

# Wolf Print



The Magazine of the UK Wolf Conservation Trust

Issue 35 Winter 2008/2009

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WOLVES IN ART  
GIFT IDEAS

SPECIAL REPORT

**Life and behaviour of wolves:**  
Enrichment for captive wolves

## Wolves of the Arctic

■ NEWS ■ EVENTS ■ MEDIA AND ARTS ■ REVIEWS





## Editor's Letter

**Y**ou will notice that Wolf Print is slightly thicker this issue. There was so much to put in, including great articles and photos from members, that we had to increase the publication by four pages.

Please keep writing in with your wolf experiences from around the world and at home. We also love your photos but we need them emailed and of a good quality to be able to print them.

There is no 'Ask the Expert' this time as nobody submitted a question. If you want to see this feature returning in future issues remember to email in those questions. It doesn't have to be about the UKWCT wolves or wolf behaviour, if you have a question about wolves in a particular country for example we can always contact the relevant experts to find out more.

For all your feedback, questions, photos and write ups please email [education@ukwolf.org](mailto:education@ukwolf.org)

Have a great Christmas and we'll see you in the New Year!

Kind regards

*Toni Shelbourne*

Education Officer / Senior Wolf Handler / Wolf Print Editor

# Wolf Print



Editor  
Toni Shelbourne  
Tel: 0118 971 3330  
email: [education@ukwolf.org](mailto:education@ukwolf.org)

Assistant Editor  
Julia Bohanna

Editorial Team  
Sandra Benson, Vicky Hughes, Tsa Palmer,  
Denise Taylor

Published by  
The UK Wolf Conservation Trust  
Butlers Farm, Beenham,  
Reading RG7 5NT  
Tel & Fax: 0118 971 3330  
email: [ukwct@ukwolf.org](mailto:ukwct@ukwolf.org)

Patrons  
David Clement Davies  
Erich Klinghammer  
Desmond Morris  
Michelle Paver  
Christoph Promberger

The UK Wolf Conservation Trust Directors  
Nigel Bulmer  
Anne Carter  
Charles Hicks  
Tsa Palmer  
Denise Taylor

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### Aims of the UK Wolf Conservation Trust

- To enhance the conservation, scientific knowledge and public awareness of the environment.
- To stimulate greater interest in wolves, their food, their habitat and their behaviour.
- To provide opportunities for both ethological research and for people to interact with wolves.
- To improve the chances of survival of European wolves in the wild.
- To set up an education programme for schools, conservationists and other organisations.

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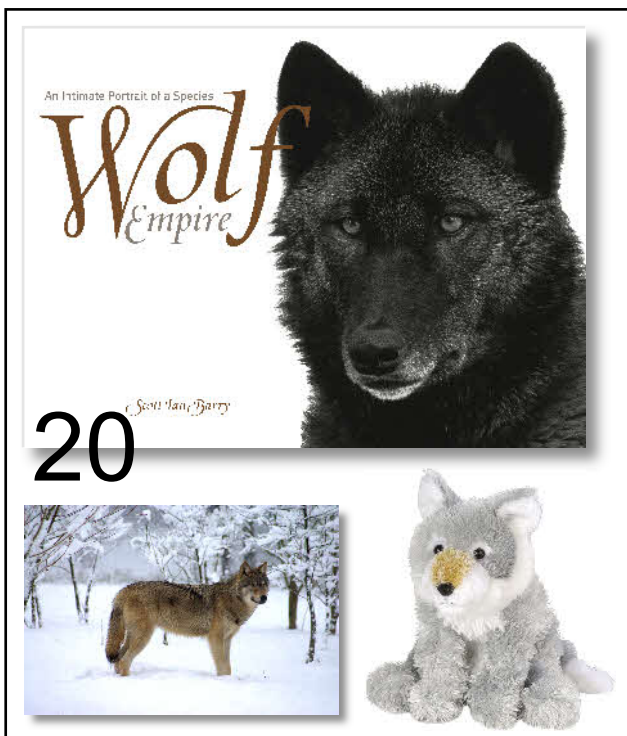
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An Intimate Portrait of a Species

*Wolf*  
Empire

Scott Lane Barry

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## Update on the Trust Wolves



Alba, Lunca and Latea - the Euro Pack

There has been little rest at the Centre since the summer holidays but the wolves seem to thrive on the activity and mental stimulation. Continuing building work has caused some stress to the European pack but they have plenty of cover to hide out in and we monitored their behaviour closely.

All the wolves have been receiving extra oil in their feeds as during the summer as a few of them had dry coats. Duma has benefited most from this and the condition of her coat is fantastic. She is lively and happy to go out for short walks around the farm with Dakota or on the longer walks with the public. She recently did an outstanding job at an environment education event where local schools could come along to find out what was available in their area. Duma was the star attraction and had people flocking around her trailer asking questions. She was calm and friendly and really sold our education programmes.

Kodiak has suffered from a few burst cysts recently but luckily it has been too cold to worry about fly strike. He is looking

## Both vets were very pleased with her condition

Dakota had her two vets, Julian Slater, our resident vet and Nick Thompson, the specialist homeopathic and nutrition vet, visit for a review of her condition and medication. Lately her belly has been much distended and she has been suffering from an on-going staphylococcal skin infection. Both vets agreed the problems stem from the long term steroid use for her cancer. The steroids cannot be reduced as this causes her lymph nodes to increase in size each time we tried to reduce the dose. As the lesser of two evils the skin infection can be treated with neem aid, which is sprayed on to the skin and also homeopathic remedies. If the infection is widespread, then antibiotics will be needed to control it. The distended belly is a weakening of the abdomen lining caused by the steroids. Lately she has craved cut, fermenting grass, this we think is to ease discomfort in her belly so an herb supplement has been added to see if this helps. We will be watching her closely over the next few months, especially as her winter hair growth has been slow, again due to the steroids. Because she is suffering in the cold she gets 24 hour access to the indoor kennels with extra thick bedding and extra shelters out in the enclosure if she wants them. Both vets were amazed she was still with us and were very pleased with her condition.

fit and healthy but his failing eyesight occasionally makes him spook at objects in front of him. He sometimes has trouble locating the correct trap to go in so exact timing is needed by us to open it as he approaches, so the noise also helps him to locate the right place to enter the yards. He is a great wolf and so easy to look after, a real gentleman with Duma and Dakota who, if not watched, have a tendency to bully him over food. He has his own kennel now for eating his breakfast so he can take his time and not be driven off by the girls. The vets reviewed his medication and supplements as well as watching him move and were very happy with him.

Torak has been much better lately about going into his kennel in the mornings for his food. It often takes wolves a few years to really settle to this routine and he has been particularly difficult to persuade that going in for an hour or so is a good idea, (the European pack were the same until they were about three). Torak used to howl and then bang on the traps, which has since become a habit. One day we couldn't

get all three in the kennel at once so left a trap open for them to walk into and out of. Even though the trap was up, he still banged on the other traps to make a noise. Still he is much quieter now apart from the odd growl if the girls go near his food. This seems to have occurred since we opened up a third kennel for them to feed in so I think he appreciated the extra space. His winter coat as always makes him very impressive and we can't wait to see what his third year brings.

Mai continues to rule over Mosi and we have also seen an increased reaction to Duma and Dakota through the fence as we walk past. As Mai is nearing full maturity, the competition between her and the other females on site will continue to grow and steps have to be taken to ensure handler safety when we walk past. Over the summer Mai took part in a research project that looked at alternative cheap fencing farmers could use instead of Fladry (strips of material which flap in the wind and scare wolves away from livestock). Mai reacted in typical alpha female fashion and stayed right away from the fences which included wind chimes, CDs, bells and lion scent, she was more than happy to send in Mosi to test it out before she felt comfortable to approach the different fences.

Mosi is going through a testing phase which is proving challenging for some of our newer handlers. Her behaviour



Mosi

reminds us very much of Dakota at a younger age. Being the lower ranking female who feels the need to work her way up the pack, she'll continue to try it on with handlers because she will get nowhere with Mai's excellent leadership! Mosi also took part in the fencing research and in true Mosi-style, tried to grab and paw at the fence almost from day one. They say curiosity killed the cat but if Mosi lived in the wild it may have claimed our mischief maker too!



