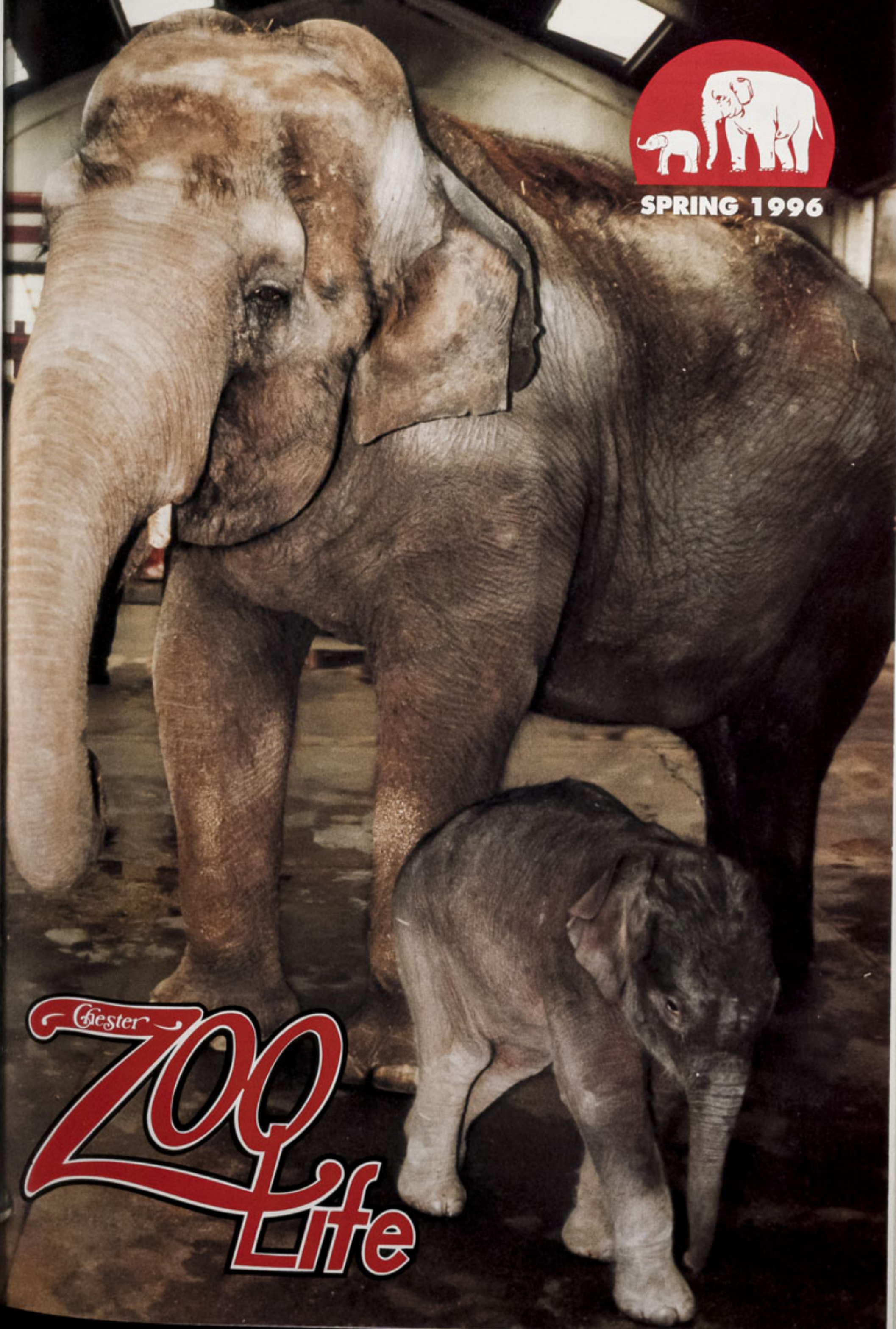




SPRING 1996



Chester  
**Zoo**  
**Life**

# Chez Nous



Chester Zoo Life is published by the North of England Zoological Society, Upton-by-Chester, Cheshire CH2 1LH Telephone (01244) 380280  
 Director: Dr. Gordon McGregor Reid  
 Editor: Pat Cade

**S**urely there can be no greater cause for rejoicing among zoo enthusiasts than the birth of a baby elephant! I know that the Members, Adopters, Council and staff will share in my immense pride and pleasure at this extremely rare and happy event.



The female baby arrived at 4.55 am on 19 December 1995, and it is the first cow and only the second Asian elephant to be successfully born and raised in the UK. (The first was, of course, our junior bull, Jubilee, born here in May 1977). The father is Chester's senior bull, Chang. Prior to the birth, Thi-Hi-Way, the pregnant mother (on a long term cooperative breeding loan from London Zoo) was being monitored on a closed-circuit TV camera by keepers on a round-the-clock rota. Keeper on watch, Gavin Bouchier, saw that Thi was in labour and alerted other keepers, curators and our veterinary surgeons Noel Walker

and Dereck Lyon. Congratulations are due to this team and to several other colleagues for organising all of the many arrangements needed for a successful calving.



Typical for elephants, the pregnancy lasted an incredible 638 days. The birth, however, took only a matter of minutes. The baby, still partly covered in the birth sac, lay on the ground and showed the first signs of life, including the flapping of big baby ears and the uncurling of a delicate, pink-tipped trunk some 50cm (20 ins) long. Wrinkled, hairy and weighing-in at a chunky 120 kilos (265 lbs), she struggled gamely to her feet and stood 97 cm (38 ins) at the shoulder. Unfortunately – as sometimes happens among mammals, perhaps from the intense pain of labour – Thi became aggressive towards the infant. This was an anxious and critical moment, because Thi's previous calf had died during the birthing process. For safety reasons, the decision was taken that the mother and new-born calf had to be separated.



