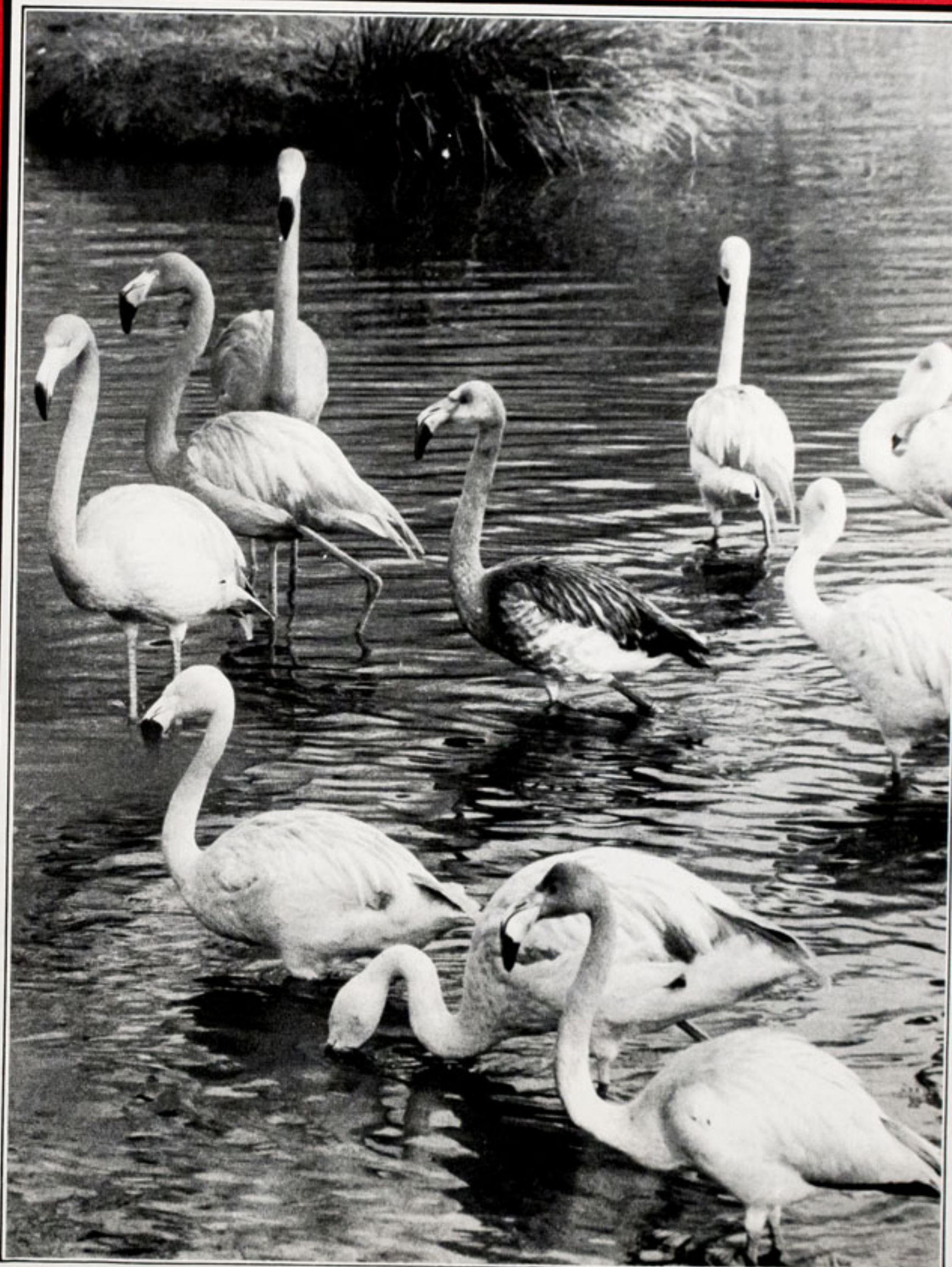


# CHEZ NOUS



CHESTER ZOO NEWS

AUTUMN/WINTER 1987



# Editorial

We have decided to make the Autumn and Winter Issue of *Chez Nous* a "bumper edition", as much of the material contained, it is hoped, will give readers some real food for thought.

Avid readers of "happenings" in the Bird Section will be pleased to hear Roger Wilkinson's description of events within the Flamingo colony this summer, whilst—I am sure that everyone agrees—occasionally it is beneficial to use our members' magazine for the serious topic addressed by Dr. Brambell in this issue regarding the General Purpose of this Society and that of zoos, bridging the gap into the next century.

On a lighter note, however, we have the new list of events for members, plus snippets about just a few of the things which have been happening in the Zoo recently, including our special visit from Gerald and Lee Durrell, which was so well supported by members.

Congratulations go to our Aquarist, Michael Crumpler, who describes our first breeding of Dwarf Seahorses. The result is an almost embarrassing number of these creatures in the Aquarium!



Some of the crew of *HMS Broadsword* who visited recently, when the ship was in port in Liverpool



Dwarf Seahorse adult

Francis Fox

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### Editorial Board

Penny Rudd ..... *Editor*  
 Dr. Michael Brambell ..... *Director*

**Front Cover:** Centre stage on this photo is one of the young Flamingos bred at the Zoo this year  
*Chris Vere*

**Back Cover:** Waldrapp Ibis  
*Chris Vere*

# Seahorses

FAMILY SYNGNATHIDAE

The Seahorse is one of the most unusual and also the most popular of all the species of marine fish. There are about 25 species in all, ranging from sub-tropical to temperate seas—they are found in the Mediterranean, Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans, and are even sometimes found around the Devon coast.

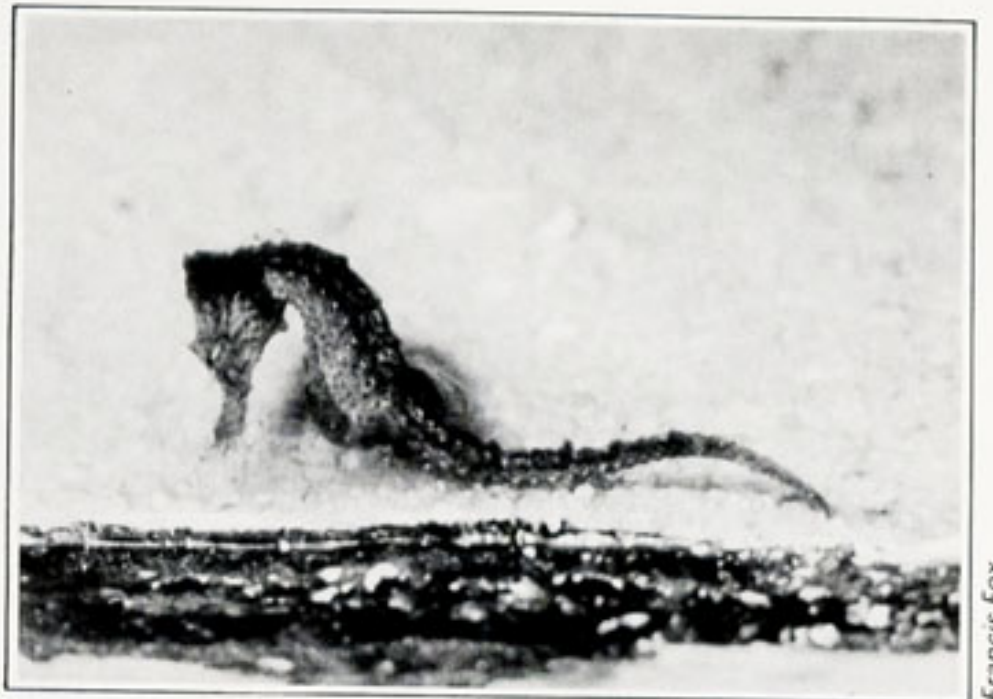
The scales of the Seahorse have been modified into long plates, which fit tightly together, forming an external skeleton. They swim in an upright position, using only the dorsal and pectoral fins with which to manoeuvre; the long, very mobile, prehensile tail is used as an anchor when at rest, to secure the Seahorse to corals, sea-whips, sea-weeds and rocks.

In quite a few species of fish, the male will help in the caring for the eggs and newly-hatched youngsters—the common Stickleback being a good example—where the male builds a nest in which the female lays her eggs, then guards both nest and eggs from any predator. The male Seahorse has taken this one step further, by actually giving birth to the babies. When a pair of Seahorses are ready for spawning, they go through a kind of courtship dance, which finishes with the female laying her eggs into a specially-constructed brood pouch on the ventral side of the male. Here they are fertilised and go through a period of incubation, which can vary—depending on the species—from two to eight weeks. During this time, the male can inflate his pouch with water, to give the developing young Seahorses more room. When the incubation period is over, the male goes through violent contractions and expels a few young at a time, until the pouch is empty. The young are miniature replicas of their parents, right down to the prehensile tail. After the "birth", the male takes no further interest in the babies, and they are left to fend for themselves.



Adult Seahorse with youngsters

It has been many years since Seahorses have been kept in the Aquarium at Chester. The species we used to keep was the Yellow Seahorse (*Hippocampus kuda*), which was quite a large species. The main problem with them was feeding. They would only accept live shrimps, so regular trips to the coast were required, to collect shrimps—very nice on a hot summer's day; not so nice when there was ice and snow about! Having collected the shrimps, there was then the problem of keeping them alive until they were required.



Young Seahorse feeding

In November last year, we obtained a pair of Dwarf Seahorses (*Hippocampus zosterae*), which, when adult, measure no more than two inches. This makes it easier to feed them, as they will eat Brineshrimps (*Artemia*) and Daphnia, both of which are cultured in the Zoo. The pair were kept "off show" for some time, to make sure that they were feeding correctly and to ensure that they were not carrying any diseases. In this time, we found that they would also accept dead food, in the form of frozen Mysis Shrimp, which is readily available.

Earlier this year, we were sure that the male was pregnant, so we isolated him in a tank, with only a few small pieces of coral for him to hold on to. After a few days, he produced six babies, of which four survived. It was decided to return the male to the main tank with the female, so that we could make sure that the babies were getting enough food—which was provided in the form of newly-hatched Brineshrimps. These four did very well, trebling in size in three weeks.

At this time, we noticed that the male looked pregnant again, so he was put back in the breeding-tank. Two days later, he gave birth for the second time—this time to 32 young! We gave the babies a couple of weeks intensive feeding before deciding to put the parents and babies on display.

After a few initial losses, due mainly to having to compete with the adults, they settled down well. They have now (mid-July) been on show for about three or four months, and every 18 to 21 days a new batch is born. Of course, not all these survive, but, at the last count, there were 91 Seahorses of all different sizes in the tank.



Newly hatched

# Flamingos at Chester Zoo

The history of Flamingos at Chester Zoo can be traced back to 1st January 1962, from which date we have stock books detailing the animals within the collection. Other records indicate that Caribbean Flamingos (*Phoenicopterus ruber ruber*) were received at Chester in 1958, and Greater Flamingos (*Phoenicopterus ruber roseus*) imported from John Seago in Kenya in September 1957.

Flamingos, then, have been held at Chester for at least 30 years. The Flamingos held at Chester are listed in the accompanying table. Between 1971 and 1979, Chester held all six species of Flamingo, with Lesser (*Phoeniconaias minor*), Andean (*Phoenicoparrus andinus*) and James' Flamingo (*Phoenicoparrus jamesi*) in very small numbers. Flamingos are colonial breeders and require stimulation from other Flamingos to breed. This was recognised and the single Lesser and Andean Flamingos and the two James' Flamingos were sent to join the flocks at Slimbridge in 1979, Chester receiving four Caribbeans in exchange. Subsequently, in 1981, the remaining three Greater Flamingos were exchanged for two Caribbeans. This left Chester with a mixed flock of 19 Chilean (*Phoenicopterus chilensis*) and nine Caribbean Flamingos.

Clearly at this stage, with Caribbeans (rather than Chileans) received in exchange for the species leaving our collection, the path was set for building up flocks of both the Caribbean and Chilean Flamingos. Thus, when a flock of Caribbean Flamingos became available in 1984, all stops were pulled out to enable us to purchase them. More recent acquisitions of Caribbeans from Whipnade have come to us on deposit, and Chileans from Harewood Bird Gardens by way of exchange.

## Enclosures

Our previous Curator of Birds, Peter Stevens, initiated a series of changes, which resulted in our present enclosure. A larger water area was created, which is shallow at the edges and sufficiently deep in the centre to allow the birds to mate whilst in the water. Flamingos prefer to mate in deep water, and pairs can be observed separating out from the flock, to wade into the deepest areas for this purpose. The shallower areas at the edges are where we hoped nest-building would occur. Recent modifications to this area have included sinking lengths of wood across one of the bays to form a barrage, then filling this area with extra mud, and placing artificial concrete nest-mounds in this area.

## Management and Feeding

The Flamingos are held throughout the year in the same enclosure (some collections move their birds to separate winter quarters), but are locked into their heated shelter at night during the winter months. Protection from foxes is provided by the electrical outer fence, which is activated at night during the summer months. This is not to keep the birds in, as many people think—the physical wiring without electrification would be adequate for that.

