

*Ye Complete History of
Ye Perle Mongers of Olde
London Towne*

Part the Firste

1998 - 2008

*As Related By
David Cross Esq
Ye Keeper of Records*

Prehistory

- *Global Online Perl Community*
 - *Usenet, mailing lists*
- *Firste O'Reilly Perl Conference*
 - *Summer 1997*
 - *San Jose. California, The Colonies*
 - *Putting faces to names*
- *brian d foy, David Adler, Adam Turoff*
- *NY.pm*

Later Prehistory

- *Chris Nandor*
 - *Boston.pm*
- *Other Colonial Groups*
 - *District of Columbia*
 - *Los Angeles*
 - *St Louis*
- *Perl Mongers Inc*

Only Just Prehistory

- *I was working in the City of London*
- *Using a bit of Perl*
- *Wondered if there were many other Perl users in London*
- *Sent a message to comp.lang.perl.misc*

In the Beginning...

- *28th March 1998*
- *Has anyone given any thought to starting a London.pm or UK.pm group? If not, I'd like to volunteer to get the ball rolling. Is there anyone else that would be interested in getting involved? Would any of the US Perl gurus be interested in coming over and speaking at a meeting in London?*

I really don't know how popular Perl is in the UK, so this is all very experimental...

Hoping to hear from some UK-based Perl M[ou]ngers.

Dave... ..

Two Days Later

- *30th March 1998*
- *I've had quite a good response to this post. enough to make me think that this is worth pursuing further. I'd therefore like to announce the official opening of the London Perl M[ou]ngers group.*

We have a web page at <<http://www,mag-sol.com/London.pm>> and soon we'll be thinking about a venue for an inaugural meeting.

If you write Perl in London (or near enough to get to a pub), please get in touch with us.

Dave... ..

The Web Site

London.pm - London Perl M[ou]ngers - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Delicious Bookmarks Tools Help

http://web.archive.org/web/19981212015332/http://london.pm.o

Wikipedia (en)

Disable Cookies CSS Forms Images Information Miscellaneous Outline Resize Toc

London.pm

London Perl M[ou]ngers

Welcome to the world of the London Perl M[ou]ngers.

We are a new group who are dedicated to the encouragement of all things Perl-like in London.

If you had a particularly bad sense of humour, you might describe us as 'Perly Kings and Queens'... please forget I said that!

- Who We Are
- What We've Done
- What We Will Do
- What Is Perl?
- Where Is London?

Web page by [Dave Cross](#) of [Magnum Solutions Ltd.](#)
More Perl M[ou]nging at www.pm.org.

Done

The Web Site

- *Not a penny wasted on graphic designers*
- *Similar designs used until mid-2001*
- *One nice addition from April 2001*
- *“The use of the beer glass image in association with the Perl language is a trademark of the London Perl Mongers.”*

Time Passes

- *Some time spent using a mailing list powered by the “cc:” header*
- *Eventually we set up a mailing list*
- *July 16th 1998*
- *Using a hosted service called makelist.com*
- *Once we had a mailing list, the most important business was...*

Our First Meeting

- *Ye Cittyie of Yorke
Holborn*
- *6th August 1998*
- *About a dozen people*
- *Some of those people still involved*
- *Time for an embarrassing photo*

First Meeting Photo



The Golden Age

- *1998 – 2001*
- *Meetings went from strength to strength*
- *More and more people came*
- *Venue changed to Penderels Oak (also on Holborn)*
- *People travelled from all parts of the country*
- *And further afield*
- *We gained quite a reputation*

Golden Age Photos



Golden Age Photos



The Heretics

- *Originally, we met on the first Thursday of of the month*
- *It was an easy rule to remember*
- *For most people*
- *Email to the list Thursday 8th July 1999*
- *“Could someone comfirm that we are meeting at Penderels tonight?”*
 - *Greg McCarroll*

The Heretics

- *Greg's error was explained to him*
- *“it just doesn't seem right the 1st thursday being the 1st of the month”*
- *Time passes*
- *June 2000 passed with just a few sly comments*
- *Next problematic month was February 2001*

First Heretics Meeting

- *Thursday 8th February 2001*
- *The Anchor, Bankside*
- *Organised by Greg*
- *Nice restaurant*
- *Of course I couldn't be there in person*
 - *So I sent my identical twin brother*
- *March was also a Heretics month*

