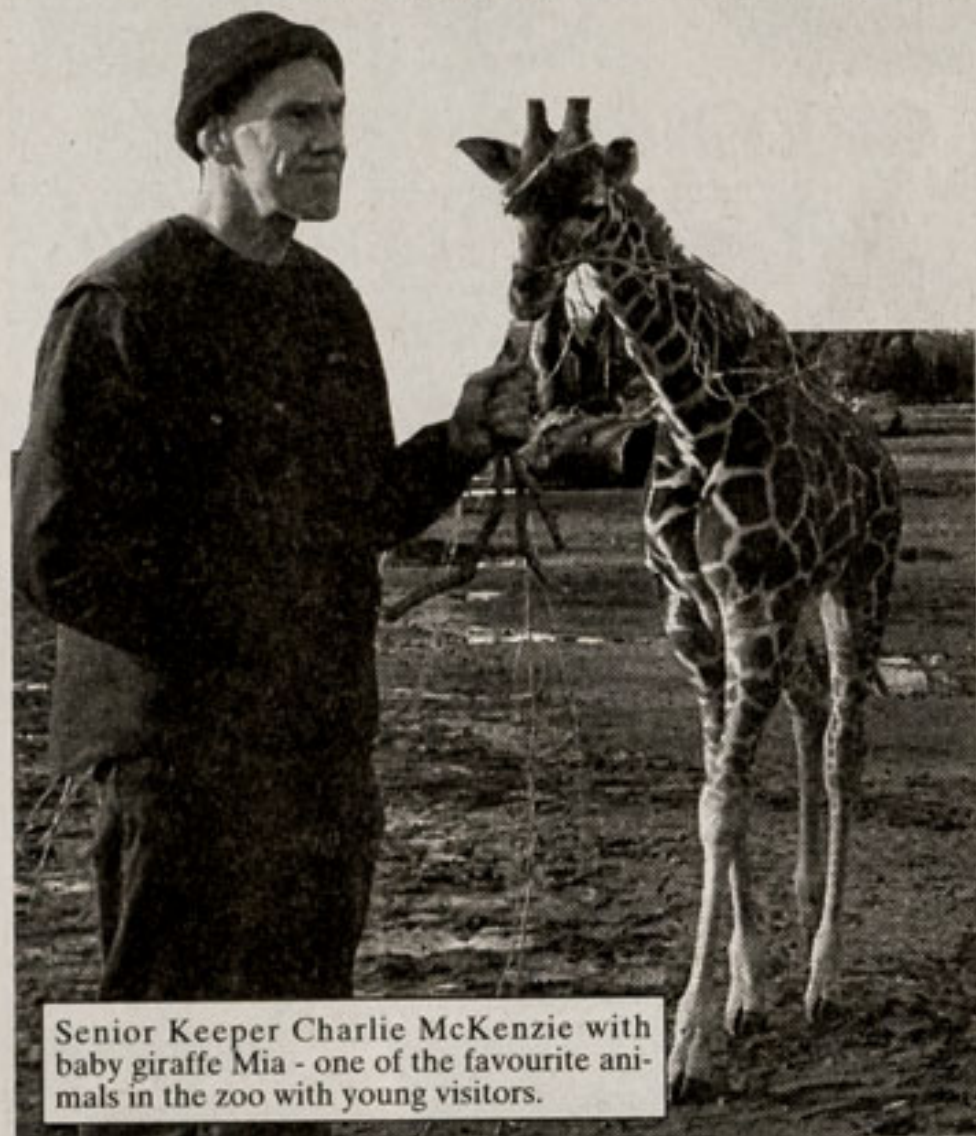
Information
Hotline

**01978
842277**

WITHOUT CONSERVATION TODAY, OUR CHILDREN'S KIDS' TOP FAVOURITES

AN EXPERT GUIDE TO WHAT'S TOPS WITH THE UNDER 11'S

Mike Newbould gives you his recommendations..



Senior Keeper Charlie McKenzie with baby giraffe Mia - one of the favourite animals in the zoo with young visitors.

