

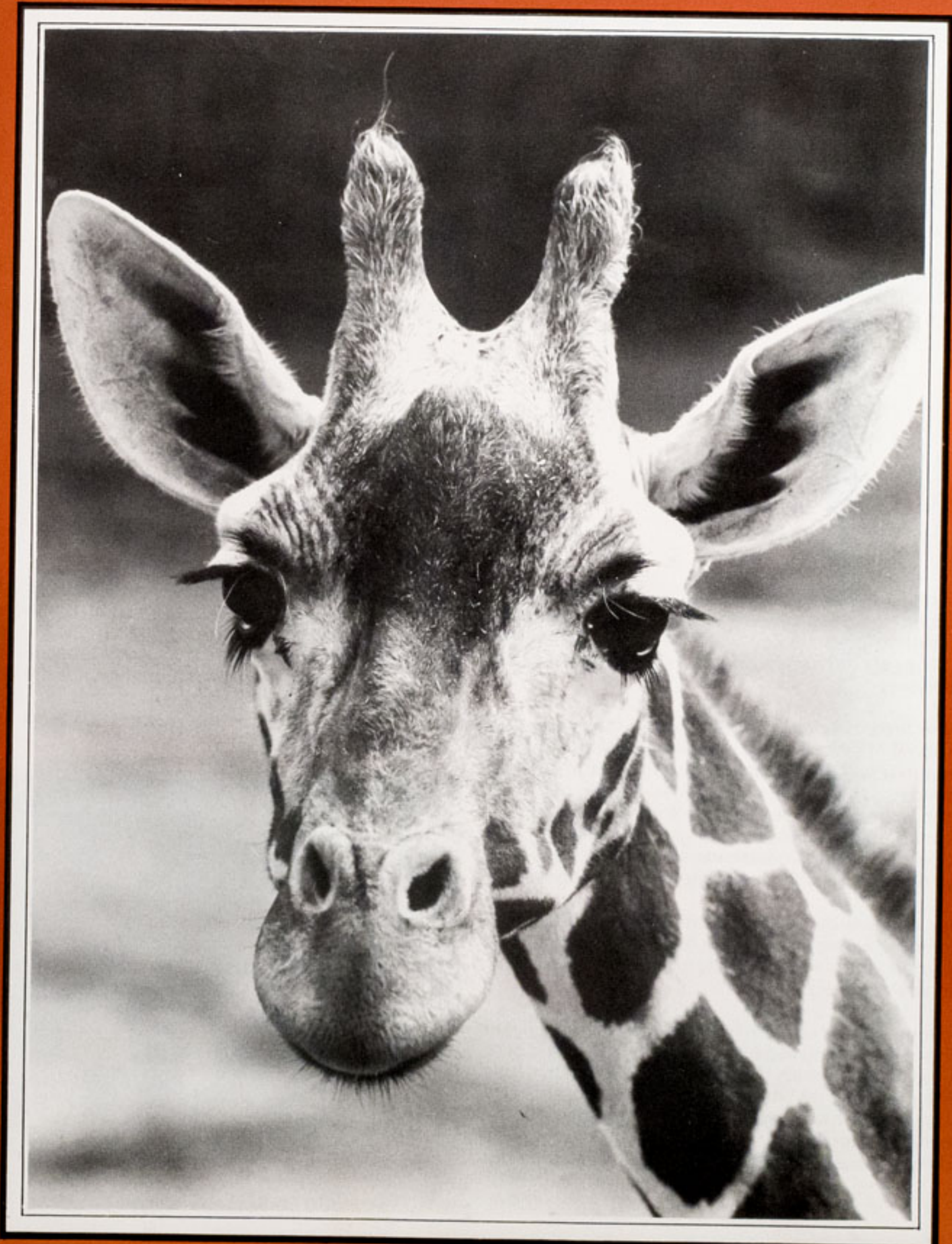
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CHEZ NOUS



CHESTER ZOO NEWS

AUTUMN 1986



Editorial

Knowing that a lot of our readers are not in the happy position of just being able to "pop" into the Zoo for the odd hour now and then, I thought that you would like to have an up-date on some of the things that have happened around the Zoo in the last few months.

This issue contains a brief resumé of some of the major work carried out by our Maintenance Department this year, although very often it is the thousands of "little" jobs which crop up on a day-to-day basis which tend to take so much time.

Animal-wise, the emphasis is on the new arrivals down at the Giraffe House. Hopefully, the new Giraffes will fulfill our desire to breed these ever-popular animals again.

Many new faces can be regularly seen escorting small parties around various sections of the Zoo, and our Senior Education Officer, Brenda Norgain, has explained the presence of these FEDS and discussed the progress of this very successful new scheme introduced to the Zoo this year.

Your comments about (or contributions for) your membership magazine are always welcomed at the Editor's office.

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Front Cover:
Reticulated Giraffe
"Courtesy of Liverpool Post and Echo"

Editorial Board:

Penny Rudd	<i>Editor</i>
Dr. Michael Brambell	<i>Director</i>



Have You Seen Our FEDS?

Since mid-July 1986, various adults around the Zoo have been identified by their wearing of a green armband reading "Chester Zoo FEDS". You may have seen them. They are our highly-valued "Friends of the Education Services".

At the time of writing (late October), there are over three dozen of them, and we hope that more will join the scheme in time. The Education Department is anxious to extend its programme to the general public. After all, we in the Department feel strongly that, if the aims of a good modern zoo include "enlightened leisure", we must do all we can to contribute to both the increased knowledge and the enjoyment implicit in this phrase.

After a series of meetings, interviews and training sessions, we started on 14th July, 1986. Our first activities were guided tours for the public and brass-rubbings of endangered animals.

The tours last for up to an hour, the time being used in looking at interesting aspects of how we house and care for some of our animals. This topic was chosen because it was a good one on which to start our volunteers and because, straight away, we were talking about just some of the things a zoo has to think about when keeping and breeding a species. We were surprised that we were not

snowed under by members of the public wanting to go on the guided tours. However, even small numbers add up and, by late October, well over 800 people had joined one of these tours. In anticipation of this, a second topic, *Animals In Danger*, is well into preparation. Both guided tour topics have, therefore, been chosen not just for their interest, but for their relevance to the work we are trying to do in the Zoo.