The Flamingos are fed on a commercially-produced pelleted diet, which contains 18 per cent protein, but they also obtain some natural food from the water-area of the enclosure. This diet is replaced with a "breeding diet", in which the protein level is raised to 35 per cent, to mimic changes presumed to occur in the wild, with an algal bloom during the breeding season. The Flamingos are less keen on this stronger mix, and it has to be phased in gradually. Both the standard and breeding diets contain canthaxanthin, a substance necessary to produce the bright orange/pink colour which signals breeding conditions in Flamingos.

## Behaviour and Breeding

In the non-breeding season, our Chilean and Caribbean Flamingos tend to gather in separate single-species flocks and, until this year, we had observed no instances of pairing between the two species. Nests have been built over the last few years, but the birds had always entered moult in mid-summer without any eggs being laid. It was with great delight then that, this year, I was able to rush into the Director's office shouting that a Flamingo egg had been laid. That news was received with obvious pleasure, coupled with some embarrassment, for, only a few days earlier, our Director had stood with Peter Stevens—the previous Curator of Birds—watching the Flamingos, and had agreed that Flamingos would never breed at Chester!



Artificial nest mounds to promote breeding

What was it, then, that resulted in this breeding? I believe a combination of factors was involved. The enclosure had been well-designed and allowed the birds both deep water for mating and shallow areas for nesting: minor improvements here were unlikely to have had great effect on breeding potential. The birds were being fed an adequate diet, and the level of protein had been pumped up prior to breeding commencing. Spring was particularly wet, and this may have provided the best



Photo taken by Bird Keeper Wayne McLeod

Chester's first Flamingo chick

**FLAMINGOS AT CHESTER**  
Stock as at 1st January of Year

Year	Caribbean	Chilean	Greater	Lesser	Andean	James	Total
1962	6	—	7	2	—	—	15
1963	5	—	7	2	—	—	14
1964	4	—	7	2	—	—	13
1965	4	—	6	1	—	—	11
1966	4	—	6	1	—	—	11
1967	4	6	6	1	—	—	17
1968	4	6	6	1	—	—	17
1969	4	5	6	1	—	—	16
1970	7	17	5	1	—	—	30
1971	7	23	5	1	—	—	36
1972	6	23	5	1	3	5	43
1973	6	22	5	1	1	4	39
1974	6	21	5	1	1	4	38
1975	6	21	5	1	1	4	38
1976	6	21	5	1	1	4	38
1977	6	21	5	1	1	3	37
1978	6	21	5	1	1	2	36
1979	9	21	5	*	*	*	33
1980	7	19	5	—	—	—	31
1981	7	19	3	—	—	—	29
1982	9	19	†	—	—	—	28
1983	9	22	—	—	—	—	31
1984	8	20	—	—	—	—	28
1985	19	19	—	—	—	—	38
1986	19	20	—	—	—	—	39
1987	24	18	—	—	—	—	42

\*Sent to Slimbridge in exchange for Caribbeans  
†Exchanged with Ravensden for Caribbeans

conditions for stimulating breeding. The nesting areas were left undisturbed and cutting of grass avoided within the enclosure. All the above factors could have helped, but my personal opinion is that the balance was tipped in favour of breeding, with the acquisition of the flock of Caribbeans in 1984. These birds, which had previously nested and laid eggs (but not hatched young) at Mole Hall, initiated the breeding at Chester.

The first two pairs to lay eggs in June 1987 comprised individuals from Mole Hall which had in all probability continued pair-bonds already previously established. We suspect—but cannot be sure—that these were the individuals which had previously laid at Mole Hall. Whatever, the following events surprised us all, for another ten Flamingos followed their example and nested and laid eggs. The Caribbeans were the first to nest, and one pair hatched their first chick on 6th July. The second pair to hatch a chick—on 23rd July—were also Caribbeans. On hatching, this chick appeared weak, and died within three days. Our nest hatching was from a nest occupied by a Chilean female and a Caribbean male. Although the male was not seen to mate with this female and was an

the second week of September. Incubation lasts from 28 to 31 days in Flamingos, and this and other pairs sat unhatched eggs for up to 35 days. In one instance, where the female looked decidedly the worse for wear, we removed the addled egg, to force her to abandon sitting.

### The Present and the Future

Of four chicks hatched this year, the three survivors are now well-grown birds. Hopefully, once initiated, breeding will continue. However, not all flocks breed every year. The flock of Chilean Flamingos at Jersey which produced young in past years failed to do so this year—in the very year our own bred for the first time.

Our immediate problem is with avoiding any further hybridisation. Many hours have been spent watching the flock to obtain the information noted above. As long as we maintain Chilean and Caribbean Flamingos in the same exhibit, we must continue to monitor closely their family life. Where hybrid pairs occur, our policy must be to interfere by removing those eggs. Presently our flock structure is such that we have unpaired male Caribbeans



Chris Vere

First steps?

extremely lazy father (only being identified on the nest three times, compared to 20 times for the female), there is no other contender for parentage, and we must assume the chick to be a hybrid. Hopefully this may be confirmed on the chick becoming an adult. Now, at three months old, it shows the bill markings typical of its mother, but the size already approaches that of a Caribbean. Another possible cross-pairing occurred at another nest, where three birds were observed to share incubation duties. There a female Chilean shared incubation with a male Chilean and a male Caribbean. In the event, this egg failed to hatch. All other pairings were pure, with three pairs and one trio of Chileans (the latter comprised one male and two females) and a total of six pairs of Caribbeans. The last chick to hatch was from a pair of Caribbeans on 4th August. Breeding activity continued throughout the summer, with the last Chilean laying on 7th August and finally abandoning the unhatched egg in

and unpaired female Chileans. This situation has predisposed our group towards hybridisation. It is noteworthy that a Caribbean male paired with a Chilean female, and not *vice versa*, and that, with our trios, the supernumary birds were a Caribbean male in one case and a Chilean female in the other. We need to obtain male Chileans and Caribbean females as and when these become available, to correct this imbalance.

Ideally, we should have our Chilean and Caribbean Flamingos as separate exhibits. Although we can hopefully correct our present sex imbalance (this is difficult in that Caribbean males appear to be easier to find than females) and guard against hybrid pair-bonds, we cannot be certain that no out-of-pair mating occurs. The latter possibility is particularly fascinating, but is more properly the subject of a dry scientific paper than a family magazine.

# The Time-Bridge Across the Next Century

*This paper was delivered by the Director to the meeting of the International Union of Directors of Zoological Gardens and Aquaria at its meeting in Calgary, Alberta, in September, 1985. Council has asked the Director to print it in Chez Nous for the Members' benefit.*

Zoos are a vital part of the battle to save species from extinction. This statement, perhaps wrapped up in other forms, has passed the lips of all of us many times. Can we justify this statement?

Equally, we have all heard many times that zoos are irrelevant in the battle for survival and can only claim a few species which still exist because of zoos. Can we refute this statement?

The time has come for us to place in the public mind the position zoos have to play in the future. We cannot control the future, but our present actions will influence it, and the more far-sighted our actions, the farther into the future will be their influences. Indeed, our actions will have a vital and wholly relevant effect on the options open to future generations, provided we make the right decisions.

I believe we should now be looking at the 22nd Century. We should not be content with a five-year, ten-year or 50-year scenario; instead we should be looking as far ahead into the future as we dare. The start of the 22nd Century is about as far ahead in this context as is reasonable. It is only 115 years away—only double the lifetime of many people here. We should be telling people what we think the world is going to be like in the intervening—21st—century; telling them what zoos can do to offset the worst effects we foresee in that time, and telling them how our actions now can influence the opportunities open to the people who will be making the decisions 115 years from now. I believe that it would help to concentrate the public mind on to what we are here to do if we adopt the theme of "The Time Bridge Across the Next Century".

If we pre-empt the options open to our descendants by refusing to think ahead, our memories will be cursed and not blessed by those who will follow us.

Let me set out how I believe the scenario will change. For the next 50 to 60 years, the human population of the world will continue to grow, but, with more and more economic, moral and even political restraints, this growth will be gradually brought to a halt. For the 60 or so years

following, there will be a steady decline in world population, as those already in existence age and die off. After that, there will be a dramatic fall in human numbers, reflecting the fall in the birth-rate of half a century earlier.

In the meantime, there will probably continue to be bloody and destructive local wars, rebellions and so forth, as we have witnessed and are witnessing over the latter half of this century. The resulting political turmoil will cause unpredictable collapses of local—and not-so-local—conservation efforts. We have already seen what a few short years of political anarchy did to the Black Rhinoceros population in Uganda: they were wiped out. Similar disasters will happen again and again—we know not where.

The area of undisturbed land throughout the world will continue to be eroded; the more so in some latitudes than others. At the same time, there will be increased efforts to save what is left, but it is already becoming apparent that many areas of wild habitat are becoming too small to maintain long-term viable populations of the larger and more specialised species on their own. Human encroachment interferes with traditional migration routes. Human mobility increases the amount of disturbance. Human technology increases the success rate of poaching and of unwarranted exploitation.

I am not going to pretend to be an expert on human population trends or on the level of economic and technological growth over the next 115 years. I am only in a position to say what direction I think they are likely

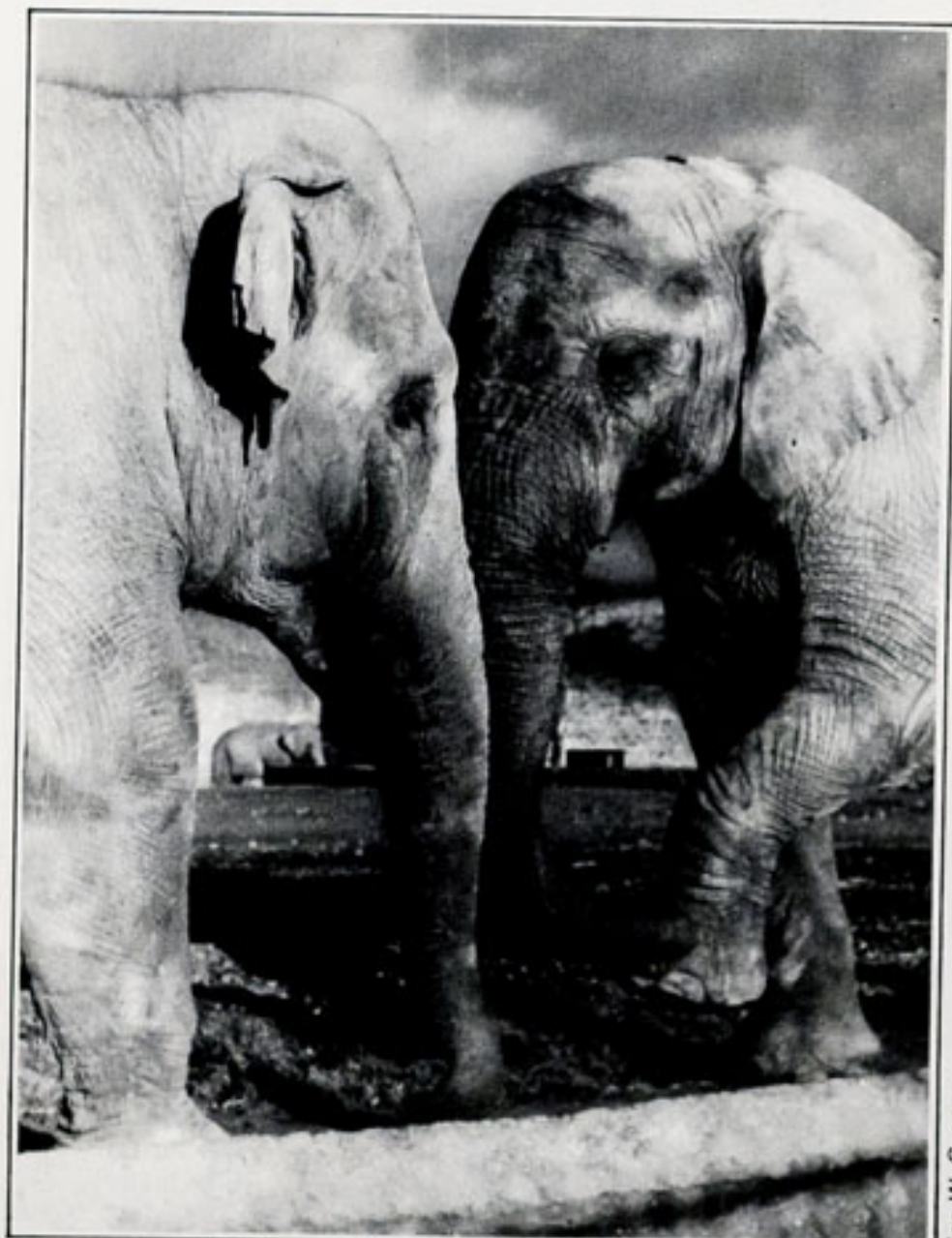


Ken W. Green

Black Rhino

to follow. I believe that it is reasonable to assume that the human pressure on the African landscape increased 75-fold in the 125 years from 1850 to 1975 (population up five-fold and standard of living up 15-fold), and that that sort of increase is going to go on, so that, by 2025, the human pressure on the landscape of Africa could be over 100 times greater than it was when there was a "natural" balance. I am sure that similar rates of increase are occurring everywhere else in the "undeveloped" world (not forgetting that the process has already happened in the "developed" world). The only realistic and humanly acceptable way to bring down the combined effects of population size and raised standards of living to a sustainable level on a long-term basis is to bring about a voluntary reduction in population size, for no attempt to hold down standards of living would be acceptable until the whole world reaches a level akin to what the Western cultures would see as their ideal if only there were not so many people around.