Animal contact is always a winner. All the best zoos have a chance for some animal petting - so choose between Chester, Twycross in the Midlands, the Welsh Mountain Zoo at Colwyn Bay or Blackpool. There's great fun too when you can meet animals on the Farm - so choose between Farmworld at Erddig near Wrexham, Stockley Farm near Northwich in Cheshire, Tatton Hall close to Knutsford with a Home Farm as well as their wonderful deer in the park or The Bunny Farm at Corwen with lots of bunnies and farm animals, plus a farm trail. Close to Queensferry there is Greenacres Farm Park with tractor and pony rides and lots of young animals and some magical entertainers. Windmill Animal Farm at Burscough - just down the lane from Martin Mere is always a favourite of ours, and you can catch young animals at Blackbrook World of Birds near Leek, Hillside at Mobberley, and Cholmondeley Castle close to Malpas. There's fun at Bolton's Animal World in Moss Bank Park, and after the drive through Knowsley Safari Park, there is fun in the play areas and the pets corner.

For plays areas, Martin Mere has one of the most imaginative, and Haigh Country Park just outside Wigan has a ladybird ride as well as a play area.

Trainers

Lads can be railway crazy. So - after Chester Zoo's Zoofari overhead, try some real steam on the narrow gauge at the Welshpool and Llanfair, or at Brookside Railway at the Brookside Garden Centre at Poynton. In North Wales, there's the Bala Lake Railway, the amazing Ffestiniog, and the Welsh Highland at Portmadoc. Then - full sized restored steam railways not to be missed are the East Lancashire at Bury and Rawtenstall and the Llangollen Railway. And if you don't fancy the drive to Chester and the Zoo, remember Merseyrail's great electric services to Chester from Liverpool with zoo bus connections at Bache

Have your gang ever been on a real tram? There's new track at Woodside in Birkenhead with connections to the ferry, and with this connection there's the Seacombe Submarine - Merseyside's most exciting Aquarium.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Problems solved. Just ask Zoo Group Sales Office 01244 650209 (Jane or Sue) to send you the details



Pingu

New for 1997 at the Fountain Face Painting are our special minis - like Pingu - painted on your arm!





CHILDREN WILL NEVER SEE BLACK RHINOS



Round the World!

Steve McKeown, head of our Education Division was given this wonderful sign. Steve plans to have it put up in the zoo in a good location, with some appropriate animal information to show our worldwide conservation role. Watch out!

Going fishing?

And talking of fish - there are sharks at the Sea Life Centre at Rhyl, some great fun at the Sea Zoo in Anglesey (with Foel Park Farm, close at hand) as well as at the Liverpool Museum and in Bolton at the Central Library. See the Sea Horses at Chester Zoo's aquarium, and there's lots at Stapeley Water Gardens to see in the way of fish of all shapes and sizes.

Giant Otters

Something quite different - take a trip over to Derbyshire for the Otters and Owls at the Chestnut Centre - near Chapel en le Frith. Its one of the best secrets of the Peak District. They have the only giant otters in the country - 'almost as big as sea lions' said Sarah when she saw them. Twycross Zoo is another favourite day out - they have Bonobos - some say the most intelligent of the great apes.

How about meeting a Roman Soldier and doing a patrol of the Walls with him? The City Tourist Office in Chester (in the Town Hall) will give you all the details. Don't forget the Dewa Roman Experience either. Guide Friday's open topped double deckers are a great way to see Chester, and Crossville buses have useful services - details from the Town Hall Bus Exchange. They run the Park'N' Ride service to Upton and the handy 40 and 40a services that serve the zoo main entrance and the pedestrian entrance in Caughall Road. Have you seen their two single deckers with the zoo animals painted on them?

Favourite Food

Foodwise, two organisations that know the score are McDonalds (Chester, Ellesmere Port, Bromborough and Cheshire Oaks) and Kentucky Fried Chicken - that's Colonel Sanders outfit. They are in Queensferry close to the Deeside Leisure Centre (think skating) and at Ellesmere Port.

Final thought - brilliant idea for birthdays - Junior Membership at the zoo as a year long gift (Details from Maureen on 01244 650203) or a birthday party in the zoo (see details on the left).

UNIQUE IN EUROPE

A woodland fantasy of caves, cliffs and castle



Few places in the world can claim to be truly unique.

