

THE BCG SYMPOSIUM
held at
THE OPEN UNIVERSITY ON 25th MARCH 2023

The 2023 Symposium was the first one for three years, due to the Covid intervention. It was a truly international affair this year with news from around the world on the conservation and veterinary news of chelonia in Kenya and both the largest Chelonia (the Seychelles Giant Tortoises) and the smallest, the Egyptian Kleinmann's Tortoise and both lecturers and participants coming from all over the UK and different parts of the world.

It was particularly gratifying to see so many young faces in the audience, both of the CPD participants and a great many young attendees from a range of tortoise-orientated backgrounds. All these were kind enough to take part in the CPD session ran by Professor and Mrs Cooper, with some of them remarkably knowledgeable on chelonia matters.

All in all, a remarkable and lovely day. Our thanks go to all the lecturers, participants and attendees, Joy and Paul Birch, who manned the reception desk, the people who manned the stalls including Ann Way of the BCG Sales stall the raffle helpers Tony and Janet Curtis and to some intrepid photographers. A photographic session will follow below.

(Photographers: Mike Hurlle, Professor John and Mrs Margaret Cooper, Ute O'Meara and Julia Davenport.)



The Open University, the Berrill Theatre



Getting ready, the entrance hall

LECTURERS:

Professor John E. Cooper and Mrs Margaret E. Cooper
TITLE: "Change for the better: progress in Kenya"



Dr Justin Gerlach and project student Mia Messenger
TITLE: "Giant tortoises hunting birds: the latest on the story"



Ms Sarah Bull

TITLE: “Re-wilding in an changing world: understanding the importance of environmental conditions in the breeding dynamics of Giant tortoises”



Ms Fabina Martis

TITLE: “Developing methods to distinguish wild-caught Egytian Tortoises from captive-bred”



Dr June Chatfield OBE
**TITLE: "The Sussex home
and history of Gilbert White's
famous tortoise "Timothy"**



Dr Pak Kan Tang
**TITLE: "A prospective
randomised clinical trial
to compare the efficacy
of Profender with Panacur
against oxyurids in tortoises"**



Symposium CPD session in full swing



The Chair receiving flowers from the President on behalf of the Management Team.