

Wolf Print



The Magazine of the UK Wolf Conservation Trust

Issue 36 Spring 2009

Russia Today

champions the wolf

ALSO:

**DAVID vs GOLIATH
FACING THE PREDATOR
UKWCT SEMINAR**

■ NEWS ■ EVENTS ■ MEDIA AND ARTS ■ REVIEWS



Editor's Letter

First of all let me take this opportunity of wishing you all a Happy New Year. I hope 2009 will be a good year for you and we look forward to meeting you on a wolf event soon.

The March 2009 Wolf Print is proving to be a bumper issue. The articles are interesting and thought provoking. We have also included information on Wolf Park seminars and Compass distance learning courses for the serious wolf watchers. The photo competition was won by Jo Handley with a beautiful shot of a red fox. Well done Jo and we hope you enjoy your prize. Thank you to all who took part in the competition. We also have more poems and feedback on the member's pages. Don't forget to send us your photos, stories and creative writing for inclusion.

Please remember to put 10th May in your diaries for the UKWCT seminar. We have a few changes to the format this year so we hope you like it. Details and the booking form can be found on page 22. As well as the seminar we will be holding more Open Days throughout the year, the next one is on 25th May; see the back page for details.

We have included both the Easter and May half term children's events. These days are as popular as ever and fill up really fast so please book early to avoid disappointment. We also know that it is popular to come for the Howl Night and stay on for the walk the next day so we have added in a May Howl Night date for you.

If you have any ideas or feedback on Wolf Print remember you can email me on education@ukwolf.org or call 0118 971 3330.

Best Wishes

Toni Shelbourne

Education Officer / Senior Wolf Handler / Wolf Print Editor

Wolf Print



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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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Wolf NEWS

DEATH OF AN AMBASSADOR: Kodiak 1994 - 2009



KODIAK first gave us cause for concern in December 2008 when he started passing bloodstained urine. The hope was that he just had a bladder infection, but a week of antibiotics did not improve the problem. By then he was also off his food and looking uncomfortable. Extra painkillers were prescribed and he was booked in for tests just before Christmas. The urine sample confirmed blood was present and a scan of his bladder showed a small mass against the bladder wall. There was no way of knowing if the lump was benign or malignant without surgery, and considering his

age and the difficulty of post op care, we decided to monitor over the Christmas period and review the situation in January.

His appetite improved over Christmas due, in part, to the tasty morsels we were feeding him. He also appeared to be pain-free but we kept him on the higher dose of painkillers. Our homeopathic vet prescribed a mix of herbal and homeopathic remedies to support the kidneys and the bladder which we hoped would help. If it was a benign mass then it should cause little trouble, if malignant then the remedies will help slow the cancer.

Unfortunately, in early February, Kodiak started to go off his food again and it became increasingly hard to get him to take his medication. On 8th February he had bloodstained urine again and he went down hill rapidly after that. He was put to sleep on 11th February out in his favourite part of the enclosure. When you take into account that wolves in the wild are lucky to see half of Kodiak's 15 years, he hadn't done badly. Duma and Dakota were given the opportunity to say their goodbyes; he will be sorely missed by the girls and all who knew him.

Update on the Trust Wolves

IT'S BEEN A LONG COLD WINTER which usually isn't a problem for the wolves with their thick winter coats. However, due to steroid damage from her long term treatment against cancer, poor **Dakota** has suffered over the last months as she didn't grow a winter coat this year.



Dakota by Mikaela Wild

She also had bouts of skin infection which means she had areas which were bald. Because of this, extra thick bedding in the kennels is prepared consisting of wood shavings and straw. The kennel area is left open 24 hours a day and on cold, wet days

she will take herself off to bed, only popping her head out of the trap if someone or something interesting is outside. She also put on a thicker layer of fat in the autumn. Her coat this year has been a sepia colour and with her rather moth-eaten appearance, she has taken on the look of a well loved and used teddy bear. However, she still enjoys life, if at a slightly slower pace than before. She is constantly monitored by staff, volunteers and the vets who can't believe she is still with us. In January 09 she will have lived with cancer for two years.

Duma has found new enemies. In the old days it was Kenai with whom she would fence-run and walking her past was always a challenge and test of strength. Now it's Mai and Mosi. This is because they are reaching maturity and Duma sees them as a threat to her leadership, in short they have become rivals. Fence-running, hackles up and growling is the order of the day as you walk past the enclosures. Out of the North American pack, Duma is the only one who is still working and she still loves the attention. Meeting 30 people at a time isn't a problem in her eyes; the more the merrier. She still loves the woodland walks, we just hope you understand on a

members' walk if there is only one wolf to meet as we would hate for her to miss out on these much loved walks.

The European pack is getting into shape after a long time being off work. Due to Alba's accident they have been taking it easy but we are hoping they will be able to do more in 2009. They certainly enjoy the walks around the farm with handlers. **Alba** looks straighter in his walk now that the two vertebrae in his lower back have finally fused together. This fusing stabilises the area and will mean he is in less pain, until the next set of vertebrae start to be affected. This condition in his mid back is not uncommon in agility and police dogs where they have to do a lot of twisting as Alba does due to the gait problems after the accident. He continues to have painkillers daily which can be increased if needed.

Lunca continues to be on a diet especially now she is spayed. You can just about feel her ribs now but she still has a way to go. She is enjoying a quieter breeding season although still has to put up with some domination from her sister Latea. She has been a little lame over the winter but seemed to improve once we put ▶

FROM THE DIRECTORS

First and foremost, a very Happy New Year to everyone from the Directors, and we are sure you will want to join us in thanking those volunteers who work so hard to make your experiences enjoyable and informative.

2009 will see further developments to our various wildlife plans at the Trust, not least the badger project. Two members of the Badger Trust, Chairman Dave Williams and Treasurer Jeff Hayden, visited in order to conduct a survey with me to establish the extent of the thriving sett. We also needed advice on where to site a suitable hide in order to enable our members to observe and photograph badgers at close quarters.

Jeff expressed a wish to photograph one of our wolves with himself dressed in a full badger suit. The wolves must be used to the presence of badgers walking past their enclosures - but one that spoke to them and was somewhat



larger than usual presented Mosi with a bit of a challenge! However, Mosi's curiosity got the better of her and she allowed the badger to pet her and even licked his nose.

Thanks must go to Keith Dimond and his team for building and painting the new

hide. We hope that it will be available to use in about six to eight weeks when the badgers have become used to it.

Some exciting news is that there is a possibility of the rare water vole living in the same area as the badgers. We are hoping to place sand-traps to confirm this as the voles will leave their tracks in the sand.

2009 will see a determined effort to obtain charitable status for the UKWCT. This will be of great benefit to the Trust and the future welfare of wolves, both at the UKWCT and also to their wild cousins.

Anne Carter, Director

Stop press:

Badger Talk, 7.00pm, Friday 3rd July
£5.00 per person
See www.ukwolf.org for details or
call 0118 971 3330 to book tickets

◀ both her and Latea on a glucosamine supplement for their joints.