## FROM THE DIRECTORS

Looking back over the past year the Trust has continued to develop in order to give visitors a special experience. The realisation of the pond and the viewing platform in the bottom enclosure brings our latest major project to fruition. The pond is a great success as enrichment for the wolves and the viewing platform enables them to be studied and photographed in a new dimension. This now concludes the development of the enclosures for our nine resident wolves. All these projects and others are only possible through the hard work of our dedicated volunteers who give their time and skills freely.

This year we have continued to develop the adjacent land outside the wolf enclosures to encourage existing wildlife. Cameras have been erected in nearby woodland where there are active badger setts, nature trails have been developed and numerous bird and bat boxes placed in the trees. The new wildlife pond has proved popular with the wolves while out on their walks in the field and many animal tracks have been spotted around its edge. Once established this will also be used for pond dipping. Wildlife corridors are maintained throughout the site for small mammals and insects which in turn helps feed our resident owls and kestrels.

This spring, birds of prey such as red kites, buzzards, kestrels and barn owls all successfully reared chicks in the trees immediately surrounding this field. Information panels have been dotted around the site for visitors to learn about these creatures and their conservation. We are lucky enough to have been chosen as a release site for hedgehogs in 2009. The final project this year has been putting back a wildflower meadow in the bottom four acre field that runs along the stream and wildlife pond. Funded by Natural England under a countryside stewardship grant, we have used seed mix from an existing old wildflower meadow in Oxfordshire. We hope next summer to see our meadow creation.

Art and nature go hand in glove and throughout 2008 the arts were used as a platform to deliver educational messages about wolf conservation. Workshops on pastel drawing, creative writing, and sculpture with clay, photography and painting were held for children and adults alike. Everyone had a great time creating



Michelle Paver with Duma, fans and Trust volunteers. Picture: Newbury Weekly News

their works of art, and learning more about wolves and conservation in general.

### LOOKING FORWARD TO 2009

Wolf conservation is as important today as it was 20 or 30 years ago. Wolves continue to face a harsh life in many parts of the world, and the battle is not yet won for human/wolf co-existence and tolerance. Education is a key tool in helping to change attitudes and behaviours and the UKWCT will continue to develop its education programmes and support projects throughout Europe and the rest of the world. There is still much work to be done.

Finally, may I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and an exciting New Year.

Tsa Palmer  
Director

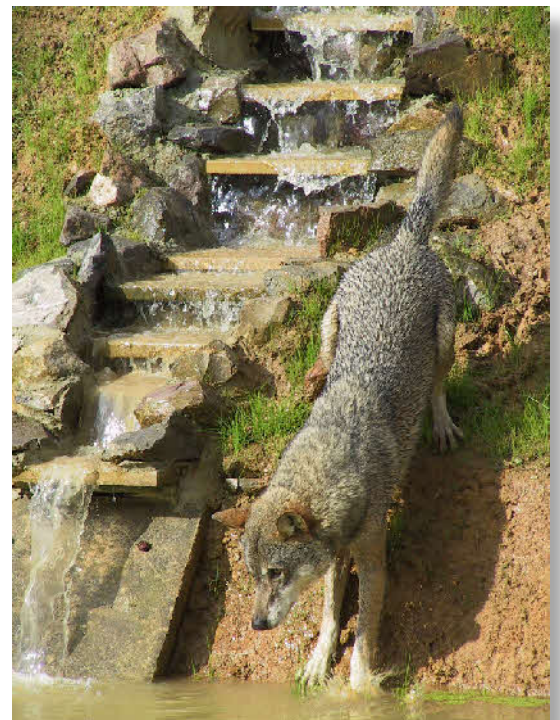
Latea's aggression levels in the breeding season have been increasing each year and Lunca takes the brunt of this with Alba stepping in to calm down the situation if things get too out of hand. It is because of this that we took the difficult decision to neuter all three of the European wolves. This decision was not taken lightly and many international wolf experts, vets and zoos were consulted over a four month period before we made the decision to go ahead with the operation. So on the 9th Oct, all three European wolves took a trip to the vets. They dealt with the whole process incredibly well and by the next morning, after a night in separate kennels, were mixed back together and let out in their enclosure. Whilst under the general anaesthetic Latea had routine blood tests and her teeth checked; all results were normal.

Lunca seems to have recovered from her lack of appetite phase, but looks much better for losing a lot of weight in the process. She still has a way to go as while at the vets, we discovered she is 10kgs heavier than Latea and 7kg heavier than Alba! Alba was 43kg, Latea 40kg and Lunca

50kg. Lunca also had bloods and teeth checked and again these were normal.

Alba seems to be doing well at the moment. He was able to stay on his painkillers over the summer as well as on the steroids (for his summer itchy skin) due to taking an antacid tablet alongside them. Some dogs don't cope well with the combination but Alba seemed to thrive on it and looks good in his movement. While at the vets, as well as the normal bloods and teeth check, we also took the opportunity to re-x-ray his back. His neck and hips were fine but there is a compression of a couple of vertebrae around his mid-back which explains his staggered walk. He is already receiving the right treatment for this so it is just a case of supporting him as best we can.

As it is now late autumn, breeding season hormones are on the increase and it will be interesting what happens this year with all the wolves.



Latea dips her toes into the new pool





## POND LIFE

August saw the completion of a long-term project at the Trust. The bottom enclosure now has a large pond and waterfall for the wolves to enjoy, with its own pump and filtration system to ensure the water stays clean. The pond was excavated using earth moving equipment and then the natural clay was smoothed out to ensure it would retain the water, a procedure known as puddling. Once complete and wolf proof the first to try out this new feature was the North

American pack, which ended up in Kodiak going for a swim.

The European pack enjoyed the experience with Alba going in to do some hydrotherapy. It is currently the Mackenzie pack's turn in the bottom enclosure over the winter months; they have also been seen larking about in the pond, with Mosi sticking her head into the waterfall as if she is trying to work out where the water comes from!

The same enclosure has also had a raised viewing platform built above the kennel



Latea enjoys a paddle in the new pool

area, allowing visitors to photograph the wolves in the enclosure without the fence getting in the way. This has gone down very well with visitors and we look forward to seeing more fantastic photographs with the use of this new facility.

## LATEST DONATIONS MADE BY THE UKWCT

### Wolves helped in Armenia

In a single night last month wolves in the Lake Arpi National park area of Armenia killed around 100 sheep. Livestock protection measures are urgently needed to protect both the livestock, who the local people depend on for their livelihoods, and the wolves, which are still just about tolerated by the local people. Protection for the livestock could come in the form of livestock guarding dogs, electric fencing and fladry as well as additional shepherds to watch over the animals. This all requires funding so in October the UKWCT agreed to donate £2000 raised from World Animal Day to help get this project off the ground and allow local people to start addressing the wolf-livestock issues, in a way that will protect both the wild and domesticated animals in the area.

### The Ethiopian Wolf Conversation Programme (Walk for Wolves)



After a very successful Walk for Wolves in September, members and friends raised around £1500 by sponsoring the UKWCT team or coming along and walking themselves. The Trust matched this amount so the grand total for the EWCP this year was £3000 - well done to all involved and thank you to all who sponsored the team.

### Bulgaria

In September the Trust sent two students out to the Balkani Large Carnivore Centre to help out and to give these students some field experience. The UKWCT paid for all the students cost and sent a donation as well. A private donation of £400 was also received and forwarded on making the grand total sent to Bulgaria in this round of donations to £1,150. This will help towards finishing the education

centre which includes accommodation for more students to visit the project.

### Russia

Russia also received a donation of £1000 in October to help Vladimir Bologov at the Chisty Les Biological Station continue his critical work to save wolves in Russia. Wolves are still not protected so there is still much work to be done.

## NEWS FROM THE ANGLIAN WOLF SOCIETY

All the wolves have been quite peaceful this summer, although Sefka is now beginning to noticeably react to and suppress her daughters Kaya and Aiyana (Torak's sisters) as they grow up. It's fair to say that Sefka is only alpha female by default - she was the first female we had, but she's just not quite confident enough to be a strong alpha. Her daughter Kaya is probably going to be more of a natural alpha female a few years from now. At the moment though, Kaya still defers to her mother and mostly tries to stay out of trouble. Her sister Aiyana is quite shy and reserved by contrast.