It became clear that the baby would have to be bottle fed. The immediate problem was how to get hold of elephant milk. At that moment, no one really relished the prospect of approaching the nearest manufacturer – Thi – on this rather sensitive matter! To ensure a strong response to disease, it is very important for a baby elephant to drink 'early milk' or colostrum. This is produced for only a short time by the mother, just after giving birth. Colostrum is rich in proteins and vitamins and temporarily passes on the immune response of the mother to the calf until she develops her own resistance to disease. Luckily, when Thi had calmed down, it was possible to obtain about 1.5 litres and feed it to the youngster along with a specially formulated milk supplement. Would this be enough we all

wondered? In the days that followed our anxiety increased as the baby seemed to have a mild stomach upset and was a bit dehydrated. Elephant milk is fairly similar to that of humans and so, taking expert advice from around the world, we changed the artificial milk supplement to SMA baby milk. It worked: and the healthy calf – at the time of writing 140 kilos (308 lbs) – is fed every two hours, and takes in 12 litres (3 gallons) a day! This is just the beginning, for it will take about two years to wean her.



Bill Peratt of Chester Saddlery has kindly provided a special warm, made-to-measure overcoat to keep out the winter chill. She is very playful and, apart from kicking a football and tossing a rubber ring, enjoys running around with the keepers. As with any energetic baby, she needs a lot of sleep: four to seven hours a day lying down, or dozing lightly while standing up. She is gradually being introduced to the adult cows, because we want her to see them as her real family and be accepted by the group. Sheba (40) and Kumara (29), have responded well to the youngster and are acting as affectionate 'aunties'. On 19 January '96 we judged the calf strong enough to meet the media and her admiring public. The story has hit the headlines in Britain and overseas with lots of press, radio and television coverage. BBC TV's Blue Peter, through a children's competition, helped the zoo to choose a name for our much-loved baby. More than 143,000 viewers phoned in to vote, and the name selected is 'Karha.'

◆ **Front Cover:** No question as to who should be our cover girl this issue! Karha is pictured here with 'Auntie' Kumara. Picture courtesy of Mirror Group Newspapers.



## MEMBERS' MEETINGS 1996

Saturday 13 April 1996 –  
2.30 pm in the Lecture Hall  
Dr Gordon McGregor Reid –  
'A ZOO REVIEW'.

Saturday 18 May 1996 –  
2.30 pm in the Lecture Hall  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Members are reminded that with the exception of the AGM, a charge of £1.00 will be made at the door to offset some of the expenses for bringing speakers. Tea and biscuits are included.

## FLORA AND FAUNA INTERNATIONAL

Friday 19 April 1996 – 7.30 pm in the Chester Zoo Lecture Theatre

FFI Members: £5.50. Non Members: £6.00

includes light buffet and wine.

Dr. Gordon McGregor Reid

### 'SHARKS, STINGRAYS AND CONSERVATION'

Chester Zoo's Director gives a fascinating insight into this greatly misunderstood creature. Tickets from Penny Rudd at the zoo – 01244 380280 ext 215

## OVERWHELMING SUPPORT

Council Chairman, Beatrice Jones, thanks Members and Adopters.

The response to my appeal for support of the zoo in its representations regarding European grant aid to Deep Sea World, has been enormously encouraging. I would like to thank all of you who have written to the Government Office North West and also for the many kind letters of support that I have received.

At the time of writing, we await the decision of the Government office of the North West regarding the grant of more than £3 million towards the development of Deep Sea World and hope that our reasoned, genuinely held objections, will be listened to carefully. We do not, of course, object to competition. We do object to the allocation of a large sum of public funds to an organisation that will compete with Chester Zoo but which does not have a charitable mission in conservation and science and will be cushioned by public money.

The resulting unfair competition will distort the local economy and could seriously affect Chester Zoo's ability to maintain its broad programmes in conservation, science and education both here and abroad.

## AQUATIC SUCCESSES

Staff in the aquarium achieved two major conservation successes in February.

Over 20 tadpole shrimps were hatched – representing the first 2nd generation zoo breeding of Britain's most endangered and rarest crustaceans. This is part of the Species Action Plan being developed for English Nature.

The second outstanding success was the breeding of more than 300 sea horses, successfully reared beyond the critical stage, as part of the zoo's contribution to the Seahorse Conservation Group.

Both programmes are part of the UK's Fish and Aquatic Invertebrate Taxon Advisory Groups, which are led by Chester Zoo.

## CHESTER ZOO - ONE HUNDRED CLUB

The monthly winners since the last issue of Zoo Life are:

Nov '95: £100 Mrs M. Allsopp  
£100 Dr P. Dugan  
£ 50 Mrs E. Livingstone  
£ 50 Mrs B. Jones  
£ 50 Mr J. Whitby  
Dec '95: £700 Mr W. Morrison  
£100 Mr W. J. De Prez  
£ 50 Mrs D. Leaing

Jan '96: £ 50 Mrs S. J. Cheetham  
£100 Mrs A. Holmes  
£100 Mr G. Milan  
£ 50 Mrs F. Bland  
£ 50 Mr J. Barnett  
£ 50 Mrs D. Allen

Membership of the "100 Club" is still invited. Please contact Alan Sykes at the zoo if you wish to participate.

