

# CHESTER ZOO NEWS

WHEN SOLD  
**25P**  
ALL FOR OUR  
ANIMALS



**SAVE MONEY!**

- CAMELOT. P10
- MARTIN MERE. P4

**WIN GREAT TIGER CLUB HOLIDAY. P6**

**NEW ZOO-FARI OVERHEAD RAILWAY. P11**

**PHOTO COMP '91**  
★ KENYA SAFARI ★  
★ CANON CAMCORDER ★  
★ LIONS 'N' LEGO ★  
HOLIDAY — P2

**COLOUR STAMPA. P11**

# RHINOS AT RISK

## ZOOS HELP TO SAVE BLACK RHINOS

THE black rhino is now virtually extinct in the wild. Certainly, by the turn of the century, there will be no wild population left of this magnificent creature.

### Hunted

Rhinos have been persecuted for centuries — hunted for their horns. In the Middle East, an intricately carved rhino-horn dagger handle is highly prized, and it matters very little that an

endangered animal was killed to produce it.

Loss of habitat has also contributed to the rhino's decline. Increased agricultural use of land has reduced their possible habitats.

The only future for these animals lies in a co-ordinated breeding programme in zoos across the world, and Chester Zoo is proud to be a part of that programme. The family history of every black rhino in participating zoos is listed on a computer, and the

zoos exchange animals for maximum breeding success. In the UK, meetings are held regularly to ensure that the rhinos get the best available attention.

We are grateful to Dunlop Footwear in Crosby, Merseyside, who have adopted our black rhinos as part of their promotion of their Stampa range of children's footwear. There's a great colouring competition for Stampa on Page 11.



The Zebra badge of the Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain and Ireland links all major zoos in their efforts to conserve endangered animals. Chester was a founder member.

*Roberts didn't go ape when they helped to build my new house...*

Thanks to everyone who helped build the new Chimpanzee house by collecting Roberts Bread special vouchers.

**Roberts**

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# TAPE TOUR

VISITORS can now take a personal guided tour of the zoo with BBC Television presenter Nick Davies!

Nick, who co-presented the last series of "The Really Wild Show," has written and recorded a lively, informative guide to the zoo, which is available on tape for a small hire fee of £1. Walkman type tape players are available for a fully refundable deposit — or buy the tape outright for £5.

The route of the tour has been discreetly signed around the zoo. It begins at the information kiosk, and runs Northwards towards the orang-utans, taking in a big flight aviary and the Waldrapp ibis. It then takes listeners to the chimpanzees, tropical house, camels and giraffes. Then to the elephants, hippos, tapirs, rhino house, monkey house and cats; then back via the bird house, lions, tigers, sealions, flamingos and penguins.

Users can switch off in between exhibits, "meeting" Nick again at the next enclosure and take the tour at their own pace.

"It's a very customer-friendly system" says Marketing Manager, Chris Vere. "The controls are very simple to use. We are delighted that Soundalive — who produced the tapes in London — were able to persuade Nick to write and narrate the tape. She is a real enthusiast, and has a considerable knowledge of the collection. It's an important extra service for visitors, all year round."

## EVERYONE ENJOYS



**THE REAL MCCOY'S**  
**EXTRA THICK & CRUNCHY POTATO CHIPS**  
*Original*

& NOW BARBECUED BEEF



## TOP LENS-MANS OSCAR AWARD

THE zoo's 1990 photographic competition attracted more entries than ever, with over 1500 prints and slides!

The fabulous first prize of an African Safari Holiday, organised by Kuoni Travel Ltd with South African Airlines, the Sun and Towers 5-star hotel in Johannesburg, and the Mala Mala Game Reserve, has been awarded to Mr Geoffrey Mansell of Donnington, Telford. His slide of Oscar, the orang-utan, (pictured left) was the unanimous choice of all three judges.

"The facial expression is wonderful" said George Green, Picture Editor of North Wales Newspapers. "You can almost read his thoughts — and they aren't necessarily pleasant ones!"

By a happy coincidence, the fourth prize went to Mr Mansell's wife, Angela, for a striking portrait of a tiger.

The second prizewinner was Mrs W. Hamblett, of Nettleham, Lincoln, who captured a lovely shot of a prairie marmot peering out of his hole (right). Third prize went to Ian Humphreys of Wrexham, for his slide of a sealion copying the pose of his picture on the pool-size sign.

## PHOTO COMPETITION 1991 TWO SAFARIS & CANON VIDEO CAMERA PRIZES

WE have very exciting prizes for this year's photographic competition. Top prize, for the Chester Zoo Photographer of 1991 is a fabulous safari holiday in Kenya with Sunmed holidays. The first week will be spent on Sunmed's "Big Five Safari" — seven nights, eight days, taking in Tsavo West National Park, and back to Mombassa.