Peyto and Cheza, two males, (related to Alba, Lunca and Latea), still don't agree about anything, being two brothers, but they tend to indulge in a lot less sparring about it all these days. They are over eight years old now and beginning to calm down a bit, at least outside the breeding season. For the last two years, Peyto has succeeded in deposing his alpha brother Cheza for a couple of days in late February, but has paid for it by being beaten up and put back in his place as soon as the breeding hormones cut out

and he loses his courage. I have no doubt he will try it again this year.

Phil Watson



Kaya



Aiyana

# wolves of the world

news  
from  
around  
the world

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## nibbles

### ■ Good News from America.

Following on from their reprieve in May this year, the best possible news arrived in September. The Bush Administration announced its intention to withdraw its plan to strip wolves of their endangered species protection in the Northern Rockies. This means that planned hunts for this autumn will not now go ahead, allowing the wolves to continue to roam the Rockies, wild and free as nature and law intended.

### ■ Traffic Slowed to protect wolves in Kootenay National Park.

The increasing wolf activity in the Kootenay Valley part of the Kootenay National Park in Canada has forced park authorities to reduce the speed limit along one stretch of highway to protect the wolves from the traffic. This change in speed limit falls in line with a critical time of the year for the wolves, with the packs moving as family units and hunting along the valley floor. It is often the inexperienced younger animals in the pack who are killed on the highway. The reduced limit will be enforced from August to the end of October as over half the wolf deaths over the last 11 years have occurred during these months. Scientists will be watching to see if this change in speed limit has any impact on mortality rates.

## Ethiopian Rabies Threat:

**Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme launches emergency vaccinations to stop rabies epidemic.**

Rabies is threatening the critically endangered Ethiopian wolf again. In September a wolf was found dead and the EWCP worst fears were realised when it was confirmed that rabies was the cause. Now the EWCP are struggling to vaccinate as many of the wolves as possible to prevent the diseases rapid spread through the whole population. With only 500 wolves left this work is vital and has been sanctioned by the IUCN Veterinary and Canid Specialist Groups and the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority. The cause of the infection is most likely to be a dog brought in by migrant herders seeking better pasture in the highlands and coming from outside the EWCP's cordon sanctuary around the national park.

If you wish to help save the Ethiopian wolf you can make a donation via [www.ethiopianwolf.org](http://www.ethiopianwolf.org)

## The Wolf's Return to Germany

The mournful howling of wolves has returned to the forested woodlands of Eastern Germany for the first time in centuries.

One possible reason for the return of the wolf is that many of its natural competitors have disappeared. The decrease in Bear and Lynx populations during the 20th Century has allowed first the Red Fox, and now it seems the wolf, to spread once again through Central Europe, or at least make a start. A second possible reason for the return of the wolf is the widespread eradication of rabies through successful vaccination programmes that have targeted wild species.

Wolves have been sighted in recent weeks in a forest near the town of Ludwigslust, located midway between Berlin and Hamburg, Germany's two largest cities. Wolves are already fairly frequently spotted east of Berlin and in Poland, but Hamburg has not seen wolves for centuries. "It is only a matter of time before wolves spread all across northern Germany in their move

ever-westward" said Josef Reichholf, a biology professor at the University of Munich. "Northern Germany is the perfect habitat for the wolf. Aside from two large cities, Berlin and Hamburg, the region is sparsely settled. There are vast areas of woodlands, lakes and dark forests."

The return of the wolf is being welcomed by groups such as the State hunting association, "Wolves are certainly welcome here as they enrich the local wildlife" Volker Boehning, head of the state hunting association in eastern Germany. The wolves help the survival of other species such as song birds by controlling the numbers of smaller predators, allowing the natural balance of nature to return. Humans need not worry too much, Reichholf said "the main problem will be the cliché of the 'big bad wolf' in the minds of many people," he added "wolves can, of course, be dangerous to humans in certain situations, generally when they are backed into a corner. But they are generally no threat to humans"

*For the latest information on what's happening to wolves, join the Wolf Seeker Yahoo group by emailing [WolfseekerNews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:WolfseekerNews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)*



# Life and behaviour of wolves: *enrichment for captive wolves*



Mosi and Mai inspect their new rope fender

**A**t the UK Wolf Conservation Trust we believe that overall enrichment programmes for our wolves is essential for their mental, emotional and physical wellbeing. This is reflected in how we raise them, their day to day management, the activities they do and the environment they live in. Their lives are a balance of ambassadorial work and free time to be wolves.

All our wolves act naturally whether that is hunting behaviours we see, how they interact with each other and their reactions to new stimuli. The lack of stress related behaviour is due to their rich and varied lives and the natural environment we try to emulate within their spacious enclosures.

*Toni Shelbourne, Education Officer and Senior Wolf Handler, explains how the Trust has achieved this.*

## **Environmental Enrichment: space**

Wolves in the wild have large territories and although in captivity this cannot be achieved it is still important to give them sufficient room to hunt, play, run and get away from each other. At the Trust the three enclosures are around two acres each and only house small packs. The packs are tight family units which interact well and, apart from breeding season when the wolves' aggression naturally increases, limited levels of aggression are seen within each group making them stable and content.

*More often than not they choose to greet, and every visitor is guaranteed to see wolves.*

Enclosures should be large enough for wolves to chase, at full speed, each other and any unfortunate small animal or bird that ventures in. Our wolves are often clocked running up to 25 - 30 miles an hour. This helps keep them in peak condition with good muscle tone and healthy bones.

Although wolves have a tendency to travel the same paths in their enclosures, as they would in the wild, our enclosures stay relatively green and mud free even in the worst wet weather seasons apart from the main entrance in and out of the yard areas and the well worn paths. The wolves use the whole of the space provided but tend to have their favourite resting spots.

Depending on the time of year, wolves have a tendency to disperse themselves when sleeping during the day and lower ranking wolves in breeding season like to keep a low profile. Having large enclosures enables this to happen. The wolves do not feel crowded and therefore inter-pack squabbling is relatively non-existent.

As our wolves are socialised it means they have a tendency to run up to the fences to see who is around and also show all their natural behaviour out in the open. They choose to ignore, greet or hide away from visitors and handlers. More often than not they choose to greet, and every visitor to the Trust is guaranteed to see wolves.



## Environment

It's not just space a wolf needs, what you put in their space is very important too. They need a rich variety of objects and areas so that they have choice. Of course they do need simple open areas which are open to direct sunlight too, wolves love to

*In the winter the ice gives them something else to chew on and play with.*

sunbathe. Within our enclosures we have platforms for jumping onto, greeting people from, hiding out of the weather and to see down the site from. The platforms are sometimes two tiered or have rope boat fenders attached to them from poles so the wolves can chew. We sometimes also string dead birds to them so the wolves can jump up and practice hunting behaviours.

Other structures in the enclosures include log and brush piles. These are good for the insects and birds but also provide objects to be chewed and climbed on, hidden in or played around.

Mounds are also provided to allow the wolves to get up high and see the whole of the site and they are often seen either sitting or sleeping on top of them. They are

also good vantage points for howling. One mound even has a concrete tunnel leading to an underground den and the wolves often play around the entrance, or use it to guard themselves from mock group attacks.

Wolves love water and ideally all our enclosures would have wolf-proof ponds in them. Until then, water troughs are situated by the fences for ease of refilling and to give visitors endless entertainment watching the wolves jumping in and out and sometimes dragging each other in, too. In the summer it helps keep them cool and in the winter the ice gives them something else to chew on and play with. The new pond in the bottom enclosure is regularly used by the wolves and can also be used for food trails, using the waterfall as a good hiding place for food. The pond has been a great success and all the wolves love to take a dip.

Cover from bad weather and the provision of shade is also important, so many trees have been planted as well as wooden kennels provided. These are also both sources of play and chew objects. Kennels with raised beds and straw bedding are provided overnight for our older wolves so they can get out of the elements.

Grass cutting is kept to a minimum within the enclosures to ensure habitat for wild life as well as cosy hideaways for the



Kodiak explores the new waterfall

wolves. However, a track is usually cut around the enclosure so the wolves still have a race track to run, which they use to the full.