Not only do I see it as unlikely that there will be sufficient tracts of undisturbed environment to support all we would like to save by 2050, but I think that we would be crazy to try to achieve conservation's aims by resisting human encroachment on a large scale. To do that would place conservation into direct opposition to the aspirations of millions upon millions of desperately poor and hungry people. What we have to do is to widen the conservation horizon so that human population pressure and the variety of natural life are seen by everyone as part and parcel of the same equation. We have to encourage the preservation of as much representative environment as is politically feasible, and we have to get the message across that, though we are approaching the edge of an abyss, that abyss can be bridged.



Indian and African Elephants. What of their future in the wild?

Ken W. Green

Zoos are an essential part of that bridging operation. The wildlife reserves that can be maintained over the intervening 115 years are also part of the same bridging operation. When the worst is over, these two elements can be brought together again. Only then will our work come to its full fruition.

As the human population begins to recede in the 22nd Century, it will become possible and desirable once again to expand the areas of the wildlife reserves and for tracts of exploited land to be allowed to revert to natural habitat. The smaller and less-specialised species will have survived in the wild (for it requires a smaller area to support a viable population of mice than to support one of antelopes). The larger and more specialised species will almost certainly have long since disappeared from the wild by the year 2100. Returning these latter species to the reconstituted natural areas will enable a new "balance" of nature to be formed.

If we make the right decisions now; if we can persuade the human populations who support us now; if we can get governments to see how crucial is the part we have to play and which they should be playing with us; and if we can reorganise our collections quickly enough—then a wide range of large and specialised species will be available for return to natural, even if reconstituted, habitats by 2100.

We have already seen this bridging operation performed successfully with European Bison and Arabian Oryx. My own Society is proud to be working towards the return of Père David's Deer to a wild environment in China. Almost every major species now kept in zoos will be in potential danger of having no natural habitat to support it by 2050.

So what must we do?

1. We must continue to develop the co-operative management schemes that have already taken root. All the major society, trust and municipally-owned zoos in Great Britain and Ireland take part in the Species Management Group, an informal body constituted for the purpose.

To continue this co-operation which we have already begun, we must put effort into ensuring that the genetic characteristics of our stock do not drift any significant amount from that of the wild living stock, even though to do this will involve us in extra expense of a high order. This will involve:—

- (a) our having to keep more animals of each species, something which does not necessarily increase our attractiveness to the mass public, and therefore improve our income;
- (b) in making room for these extra animals, we will have to reduce the number of species we can keep even though, in doing so, we may further be acting against the dictates of short-term commercialism; if we reduce without affecting the numbers of non-endangered popular "ABC" species, we will further compromise the usefulness of the time-bridge we are building, by put-



Ken W. Green

Père David's Deer

authorities, wealthy patrons, charity trustees, society members or national governments—understand and support the long-term purposes of the zoos we are privileged to manage, for they are as much a part of the team as the professionals in ensuring that our zoos are part of this “time-bridge”.

3. We must work on the politicians of our own countries, as well as on those who govern the wild habitats, to see that the “time-bridge” is supra-national. We all have an essential part to play, whether or not the species which we are keeping are indigenous to our own countries or not. Governments, in particular, need to have it hammered home to them that the loss of a species exotic to their own territory is as much a loss to their own people as to those elsewhere in the world. It is not only the people of Mauritius who have been deprived by the extinction of the Dodo.

4. We must gain the confidence of the environment conservation movement that we are working with them (and they must gain our confidence that they are aware of the scale of the dangers ahead).

5. We must design and plan our zoos to survive the economically harder times that are ahead. We also have parts to play other than the keeping and breeding of endangered species. But I feel that the bulk of our effort and resources should go towards animal maintenance, and that the line towards more and more expensive facsimiles of the wild in strange climes is the wrong line, and should be avoided as much as it is politically possible. Such facsimiles are not cost-effective in conservation terms, and will present our successors with monumental maintenance problems.

6. We need to get the “time-bridge” concept across to the general public, taking care not to lose sight of its dual elements of zoo management and habitat preservation.

If we do all these things, we will be blessed and not cursed by our descendants in 2100. Our endangered species will still be around, and the variety of natural life will be greater, more rewarding and more enjoyable than it might have been, had we let apathy and indecision win.

ting extra restraints on to the number of endangered species we can keep;

(c) increasing the amount of movement of key stock between collections to lower the possibility of in-breeding and over-selection from particular genetic lines, even though the costs of organising, crating, transporting and quarantining will not directly increase the attractiveness of our zoos to visitors;

(d) increasing our involvement in national and international record-keeping programmes, without which we are unable to know the degree of genetic deviation that could be occurring; not only will there be a greater proportion of the species included, but there will be greater sophistication of the information being handled; again, the costs of this co-operation will not be offset by increased commercial attraction.

2. We must, each one of us, make sure that the governing bodies of zoos—be they municipal

## Gerald & Lee Durrell's Visit to the Zoo

We were extremely pleased to welcome Gerald and Lee Durrell to the Zoo on Wednesday, 21st October. The Durrells spent their morning looking around the collection, with Dr. Brambell and the Curators, specifically visiting some of the many species with which Chester and Jersey co-operate, such as the Rodrigues Fruit Bat, the White-Eared Pheasant, the Rothschild's Mynah and the Pink Pigeon, to name a few.

The Durrells then joined members and staff for an

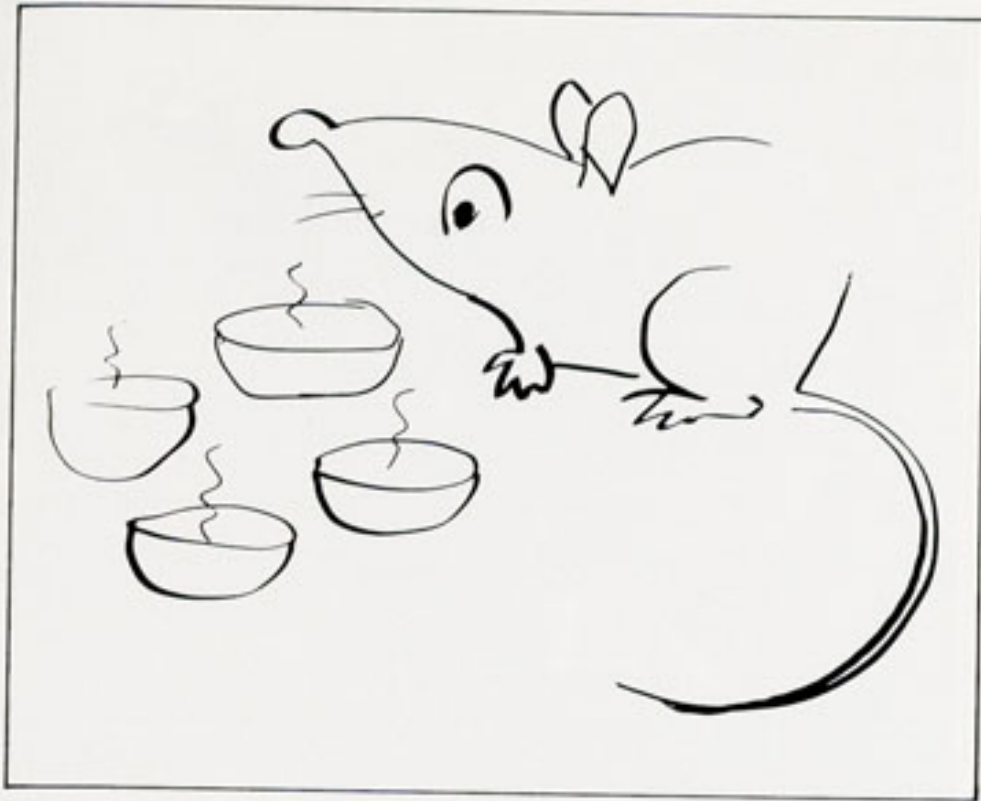
informal lunch in the Oakfield, following which they kindly agreed to sign books.

In the evening, they gave a talk in a marquee which had been erected on the main lawn, beside the Oakfield. Four hundred visitors came to hear the Durrells talk about world and zoo conservation, with the added bonus of slides and the superb cartoons which Gerald Durrell drew on large sheets of paper as they went along, to illustrate his anecdotes. It is hoped that the Zoo will be able to auction these cartoons in due course.

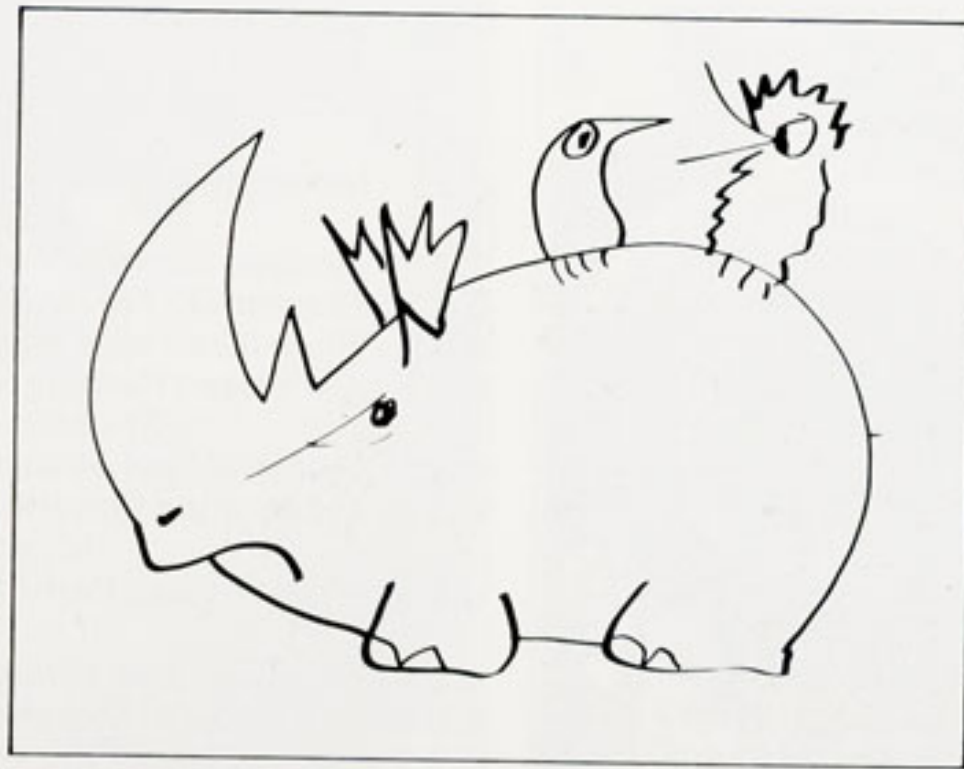
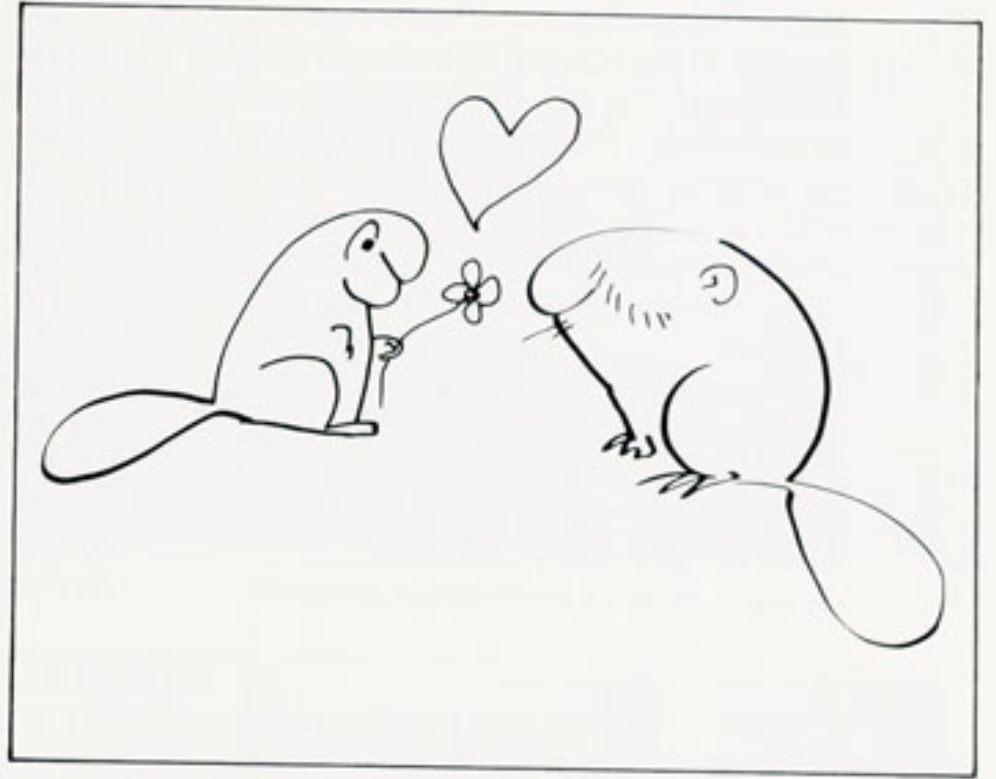
We are sure that the Durrells enjoyed their visit to Chester as much as we enjoyed their all-too-brief stay.



