

Press Release

Singha the lion takes up residence at first school

15 June 2012



School Council members join Sembcorp Bournemouth Water's Hazel Taylor and Barry Ware to welcome Singha to his new home at Cranborne First School.

A north Dorset school has welcomed a new 'pupil' in the shape of one of the famous Pride of Bournemouth lions.

Singha has taken up permanent residence at Cranborne CE VA First School after being donated by Sembcorp Bournemouth Water (SBW).

The full-size lion was one of 50 sculptures displayed across Bournemouth's streets and parks last summer as part of a trail for residents and tourists alike.

Singha is Sanskrit (a historical Indo-Aryan language) for lion which gave Singapore its name.

SBW, which was founded in 1863, is owned by Sembcorp Industries Ltd, a Singapore-based water, energy and marine group.

Members of the School Council welcomed the lion to his new home among the flowers in the school's secret garden.

Lindsey Stevenson, Acting Head, said: "It's a perfect place for him to live happily and keep the children company."

She added: "The School Council have known for some time that Singha was a blue lion with glass mosaic tiles, beads, resin and varnish but kept him a secret from the rest of their school friends.

"Everyone is very excited at his arrival and we're very grateful to Sembcorp Bournemouth Water for so kindly donating him to our school."

Roger Harrington, SBW's Managing Director, said he was pleased that Singha had found a good home.

"We designed and then 'acquired' Singha as part of the Pride in Bournemouth initiative last year which raised substantial money for charities.

"We took great pride in creating him and are very happy that he can live out his days with the children in Cranborne," he added.