Within each enclosure there is a holding pen. This, if not being used, is left open but if we need to get in to do maintenance within the main area the wolves can still have access to a large grassed area which keeps their stress levels down. The holding pen is also essential for separating a sick wolf without breaking the bond within the pack as the wolves can still see each other. Over the years we have had to separate a number of wolves for short periods of time and we have always been successful in reintroducing them back into the main group. Occasionally we might have to shut down an enclosure so one of the holding pens is double skinned. This enables two packs to live temporarily in one enclosure without causing each other injury.

## Mental Enrichment: socialised versus non-socialised wolves

There has been a long-standing debate about which is better. At the Trust we firmly believe that socialised wolves are happy, healthy, have minimal stress and that socialisation does not interfere with natural behaviour, apart from removing their fear of humans. It enables them to live in bigger enclosures, receive veterinary attention, often without sedation, and enables them to visit different places without causing stress; in

fact they seem to thrive on the variety. The one down-side to socialisation is that human contact needs to start before the cubs' eyes are open. However, the majority of wolves at the Trust were either rejected by their mothers or were surplus to requirements, so socialisation was the alternative to a much worse scenario. Cubs are introduced to many different situations and experiences as youngsters and, like domestic dogs that

are socialised, are confident in many situations.

Our wolves enjoy interacting with humans but instead of wolves learning how to act around humans it is more like humans learning the rules and language of wolves. These

are not domesticated animals and should not be treated as such. Unlike dogs that remain puppy-like in their behaviours throughout their lives, wolves mature into dominant, forceful, intelligent

*These are not domesticated animals and should not be treated as such.*

individuals who can sense how you feel by scent and extremely subtle body language signals. They know we are not wolves but we still have to act authoritatively in their presence and gain their respect.

## Mental stimulation

Mental stimulation is provided in a variety of ways, however, care is taken to allow for the behaviour of predators to just sleep during the day. Wolves are crepuscular, meaning they are active at dawn and dusk and our management allows for this. During the day they have down-times but also perform a limited ▶



Mai claims her Halloween pumpkin full of autumn wolf treats



◀ amount of ambassador duties. With three packs the workload is spread. They may go on a walk with visitors or a student might be doing non-invasive research which might involve food, scents or noises. We also complement this type of activity with food trails, problem-solving treat balls in the shape of melons or pumpkins; they might even get meat versions of ice lollipops in the hot summer months.

*it is our duty to ensure they are kept as naturally and stress-free as possible.*

The danger is not to give them too much stimulation, so the balance is monitored to allow for wolves to be wolves. Of course, the best form of mental stimulation and comfort is to be part of a stable pack and we try to ensure our wolves remain within a pack for the whole of their lives. For example, when one of our older females passed away we were left with a single male, Kodiak. As he had previously known and lived with Dakota and Duma, two females, we felt there would be no problem reintroducing him to their pack. Care was taken to observe



Torak and Mosi play with a snowball

their behaviour with a fence between them for several days and they were taken for a walk together before mixing took place. The introduction was very successful and he didn't have to live as a single wolf.

As the keepers of captive wild animals it is our duty to ensure they are kept as naturally and as stress-free as possible. This is greatly helped by an understanding of their behaviours and natural cycles. ■

Toni Shelbourne  
Education Officer and Senior Wolf Handler

# WORLD ANIMAL DAY:

World Animal Day was started in 1931 at a convention of ecologists as a way of highlighting the plight of endangered species. Since then it has grown to encompass all kinds of animal life and is widely celebrated in countries throughout the world. October 4th was chosen as World Animal Day as it is the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of animals and the environment.



Michelle Paver with fans signing her new book Oath Breaker (see page 20)

For our celebration the UKWCT planned an open day on Sunday 5th October themed around "British Wildlife: lost and living". This was an ideal opportunity for visitors to find out about wolves and other species indigenous to the UK. We had on site a wide variety of animals and birds including owls, wild boar, hedgehogs, bats, corn snakes and dormice, amongst other creatures.

People were able to get close to many of the animals and even touch them. There was also a children's activities tent with face painting, quizzes and treasure hunts. The RSPB had an informative stand where children could make their own bird boxes and learn how to attract birds into their back gardens.

Despite an inch of rain in the morning more than 550 visitors attended the day. The main attraction was the chance to



Newbury Weekly News



photograph Mosi, Torak and Mai posing on the photo mound and the Europeans from the newly constructed viewing platform. There were guided tours of the Centre and scheduled talks throughout the afternoon in the Education Centre. These started with



# British Wildlife - lost and living

our Education Officer, Toni Shelbourne talking about the work the UKWCT does and the projects we support. This was followed by Sue Hull, who was a founder

*To have this many visitors on a poor weather day was amazing*

member of The Wolf Society of Great Britain, who gave an interesting talk titled 'From Wolves to Dogs'. The last and probably most popular talk was by our patron Michelle Paver who gave an insight as to how research on our wolves has influenced her writing of the character of Wolf in her books The Chronicles of Ancient Darkness.

In the pole barn demonstrations by wildlife artists Vic Bearcroft and Sue Shimeld were very popular with visitors being encouraged to try out art for themselves. Wild Arena displayed amazing photos and a Victorian collection of British mounted animals and birds fascinated the crowds.

A cheque presentation for £1,500 was made to the Born Free Foundation. This matched the funds raised by the UKWCT team at the Walk for Wolves event in September. The money will go to the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme.

To have this many visitors on a poor weather day was amazing and everyone commented on how much there was to see and how they enjoyed it. Undoubtedly it helped raise public awareness of what the

UKWCT does and the importance of protecting animals. From the profits of World Animal Day the UKWCT has sent £2,000 to Armenia to help kick start a project to protect livestock from wolf predation. A further £1,000 went to the Chisty Les Biological Station in Russia and also much needed funds to the Balkani Wildlife Society in Bulgaria to help finish their Large Carnivore Centre.

This event has been deemed such a success that it will be an annual event at the UKWCT and 4th October 2009 is already in the diary.

We hope to see you there.



Tsa Palmer and Anneka Svenska  
Picture: Newbury Weekly News





# from our members

## *In search of the Iberian Wolf*

As I sit on the balcony of my room at C.T.R.Veniata, San Pedro de las Herrerías, Zamorra, the black redstarts are continuously feeding their young, apple and pear harvests show promise of good harvest and the sultry sounds of a tenor saxophone practising a lazy Spanish dance drifts across from some nearby residence. Several aspects of better-known Spain seem so far away and yet so does the object of my visit... the Iberian Wolf.



**A**s a member of the UKWCT I have seen wolves in relative captivity but have been concerned that the greater emphasis has been placed on study of the Eastern European Wolf. Yet the province of Zamorra holds the highest density of wolves over any other area in Europe. There are around 2000/3000 wolves in Zamorra, with the largest population living in the Sierra de la Culebra. This vast national park retains healthy populations of wild boar and roe deer, all of which co-exist with the Iberian wolf packs. The hunting season is well regimented, with only three wolves per annum allowed to be hunted in the Sierra de la Culebra. Similar restrictions exist for the game in the area which is carefully maintained. No careless spraying, felling or building is allowed. The spin-off for a keen naturalist is, of course, the variety and profusion of bird, mammal and reptile life throughout this whole area.

To catch a fleeting glimpse of a truly wild wolf in Europe was a hope, but I acknowledged that it was potentially a vain hope. But when locals shared their

knowledge, that hope glimmered into a possibility, albeit acknowledging the vast amounts of patience, luck and a jolly good scope plus optical zoom necessary!

However, on the full moon of July 18th with Saturn and its rings clearly visible, I experienced one of those moments when time stands still. The sight of a mature male Iberian wolf stalking red-legged partridge prey was just such a nemesis. The sun-up and sun-down shifts, crouching camouflaged in silence for hours on end were rewarded by the sight only 50 metres away of this truly wild beast, fully intent on feeding its cubs, to the exclusion of all other stimuli. Taller, darker and indeed of stronger bone than the other European wolves I have seen elsewhere, this creature co-exists in the spell-binding area of Zamorra where it has survived for centuries.