Latea's breeding season aggression has been significantly reduced by being spayed; however she is still showing enough dominance to keep the pack hierarchy the same. In fact all the Europeans are behaving exactly how they should; it's just that the interaction is back to reasonable levels instead of the over-



Latea by Paula French

the-top behaviour we have seen in recent years. It's a long time until summer though, so we won't know for sure until after hormone levels have fallen back to neutral

which is around June. Latea too has in the past suffered from intermittent lameness so, like Lunca, was put on a joint supplement which should help prevent any minor aches or pains. Wolves rough-house and throw themselves around so much that as they grow older we always have to look to the possibility of arthritis.

Torak, Mai and Mosi are going through an interesting period as they mature at three years old. Torak and Mai are certainly trying their best to curb Mosi's obnoxious and defiant streak. When greeting handlers in the enclosure, if Mosi tries to muscle in or growl at Mai as she approaches, both Torak and Mai will mob her and firmly put her back in her place. It looks really rough but we know that Mosi can take it and most of the time is fully deserving of her telling off.

Mai has become very flirtatious with Torak recently and maybe this year we will see mating behaviour from them both. Although Torak in some ways is still very immature, still preferring to squat to urinate instead of a raised leg urination, he is also showing a more dominant side

towards the girls and the handlers. All three have had tremendous fun playing on the frozen pond, digging at treats we have frozen in or just sliding about. They have been joined this winter by a very brave little robin that follows them around the enclosure, he gets very close to the wolves who seem to ignore him. Let's hope he doesn't end up as a snack!



Mosi by Lorenzo Guescini

As Spring approaches and the evenings begin to draw out, the wolves can start to be lazy again and bask in the sun instead of having to move around a bit more to keep warm - and also because their hormones are telling them to!



Wolf NEWS



Alistair Bath

WOLVES, MUSIC AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

In early January, the volunteers at the UKWCT were treated to a unique evening of a wolf lecture followed by a musical performance. Professor Alistair Bath from the Memorial University of Newfoundland was visiting the UK with his daughter and her troupe of talented young musicians for their tour of London. Whilst here, they agreed to spend a day at the Trust to meet everyone, including our wolves.

Alistair is one of the world's leading experts in human dimensions. This is one of the latest initiatives in the world of conservation where the aim is to resolve the conflict that arises between the different groups of people who have an interest in wolves (and other species). Alistair is currently working on the Wolf Management Plan in Bulgaria, a project which has been sponsored by the Trust.

In the evening of his visit, Alistair gave an entertaining talk to the Trust's volunteers about his human dimension work in Europe. Bringing together disparate

groups of people with deeply opposed views is never an easy process, and Alistair has lots of anecdotes to share. However, the message about his work is a serious one for conservation, and one that is so far proving highly effective. Alistair's work in Croatia is testament to this. Workshops were held over a period of time and Alistair worked with different groups including hunters, farmers, foresters, conservationists and local people. The aim of the workshops is to reach a consensus, and Alistair uses a number of different methods to achieve this so that each group is happy with the outcome.

After Alistair's talk, the young musicians gave a performance which comprised a mix of traditional Newfoundland fiddle music and classical music which had everyone tapping their feet. All the youngsters are very talented musicians, having been taught under the Suzuki method. The philosophy of this method is that children have the capacity to learn music in much the same way they naturally learn

language. This definitely showed through the performance which, as well as being highly polished, seemed as natural as breathing to the musicians.

This was a thoroughly enjoyable event, and it gave our volunteers a wonderful opportunity to see how the money they raise is being used to good effect.

OFF ROAD DRIVING IN THE PIRIN MOUNTAINS



A 4x4 is essential for the Bulgarian countryside

On my last trip to Bulgaria in November 2008, project leader Elena Tsingarska told me the bad news about the loss of their jeep after an accident high up in the mountain above the village of Vlahi. Fortunately, Nina, a project helper who was driving the jeep at the time, had a very lucky escape. She had been responding to a call to take some medicines and equipment up to the sheep in the high pasture which had been badly injured following a wolf attack. The jeep came off the road, rolled several times

down the hillside before coming to rest against a tree. This broke the fall of the jeep as it was heading down into the river. Had the jeep not hit the tree, it would have been disastrous, and Nina might not have survived the accident. In true Bulgarian spirit, Nina brushed herself off and continued with her journey to help the injured sheep.

The accident left the project without an essential piece of their equipment. The jeep had been used to take project team members higher into the mountains to carry out biological research. Part of this research involves laying modified wolf traps in order to capture wild wolves for radio collaring. Such traps need to be checked at least once a day, but usually twice a day, so that any wolf captured is not left too long in the trap. The jeep was also used to get to and from Kresna, the nearest town, which is 10 km down the mountain on an unmade mountain track. At the best of times this is a very rough journey, but in bad weather it is essential to have a four-wheel drive that

can cope with the rigours of a rock strewn, potholed road.

When I returned from my trip I immediately got in touch with the other directors and explained the plight of the project. It was unanimously agreed that we should send money to Bulgaria for the purchase of another vehicle. A donation of £3,000 would more than cover the cost of this as there is no point buying a new vehicle for this terrain.

Elena was over the moon when she heard the news. She was really worried about how they would continue their work, and she said that it was the best Christmas present she could ever have hoped to have.

The money the Trust raises for wild wolf conservation projects is put to all sorts of uses, from funding research to buying equipment, including replacement vehicles. This latest donation shows just what a difference a few thousand pounds can make to the overall project.

Denise Taylor, Director

wolves of the world

news from
around the
world

Arctic Wolves © Dean Huff



nibbles

- **Norwegian Poll to decide wolves' fate.** In an election this year, Norwegian voters will have to decide what should happen to their wolves. Wolves have divided farmers and conservationists for many years and the fate of the country's wolf population could be affected by whoever takes power in the general election. There are strong views amongst the public and government parties alike, the outcome of the election could dictate whether a cull on wolf numbers happens or not. (BBC Wildlife Magazine, February 2009 edition)

- **Ethiopian Rabies Threat: Update** The Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme has been working hard to stop a rabies outbreak. They have created a barrier of vaccinated wolf packs within the species stronghold in the Bale Mountains. As of 30th November 2008 14 wolves had died during the outbreak, fears were that if unchecked the outbreak could wipe out as many as two-thirds of the population. By the end of November 46 wolves in 10 vital packs had been vaccinated forming the start of the barrier to protect the rest of the population. All indicators show the programme has been a success but they are continuing to monitor the situation carefully. If you wish to help save the Ethiopian wolf you can make a donation via www.ethiopianwolf.org

Arctic Wolf

During the summer 2007, professional explorer Jim McNeil travelled to Ellesmere Island with a BBC Natural History Unit crew, to capture the elusive Arctic wolf on camera. After this success, and with his reputation as the "wolf finder", he recently returned to the region with the BBC team to see if they could carry on where they had left off. They set up camp on the beach about 1.5km from the site they filmed at in 2007. On their first morning they were in luck: as they sat discussing their plans, something was moving towards them and, upon reaching for the spotting scope, they saw a wolf approaching them. It wasn't a wolf that Jim recognised from the 2007 trip. For the next three days they watched the den site with no further sightings, so with care they

approached the den searching for recent signs of activity. It was empty, so the decision was made to move the film crew to a new location. After a further two weeks the pack still hadn't been sighted and with limited time left in the field the crew moved again for a final chance of filming the wolves. They moved into one of the Island's valleys and within 20 minutes of landing they had found the wolves. As Jim was searching for a suitable place to base the camp he radioed back to the rest of the crew, 'were the wolves still around?' The answer came back that they had seen six cubs, plus the adults - success! The team spent a further four weeks filming the pack and their antics which will hopefully be broadcast some time this year.