Chris Vere



**CARTOON**

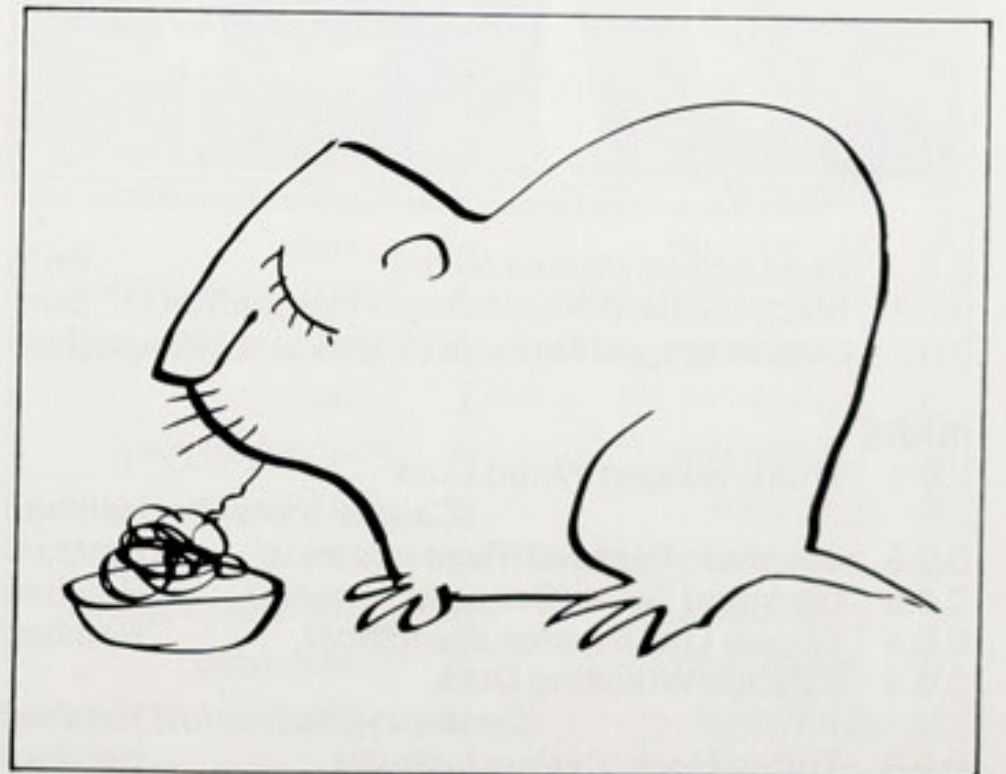
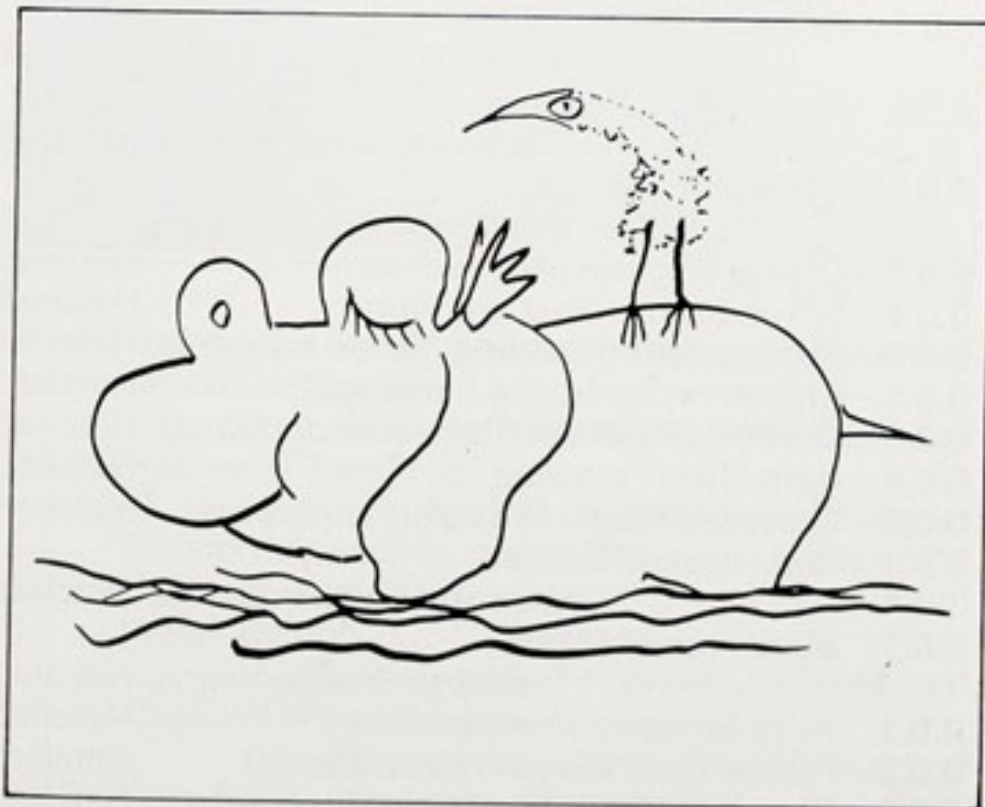


**FUN**



with

Gerald Durrell

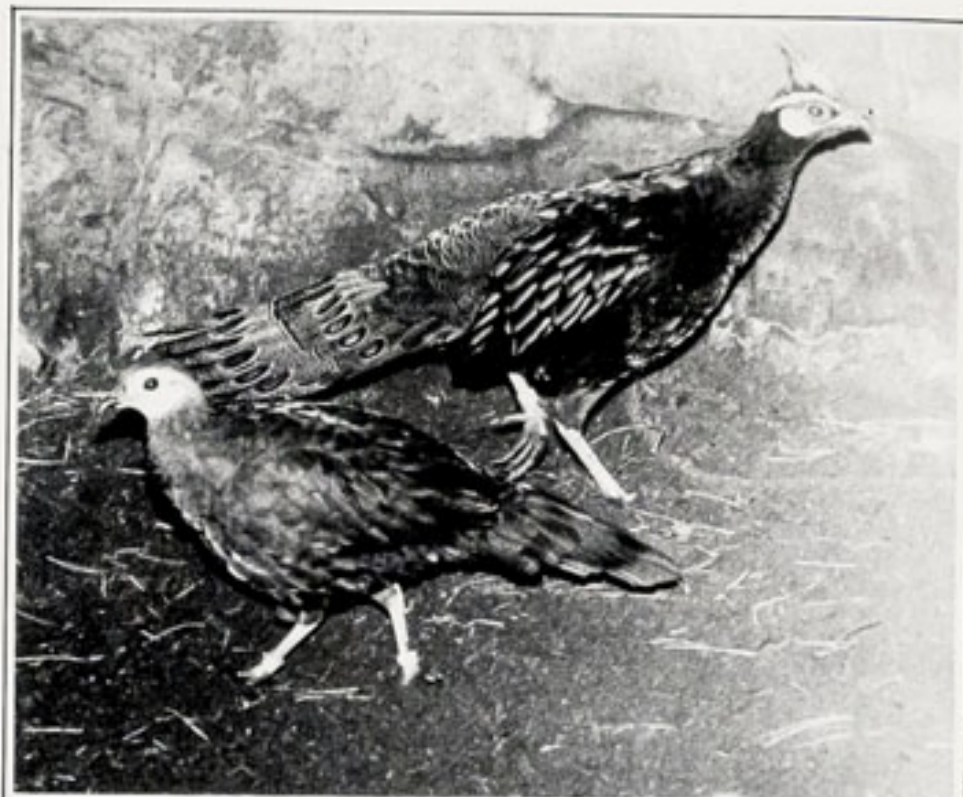


# Arrivals and Births

(1st July to 31st October)

## MAMMALS

3.0	Guanaco ( <i>Lama guanicoe</i> )	Born
1.0	Hamadryas Baboon ( <i>Papio hamadryas</i> )	Born
0.0.4	Pygmy Goat ( <i>Capra hircus domestica</i> )	Received
1.1	Tamworth Pig ( <i>Sus scrofa domestica</i> )	Received
0.0.1	Wildebeeste ( <i>Connochaetes taurinus</i> )	Born
0.0.1	Blackbuck ( <i>Antelope cervicapra</i> )	Born
0.0.2	Rodrigues Fruit Bat ( <i>Pteropus rodricensis</i> )	Born
0.0.2	White-lipped Tamarin ( <i>Saguinus labiatus</i> )	Born
1.0.2	Nilgai ( <i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i> )	Born
0.0.2	Meerkat ( <i>Suricata suricata</i> )	Born
0.0.1	Chimpanzee ( <i>Pan troglodytes</i> )	Born
0.0.8	Capybara ( <i>Hydrochoerus hydrochoeris</i> )	Born
0.2	Porcupine ( <i>Hystrix cristata</i> )	Born
0.0.1	Puma ( <i>Felis concolor</i> )	Born
0.1	Cheetah ( <i>Acinonyx jubatus</i> )	Arrival
1.1	Onager ( <i>Equus hemionus onager</i> )	Arrival



Palawan Peacock Pheasant

Chris Vere



The two new young Onagers, recently imported from the Continent

Chris Vere

0.1	Red Lechwe ( <i>Kobus leche</i> )	Born
0.0.2	Black Leopard ( <i>Panthera pardus pardus</i> )	Born
0.0.2	Cotton-topped Tamarin ( <i>Saguinus oedipus</i> )	Born