## MEMBERS' CONCESSIONARY TICKETS PRICE REVIEW

These special tickets are still available to members who wish to purchase them. The zoo entrance price increases at the end of March, and the cost of concessionary half-price tickets will therefore increase accordingly.

The prices from 31 March '96 will be:

		Normal Price
Adult tickets	£3.75 each	£7.50
OAP tickets	£2.75 each	£5.50
Child tickets	£2.50 each	£5.00

These special tickets must be purchased in advance, through the membership office (postal applications), or at the information kiosk.

If applying by post, please make cheque payable to Chester Zoo, and enclose a stamped, addressed envelope for ticket return.

We sometimes get requests from Junior Members for concessionary tickets. Sorry, Juniors – they are only available to adult members.

## DAY TRIP TO TWYXCROSS ZOO

Date: Saturday, 29 June 1996;

Venue: Twycross Zoo.

Cost: £8.50 adults. £8.00 OAPs and children under 15: £7.00. (Children must be accompanied).

Full details of this coach trip are enclosed with your magazine.

Over the last year, there have been several new animals at Twycross Zoo. Some of the more notable are the Golden Langurs, Baburusa – a pig species from Indonesia – and Congo Buffalo, which are housed in new paddocks. Other new acquisitions worth a mention include Pudu, Owl-faced Guenons and the strange woolly-coated Kuni Kuni pigs. There is a new enclosure for the woolly monkeys, incorporating several environmental enrichment ideas, including their own herb garden, which they use regularly! 'Keke' the baby Bonobo and the baby Gorilla continue to thrive.

The cost of this great day trip for members, adopters, staff and their families, includes coach fare, entrance fees and guided tour. The numbers are limited to the 49 seater coach, so if you would like to join us, complete the application form enclosed with this magazine, and return to Maureen Allsopp.

## AN EVENING PERAMBULATION

**D**o you fancy perambulating at a leisurely pace through the zoo on a light summer's evening – after it has officially closed?

Would you like to be shown around parts of the animal and plant collection in a small group by one of our experienced volunteer guides, without having to dodge through crowds of people?

Would you like to find out a bit more about the interesting and dedicated work of the zoo in respect to conservation?

If your answer is YES, why not book a date for your club, society or organisation to enjoy a unique experience in the beautiful surroundings of the zoo.

For further information and a booking form for these Evening Perambulations, contact Linda or Mark in the Education Department on (01244) 380280 Ext. 250\249.

## Whose Poo?

**D**ecember was a very busy month for sales of gift pots of zoo poo! But at least the zoo had no problems of right of ownership of this rich by-product. This letter was published in the Bangkok Post in December:

*Sir:*

*Elephant droppings have become increasingly popular as garden fertilizer, but collecting is a risky business. Last week an elephant went to the toilet in our street and a public spectacle erupted. It involved my maid, Khun Hazel, shovelling the ordure into a bucket; a drunken foreign woman screaming she had fed the animal previously and was claiming a return on her investment; and the mahout, seeing the manure as a potential gold mine, trying to sell it. The elephant remained calm.*

*I fear incidents like this will happen again and again unless some legal expert can inform the public who is the rightful owner of the dung once it hits the street.*

*Edith Clampton (Mrs)*

**Orders for ordure still accepted!**

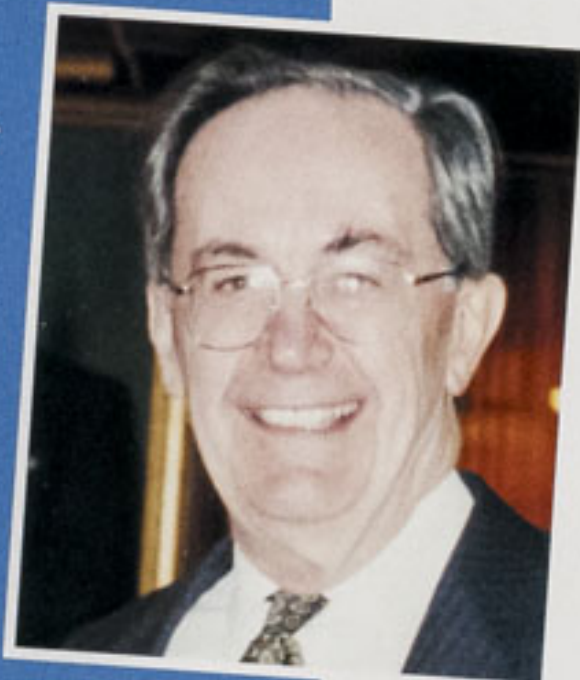


▲ Keeper Ruth Parker administers a little t.l.c. to a tiny Arabian Gazelle – one of a pair that she has been hand rearing. Ruth will be leaving the zoo shortly, to start a new career in nursing. She has been a much valued member of the keeping staff for over eight years, and we wish her great success and happiness in the future.

## HELP FROM ROYAL LIVER

**T**he North West based Royal Liver Assurance have linked with the zoo, in a promotion that will help the zoo's conservation programme. The company is making a generous donation to the zoo every time a tax-free savings plan is taken out in conjunction with the zoo. A leaflet detailing the scheme is enclosed with this magazine; and free information packs can be obtained by freephone 0800-66 11 11. The leaflet also has two children's competitions, with brilliant prizes.