The second week is spent relaxing in the Bamburi Beach hotel, surrounded by palms and tropical flowers. Sunmed's "Go Kenya" brochure is full of dream holidays to tempt anyone keen on wildlife and photography.

The runner-up to the Photographer of the Year will win a Canon Camcorder, and can choose from their range to the value of £899 (so that the superb compact A10 model is one of the choices).

Our Junior Photographer of the Year will



have an exciting trip too — a trip to Legoland in Denmark, including a visit to the Safari Park of Givskud! The prize is for two adults and two children, so our lucky winner will be able to take all the family.

There will be lots of other prizes too, including British Rail vouchers, gift tokens from Ness Photographic Laboratories and Fishwicks. The best photograph of the gardens will win the Bridemere Garden World trophy, and vouchers from Bridgemere.

New category this year will be for the photographs taken from the overhead railway! This is going to give visitors a totally new view of many of the enclosures. Builders CPM offer a £100 photovoucher prize.

Entry forms are available in the zoo.

Enjoy a Day Out in CLWYD

Take the family to Clwyd for the day, and you'll find enough treasures and pleasures to bring you back time after time. Clwyd will always bid you the warmest of welcomes!

### Bodelwyddan Castle

- National Portrait Gallery Collection
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- Formal Gardens
- Adventure Woodland
- Restaurant and Victorian Tearoom

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### Rathin Craft Centre

- Licensed Restaurant
- Disabled Facilities
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Park Road, Ruthin, Clwyd  
 Telephone: (08242) 47745675



### Bersham Industrial Heritage Centre

See where John Iron Mad Wilkinson built up the existing Ironworks into an international concern. Situated on the famous 18th Century Ironworks.

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### LOGGERHEADS COUNTRY PARK

Telephone (0352 85) 586



WIN HER HEART WITH A

**FEAST**

**Wall's**  
 ICE CREAM

OR ALL THE OTHER FAVOURITES FROM KIOSKS AND CAFÉS ALL ROUND THE ZOO





FILM FOR PRINTS & SLIDES  
 BATTERIES  
 VIDEO TAPES  
 FLING CAMERAS

FROM ALL ZOO SHOPS

The prize for the best zoo garden photograph went to Mrs Christine Jackson of Greetland, Halifax and the Zoo Junior Photographer of 1990 is 15-year-old Alison Walsh of Strathaven, Lanarkshire in Scotland, for a beautifully composed picture of elephants (below).

## RUNNER-UP



### Adopt me!

Be "mother" to a marmot! You can adopt a Prairie Marmot for a year for just £25! All you need to do is collect an adoption leaflet when you visit the zoo — or write to Mrs Maureen Allsopp, Adoptions, Chester Zoo, Chester CH2 1LH. Or telephone 0244 380280.



Picture shows red gurnard.

### SEEN IN SEA ZOO

THE Anglesey Sea Zoo presents sea life to you as it has never been presented before! You'll see huge and minute seascape environments. You'll walk through a shipwreck where conger eels swim around you. You'll watch the ebb and flow of the tides recreated in a special "tide tank", and you'll see a rock pool in action.

The sea creatures are the stars of the show, but there's a lot more too — including the Aquablaster water game, radio-controlled model boats; a playboat, floating on a sea of bark and a new adventure playground, with a special section for toddlers. There's even a seafood bar!

If you are on holiday in the North Wales area, make a trip to Anglesey for the Sea Zoo. Phone 0248 430411.



### JUNIOR WINNER



### LOCAL FEDERATION MEMBERS WORK TOGETHER

MEMBERS of the National Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain and Ireland work closely together.

Visit our neighbours — each makes a special contribution to conservation.

Welsh Mountain Zoo, Cobwyn Bay, Gwyd, L28 5UY. 0492-532938/531660	Blackpool Zoological Gardens, East Drive, Blackpool, Lancs. FY3 8PP. 0253 65027.
Knowsley Safari Park, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 4AN. 051-430 9009.	Southport Zoo, Princess Park, Southport, Merseyside. PR8 1RX. 0704 38102.
The Wildfowl Trust, Martin Mere, Ormskirk, Lancs. L40 0TA. 0704 895181.	



### I JUST LOVE MATLOW'S Crunchy and Buttered POP CORN

## HELP!

IF YOU can spare some time and have a real interest in helping the Zoo — then volunteer to be one of our FEDS — Friends of Education Division Services. You might take Guided Tours, or work the Puppet Theatre — or help in the Education Office or take part in the Christmas Journeys. Whatever your skills and interests — we'll be most grateful for your help.

