

# IZN

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*International Zoo News*

Chester Zoo –  
a Visitor's Report

Diet-based Enrichment  
for Small Primates

Bristol Zoo's Support  
for Primates in  
Cameroon

Visitor Behaviour in the  
Bird Area of a Brazilian  
Zoo



# CONTENTS

International Zoo News Vol. 50/1 (No. 322)

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EDITORIAL	2
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## FEATURE ARTICLES

Chester Zoo <i>John Tuson</i>	4
----------------------------------	---

Diet-based Enrichment Ideas for Small Primates <i>Jamie Craig and Clare Reed</i>	16
--	----

Bristol Zoo Gardens Supporting Primates in Cameroon: a Partnership with Cameroon Wildlife Aid Fund <i>J. Bryan Carroll, Melanie Gage, Louise Hurst and Neil Maddison</i>	21
---	----

Analysing Visitor Behaviour in the Bird Area of Belo Horizonte Zoo, Brazil <i>Cristiano Schetini de Azevedo, Michele Badaró Lima, Ângela Bernadete Faggioli and Cristiane Speziali Menegazzi</i>	27
--	----

---

Letters to the Editor	38
-----------------------	----

Book Reviews	40
--------------	----

Conservation	43
--------------	----

Miscellany	49
------------	----

Annual Reports	51
----------------	----

International Zoo News	57
------------------------	----

Recent Articles	65
-----------------	----

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Cover Illustration: A male tarictic hornbill (*Penelopides* sp.) at Chester Zoo; Chester is actively involved in the *in* and *ex situ* conservation of tarictic and other threatened Philippine hornbills. (Photo: John Tuson)

newly-hatched sharks to determine whether or not they are indeed true parthenogenetic offspring, or if another explanation is available. Tests may reveal that the mother is actually both male and female, thus capable of fertilizing its own eggs, a trait common in invertebrates such as snails and in some lower vertebrates such as mangrove killifish and gobies. Another possible explanation is that Belle Isle's shark was actually fertilized by a male at a very young age.

*AZA Communiqué* (November 2002)

### **Four black rhinos in England - in 1877**

In the belief that the black rhinoceros male Theodore, living in London Zoo from 11 September 1868 to 12 April 1891, was the only representative of his species in Britain during his lifetime, I was surprised to find a notice of a temporary exhibit of another three animals in 1877. They were part of the second Nubian Show which Bernhard Kohn, animal trader in the Egyptian Sudan, had assembled for Carl Hagenbeck and his brother-in-law Charles Rice. The caravan, which consisted of 15 people and a variety of animals and objects, toured Germany from July 1877 onwards, and made short visits to the Jardin d'Acclimation in Paris and to London before being disbanded later in the year. Their stay in London was arranged by Rice and was noticed in *Nature* on 20 September 1877: 'There is on view at present at the Alexandra Palace an interesting collection of fourteen Nubians with a number of animals, comprising six ostriches, six giraffes, five elephants, twenty-one racing dromedaries, three rhinoceroses, two hunting dogs, two Abyssinian spotted donkeys, four buffaloes, two zebus, monkeys, &c.' Among the people there was a Homran man, aged nineteen, 'who has the three rhinoceroses under his special care, and which follow him and lick his

hand like pet lambs.' The correspondent of *Nature* clarified the presence of the rhinoceroses in the next issue, dated 27 September 1877: 'As might have been expected, the three rhinoceroses now exhibited in the Alexandra Park are specimens of the African Black Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros bicornis*).' There was 'a pair being about eighteen months old, and the other a male not more than a year old. In the larger specimens the posterior horn is much smaller than that upon the nose, whilst in the young male its presence is only indicated by a slight rugosity.' These three rhinoceroses probably returned to Hagenbeck's compound in Hamburg and took part in subsequent Nubian shows in Germany. They were later joined by a fourth black rhinoceros, and two of them lived at least ten years in captivity.

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### **Memorial services for zoo animals**

As an example of a distinct difference between Western and Japanese cultures, visitors to Japan often notice what appears to be a tombstone on the zoo grounds. The stone monument is a cenotaph for animals - no animal remains are buried underneath it. Ceremonies are conducted to honor the souls of deceased zoo animals, typically during the autumnal equinox, attended by not only the zoo staff, but animal representatives as well. People offer a bouquet of flowers and prayers for peace for the animals that devoted their lives to humans. A recent study reveals that 70% of zoos and 27% of aquariums polled have such cenotaphs (evidently people do not feel the same degree of kinship with fish as they do with mammals). The study also shows that 49% of the institutions conduct such memorial services.

Excerpted and translated by Ken Kawata from '70% of zoos have cenotaphs' by Tei Shimizu, *Asahi Evening Newspaper* (28 October 2002)