

the magazine for friends of the Brno Zoo

# Zooreport

No. 2  
December 2021

## Iconic cranes





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(*Grus japonensis*). Photo: Tatyana Parilova

UNSALEABLE

## EDITORIAL

Dear readers,  
ladies and  
gentlemen,

The year's end is always a time of evaluating the previous year and finding challenges for the next. Let me yet again thank you all for your support, which has helped us enormously over the last two years. And we will be delighted if you continue, whether by extending an adoption, buying an experience program, or simply visiting Zoo Brno. We greatly appreciate that you are with us. Really and truly.

This issue is quite specific. As I indicated in the previous edition, we will take you to the Far East so you can look under the lid of our rescue project. In the opening pages, we will look at cranes in more detail. You will learn how eggs of these beautiful birds are brought to Russia, what pitfalls are always waiting along the way, how we can deal with them, and, of course, we will also present an overview of the project. Our bird breeding curator, RNDr. Petr Suvorov, PhD., will take you on a journey by plane, train, and car, telling you some amazing stories about the preparation for the trip and the course it ran. I believe that you already know him from other articles in our magazine. There is just one thing missing from his story: I am referring to the administration of the project and all the necessary permits. That would take an entire book of several parts, and thus we would rather not burden you (or maybe we will at another time).

And, though we are already dedicated to one very successful rescue project, we are not forgetting about another: As we did in 2020, during this summer we



again released at Břeclav airport 20 ground squirrels which were born in Brno Zoo. The reason for this is the still unstable population of this endangered species in the Czech Republic. See page 12 for details.

Then, a small recap of the most important events of the second half of 2021 follows. The newest resident of Zoo Brno has been a seven-year-old female Kamchatka brown bear, Irina, who arrived this summer from the French zoological garden in La Fleche. She shares a paddock with another female Kamchatka brown bear at our Beringie exhibition. On the other hand, some animals left Mniší Mountain. The transport of chimpanzees to Zoo Hodonín took place during the second half of September. That zoo will provide them with a new home during our exhibition's construction of their indoor area. For that, we send Zoo Hodonin a grateful thank you.

As usual, we will also fill you in on events in the Jinačovice rescue station. This time, a well-known truth is confirmed: "A good housewife jumps on the rock for poor ducks." In other words, some stuntmen do not hesitate to climb without help onto a high rock in order to help a duck family. Mrs Ježková certainly deserves our admiration; but next time we recommend waiting for professional assistance to make sure that no one is hurt.

Dear fans of Brno Zoo, I wish that the year 2022 will be a good one for all of you. I hope you will all be healthy, happy, satisfied, loved, and loving, and will have the best of everything. And once again, from the entire zoo to your hearts, to each and every one of you, MANY THANKS.

*Michal Vaňáč*



# Cranes at risk



Some readers may know Red-crowned cranes from Japanese pictures, where this bird is a national symbol of longevity and happy life. As part of the country's cultural wealth, it is protected there. But few know that part of the crane population lives in Russia and China. The Daurian crane has only a continental population, which overlaps heavily with the Red-crowned crane. Both species spend their winters in the south of China, Korea, and Japan.

*Cranes are a symbol of longevity and happy life.*  
Photo: Petr Suvorov

The major causes of declining numbers of both species are the loss and degradation of their natural environment and wintering sites. Only because of drying wetlands, up to 90 percent of nesting sites were destroyed in China from the 1950s. Other threats include poaching or the chemization of agriculture. In addition, in many Asian countries cranes are hunted for domestic breeding and are used as bird bait. The Red-crowned crane was introduced to Japan, where its population is already stabilized, and to China. The Khingan State Nature Reserve has been releasing them back into nature since 1988, and it is currently the only

place where cranes are returned to the wild.

Some individuals of these impressive birds reach the height of humans. Their long-stretched sound can be heard hundreds of meters away. All types of cranes are monogamous, so, after finding a suitable partner, the couple spend their whole life together. Life expectancy is around thirty years in the wild. Two captive Siberian cranes (*Leucogeranus leucogeranus*) survived far longer, one dying at 62 and the other at 83, thus entering the Guinness Book of Records.