Alan Du Cros,  
who retired as  
Deputy Director  
and Financial  
Controller.



Michael Johnson,  
the Zoo's new  
Financial  
Controller.



Arnold Johnson,  
Security Officer  
for over 31 years,  
retired at the  
end of January.



Marc Boardman  
- from Elephant  
Keeper to Security  
Officer.



## Changing FACES

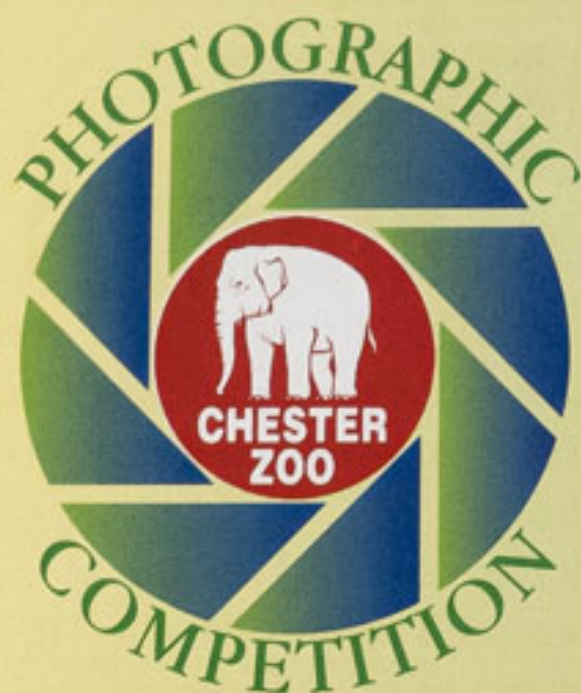
by Gordon Reid

It was sad to say goodbye to two senior and highly respected members of staff, Alan Du Cros and Arnold Johnson, who have recently retired from the zoo.

Alan, our Deputy Director and Financial Controller, has been with us since 1984. He came to the zoo after a long experience in the commercial world: first in Coopers & Lybrand (where as a junior in 1949 he was paid the princely sum of 30 old shillings a week!); later with the US based company Cross International. Alan used his considerable experience to revolutionise the way in which the zoo accounts for and manages its finances. In particular, he is associated with the gradual introduction of computerised systems and the implementation of strict but necessary financial controls. He now passes the zoo's well ordered and robust accounts into the highly qualified and competent hands of Michael Johnson, a long time supporter of the zoo and former Member of Council.

Security Officer Arnold Johnson will also be greatly missed. He has served the zoo faithfully for more than 31 years. During this time he has very successfully managed the overall security of the zoo, including visitors, animals (preventing thefts!) gates, cash handling and liaison with police and other outside agencies. Arnold's diligence has served the zoo well on many occasions and his tact, patience and sense of humour have been a public relations bonus. Arnold's place will be taken by elephant keeper Marc Boardman, who has been Arnold's deputy for some years, ably partnered by new staff member Mervyn Garside.

So a warm welcome to the new appointees; and to Alan and Jean Du Cros and Arnold and Mary Johnson, warmest wishes for a relaxing and happy retirement!



## WINNERS 1995

The quality of entries for our annual competition seems to go up every year. The judges for the 1995 competition were Mike Maloney, Chief Photographer of the Mirror Group Newspapers; Mike Wiltshire (our first prize winner in the print section for 1993 and 1994) and Mrs Barbara Mothershaw, Head of Economic and Tourism Development for Chester City Council. They had an enormously difficult job, spending several hours over their choice. The winning photographs are pictured here.

**Junior First Prize:** (Top left) Barry Tapping, aged 14, of Backwell, Bristol. The judges loved the expression on this chomping guanaco!  
**Second Prize Juniors:** Simon Burgess (10 years) of Great Sutton, Chester.

**First Prize print section:** (Bottom left) Miss A. Robinson of Cheadle Hulme. The judges were impressed by the sense of scale given by the inclusion of just the mother's hand – and the cheeky look of the baby.