The first step is to contact Education Division at the Zoo.



### NEW POOL

SENIOR Keeper Alan Woodward who is in charge of the "Whisperade Section" of the zoo — that includes Lions, Tigers, The Children's Farm, Cheetahs and Kangaroos — has been busy working with his team of keepers to build a second pool for the Otters who live just by the Oakfield.

Look there when you visit to see how they enjoy the extra space and waterfall that the keepers have built for them.

LITTER FREE  
ZOOS ARE  
GREAT NEWS



## DAILY POST

The Award  
Winning  
Newspaper  
that  
towers  
above  
the rest



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The Daily Post is THE morning newspaper for Cheshire, North Wales and Merseyside.

### NOW MORE TO DO THAN EVER!

#### Anglesey Sea Zoo

Most comprehensive aquarium in Wales showing huge collection of marine life in natural seascapes. Walk through a wreck! See fierce conger eels! Crashing wave room! Pick up sealife from touch tanks, steer radio controlled boats. Fire an aquablaster. Children's adventure trail. Licensed restaurant. Gift shop. All weather fun attraction. Awarded gold medal for services to tourism in Wales 1989.

Open Every Day for  
Most of the Year!



AN EXCITING NEW EXHIBIT  
WILL BE OPENED IN 1991!

Anglesey Sea Zoo, Brynisiencyn,  
Anglesey, Gwynedd LL61 6TQ

Telephone: (0248) 430411

Fax: (0248) 430213

# JUNIORS HAVE FUN!



## MAGICAL MEMBERSHIP — Just £7.

A Chester Zoo Junior Membership card is a season ticket into the zoo for a whole year. But there's a lot more to being a Junior Member — there's an exciting programme of activities and outings, including contact sessions with some of the friendlier creatures, days helping the keepers with their work, and a day spent taking plaster casts of animal footprints in the various enclosures. Details from Mrs Penny Rudd at the zoo. ●Pictured left is 11 year old Robin Lucas, with his cast of a lion's paw.



## Brilliant!

Zoo Junior Members — led by Mrs Penny Rudd — made a thorough check of the new children's adventure play area at Liverpool's Croxteth Park Country Farm in 1990. The verdict? Just brilliant.

## WIRRAL

The Leisure Peninsula

Whether your taste is for country parks or for museums, for golf or for resort attractions, the beautiful Wirral Peninsula has something for you

Principal attractions include the 12 mile Wirral Country Park with its breathtaking coastal views across the Dee Estuary, Port Sunlight Village which features the magnificent Lady Lever Art Gallery, the University of Liverpool Botanical Gardens at Ness and the National Waterways Museum at Ellesmere Port. Newly enlarged Marine Lake at West Kirby, now one of the leading wind surfing venues in the country.



For more details of these and other places of interest in Wirral please contact:

**WIRRAL TOURIST INFORMATION**  
Marine Promenade, New Brighton  
Tel. 051-638 7144

CHESTER ZOO  
CONSERVATION  
RECREATION  
EDUCATION

OPEN  
EVERY DAY  
10am-Dusk  
(Except Christmas Day)

**BOWERS OF FORMBY**  
PROUD TO BAKE  
ZOO ELEPHANT  
CAKES  
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## NEVER FORGOTTEN

Carlsberg Brewery is now the parent of a pachyderm! The company, suppliers to the zoo's Acorn Bar, decided to adopt an elephant, to complement the marketing of their elephant beer!

Carlsberg Sales executive Alf Hollins is pictured with Senior Elephant Keeper, Neil Spooner, and four of the zoo's seven Asian elephants, getting in line for a piece of cake!

The adoption scheme is open to all zoo visitors, and you can adopt a share in the animal of your choice for just £25. In return, you'll receive free zoo tickets, an adoption certificate, and your name will be included on the adoption plaque on the appropriate enclosure. Pick up a form in the zoo, or ring the Adoptions Office — 0244 380250.



## COME BEAK TO BEAK AT MARTIN MERE

Meet thousands of friendly ducks, geese and swans at the Wildfowl and Wetlands Centre. Feed peckish Flamingos, rare Ne Ne Geese and exotic Mandarin Ducks by hand, wander through peaceful Waterfowl Gardens. Picnic besides lakes, ponds and waterways awash with fluffy ducklings or see the winter spectacle of thousands of wild migrant swans feeding just a few feet away.

Martin Mere is a wonderful day out all year long with children's play area, luxurious heated birdwatching hide, gift shop, Pinkfoot Pantry, art gallery, picnic areas, free parking, brass rubbing centre, children's activities and guided walks at weekends. Disabled access and FREE wheelchairs are available on request.