My visit to the wolf trap at Lubion earlier that day only served to heighten my respect for this creature. At Lubion, a short uphill walk led me to a circular structure approximately 100 feet in

diameter. The dry stone walls were 12 feet high with only one entrance. From times medieval through to the 1960's, wolves were enticed by captive quarry into this heinous ring, only to be trapped and killed by guns, sticks and dogs. Standing in the centre of this literal death trap, the atmosphere is thick with imagined scenarios.

So much of history and literature has painted an evil face on the wolf but now various enlightened organisations work to educate people about the true nature of this noble, wary creature. I can only recommend to those tempted by this article, a visit to the Sierra de la Culebra. Perhaps, like me, your five day short break will stretch into a 10 day holiday, with promises of return visits and a lifetime's worth of memories.

Margaret Hallowell  
UKWCT member

Images: landscapes - Margaret Hallowell  
Iberian wolf - Juan Blanco

This is your space, so please write to us with your letters and questions about Wolf Print, the Trust or anything to do with wolves.

You can contact us via email: [education@ukwolf.org](mailto:education@ukwolf.org) (saving paper) or by post to:

The Editor, Wolf Print Magazine, UKWCT, Butlers Farm, Beenham, Reading, RG7 5NT (we will save your stamps)



## MAI

I thank you for coming into my heart & my life.  
Your paw print shows how far you have travelled in your journey  
across the land.

Your spirit will always be part of my being, together or apart.  
Mai I want to thank you for coming into existence  
as a beautiful wolf.

May our paths continue together  
May the journeys we take through life, be ones of contentment

Run free with the pack, with your gentle spirit Mai  
and we will meet in the wolf dreaming.

**Jo Newgrange**



## research opportunity

The wolf-moose project of Isle Royale needs your help. We are looking for volunteers to join Research Expeditions to be conducted during spring and summer of 2009. These expeditions are a vital aspect of the project's field research and a truly unique opportunity to learn about the wolves and moose of Isle Royale. All the details are at [www.isleroyalewolf.org/participate](http://www.isleroyalewolf.org/participate).

During the past 20 years, more than 500 people have participated in these expeditions. The experience is rich, and many have returned to participate in more than one expedition.

John Vucetich & Rolf Peterson





# Wolves, Wilderness, Wind and Water:

## Wolf! Mauricio's shout

alerted the group as we made our way across the arctic tundra of Aylmer Lake. Everyone stopped walking and dropped to the ground. The wolf, a beautiful white female, loped down the side of the esker (a raised area of sand and gravel), and looked across at us as she skirted the edge of the marshy area where we were crouched. She stopped to do a flex-leg urination, confirming her female status, and continued on her way, keeping us within her field of vision as she climbed up a ridge in the near distance. Halfway up the ridge, she stopped, turned around a few times, and settled herself down. Keeping as low as we could, we got out our spotting scopes and binoculars and trained them on the ridge. She had a shaggy coat, and was still moulting late in the season, indicating she was a breeding female and may be nursing pups. There were concerns about her condition as she seemed to have a limp on her rear right leg, and despite her shaggy coat, appeared to be quite thin. After a while, there were more excited murmurings as another wolf appeared over the top of the ridge. This time it was a male. After more than 15 years working in wolf conservation, I had finally seen my first wolves in the wild.

This was the third day into our stay at Aylmer Lake in the Northwest Territories in Canada, and we had made the trip without any expectations of seeing any wolves at all. Simply being a part of this vast wilderness, one of the last on the planet, was experience enough for me.

The trip to Aylmer Lake takes place each year in the brief arctic summer and is organised by the International Wolf Centre. This year, a group of us joined renowned

wolf biologists Dave Mech, Nancy Gibson and Dean Cluff. Dean is the wildlife biologist for the area and he had seen some activity at the den where we saw the female wolf. He hadn't seen any pups, so we were still in the dark as to whether she had actually had any that year.

## Night prowling

After spending some time watching the female on the ridge, we returned to the lodge. Later that evening there was a loud banging on the door of our cabin. There was a wolf in camp. The next morning, the female was still in camp, and did not seem at all perturbed by our presence. She came within a few feet of the lodge, and stayed in the area for the rest of the day. Spotting scopes and binoculars were set up inside the lodge, and we were able to watch wild wolves in comfort. There was still a great deal of concern about her condition and it was agreed that she was hungry and had come to the lodge because she knew it was a potential food source. There was still a great deal of speculation about whether or not she was feeding pups.

## Fish Supper

Being 230 miles north of Yellowknife, Aylmer Lake Lodge is cut off from the rest of the world, and can only be accessed by float plane. Everything at the lodge has to be flown in, and all the rubbish flown out. To minimise this, food scraps are recycled by taking them down to the beach head. There, the gulls, ravens and other creatures are able to enjoy an easy meal in what is an unforgiving landscape for much of the year. The wolf was no exception, and she very quickly established that there was a food source available. There was a lot of debate

about the ethics of "feeding" wild animals in this wilderness, but if she did indeed have pups, then at least this food would give them a fighting chance. The following evening, the food scraps comprised the fish head and guts from a very large lake trout; she wolfed down her fish dinner. Our entertainment from the cabin window was to watch a bold raven as it hopped in behind her, grabbed a morsel of fish in its beak, and quickly darted out of her way.





# A Week on the Arctic Tundra



broke away from the group and started to lope across the top of the ridge. Hardly believing our eyes, the wolf continued along the ridge, and headed towards Dave's group. From our vantage point we could see this happening through our scopes, but Dave and his team were completely unaware of the wolf because of their low lying position. Suddenly the wolf appeared a few metres away from them, walked towards them with purpose, passed them by and continued on up over the next ridge. Throughout the whole week, I never ceased to be amazed by how much ground the wolves covered in a short space of time, loping over the rugged terrain like it was running track. The wolf soon put some distance between himself and his human observers, but it wasn't long before Dave was off in pursuit. Again, our group had the better vantage point and could see the wolf disappearing off into the distance, so Dave really had no chance of catching up with it, but we had to admit being impressed by how much ground he also covered in a short space of time.

## Wolf Rocks

The following day the group decided to check out the den site again. Scanning the horizon, and the valleys and ridges, for signs of wolf activity is like a session of Where's Wally. The landscape is littered with white and grey rocks and boulders, and each one looks like a wolf sleeping. Heat haze gives the impression of movement, and you have to sit very still for a long period to confirm that the shape you think is a wolf is actually a rock. More by sheer luck, I spotted movement down in one of the far valleys, and the rock did indeed suddenly become a wolf. It was the

female again. Her mate was a short distance away from her, and the young male, Howler, off to their left. They were looking in the direction of the ridge where we were sat looking for wolves, begging the obvious question of who was watching who?

Dave, Neil and Michelle decided to set up scopes below our ridge, whilst Dean, Gary, Carina and I remained at the top of the ridge. After a while the wolves started to move, to the top of the distant ridge, and suddenly they were joined by another wolf that had a pure white coat, and was simply magnificent. All four greeted each other for a while, before the latest white wolf

Leaving Aylmer Lake was bittersweet. The enormously vast landscape is difficult to comprehend, even when one is in the midst of it. It is a wild and unforgiving place and inhospitable for most humans for a large part of the year. But for a very brief period, the arctic summer sun was kind to us, the ever constant winds not too harsh, and the wildlife was spectacular beyond compare. One can only marvel and be in awe of nature at its most beautiful and incredible. As for the she-wolf, a potent symbol of wilderness in the human psyche, her grace and potent beauty will remain with me for a very long time.

*Denise Taylor , UKWCT Director*



## Aylmer Lake

Aylmer Lake is in the Northwest Territories in Canada, 230 miles north of Yellowstone. The International Wolf Centre has organised trips to Aylmer Lake for the past ten years. Check the IWC's website at [www.wolf.org](http://www.wolf.org) for further information or log on to: [www.aylmerlake.com](http://www.aylmerlake.com).

For more photos of this year's trip log on to [www.pbase.com/pawsforthought](http://www.pbase.com/pawsforthought) and [www.flickr.com/photos/luperca](http://www.flickr.com/photos/luperca)

For the full article visit [www.ukwolf.org](http://www.ukwolf.org)



# Wild Arena Photography Competition:

## The beauty of Nature



**WIN!**  
A year's Wild Arena  
membership  
worth £99

**W**e are looking for your best Wildlife photographs to illustrate the 'Beauty of Nature'. We want to see lots of new and original photographs and any subject can qualify as long as you believe it illustrates the subject. The winning entry will be published in the next issue of Wolf Print, so get those shutters firing and let us see what you can do!