But Hawkstone Park, with its hidden pathways, concealed grottos, secret tunnels and remarkable collection of follies certainly earns that right.

Created in the 18th century by Sir Rowland Hill, the woodland fantasy of caves, cliffs and castle has been described as a lost world deep in the heart of Shropshire and is, without question, one of the greatest historic parklands of Britain. A land that time forgot for almost 100 years, it has recently been restored to its former glory with visitors once again privileged to be able to enter the remarkable Hawkstone Labyrinth.

Equally popular with young and old, the park is full of attractions, surprises and features. Paths twist and turn, rise and fall and almost without fail, reveal something unexpected around every corner; dramatic cliffs, towers, monuments, tunnels, passageways, precipitous rock tracks, rustic sofas and romantic valleys. Clearly marked paths will lead you around a landscape which was also aptly used as a film location for BBC tv's Chronicles of Namia and One Foot in the Past. Recent research has shown that the alleged Holy Grail was hidden in the caves at Hawkstone Park from 1850 to 1920. Winner of the Civic Trust and Europa nostra Awards 1995.

from 1850 to 1920. Winner of the Civic Trust and Europa nostra Awards 1995.

**Hawkstone Historic Park & Follies,
Weston-under-Redcastle, Shropshire SY4 5UY**


Open daily from 10am - 1st April - 31st October

For further information and leaflet telephone 01939 200300.


Located 3 miles from the village of Hodnet off A53/A442.

Please remember to bring sensible shoes.


Have you seen
Birkenhead
Waterfront
Lately?




For further information
contact:

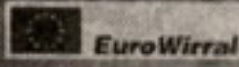
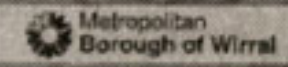