**Second Prize, Prints:** David Burns, Wolverhampton. **Third Prize:** Karen Stott, Huddersfield.

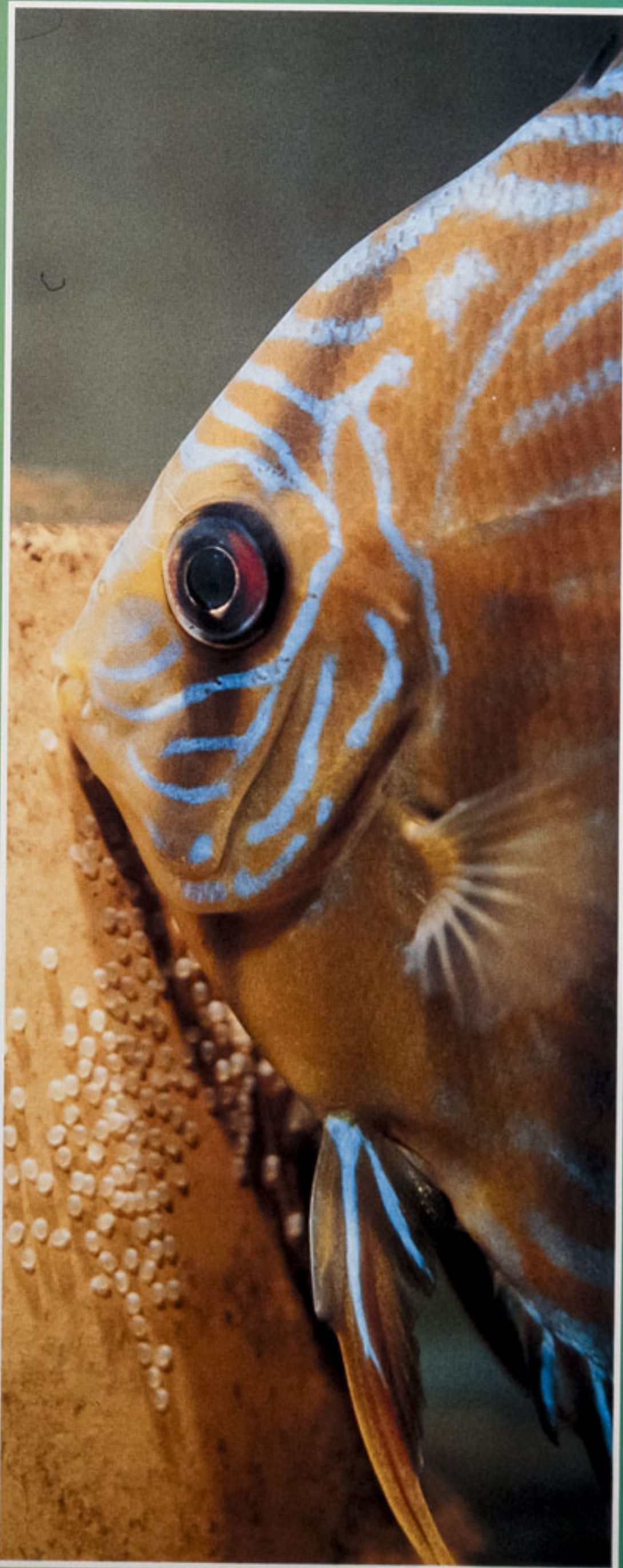
**Garden Section Prize:** (Middle top) Mr P. Rudolf of Great Sutton, Wirral, for this colourful shot of the Otter Fountain in Springtime.

**First Prize Slides Section:** (Middle bottom) Geoff Fletcher of Wakefield, West Yorkshire. The composition of this picture impressed the judges.

**Second Prize Slides:** Ted Keane, Shavington. **Third Prize:** Michael Jacobs, Newton Abbot.

**First Prize, Staff Section:** (Far right) Justin Bell – for this picture of a Discus fish guarding her eggs.



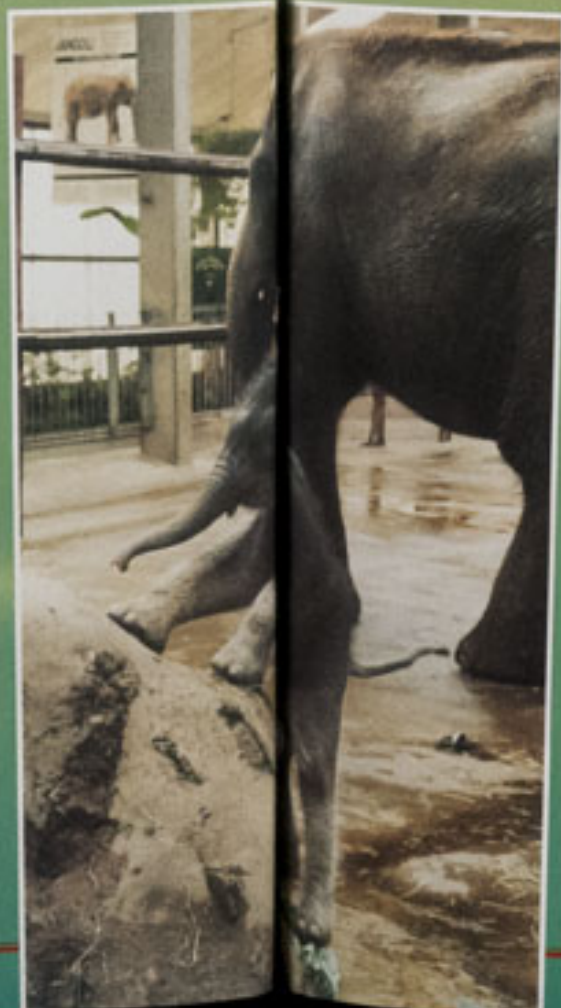


The 1996 entry forms will be available early in April



# Introducing KAWHA!

These pictures were taken at a press call, when she was just four weeks old. Pictures of this baby appeared in newspapers all over the world.





was hoped that the female would select one of these for a partner. One of the males was found dead, believed killed by the other male. The surviving male and female went on to build a small mud platform and line this nest with moss but no eggs were laid. The female is thought to be over 25 years old and perhaps we should not be over optimistic as she may now be too old to lay. One Crowned Plover was reared but neither the Stone Curlews nor Avocets showed any indication of nesting.

Nicobar Pigeons, Superb Fruit Doves, Jambu Fruit Dove, Speckled Pigeons and Diamond Doves were bred. Blue Crowned Pigeons laid for the first time at Chester. Their first eggs were infertile but the last, more encouragingly, was fertile but failed to hatch. Most of the Pink Pigeon eggs were infertile, and the few fertile eggs failed very early during incubation.

Yellow-Backed Chattering Lorries, Musschenbroek's Lorikeets and Stella's Lorikeets were bred. However, the year ended badly with the death of the breeding female Musschenbroek's Lorikeet, leaving us with four males, including the breeding male, but without females.