The lucky winner will receive a year's annual membership with Wild Arena.

**Wild Arena  
membership  
includes:**

- **FREE Experience Session** worth up to £89 (There is currently a choice of 4 of these exclusive introductory sessions, so you can choose from Owls, Wolves, Waterfalls or Tropical close ups!)
- **UNLIMITED 10% discount** off all one day events
- **UNLIMITED £50 discount** off every tour booking
- **FREE KATA memory card wallet** worth £12.99
- **Access to a members only section** on the Wild Arena website
- **Priority offers** for new events and last minute deals
- **FREE quarterly newsletter** with hints and tips from all the Wild Arena guides and up to date advice on where best to capture wildlife pictures

**SPECIAL OFFER:** Even if you don't win this competition, for a limited period UKWCT members can get a £10 discount off Wild Arena membership.

See below for contact details.

Dates for the next three Wild Arena Photography Days at the UKWCT can be found on page 23.  
See also [www.ukwolf.org](http://www.ukwolf.org)

### UKWCT and Wild Arena 'Beauty of Nature' photography competition rules:

- Entries are open to all UKWCT members
- Entries should depict 'The Beauty of Nature'
- We will accept up to 3 entries from each member
- Entries can be submitted electronically to [education@ukwct.org](mailto:education@ukwct.org) or in print form to the normal address (entries should be no larger than A4 or 10" x 8" and marked 'photo competition')
- Unfortunately we will not be able to return prints after the competition closes
- All prints and emails should be marked clearly with your name, address and membership number
- The closing date for entries is 31st January 2009

If you are not a UKWCT member, see page 24 for details.



**WILDARENA.COM**  
Photographic & Wildlife Workshops, Training & Tours

Check out the Wild Arena website at [www.wildarena.com](http://www.wildarena.com) for more information on their membership scheme and other events, or contact them on 07734 107050 or [info@wildarena.com](mailto:info@wildarena.com) to request a discounted reservation.





# Meet the volunteers

Patrick Melton,  
Assistant Senior Wolf Handler

*Patrick speaks to Julia Bohanna and tells us about the only celebrities with whom he likes to spend his days: the Trust's wolves.*

## How did friends and family react to you wanting to volunteer as a handler?

They were a bit apprehensive, although most of them were wildlife/conservation friendly. But once I explained how important a top predator is to the balance of nature, they

## What is a typical working day?

I usually arrive at the Trust well in advance of the event start time, so I can say hello to the wolves and maybe do a bit of gardening. If it's morning, the wolves often run down to the fence to greet me. If it's afternoon, that's when they rest.

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*...there were three cubs on their way from Dartmoor. "Could I help prepare a den and the milk bottles, because they would need feeding when they arrived?" I didn't need asking twice.*

---

understood. Although not all of them are wolf lovers. In my local pub, I'm often asked: 'How are the wolves?' I talk to strangers and show them photographs of the animals. It's a great way to get new members!

## What exactly is your role?

Anything that's required! A lot of events at the Trust include some degree of handling the wolves.

## What brought you to the Trust?

I took early retirement. Initially, I planned to do a couple of days during the week and one at the weekend. In the last couple of years though, the education side of things has really taken off!

## Is it easy getting volunteers?

Not really. There are only a few who can regularly do weekdays. So now, over 90% of my Trust time is during the week, with some weekend work. Even then, sometimes there is a shortage of volunteers due to double events or holidays.

## That sounds time-consuming?

Having to work in the week can have its compensations. I get to do a variety of things that can take a few hours or all day. They can include visits from educational establishments or other organisations, art and writing workshops, adult and children wolf keeper days, photography days. Even speciality days like Howl Nights, Halloween or Valentine's Day. The members are important too, as is working with people with disabilities and special needs who want to visit. If I'm there, it releases Clive the wolfkeeper to do the ever increasing tasks around the place. I've even covered for him when he's on holiday.

They do stretch and walk down, if they can be bothered! There are times though when I can't see a single one of them. So I go to the Mackenzie enclosure and howl. Then we all have a group howl and that is really special shared time just for us. Sometimes even the stately older wolves deign to respond.

## This sounds like a real passion. Were you there for the arrival of the cubs?

How could I forget! The Mackenzies are two and a half years old now and it's been a privilege being with them from day one. How I found out was funny: I had just finished a members' visit when Clive asked me if I could stay on. I wondered what he had in store; he had this smile on his face that I thought meant it would be a really horrible job. But no, there were three cubs on their way from Dartmoor. Could I help prepare a den and the milk bottles, because they would need feeding when they arrived? I didn't need asking twice. Two days later Torak arrived. Sadly, it was not long after we lost our older female resident, Kenai. Also one of the cubs Mika died after about six weeks.



## That must have been a difficult time?

There are ups and downs when working with wolves, as we live six or seven times longer than they do. But the relationship that develops with a cub and hopefully remains into maturity, that's unique. My relationship with Duma and Dakota is also good; they were the first wolves I was able to handle. The Europeans were trickier, even though I did have contact in my first few months as a volunteer. Then they became difficult and no more people were introduced to them. They are still pleased to lean on the fence for a stroke though, as is Kodiak. When I can get his attention!





# Wolves of the High Arctic

The Ellesmere Island Arctic Wolf Research Project: A Timeless Scientific Journey by Cornelia Hutt  
Photography by Dean Huff

*'One must understand the wolf in the wild to truly appreciate the animal'.  
L. David Mech, The Arctic Wolf:  
Ten Years with the Pack*

After 23 summers of arctic wolf research on the wind-scoured landscape of Ellesmere Island, one might wonder what more there is to learn. Why invest time and resources to travel for three days, weather permitting, to finally reach a remote base camp near a fjord where icebergs drift placidly in July? What's the benefit of filing the mandatory annual project proposal and keeping the territorial government research permit current? The simple answer is that there is always more to discover, more to learn, more to confirm. The endless quest for knowledge about the natural world is the engine that drives and sustains long-term research projects like the 50-year Isle Royale wolf-moose study and the annual Ellesmere expedition. Wolf researcher Rolf Peterson said it well. "Science," he wrote in a recent article, "is a journey with no final destination, no definitive endpoint that can be anticipated."

Working in a vast, forbidding wilderness may sound alluring and romantic, but it isn't easy. Collecting data the old-fashioned way, with tools no more sophisticated than binoculars and spotting scopes, can be gruelling. And the wolves of the High Arctic don't help out by wearing tracking collars. The landscape is immense, and if a wolf pack is not nurturing pups at a known den or rendezvous site, the searchers must search for clues throughout the seamless 24 hours of perpetual daylight. This means looking for wolf signs such as tracks and scat over miles of rugged terrain and scanning the horizon from windy ridge tops, hoping that something white will appear in the distance—something too large to be an arctic hare. It means swatting mosquitoes and staying up all night and sometimes all the following day as well and observations must be meticulously recorded by hand.

The payoff for patience and persistence over the past 23 summers has been enormous. The data collected by Dave





Mech, International Wolf Center founder, have been scrutinised, analysed and published in scientific journals and in popular articles and books. The 1986 National Geographic documentary film *White Wolf* about this project is still popular. Because the family life of wolves in lower latitudes is almost impossible to observe (or was prior to the return of the wolf to Yellowstone), accurate information about "the way of the wolf" was hard to obtain prior to the Ellesmere study. Because they tolerate the presence of humans, the High Arctic wolves have taught Dave Mech a great deal about their social interactions, the raising and tending of pups, hunting and killing techniques, communication (scent marking, body posture and howling), sleeping habits and travel patterns. Additionally, he has recorded weather patterns over the years and analysed the effect of phenomena such as early winters on the populations of prey species (musk-oxen and arctic hare).

## So, what's new in 2008?

This summer, Dave Mech was accompanied by Dean Cluff, a Canadian wildlife biologist. The upbeat news is that the two researchers found and observed nine adult wolves-the breeding pair and their yearling offspring and perhaps some older siblings, too. The breeding female was lactating, so that meant pups somewhere! But where?