As well as having a great day out, you'll go home knowing that your visit has contributed to the conservation of the world's waterfowl and their natural habitat — the wetlands.

CZN

**CHILDREN FREE!**  
This voucher admits one child FREE with a paying adult. One child per voucher only.  
VALID AT:  
**MARTIN MERE**  
Directions: Located 6 miles from Ormskirk, 10 miles from Southport. Signposted from M61, M58 and M6, off A59. Bus service 3 from Ormskirk every 2 hours; ring (0704) 895181 for details.

**THE WILDFOWL & WETLANDS TRUST**

TREBOR BASSETT  
**HALF POUND BAGS**

**HALF POUND BAGS**  
Available from  
**Shops & Kiosks in the Zoo**

**Carlsberg**

**Elephant**

Probably the best lager in the world.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO CHESTER ZOO NEWS

# TIGER CLUB TIMES

Action, Fun and Adventure for children aged 5-13  
who holiday with Haven!



Cliff Brett, Chester lensman for the Liverpool Daily Post & Echo took this superb picture of Korda and Strelka — the tiger cubs — at play on their paddock. These games develop awareness, reaction speed and keep the cubs in tip top shape — whilst mother Natasha can relax!

## TIGERRIFIC

Exclusive membership for all children  
aged 5-13 on Haven Holidays

Rory the Tiger is the mascot for Haven's exclusive Tiger Club. Any child on holiday with Haven, aged between 5 and 13 years old automatically becomes a member of the Tiger Club which provides a special daily entertainment programme. With the friendly Haven Mates on hand to ensure you enjoy your holiday to the full, everyone in the Tiger Club is treated to a fantastic time taking part in games, discos, competitions, treasure hunts and all sorts of fun activities. Some of the Haven holiday parks even have special "Tiger Rooms" and when its time to leave you can still keep in touch with your new friends through the Tiger Penpal Club.

1991 is going to be an extra-busy year for Rory as he will be spending the summer months visiting some of the parks with his new touring Rory Road Shows. Rory's Musical Fun show is a fun-filled show of music and enter-

tainment for all the family while the Rory's Magical Fun Show is a dazzling spectacle of music and laughter for all ages.

Haven Holidays listens to its guests and is especially interested in hearing what children think of the accommodation, facilities and entertainment on offer at the Haven Holiday Parks. That is why in 1988 the company established the Tiger Club Board. Every year eight children are selected to sit on the Board which meets annually to discuss ways in which Haven Holidays can be made even better and offer even more to its visitors.

In previous years the boards recommendations has resulted in the introduction of no smoking areas, satellite TV and on park library facilities and the children's advice is always carefully considered by Haven's main board of directors.



### WIN A FAMILY HAVEN HOLIDAY

SEE PAGE 6

# MUMS & DADS - FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

**WHEN YOU BOOK A HAVEN HOLIDAY -**  
 Choose from 31 sites throughout England & Wales



Great play areas

THERE ARE 31 Haven Holiday parks spread throughout England and Wales offering luxury self-catering mobile home or chalet accommodation. Holidaying with Haven means that you get the chance to choose exactly the right type of park to suit the whole family. The big, all active parks are just right for the holiday maker looking for an action packed fun stay which includes regular late night entertainment; family sized parks provide family entertainment every night and top quality amenities while the small and friendly parks offer the ideal setting for a quieter more relaxed holiday.

All Haven parks have excellent sports and leisure facilities and this year the company has introduced more indoor fun pools, children's Fun Palaces and Food Courts at a number of its parks. Why not go along to visit one of the holiday parks to see for yourself the high standard and quality of facilities and accommodation on offer - there are three parks within reasonable distance of Chester Zoo - Presthaven Sands at Prestatyn, Ty Mawr in Clwyd and Beacon Fell near Preston.

For further details about Haven Holidays telephone 091-4174141 or visit your local AHTA travel agent.

**Haven**  
 LUXURY CARAVAN & CHALET HOLIDAYS IN ENGLAND & WALES  
 the family choice

DIAL-A-BROCHURE 0883 340721  
 DIAL-A-BOOKING 0442 233111  
 OR SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT



Presthaven Sands, North Wales

## Rory's family adopt Chester's tiger cubs



**Tiger Club Board meet Korda & Strelka at Chester**

RECOGNISING the importance of Chester's slogan "Conservation Can't Wait" is Britain's leading self-catering holiday operator, Haven Holidays, which recently showed its support for the zoo by adopting the two young Siberian tiger cubs Korda and Strelka. Tigers are the largest and most striking members of the cat family and there are now only five cubs left in the wild. Korda and Strelka were born in 1999 and were the first tiger cubs to be born in the zoo for ten years.