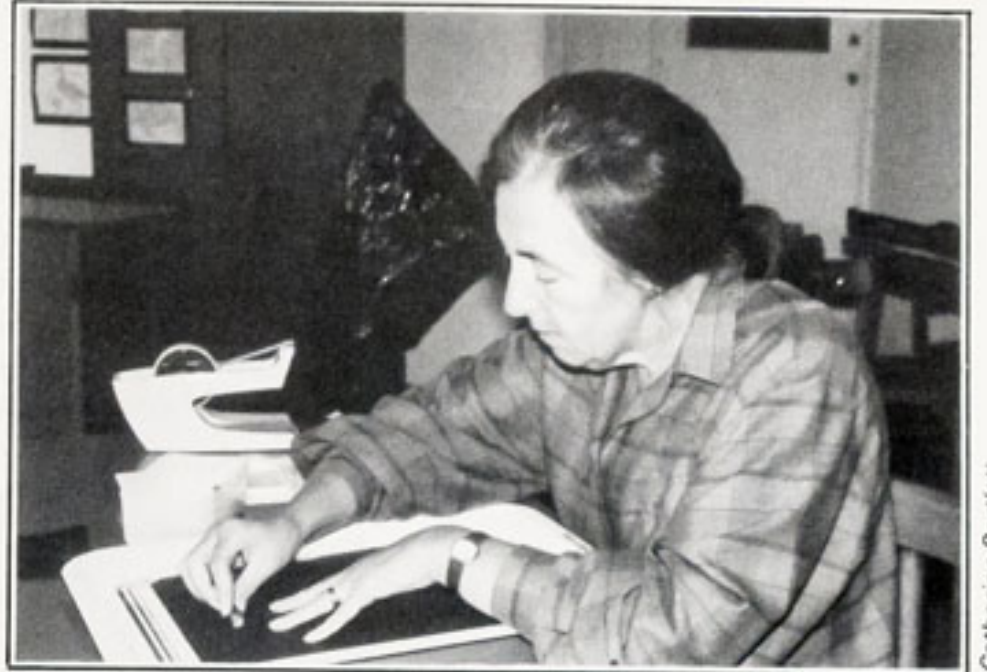
Judith Whiteley with visitors in the Tropical House

Catherine Bartlett

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However, our guides were not left without activity even if there was no guided tour booked, for we quickly started a "Tropical House Cart". For this, just a few items of interest were put on a "cart" (a supermarket one, kindly donated by Safeways of Upton) and the cart is now taken to the Tropical House. The FED (volunteer) just starts chatting to interested people and shows them the goodies, such as snake skins and stuffed crocodile, which are in the cart. At the same time, there is a conservation theme to be emphasised, and enough biology to add to the interest of the visitor. After a slow start to the cart being out in the Tropical House while successive FEDS were trained, in just seven weeks over 3,500 people had looked, listened, touched—and enjoyed. This is so successful that we are now just about to set up a "Bird Cart".

Far more brass-rubbings were done in the afternoons when visitors were ready to do something different from going round looking at the animals. Here again, in keeping with our theme of "enlightened leisure", the FEDS like to talk to the brass-rubbers and to take the chance to emphasise conservation as well as helping in the learning or development of a skill where again the FEDS' activities add to the enjoyment and interest of a visit to the zoo.



Brass rubbing with Dorothy Arnfield

Catherine Bartlett

However, no matter how hard you look, you will *not* see all of our FEDS. Some are generously giving time in varied ways associated with office work—book-cataloguing, information-sorting, addressing envelopes, proof-reading, etc.—and even working from home rather than in the Zoo. The "hidden FEDS" are giving the Department more time and greater efficiency and so, in this way, are contributing to the educational work.



FEDS Muriel Latter and Sonia Price out with the "trolley" in the Tropical House

Catherine Bartlett

By late October, around 1,500 brasses had been rubbed! Proud owners take home a very worthwhile souvenir.

We are now just about to get going on some art activities.

Hopefully, all these aspects of our FEDS' activities are meeting a major aim of our Department, which is to give our visitors the chance to do things, as well as to see our animals, and, at the same time, to contribute to "enlightened leisure".

We in the Department know that our FEDS are genuinely interested in the Zoo, and we are most grateful to them for their work, support and generosity of time. We hope that they are really enjoying themselves and that the last three months have seen the start of a firm partnership which will flourish.

More volunteers will be sought—if you are interested, why not contact the Education Department? They will then write to you when the next round of meetings, interviews and training sessions start.

Catherine Bartlett

Enhancements at the Zoo

Life can never be called dull at the Zoo, and changes that have been happening show that this year has been no exception. With such a large area for visitors to see, it is quite possible to miss some of the improvements which have been made over the year, and I thought that readers would be interested to learn about some of these.



Some of the "new arrivals" in the Zoo this year include goats at the Children's Farm

The most noticeable improvement is the newly-extended Siberian Tiger enclosure, which is now not only a great deal more roomy, but also incorporates a bathing-pool, which has proved extremely popular with both our Tigers. In fact, unwary visitors have been known to be soaked by the splashes made by the exuberant Tigers leaping from the pool at times! The new Tiger House itself was designed by our own staff and is along similar lines to the Lion House built last year, but is somewhat larger and incorporates a staff mess area and some extra indoor accommodation. Locals to the Chester area may have noticed the fancy brickwork along the side of the Tiger House, of which the Maintenance Department are rightly proud, as it matches in with the decoration on Oakfield House, itself picking up the pattern used on all the "Grosvenor" houses built in Victorian times on the Duke of Westminster's Eaton Estate.

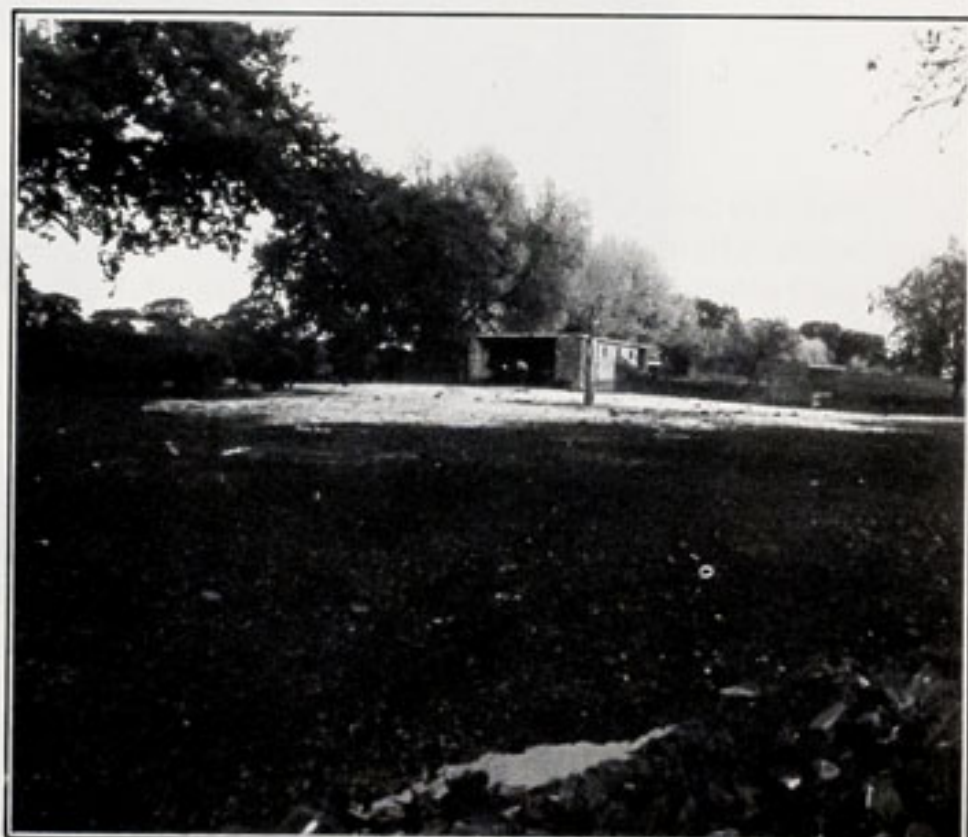


Ducks enjoying their "grassed" area

Immediately adjacent to the new Tiger area is the new Children's Farm area, which has been overwhelmingly popular with the youngsters visiting the Zoo this year. It is being built in two phases, and Phase One is complete. In other words, the area as it stands at present is only about half as large as the Farm will be when Phase Two has been completed. The Children's Farm opened in May with the arrival (thanks to the help of some of the Junior Members) of the Goats, Ducks and Bantams. There was much discussion at planning stage over the type of "flooring" to use and eventually it was agreed that—although perhaps not the most aesthetically pleasing—the most practical material to use was tarmac over most of the area, and this has proved a wise choice. We have also used "plastic grass" for the surround of the duck pond—a material over which there are distinctly varied opinions! When the whole area is ready, which should be next year, a wider variety of animal stock will be introduced, the limiting factor at present being the need to build more night-time accommodation.