The female Palm Cockatoo spent several weeks in the nest-log early in the year but no eggs were laid. Later in the year the pair had to be separated because of aggression from the male, probably a result of him entering breeding condition before she was ready. A second pair of Palm Cockatoos and two male White-tailed Black Cockatoos were received on loan from HM Customs and Excise.

Six Blue-eyed Cockatoos were sent on loan to other collections and three more bred in 1995. Other parrots reared included a Vosmaeri Eclectus Parrot, four Greater Vasa Parrots, and two Derbyan Parakeets. The Red-fronted Macaws reared four chicks. Two Blue and Gold Macaws were reared and a female Blue-throated Macaw was received on loan from Loro Parque to pair with Chester's male. Four Green-cheeked Amazon Parrots were reared by their parents. Three Cuban Amazon chicks were hatched and successfully hand-reared. A female Red-tailed Amazon was received on loan from Loro Parque and has now been paired with a male on loan from Paradise Park, Hayle.



◆ CONGO PEACOCK - Four were bred in 1995

Two Golden Conures were hand-reared. The first of these chicks was introduced to its parents when five months old. The parents were alarmed at first but soon interacted with, and became very protective of the youngster behaving as if they had themselves reared the chick. The second has also recently been introduced to this 'family group'. Blue-throated Conures hatched three chicks but, very disappointingly, all three died at three weeks. The Slender-billed Conures again reared four chicks and a Thick-billed Parrot was also hatched and reared by its

parents.

One Schalow's Turaco and a Red-crested Turaco were hatched in the incubator and successfully hand-reared. A Violaceous Turaco was reared by its parents and two more were hand-reared.

Only one Spectacled Owl but four White-faced Scops Owls, two Snowy Owls, and two Barn Owls were reared. As in previous years, the Barn Owls were donated to the Keele University Barn Owl release scheme. The Ferruginous Pygmy Owls laid infertile eggs. Four Tawny

*Continued on page 12*



In the last issue of *Zoo Life*, Sally Walker wrote about Chester Zoo's involvement with this Indian organisation. In this follow up article, she describes the work of 'ZOO'.

The Zoo Outreach Organisation promotes the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group in particular and different activities of the Species Survival Commission of IUCN (World Conservation Union) in general. The specialist groups of IUCN do not have large budgets, so ZOO utilises some of the donation from Chester Zoo for these projects.

ZOO maintains a very successful branch or 'satellite' of the CBSG, called, simply, CBSG India. This seemed to fill a need in the country to keep up-to-date on the most recent innovations and publications, 'ZOO's Print' and 'ZOO Zen' to print or reprint news, articles and announcements relevant to these subjects. We have also recommended key people in the field to the Chairman so that they could be made members of CBSG. Before ZOO got involved, there were only six Indian members of CBSG and now there are nearly 50.

ZOO has also organised several 'PHVA' (endangered species) workshops with CBSG India and an Indian host. These have been so successful that now the Ministry of Environment and Central Zoo

## ZOO OUTREACH ORGANISATION



▲ A participant at Calcutta Zoo inspects the variety of literature on display at the Population and Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA) Workshop for the Indian rhino, held at Jaldapara Wildlife Sanctuary in north Bengal.

Authority have begun funding them. Nick Ellerton, Curator of Mammals at Chester Zoo, has attended three of these workshops. ZOO\CBSG India follows up PHVA recommendations. Sending reminders and reprints of PHVA reports and recommendations to new officers who have taken over since the workshop is very necessary in India because of the transfer system.

ZOO also distributes and displays CBSG literature on other PHVAs, on tools, training, theory and technology. At every opportunity a display is organised so that people can look through material which is otherwise generally unavailable in India.

The Species Survival Commission has many animal and subject area specialist groups. ZOO\CBSG India keeps in touch with many of these and tries to inform them when there is an Indian specialist who should be invited to the group. The SSC sends one copy of each specialist group newsletter to ZOO. ZOO either xeroxes them when funds permit, or provides them in a reprint service which can then be offered at a low rate as a result of donations to ZOO.

Communication, cooperation and collaboration have improved since ZOO\CBSG India came on the scene. Much of this is due to the help Chester Zoo has provided for the last five years.

For the past couple of years, the Federation of Zoos and its Members have been supporting the Falklands Conservation's 'Penguin Appeal,' by raising public awareness and funds for species and habitat conservation in the southwest Atlantic. This support is ongoing – and the penguin shaped collecting box by our penguin pool has exceeded everyone's expectations!

However, this year the Federation's main support is being given to fund raising and highlighting the plight of the tigers.

At the beginning of the century, more than 100,000 tigers roamed Asia. To-day, there are around 5,000 – a decline of a staggering 95%. Once there were eight kinds; now there are five, with some populations at critically low levels.

Special prominence will be given to crucial issues relating to tiger conservation and protection during Tiger Week – which runs from May Spring Bank Holiday, 27 May to 2 June.

◆ AMUR TIGER Chester Zoo –  
Now critically endangered in the wild



## TIGER WEEK

Tiger Week aims to:

- ★ raise funds for tiger conservation and protection projects in Siberia, Sumatra and India.
- ★ create public awareness about the plight of tigers
- ★ create awareness about the role of Federation zoos in tiger conservation.
- ★ create awareness, generally, about the role of the Federation and its members.

Chester Zoo will be taking part in Tiger Week, with special displays, competitions and children's activities.