**Are the released cranes successful colonizers?**

In the last five years, zoological gardens in Brno and Olomouc, together with Zoo-park Chomutov, managed to release seven Red-crowned cranes and one Daurian crane in cooperation with the Khingan State Nature Reserve. One of the Red-crowned cranes – a female called Tulungin – successfully survived the winter in the wild and was again observed in 2018.

Since 2019, GSM telemetry monitoring of four released cranes has been underway. Hunters shot a male named Pikan during a duck hunt. Thanks to a transmitter on the bird's leg, it was possible to trace the carcass and initiate criminal proceedings for killing an animal which was listed in the Red Book of

Endangered Species of the Russian Federation. The GSM telemetry enabled us to follow the others, also: Three cranes (two Red-crowned, one Daurian) flew south to the China sea coast. A male Daurian crane, Aret, was wintering on the Korean peninsula, and a female Red-crowned crane, Bomnak, paired with a wild male in a bay of the Yellow Sea. Both Aret and Bomnak successfully returned to Russia after the winter, Bomnak leading two young and her wild mate, which was a huge success. Nine months after she finished nesting, she was seen with her family on Lake Shijiu in China's Anhui province. Their presence drew the media's interest, which reported that it was the first observation of this kind in the region in 30 years. Bomnak also nested in 2021, and Russian colleagues continue to follow her progress.

We weren't lazy either. We brought two more radios to the Russian Federation, and have thereby identified six released cranes whom we follow or have observed. The success of the banded cranes confirmed that the release of both species in the Far East made sense. In the future, we plan to band all released cranes with radio transmitters. We hope that mass banding will enable



*Deploying the radio.* Photo: Mikhail Parilov

us to follow their natural adaptation process and show the importance of crane habitats in the Amur basin in China and on the Korean peninsula.

Over the last 17 years, a total of 74 Red-crowned cranes and 34 Daurian cranes were returned to nature. Some of them arrived in a wintering ground and

subsequently returned from it, and the happiest became parents of new generations of cranes born in the wild. Their fate was fulfilled. I firmly hope that we will continue to help to give these beautiful birds a chance of survival.

*Petr Suvorov*



*The success of the banded cranes confirmed that their release in the Far East makes sense.* Photo: Petr Suvorov





# By Trans-Siberian Railway to rescue two endangered species of cranes

In my hands was a bag with an incubator; on my back I carried an external frame pack; and on my abdomen was a small backpack. I was trying to get on a train in the Far East of Russia. There was no concrete platform, but there was a giant distance between the ground and the floor of the wagon. Without the help of my colleague, Nadja, I would not have managed. While I was huffing and puffing in an effort just to get in, I was overtaken by an eighty-year-old woman toting a back-basket who moved as briskly as a cha-mois. That's part of the reality of being on the Trans-Siberian Railway.

In the beginning, there was an egg. But I will probably have to give a little bit more detail. I work as a curator, the methodological head of the bird collection at the Brno Zoological Garden. In 2014, we managed to establish contact with the Khingan State Nature Reserve in the Amurian region of Russia. It is

a reserve that stretches about 450 kilometers inland from Khabarovsk, and borders China. This region has many endangered species of animals, including three charismatic species of birds – the Red-crowned crane (*Grus japonensis*), the Daurian crane (*Antigone visio*), and the Oriental stork (*Ciconia boyciana*).

And it was because of the first two mentioned that we decided to join forces. In European zoos, those cranes are included in rescue programs, and the population of both species in Europe is already strong enough to return these beautiful birds to the wild. That is why, to fulfill the purpose of rescue breeding, we have joined forces with the Khingan State Nature Reserve staff.

## Russian learned in five months

When I was preparing for the first egg transport, I did not know anything about Russia. I received a card with an e-mail address to which I was to respond. The beginnings were difficult for me. Colleagues from the Khingan

◀ *Young cranes in the Khingan State Natural Reserve.*  
Photo: Nikolay Balan

reservation did not speak English. My surname made it difficult for me to explain to the Russians that I had only seen Russian in the headlines of the fairy tale Father Frost Morozko. I did have a Russian-speaking colleague on hand, but the main part of the arrangements and project fell on me. A long and difficult communication followed. After a few weeks, it was clear that I had to learn Russian. I had five months in which to do it.

