

NOTICEBOARD

IN MEMORIAM

NATHALIE EVANS, co-founder of Twycross Zoo in the UK, passed away in September last year, aged 98. Beginning as a merger of two pet shops in Sutton Coldfield, Twycross Zoo was established in 1962 and became a leading collection in the UK over the following decades thanks to the efforts of Miss Evans and her partner Molly Badham. Miss Evans was a founder member of the National Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain and Ireland, a member of the International Union of Directors of Zoological Gardens and co-author of two well-received books outlining the extraordinary story of the birth and development of the zoo.

HENK ZWARTEPOORTE, former curator of reptiles and amphibians at Blijdorp Zoo, Rotterdam, the Netherlands, and EAZA Reptile TAG Vice-Chair, passed away at the age of 67 in October. Mr Zwartepoorte was a key figure in the conservation of reptiles and amphibians in the Netherlands and across the EAZA network, and served as Chair of the European Studbook Foundation, Chair of the Turtle Survival Alliance in Europe and President of the Dutch-Belgian Turtle Association.

CHANGES AT THE WORLD ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS AND AQUARIUMS

Dr Gerald Dick, Executive Director of WAZA, retired in December after eight years in the post. EAZA joins WAZA and the whole zoo community in thanking Gerald for his contribution over his tenure. Dr Stephanie Sanderson, who is also the Executive Director of the European Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians, was appointed as interim cover until the appointment of Doug Cress in April as the new CEO of WAZA. Dr Markus Gusset, Chief Conservation Officer at WAZA, also left in December to take up a new post at the Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture.

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

The 23rd **International Zoo Educators Conference** took place in October, hosted by Fundación Temaikèn in Buenos Aires, Argentina. With the theme of 'Crafting Effective Narratives', the meeting aimed to showcase a diverse range of educational interventions to promote attitudes, behaviours and knowledge that promote environmental care and conservation. One hundred and thirty delegates from more than 30 countries worked over four days in workshops, presentations and poster sessions to explore the power of storytelling both traditional and modern. EAZA and its Members were well represented at the meeting, and several Members ran workshops.

The next meeting will take place in 2018 at EAZA Member Al Ain Zoo. Membership of IZE costs from €47 a year,

and offers a range of resources and discussion forums to help educators contribute and stay up to date with the latest developments in zoo education. For more details of how to join, contact IZEA's Europe and Middle East board member Sarah Thomas, sarah.thomas@zsl.org.

Registration for the 2017 **EAZA Annual Conference** to be held at Emmen, the Netherlands, is now open. Register before 1 June to take advantage of early booking rates for EAZA's flagship event. Emmen is a small city in the east of the Netherlands, and accommodation will be primarily at holiday bungalows near to the city – organisers have set up a Facebook page to assist registrants to book shared accommodation. Visit the event website www.eaza2017.com for details of how to book – and please book as early as possible to ensure that you get the accommodation that is suitable for you and your institution.

The **EAZA Nutrition Conference** took place in Liberec, Czech Republic in January; a full report of the event can be found on page 27.

Upcoming events also include: **Future Directions in Conservation Science** (25–26 April, Chester, UK), the **Zoo and Wildlife Health Conference** (24–27 May, Berlin, Germany, hosted by EAZWV and IZW) and the **EAZA Zoo Horticulture Conference** (16–19 May, Rome, Italy). For a full view of these events and more, visit www.eaza.net/events.



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THOIRY ZOO LOSES RHINO TO POACHERS

Thoiry Zoo in France was the victim of a shocking attack on the night of 6 March. A gang broke into the zoo's indoor enclosure for white rhino and shot dead a four-year-old male rhino, removing its large horn with a chainsaw. The other horn was partially cut, which suggested that the gang had fled the scene, perhaps after being disturbed. Two other rhinos in the enclosure were unharmed.

As security measures are stepped up at zoos across the globe, we urge all EAZA Members to test their security systems to ensure they are up to date and fully functional. Rhino holders have been contacted by the relevant TAG with recommendations for security measures; if you are a holder and have questions, please contact the TAG Chair Friederike von Houwald.