The Junior Members' Club raised £800 towards the buying of animals for the Children's Farm and the Zoo's Trust Fund was able to make a grant of £20,000 towards the Tiger House and £6,000 towards the Children's Farm out of the money which has been donated to it by members, friends and supporting firms. Our thanks!

We travel now to the far side of the Zoo. During the spring, the remaining old Jaguar pens between the Cat House and Gnus were demolished, and this area was made into an enclosure to house the Axis Deer for the time being. The hope is to exhibit these attractive Indian Deer in an "Asiatic" area at a later date. As is the policy with all new paddock enclosures, this one was partially hard-cored, which makes the management of the animals so much more efficient during the wet weather.



The Bison Paddock with its new layer of hard-core

Talking of hard-core, something in excess of 180 tons of hard-core has been put down on the Bison paddock this autumn. This paddock has been a problem to us for some time—ever since we began breeding this species successfully, and the number we decided to keep in the herd has risen. Each winter, the animals churn up the paddock to such an extent that it becomes very muddy. The paddock is separated into two parts, and one is grass-covered and the other is now hard-core, which

will be a great improvement. Some extra hard-core was also placed on the Père David's Deer paddock, and this leads me to mention another improvement. As soon as the group of Père David's Deer were sent to China, we took the opportunity offered by a temporarily empty paddock to improve it. This was done by the team of professionals who had been brought in to clear and drain the huge field which used to be used by the old herd of Ankole Cattle. This "Ankole" area, which lies to your left as you go over the bridge towards the Elephants, has had to lie empty for the past four years, owing to the fact that some of the last herd of Ankole Cattle kept on the field had Johne's Disease. This is contracted from a mycobacterium which lives in the ground, and which can affect several species of cloven-hoofed stock. Although probably actually needing only three years to fallow with no stock on it, to ensure that the problem no longer existed, we gave it an extra year to be on the safe side (although Johne's Disease had not actually been isolated on the field for seven years) and, during this time, no animals at all were allowed to be kept there.

In early summer this year, we began to make plans to drain the area and re-seed it and, when a suitable team had been found to do the job, they moved in in force. Massive equipment for earth-moving and ditch-digging could be seen tidying up the area in a spectacular manner. To make sure that the drains had a steady "fall" over the length of the paddock, the machine which laid



John King

The majestic Eland should be a good show in the new exhibit

rectangle, very easily viewable from the bridge and all along the side leading down behind the Monkey House to the Cat House. Next came the important decision about what to exhibit in the area (and I do not think that it is a secret to say that there was some competition for the area!). It has been agreed to keep the largest of the Antelope species—the Eland—there initially, in a mixed exhibit with Ostriches. At a later date, we plan to introduce other species to the exhibit, but this will have to be



John King

The view of the Ankole Field from the bridge



John King

Looking from the Cat House to the Bridge

the pipes was guided by a laser beam, accurate to a few millimetres. Renovations also involved the old bird-rearing pens, which ran along behind the Monkey House. They have all been knocked down and have become part of the main field now. The only little extra bit still to do is that of the Waterfowl Pond on the corner of the field which will "disappear". Some of the trees and bushes will be removed (and the fence, of course) and the pond itself will be drained, cleaned out properly and refilled. Thus the new exhibit will be an enormous

played by ear. Before the stock can be moved into its new home, the fence will have to be put up and some extra inside accommodation—as well as that under the bridge—will have to be completed. It was the inside quarters which were one of the restricting factors when it came to deciding what to keep, because, in order for the animals to go inside, they have to pass through a fairly complicated door system, and we had to choose species which would be prepared to learn the ropes without too much fuss!

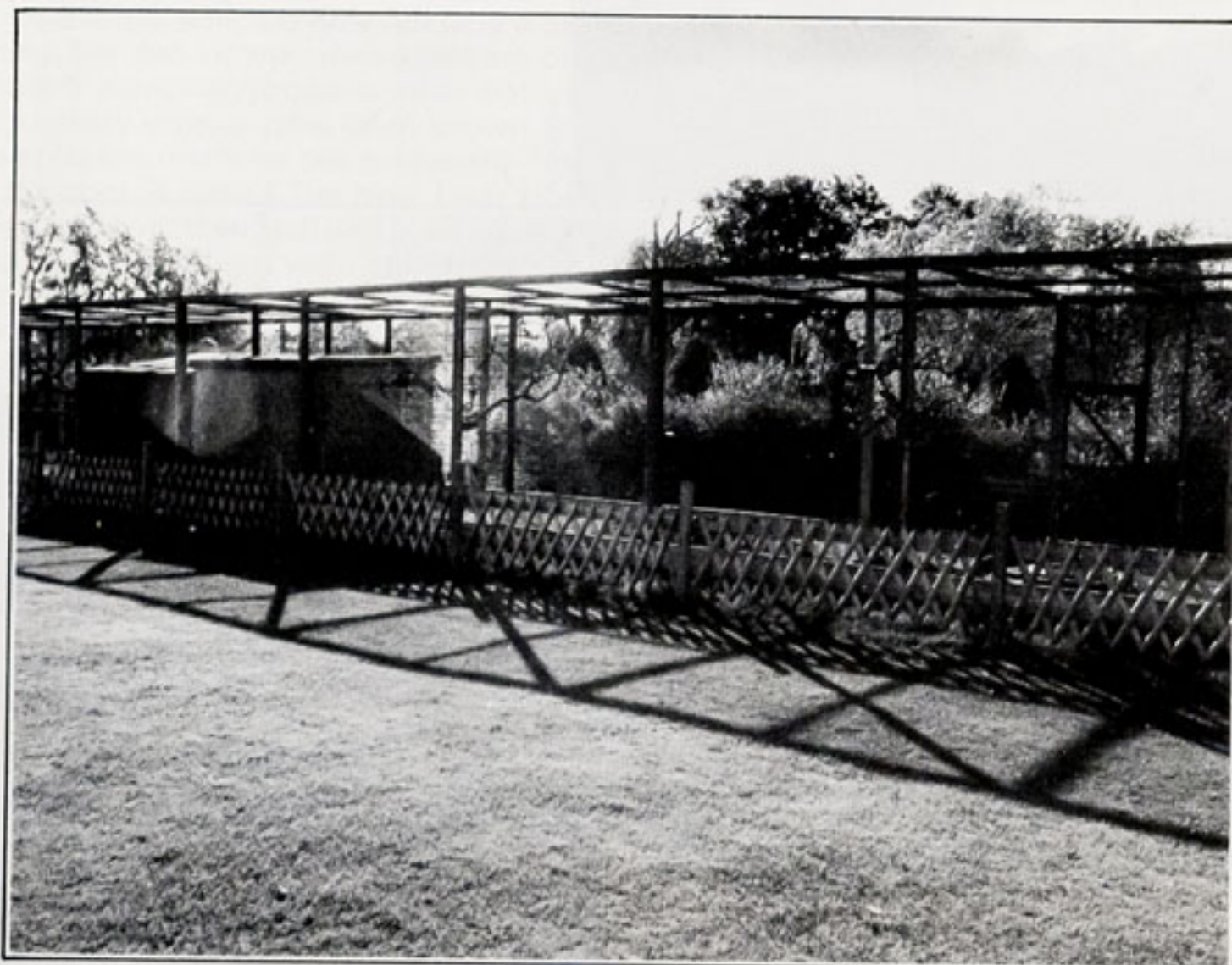
The question I can hear people asking is: "What have you done to replace the bird-rearing pens?" The answer is that they have temporarily moved to far more suitable accommodation in the old hospital area, which adjoins the Giraffe Yard. At the beginning of the year, the inside of this small sandstone-faced building was gutted and special flooring and rearing-pens installed. This is an area which is, unfortunately, off-show to the public, and the idea is to build a purpose-built area for bird-rearing when funds become available. The existing house does not offer public viewing and does not have outside pens, which are vital as the birds get older, and at present the birds are being moved across to areas on the far side of the Zoo once they require outside runs (these can be seen where the old Axis Deer paddock was, beside the main Waterfowl paddock). However, it has proved extremely successful this year, under the care of Senior Bird Keeper Nick Manning, who has put hours and hours of work into the rearing of birds as diverse as two Condors, 11 Penguins and several hundred waterfowl. Years of experience in bird-breeding has taught us that some species do not successfully incubate or rear all their own chicks and, as a result, artificial incubation and rearing is a vital part of breeding birds. (Remember that—in the wild—a species is "satisfied" if it rears an average of one youngster in the lifetime of each adult. We want a rather better performance than that).