In the wild the Siberian Tiger is an endangered species and successful re-brooding projects such as that operated at Chester, play an important role in ensuring the survival of this animal.

Our picture (right) shows Korda meeting his new friend, Haven's very own Rory the Tiger.



## TIGER TIGER BURNING BRIGHT

TIGERS were the obvious creatures for Haven Leisure to adopt in the zoo's adoption scheme.

The Siberian tiger is a fine success story. They are now very rare in the wild, and are listed as endangered. They have been heavily hunted in the past, and their decline has also been hastened because of the clearance of large areas of their habitat for road and rail construction.

Nowadays, nature reserves have been created especially for Siberian tigers and measures have been taken to protect their main prey, especially the wild boar.

But in 2000, they are breeding freely, and their future is assured. Our tiger cubs, Strelka and Korda, celebrate their second birthday in April.

Things to watch for when you are watching our tigers:

1. Patrolling their territory - look for the definite paths worn in the grass.
2. Marking their territory - look for the male spraying the perimeter fence.
3. Bathing - especially in Summer, but it does occur all year round.
4. Sparring - mock fighting, either in play or as a prelude to courtship.
5. Feeding - especially the licking of the meat and the cutting of meat, using their sharp, carnassial teeth.

Unlike the lion next door - so to speak - we don't have a public feeding time for the tigers, who prefer the privacy of being fed inside the Tiger House - but they still will bring out bones to chew. On average - a tiger will eat up to 150lb of meat a day.

### TIGER PHOTO TIPS

THE Zoo's Siberian Tigers are amongst the most photogenic animals in the collection - with rich coloured coats, bright eyes, and the fan of their tail. Of see them lazing on their 'sunning benches' enjoying all the warmth of the day - just like domestic cats do.

To get the best photos of them - ideally use a Single Lens Reflex with a 'long lens' - 200mm is ideal - for this will focus out the back of their enclosure and bring them close up to you. But if you don't have this sort of camera - don't despair. The new ZooFari overhead railway means that you will have splendid views into their paddock with nothing to obstruct your view. In the first enclosure you reach on the trip - so be ready.

There's a special prize in the 1991 Photo Comp for the best picture from the ZooFari overhead railway!

But whatever you do - please don't tease the tigers, or be tempted to lean over the safety barrier with your camera - the stand off barriers are there for your safety and protection.

So - happy snapping!



★ UNDER 14S ★

WIN A FREE HAVEN FAMILY HOLIDAY

HERE'S a chance for you and your family to sample a Haven holiday ABSOLUTELY FREE. All you have to do to enter is send in your picture/idea showing what you think a holiday park will look like in the year 2000.

The first prize will be a two week holiday for a family of up to four persons at any of the 31 Haven Holiday parks.

Send your entry to Holiday 2000, Marketing Office, Chester Zoo, Upton-by-Chester CH2 1LH by October 31, 1991. You must give your age on the entry and be under 14 on October 31, 1991.



Picture credit: John Barber



The majesty of the tiger! Picture by George Green, North Wales Newspapers.



Natasha and her 5 week old cub "Strelka" born in the zoo in her first litter. Strelka is now almost as large as her mother! And that is in less than two years!

# AS THE NEW DECADE OPENS IN THE ZOO ZOOFARI OVERHEAD RAILWAY ARRIVES

**FINEST AND MOST UP-TO-DATE  
SYSTEM IN EUROPE — GLIDE ALONG  
IN AIR CONDITIONED COMFORT**

*Project Engineer Ken Roberts reports*

THE dream for over 50 years has been realised — Chester Zoo now has its own transport system to carry visitors swiftly from the Eastern side of the gardens to the Western side of the zoo — in total comfort — and offers the footweary an equally easy return.

The system — an electrically driven railway is automatically guided along the trackway — which is mainly overhead, thus giving views of the animals and gardens that have never before been seen.

The huge advantage of the overhead system is that it causes minimal interference with the zoo (just like Liverpool's old system in the docks) and has "state of the art" technology from Computerised People Movers Ltd. of nearby Flint who have designed and installed the system. The one mile of trackway blends in happily with the trees, lawns and paddocks of the zoo.

The system has two stations — Jubilee Square — on the East side and Monkey House on the Western side. Four trains, each with four cars, glide on rubber tyres on the overhead trackway. Air conditioning will make the cars a delight on summer days, and in



the winter, there will be full heating. Doorways are wide — and station access is fully ramped — so disabled people and wheelchairs are fully catered for. As a bonus, Nick Davies, BBC presenter and author of our tape guide tour, has recorded a special commentary so that visitors miss nothing as they glide along.

