



Miracle Aussie elephant 'Mr Shuffles' gets new name 澳洲公象「蹣跚先生」取名奇蹟

Australia's elephant calf Mr Shuffles, whose successful birth after being pronounced dead during labor caused a nationwide **sensation**, was renamed Pathi Harn, meaning "miracle" in Thai.

The elephant, whose nickname came from his unsteady walk, was blessed in a Thai naming ceremony at Sydney's Taronga Zoo just two weeks after **cheating death**. Pathi Harn was the top choice out of seven names put to the public.

"Pathi Harn's story has really captured the public's imagination and they have chosen a name that reflects this," said New South Wales state environment minister Frank Sartor.

However, he admitted that the elephant would be unlikely to **outgrow** his nickname, which has won **widespread** public affection.

"Pathi Harn will of course be the name that will replace Mr

Shuffles, which I suppose will remain the nickname," Sartor said.

Pathi Harn was declared dead on March 8 after about a week of labor. But zoo staff noticed he was moving after finally being born two days later.

He is the third calf born in Australia since last July under a conservation breeding program using adult elephants from Thailand. (AFP)

被宣告胎死腹中，最後卻平安出生的澳洲小象「蹣跚先生」，已取名帕西·哈恩（泰語「奇蹟」之意）。牠的出生引發澳洲全國關注。

兩週前「死裡逃生」，又因走路不穩被暱稱「蹣跚先生」的這頭小象，在雪梨塔隆卡動物園舉行的泰式命名儀式中接受祝福。帕西·哈恩是從七個公開票選的名字中脫穎而出。

新南威爾斯省環境部長法蘭克·沙托爾說：「帕西·哈恩的故

事讓民眾很有想像空間，票選出來的名字正好反映這一切。」

不過他坦言，民眾普遍喜歡「蹣跚先生」這個小名，可能會繼續以此暱稱。

沙托爾說：「帕西·哈恩這名字勢必取代『蹣跚先生』。我猜應該會保留小名。」

經過約一週的分娩期後，園方人員八日宣布帕西·哈恩胎死腹中的消息，結果兩天後牠產下時仍有生命跡象。

去年七月實施引進泰國成象從事保育繁殖計畫以來，帕西·哈恩是第三頭在澳洲誕生的小象。 (法新社/翻譯：林倩如)

Taronga Zoo's new male elephant calf, given the nickname of "Mr Shuffles" after his miracle birth, wraps his trunk around a steel wire inside the elephant barn at the zoo on March 25, 2010. PHOTO: AFP

三月二十五日，在塔隆卡動物園的象欄內，奇蹟誕生、小名「蹣跚先生」的公象實實用長鼻子纏捲鋼絲。 照片：法新社

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. **sensation** /sɛn'seɪʃən/ n.

轟動 (hong1 dong4)

例：Sally caused a sensation when she hit a "hole in one" in her first professional game.

(莎莉在首場職業賽中敲出一桿進洞的成績，造成轟動。)

2. **outgrow** /'aʊt'grəʊ/ v.

年增志移 (nian2 zeng1 zhi4 yi2)

例：Some of the students still haven't outgrown their childish habits.

(有些學生還是不改兒時的習慣。)

3. **widespread** /'waɪd,sprɛd/ adj.

普遍的 (pu3 pian4 de5)

例：There were widespread objections to the new traffic regulations.

(民眾普遍反對新的交通規定。)

LANGUAGE POINT 重要片語

cheat death 死裡逃生

If someone **cheats death**, they narrowly avoid dying. According to the article, Mr Shuffles **cheated death** after a problematic birth.

Example: "The explorer **cheated death** for the second time when his vehicle got marooned in a crocodile-infested swamp."

「cheat death」意指死裡逃生。上文中提到，「蹣跚先生」從難產下死裡逃生。例如：「雖然連人帶車受困在滿是鱷魚的沼澤中，那個探險者又再度從死裡逃生」。