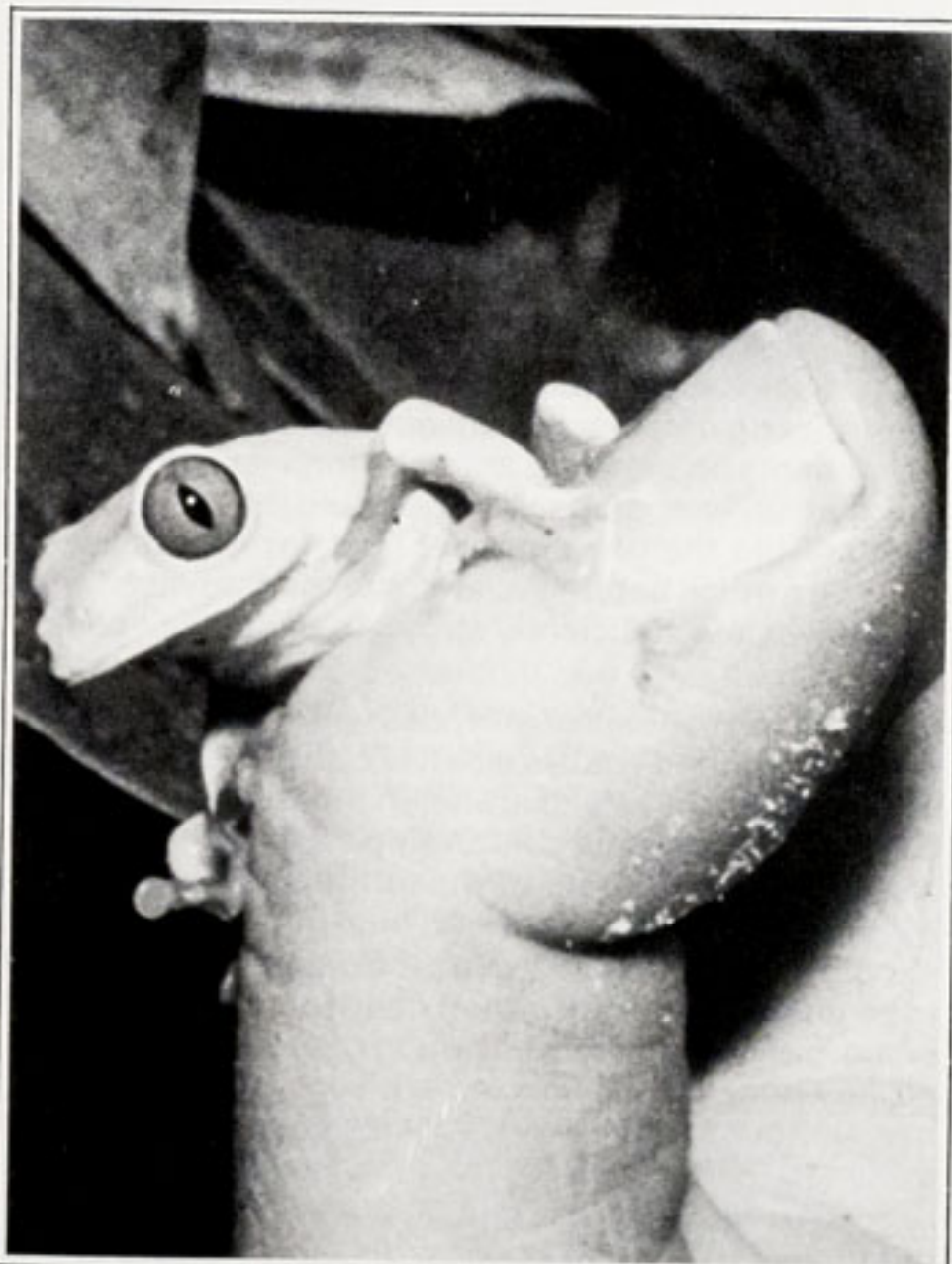
## BIRDS

0.0.1	White-winged Wood Duck ( <i>Cairina scutulata</i> )	Hatched
0.0.8	Common Peafowl ( <i>Pavo cristatus</i> )	Hatched
0.0.5	Diamond Dove ( <i>Geopelia cuneata</i> )	Hatched
0.0.4	Snowy Owl ( <i>Nyctea scandiaca</i> )	Hatched
0.0.4	Fulvous Whistling Duck ( <i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i> )	Hatched
0.0.3	Tufted Duck ( <i>Aythya fuligula</i> )	Hatched
0.2	Hooded Merganser ( <i>Mergus cucullatus</i> )	Received from Martin Mere
0.2	Marbled Teal ( <i>Anas angustirostris</i> )	Received from Martin Mere
0.0.2	Pekin Robin ( <i>Leiothrix lutea</i> )	Hatched
0.0.3	Lesser Vasa Parrot ( <i>Coracopsis nigra nigra</i> )	Hatched
0.0.1	Red-backed Mousebird ( <i>Colius castonatus</i> )	Hatched
0.0.2	Mountain Witch Dove ( <i>Geotrygon versicolor</i> )	Hatched
0.1	Andean Condor ( <i>Vultur gryphus</i> )	Hatched
0.0.2	Blacksmith Plover ( <i>Vanellus armatus</i> )	Hatched
0.0.5	Rhea ( <i>Dromaius novaehollandiae</i> )	Hatched
0.0.2	Caribbean Flamingo ( <i>Phoenicopterus ruber ruber</i> )	Hatched
0.0.1	Falcated Teal ( <i>Anas falcata</i> )	Hatched
0.0.3	Patagonian Conure ( <i>Cyanoliseus patagonus</i> )	Hatched
0.0.3	Yellow-faced Parrotlet ( <i>Forpus xanthops</i> )	Hatched
0.0.2	Musk Lorikeet ( <i>Gloseopsitta concinna</i> )	Hatched
0.0.3	Sacred Ibis ( <i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i> )	Hatched
0.0.2	Ostrich ( <i>Struthio camelus</i> )	Hatched
0.0.5	Kookaburra ( <i>Dacelo novaeguinea</i> )	Hatched
0.0.1	Palawan Peacock Pheasant ( <i>Polyplectron emphanum</i> )	Hatched
0.0.1	Humboldt's Penguin ( <i>Spheniscus humboldti</i> )	Hatched
0.0.13	Chilean Tinamou ( <i>Northoprocta pericaria</i> )	Hatched
0.0.1	Chiloe Wigeon ( <i>Anas sibilatrix</i> )	Hatched
0.0.1	Sarus Crane ( <i>Grus antigone</i> )	Hatched
0.0.6	Superb Spree Starling ( <i>Spreo superbus</i> )	Hatched
0.0.1	Chilean x Caribbean Flamingo	Hatched
0.0.1	Derbyan Parakeet ( <i>Psittacula derbiana</i> )	Hatched
0.0.6	Barn Owl ( <i>Tyto alba</i> )	Hatched
0.0.3	Crowned Plover ( <i>Vanellus coronatus</i> )	Hatched
0.0.1	Red-masked Conure ( <i>Aratinga erythrogenys</i> )	Hatched
0.0.1	Silver-eared Mesia ( <i>Leiothrix argentauris</i> )	Hatched
0.0.1	Fairy Bluebird ( <i>Irena puella</i> )	Hatched
0.0.3	Ruddy Duck ( <i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i> )	Hatched
0.0.1	Blue-grey Tanager ( <i>Thraupis episcopus</i> )	Hatched
0.0.1	Purple Glossy Starling ( <i>Lamprotornis purpureus</i> )	Hatched

- 1.1 Barraband Parakeet  
(*Polytelis swainsoni*) Received
- 0.1 Yellow-faced Parrotlet  
(*Forpus xanthops*) Received from Rode Bird Gardens
- 0.0.1 Splendid Parakeet  
(*Neophema splendida*) Received
- 0.0.1 Muscovy Duck  
(*Cairina moschata domestica*) Presented
- 0.0.4 Aylesbury Duck  
(*Anas platyrhynus domestica*) Presented
- 0.0.5 Waldrapp Ibis  
(*Geronticus eremita*) Received from Edinburgh Zoo
- 0.0.2 White-cheeked Touraco  
(*Tauraco leucotis*) Received from Edinburgh Zoo
- 0.0.1 Blue-eyed Cockatoo  
(*Cacatua ophthalmica*) Received

**REPTILES**

- 0.0.15 Leopard Gecko (*Eublepharis macularius*) Birth
- 0.0.4 Greek Tortoise (*Testudo graeca*) Received
- 0.0.5 Carpet Viper (*Echis carinata*)  
Received from School of Tropical Medicine



Red-eyed Tree Frog

- 0.0.4 Green Vire Snake (*Oxybeoia fulgidus*) Received
- 0.0.6 Crocodile Lizard  
(*Shinisaurus crocodilunis*) Received
- 0.0.10 Red-eyed Tree Frog  
(*Agalychnis callidryas*) Received
- 2.1 Gaboon Viper (*Bitis gabonica*) Received
- 0.0.2 Green Iguana (*Iguana iguana*) Presented
- 0.1 Indian Python  
(*Python molurus bivittatus*) Presented
- 1.0 Thailand Water Dragon  
(*Physignathus cocincinus*) Presented
- 0.0.8 Corn Snake (*Elaphe guttata guttata*) Birth
- 0.0.1 Rough-necked Monitor  
(*Varanus rudicollis*) Presented



Iguana

**AQUARIUM**

- 0.0.1 Silver Shark  
(*Balantiochelus melanopterus*) Received
- ?.?.? Angel Fish (*Pterophyllum scalare*) Births
- ?.?.? Dwarf Seahorse (*Hippocampus zosterae*) Births
- 0.0.17 Axolotl (*Amblystoma mexicanum*) Received
- 0.0.2 Spotted Salamander  
(*Amblystoma maculatum*) Received
- ?.?.? Golden Barb (*Puntius sachsii*) Received
- ?.?.? Surinam Mouthbrooder  
(*Geophagus surinamensis*) Received
- 0.0.2 Regal Tang (*Paracanthurus hepatus*) Received
- 0.0.4 Yellow Tang (*Zebrasoma flavescens*) Received
- 0.0.1 Albino Clawed Frog (*Xenopus laevis*) Received
- 0.0.2 Frontosa (*Cyphotilapia frontosa*) Received
- 0.0.15 Stoliczka's Barbs (*Puntius stoliczkae*) Received
- 3.8 Freshwater Stingray (*Potamotrygon* sp) Births
- 0.0.1 Carpet Anemone (*Stoicactus kenti*) Received

**KEY**

- 1.0 = One male
- 0.1 = One female
- 0.0.1 = One of undetermined sex

**Answers for Adopta-Day Quiz**

M	Mynah (Rothschild)	Z	Zebra Finch
L	Leopard (Black)	Y	Ypecaha Wood Rail
K	Kinkajou	X	Xenopus
J	Jaguarundi	W	Wapiti
I	Iguana (Common)	V	Vermiculated Owl
H	Humboldt's Penguin	U	Upside-down Catfish
G	Giraffe	T	Tiger
F	Frogmouth	S	Spectacled Owl
E	Elephant	R	Rhinoceros
D	De Brazza's Monkey	Q	Quail
C	Chimpanzee	P	Przewalski's Horse
B	Binturong	O	Orang-utan
A	Alligators	N	Nilgai

# The General Purpose of the Society

*This is a paper submitted by the Director to the Society's Council as part of the long-term planning process. Council has asked the Director to publish this paper for the Members' benefit.*

## Why have a Zoo at all?

The trite answer to this question is: "Because we have a zoo already, a lot of people enjoy it, and why question something which people obviously want?"

Animals are exciting and fun, especially to children. Wild animals in particular are extremely exciting. If this excitement results in positive stretching of the minds of our visitors, making them more concerned and more informed about the variety of natural life of the world in which we live—that must be a very strong argument for zoos. However, the world is not as it used to be; travel is easier, and electronic experience-giving is very sophisticated, so we must ask whether or not the Zoo has been superseded by such changes.

The practical answer must be "No". Should all those who now come to the Zoo gain their experience of wildlife from travel, the areas they travel to would be quite unable to withstand the visitor pressure and remain wild areas, quite apart from the financial implications of such travel (remember there are hundreds of times more wildlife to be seen in this world than can be seen on a package-tour to East Africa).

Though a camera lets us see in our own homes far more detail than most of us could ever hope to see in the wild or in zoos, it subtly distorts wildlife, by not showing us the hours when and the places where there is nothing to see, by packaging the product so that the uninitiated get a false impression of the abundance of wildlife. The oversimplification in electronic natural history programmes of the mechanisms of natural survival in order to fit the time and material available can lead to a misleading conception of how wildlife really functions.

The Zoo shows real animals—warts and all—and provides the missing dimensions of size, sound and smell and the real thing. In this respect, the Zoo is an essential complement to the electronic natural historian. What the Zoo does not do and cannot do is to show the wildlife environment, and can only indirectly indicate the interaction between the animal and its wild environment. However, the Zoo can resist the claim that this divorce from the wild is of itself cruel. Our own species is an example of how removal from the wild has led to an improvement in survivorship, if nothing else!

*Most important of all, zoos are now places where populations rather than isolated individuals of species can be kept; where gene-pools—albeit small ones—can*

be husbanded, so as to be self-propagating. No amount of celluloid or magnetic tape can substitute for real live chains of D.N.A. doing their own thing. The only serious contender for this aspect of the Zoo is the concept of the "Frozen Zoo", where gene pools are kept in suspended animation, pending the arrival of Utopia. In the meantime, they would represent the most boring and unexciting stimulus to public awareness imaginable.

It is this ability of the Zoo to provide—in concert with like-minded zoos and on-the-spot programmes across the globe—havens for refugee species which are losing or have lost the battle for survival in the wild, that provides the strongest argument in favour of zoos. Indeed, the argument is so compelling that we can justly claim that *zoos are on the way in*, are at the start of their most useful purpose, and *are not in the twilight of a Gothic heyday*. I have argued to the international zoo community that, in practical terms, we should now be aiming to deliver to the people of the 22nd Century viable populations of species which would otherwise long ago have lost out to human competition.

It is this aspect of zoos—the "time-bridge" concept—which I believe should be the central point of zoos in the future and around which all other functions should be built.

It is axiomatic that animals in the wild live different lives from those in captivity. It is widely assumed that they lead better lives in the wild. If we accept (as many of our critics do not) that it is not out of place for us to make judgements on behalf of animals, then it seems clear to me that for some species we could never provide a "better" life than in the wild; that for others we can provide a much better life; and that for many the "pros" of captivity are sufficiently strong to offset the "cons".

Public and zoological attitudes will change as to what is acceptable and what is not. It is our duty, arising out of our taking on the role of arbiter in these matters, to be in the lead of such opinion-forming, and not to trail. The zoo welfare movement of the future should be one led by the zoos themselves, and not be the province of people so obsessed with some current shortcomings as to be unable to see the urgent need for the development of the "time-bridge" zoo. The zoo of the future must be a place where animal species are kept, so that they can survive the competition of man, and where they can excite the imagination of their local community and be used to promote attitudes in favour of the enhancement of wildlife. The good zoo should be one of the most effective weapons—but not the only weapon—in the armoury of the battle to conserve the variety of wildlife and its environment.

## Other Functions of the Zoo

When Sir Peter Scott founded the then Severn Wildfowl Trust, he declared its aim to be *Conservation, Research, Education and Entertainment*. These four parallel functions have never been bettered, except that the pejorative use of *Research* to imply 19th Century vivisection has caused scientific investigation to be favoured, and it is necessary to distinguish *Enlightened Entertainment* from cheap spectacular popularisation.



Bluebell Wood

Chris Vere

### Wider View of Conservation

Chester Zoo, with its ownership of a rural land-holding around the Zoo itself, is in the unique position of being able not only to foster international species conservation, but also national conservation, by developing a variety of habitats around the perimeter. Bluebell Wood forms the basis of a woodland nature reserve. A wetland immediately to the west of the Zoo (and south of any proposed entrance from the A41) would serve the double



Bluebell Wood

Chris Vere

purpose of being a reserve for native waterfowl and also a filter for storm-water and relatively clean pool water prior to being pumped back into the Zoo from the redundant sewage farm. There is also room for a grassland reserve and for a sandy heathland to be made, to form a back-up for the National Nature Reserve at Ainsdale.

### Scientific Investigation

Much that is useful can be gleaned from the stock in the Zoo by direct observation, without interference or manipulation. Some of this work can be done by visiting university researchers, and some can be done by scientific officers appointed to the Zoo's own staff. There is also a need to co-ordinate captive management programmes with genuine field research and conservation. Once the Zoo is sufficiently well-funded, it must undertake to enter this field. In time, particular areas of the world with which the Zoo can have a special relationship will identify themselves.

### Education

The educational potential of the Zoo lies in two principal areas: formal education—presenting opportunities to schools and colleges for education at all ages; and informal education—aimed at the public outside the Zoo.

Not only has education to provide explanations of biological principles in general and zoological principles in particular, but it has also to endeavour to induce in the general population positive attitudes towards the furtherance of zoology.

In modern times, this must mean a heavy emphasis on explaining the challenge to wildlife posed by habitat degradation and destruction by the world's human population, and the task must fall not only on the professional staff of qualified teachers, but also on a dedicated volunteer force.