The downbeat news is that after days of intensive searching, Mech and Cluff determined the den was perhaps 12 miles or more from their base camp and situated across an expanse of impassable mudflats. But some of the wolves came almost daily to the base camp, meaning they were travelling a distance of at least 24 miles round trip in addition to hunting forays. The breeding female was a frequent visitor, too, even though she had to return "home" to supplement regurgitated

meat with bouts of nursing for the growing pups. No one could ever accuse a wolf of being a "stay at home, play at home" animal, but this summer's observations demonstrated the truth of the old Russian adage that a wolf is kept fed by its feet.

The researchers were also able to observe some novel social behaviour by using a taxidermy wolf specimen (affectionately named "Elmer") with adjustable tail positions. Mech and Cluff watched from a respectful distance as the wild wolves inspected Elmer and reacted to his presence. Cluff captured the encounters with the "intruder" on video and with a still camera, and these images will be analysed for behavioural clues.

We invite you to a new blog to live the 2008 expedition day by day with Cluff and Mech. They sent daily dispatches from the weather station at Eureka, and their lively accounts illustrate the euphoria of discovery and the disappointment of dashed hopes as well. The International Wolf Center Web Specialist and the author of this article edited these journals and put them on the blog, Enjoy the photos and slide show too, and please post your comments!

Travel to [www.wolf.org](http://www.wolf.org) and journey with Dave Mech and Dean Cluff to Ellesmere Island in the High Arctic! Join the researchers as they search for arctic wolves near the top of the world. Celebrate with them as they find a pack of the great white predators! Share the experience in the biologists' own words. View the photos and slide show! Check for updates to the blog! Post your comments! <http://internationalwolfcenter.blogspot.com/>





# Christmas gift ideas

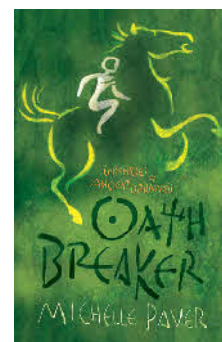


## Set of Four Coasters - £11.00

featuring the UKWCT wolves and ideal for the coffee table or your desk. Each set comes with a wooden slotted block for neat storage.

Please state pack required when ordering:

- Europeans (illustrated)
- North Americans (not shown)
- Mackenzie Pack (not shown)



The Chronicles of Ancient Darkness:  
**Oath Breaker** - £9.99  
Michelle Paver

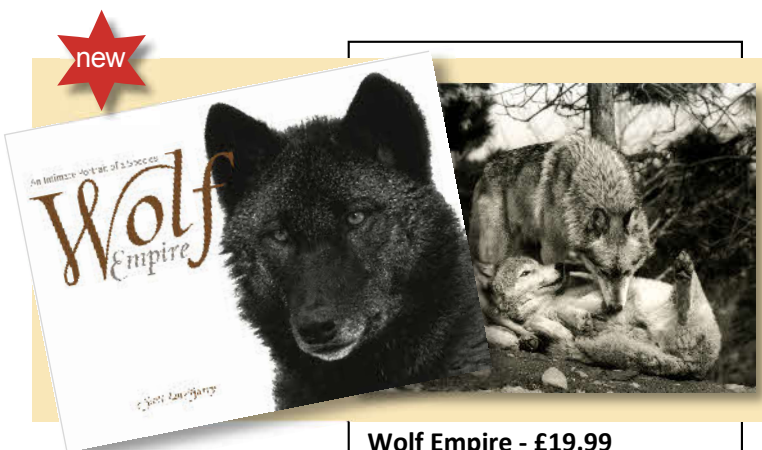
The fifth in the Chronicles series. When Torak was outcast, he was the hunted one. In Oath Breaker he becomes the hunter, when he swears to avenge the killing of one of his closest friends. His search takes him to the Deep Forest where he faces fire, war and overwhelming evil.

240 pages, hardback, 216 x 135mm



**Wallet - £10.00**  
featuring the UKWCT's Duma in the snow

- Pockets for six credit cards
- Two sections for notes
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- 190 x 115mm



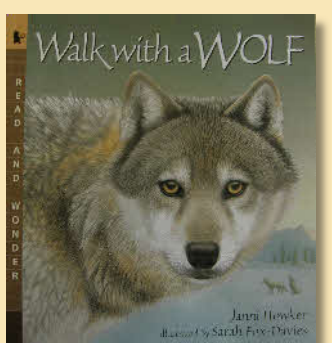
## Wolf Empire - £19.99 Scott Ian Barry

A highly intimate look at the natural world of the wolf - in varying degrees of harmony and aggression, co-operation and solitude. 100 superb black-and-white photographs, each with a commentary on how the image came to be taken, or with a unique observation from the author's 30 years wolf watching experience.

224 pages, hardback, 229 x 305mm

## Walk with a Wolf £3.99 Janni Howker Illustrated by Sarah Fox-Davies

Walk with a wolf... as she hunts alone, howls to her pack and greets her cubs and mate. Hunt with the pack as it follows the scent of a bull moose, crouching and charging. With evocative watercolours, this book is as full of beauty and drama as it is of facts about this mysterious and often maligned creature. Age guide: 5-8; 32 pages, paperback, 245 x 270mm



## Vista Pens £2.00 each

Featuring the UK Wolf Conservation Trust's wolves.

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AND SOUVENIRS VISIT  
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### UKWCT Lapel Pin

Supplied on presentation card

£1.10

new



### Christmas Cards - £3.50 packet of 5

A choice of three designs  
(one design per pack):

- Torak
- Dakota (sitting)
- The Mackenzie Pack

Inside: *A Very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year*

18cm x 11.5cm; supplied with envelopes



## Stocking Fillers



A

new



B



C



D

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| <b>A Hand-carved Wooden Pen from the Phillipines</b>  | <b>£1.20</b> |
| <b>B Velvet Dreamcatcher Shield</b><br>15cm diameter  | <b>£2.95</b> |
| <b>C Key Ring</b>   | <b>£2.50</b> |
| <b>D Scraper Foil Kit</b><br>Includes pre-printed illustration, practice sheet, scraper tool with handle & instructions. Age 8+ | <b>£4.00</b> |
| <b>E Key Holder</b><br>13.5cm x 18cm with 3 hooks   | <b>£5.50</b> |
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| Large magnet 8cm x 11cm   | <b>£3.00</b> |
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| <b>F 7" Fuzzy Fella</b>   | <b>£3.50</b> |
| <b>G Pewter Wolf-topped Pencils. Age 3+ (each)</b>  | <b>£1.70</b> |
| <b>H Chocolate Whoopsies</b><br>100g. May contain traces of nuts  | <b>£2.15</b> |



E



F



G



H





## Onnie Burford-Roe, Wildlife & Pet Portrait Artist

Self-taught, West Country artist Onnie lives with her husband and two crazy springer spaniels in the lovely Devon village of Stoke Gabriel, on the River Dart. She has lived in the countryside for most of her 62 years and has always had a love for all sorts of wildlife.

Onnie started drawing animals (mostly horses) from a very early age and, until quite recently, always worked in pencil. She now specializes in pet portraits although over the years she has completed drawings of a wide variety of animals and birds.

Onnie became interested in wolves in particular about six years ago, when she adopted "Lunca" as a Birthday present for her husband, "the man who has everything", and has been involved with the Trust ever since.



Kodiak by Onnie Burford-Roe

Members of the Trust will have come to know Onnie's work over the last few years as she has completed portraits of all our wolves and reproduces them as greetings cards, key rings, pictures and bone china mugs.

In June last year, Onnie joined Vic Bearcroft's "Workshop with Wolves" at the Trust and painted

Dakota in pastel, her first ever colour portrait. Now, almost all her portraits are drawn using coloured pencils, a medium she loves working with. "Wolves are the most beautiful creatures, and every time I hear them howl it brings me to tears", said Onnie on one of her recent trips to the Trust.

To view more of her artwork visit [www.onniesart.co.uk](http://www.onniesart.co.uk) and of course the Trust has plenty of her works for sale which are great as Christmas presents.

