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## Animal News

FirstNews

### Rare chameleons hatch <sup>1</sup>

**TEN Parson's chameleons have hatched at Chester Zoo, the first time this species has ever successfully hatched in the UK.**

Parson's chameleon is a particularly tricky species to breed in captivity as its eggs need to be incubated (kept warm) for almost 600 days, the longest time for any reptile. The incubation needs to copy the seasonal climate changes of their home in Madagascar, with conservationists monitoring the eggs continuously and adjusting the temperature and humidity throughout the incubation time. Another 17 eggs are still being incubated. The rare reptile is the biggest chameleon species in the world, growing to 70cm long, but as hatchlings they're a teeny 2cm!



Chester Zoo

### Godwit sets flying record <sup>2</sup>

**A BAR-TAILED godwit is believed to have set a new world record, after flying 13,560 kilometres from Alaska to southern Australia without stopping.**

The five-month-old bird was tagged by scientists before it set off on its marathon journey from Alaska on 13 October. Satellite data appears to show that the young bird only stopped once, at Ansons Bay in Tasmania on 25 October – a whole 11 days and one hour later! That means it flew at least 13,560km (8,435 miles) without touching ground or stopping for food.

The previous record was held by an adult godwit that flew 13,000km (8,100 miles) last year.

Sean Dooley, of BirdLife Australia, said of the young bird's flight: "It's just incredible."



This young godwit smashed the record

### U-TURN ANNOYS ANIMAL LOVERS <sup>3</sup>

**A Government plan to ban the import of animal fur and foie gras is to be scrapped.**

Foie gras is a food made from duck or goose liver and it is controversial as the birds are force-fed to fatten them up. It's illegal to produce fur and foie gras in the UK, so some feel it doesn't make sense that it's allowed to be made in other countries then brought into the UK.



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