I was assured that the Cyrillic alphabet could be learned in 14 days, and that Russian would be easy for me because it is a Slavic language. Today I know that this is not true! You can certainly learn Cyrillic in about a month, but Russian as such is anything but easy. I used a children's primer, "Vesyolaya azbuka" (Funny Alphabet), with a teddy bear on the front, and I spent my evenings learning foreign letters. In my mind, I envied previous generations which had compulsory Russian at school, and so were able to read long texts in the language.

### Nature versus bureaucracy

While studying in the evenings, during the day I had to deal with an exhausting marathon of complicated administrative and logistical processes. These were often slow, not only because of the several hours' time difference, but also because of the cultural differences of both worlds. At that time in Europe, outside of Russia, almost no one had any experience of transporting eggs outside the European Union, unless they were hatching chicken or duck eggs, and the like.

With those eggs, the development of the seed itself begins only after the whole clutch is laid. Usually, you can wait a few days until all the eggs are in the nest, then remove them to a cold area, and, at an opportune moment, incubate them artificially to raise the temperature and humidity. However, in the case of cranes, this cannot be done because the embryo begins to develop



*Travel incubator.* Photo: Miroslav Brtnický



*This was the way on the famous Trans-Siberian Railway.*

Photo: Petr Suvorov



*During the trip, the incubator had to be checked at intervals of about 15 minutes, even on the plane.* Photo: Petr Suvorov



*The so-called float, i.e., measuring the fertilization of eggs.* Photo: Petr Suvorov





Necessary control of the weight of a small plumage. Photo: Nadya Kuzhnetseva

immediately after the egg is laid. The actual date of transport is therefore determined by the moment when the first egg is laid. Hatching then takes place in about a month.

#### Stress-filled preparation

Changes had to be made on the correct documents and methodology for the transport. Initially, we planned to get a travel incubator powered by local mains or a car battery, and place it in the cargo area on the aircraft. But it

turned out that this was impossible. According to the Russian methodology, we had instead to transport the eggs in a wooden box insulated with polystyrene and heated by rubber bottles filled with warm water.

As one good soul commented, I had imagined a sophisticated device that would electronically monitor the temperature, humidity, and almost the movements of the fetus in the egg. Instead, in front of me appeared a box the size and weight of a small living room

stool, which was very impractical both for carrying and storage. It was clear that the transport would not be possible without the presence of a person who would have to check the incubator constantly and add hot water to the thermophores when necessary. But the Russians reassured me that they had been transporting eggs this way for many years. Given the shortening time, we couldn't invent another device, so I agreed, and went to get a visa to Russia.

D-day was coming, and I was still waiting for a Russian import permit, which takes about twice as long to prepare as the same document in the European Union. In the end, we received it at about one minute to midnight; but I still lived in fear that the eggs might hatch on the plane due to the delay in traveling to Russia. The permit was issued for eggs, not for chicks, for which completely different documents would be needed.

With all my thoughts being about eggs and small cranes during the stressful preparations, I forgot to ask the Russians where I would sleep after arriving. The answer that came was: "Jest vagončik. (There is a wagon.) Jest postěl. (There is a bed.) Čajnik. (Teapot.) Toalet na ulice. (Toilet on the street.)" The idea of a rusty caravan with a curved metal chimney from the stove appeared in my mind. And I translated the words "toalet na ulice" (toilet on the street) in my mind as the Roman form of mass toilets in the open air under the open sky. That gave me an unpleasant chill in my stomach. I preferred to focus on communication with airlines and the security unit of Prague Airport, to which I sent the parameters of the incubator.

#### Winged eggs

In the middle of May 2015, I set out with an incubator containing two crane eggs on an almost-two-day painful journey of more than 10,000 kilometers from the Czech Republic to the Far East. For safety reasons, it was not possible to place the incubator on the floor of the aircraft deck, i.e., under the seat, so I had to put it in the space above the seats as hand luggage. During the almost 40-hour trip, the incubator had



Crane "nursery" in a reservation in the Far East. Photo: Nikolay Balan





*Transport of cranes before discharge. Photo: Tatyana Parilova*

to be inspected at intervals of about 15 minutes. At each airport, I had to find out whether a water source was available before and after the X-ray inspection. Fortunately, there was.