Wolf hunting popular past time in Yanbu (Saudi Arabia)

The view is like something out of a Wild West movie. As you approach a crooked tree located by the side of a busy highway 75km from Yanbu, you cannot help but notice dead furry animals hanging from its branches. As you get closer it becomes apparent that the furry beasts are local wolves, killed and strung up on Yanbu's infamous "Lynch Tree" as a warning to their packs that this will be their fate if they attack livestock.

Hunting wolves is a popular sport among the tribal people living in this part of Saudi Arabia. The hunters' pride is justified, as they are difficult to kill.

Ahmad Al-Juhani, 50 said "The dead wolves are hung from the top of the tree to drive other wolves away from farms. When wolves see a dead beast hanging from the tree, or smell its blood, they simply leave the area and do not return for ages, however, I condemn the random killing of wolves, they're an important element of the country's wildlife.

Wolf Captured near Great Wall of China

On Christmas day news came from Beijing that a wolf had been captured by forestry workers near the Great Wall close to Beijing, an area popular with tourists. The wolf is being kept at a nature park and will be released in uninhabited mountains far from the wall, Xinhua news agency said. It was captured close to the Badaling section, it said, a restored part of the wall that many tour groups visit. Sightings of the wolf prior to its capture had caused "widespread fear" the report said. "We were certain the wolf was alone. Probably it left its companions to search for food," Xinhua quoted a forest worker as saying. "We wouldn't have interfered had it been seen in a remote place", he said "But this time we cannot put the safety of the visitors at risk." While wolves are believed to have vanished from the Beijing area in the 1950's, about 20 are still thought to live in the mountains to the North of the city.

Life and behaviour of wolves

David versus Goliath :

*when the 80lb weakling
takes on the 2000lb giant*



Photograph: Monty Sloan

Wolves are not dumb animals. They know better than to go head-to-head with a 2,000-pound bison. But sometimes hunger drives them to desperate measures, explains Molly Absolon of www.yellowstonepark.com

"It's really a function of availability," says Doug Smith, who heads the Yellowstone Wolf Project. "Wolves prefer elk and deer, but in the winter there are a couple of packs in Yellowstone National Park that turn to bison. One - Mollie's Pack in the Pelican Valley - feeds exclusively on bison once the snow flies because elk and deer migrate out of their range. The wolves really have no choice."

Mollie's Pack, named for Mollie Beattie the former head of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who was instrumental in the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone, belies the odds, because successful bison hunts by wolves are rare. Outweighed by as much as 25 times by an adult bison and relying solely on sharp teeth and powerful jaws to make a kill, wolves are the definite

underdog in a match up with their bovine counterparts. But when there is nothing else to eat, wolves have learned to adapt.

"Wolves cannot kill adult bison unless they have some kind of advantage," Smith says. "It may be a broken leg, malnutrition, weakness after a long winter, or maybe just deep snow that limits the bison's mobility, but something has to tip the balance in the wolves' favour in order for them to be successful."

"Mollie's Pack is the only pack in the park that feeds solely on bison in the winter. The Firehole River Pack also eats bison in the winter, but they have access to some deer and elk as well," Smith says. "Wolves in the Lamar will occasionally take down bison if they

find a weakness, but again they prefer elk and deer.

"Bison often stand their ground," Smith adds. "They will face the wolves with their heads down. It doesn't really matter if a wolf bites a bison's head. All they will get is hair, bone, and horns. All these things make bison a pretty unattractive target for wolves. If wolves could talk, they would tell you that they would rather not kill bison. It is too hard and dangerous."

Wolves need an average of three to ten pounds of meat per day per animal. They have evolved into wily, tenacious hunters in order to meet these needs. Yet in spite of their skill and patience, and contrary to their reputation as "killing machines," wolves are often unsuccessful in their hunts. Most chases do not result in a kill. A pack can go for days, even weeks between meals. This feast and famine diet has instilled in wolves a systematic, energy-saving approach to hunting that can be boiled down to a simple equation: if the



Wolves cannot kill adult bison unless they have some kind of advantage

prey requires too much effort or danger, it isn't worth the risk.

Dr. Dan McNulty, a wildlife biologist from the University of Montana in Missoula, says wolves seek simply to "kill without being killed." That statement seems obvious enough, but for wolves that require huge supplies of meat for sustenance, there is more to it than one might think. Large animals feed the pack more completely, but they are also more difficult to kill. They have slashing hooves, lethal horns or antlers, thick protective hides, and the

So the wolves vary their hunting strategy depending on their quarry. They will torment and harass their target, looking for the animal to make a mistake, show some kind of weakness, or separate from the protection of the herd. They stalk the animals, testing them with a nip at their legs or a dash through the herd, driving the bison forward and back, waiting until they can find the time and place to move in for the kill. This can literally last for days. Ultimately, if they are successful, they will gorge on as much as 20-30 pounds of meat per wolf at one feeding, resting afterwards in a kind of food-induced coma before returning to the carcass for more.

The Blackfoot Indians trace their bison-hunting techniques to methods adapted from wolves. A nomadic tribe that followed the buffalo herds across the northern plains for thousands of years, the Blackfoot were known for their hunting prowess long before the arrival of horses and guns gave them an advantage over the enormous bison.

I've seen wolves stake out a bison with a broken leg for days before they were able to bring the animal down

safety of their herds. Bison are deceptive, appearing to be docile and to move slowly, but when angered they are capable of running up to 40-miles-per-hour and can gore or maim their aggressors. All these factors make them a daunting target even for the most skilled wolf pack.

On foot, the Blackfoot were forced to be wily and creative, like wolves. Wrapped in wolf skins to disguise their shape and smell, the Indians would move in among the bison, provoking them into motion. As the herd moved, other hunters, stationed along a path delineated by stone cairns and wooden

fences, waved buffalo robes to keep the bison on course. The lanes gradually narrowed and the harassment by the drivers intensified until the bison were galloping across the plains, funnelled into a natural deadfall - or buffalo jump - from which the animals would plunge to their deaths. These drives could take days and often involved an intricate dance between the hunters and the hunted, as the Blackfoot warriors patiently toyed with the bison. Similarly, wolves tease and feint their prey, dulling the animals to their presence until something changes and the balance shifts in their favour.

"I've seen wolves stake out a bison with a broken leg for days before they were able to bring the animal down," Doug Smith says. "Even with a broken leg, bison are extremely hard to kill."

For now, it is exceedingly rare to see wolves take on bison in Yellowstone National Park. More commonly the animals seem to ignore each other, or the bison seem to regard wolves as a pest not unlike an annoying fly or mosquito. But the story changes when winter comes, prey becomes more dispersed, bison are stressed by environmental conditions, and wolves get hungry. Then you may just find an 80-pound David taking on a 2,000-pound Goliath.