### Enlightened Entertainment

This is a field into which the Zoo has been proceeding gradually but surely. It centres around the information and interpretation of exhibits and is currently the subject of a study by three Heads—of the Animals, Education and Marketing Divisions. There is a further aspect which has not been explored at this stage, which is the use of animals in demonstrations. This is a field which *may* have a future in the Zoo, but which must be looked at *very carefully*, to avoid cheap or hollow spectacles inconsistent with the Zoo's overall objectives.

Michael Brambell

## Some Brief Notes on The Coleto Mynah

When I was asked if I would be prepared to take on the hand-rearing of one of the Zoo's unusual Coleto Mynahs (*Sarcops calvus*), I knew that I was in for a time of hard work. Now, I can happily say that it has been worth it.

"Gary", as he has been named, is a real character now. When he arrived in my office, he was six days old and he weighed a mere 16 grams, was the size of a walnut and completely bald. Whilst even now he cannot be described as beautiful ("interesting" is a better way of putting it!), he has imposed his will on office life in an uncanny way. He now weighs 98 grams, and is fully-feathered, with the completely bald patches which will remain around his eyes.

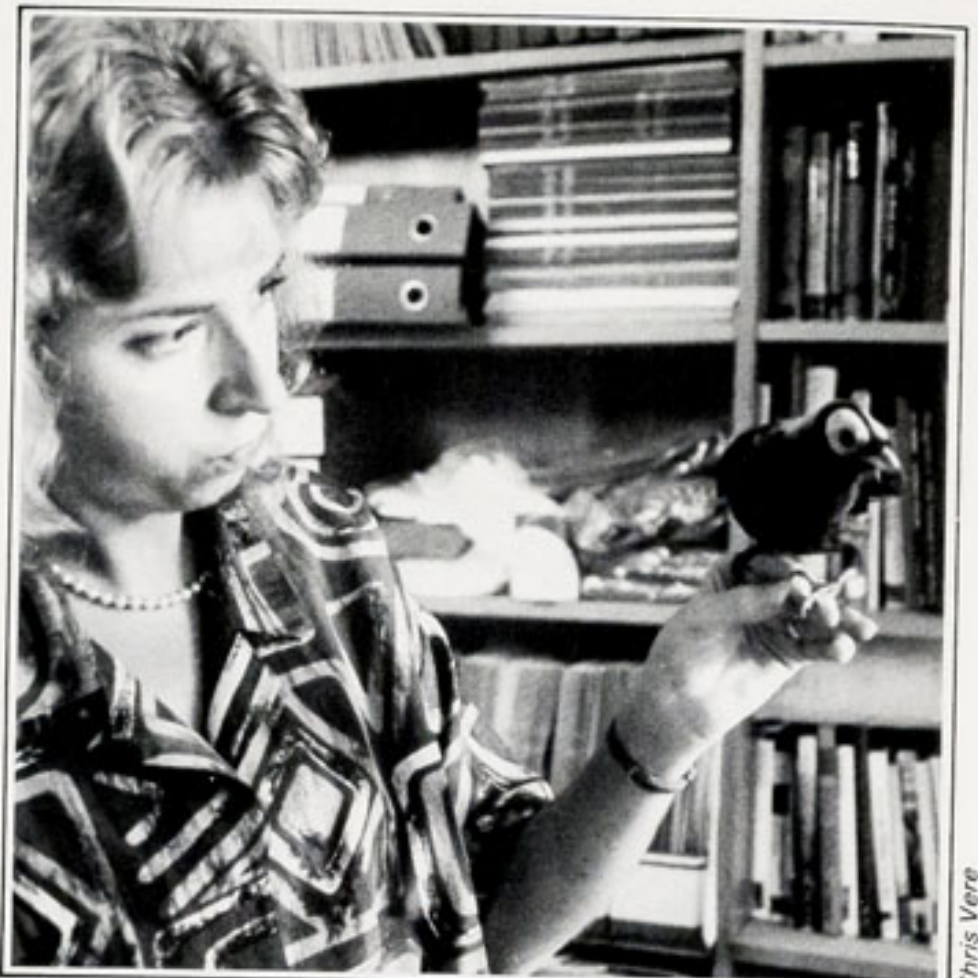
The Coleto Mynah is a native of the Philippine and Sulu Islands and, whilst not endangered in its natural habitat at present, it is a species which is rare in aviculture. Our adult pair only managed to rear one chick from several broods last year and, having failed with their first two clutches this year, it was decided to attempt to hand-rear the one chick of the third clutch. Hence the arrival of "Gary" into office life.

Initially, he required feeding a small amount every 15 to 20 minutes, from 7.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m. It was fascinating to watch his tiny feathers grow and develop and, once his eyes opened at around ten days after I received him, he grew in leaps and bounds.

After about four weeks, he started to feed himself, although this was rather haphazard at first. He has learned to pick things up, and proudly scatters paper and pencils all over the room. He chatters away happily to himself all day long, and dives from wherever he is perching to land on the head of anyone entering the room. When he is hungry, he still comes to one of his friends first, before thinking of going to his food-bowl, and begs us to give him food. We still help him along, but are gradually reducing the amount we give him, to encourage him to feed himself. I hope that by five or six weeks old he will be "fully fledged" and independent, and be able to return to his rightful place on show in the Bird House at the Zoo (and my office can return to some semblance of normality).

Penny Rudd

September 1987

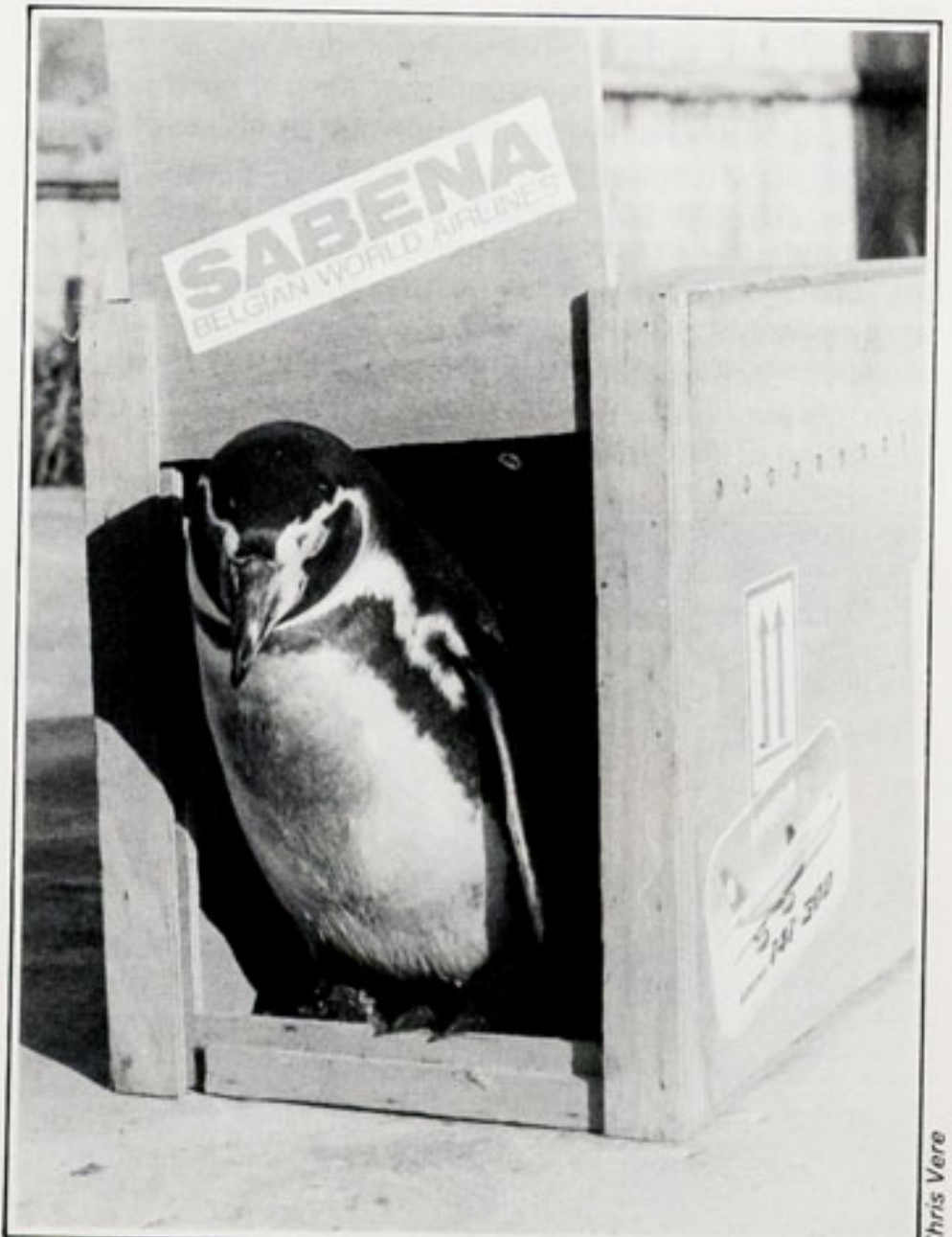


Editor with Coleto Mynah

Chris Vere

## Penguin Parcels

In October, nine Humboldt's Penguins and one White-Eared Pheasant, all of which had been bred at Chester Zoo, were sent to Antwerp Zoo, Belgium, on loan, as part of the international zoo co-operation scheme. In past months, Chester has received a beautiful pair of extremely rare Congo Peafowl and a Spectacled Owl from Antwerp. It is hoped that co-operation between our two zoos will be fruitful and will continue.



Humboldt's Penguin inspecting its travelling-box

Chris Vere

## Pig-Mania

Moving the new Tamworth Pigs from the Giraffe Section, where they have been temporarily housed on one of the paddocks, to the recently-completed Piggery at the Children's Farm proved to be an hilarious experience for all concerned! Keeper Tim Rowlands was one of those involved with rounding-up the two young pigs and herding them across the Zoo to their new home. Apart from Tim nearly ending up in the Orang moat in an attempt to manoeuvre around a running pig, another embarrassing moment occurred for the Keepers when the Head Gardener, Eric Rudman, drove past in his van at the *only* (so the story goes) moment when one of the pigs decided to investigate a flower-bed. Fortunately, the presence of a lovely photographer's model ensured that the whole procedure was completed in the best of spirits, and the pigs have settled well into the Children's Farm.



Tim Rowlands helping a Tamworth to its new home

Chris Vere

## Forthcoming Members' Meetings

**Saturday, 16th January, 1988**

*"Continuing Tales of Chester Zoo's Vet"*—Derek Lyon, 2.30 p.m., Lecture Hall.

**Saturday, 13th February, 1988**

*"Ice Age Mammals of the British Isles"*—Anthony Sutcliffe, 2.30 p.m., Lecture Hall.

Anthony Sutcliffe has recently retired from the Natural History Museum, and is author of the book *On The Track Of Ice Age Mammals*.

**Wednesday, 16th March, 1988, 7.30 p.m.**

There will be a meeting attended by the new President of the Society, His Grace the Duke of Westminster. Dr. Brambell will give a talk *More About Mammals*. There will be a light buffet, and prior booking will be required for catering numbers. A small charge will be made for this meeting.

**Saturday, 16th April, 1988**

*"The Rainforest Canopy"*—Andrew Mitchell, 2.30 p.m., Lecture Hall.

Andrew Mitchell was Scientific Co-ordinator for "Operation Drake" from 1978 to 1980, and has pioneered the use of aerial walkways to study the rain forests. He is now a freelance TV producer, having worked on *The Amateur Naturalist*, *The Living Isles* and *The Living Planet* series.

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.

This charge includes a cup of tea and biscuit, which will be available at the close of the meeting.

## Membership Subscriptions

Due 1st January, 1988

*Joint Husband/Wife Annual*

£27

*Individual Annual*

£15

*Junior*

£5

*Associate*

£5

In order to keep our costs as low as possible, I would be very grateful if you would act on this reminder, thus saving the Society the cost of an extra postage.

## Members' Concessionary Tickets

**PRICE INCREASE**  
From 1st January, 1988

Annual Members may purchase up to 20 tickets annually for family and friends (sold in blocks of five). These tickets can only be obtained from the Membership Office—they are *not* on sale at the entrance gates. Please enclose cheque (made payable to Chester Zoo) with your application. A stamped addressed envelope for ticket return would be greatly appreciated by the Society.

Maureen Allsopp  
Membership Secretary

# Junior Members' Field Trips & Meetings 1988

## CONTACT SESSION

Saturday, 23rd January, 1988

As usual, I do say that, with this outing, there are not too many of the Zoo's animals which can be handled, but you are invited to come along to meet those who do not mind, such as snakes, tarantulas, lizards, goats, chicks, locusts, and—hopefully—a few surprises. **Over eights.**

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

## ANNUAL JUNIOR MEMBERS' CONFERENCE DAY

Saturday, 20th February, 1988

Experienced Juniors will know what a good day this can be! It is important for as many Juniors as possible to take up the opportunity of putting forward ideas and views about the Zoo and to tell us what kind of things you would like to do within the Club. During the morning, we will be touring the Zoo and, after a picnic lunch, we will spend the afternoon in the Lecture Hall. If anyone has some slides they would like us to show, this is your chance! **Everyone welcome.**

## TRACKS AND SIGNS

Saturday, 19th March, 1988

There was such a great demand that we should repeat this trip again this year, that we have opted to have it at the same time as last year, as we succeeded in obtaining some superb plaster casts in the muddy ground of March. Wellies essential! **Over eights** are invited to come along.

