Drunken Aussie tries to ride giant croc
澳洲醉漢企圖騎大鱷

An Australian man was lucky to be alive after drunkenly **scaling** the fence of a crocodile enclosure and trying to take a five-metre beast named "Fatso" for a ride, police said Tuesday.

The 36-year-old jumped the wildlife compound's fence after being **ejected** from a pub in the northwestern city of Broome late Monday night, and tried to sit on the back of the massive saltwater reptile.

"He first climbed into a compound containing two female crocodiles, before approaching a five-metre long male called Fatso," a police spokeswoman told AFP.

"The man was bitten on his right leg as he tried to sit on its back. He managed to escape and make his way back to the pub, where an ambulance was called."

Pub manager Mark Phillips said staff told him that the man reappeared at about 11pm with bits of **bark** hanging off him and flesh gouged out of his limbs.

"They said he had chunks out of [his] legs and things like that," Phillips told thewest.com.au Web site.

He underwent surgery for severe **lacerations**, and park owner Malcolm Douglas said the man was lucky to have survived his encounter with the 800-kg croc.

"The crocodile didn't kill that guy because it was jammed in the corner," Douglas told thewest.

Douglas said Fatso, one of the largest reptiles in the park, could crush a man with a single bite.

An average of two people are killed each year in Australia by aggressive saltwater crocodiles, which can grow up to seven meters long and weigh more than a tonne. (AFP)

澳洲警方週二表示，一名醉漢翻越鱷魚園的欄杆，想騎到身長五公尺、名叫「法特索」的鱷魚身上，還好他命大保住性命。

這名三十六歲的醉漢星期一深夜被西北部布魯姆市某酒吧下逐客令後，跳越野生動物園區的欄杆，企圖坐到這條鹹水巨鱷的身上。

警方女發言人告訴法新社：「他先跳進一個有兩條母鱷魚的區域，然後才靠近一條五公尺長、名叫『法特索』的公鱷魚。」

「就在他要坐上鱷魚背時，右腳被咬了一口。他成功掙脫後又跑回酒吧，在那兒叫了救護車。」

酒吧經理馬克・菲力普表示，員工跟他說原先被趕走的男子大約十一點又出現，身上掛著幾塊樹皮，腿上血肉模糊。

菲力普告訴thewest.com.au網站說：「他們說那個醉漢腿上被咬了之類的。」

醉漢因身上多處嚴重撕裂傷接受手術治療。園區老闆麥爾肯・道格拉斯說，這個人碰上八百公斤重的鱷魚還能活命，實在是運氣好。

道格拉斯告訴該網站說：「鱷魚沒殺了那傢伙，是因為牠被逼到角落。」

道格拉斯說法特索是園區裡最大的鱷魚之一，一張嘴就將人咬碎。

澳洲每年平均有兩個人被攻擊性強的鹹水鱷殺害。牠們可以長到七公尺長，體重超過一公噸。 （法新社／翻譯：吳岱璟）

A handout photo released by Western Australia Police on July 13, 2010 shows the five-metre crocodile named "Fatso" in a wildlife compound in Broome in Western Australia. PHOTO: AFP

西澳警方七月十三日公佈的照片中，就是身長五公尺、由西澳魯姆市野生動物園飼養的鱷魚「法特索」。 照片：法新社

TODAY'S WORDS
今日單字

1. scale /skel/ v.
攀登 (pan1 deng1)
例: The burglars had scaled a perimeter fence before breaking into the building.
（在闖入大樓前，強盜先攀過外圍的籬笆。）

2. eject /ɪ'dʒɛkt/ v.
趕出 (gan3 chu1)
例: Several fans were ejected from the stadium for drunken conduct.
（許多球迷因酒醉被趕出體育場。）

3. bark /bɑrk/ n.
樹皮 (shu4 pi2)
例: The students collected a bag of bark for their science project.
（學生為進行科學計畫蒐集了一袋樹皮。）

4. laceration /ˌlæsə'reʃən/ n.
撕裂 (si1 lie4)
例: Three people were hospitalized with minor lacerations.
（有三個人因輕微撕裂傷住院。）