"This investment shows our total confidence in the Zoo's approach to the 1990s and beyond", said Zoo Director, Dr Michael Brambell — and we believe that with Zoofari Overhead and Waterbus too, the Zoo's transport system will cope admirably with our million plus visitors!



The metal supports of the zoofari railway blend in with the mature trees of the zoo — and as the system spans the canal, see the new reinforced banking using heavy duty plastic netting to prevent erosion and to give the Oryx a firm paddock.

**ZOOFARI  
OVERHEAD  
FOR A MAGIC CARPET  
AROUND THE ZOO  
— RUNS EVERY DAY!**

# THREE TOP AWARDS

1990 — great year for gardeners



Last year was a great one for the zoo's 22 gardeners — they won three major prizes!

For the third time in five years, Chester Zoo was awarded the Britain in Bloom trophy for the best Tourist Attraction garden in the North West. A special award for outstanding achievement was gained in the Chester in Bloom competition. In May, three other glorious gardens in the region Ness, Tatton Park and Arley Hall — joined with the zoo to build a Cheshire Woodland Garden for the world's foremost gardening event — the Chelsea Flower show. It was the first time a consortium had entered the show, and all the partners were delighted to be awarded a coveted Silver Medal.

Head gardener Eric Rudman and his talented team will be entering all those three events again this year, and hope for similar success.

## NEW LOOK FERRIES

Last summer saw the launch of a new-look Ferry Service that aims to cater for the demands of the ever-increasing numbers of visitors to the area drawn by the Albert Dock and other river centred attractions.

Replacing the short 'hop' is a full fifty minute round cruise, extended to take in the sights whilst a lively commentary entertains the listener with history and tales passed down through generations of workers.

The boats themselves received the lavish attentions of a £1.5m overhaul which restored them to their original livery and provided new decks, catering, bar and toilet facilities. The souvenir-hunter can now find amusement among the merchandise for every age and purse at the Ferry's centre in Liverpool.

Sailings depart daily, all year round, from 10am and visitors can join their trip at any one of the three terminals at Liverpool, Wallasey or Birkenhead. For further details contact Mersey Ferries on 051-630 1030.

MERSEY FERRIES



Bridgemere Garden World

Twenty-five acres of fascinating plants and garden with more plants and more varieties than anywhere in Europe. Huge selection of houseplants, garden bookshop, coffee house — recommended by Egon Ronay. Open daily. Admission free but charge for Garden Kingdom. On A51 between Woore and Nantwich, 25 miles from Chester. Tel. (09365) 381/2, also visit our Wildlife Park — from 10am (09365 223).



1. Ness Botanic Gardens .....051-336 2135
2. Stapeley Water Gardens .....0270 623868  
The Palms 0270 628628
3. Chirk Castle .....0691 777701
4. Erddig Hall.....0978 355314
5. Chester Visitor Centre, Vicar Lane,  
Chester .....0244 351609
6. The Boat Museum, Ellesmere Port.....051-355 5017
7. Cheshire Workshops, Burwalsley ..0828 70401
8. Bridgemere Garden World .....09365 381/2
9. Tatton Park, Knutsford .....0565 54822
10. Arley Hall & Gardens .....056 585 353
11. Jodrell Bank Science Centre .....0477 71571
12. Chester Zoo .....0244 380280

CITY OF CHESTER  
TOURIST OFFICE,  
Town Hall, North Gate St,  
Tel: (0244) 313126.

# CHESHIRE DAYS OUT

The first eleven —  
Ask for brochure!

There are lots of great tourist attractions around Cheshire. Chester Zoo has joined in a consortium with some of the best day-out venues in the area. Pick up a leaflet called "Favourite Days Out in and Around Cheshire" for full details of Cheshire Candle Workshops; Chirk Castle; Arley Hall and Gardens; Stapeley Water Gardens; The Boat Museum; Ness Gardens; Erddig Hall; Tatton Park; Jodrell Bank and Bridgemere Garden World. Call in at the Chester Visitor Centre, in Vicars Lane, for tourist information and to see their exciting replica of Chester's famous Rows, just as they were in Victorian days.

THE NATIONAL TRUST  
YR YMDDIRIEDOLAETH GENEDLAETHOL



**ERDDIG**  
Nr. Wrexham, Chesh. LL13 0YT  
Tel. (0978) 355314

Visit Erddig - an enchanting country house with something for everyone to enjoy. Standing in large, formal grounds, with neat borders and miniature fruit trees — surrounded by acres of parkland with extensive woods and picturesque walks. Erddig has been described as 'the most evocative upstart - downstairs house in Britain.'