After arriving in Moscow, I transferred to a small plane and prepared to travel across Siberia. During the 17-hour flight, the flight attendants supplied me with all available caffeine to keep me awake. Even so, I flew to Khabarovsk on the verge of total exhaustion. At the airport, the staff of the natural science station took over the care of the incubator. Then we all boarded the famous Trans-Siberian Railway.

#### **Cranes on rails**

Finally, I was able to fall asleep and catch up with a giant sleep deficit. When I woke, a small glass teapot stood in front of me in a metal frame, with two glasses in the same style. Russians



*In 2020, we did not send eggs to Russia, but mature birds instead. But everything was top-of-the-box. Photo: Petr Suvorov*





*Welcome! Hatching of small cranes in the Far East. Photo: Nadya Kuzhnetseva*

are pleased to drink heavily sweetened black tea. Czech lovers of this classic hot drink prefer it differently, but Russian strongly over-sweetened tea is simple, delicious, and strengthening! My colleague from the station and I both realized that the previous weeks had

been highly demanding. I still feared that it all might have been in vain, but hoped that at least one egg would survive the whole painful journey.

For eight hours, the crane eggs wandered through the Russian landscape. Outside the windows, I saw vast wet-

lands, vast birch groves interwoven often with stands of purple-flowering rhododendrons. In Russia, the train is still considered to be a very reliable means of transport, as extreme temperature conditions heavily undermine the quality of asphalt on the roads. Trains are running there that were common in our country ten to fifteen years ago, with red leatherette seats on which you can sleep quite comfortably in an emergency.

#### **A thin but persistent cheep**

Finally, we were approaching our final destination. The town of Archara is located directly on the highway. There, they brought us and the incubator to the station. The eggs were taken over by a worker who was in charge of raising the crane chicks. Pulling out one of the wooden boxes, she held it to her ear. To my great astonishment, a thin but persistent cheeping sounded from the inside. Emotions relaxed in me. It was hard to suppress the tears in my eyes. So my journey made sense! Unfortunately, the second egg turned out to be unfertilized. Within two days of my arrival, a small crane female hatched from the first egg. She was



*The first red-crowned crane chick we brought to the Far East. Photo: Petr Suvorov*



given the name of Kohan and was subsequently released into nature.

The first transport was successful! And, fortunately, it was not the last. Later, we managed to find a more efficient method, so we used a polystyrene incubator with a thermostat connected to a power bank instead of a wooden box. We have verified that this equipment can be used to travel following international aviation standards. We must have patience, for our type of work requires us to wait many years for the results. And it is thus that small cranes hatching from Czech eggs prepare, with the assistance of the staff of the science station, to return to their original homeland – the unfathomable Russian mudflats.

*Petr Suvorov*



*Transport of young animals to the summer station on Klešenský Lake. Photo: Irina Balan*



*Juvenile red-crowned crane. Photo: Nikolay Balan*





## We return endangered ground squirrels to the wild

As in 2020, during this past summer we again released at Břeclav airport 20 ground squirrels which were born in Brno Zoo. The reason for this is the still unstable population of this endangered species in the Czech Republic.

“Once again, we are convinced that it makes sense to continue with the projects. Due to cooler rainy weather, the population of squirrels in both the Czech Central Mountains and in the south of Moravia was reduced again. Thanks to our “Syslinec,” which we built in 2015 on the site of Zoo Brno,

we can release squirrels into nature at regular annual intervals. Most of the 10 males and 10 females which were released are young,” said Petr Šrámek, project coordinator for Zoo Brno.

We caught the ground squirrels in the zoo area, and early the next day took them to the location in Břeclav.

“We drilled a few new holes near the old ones, put a little food into each of them, placed the ground squirrels inside, and plugged the holes with hay and bottles. This is a standard procedure, because it makes the squirrel find another way out by itself,” Šrámek explained.