YAPC::Europe 2001

- *In Amsterdam Greg raised the stakes*
- *Auctioned off the method of calculating our meetings*
- *Most of the people present joined either Greg or me*
- *Greg's side won*
- *But it cost them a lot of money*

Non-Heretics

- *The new rule for calculating the meeting date*
- *London.pm meets on the day following the first Wednesday of the month*
- *We still follow this rule today*
- *However...*

The Old Ways

- *Some people don't like change*
- *They want to stick to the old ways*
- *Dave Cantrell started a breakaway movement*
- *The New Heretics*
- *Meetings on the first Thursday of the month*
- *These days we all live in harmony together*

Herders of Cats

- *After three years I was tired of cat-herding*
- *Election for new leader*
- *Two candidates stood*
 - *Paul Mison*
 - *Amelia the Camel*



Herders of Cats

- *After three years I was tired of cat-herding*
- *Election for new leader*
- *Two candidates stood*
 - *Paul Mison*
 - *Amelia the Camel*
- *Paul won*
 - *Fortunately*

Those Cat Herders in Full

- *Dave Cross (May 1998 – Dec 2001)*
- *Paul Mison (Dec 2001 – Dec 2002)*
- *Mark Fowler (Dec 2002 – Jan 2006)*
- *Simon Wistow (Jan 2006 – Dec 2007)*
- *Greg McCarroll (Dec 2007 – ????)*
- *All jolly fine chaps*

Or For People on IRC

- *davorg (May 1998 – Dec 2001)*
- *blech (Dec 2001 – Dec 2002)*
- *Trelane (Dec 2002 – Jan 2006)*
- *muttley (Jan 2006 – Dec 2007)*
- *Greg (Dec 2007 – ????)*
- *[33t d00dz*

Projects and Schemes

- *We have been involved in a number of projects over the years*
- *Also some ridiculously crazy schemes*
- *Some worked*
- *Some didn't*

Penderel

- *“Let's buy ourselves a server”*
- *“Anyone who contributes get a login”*
- *“What could possibly go wrong?”*
- *Over-engineering I think*

Penderel

- *It all took far too long*
- *Deciding the specification*
- *OS “debates”*
- *Collecting money*
- *Buying it*
- *Installing stuff*
- *Getting it to State 51*

Penderel's Life

- *By the time it was up and running the spec looked rather unimpressive*
- *Hard disk problems*
- *Mice nesting behind the fan*
- *It finally died in November 2005*
- *Replaced by windmill*

Sponsoring the Camel

- *We sponsored a camel at London Zoo*
- *For two years*
- *At £1000 a year*
- *Collecting the money was a nightmare*
- *We got free zoo tickets though*
- *And a certificate*
- *And a photo of a camel*