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

## COLWYN BAY ZOO

Saturday, 23rd April, 1988

Another chance to see another zoo—this is always a popular trip, and, when we have visited the zoo, depending on the weather, we aim to have a walk on the beach. **Over eights** are invited.

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

## VISIT TO A TROUT FARM

Saturday, 21st May, 1988

We will be visiting one of the trout farms in North Wales to see how they rear and prepare trout for release into the lakes and reservoirs of the area. **Over tens** should enjoy this trip.

The bus will leave the Staff Car Park at 9.30 a.m., returning around 4.30 p.m.

## DAY HELPING A KEEPER

Saturday, 18th June, 1988

Perhaps the most eagerly-awaited event of the year, this is the day when you are invited along to "help" the Keepers with their regular duties or to help with special projects. Be prepared to be very tired when you have finished the day. Only **over 12-year-olds** are invited to join us, unfortunately, but it is worth waiting for!

Please meet **outside the Oakfield at 11.00 a.m., ending around 4.00 p.m.**

## JUNIOR MEMBERS' BAZAAR

Sunday, 31st July, 1988

Full details of the Bazaar will be issued in *Chez Nous* nearer the time, but please note this day in your diaries, as we would like everyone to support us. Note also that we have chosen to hold the Bazaar on a Sunday this year, as this tends to be a busy day in the Zoo. **Everyone welcome.**

We will be holding the Bazaar on the Jubilee Lawn, and times and requirements will be sent out to everyone in due course.

## PLEASE NOTE

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.

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 travelled/food provided.

The 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.



Chris Vere

Pictured are the Junior Members who walked the Sandstone Trail in July, and raised over £400 towards the new Chimpanzee House and the "Parrots in Peril" Appeal Fund. Thanks a lot, and well done! It was a splendid effort

Our thanks go to Junior Member Samantha Jones-Pritchard for all her hard work in contributing to the *Ju News* page in this issue. I think that you will agree that she has done a splendid job. Thanks Samantha!

## THE CHEETAH

There is quite a long Cheetah,  
In length about a metre.  
I saw him at Chester Zoo  
With another two.

He had no stripes,  
But spots of many types.  
People say "It's a dog"  
As he lies on a log.

I like the Cheetah,  
Although he's a meat-eater.  
I'd like to see him some more,  
Especially when he's waiting by the door.

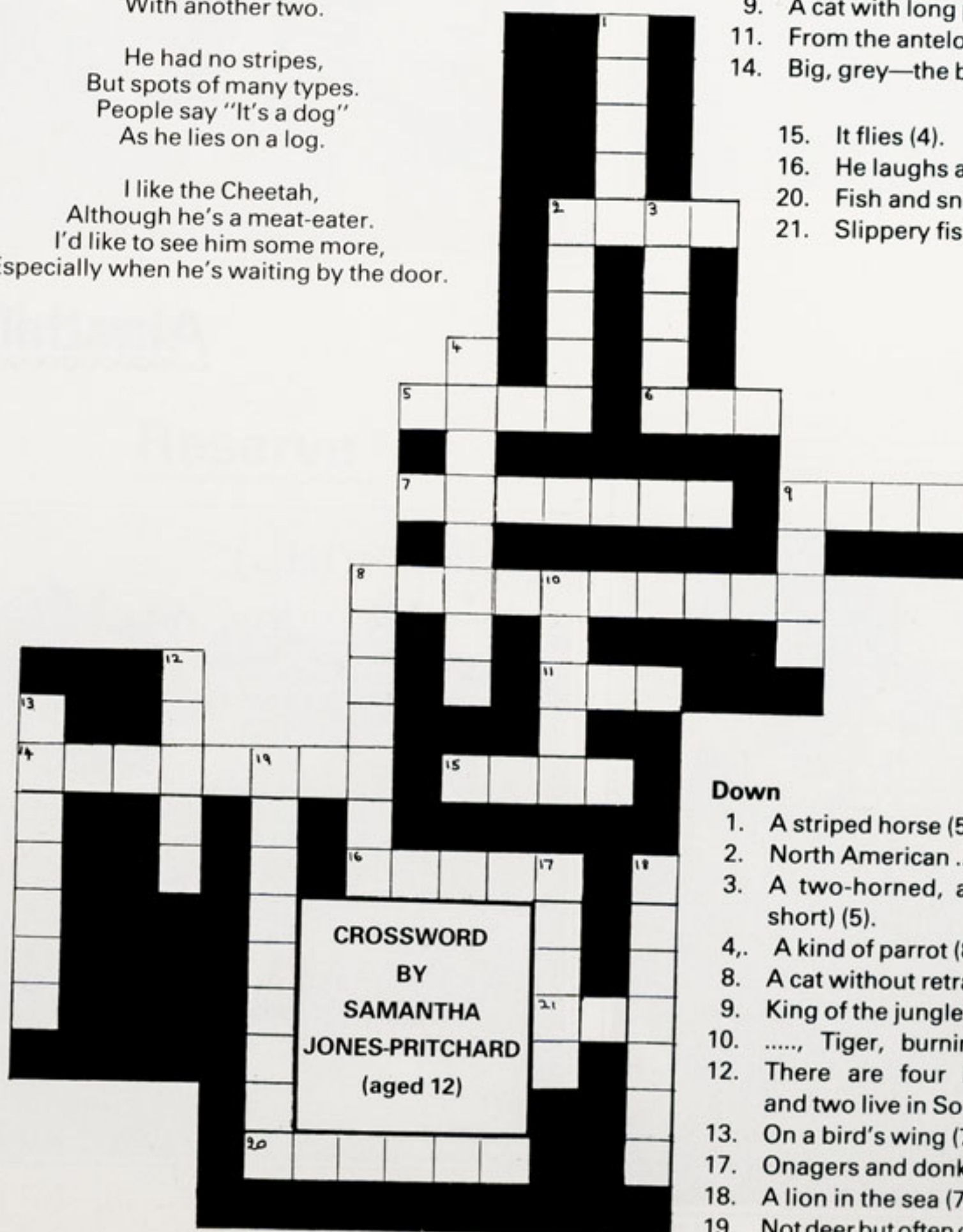
## CROSSWORD CLUES

### Across

2. Chester Zoo has many snack .... (4).
5. A baby deer (4).
6. A bird of prey (3).
7. Not animals born in eggs (7).
8. This crossword is about ..... (7, 3).

9. A cat with long pointed ears (4).
11. From the antelope family (3).
14. Big, grey—the biggest ears of Africa (8).

15. It flies (4).
16. He laughs a lot (5).
20. Fish and snakes have these (6).
21. Slippery fish (3).



### Down

1. A striped horse (5).
2. North American .... or European .... (5).
3. A two-horned, armoured animal (for short) (5).
4. A kind of parrot (8).
8. A cat without retractable claws (7).
9. King of the jungle (4).
10. ...., Tiger, burning bright (*Blake*) (5).
12. There are four kinds of this animal and two live in South America (5).
13. On a bird's wing (7).
17. Onagers and donkeys (5).
18. A lion in the sea (7).
19. Not deer but often confused with them (9).