Zoo Brno has been involved in this project since 2015. In 2017, 57 ground squirrels were released in the nature reserve of a sandy hill in the Bohemian Central Mountains, 17 of them from Zoo Brno. The procedure was repeated the following year at the same site. In 2019, Zoo Brno released 26 individuals into a new maintained location near the nature reserve of the sandy hill. In 2020, 20 were released at the airport in Břeclav, and we released the same number this time.

The ground squirrel (*Spermophilus vitellus*) was previously considered a pest. However, due to man’s influence, it was on the brink of extinction, so was



◀  
 At the airport in Břeclav, there are now about 20 more ground squirrels. Good luck to them!  
 Photo: Michal Vaňáč



We caught the ground squirrels in the zoo area a day before, taking them, early in the morning, to the location in Břeclav.  
 Photo: Michal Vaňáč



We drilled a few new holes near the old ones, put a little food into each of them, and placed the ground squirrels inside.  
 Photo: Michal Vaňáč

classified as a critically endangered species. In 2020, the animal's occurrence was recorded only in 34 different isolated locations in the Czech Republic – outside Eastern Bohemia and Northern Moravia. Isolation and the small numbers of individuals in colonies are the most significant threats. The loss of several individuals in one colony could not naturally be replaced by migration from another colony, reducing its viability and possibly even spelling its disappearance.

*Monika Brindzáková*



Most of the 10 males and 10 females are young. Photo: Michal Vaňáč



# A female Kamchatka brown bear from France arrived at Brno Zoo



Since this past summer, a new resident of Zoo Brno has been a seven-year-old female Kamchatka brown bear, Irina. She arrived from a French zoo in La Flèche, and she is sharing her enclosure with another female Kamchatka brown bear at the Beringie exhibition. For the first months, there is a fence dividing the two.

“Kamchatka brown bears have always been one of the most attractive animals in our garden. In the past, the breeding pair Jelizar and Kamchatka produced three cubs, making visitors to European zoos happy. After Jelizar died in 2019, we negotiated intensively with other zoos, and are still discussing the possibilities of adding to the number of our bears, as well as other animals,” said Martin Hovorka, Director of Zoo Brno.

Irina was born on January 17, 2014 in Tierpark Hagenbeck in Hamburg, one of triplets. Together with her two brothers, she was moved to the Zoo de La Flèche in France in 2015.

The sow, as a female bear is called, spent her first days at Brno Zoo away from the visitors' viewing areas for safety and veterinary reasons, and that is where her future breeders met her.

Bears are primarily solitary animals, so putting two together is a delicate mat-

ter. At the moment, we do not even know the character traits of the new bear, so we have temporarily partitioned the enclosure, and we will discuss the next steps in the coming months.

In the French zoo, Irina was thoroughly prepared for the transport itself, so she managed it very well and without any problems. We have some information from our colleagues in France about Irina. She is playful and curious, and is said to be a bit of a cheater. “And

*Irina arrived in Brno from France.*  
Photo: Matyáš Slavík





*The new sow was born in Germany.* Photo: Matyáš Slavík



*Our colleagues in France know that Irina is playful and curious, and can be a bit of a cheater.*  
Photo: Matyáš Slavík



*From her first examination of her new enclosure, it was clear that Irina is a water lover.*  
Photo: Matyáš Slavík



*Compared to Kamchatka, Irina is significantly lighter in color.*  
Photo: Matyáš Slavík

we should not be surprised if she is sometimes ill tempered. After molting, she is usually quite light-colored, nearly blonde, according to her previous breeders” added Šárka Mikátová, the curator of mammalian breeding in Brno Zoo.

Jelizar and Kamchatka arrived on October 1, 2010, from Rostov-on-Don Zoo in Russia to the newly built Beringie exhibition. Both came from the wild, so the exact date of their

births is not known, but we estimate that they were born in January 1993. In 2012, they had twins, Kuba and Toby; and, in 2016, another male was born to them, Bruno. In 2018, Jelizar began to suffer from problems with his teeth and degenerative changes in his joints - the typical problems of an aging animal - due to which he had to be put to sleep in 2019.

