



Turtle Rescue Operation 22 years on

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“ Twenty two years after the turtle confiscation event of winter 2001 – What has happened to the turtles?”



Following the rescue over 4,000 turtles were shipped around the globe and moved between different conservation facilities. Tracking them down has become a difficult task. Turtles are long lived animals some making it to 100 years old and beyond so we are convinced that there must be some survivors and we were right! By sending a request for information to international Chelonian organisations and experts, we have been able to confirm several individuals of at least three different species from the rescue operation are still alive and contributing to breeding programmes and education programs in Zoo’s and conservation facilities in both Europe and the USA. If you visit a Zoo in Europe or the USA you might see one of these animals. We also have one survivor, an Orange-headed Temple Turtle remaining at Kadoorie Farm in a mixed reptile exhibit at our centre.

- *To see all 12 species rescued in 2001 refer to the Turtle and Tortoise Newsletter article also available in the World Turtle Day folder*