**CHIRK CASTLE**  
Nr. Wrexham, Chesh. LL14 5AF  
Tel. (0691) 777701

Chirk is a magnificent Marcher fortress commanding spectacular views over the surrounding countryside. The Castle has beautiful gardens with topiary and woodland. The roses, yews, flowering trees and shrubs give beauty and fragrance throughout the Spring and Summer. See the gloomy dungeon for a grim reminder of the Castle's turbulent history.

For further information on these or any other properties in North Wales Contact Public Affairs Manager, The National Trust, Trinity Square, Lambeth, Guywood, LL30 2DE, Tel. (0493) 960123

**DID YOU LIKE THE GIANT KOI CARP AT STAPELEY?**

**ACTUALLY I HAD THE GRILLED TROUT WITH ALMONDS**

Attractions at Stapeley include:-  
**THE PALMS TROPICAL OASIS**  
A 1.5 acre heated glasshouse where the atmosphere of the tropics is created with tropical palms, giant Amazonian water lilies. A huge aquaria with sharks and piranhas plus parrots and with exotic flowers every day of the year.

**WORLDS LARGEST WATER GARDEN CENTRE**  
Ponds, Waterfalls, aquatic plants, fish and fountains. Two large cafes and a restaurant — to cater for just a snack or a memorable meal.

**EVERYTHING FOR THE GARDEN**  
Trees, shrubs, house plants in profusion with expert courteous advice available — even two covered acres of garden equipment, tools, furniture and seeds etc.

Open Every Day

*Stapeley Water Gardens*

London Road, Nantwich, Cheshire. Tel: 0270 623868  
1 mile South of Nantwich, on the A51 to Stone.  
Signposted from Junction 16 on the M6.

**NEW RHINO SIGN**

Check the new sign in the Rhino house — it's our handsome 'thanks' to Dunlop Footwear who have adopted our Black Rhinos — arguably the most endangered mammals in Africa. Turn to page 11 for a great competition with Rhino theme prizes to be won.



**CHESHIRE**

COUNTY INFORMATION: 0244 603128

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# PROGRESS REPORT



# CONSERVATION IN 1990

## INTER ZOO PLANS HELP ENDANGERED SPECIES BREEDING

THE theme of all the zoo's current literature is Conservation Cannot Wait. More than 50 of the animals in the collection are listed as being endangered species.

Many of these, such as chimpanzees, are already breeding freely in the zoo, and the keeping staff hope that many more will produce youngsters over the next few years.

In the bird section, one of the rarest is the Waldraap Ibis (left). They are rapidly careering down the path to extinction. Chester Zoo joined the Waldraap Ibis breeding programme in 1986, and by a combination of hand-rearing and supplementary feeding chicks, the bird staff have had considerable success. Seven chicks were reared last year, and can be seen, with their parents in the aviary by the Ape House.

Another inter-zoo breeding programme that Chester has joined recently is that for the scimitar horned oryx. Again, this is a very endangered species, and five British zoos are involved in a breeding programme with the ultimate aim of returning a herd to their wild habitat in Tunisia.

Chester's first calves were born last Autumn, and their horns came through within a few days of birth. By their first birthdays, the spectacular horns, which sweep high and backwards — giving them their name — will be almost fully grown.

With the re-introduction programmes, British zoos hope to be able to save this species in the same way that the Arabian oryx was saved from total extinction in the 1970s.



A superb Daily Telegraph picture by Mike Arron of the oryx and her youngster.

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Our F.E.D.S. are a talented lot! These enchanting finger puppets, each one a different zoo animal, have been designed by Norah Murphy. The knitting kits, including instructions and sufficient wool are on sale from Education Department.



Traditional elephant greeting for the new 12C Sunday service by Merseybus to Chester and The Zoo from Liverpool and Birkenhead.

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Winners each month from April onwards plus Grand Final

Here's a wonderful Stampa picture for you to colour! Using your skill and imagination with paint, crayon or pencil or felt tip (TIP — check how your felt tips work on another piece of this newspaper, as it is an absorbent paper) you could win some great prizes!

Each month from April 1991, all entries which reach the Zoo will be looked at by the resident judges — and Merit Awards will be given — each is a £25 Stampa Voucher which can be used for any Stampa purchase and a Zoo family ticket worth £14 which admits two adults and three children or senior citizens to the Zoo. All entries will be rejudged after the final closing date of 31st October, 1991, and the overall winner will receive a £250 Hamley's voucher for the famous Regent street Toy Shop, plus expenses for travel for two to go to London to spend it. There will be additional awards to entries of special merit at any time.