To learn more about Yellowstone National Park and its wildlife visit www.yellowstonepark.com

members' page

The Wolf by Rosaleen Kelly

Dark grey coat
And beautiful, piercing, magical eyes
You live in a land far away from me
But I keep you with me
The leader of the pack
Your body a temple of strength and honour
With you I feel safe
Wrongly accused of being the most vicious of all creatures
Like me, you are often misunderstood
Surrounded in snow
Your huge paws imprint your journey
You howl at the crystal clear moonlit sky
Sometimes, I pretend I can hear you
My warrior, the most mystical of all Gods creatures
The wolf - my inspiration.



Mosi by Paul Denton



15% discount

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Visit www.cotswoldoutdoor.com to shop online or call 0844 557 7755 to find your nearest store.

WE ATTENDED the walk on Saturday 15th November and had a truly memorable day. I'd like to say a massive thank you to all the staff at the Trust. You all do a fantastic job and are clearly passionate about the conservation of wolves around the world. We'll never forget our day with you and will continue to support this worthwhile project. It was incredible just to be in such close proximity to these magnificent animals and to actually "meet" them was an amazing experience (Mosi, in particular!) although it's easy to see that these are wild animals, to be treated with the utmost respect! One look at those teeth!

We'd all looked forward to the day so much but it was a million times better than we'd imagined and words cannot really express feelings, particularly when we saw the wolves for the first time. Speechless!!

Thank you once again for an unforgettable experience and the dedication and help of all the staff. This was one of the best days of my life.

Mike Smith, Sheila Lambe and Warren Tryner

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 (saving paper) or by post to:
The Editor, Wolf Print Magazine, UKWCT, Butlers Farm, Beenham, Reading, RG7 5NT (we will save your stamps)

A BELATED thank you from the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme for your generous contribution to the Walk for Wolves event this year. It was great to have you at the Walk in Battersea this year again. All hell broke loose in Ethiopia soon after the walk, and I have been in emergency mode since. We are still not quite out of the woods, with more sick wolves reported over the weekend, but the vaccination belt seems to be working. It's great to count on your support, and have Ethiopian wolves as honorary members of the Trust.

Claudio Sillero, WILDCRU

MANY THANKS for a fantastic visit - the children all enjoyed their time at your "wolf home". The presentation, walk round, etc. was pitched at just the right level, as one of my children said as we visited another enclosure "this place is cool".

Please pass my thanks on to Toni, Pat and Angela for their part in making the visit so successful. A great way to end our school project.

THANK YOU!!

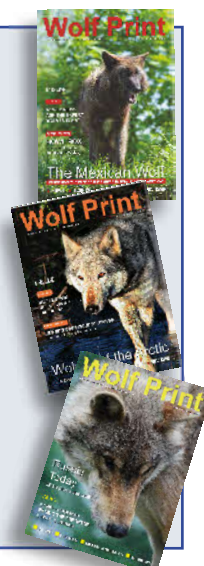
Kim Thornton, Lavant Primary School

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Wild Arena Photography Competition

The beauty of Nature



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CONGRATULATIONS to Jo Handley, Winner of *The Beauty of Nature* photo competition, with this stunning picture of a fox enjoying the warmth of the sun. Jo will receive a year's membership with Wild Arena. Well done to Jo.



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Can Russian media change public opi

Toni Shelbourne finds out



The Russians have never had a high regard for the wolf. You won't hear ordinary people waxing lyrical about the great job this apex predator does in the grand scheme of nature. You're more likely to hear hunters talking about the profit to be made from the bounty on a wolf kill, and how they might be able to make more money from selling wolf cubs to zoos or private collections. In Russia the wolf is a game animal, a pest, a warm coat, money to feed the family. Wolves are hunted all year round and very few influential people are working to change government policy or public opinion... until now.

RUSSIA TODAY is a 24/7 English-language news channel based in central Moscow and has bureaus all over the world. Its website has become Russia's most popular English language internet news service, with the number of hits surpassing that of established Russian resources. The channel is government-funded but shapes its editorial policy free from political and commercial influence. Millions of viewers have an opportunity to watch Russia Today on all continents by receiving an open, non-coded signal from more than ten satellites. It can also be viewed 24 hours a day on the internet.

This huge multi media company is supporting the Chisty Les Wolf Reintroduction Project by giving it web space and beaming live

webcam images to millions around the world. It features Vladimir Bologov and Laetitia Becker and of course the star attractions, the wolves they are rehabilitating.

Situated 450km north-west of Moscow, the Orphan Wolf Pups Rehabilitation Centre is part of Chisty Les (translation Clean Forest) biological station in the Central Forest Nature Reserve. Its goal is to give a second chance to wolves doomed to death, as well as to increase knowledge of this animal. Having supported this project for many years, the UKWCT is very interested in this new development.

Vladimir, who inherited his passion for the wolf from his father, has been working for over a decade to change public opinion and create

nion of the wolf?



All photos © Russia Today
Main picture: Laetitia Baker with wolves
Top right: wolf cub
Bottom right: young wolves at the rehabilitation centre

a safe haven for the wolf cubs he manages to save from hunters and zoos. To date, 26 wolf cubs have been saved and released back into the wild; this year 19 more are being raised. Over the years he has developed a unique way of rearing the cubs with minimal contact to increase their success rate when released. The biological station where he is based now has an impressive education centre to teach young people a different view point about the old enemy many of their elders believe the wolf to be. Around the station 35 square kilometres of protected land provide a safe haven for the large carnivores in Vladimir's care.

He works alongside Laetitia Becker, a young French biologist who has turned her back on society to live hermit-like out in a remote hut, working with the young wolves before they are released as yearlings. Laetitia's only contact with humans is a weekly trip into town with Vladimir to pick up supplies and send emails home to family and friends.

Every year in late spring, cubs come from overcrowded zoos or are obtained from hunters who have shot the adult wolves and taken the cubs from their dens. The cubs' age and behaviour towards people will determine how they are reared. They might be raised free in the forest or be fostered out to adult wolves or placed in a woodland enclosure. To date the UKWCT has donated around £11,000 to this project and continues to support this important work. Denise Taylor, one of the UKWCT directors, has visited the project and commented how remote and basic the facilities are. The work, however, is essential in educating and helping to change policies for large carnivores in Russia.

The Russia Today website has live webcams and daily updates of the young wolves as they progress through wolf school ready for release in the spring. It also has a library of entertaining and educational video clips of wolves eating berries or learning lessons through play.

Some of these behaviours have never been caught on film before.

The cost of raising these cubs is not cheap. Some of the cubs have to be bought to save their lives, food costs about one euro a day per wolf. There is also a need to buy expensive radio collars, (around 2,000 euro each), and tracking equipment to research where the released wolves go after they leave the project and the safety of the nature reserve. All this data helps in the argument to change Russian policy on this vital species.

So will this Russian news network change public opinion? Only time will tell but the UKWCT will continue, with your help, to support this forward thinking project in the future.

Visit www.russiatoday.com/wolves to find out how to donate to this project. To visit the project website direct go to www.russianwolves.com

Wolf Park Visit



Matt Booth and Wolves of Wolf Park, Indiana

Matt Booth recently travelled to America to attend a weekend wolf seminar at Wolf Park in Indiana. Wolf Park is the inspiration behind the UKWCT and is similar in its aims. It has a strong scientific background with ethology playing a key role. It currently has eighteen wolves, two coyotes and three foxes, plus a herd of bison.