Tourist
Information



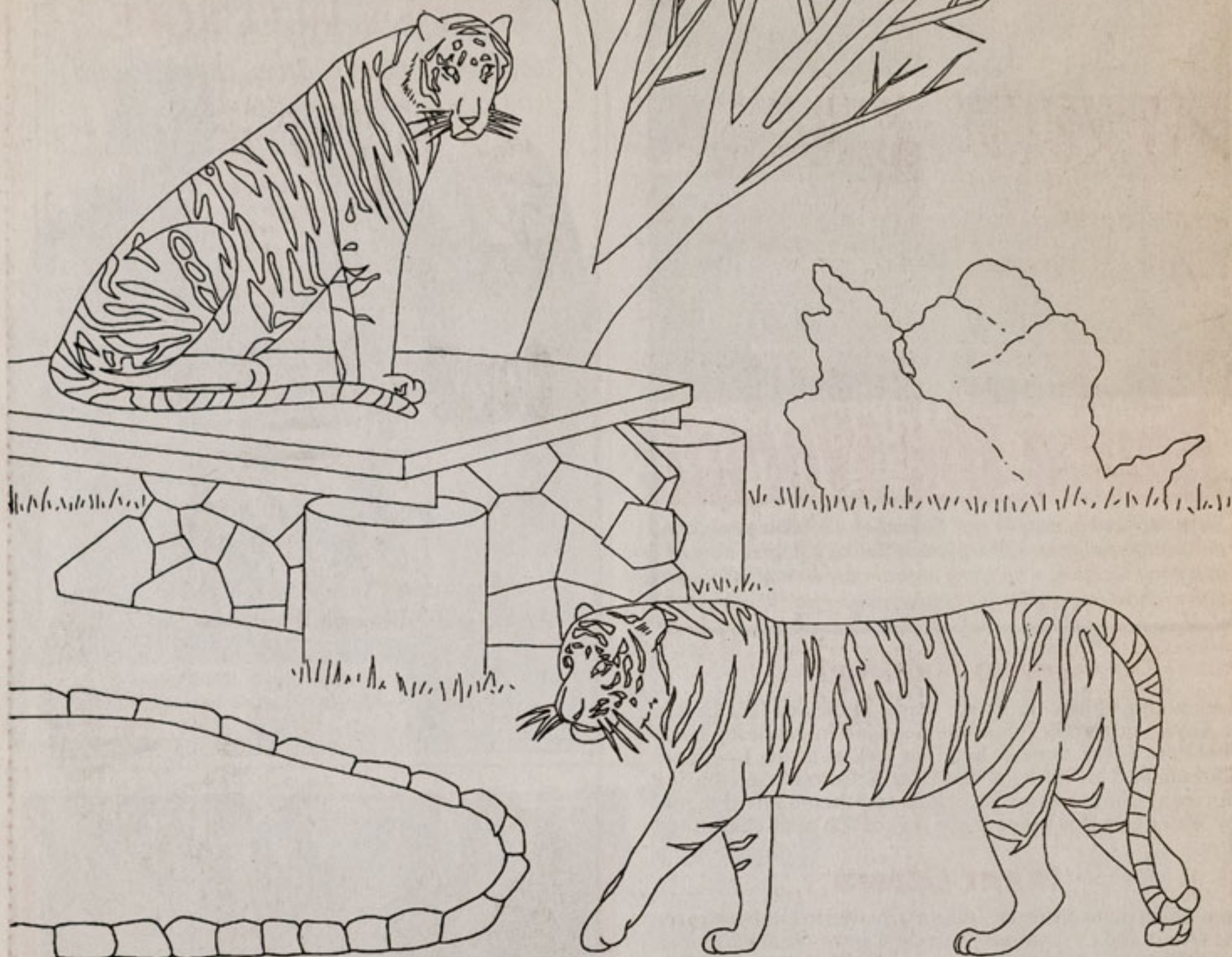
(0151) 647-6780



HAVEN HAVE ADOPTED OUR TIGERS

WIN ZOO TICKETS OR A HAVEN HOLIDAY



Haven
Leisure

With over 50 sites around the English and Welsh coasts, there's bound to be one to suit you. - either self catering, or half board/full board. Lively evening entertainment, free fun pools, free Tiger Club for 5 - 11 year olds and free ATR Club for teenagers. Telephone 0191 417 4141 quoting HZ 002 for your 1997 Haven brochure, or see your local travel agent.

PRIZES

Top prize is a weeks self catering holiday for up to 7 people in any UK Haven site, anytime in 1998 (except Bank Holidays - and subject to availability). The holiday does not include travel. From Easter onwards, we will award special prizes to entries of high quality. These are Chester Zoo Family tickets and Guide books, worth over £30. All entries will be judged for the top prize.

ENTRY FORM

Name

Address

Post Code

Age (as at 31 Oct 97)

Please send details of Junior Membership

Animal Adoptions (Please tick)

**Post to Pauline McKee, Competition Organiser,
 Chester Zoo, Upton by Chester CH 2 1 LH**

RULES

1. Entry on this, or on photocopy. 2. One entry per child, who must be under 14 on the 31st Oct 97 closing date. 3. Age and neatness considered. You must give age on entry form. 4. No cash alternatives. 5. Relatives of Zoo/Haven staff may not enter. 6 Results late Nov 1997, send SAE for details and for return of your entry, 7. Judges' decision is final. Entrants agree to these rules.



HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED



◀ Asiatic Lioness Chandani with one of 3 cubs born in May 1996

Adopt an Animal

Every species needs friends. You may adopt any of our 500+ animal species for as little as £30 (£15 for the tiny ones). With zoo food bills over £1,000 per DAY, every penny goes to feed the animals. Pick up an adoption leaflet when you are in the zoo, or telephone Mary McManus (01244) 650204. Adoptions make wonderful gifts. You get an handsome certificate, your name on the 'thank you boards' in the zoo, 4 issues of Zoo Life magazine, 2 complimentary tickets for each £30 worth of adoption, invitations to adopter days and most of all, the satisfaction of knowing that you are doing something positive to support conservation.

Sponsorship

Linking your business with the zoo can give great benefits. Development Manager, John Regan will give you all the facts. (01244) 260204.

Volunteers

If you have time and skills to help the zoo, Steve McKeown, Head of Education is your man (01244) 260206

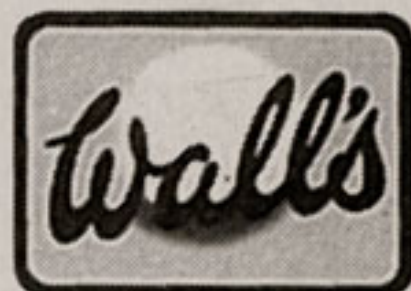
Membership

Annual membership for adults or juniors is a tremendous bargain. Current rates are £31 for adults, and £54 for 2 adults at the same address. Juniors (3 - 18) £12.