Whilst on the subject of birds, the new Pheasant Aviary on the Rainbow Lawn is now inhabited. This was proudly



Some of the young Penguins in the Nursery Pool, which can now be seen at the back of the main Penguin Pool

Still with the birds, a small window has been installed, which enables visitors to see into the Penguin Nursery Pool area. This has been particularly important this year, with our having hatched and successfully artificially-reared 11 of these charming birds. They need to be kept apart from the adults until they are fully able to look after themselves, and it would have been a pity for visitors to have missed being able to see them at their most appealing stage.



The new Pheasant Aviary on the Rainbow Lawn

built by the youngsters on the Youth Training Scheme at the Zoo, who became so enthusiastic about the whole project that they clubbed together to "adopt" the birds which have now taken up residence in the new Aviary. The old Pheasant Aviary has been taken down and replaced by a flower-bed.

A major improvement for the Bird Section has also been the building of the new Bird House kitchen. This was built as the "showhouse" for all the kitchens which are being rebuilt around the Zoo at the present time. In most cases, this applies to off-show areas where food is prepared, but a special window has been put into the

Bird House kitchen to enable visitors to see how the keepers go about feeding the animals in their care. There is a concerted effort to improve kitchen areas around all the sections of the Zoo and, as each kitchen is rebuilt, it will be done to the standard of the Bird House kitchen and will be expected to be maintained as flawless exhibits in themselves. The waterfowl kitchen has been refurbished, and it is the turn of the Monkey House next. There is an agreed policy that, in due course, all the kitchens will be done.



The Bird House kitchen

Another concerted—but not very obvious to visitors—policy within the Zoo at the moment is to modernise the doors in many of the large animal exhibits. It rather goes without saying that, in order to restrain a Hippo or Rhino, an extremely heavy door is required, and these can cause problems for the staff as they become less manoeuvrable with old age. We are getting around the sections and modernising most of the heaviest doors, hanging them on modern fittings, which should last and save the backs of the staff who have to use them! The Hippo and Elephant doors are a case in question, and many improvements have been made at the Elephant House during the year.

The alterations to house the two newly-arrived Asiatic Elephants on their way from Aalborg to Belfast were noted in the last issue of *Chez Nous*, but, since then, we have installed a specially-designed form of radiant heating in the Elephant House. Several other Zoos were contacted for their advice on this method before we went ahead, and the Estate Engineer, Mr. Fred Carson, and Curator of Mammals, Mr. Nick Ellerton, made a trip down to Howlett's Zoo Park in Kent to inspect their heating for the Elephants before designing our own for our requirements. The switch was turned on recently, so it is rather early days to comment on success as yet, but—hopefully—this will provide much more comfort for our Elephants and at the same time reduce costs.

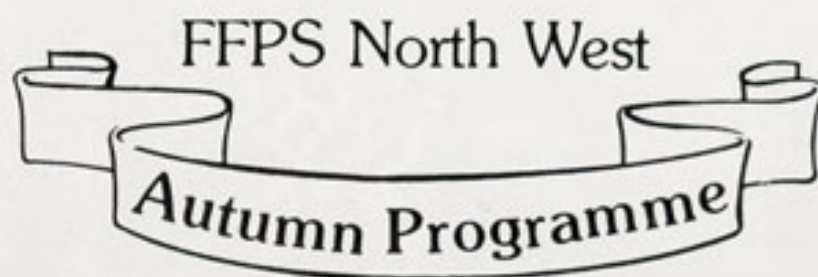
In the Gardens Department, work has begun to revitalise, and—where necessary—re-pipe the heating system of the greenhouses. These are greenhouses which are vital in the early stages of the process to make the Zoo look so marvellous throughout the year. This job was completed mainly by the Gardening Staff themselves, with some extra help from the Maintenance Department.

One seemingly constant project which seems to have taken up so much of the time of the works staff in the past two years has been the erection of the perimeter fence. This will make such a difference to the Zoo when it is complete, the aim being to have it done by next Easter. With the two-mile perimeter fence in nine-foot-high heavy wire, one can see what an enormous job it has been for a small team of men.

There is still an enormous amount to do within the Zoo, but we are aware of this, and a long-term plan is being put into action. For example, sadly we have had to close the gantry around the Brown Bear enclosure, as the metal work holding it up became suspect. There is a plan to redevelop completely this area of the Zoo. Everything cannot be done at once, but I do hope that Members will agree that we have made marvellous progress this year with the smartening up of several areas, and that the Zoo looks good for it. In time, with your support, it will look even better, and we hope that you will come and approve the improvements made during 1986.