A variety of topics were covered during the three day seminar and these included an introduction to ethology and wolf cub socialisation. My particular interest was in any subject that covered handling, training and socialising captive wolves safely.

On the first day we were given a tour of the site by key staff Pat Goodman and Monty Sloan. We then went for a walk with one of the Eastlake wolves called Kiri who is one of the largest wolves I have yet to meet!

Over the next few days we went in with the main pack. It is quite something to go in with five adult male wolves when in my limited experience I've only met a couple and not usually at the same time. I am coming to understand that having more males adds to the stability of the pack and they are not necessarily more intolerant of strangers. Indeed, during our visits Kailani, the dominant female,

was put in the holding pen as she likes to provoke the other wolves and raise their excitement levels. The last thing visitors need is for the wolves to become "twinkly", as Pat Goodman likes to describe wolves that are getting ready to cause mischief.

When one of the wolves is being anti-social they use treats to call them away to perform displacement behaviours. The wolves would often perform these without being asked, just to get the treat. Through this the wolves have learnt a number of wonderful and useful behaviours to get rewards. This makes for excellent photo seminars. Have you ever seen a wolf on a seesaw? The result of this work to socialise their wolves effectively ensures visitors can be around them as safely as possible, giving an intensely rewarding experience.

Since the wolves are handled so much and positive behaviours reinforced, the

wolf park staff are able to give injections without sedation; this was demonstrated when a booster shot was required. The wolves are trained to lie back in a bunny fashion against staff while their chest is rubbed; this relaxes them enough for blood samples to be taken. Indeed, it can be difficult to get them to sit up and walk away. From the perspective of keeping wolves captive with the minimum of stress, Wolf Park is a success.

So that was my visit to Wolf Park. It was a truly awesome experience. I got to spend plenty of time with the wolves and of course to socialise with many of the staff who are wonderful and friendly.

Matt Booth is a UKWCT volunteer.

To find out more about Wolf Park and their education programmes visit www.wolfpark.org



Compass Education and Training - Wolf Studies Diploma

It is probably true to say that most dog lovers feel some degree of affinity with wolves as well; this is, after all, the rather majestic beast of legends that their much loved pet is related to. Unfortunately, this is the way that most studies of wolves are directed, making comparisons between the domestic dog and the wolf. The Compass Wolf Studies course, however, looks at the various wild sub-species of wolves from a zoological perspective, leaving their domesticated cousins as a separate study topic.

An added advantage for students who study wolves with Compass is that they will be eligible to apply for Student Fellowship of the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) and the advantages that brings, including complementary car entrance to Whipsnade and unlimited entry.

Wolf Studies Diploma

The wolf studies programme has come about as a result of popular demand. Many dog owners, wildlife enthusiasts and conservationists have asked for an educational course to be written to cover this fascinating subject.

Course Modules

1. History and Classification of the Wolf.

This module examines the wolf's ancestry and how it is classified. There is also a more in depth look at the Red Wolf and the Ethiopian Wolf.

2. The Grey Wolf.

The grey wolf has many sub-species and they are all covered here. They are found from Mexico to the Arctic and Russia to Egypt and include the Indian and the timber wolf.

3. Anatomy, reproduction and diet.

This module looks at how the wolf is biologically 'built', reproduction and reproductive behaviour. It also covers hunting behaviour and diet.

4. Social Behaviour.

The wolf is a highly social animal, so communication and social hierarchies are important factors to study, along with territoriality and its interaction with non-prey animals.

5. Threats to the Wolf's Survival.

The wolf's continued existence is threatened by many things, from disease to hunting and habitat loss. Population statistics and distribution is also examined.

6. Conservation and the Future.

This module is largely theoretical as nobody knows what the future holds. Captive breeding, reintroduction and habitat protection are discussed.

Additional Information

The course is available in two formats, one is printed and bound and is delivered through the post. The other has exactly the same information but is delivered by email. The latter has particular appeal to overseas students because it eliminates postal delays and charges. Either option is supported by access to a personal tutor for advice and guidance by telephone or email if necessary.

Past students range from those with an academic interest to those whose work is either directly or indirectly involved with wolves.

Compass is the UK's most widely available, officially approved private course provider specialising in animal related home study courses and funding is available for people living in Scotland. In addition to Britain, Compass is also a member of the European Association for Distance Learning and international students are spread around Europe and the rest of the world.

For more information about this and other courses visit www.compass-education.co.uk

facing the predator:

Peter Cairns is
a freelance
nature
photographer,
writer and
co-founder
of the
Tooth & Claw
predator
project

I was recently asked to make a conference presentation addressing the thorny issue of predator re-introductions and whether or not we're ready. By 'predator' I'm talking about the big stuff - lynx, bear and, of course, wolf. I was given around 25 minutes to try and bring some context to a discussion that has developed over 25 years and will likely continue well beyond the next 25. A discussion which is undoubtedly gaining prominence; a discussion that for the first time has real substance, but a discussion nevertheless, which is not about the wolf or the lynx - this is a discussion that challenges our very custodianship of the land. It lashes out at our sense of control and touches the very core of society's values.

I could have talked about ecological niches, ecosystem services, trophic cascades etc. But I didn't. For one, I'm barely qualified but, more importantly, I don't think the science stuff matters. It's irrelevant. For most people, it's meaningless. At this point I felt the glare of several scientist friends burning deep into my soul at such flippancy, but I was serious: I don't think science does matter.

Our fair and green countryside is doing just fine isn't it? It's neat and properly ordered and we've exercised our rightful dominion over nature. Why would we want to bring back animals that would change all that? What's the point? Where's the benefit? The wider ecological implications of predator-prey relationships are completely irrelevant to most people; so trying to 'sell' the science in my view is a waste of time. For now at least.

It's public opinion that drives political policy and without sufficient public appetite to see large predators returned, I believe the scientific community will not even be called upon to lend weight to the discussion. The decision to restore species like wolves to Britain is down to us - ordinary people - and our perceptions, our beliefs and our values.

Now, I hope I'm not being overly cynical but just ask yourself. In the present political climate of ultra-conservatism, what politician in the right mind is going to stick their neck on the line and suggest returning wolves to a sanitised countryside that for generations we've grown comfortable with? A countryside where jobs and productivity outweigh

All photographs Peter Cairns

Read more about our complex relationships with wolves and other predators in Peter's book *Tooth & Claw*.

Buy at www.toothandclaw.org.uk.
£20 + p&p



are we ready?

ecological integrity. A countryside that has, to be fair, changed radically since these animals were last here - culturally, as well as physically.

So science doesn't matter... at least not yet anyway. It's public opinion, the cultural mindset, that matters here and now.

And this brings into play a hurdle equal to any objection that might be raised by farmers or game shooting interests - that of public indifference. For much of Britain, it makes no difference whether there are wolves in Scotland, pine martens in the New Forest or wildcats in Snowdonia. It's irrelevant. What is relevant is the winner of 'I'm a Celebrity' or 'X Factor' or... well, whatever. So how do you reach out to this audience? How do you bring about relevance of natural processes into their lives? How

do you make nature cool and sexy? How do you fuel a shift in values?