ADOPTION CERTIFICATE

LONDON ZOO
GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES
THAT

London Perl Mongers

HAS CONTRIBUTED TO ITS CONSERVATION WORK
BY ADOPTING
A Camel

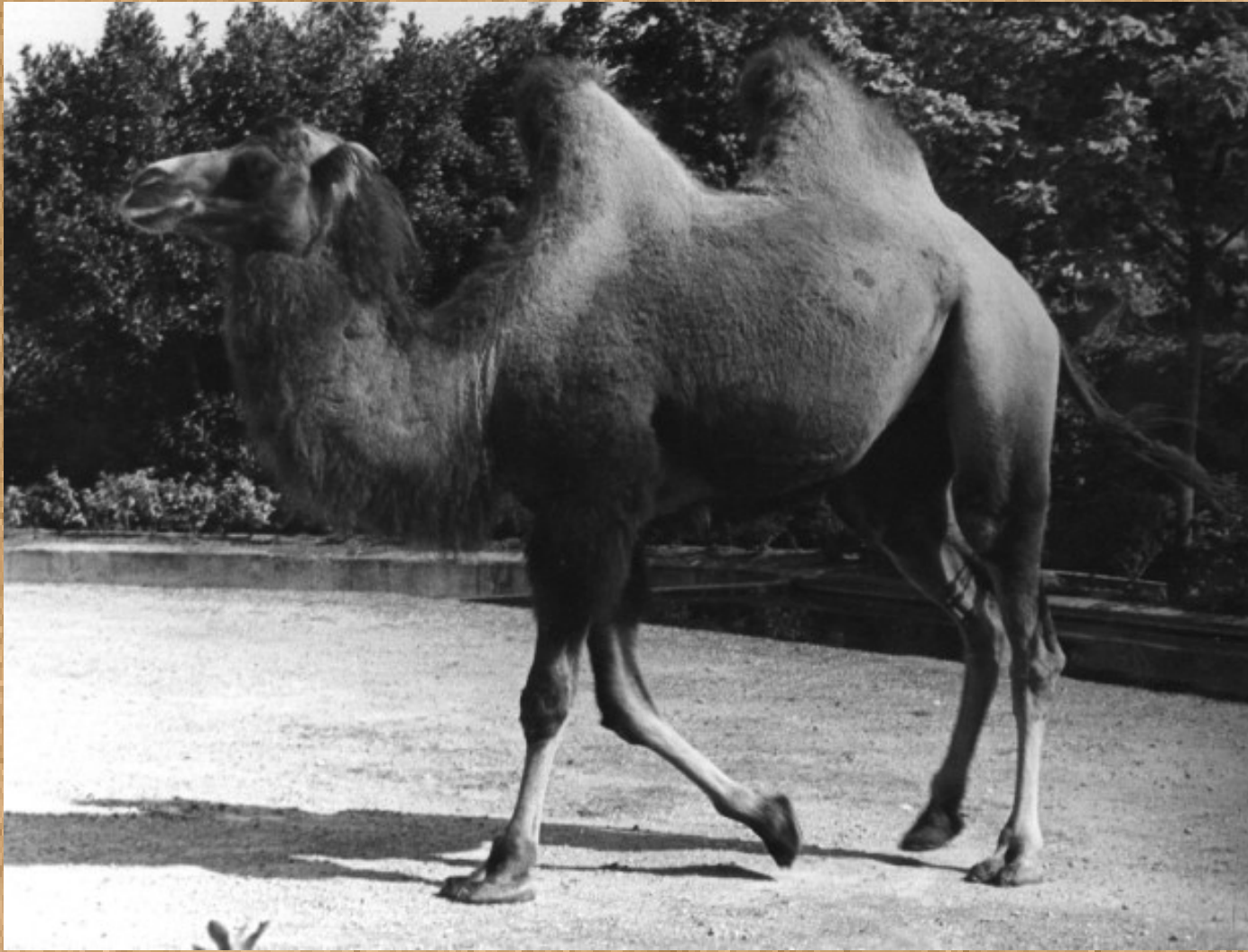
THIS ADOPTION SUPPORTS CONSERVATION IN ACTION
BY PROVIDING FUNDS FOR OUR ANIMALS' FOOD, VETERINARY
CARE AND THE UPKEEP OF THEIR ZOO HABITAT
THANK YOU

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo Gipps".

6th August 2000

Dr Jo Gipps
Director of London Zoo





Siesta

- *Perl groups always get laughed at for using Mailman*
- *“There should be a decent Perl mailing list manager”*
- *“If you write one we'll all hack on it”*
- *Greg, Simon and Richard wrote one*
- *No-one hacked on it*
- *No-one uses it*
- *It's still on CPAN*

YAPC::Europe

- *“There's this grass-roots Perl conference in the USA”*
- *“We should do that”*
- *“How hard can it be?”*
- *Bloody hard, as it happens*
- *We did it though*
- *But never again*



T-Shirts

- *We had London.pm t-shirts made*
- *Five different designs*
 - *Anhk-Morpork.pm*
 - *Rivendell.pm*
 - *Sunnydale.pm*
 - *Tattoine.pm*
 - *ZZ9PluralZAlpha.pm*

Other T-Shirts

- *There was another set of t-shirts*
- *Originally planned to be created for YAPC in London*
- *That plan didn't quite work out*
- *The great three-list flame war of June 2000*
- *T-shirts eventually printed by Christmas*
- *Limited edition*
- *Raise a lot of money on eBay*

Other Random Memories

- *CPAN Leaderboard*
 - *7.74% of CPAN*
- *Damian's visits*
- *Meals after meetings*
- *Buffy vs Willow*
- *london.class*
- *The Sorting Dance*

Looking Back

- *I had no idea what I was starting*
- *It has far exceeded my wildest expectations*
- *One of the largest Perl Monger groups*
- *One of the largest IT user groups in the world*
- *I've made many very good friends*
- *Thank you to everyone who has been involved*
- *Here's to the next ten years*