THE NORTH WEST GROUP OF THE
**Fauna & Flora
Preservation Society**



AN EVENING OF GIBBONS AND ORANGS
at
Chester Zoo

- ★ David Chivers on 'GIBBONS AND RAINFOREST CONSERVATION' ★
- ★ Film: 'Orang Utan: Orphans of the Forest' ★

FOOD & WINE

(Follow the signs from the Zoo Staff Car-Park)

FRIDAY
NOVEMBER
21st

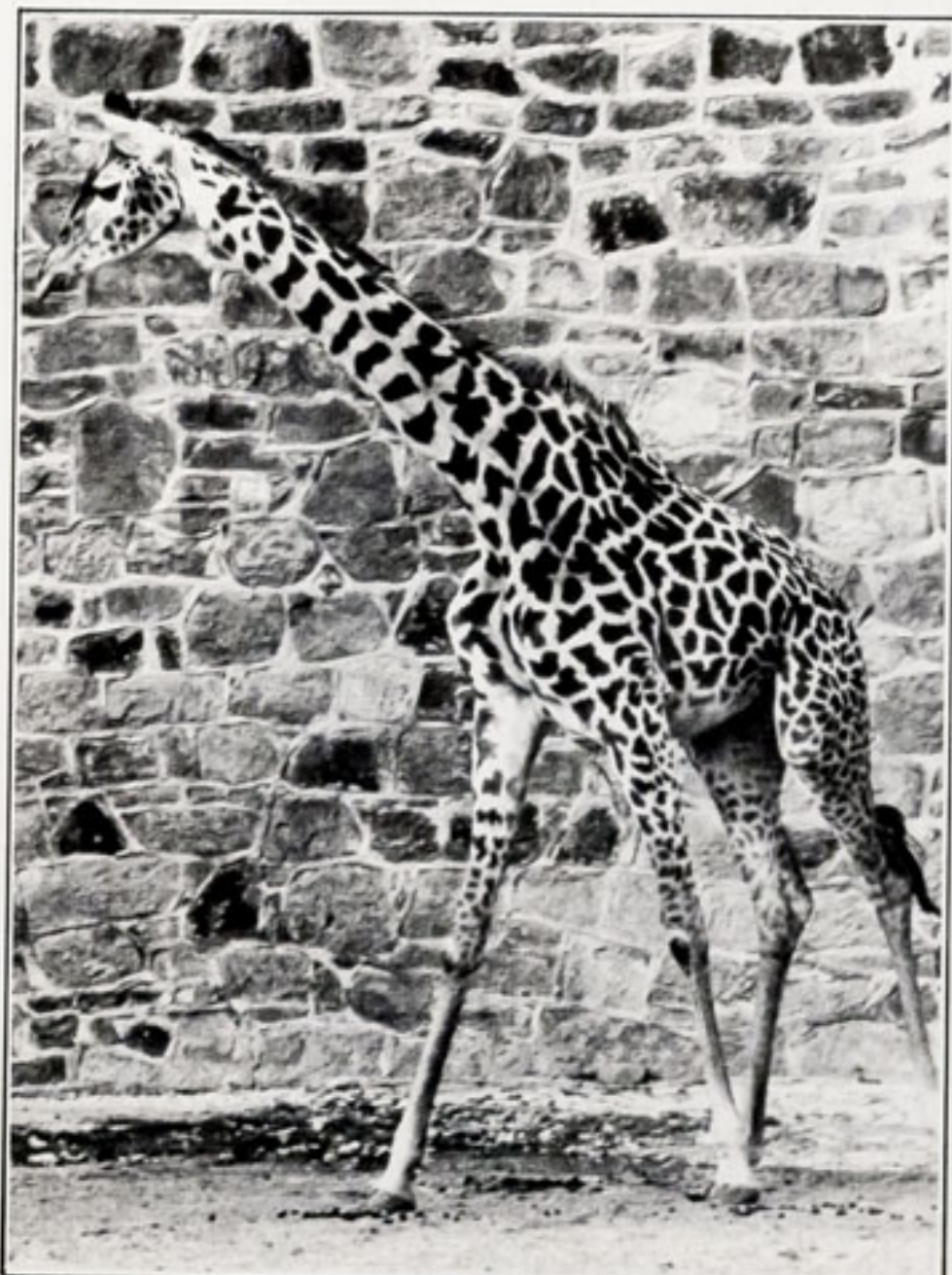
- Meetings start at 7.30pm. (Doors open 7.00pm)
- Tickets £3.50 at the door, or in advance from FFPS, c/o Chester Zoo
- ALL PROCEEDS GO TO: THE MOUNTAIN GORILLA PROJECT

Giraffes

Our collection started in 1950 with a single female, "Maud", whose nickname was "Goofie". It was nine years later before we added to the collection, at which time we acquired two females and two males, the most famous being "George", who is listed in the *Guinness Book of Records* (latest edition) as follows:—

Longest/Tallest (Mammals)
20 ft. (6.09 m.) Giraffe
(*Giraffa camelopardalis tippelskirchi*)
from Kenya. "George" d. Chester Zoo
22 July 1969.

There have been 22 births at the Zoo, but not all of these have survived. Between the years 1980 to 1983, we had a run of bad luck with our Giraffes. Our breeding male, "Richie", who was born at Chester in February 1969, died, due to a heart complaint, in December 1980. He had been bred from one of our original females, "Margaret", who came to Chester in 1959, and lived until she was 21 years old. "Decimus" was brought in from Bristol in 1981 to replace "Richie", but he died nine months later, and was replaced by "Tim", whom it was discovered had severe dentition problems soon after he arrived and, unfortunately, he only survived four months.



"Twiga"

The last two births were "Twiga", born in June 1980, to "Linda" and "Richie", and "Tabora", born in June 1981 to "Gwen", and sired by "Richie" before he died. "Twiga" is still at Chester, and "Tabora" was sent to

Twycross Zoo. One well-known birth we must not forget to mention was that of "Chester", in October 1979. He is now well-loved by visitors to Edinburgh Zoo.