Of course, it's not easy and I'm reluctant to draw analogies with America but there's an interesting insight to be gained from what happened there. As readers of this magazine will know, wolves were reintroduced to the Northern Rockies in 1995 - only sixty years after The Americans had got rid of them. So how did a country that eradicated wolves come to restore them such a short time later?

Education. A small but determined and professional group of advocate organisations invested heavily in a major education and awareness campaign, which ultimately gained sufficient public favour to force the political hand. They took the wolf and its story onto the streets. They got the everyday public excited about this animal. They marketed it - warts and all - and the perspective of the American public changed. And for enough people in America - enough being that number

needed to sway political policy - having the wolf back became important.

This is not some kind of black magic; it's already been done here in Britain. The RSPB and others have done a great marketing job with red kites, peregrines and sea eagles. But perhaps large carnivores are different? Then again, perhaps not. It's now unthinkable for most people in Britain not to have these birds around but sixty years ago, few people attached any value to them.

If it can be done with birds of prey, why not larger predators? And let's face it, if you can't sell a wolf, then there's something seriously wrong with your marketing.

Returning to the question: are we ready to face the predator? In my view, no. Could that change in the future? In my view, yes. Should it change? Well, that still very much depends on whom you're asking, but one thing is for sure. It's not about habitat suitability and prey densities - it's about what goes on in *our* heads.

Peter Cairns



The Birth of Wolf Conservation in the UK

Sue Hull, founder of the Wolf Society of Great Britain

I have been asked if I could write a bit about the history of some of the wolf organisations and other wolfy happenings in the UK. My involvement started in 1985 when after searching the country for information on wolves and any organisations that might exist I realised that in fact there was nothing. It is hard to get across to people now just how little there was in those days. No "wolfy" calendars, no cuddly wolf toys, no clubs or societies. I took a decision to set up my own organisation for those with a passion for all things wolf. I put an advert in the "Sled Dog", the magazine for all the sledding breeds asking if there were others like me who were interested in forming a society to promote interest in wolves.

The response was splendid, especially considering the low numbers of people who were approached and the inaugural meeting of the Wolf Society of Great Britain was held on September 29th 1985 in Surrey with over 40 people in attendance. I believe this was the start of organised wolf groups in the UK. I subsequently learned that we were only the third wolf group in Europe having been just pipped to the post by Grupo Lobo of Portugal and Varggruppen of Sweden. These other two groups were lucky in so much as they still had wolves in the wild for which to campaign. In the UK we were left with the task of trying to alter the image of the wolf in the minds of a public who were largely puzzled by what we were trying to do. In addition, the Society felt that even if it never proved to be possible in practice it was a healthy thing to at least discuss the possibility of eventual reintroduction. There followed many years of gradually increasing awareness and meeting up with a very diverse group of people who were either just interested in wolves or who already kept captive animals.

From quite early on I became aware of Roger and Tsa Palmer who had a pair of wolves. The first time I



Sue Hull with Chinook, Wolf Park by Monty Sloan

"...after searching the country for information on wolves and any organisations that might exist I realised that in fact there was nothing."

met them was when they had moved to Beenham and also had a young wolf, Katmai, who if I remember rightly was from either West Midland Safari Park or possibly Woburn. The packs from these two Safari Parks shared a common ancestry at that time. The wolves in the UK were generally assigned as *Occidentalis* although the origin of most of the wolves in the UK at that time was lost in obscurity. Presumably they came from the North West Territories of Canada originally and certainly looked distinctly North American in type. Long ago there were certainly European wolves at London Zoo and I have a newspaper cutting showing a gentleman posing with a group of animals that certainly look very European. These wolves were evidently socialised and the impression is that he was quite a well-known celebrity of the era; it was dated around the early 1900's.

As well as a range of zoos and parks who kept unsocialised wolves there were also a number of individuals around the country who kept small numbers of tame animals. Some of these dated from the time before the introduction of the Dangerous Wild Animals act in the late 70's. Others like Tony Haighway of Wolf Watch UK had

picked up the pieces when small private zoos were closed down. In Tony's case he took on a pair of animals when Southam Zoo near Coventry was closed. The owner of this particular establishment is reported on occasions to have driven around the town with a tiger or a leopard in the back of his car, as substantiated by a friend of mine who met him with a tiger in the multi-storey car park there! He also owned a wolf. Wolfy was socialised but lived in the most appalling conditions with his Hybrid daughter. He had been bred to a German Shepherd and the resulting offspring

"...a friend of mine met him with a tiger in the multi-storey car park "

eventually founded a bit of a dynasty of Shepherd crosses. There was even a litter of three quarter bred Hybrids. These animals turned up in all sorts of places over the next few years although I personally never saw one of the 75% ers. Gradually the percentage of wolf in these lines declined and I am not sure that there are any around today. The vast majority of reported Hybrids in this country have no wolf at all in them

"by the mid 1990's the wolf was clearly considered to be a very charismatic animal, at least in those areas where there were no wild ones!"

but that, as they say, is another story.

"Wolfy" was a difficult boy as although he was socialised the fact that he was a) male and b) not young, coupled with the depressing conditions in which he had lived made him a serious challenge for Tony. It is to Tony's great credit that he bonded with Wolfy and was able to give him a long and contented life.

Wolfy's Hybrid daughter, Minski, was another matter however. Like some other Hybrids that I have known she was actually more intransigently shy than a pure wolf. Presumably nobody at Southam Zoo had hand reared her or if they did then the fact that she had lived the early part of life in purely lupine company meant that she was never able to be handled by humans and was also extremely difficult to contain securely. By contrast, one of her sisters who was hand raised and then lived with a pack of Huskies in the early days of dog sledding in this country was for the most part a reasonably sociable animal able to mix with humans and dogs alike. She, however, retained some of the rather typical behaviour of female wolves towards certain other females in the pack and would have killed them given half a chance.

At least one female pure wolf was acquired for use in film work and was kept in what I felt were rather unsuitable conditions in a kennel block behind an ordinary suburban house. However, these people eventually moved to Holland I believe and to a, hopefully, improved facility. She was a very sweet animal although the owners seemed to know little about wolves and were puzzled by the fact that she could not be successfully house trained!

Once the Wolf Society was up and running it was amazing the numbers of people that became involved. Sadly our activities were limited by a lack of wild wolves in the UK. It's not easy being a conservation organisation with nothing to conserve and without even any ambassador wolves for people to meet. We gave lectures, ran visits, and conferences and campaigned for conservation projects around the world – not too many in those days! One of the most deserving causes for

us was Grupo Lobo the Portuguese organisation that was desperately trying to rescue the last few wolves in Portugal. Robert Lyle who founded Grupo Lobo and who is sadly no longer with us, did a wonderful job and was always happy to welcome Wolf Society members.

From very early on one of our Committee members, Colin Elford was in touch with Erich Klinghammer of Wolf Park in the USA. Wolf Park had not been going all that long then and Erich was a wonderful and immensely enthusiastic contact. Wolf Park has always been and still is the best place for learning about captive wolf behaviour and has had a tremendous

around the world – all in one regular publication. I still miss it actually!