## JUNIOR MEMBERS' PROGRAMME OF EVENTS AUTUMN 1995 TO AUTUMN 1996

### PLEASE NOTE

Most Junior Members' events are arranged for eight year olds or older, but occasionally we have to target events at just over tens or over twelves. Bookings must be made for all events. Please ring Penny at the Zoo on 01244 380280, Extension 215, not more than two weeks before the event you would like to attend. Places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, and may be limited. For those trips which involve either a bus trip or the provision of food or materials, a charge will be made to cover costs - but we keep this as low as possible. This list is provisional and in exceptional circumstances we may have to alter the dates and times of some of the trips. You will not be informed of such changes individually - so please read the Junior pages in the magazine each quarter to keep up-to-date with Junior News.

### TRACKS AND SIGNS

**Saturday 23rd March 1996**

This is a day for Juniors who love to get muddy! We choose March to be sure to have damp enough weather to find some really good footprints in the enclosures, so that plaster casts can be taken. Over eights are invited to join the fun, which kicks off by meeting outside the Oakfield at 11.00 am, returning there to be collected at 4.00 pm. Bring a picnic and wear old clothes and wellies.

### FOSSIL HUNTING

**Saturday 27th April 1996**

We have a new area to discover this year. We will head off into the Shropshire countryside to Wenlock Edge. Having found out about the local geology (ie. what we are to look for!) in the Much Wenlock Museum, we will picnic on the Wenlock escarpment and spend the afternoon fossil hunting in Comas Quarry. We leave the Staff Car Park at 9.30 am, and we should be back there for 5.00 pm. Good shoes and warm clothing will be needed, as well as a picnic.

### THE 'WIRRAL WAY' WILDLIFE WALK

**Saturday 25th May 1996**

A new event for Juniors will be our Wildlife Walk along the old disused railway route which is now called the 'Wirral Way'. We plan to be dropped off by the bus at Parkgate and walk along the estuary shore and cliffs to Thurstaston Country Park, (where the bus will meet us) observing the wildlife on the way. We may also do some pond dipping. The walk is about four miles, but will not be too strenuous.

Over eights are welcome to join us. Juniors should assemble at the staff car park at 10.00 am, and we will return at 4.30 pm. Bring a picnic.

### ANGLESEY - SOUTH STACK AND PUFFIN ISLAND

**Saturday 22nd June 1996**

This should be a bird watching delight as we discover the view from the tower at the RSPB's Reserve at South Stack on Anglesey, before an afternoon boat trip around Puffin Island.

Juniors of ten years old and over are invited to join us. You will need a picnic and good shoes. The boat could be chilly, so bring something warm to wear. We will leave the staff car park at 10.00 am, returning at 5.00 pm.

### A 'DAY WITH A KEEPER'

**Wednesday 24th July 1996**

We have to limit this most popular event to Juniors who are a minimum of twelve years old as it can be very hard work.

Juniors will spend a day working alongside a Keeper learning about their job and some of the animals they look after.

Meet outside the Oakfield at 10.30 am. The day will finish at 4.00 pm at the Oakfield for collection. Bring along a picnic and wellies.

### SUMMER BARBEQUE

**Friday 16th August 1996**

The summer barbeque hold lots of surprises for those who have not seen the Zoo at dusk. The essence of the evening is to have fun and enjoy the flavour and aroma of cooking over

the coals.

Provisional timings are to come through the Staff Entrance at 7.00 pm and walk to the Jubilee cafe, and be collected from the Jubilee at 9.45 pm. Over eights.

### MACHYNLLETH

**Saturday 21st September 1996**

This will be the Junior Club's first visit to Machynlleth which is a centre for alternative power and conservation. We will travel to Powys in mid Wales to find out about water power, wind power and how to conserve power.

The coach will leave the staff car park at 9.30 am, returning at around 4.30 pm. Over eights are welcome to come along and learn more about the environment. Warm clothes and a picnic will be needed.

### ARE YOU REALLY WILD ABOUT ANIMALS?

The BBC's award winning TV programme, The Really Wild Show, is about to commence making a series of programmes about children who have a passion for animals or have an unusual story to tell about their association with animals. If you are 8 - 11 years old, and think your passion is worth declaring, contact Nigel Pope at The Really Wild Show, BBC Natural History Unit, Broadcasting House, Whiteladies Road, Bristol BS8 2LR. Tel: 0117 974 6635

## CHESTER ZOO'S JUNIOR MEMBERS APPEAL 1996 TO HELP THE CHILDREN OF THE AFRICAN MALI HAI WILDLIFE CLUB

Throughout Tanzania, in Africa, there is an environmental and wildlife group called The Mali Hai Club. This was originally set up to plant trees to stop soil erosion, but has expanded to include a big interest in the local wildlife of Africa. 'Mali Hai' means 'all trees, wild mammals and birds'.

Can you imagine what it would be like to live in the beautiful surroundings of Tanzania in Africa, with many wonderful wild animals living all around you, many of them within some of the most lovely National Parks in the whole of Africa, such as the Serengeti?

Can you also imagine how frustrating it must be to have these National Parks on your doorstep but not have the money or the vehicles needed to go inside and see those spectacular wild beasts that draw thousands of tourists to Africa each year?

It must be very hard.