Giraffe "Steve" meets "Twiga" and "Patrick" for the first time

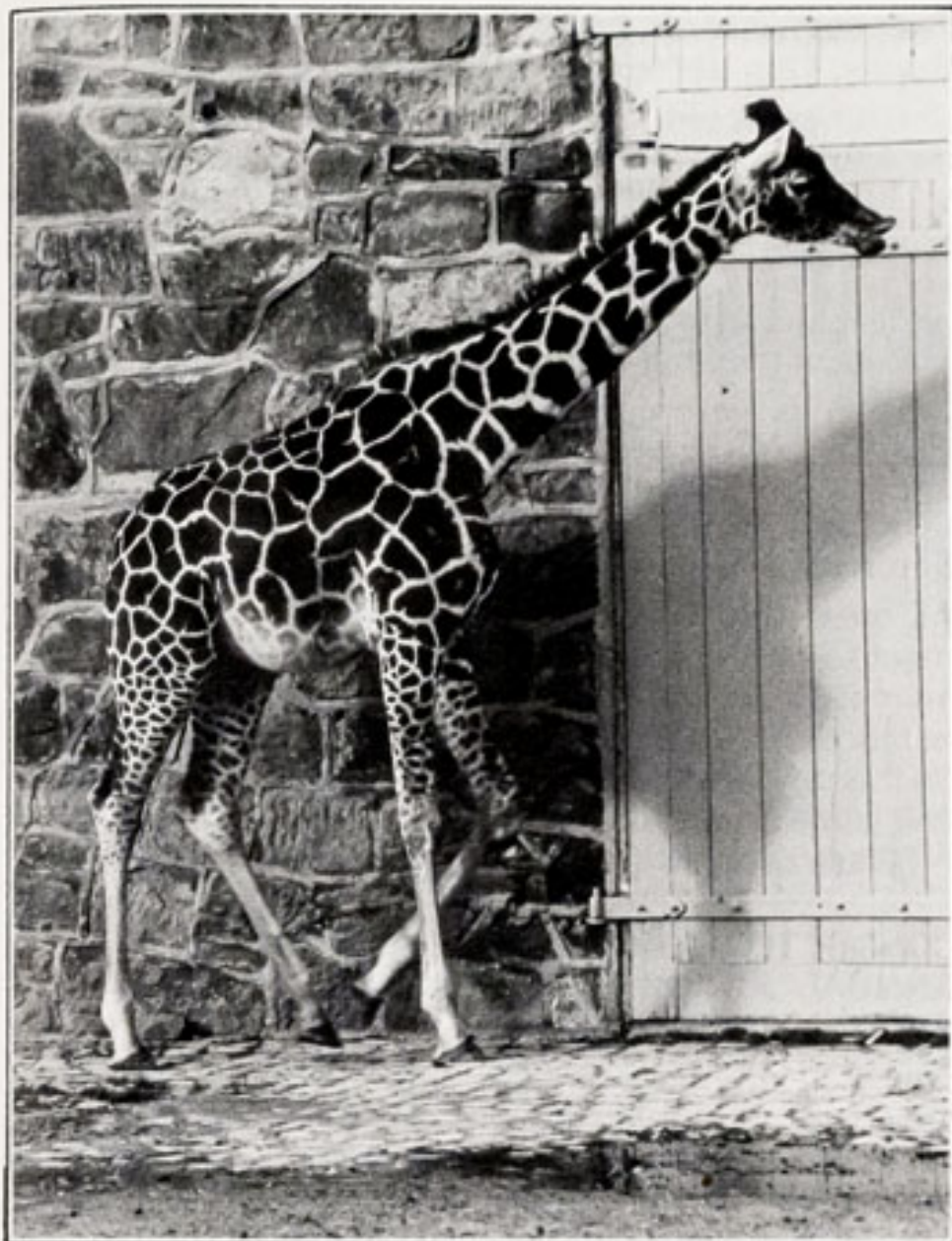
Courtesy of John Dorricott. "Daily Mail"

We hope that 1986 is the dawning of a new era at Chester as far as Giraffes are concerned. This really started last year with the arrival of two-year-old "Patrick", who was born at Longleat Safari Park. "Patrick's" arrival was significant in that it was a departure from our previous policy of only holding pure-bred Masai Giraffes (*Giraffa camelopardalis tippelskirchi*). By 1984, only two collections in the United Kingdom held pure Masai Giraffes, these being ourselves and Paignton Zoo in Devon, who had a pair and young male offspring. The decision had to be made that if we were going to maintain Giraffes at Chester in the future, we would have to consider holding one of the other sub-species (there are seven sub-species altogether—some authorities say eight), or keep what is often called the "Zoo Giraffe", the mixture between the Rothschild's and Reticulated Giraffe.

"Patrick" is a pure-bred Rothschild's Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis rothschildi*). He was the only male of a suitable age to undergo translocation available at the time, and he settled immediately into life at Chester.

In order to increase the group, we began to make enquiries at the Joint Management of Species Group Meetings (when all "Federation Zoos" get together to decide on which collection should hold what of certain species covered by the plan). Dublin Zoo very kindly offered us a young female Rothschild/Reticulated Giraffe. "Brid" (pronounced the way the Scots say "bread") duly arrived from Dublin in a consignment of animals which started off as just the Giraffe coming over, and ended up more like the "Ark", with all sorts of animals—Zebras, Tapirs, Reindeer, to name a few—going to Ireland and a Gibbon and Lion-tailed Macaque keeping "Brid" company on the way back on the boat. "Brid" is still a relative youngster, being 17 months old on her arrival on 4th July 1986. She was carefully unloaded from her travelling case into the Giraffe House, and all went well, as she was very quiet. "Patrick" and "Twiga" were in the next pen and, as they were also being very quiet, I introduced "Brid" to the other two after about an hour. They went together as though they were long-lost friends!

John King

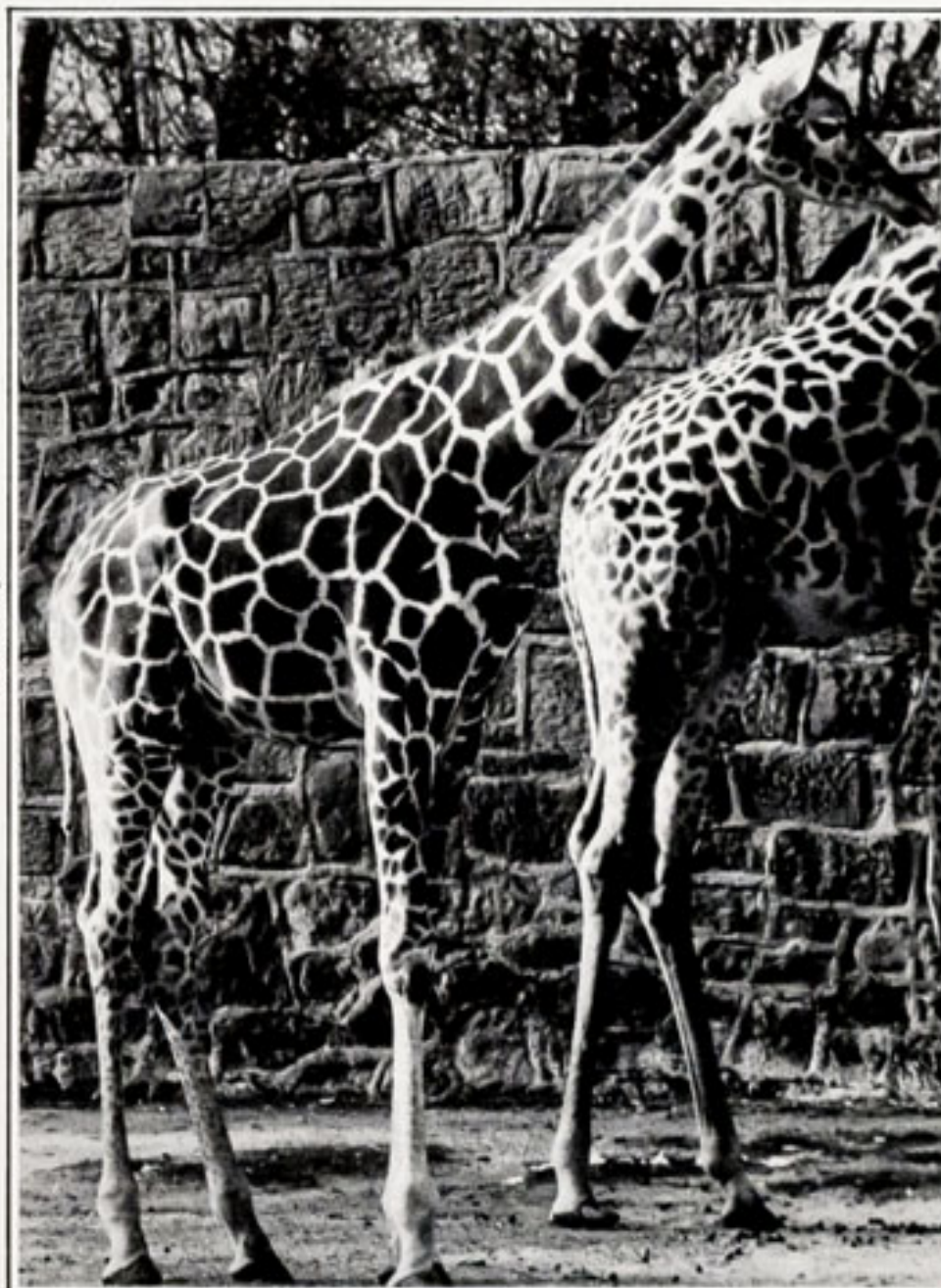


"Brid"