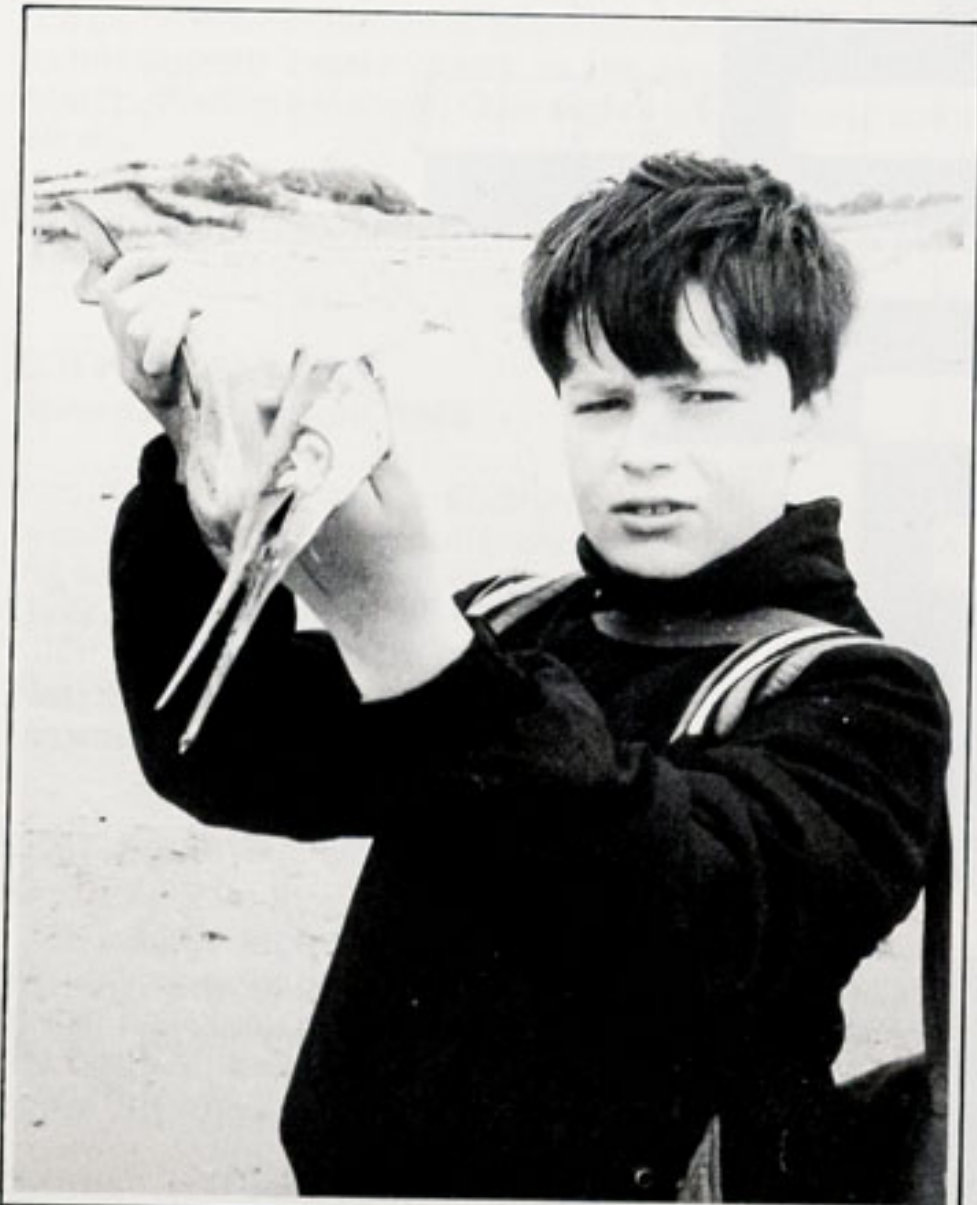


Alison Hughes and Michelle Harrison

## JUNIOR



## Ainsdale

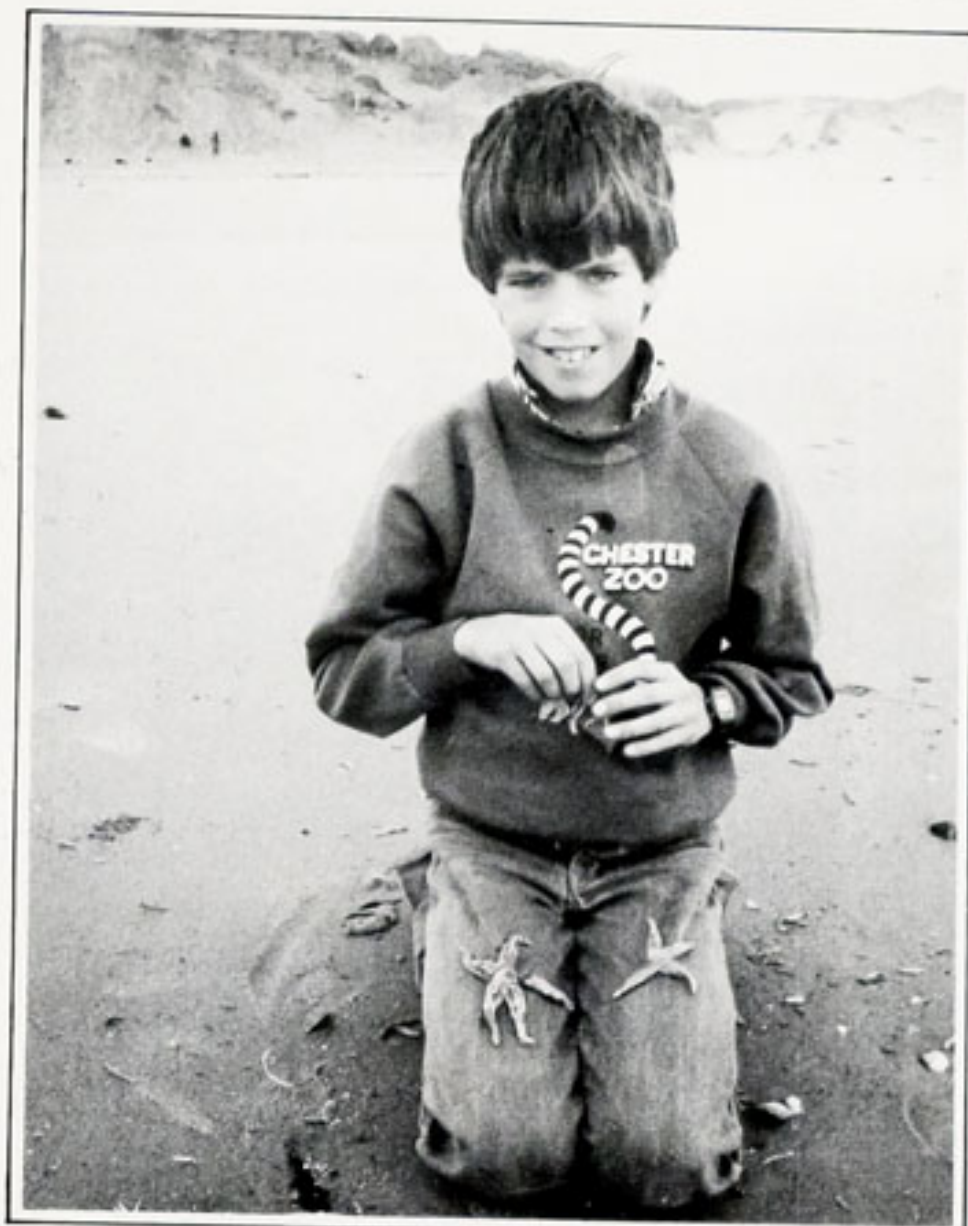


Gareth Walker



# MEMBERS

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Simon Mathie

# Nature

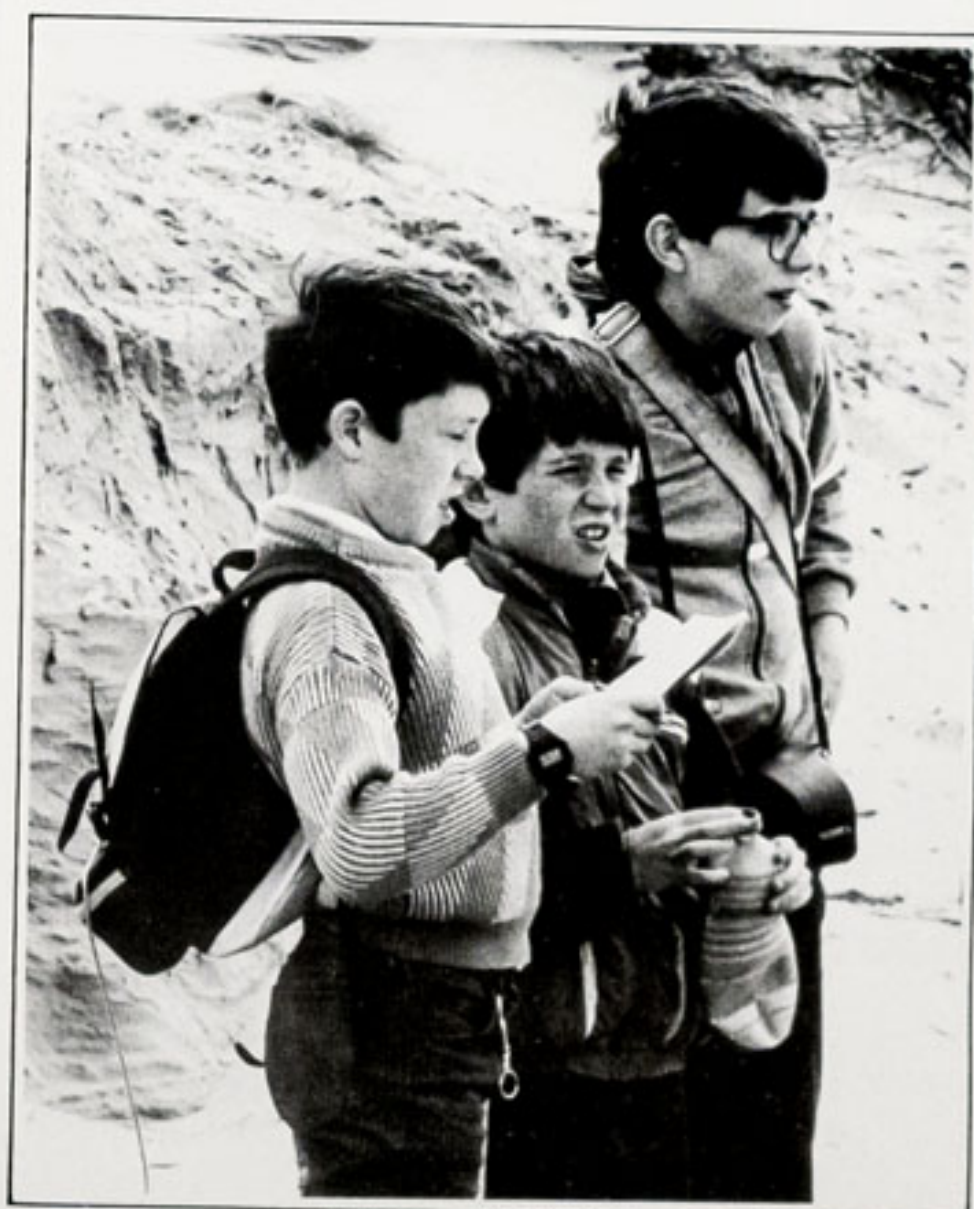
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## Reserve

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(June 1987)

*(Photos by Chris Vere)*



Nathan and Matthew Dickson and Christopher Loftus

# Special Adopta-Day Quiz

We thought that some Members, too, might like to bring their *Chez Nous* to the Zoo one day, and go around doing the quiz devised for the Adopters on Adopta-Day. It's fun.

This quiz is about our adopters as well as our animals. Each answer begins with the letter next to the clue.

- A One of their adopters is a "Beaver Colony"—surely they have the wrong animals? Still, these reptiles do enjoy the water too. Some might say "Snap!" when they see them!
- B Their several adopters found these strange-looking mammals outside the Nocturnal House, possibly hanging by their "tails"!
- C These apes ought to go for a sail on *HMS Broadsword*; but their moat is not large enough.
- D Possibly the "best-fed" primates in the Monkey House! Sponsored by Little Chef and adopted by a banana-supplier among others.
- E You will find these *large* mammals sharing a house. Their numerous adopters range from toddlers upwards. Perhaps they could all be photographed by their sponsors.



Popular Rich Bird

Chris Vere

- F These tawny Australian birds sound as though they should be amphibians, but the Guest family and others found them in the Bird House.
- G Their numerous adopters hope that these long-necked "crane-like" mammals will not go on hire to Clwyd.



Hungry? Not me!

Ken W. Green

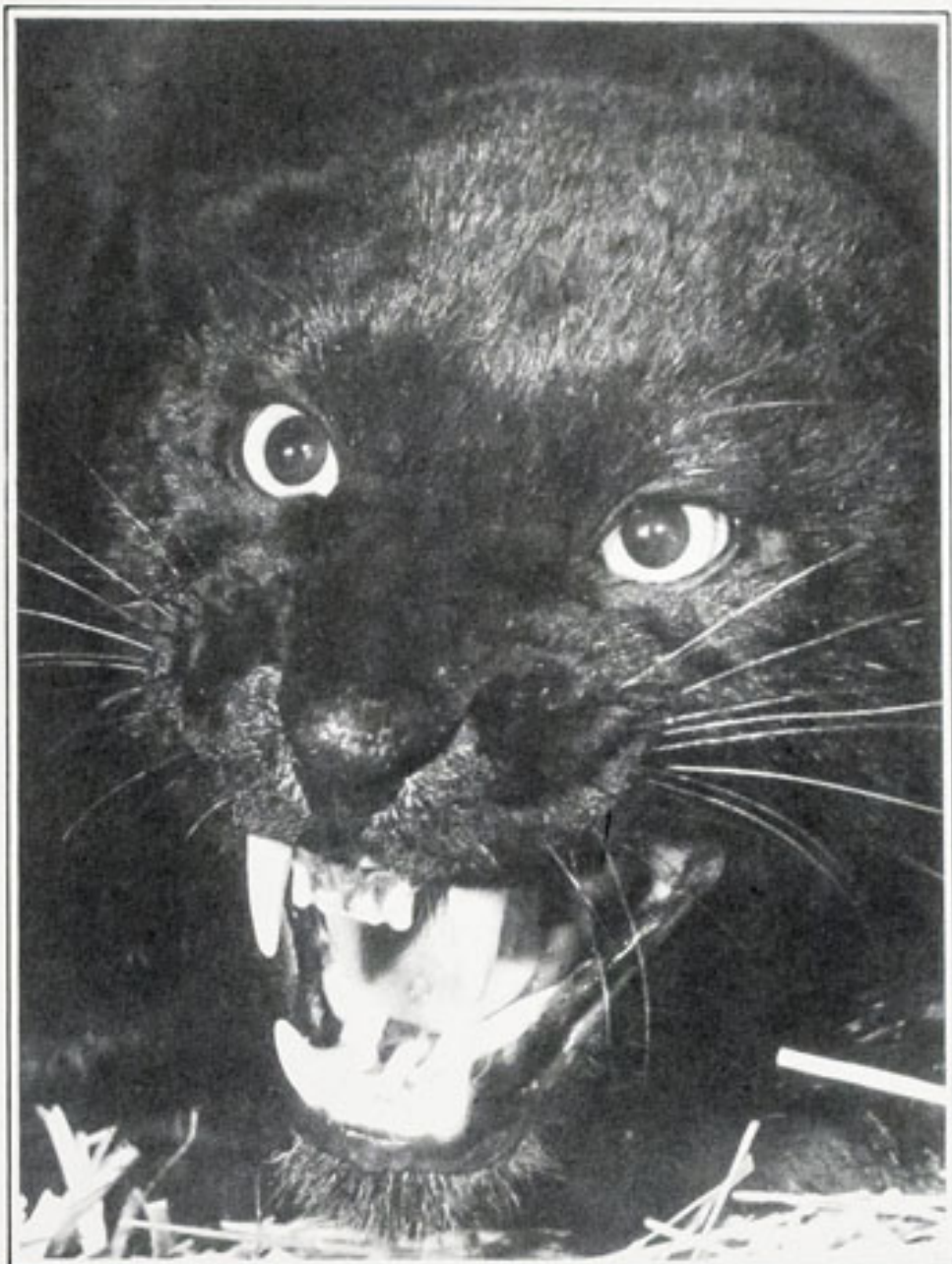


Tail's not in view

Ken W. Green

- H Birds that cannot fly—but swim extremely well. One was adopted by a well-known TV programme's cast and crew. Two words are needed for your answer.
- I These reptiles (two types) can be found in the Tropical House. Both types share an Adopta board, but only one shares its home with the Matamata.
- J Even though they are not very feline-looking, their adopters found these in the Cat House. Their name is similar to another cat's.
- K Their name suggests royalty—but they will never be found on a well-known street, where one of their adopters is often seen. However, you can find them in the Nocturnal House.

- L** A group of "Panther" venture scouts and a panther club have adopted this large cat. You might be forgiven for thinking that they have adopted the wrong animal.
- M** In the wild, this "very rich" bird only lives on the island of Bali. You can find it in the Tropical House.
- N** A group of these mammals share their paddocks with the Prairie Marmots, but they do have their own list of adopters.
- O** These "almost-human" mammals have lots of adopters, but one may be able to take them "Scrambling" on TV.
- P** This unusually-named horse is extinct in the wild, but its adopters found it safe and well in the Zoo paddocks.
- Q** A solitary bird that has no adopters yet. But at least it shares its Bird House aviary with two other birds (who might be quite chatty).
- R** These large mammals, both black and white, share the same house—but do not be misled by their *colours!* Their adopters were able to decide which was which.
- S** These odd-looking owls should not need any extra help to see clearly, but their adopters make a point of improving eyesight.
- T** Possibly our most beautiful felines. Certainly their numerous adopters think so.
- U** Perhaps an adopter would like to turn these "feline" fish the right way up.
- V** This beautiful owl has no adopters yet, but perhaps it could go *fishing* for some.
- W** These North American deer now live near Oakfield. The Horticultural Society, which has adopted them, does not have to travel very far to visit them.



A lot of people get my name wrong

Eric Kirkland

- X** It is unusual to find clawed amphibians adopted by a Pet's Corner. You will need to enter the Aquarium to find their scientific name.
- Y** This South American bird can be found outside the Bird House. It has no adopters yet—perhaps they cannot pronounce its name!
- Z** These beautiful birds share their aviary with many others—but not with the Otters who live nearby. Their adopters were perhaps *guided* to the right place.

We wish that there were enough letters in the alphabet to have involved every animal and to have acknowledged all our generous supporters.



I think I look like a cat

Ken W. Green

**ADOPTA-DAY QUIZ WINNERS**

**Wednesday, 7th October**

Emma Warrington (Penguin adopter)  
19 Tytherington Park Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 2EL.

**Wednesday, 14th October, 1987**

Peter and Gareth Dawson (Mongoose adopters)  
35 Hawthorn Avenue, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5BR.

**Saturday, 17th October, 1987**

Karen Scott (Snowy Owl adopter)  
19 Holborn Street, Woodhouse, Leeds LS6 2QP.

All the winners have received Zoo Family Winter Season Tickets.



Chris Vere

Waldraup Ibis