Gradually people around the world became more ecologically aware and as a part of this, recognised the wolf's unique place in the ecosystem. Alongside this was a tremendous awakening in the field of animal behaviour and in particular of domestic dog behaviour and by the mid 1990's the wolf was clearly considered to be a very charismatic animal, at least in those areas where there were no wild ones! We haven't really come as far as I might have hoped in terms of possible reintroduction in this country but the situation in other areas of the world has, for the most part, greatly

"Gradually people around the world became more ecologically aware"



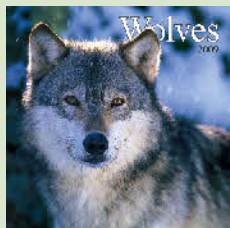
Roger Palmer, Eric Klinghammer and Sue Hull

influence on me personally. Erich introduced me to many other people involved in wolf conservation and also to a particularly splendid publication that was to provide us with a major source of up to date information over many years. This was Janet Lidle's publication "Wolf". This magazine was a little "dry" for some, being in black and white and having only a limited number of photos. What it did have was pretty exhaustive information on current wolf research particularly in North America but also many reports from

improved. So far as the UK goes, I am in agreement with David Macdonald of WILDCRU that the best bet for reintroduction of a large carnivore has got to be the European Lynx. Only if we can successfully manage these secretive and solitary hunters will we ever have a chance to have the wolves back.

Sue Hull is a wolf expert and animal behaviourist. She also owns a pack of working Huskies.

Spring Sale - great discounts, but hurry! stocks are limited



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Month to view. Opened size 35.5x18cm

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featuring the Trust's wolves. Opens to A3 with month to page layout.

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19.5 x 19.5cm
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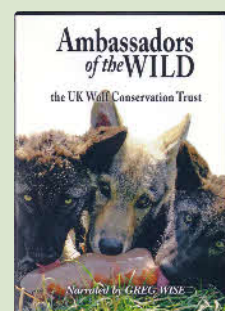
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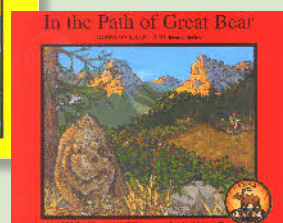
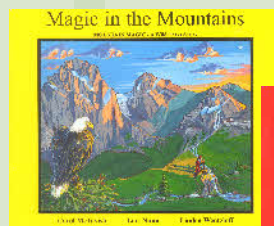
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Lyndsey Selley: Wildlife Painter



Lyndsey Selley is a self-taught painter. As a child she loved drawing, "I remember being fascinated with the beautiful faces on the covers of my sister's magazines and I would try to copy them".

After leaving school Lyndsey joined Royal Crown Derby as a figurine painter and part of this role included travelling to Canada to demonstrate the work. Other roles include being a freelance illustrator and designer for cards, children's books and calendars. After this she decided she wanted to spend more time on her own paintings. To help fund this she worked part time with Denby Pottery.

Lyndsey has always felt that it is the eyes of the animals that are fascinating, believing they show the soul of the subject. When she was an illustrator she was taught to use Gouache, using small brushes as it allowed her to pay attention to details and it is clear from her paintings how this adds to the atmosphere of her work.

Since 1994 Lyndsey has concentrated solely on wildlife art. Travelling to Africa enabled her to experience her subjects in their natural environments. She began experimenting with larger brushes and introduced more light quality and camouflage. She also visited zoos and wildlife parks in the UK to add to her reference library.

Lyndsey lives in Derbyshire with her husband and two children and often travels around the UK giving exhibitions of her work. She has won numerous awards, and her paintings have been sold in Christies auctions. Amongst her many wildlife paintings are some beautiful works of wolves.

To view Lyndsey's paintings look visit
www.wildlife-artist.com/jserv/lyndsey.jsp

Making Tracks

wolves in the media and the arts

Carl Brenders - Wildlife Artist

If you are trying to find beautiful and photographic realism in paintings of wolves, then look at Carl Brenders' work. He has a love of all creatures and this is evident in the paintings he produces. He is a dedicated conservationist and has raised awareness for environmental and conservation causes through his art.

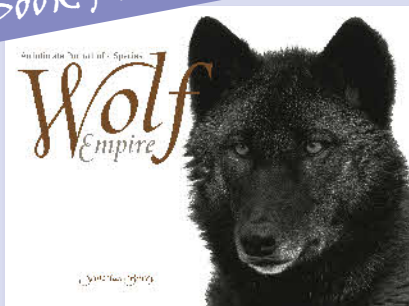
In his words: "For me, the wolf represents the symbol of conservation of our wild world more so than the panda. I have great respect for the wolf because it managed to survive even though it was poached, killed and massacred for centuries. Wolves are among the most interesting animals because of the social rules of the wolf pack. I will never tire of painting and drawing wolves; the satisfaction of rendering that wild glance in their eyes is too great."



To see Carl's paintings visit:
www.galleryone.com/artframing/brenders.html
www.artandnature.com/brenders.html
thesoutherngallery.co.uk/artist-profile/carl-brenders

www.allposters.co.uk is an inexpensive way to purchase some of his prints.

Book Review



224 pages, hardback, 229 x 305mm
Available from our online shop - £19.99
www.ukwolf.org

Wolf Empire by Scott Ian Barry

From the award-winning photographer the most comprehensive and stunning visual record of wolves ever published in black-and-white photography. In more than one hundred images of fur and teeth, texture and shape, light and shadow - many printed here for the first time - Barry creates a highly intimate look at a world seldom seen by the human eye. Having spent over three decades observing and photographing wolves, Barry is one of the most knowledgeable and dedicated champions of the species.

In *Wolf Empire*, he invites us to enter their amazing and mysterious universe, encouraging us to see ourselves as part of a living planet, one that is shared with and made infinitely more interesting by these marvellous animals. As Barry helps us to understand the wide array of behaviour and personality of wolves, shown here in words and photographs, we see what fascinating creatures they truly are. In sharp contrast to the sinister image of the wolf from folklore and fairy tale, Barry's photographs depict wolves as highly intelligent, social, affectionate, and often playful beings.

WOLVES VS HUMANS

THE UKWCT ANNUAL SEMINAR

SUNDAY 10th MAY 2009, 10:00 - 17:30



Marco Musiani, Faculty of Environmental Design, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2N 1N4

Marco is an Assistant Professor of Landscape Ecology. He was born in Rome, the city of the famous she-wolf. Marco conducted research on wolf management in Italy with "La Sapienza" University, the University of Siena and the National Research Council, in Poland with the Polish Academy of Sciences, and internationally with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (wolves kill livestock and this impacts food). Currently, his research focuses on genetics and movements of wolves and other large mammals in Canada and the U.S.

COST £20 PER PERSON
non-members £25
(Lunch not included)

PROGRAMME:

10:00 - 13:00

Open Morning at the UKWCT to view the wolves, take photos and have lunch.

11.00 Auction of wolf and animal items.

Caterers will be on site, or bring a picnic.

13:00

Transfer to Heath End Village Hall (16 minutes' drive from the centre). Refreshments.

13:30

Seminar begins

17:30

Seminar ends.

Please note that there will be one further coffee break during the afternoon.



