



Australia Zoo

Media Alert –23rd June 2006

AN AUSTRALIA ZOO LEGEND DIES

Harriet, Australia Zoo's 176-year-old Giant Galapagos Land Tortoise has passed away today. Harriet held the Guinness World Record for being the oldest living animal in captivity.

It is believed that Harriet was collected by Sir Charles Darwin in 1835 from the Galapagos Islands which resulted in his scientific research of the Theory of Evolution. Harriet has been a major attraction and resident at Australia Zoo since the mid-eighties after a colourful and historic past. Her favourite food was hibiscus flowers.

Steve Irwin said today on the passing of Harriet:

"Harriet has been a huge chunk of the Irwin family's life. I have grown up with this gorgeous old girl and so have my kids.

"She is possibly one of the oldest living creatures on the planet and her passing today is not only a great loss for the world but a very sad day for my family. She was a grand old lady."

MEDIA Information

Contact: John Stainton

Best Picture Show 0411884499 / 07 3217 5300

Email: john@bestpictureshow.com