*Monika Brindzáková*





# Brno chimpanzees moved to Hodonín

The transport of our chimpanzees, the male Fábén and females Gina and Maryška, took place from Zoo Brno to Zoo Hodonín in the second half of September. The Hodonín Zoo will provide them with a temporary new home during our exhibition's construction of an indoor enclosure.

"After completing the outdoor run, we obtained funds from the founder for the construction of a new indoor enclosure because the old one does not meet current requirements for chimpanzees. The big problem was the location of the non-breeding group of older animals, and we are glad that colleagues from Zoo Hodonín came to our

aid. These three inhabitants of our zoo have a lot of supporters. If they want to visit the chimps, it is not a long drive to Hodonín. We will start preparatory and demolition works, and are planning to start building in the spring. The chimpanzee coordinator now has room to find a stable home for our chimpanzees and to find a new animal breeding

group for our exposition," said Martin Hovorka, Director of the Zoo Brno.

The preparation for transport took several weeks, and included the modification of transport crates and communication between the workers in both gardens. "Because chimpanzees are part of the European Educational Programs (EEP), we consult with the coordinator about all the steps regarding the location of the animals. Even the preparation of our chimpanzees for the move to Hodonín took place with the help of a veterinarian. On the way, they were accompanied by our breeders, who gave them directly to their Hodonín colleagues with detailed information about their behavior and habits," added Šárka Mikátová, curator of mammals of Zoo Brno.

Chimpanzees are intelligent animals that respond to even small changes and deviations from the regular daily regimen. Any handling or transport must be done with great care. These apes are



◀ *Chimpanzees are intelligent animals that respond even to small changes and deviations from the regular daily regimen.*

Photo: Michal Vaňáč



four times more powerful than humans, so they moved to their new environment partially sedated.

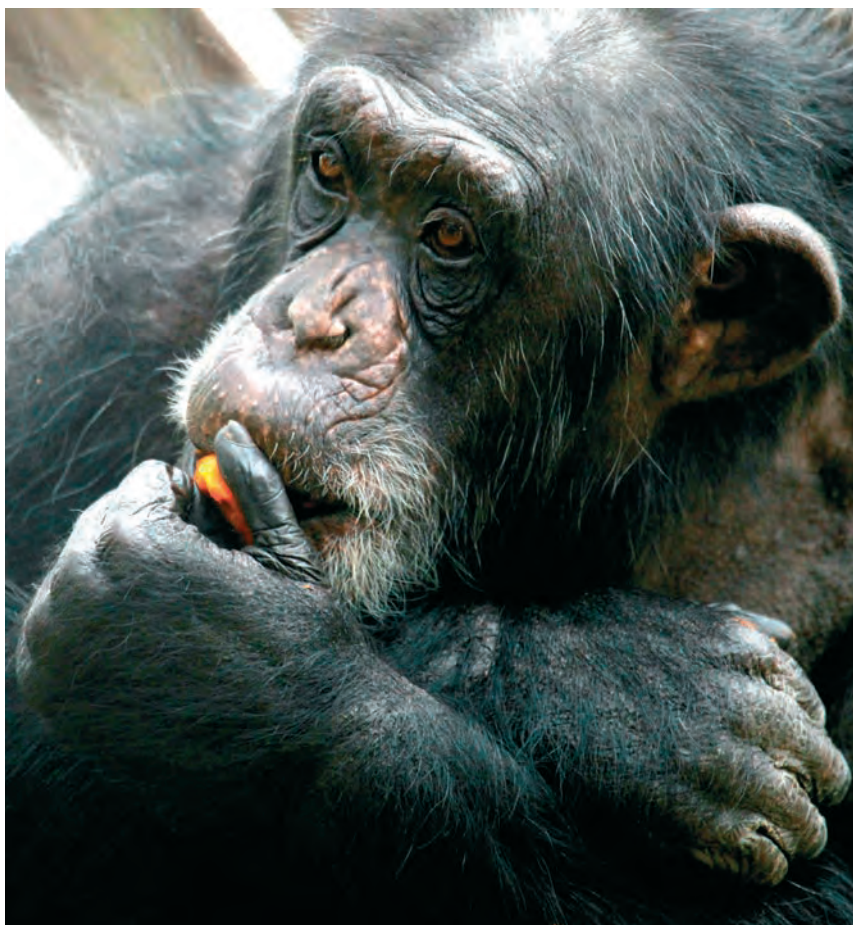
“We have been preparing for the arrival of the chimpanzee group from Brno for some time now,” said Zoo Hodonín’s Zdenka Vavrysová before the arrival of our chimps. “Originally, we planned to place them in a free exhibition outside the Monkey Pavilion, which was offered for this purpose. After careful consideration, however, we reviewed the original plan and decided to place them near our own chimpanzees. Our group of chimpanzees, consisting of three females and one male, will therefore inhabit only two of the four dormitories that they had used, while the other two will be for the Brno chimpanzees. They are intelligent and social animals, and it would be a pity not to use this opportunity to allow mutual contact between both groups. We believe that this will be a diversification for them all, which is beneficial for animals kept in human care.”