Soon after her arrival, we decided to take a closer look at "Brid's" knee. She had sustained an injury before leaving Dublin, and there was a swelling on her left fore-leg. The Vet checked the injury and decided that it required a closer look. She was anaesthetised without any mishaps, and some fluid was drained from the knee, and then the joint was injected with Cortisone. The injury has left a small lump, but this does not impede her movement in any way. To me, "Brid" is the nicest-looking of the Giraffes and has a very good temperament.

The next arrival was "Steve", who was born at London Zoo (another Rothschild's/Reticulated) and apparently

named after the Snooker World Champion, Steve Davies. "Steve" arrived on 17th July 1986 and was also unloaded straight into the Giraffe House. All the Giraffes were very good and, after ten minutes, "Steve" was introduced to the other three, and this also went very well. He was very timid at first, but is gaining confidence daily—except with "Patrick", of whom he is still very wary, because "Steve" has found out that "Patrick" is the "man of the house" and he gives "Steve" a chase around sometimes. "Patrick" has now been separated off on his own at night, to give the others a bit of peace.



"Steve"

Our plan is to increase the group with two more females in due course and—hopefully, in the next couple of years—we will be breeding Giraffes again.



The four Giraffes together
"Steve", "Twiga", "Patrick" and "Brid"

GIRAFFES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

A recent survey done by the joint Management of Species Group indicates that at present there are 21 male and 36 female Giraffes in Zoos in the United Kingdom, and eight male and 17 female Giraffes in Safari and Wildlife Parks. Although several youngsters have been born in recent years, it is rather alarming to note that a very markedly larger number of males than females are being born.

Members' Meetings

PROGRAMME FOR 1986/87

As well as the usual Saturday afternoon meetings, it is proposed to hold one or two *evening* lectures during the coming season, and the following programme has been drawn up. Details of additional meetings and notices will appear on the membership page of future editions of *Chez Nous*—please remember to look in this section of the magazine for any announcements.

Saturday, 15th November, 1986, 2.30 p.m., Lecture Hall
Ken Edwardson—*"Beyond The Himalayas"*.

Wednesday, 10th December, 1986, 7.30 p.m., Lecture Hall
Roger Swailes—*"Insect Collecting In Costa Rica"*.

Saturday, 17th January, 1987, 2.30 p.m., Lecture Hall
Alan Kingsbury—*"Tanzania Safari, With A Video Camera"*.

Members are reminded that a charge of 50 pence per meeting will be made at the door to offset expenses for bringing speakers and towards defraying the costs of maintaining the meeting rooms. (It may be necessary on some occasions to increase this charge to £1).

Tea and biscuits will be available at meetings at no extra cost.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Due 1st January 1987

Please note that membership subscriptions have now risen to £15 per member per annum, as approved by Members at the Annual General Meeting held in May this year. We have also introduced a joint husband/wife membership—i.e. where *both* husband and wife are members, a joint membership fee of £27 will be charged, but only one notification of meetings, copy of magazine, Annual Report, etc., will be sent. If one partner is already a Life Member, the other may join as a Joint Member at £12.00.

If you pay by Banker's Order, please notify your bank of these changes NOW.

Junior membership subscriptions will remain at £5 per member.

Maureen Allsopp (Mrs.)
Membership Secretary

Junior Members' Field Trips and Meetings 1986–1987

Following the Junior Members' Conference in February 1986, the following programme of events arranged for this year has been made with the requests of the present Juniors in mind:—

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday, 12th December 1986 (*Change of Date*)

Christmas would not be the same if we did not kick off the festive season with the Junior Members' Party. The V.I.P. raffle, hamburgers, games, disco and fun are all on the agenda, and we hope to see as many of you in animal **Fancy Dress** as possible, if you would like to participate. All **over eights** are invited to join in.

Meet at the **Staff Car Park at 7.00 p.m.**, ending around 10.00 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE.—THIS IS A CHANGE OF DATE

CONTACT SESSION

Saturday, 24th January 1987

All **over eight-year-olds** are invited to come along to meet some of the Zoo's residents. We do not have many animals at Chester Zoo which you can actually "handle", but those who are willing to say "Hello" will be available on this day, such as Tarantulas, Snakes, Chicks, Locusts and some others too.

Please assemble **outside the Oakfield at 2.30 p.m.**

CONDUCTED TOUR OF THE ZOO AND ANNUAL JUNIOR MEMBERS' CONFERENCE

Saturday, 21st February 1987

This is an important day for Junior Members, when you have the opportunity to put forward your ideas and views about the Zoo and about what you would like to do within the Club. During the morning, we will be showing you around the Zoo, which will give you plenty of time to think up lots of questions to put to the Zoo's staff. Following a picnic lunch, we will continue the day in the Zoo's lecture hall, with some slides. More details about the conference will be available nearer the time. **Everyone** welcome.

Meet outside the **Oakfield at 10.00 a.m.**, will end around 4.00 p.m.

TRACKS AND SIGNS

Saturday, 21st March 1987

Owing to popular demand, we have decided to repeat this trip again this year. We will be going around the Zoo looking for footprints of both exotic and native residents, and then will take plaster casts. We have to hope for rather muddy weather for this event! **Over eights** invited.

Meet outside the **Oakfield at 11.00 a.m.**, finishing around 4.00 p.m.

FOSSIL-HUNTING EXPEDITION

Saturday, 18th April 1987

We will be visiting Moneyash Quarry in Derbyshire in search of fossils. This is a disused quarry set in the hills, and we were lucky to find many different kinds of fossils on our last trip. **Over tens** invited.

The bus will leave the **Staff Car Park at 9.30 a.m.**, returning around 5.00 p.m.

AINSDALE NATURE RESERVE

Saturday, 23rd May 1987

This is an unusual chance to be shown around this important nature reserve by one of the Wardens. The Reserve is near Southport and has some species only found in this one area of the country. We will be keeping an eye open for toads and lizards, as well as the many rare plants which live among the sand-dunes in this area. It will be a strenuous day's walking. **Over tens** invited.

The bus will leave the **Staff Car Park at 9.30 a.m.**, returning around 5.00 p.m.

DAY HELPING A KEEPER
Saturday, 20th June 1987

Groups will be sent to various sections in the Zoo to help Keepers and see what their jobs can involve. Unfortunately, we have to limit this event to **over 12-year-olds**. Old clothes and "wellies" essential.