**Rules:**

Entries can be on the newspaper outline above — or on photocopies if you don't want to cut up your paper. There is no limit to the number of entries, but only one merit prize per person. Any age up to 14 on 31st October, '91. Age will be taken account of when judging. There are no cash alternatives to the prizes. Travel to London will be from any mainline railway station in Great Britain.

Children of staff of Chester Zoo or Dunlop Footware are not eligible to enter. By entering, you agree to these rules. The Judges decisions will be final, and all winners will be notified by post. Entries will be returned if you include a SAE with a 2nd Class stamp.

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The adopter receives free tickets to the zoo, an adoption certificate, copies of the zoo magazine, and invitations to special adopters days. Their name is included on the adoption plaque.

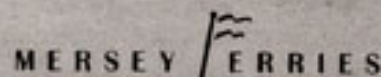
Adoptions make wonderful and unusual presents for birthday and Christmas. Contact Maureen Allsopp in Adoption Office at the Zoo for details. Tel: 0244 380280.



For a Liverpool experience that will live on in the memory, a Ferry cross the Mersey' cruise is a 'must' for all visitors to Merseyside. There's a lively commentary, good things to eat and drink and stunning views of the spectacular Mersey waterfront.

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For further information including details of Private Hire, Travel Trade and Group Discounts contact: Mersey Ferries, Victoria Place, Seacombe, Wirral L44 6QY Telephone 051-430 1030 Fax 051-639 0578

## BELIEVE IT OR NOT!

★ There are five species of rhinoceros — the black and the white in Africa, and the Indian, the Javan and the Sumatran in Asia.

★ Rhinos are disappearing at the rate of 7 every day of the year.

★ White rhinos aren't white — the word is the Africans word 'wiel' — meaning wide, referring to the wide mouth.

★ And the black rhino is grey!

★ The rhino is the second largest land animal — after the elephant — weighing up to three and a half tonnes.

★ Rhino horn isn't horn at all — it is composed of keratin, a similar protein to that of the human finger nail.



**STAMPA**  
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Esther and Parky say

# 'THANK YOU STAMPA'

THE Dunlop Footwear company has become the proud adoptive parent of Esther Rantzen and Michael Parkinson — not the TV presenters, but a pair of black rhinos.

Because of the link of the rhino logo on Stampa packaging, Dunlop have chosen to adopt the rhinos in Chester Zoo.

The animals won't, however, be making personal appearances at shoe shops — they stay in the expert care of the zoo!

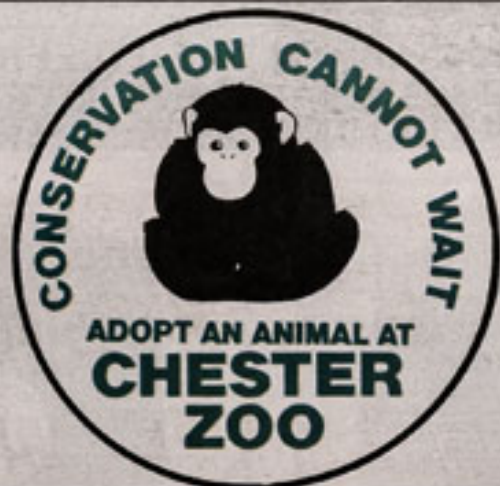
The zoo is particularly grateful for the adoption, as rhinos are among the most endangered species in the world.

**STAMPA & FRIENDS**  
**COLOURING**  
**COMPETITION**  
**PAGE 11**



**CROESO I SW CAER**

Mae'n bleser gennym eich croesawu'n gynnes i Sw Caer a'i gerddi hardd, eang sydd wedi cipio sawl gwobr dros y blynyddoedd. Cewch weld dros 545 rhywogaeth o anifeillaid yma.



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## KEEPERS CORNER

### BLACK RHINOCEROS

**FACT:** Rhinos have been persecuted for centuries—hunted especially for their horns. Increased agricultural use of land in some areas has reduced possible habitats and, it's believed, there are less than 14,000 left in the wild and numbers are still declining.

**FACT:** A mature black rhino can weigh up to 1,500 kg and stand almost 1.6m at shoulder height. They are browsing animals, living mainly on leaves and twigs in the open grassland and scrub areas of southern Central Africa. Eyesight is poor, but senses of smell and hearing very acute.

"The pair of black rhinos in Chester Zoo are called Esther and Parky! A baby is born after about 430 days' gestation and will weigh up to 46 kg; it will begin to grow its horn at about five to six weeks."



**AFRICA.** The black rhino lives in bush country and can be found in high mountain-forest areas where the main source of its food is found.

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