

Curriculum Vitae

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Born Edinburgh, Scotland.

Work Record

Nov. 2018 – present: Independent zoological consultant focusing on enclosure design, animal husbandry and safety protocols, ethical species acquisition and disposition and conservation project development. I have been employed to advise and comment on a wide range of husbandry and design issues related to a broad spectrum of species in the UK (London Zoo, Dudley Zoo, Dartmoor Zoological Park, Wolds Wildlife Park, Paradise Wildlife Park, Big Cat Foundation, Shepreth Wildlife Park, Knowsley Safari Park, West Midlands Safari Park, Peak Wildlife Park, Manor Wildlife Park, Jersey Zoo, Marwell Zoo, Wildwood Trust, Watatunga Wildlife Reserve, Five Sisters Zoo, South Lakes Safari Zoo); Ireland (Tayto Park, Wild Ireland); Sweden (Kolmarden Zoo), Ukraine (Nikolaev Zoo); Estonia (Tallinn Zoo); China (Shanghai Wild Animal Park, Nantong Forest Safari Park, Longemont Animal World, Qingdao Jiangshan Wild Animal Park, Chimelong Safari Park, Chimelong Marine Park); South Korea (Seoul Grand Park Zoo, Government Department for Species Restoration); Azerbaijan (Baku's new zoo); and Saudi Arabia (Saudi Royal Commission for the Arabian Leopard Project at the Prince Saud al-Faisal Wildlife Research Centre and the proposed breeding for reintroduction site in Al-Ula).

August 08 – Nov. 2018: Head of Living Collections, Highland Wildlife Park, Royal Zoological Society of Scotland, responsible for the management of the entire animal department and related staff. Tasked with further development of the park and increasing the conservation profile of the institution, both in-situ and ex-situ, through the development of a range of projects e.g., European bison reintroduction, developing a new strategy for re-establishing a wild population of Eurasian cranes, designing and implementing the first Amur leopard facility specifically for reintroduction, designing and building a revolutionary polar bear exhibit that changed how the species is both housed and managed and resulted in me winning the British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums (BIAZA) first Trailblazer Award in 2018.

July 05 – July 08: Curator at Singapore Zoological Gardens responsible for overseeing the daily management of a number of the animal sections, collection management, developing and implementing a three tier keeper training programme for the Zoo and Night Safari animal staff, exhibit design and project management, advising on and implementing in-situ and ex-situ conservation projects, e.g. taste aversion training for

wild tigers in Peninsular Malaysia, designing a complimentary ex-situ programme to augment the conservation of Singapore's last population of banded langurs.

June 03 - Sept. 04: Chief Operations Officer and General Curator at Mountain View Conservation & Breeding Centre, Canada. Responsible for the management and development of the staff and animal collection at this private endangered species breeding facility.

Oct. 01- May 03: A range of small consultancy jobs, both paid and voluntary, for a number of zoological institutions whilst waiting for Canadian immigration/visa clearance. In addition, I was husbandry advisor for the newly established Iberian lynx captive breeding programme and problem solving for the Philippines' endemic leopard cat project.

Aug. 99-Oct. 01: Zoological Director at Rome Zoo, Italy, with a brief to rebuild the whole zoo and to also advise on the management and development of the non-animal elements of the operation.

95-July 99: Curator of Mammals at London Zoo, only the second such appointment from within the Zoo in the history of the Zoological Society of London.

91-95: Collection Manager at London for most of the mammal sections and birds.

86-91: Head Keeper of Carnivores at London Zoo, first external head keeper appointment in the history of the Zoological Society of London.

84-86: Overseer of Carnivores at Dudley Zoo, England

80-84: Head Carnivore Keeper at Howletts Zoo Park, England

1975-1980: Keeper at Edinburgh, New York Bronx (WCS), and Loch Lomond Wildlife Park.

Miscellaneous

I have assisted the Indonesian and Russian zoo associations to develop sound husbandry protocols for their embryonic tiger breeding programmes, and assisted some Indian zoos with lion husbandry training. I have developed master plans for zoos in Brunei and Kathmandu, and in Saigon as part of an IUCN/CPSG team. More recently I have assisted with the development of a conservation breeding project for saola in Laos and Vietnam, developing an ex-situ programme for saiga antelope in Ukraine and the Amur leopard reintroduction project in Russia; the latter two projects are on hold due to the war in Ukraine although I am helping develop a new South Korean focus for the leopard project.

I am currently a member of the IUCN/SSC Bison and Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Groups, General Advisor to the European Bison EEP, Husbandry Advisor for the Tiger EEPs, Enclosure Design, Husbandry and Reintroduction Advisor to the Amur Leopard

EEP and Strategic, Communications & Husbandry Advisor to the polar bear EEP. In 2022 I was appointed as the husbandry advisor for the newly founded Euplerid Foundation and a trustee for the Dartmoor Zoological Society. For a number of years up until June 2023, I was the vice-chair of the British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquaria (BIAZA).

Publications

I have published a number of papers and one book over the years. Many of the papers were on different aspects of wild felid management, but the list also includes papers on topics ranging from an accurate manual sexing technique for beavers to discussion documents on all aspects of euthanasia in a zoo scenario. The following is a list of some of my publications:

~2024 (in press): “Qualifying criteria for ex-situ bred Amur leopards (*Panthera pardus orientalis*) to be considered for release.”

2022: “A Missed Opportunity: how zoos failed to save the northern white rhinoceros”, in Keeper Contact, number 180.

2019: “New Ideas in Zoo Design Are Never the Province of the Risk Averse”, in Zoo Design 2017 Conference Proceedings, Wroclaw (Ed. L. Przybylska)

2013 (with Heckel, J. O., Holland, J. & Wirth, R.): “Has the ark gone off course?”, in WAZA News 4/13

2012 (with Blomqvist, L.): “The forest reindeer: A success story of a large herbivore in Europe”. (In): European Studbook for Forest Reindeer, *Rangifer tarandus fennicus*, 2011: 3-7, Nordens Ark Foundation

2011(with Lewis J.): “EEP-Husbandry Recommendations for Tigers *Panthera tigris*”. European Association of Zoos and Aquariums

2007 (with Tilson, R., *et al*): “International co-operative efforts to save the Sumatran tiger *Panthera tigris sumatrae*”, International Zoo Yearbook vol. 35, 129-138

2006 (with A.C.Kitchener & M.A.Beaumont). “Geographical Variation in the Clouded Leopard, *Neofelis nebulosa*, Reveals Two Species”. Current Biology, vol 16, 2377-2383.

2006. “Realising the Conservation Potential of SEAZA”, in SEAZA 2006 Conference Proceedings, Saigon Zoo

2006 (with K.Kawanishi & K.Lazarus). “Contraction of bearded pig *Sus barbatus* distribution in Peninsular Malaysia”, in Suiform Soundings the Newsletter of the IUCN/SSC Pigs, Peccaries, and Hippos Specialist Group, vol 6, no 1.