**WELL, CHESTER ZOO'S JUNIOR MEMBERS CAN HELP THE CHILDREN OF THE MALI HAI WILDLIFE CLUB IN TANZANIA TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT THEIR OWN NATIONAL PARKS AND SEE THEIR OWN COUNTRY'S WILD ANIMALS.**

Many of the Children of Endarofta Secondary School have written wonderful essays telling us about their school and about the Mali Hai Club. These essays give a vivid picture of the life at Endarofta, including their three mile trip every morning to collect water by hand, and their special Saturdays when they have enough electricity from a generator to run a tape recorder to play music. Their aim is to learn more about the wild animals in Africa so that when they grow up they can understand how best to conserve them and enable them to live side by side with the people of Africa, to ensure their survival.

There are many AID Agencies which help the Children of Africa with their medical and educational needs, but there is no help for them to get to know their animals.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP? THIS IS HOW YOU CAN

It is important for the children of Africa to see and enjoy wildlife on the Serengeti. They have no zoos and no access to television programmes about animals. If they have the chance to like animals, as you all do now, hopefully they will want to preserve their natural environment, help stop the poaching and perhaps have jobs involved with animals and the tourists who come to see them.

The hope for the future for many of the animals rests in the hands of these children.

Thanks to a very helpful local safari company, and with the encouragement of a friendly English lady teaching the children at Endarofta, it will not cost very much in 'our English money' to arrange for a group of the youngsters from Endarofta Secondary School to have the opportunity to visit the park once a year.

All we need to do is raise enough money to pay the park entry fees and for the use of transport which is essential to travel around the park.

Would you like to donate a small amount of your pocket money to help?

Every single penny counts and I am sure **if each Junior just gave 50 pence or more** we will soon be reaching our target. Watch the water butt in the Zoo magazine fill with water each time we reach another goal in our fund raising!

In return, these children will help us to promote conservation and the work of our zoo in this country.

**If you would like to send a donation, become a "Pen pal" or if you would like further details about this project please contact Penny Rudd, Chester Zoo, Upton-by-Chester, CHESTER, CH2 1LH (telephone 01244 380280 ext 215).**



# Arrivals ○ Births ♂ and ♀ and Hatchings

NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 1995 AND JANUARY 1996



## MAMMALS

Rodrigue's Fruit Bat*	<i>Pteropus rodricensis</i>	0.0.3	Born
Seba's Short-tailed Bat	<i>Carollia perspicillata</i>	0.0.1	Born
Celebes Macaque	<i>Macaca niger</i>	0.0.1	Born
Chimpanzee*	<i>Pan troglodytes</i>	0.1.0	Born
Orang utan (Bornean Form)*	<i>Pongo pygmaeus pygmaeus</i>	1.0.0	Born
Asian Elephant*	<i>Elephas maximus</i>	0.1.0	Born
Guanaco*	<i>Lama guanicoe</i>	1.0.0	Born
Axis Deer	<i>Cervus axis</i>	1.0.0	Born
Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	0.1.0	Arrival
Gemsbok	<i>Oryx gazella gazella</i>	1.0.0	Born
Blackbuck*	<i>Antelope cervicapra</i>	1.2.0	Born
Arabian Gazelle*	<i>Gazella gazella arabica</i>	3.1.0	Born

## BIRDS

Chilean Flamingo*	<i>Phoenicopterus chilensis</i>	0.0.3	Hatched
Humboldt's Penguin*	<i>Spheniscus humboldti</i>	0.0.4	Hatched
White Pelican*	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	2.1.0	Received
Baikal Teal*	<i>Anas formosa</i>	1.1.0	Received
Falcated Teal	<i>Anas falcata</i>	4.0.0	Received
Mandarin Duck*	<i>Aix galericulata</i>	2.2.0	Received
Bufflehead	<i>Bucephalus albeola</i>	1.0.0	Received
Red-legged Partridge*	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>	0.0.6	Received
Temminck's Tragopan*	<i>Tragopan temminckii</i>	1.1.0	Received
Golden Pheasant*	<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>	1.0.0	Received
Common Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	3.0.0	Received

## BIRDS continued

Ocellated Turkey*	<i>Agriocharis ocellata</i>	1.1.0	Received
Avocet*	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	1.1.0	Received
Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	0.0.4	Hatched
Diamond Dove	<i>Geopelia cuneata</i>	0.1.0	Received
"Vosmaeri" Eclectus Parrot*	<i>Eclectus roratus vosmaeri</i>	0.0.1	Hatched
Red-masked Conure*	<i>Aratinga erythrogenys</i>	0.0.1	Received
Hildebrandt's Starling	<i>Spreo hildebrandti</i>	0.0.4	Received

## REPTILES

Thailand Water Dragon	<i>Physignathus cocincinus</i>	0.0.1	Hatched
Philippine Sail Fin Lizard*	<i>Hydrosaurus pustulatus</i>	0.0.6	Hatched
Cuban Boa	<i>Epicrates angulifer</i>	0.0.6	Hatched
Emerald Tree Boa	<i>Corallus caninus</i>	0.0.2	Received
Poison Arrow Frog*	<i>Dendrobates auratus</i>	0.0.10	Received
Poison Arrow Frog*	<i>Dendrobates leucomelas</i>	0.0.10	Received
Poison Arrow Frog*	<i>Phyllobates vittatus</i>	0.0.10	Received

## AQUARIUM

Lake Malawi Cichlid	<i>Aulonocara species</i>	0.0.100	Hatched
Bristlenose Plecostomus	<i>Xenocara dolichoptera</i>	0.0.100	Hatched
Seahorse	<i>Hippocampus</i>	0.0.414	Born
Fresh-water Stingray	<i>Potamotrygon motoro</i>	0.0.5	Born