Our male, Fábén, has been in Zoo Brno since 1996, and is one of its oldest inhabitants. Gina’s date of birth is not precisely known, but her estimated age is around 37, and Maryška was born in 1995. Both females arrived at Brno Zoo in 2013.

*Monika Brindzáková*

*The transport of the male, Fábén, and females Gina and Maryška took place from Zoo Brno to Zoo Hodonín in the second half of September.*

Photo: SŠÚD a VOS Brno



*These three inhabitants of our zoo have a lot of supporters. If they want to visit the chimps, it is not a long drive to Hodonín.*

Photo: Eduard Stuchlík



# A courageous woman helped rescue ducks on a rock



Life at the rescue station sees unexpected and interesting situations practically every day. You can read about one of them right now on our ZooReport page.

*The ducks from the rock grew.*  
Photo: Simona Blahoňovská

It was a pleasant Tuesday in June when the station phone rang. At the other end, Mrs. Ježková tried in a confused voice to explain the situation she was in.

“Hello, is this the rescue station?” She was hard to understand, but said something about small ducks falling from a rock onto which she was hanging. It seemed that she had called the fire fighters and the police, who ridiculed her and looked under her skirt! She then hung up.

About five minutes later, she called again to say that she had saved the

small ducks from the high rock, and had them in the neckline of her clothing. She couldn't speak long because it was all she could do to hold them there.

Mrs. Ježková arrived at the station about half an hour later with 10 small ducks, and described the whole event in more detail. Somewhere on the outskirts of her village, there is a rock from which she saw the small ducks falling. She did not see an adult duck anywhere, so she concluded that the young ones needed help. She did not hesitate,

immediately beginning a rescue operation.

Since the mother duck could not be seen anywhere, it had probably been caught by a predator. We placed the ducks in a breeding frame under a heat source, and started rehydrating them. The brave savior was glad to see that everything was going well, thanked us, and said goodbye. The ducks at the station grew and grew. Once they reached a size at which they no longer needed additional heat, we placed them in an



*The ducks rescued from the rock.*

Photo: Simona Blahoňovská



*But they were not the only ducks we had taken care of in the previous months. We also assisted these small birds, which had been saved during mowing.*

Photo: Simona Blahoňovská



outdoor aviary with a pool. And after they attained their adult plumage, we released them in the Svatka River in the town of Veverská Bítýška.

Wild ducks can nest safely in places some distance from water. Once the young hatch, the adults try to get them to water (a pond, stream, or river), where they are safer from predators. The young animals cannot fly, so water is the safest option. Moreover, they also have enough food there. However, there can be hazardous times during their trip to the water, as when the mother leads them across a road; and sometimes they fall through a lattice into a canal, as happened in Brno this year.

Mrs. Ježková, we thank you for helping the ducklings and the rescue station in Jinačovice.

*Simona Blahoňovská*



*Those, too, did very well at our facility.* Photo: Simona Blahoňovská



# PF 2022

Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year  
from



director of Brno Zoo  
**MVDr. Martin Hovorka, Ph.D.**  
and Brno Zoo Staff

**ZOO**  **BRNO**