There are reductions for those over 65. These prices are subject to review after the AGM in June 1997. Privileges include unlimited free admission to the zoo, concessionary tickets and vouchers*, quarterly *Zoo Life* magazine, meetings and junior outings, and a vote at the Annual General Meeting*. If you join whilst you are in the zoo, we will deduct your admission cost against membership. Full details inside the zoo, or contact Maureen Allsopp, Membership Secretary (01244) 650203. (* not Juniors)



Cornetto



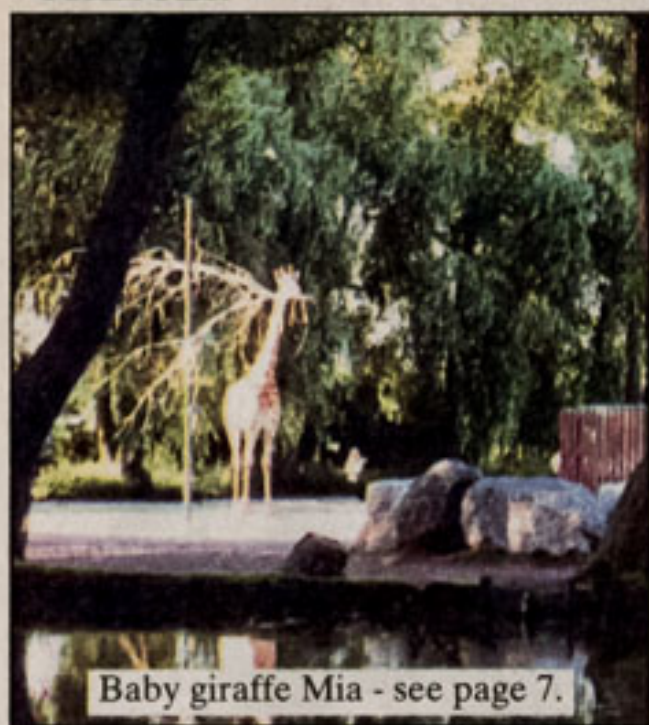
Soleo
EXOTIC



Enjoy your
Favourite Ice Cream
at your
Favourite Zoo

Wall's
On sale throughout the zoo

LATEST NEWS FROM CHESTER ZOO



Baby giraffe Mia - see page 7.

Karha - TV Star

Young Karha has now appeared twice on BBC's Blue Peter and stars in her second television commercial, to be screened at Easter on Granada and on Central TV. 'She's a natural for the camera' said PR Officer, Pat Cade.



GOLDEN PAW

Step forward Member John Benbow from Huntington, Chester. As a master of the world wide web (the Internet), he masterminds our Zoo site - first of any UK Zoo. He won the 'Golden Paw' award for the best world-wide zoo site of the month in December '96,- the first time this award has gone outside the USA.



Zoo News

New visitor help at the main entrance. All the timings in easy to find form.

New to the Zoo

Welcome to Steve McKeown, Head of Education (from Edinburgh Zoo) and John Regan, Development Manager (from Alder Hey Hospital, Liverpool)- both to be key players in our future plans.

CZN

FREE

ICE CREAM WHEN YOU BUY A SUPER SIZE EXTRA VALUE MEAL

Valid at 50-52 Foregate Street, Chester

Valid after 10.30am until December 31, 1997




This voucher entitles you to a free ice cream cone with any Super Size Extra Value Meal purchased. See menu board for details for Extra Value Meals. Limit of one offer per customer per visit. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. McDonalds to retain this voucher.

ZOO AFFILIATIONS








 Tourism North Shropshire
 The South Cheshire Tourism Development Association


 North Wales Tourism
 Welsh Borderlands
 Vale Royal Tourism


 Yorkshire Tourist Board

CHESTER ZOO NEWS and Cheshire & Borderlands Visitor
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Telephone 01244 380280
 FAX 01244 371273