Please meet **outside the Oakfield at 11.00 a.m.**; ends around 4.00 p.m.

We may try to arrange a tour of the Zoo for younger Juniors on this day—keep an eye on *Chez Nous* for further details.

SPONSORED WALK ALONG THE SANDSTONE TRAIL
Saturday, 25th July 1987

Rather than a bazaar, this year we have decided to have an eight-mile sponsored walk along a very scenic part of the Sandstone Trail in Cheshire. All those **over eights**

who think they can manage the hilly walk are welcome to join us. We will probably split into a few groups. Ideas about what to raise money for will be welcome at the Conference in February.

The bus will leave the **Staff Car Park at 9.30 a.m.**, returning around 4.00 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE

For those trips which involve either a bus or provision of food, a charge will have to be made in order for us to cover basic costs. This will be collected on the day, and will vary according to the distance to be travelled/food provided.

Bookings must be made for ALL events. Please ring me at the Zoo not more than two weeks before an event if you would like to attend. Places may be limited.

*This list is provisional and, in exceptional circumstances, we may have to alter the dates and times of some of the trips, so please keep an eye on the listing in *Chez Nous* to keep up-to-date.*

Penny Rudd (Mrs.)
Junior Members' Club



We have recently spotted a talent in one of our Junior Members, which I thought you would like to share. On several recent "outings", Tony Lowe (aged 15) from Ormskirk, could be seen sketching subjects of interest. So I asked him if he would mind contributing to the *Zoo News*, and I hope that you will agree that the results are super. Thanks, Tony!



Pearly Nautilus



Young Loris

Arrivals and Births

- 0.0.1 Rodrigues Fruit Bat (*Pteropus rodricensis*) Birth
- 0.0.7 Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) Birth
- 0.0.1 American Bison (*Bison bison*) Birth
- 1.0 Onager (*Equus hemionus*) Birth
- 0.0.1 White-fronted Capuchin (*Cebus albifrons*)
Born July, not previously reported
- 0.0.2 Coypu (*Myocastor coypus*) Birth
- 0.1 Guanaco (*Lama glama*) Birth
- 0.1.1 Nilgai (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*) Birth
- 2.0 Red Lechwe (*Kobus leche*) Birth
- 0.0.15 Dwarf Mongoose (*Helogale parvula*)
Purchased from Ravensden
- 0.0.3 African Crested Porcupine (*Hystrix cristata*) Birth
- 0.0.1 Hamadryas Baboon (*Papio hamadryas*) Birth
- 1.1 Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*) Birth
- 1.0 Arabian Gazelle (*Gazella gazella arabica*)
From Marwell Zoo
- 0.0.1 Agouti (*Dasyprocta aguti*) Birth
- 0.0.1 Straw-necked Ibis (*Threskiornis spinicollis*)
Hatched
- 0.0.1 Rothschild's Mynah (*Leucopsar rothschildi*)
Hatched
- 0.0.3 Superb Spree Starling (*Spreo superbus*) Hatched
- 0.0.1 Yellow-faced Parrotlet (*Forpus xanthops*) Hatched
- 0.0.4 Zebra Finch (*Poephila guttata*) Hatched
- 0.0.1 Sarus Crane (*Grus antigone*) Hatched
- 0.0.1 Andean Condor (*Vultur gryphus*) Hatched
- 0.0.2 Diamond Dove (*Geopelia cuneata*) Presented
- 0.0.2 Diamond Dove (*Geopelia cuneata*) Hatched
- 0.0.1 Pekin Robin (*Leiothrix lutea*) Presented
- 1.1 Ypecaha Wood Rail (*Aramides ypecaha*)
From Harewood Bird Gardens
- 0.0.1 Red-backed Mousebird (*Colius castanotus*)
Hatched
- 0.0.4 White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*) From Bristol Zoo
- 0.0.2 Crowned Plover (*Vanellus coronatus*) Hatched
- 0.0.1 Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) Hatched
- 0.0.2 Red-eared Bulbul (*Pycnonotus jocosus*)
From Tropical World
- 0.0.1 Amethyst Starling (*Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*)
From Tropical World
- 0.0.1 Coleto Mynah (*Sarcops calvus*) Hatched
- 1.0 White-winged Wood Duck (*Cairina scutulata*)
Hatched
- 0.0.1 Humboldt's Penguin (*Spheniscus humboldti*)
Hatched



Coypu with youngster

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

- 0.0.1 Red-billed Hornbill (*Tockus erythrorhynchus*)
From Cotswold Wildlife Park
- 0.0.4 Musschenbroek's Lorikeet (*Neopsittarus musschenbroekii*)
Purchased from H.M. Customs
- 1.0 Splendid Parakeet (*Neophema splendida*)
Purchased
- 1.1 Indo Chinese Green Peafowl (*Pavo muticus imperator*) From Paignton Zoo
- 1.1 Madagascar Partridge (*Margaroperdix madagarensis*) From Paignton Zoo
- 1.1 Leadbeater's Cockatoo (*Cacatua leadbeateri*)
From Paignton Zoo
- 0.0.1 Purple Glossy Starling (*Lamprotornis purpureus*) Hatched
- 0.0.1 Red Cowled Cardinal (*Paroria dominicana*)
Hatched
- 1.0 Himalayan Monal (*Lophophorus impeyanus*)
From Doreen Smythies
- 0.0.2 Yellow-naped Macaw (*Ara auricollis*)
From Marwell Zoo
- 0.0.2 Roulroul Partridge (*Rollulus roulroul*)
From Birdworld, Farnham
- 0.0.1 Mountain Witch Dove (*Geotrygon versicolor*)
From Birdworld, Farnham
- 0.0.3 Fulvous Whistling Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*)
Hatched
- 0.0.3 Blacksmith's Plover (*Vanellus armatus*) Hatched
- 0.1 Variable Chacalaca (*Ortalis motmot*)
From Kilverstone Wildlife Park
- 1.1 Blue-crowned Motmot (*Momotus momota*)
From Kilverstone Wildlife Park
- 1.0 White-faced Tree Duck (*Dendrocygna viduata*)
From Trevor Lay
- 0.0.3 Waldrapp Ibis (*Geronticus eremita*)
From Norfolk Wildlife Park
- 0.0.4 Greek Tortoise (*Testudo graeca*) Presented
- 0.0.1 Common Iguana (*Iguana iguana*) Presented
- 0.0.1 Leopard Gecko (*Eublepharis macularius*) Hatched
- 0.0.1 Rhinoceros Iguana (*Cylcura cornuta*) Exchange
- 0.0.1 Plumed Basilisk (*Basiliscus plumifrons*) Presented
- 1.0 Red-tailed Racer (*Elaphe oxycephala*) Exchange
- 0.0.2 Cichlids (*Geophagus braziliensis*) Exchange
- 0.0.1 Indian Climbing Perch (*Anabas testudineus*)
Exchange
- 0.0.2 Sea Anemone (*Radianthus sp*) Exchange
- 0.0.1 Emperor Angel (*Pomacanthus imperator*)
Exchange
- 0.0.6 Fire Mouth Cichlid (*Cichlasoma meeki*) Exchange
- 0.0.263 Grass Carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*) Received



Baby Porcupines at play

Keith Freeburn, Mel Grundy Photographic Agency