# Making Tracks

wolves in the media and the arts

## Wolf:

### Legend, Enemy, Icon

Rebecca L. Grambo

Photography Daniel J Cox

A & C Black

Paperback; 176 pages

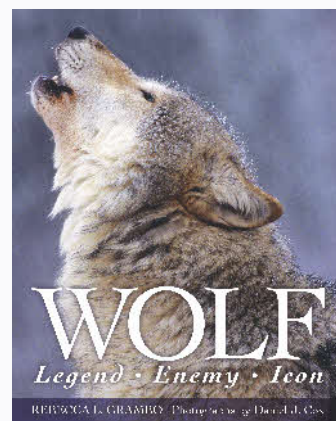
Full colour throughout

280mm x 228 mm

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ISBN 978 1408 106327

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This is a really delicious book for anyone already in love with our much maligned species. Or a poetic education for those who know little or nothing about it. It is subtitled Legend, Enemy, Icon - which accurately reflects the complex and troubled relationship that man has always held with *canis lupus*. Rebecca Grambo concentrates on the grey wolf here and has produced an extremely artistic book that utilises award-winning pictures from natural history photographer Daniel J Cox, as well as artefacts, drawings and writing to make a rounded and informative patchwork guide to the species. It's truly a pleasure to turn over page after page: on one there might be a gloriously skilful photo of a wolf leaping over ice, on another a Cree legend about Wisaagatcak and Wolf, When the World Began. Yet another: an early engraving depicting a settler fighting wolves.

Clearly Grambo has meticulously researched her book and used statistics, biological evidence and dates to complement the more ethereal elements of wolf legend, such as shamanism. It's this balance and accessibility that make it a pleasure to read. She also does not shy away from the trickier political elements of wolf management: reintroduction for example, or culling controversies such as the Norwegian government's 1996-7 white paper on maintaining wolf populations, which then contradicted their cull of 26 wolves from 2000-2002.

This is a book to learn from, to savour, to return to time and again. My favourite little snippet was the Tsistsistas Wolf Song, which is the song of Cheyenne scout travelling in enemy territory:

*Wolf I am. In darkness - in light - wherever I search - wherever I run - wherever I stand - everything will be good - because Maheo protects us - Ee ea ho.*

Julia Bohanna

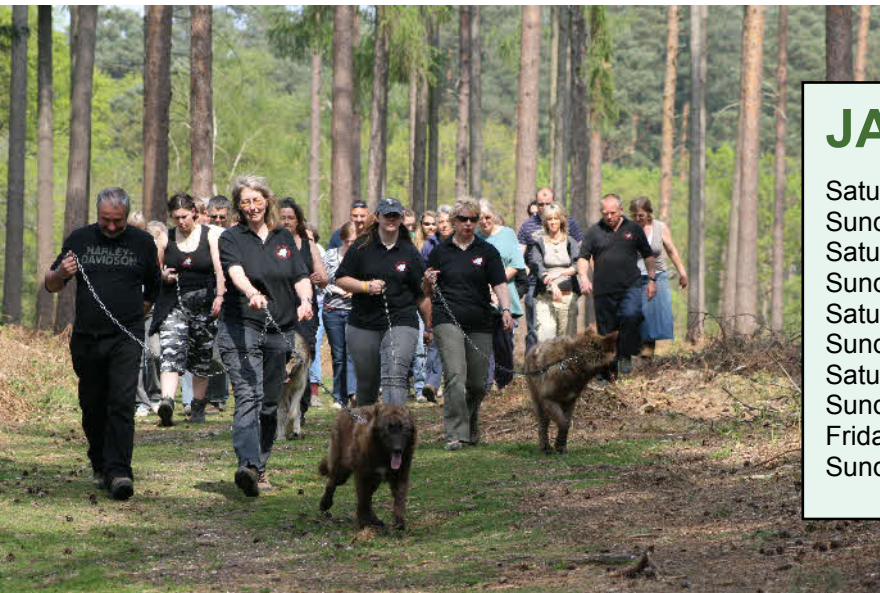
## PASTEL WORKSHOPS WITH WOLVES

For further information on Vic Bearcroft's Workshops with Wolves, visit [www.ukwolf.org](http://www.ukwolf.org) to check dates and availability.



## DECEMBER

Monday 1 :	Vic Bearcroft Pastel Workshop
Tuesday 2 :	Home Schoolers' West London Visit
Wednesday 3 :	South East Essex College Walk
Saturday 6 :	Wild Arena Photographic Day
Sunday 7 :	Members' Walk - FULL
Tuesday 9 :	Battersea Cats and Dogs Home
Wednesday 10 :	Merrist Wood College Visit
Friday 12:	Howl Night
Saturday 13 :	Members' Walk - FULL
Sunday 14 :	UKWCT Photographic Day
Monday 15 :	Thames Valley Police Dogs
Saturday 20 :	Private Walk - SPICE
Sun 21 :	Members' Walk - FULL
Sunday 28 :	Members' Walk - FULL
Monday 29 :	Children's Wolf Walk - FULL



## JANUARY

Saturday 3 :	Wild Arena Photographic Day
Sunday 4 :	Private Walk - Harley Davidson Club
Saturday 10 :	Members' Walk - FULL
Sunday 11 :	Members' Walk - FULL
Saturday 17 :	UKWCT Photographic Day
Sunday 18 :	Members' Walk
Saturday 24 :	Members' Walk
Sunday 25 :	Members' Walk
Friday 30 :	Howl Night
Sunday 31 :	Members' Walk

## FEBRUARY

Sunday 1 :	Members' Walk
Saturday 7 :	Private Walk - Walkabout Dog Training Club
Sunday 8 :	Wild Arena Photographic Day
Saturday 14 :	Valentine's Day Walk
Sunday 15 :	Private Walk - SPICE
Sunday 15 :	Talk at the Wetlands Centre in London
Monday 16 :	Children's Wolf Walk
Friday 20 :	Children's Wolf Walk
Saturday 21 :	Members' Walk
Sunday 22 :	Members' Walk
Friday 27 :	Howl Night
Saturday 28 :	Members' Walk



For details & availability visit [www.ukwolf.org](http://www.ukwolf.org)  
All dates are correct at the time of going to press



# Forthcoming Events at the UKWCT

## Howl Nights - 6.30pm

12th December, 30th January,  
27th February, 12th March: £10 per person

This is a very popular event at the Trust. The evening will start off with a talk on wolves and their different methods of communication, focusing mainly on their various vocalisations. You will also have the opportunity to let out a howl and see if the wolves respond! (Don't forget to dress up warmly for an evening under the stars.)



## Children's Wolf Walks

11:00 - 13:00

Monday 16th February

Friday 20th February

£12 per person, 6 years +

Take a walk with the UKWCT wolves.  
Includes a short talk and tour of the centre.

**For more information and to book call the UKWCT on 0118 971 3330**

## STOP PRESS!

The UK Wolf Conservation Trust's **spring seminar** and the launch of the long awaited new book "The World of Wolves" are taking place over the weekend of **Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th May.**

Two guest speakers already confirmed are renowned North American wolf biologists Dr Marco Musiani and Dr Paul Paquet. Marco and Paul have just finished editing "The World of Wolves" in conjunction with Professor Luigi Boitani.

Further details of the seminar and book launch will be released soon - keep an eye on our website [www.ukwolf.org](http://www.ukwolf.org) for updates and more information.

## SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERS

★ Give the gift of the wild this Christmas ★

### UKWCT WALKING MEMBERSHIP

A walking membership allows the recipient to bring a friend (minimum age 12 years old) on one of our woodland wolf walks. They're a great way of seeing our wolves "up close"! In addition, walking memberships include an 8" by 10" photograph and our quarterly magazine, Wolf Print, keeping you up to date with the Trust, as well as reductions on our seminars.

If you purchase a walking membership as a Christmas gift you'll receive a free 2009 calendar worth £8 featuring our wolves.

Walking memberships cost £60 per year - available to buy on line now.



free

**ADOPT A WOLF** and you'll receive an 8" by 10" photograph, as well as an adoption certificate and a report on the year of the life of your wolf.

As a special Christmas offer, adopt a wolf and you'll receive a special "wolf in a tin" soft toy.  
Adopting a wolf costs £30 per year.

We've a variety of special offers and festive items that would make ideal presents for those who appreciate wolves. All purchases help to further our aims of supporting projects to keep European wolves in the wild.

For further information, please visit [www.ukwolf.org](http://www.ukwolf.org)  
or call 0118 971 3330