Alistair J. Bath Ph.D Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Human Dimensions in Wildlife Management, Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Research and Teaching Interests:

- Resource management, wildlife and recreational resources and park planning
- Human dimensions in wildlife resource management
- Public involvement and resource management decision-making
- Conservation parks' education and information programmes
- Attitudes towards wolves and wolf management in Portugal
- Human dimensions in forestry management issues in Newfoundland.



Dr Claudio Sillero-Zubiri. WILDCRU, Oxford University. Head of Conservation for the Born Free Foundation, IUCN Canid Specialist Group.

Claudio was born in Argentina, where he graduated in zoology in 1984 from the Universidad Nacional de La Plata, and obtained his DPhil from Oxford University in 1994 on the behavioural ecology of the Ethiopian wolf. He joined WildCRU in 1988 and is currently responsible for its overseas projects. He has become increasingly involved in the relationships between protected areas and their surrounding rural communities. This has led Claudio to become familiar with biodiversity conservation policies and practices, culminating in his current work on mitigating conflict between wildlife and human interests, and the establishment of the People & Wildlife Initiative - a focused network addressing this worldwide issue. Current projects also include the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme, Andean cats and transfrontier conservation in South America, and the Satpura Landscape Tiger Project in central India.

WOLVES VS HUMANS: UKWCT SEMINAR BOOKING FORM

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS and then return the form to UK Wolf Centre, Butlers Farm, Beenham, Reading, RG7 5NT, UK.

Title: First name or initials: Surname:

Address:
.....

Postcode: Country:

Telephone: Email:

No. of tickets: Members at £20.00 Non-members at £25.00 Total payment:

I enclose a cheque made payable to The UK Wolf Conservation Trust ☐ or wish to pay using the card below ☐ (please tick as appropriate)

Card type: Visa ☐ Delta ☐ MasterCard ☐ Maestro ☐ Solo ☐ Card number:

Start date:/...../..... Expiry date:/...../..... Security no: (last three digits on security strip) Issue number:

Name on card:

Confirmation of booking will be either by email or letter. Refunds will **only** be given if the seminar is cancelled.

MARCH

Sunday 1 :	Members' Walk - full
Monday 2 :	Northgate Primary School visit
Friday 6 :	Dunnanie Primary School visit
Saturday 7 :	Wild Arena Photography Day
Sunday 8 :	Members' Walk - full
Monday 9 :	Slinfold Primary School visit
Friday 13 :	Mammal Trust Walk - private
Saturday 14 :	Members' Walk - full
Monday 16 :	Pastel Workshop
Wednesday 18 :	Wolves to Sparsholt College
Thursday 19 :	Howl Night
Saturday 21 :	Members' Walk - full
Sunday 22 :	Members' Walk - full
Wednesday 25 :	Adult Wolf Keepers' Day
Saturday 28 :	Members' Walk - full



APRIL

Thursday 2 :	Oxfordshire Police Dog Section - private
Saturday 4 :	Members' Walk - full
Sunday 5 :	Walkabout Dog Training Club Walk - private
Monday 6 :	Children's Wolf Keeper Day
Wednesday 8 :	Easter Egg Hunt and Wolf Walk
Friday 10 :	Members' Walk
Saturday 11 :	Members' Walk - full
Tuesday 14 :	Easter Egg Hunt and Wolf Walk
Thursday 16 :	Children's Wolf Keeper Day - full
Friday 17 :	Children's Wolf Walk
Saturday 18 :	Members' Walk - full
Sunday 19 :	Wild Arena Photographic Day
Wednesday 22 :	Mobility Walk 2.00pm
Sunday 25 :	Members' Walk
Sunday 26 :	Members' Walk
Tuesday 28 :	East Durham College visit
Wednesday 29 :	Sparsholt College visit

MAY

Friday 1 :	Howl Night
Saturday 2 :	Members' Walk
Sunday 3 :	GEOTA Walk - private
Sunday 10 :	UKWCT Seminar
Saturday 16 :	Cobham Dog Training Club Walk - private
Sunday 17 :	Members' Walk
Saturday 23 :	Members' Walk
Sunday 24 :	Members' Walk
Monday 25 :	UKWCT Open Day
Wednesday 27 :	Children's Wolf Keeper Day
Friday 29 :	Children's Wolf Walk
Saturday 30 :	Private Wolf Walk
Sunday 31 :	Members' Walk



For details & availability visit www.ukwolf.org
All dates are correct at the time of going to press

Forthcoming Events at the UKWCT

Easter School Holiday Events

6th & 16th April: Children's Wolf Keeper Day 10am - 3pm.

Come dressed to get mucky and see what the wolves and their keepers get up to during the day. £25 per person. 10 years + **STOP PRESS: 16th now full.**

8th & 14th April: Easter Egg Hunt and Wolf Walk 11am

Have a walk with the wolves, hunt for Easter eggs and prepare a special treat for the wolves. Come prepared to get mucky! £13.50 per person. 6 years +

17th April: Children's Wolf Walk 11am. Take a walk with the UKWCT wolves. Includes a short talk and tour of the centre.

£12 per person, 6 years +



UKWCT Seminar - 10th May 2009 - see page 22 for details and booking form

Fathers' Day Walk - 21st June

What do you get the father who has everything? How about coming on our special Fathers' Day Walk? The event includes a short talk and a walk with our wolves, as well as an opportunity to have a photo memento and refreshments. Children must be 12+

Sunday, 21st June from 10.30am to 1.00pm
£30 per adult, £10 children (12 to 16).

May Half Term Children's Events

27th May: Children's Wolf Keeper Day 10am-3pm

Come dressed to get mucky and see what the wolves and their keepers get up to during the day.
£25 per person, 10 years +

29th May: Children's Wolf Walks, 10.30am or 2pm.

Take a walk with the UKWCT wolves. Includes a short talk and tour of the centre. £12 per person, 6 years +

UKWCT WOLF CENTRE OPEN DAY

25th May & 19th July 2009 • 11am - 5pm

£5 for adults and non-members

£3 for members and children under 12

- Look around the Wolf Trust • Photography sessions both from the platform and from the mound •
- Ask the experts about living with wolves • Watch the wolves being given meds • Listen to them howling
- Children's activities available • Badgers • Nature Trail • Pond Dipping • Refreshments available.

For more information visit our website: www.ukwolf.org

Howl Nights

19th March at 6.30pm;

1st May at 7.00pm

£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.)

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

new

new merchandise for 2009 - see also www.ukwolf.org



sea foam blue



forest green



sand

I've walked with wolves

I'VE WALKED WITH WOLVES T-SHIRT

UKWCT motif to the front and I've walked with wolves on the back. 100% cotton
Ladies' fitted T-shirt, sizes 8 - 20, colours: black, white & sea foam blue - £17.25

Men's T-shirt, sizes S - XXXL, colours: black, sand, forest green - £16.00

Children's T-shirt sizes 3/4 - 11/12, colours: black & sand - £12.99

UKWCT BEANIE

One size.
100% acrylic
£11.99



new



WOLF IN A CAN

Suitable for age 3+
£4.50



sky blue



stone



bottle green

new



POLO SHIRT

£17.00

Ladies' sizes: 8 - 18, black, sky blue

Men's sizes: S - XL, black, stone, bottle green

65% polyester/35% cotton.

see page 20 for our great spring sale!

Delivery charges apply - please see page 20