



# WOLF CHRONICLE



## From the Editor

### Dear Members









A very happy New Year to you all and I hope that you had a fantastic Christmas and received lots of presents. This winter some of you came to see the wolves looking magnificent in their thick winter coats and we thank you for continuing to support us and help us to raise money to give to the 20 projects abroad that work to keep wolves safe in the wild. So far we have been able to donate £343,000 to projects. We could not do this without your help.

The wolves all appreciated the crackers the children on the Christmas cracker event made them. The



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naughty Arctics pulled their tree down before the event, so we had to replace it.

Nuka licked all the cream cheese off his sister's Christmas fish and egg cakes and then ran off with his own cake and a pile of crackers to eat, whilst Mosi did a wee on crackers to say they were hers before gathering a pile to guard from Torak for the rest of

the day. The visitors were fascinated by the different wolf behaviour.

The wolves are looking forward to the Valentines Wolfy Treats event & also Easter eggstravaganza event when children will fill cardboard eggs with meaty treats and give the wolves goose eggs. Book early as places on all the events quickly get filled up.

Do please send in letters and photos to put in the magazine as we love to hear about your interest in wolves and any fundraising you do.



Wendy



# XMAS CRACKER EVENT

This was a really fun activity that all the children and wolves enjoyed. The children filled toilet roll middles with an assortment of wolf friendly treats, such as black pudding, sausages, cheese, fish and hot dogs. The cardboard rolls were then wrapped in festive Christmas wrapping paper to make crackers. The wolves were moved into their side enclosures where they eagerly watched the children put the crackers on the Christmas trees in their main enclosures.

Wolfy Christmas cakes made of fish and eggs and covered in cream cheese were also given to the wolves and once the children had left the enclosures the wolves were let back in to devour the treats.

It was an ideal opportunity to take lots of photographs and also to watch and learn about the different wolf behaviour.



## WOLF OR DOG XMAS CAKE

This is the recipe I used for the wolves 'cakes.

### Ingredients

Large tin of any fish (not in tomato sauce)

One egg

10 tablespoons of flour

Mix it all together and add a tablespoon of water if too thick. It should resemble a sponge mix .

Pour into a shallow dish and bake at 190 degrees for 30 minutes ( check after 25 minutes) or microwave for 10 minutes.

When cool "ice" with cream cheese and decorate with slices of hot dogs



# HOW OUR WOLVES ARE FED

Our 10 captive wolves are so lucky that they can lie on their platforms or mounds in the sun surveying their human friends working and watching for their individually named food buckets to appear, whilst their cousins in the wild have to travel many kilometres to find prey and even then not every hunt is successful. Wolves in the wild lead a feast and famine existence and when they do get food they gorge and can eat as much as a quarter of their body weight. They may then have to go for days without food. Their prey ranges from bison to deer, fish, hares, goats and birds. Although they are carnivores, wolves have been seen to eat nuts and berries when food is not available. Any food left is cached and eaten another day or buried by the den site for the breeding female to feed on. It is a hard life for wild wolves. Our wolves lead a more relaxed life with dinner arriving regularly and, whilst it is illegal in this country to give live prey to captive large mammals, they can catch any unfortunate birds, rodents or squirrels that voluntarily stray into their enclosures. Remains of bones or feathers are proof of this!



The food bill for our wolves is around £10,000 a year as they have beef from a local butcher that is fit for human consumption, chicken carcasses to provide calcium, chicken wings and legs and deer. A local farmer brings in rabbits and sometimes we get road killed deer given to us. The rabbits and deer are gutted in case the offal contains parasites. The fur and hair is left on to act as a cleanser for the bowel. Sometimes we get stomach lining from the abattoir and the wolves love this very smelly food, apart from Torak who won't touch it.

The different meats have to be kept in separate freezers in the food room as part of the Zoo licence requirement to prevent cross contamination of any pathogens. Staff and volunteers preparing the food have to wear rubber gloves and use antibacterial gel on their hands and surfaces and equipment are kept scrupulously clean and treated with an antibacterial spray. Defrosted food is kept in plastic boxes in fridges. There is even a fridge especially for the meat and egg ice lollies we make for the wolves for enrichment. The wolves have a starve day a week, which is varied, to emulate the feast and famine in the wild. Food is fed at different times each day, apart from the open days on a Wednesday, when the feeding is done at 2pm for the visitors to watch.



Turn over for more!



# HOW OUR WOLVES ARE FED



The amount of food they are given is based on research and varies according to the season, their age and how active they are and their approximate weight. Obviously older wolves that aren't very active don't need as much food as very active younger wolves. The food is weighed and cut into big chunks so that the wolves' teeth are kept healthy by chewing. Wolves have a special salivary gland in their throats that enables them to swallow large chunks of meat and bones-hence the term "wolfing food down". All the wolves have Flexijoint scattered on their food to help keep their joints flexible as they are all old in wolf terms. In the wild they would be lucky to survive beyond 6-8 years but in captivity they live up to 15 years. Detailed food logs are kept daily and inputted onto a computer spread sheet. (See below)

Date: 30/12/17 Time: 10:30:14 Handler: M.K.

Wolf	Feed weight						Total Weight Given	Feed returned						Total Weight Returned	
	Seal	Chicken	Deer	Rabbit	Kare	Paunch		Seal	Chicken	Deer	Rabbit	Kare	Paunch		
Total	1.2	0	0	0	0	0	1.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mel	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motom	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pukak	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tako	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motomo	1.6	0	0	0	0	0	1.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mai	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nika	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tundra	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tala	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

This enables the wolf keeper to see the pattern and types of food eaten by each wolf and the amount of food returned shows if we are over or under feeding. Wolves can get fatty deposits around their liver if they put on too much weight. In the wild they

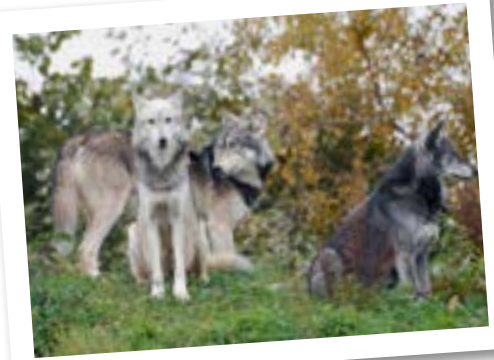
are designed to be lean and muscular in order to hunt. Students study these food logs and do research on different aspects of the types of food eaten and left. Unlike our domestic dogs, wolves cannot digest carbohydrates, processed foods or sugars easily, so we avoid giving them any of those regularly. Tomatoes must never be given to wolves either. On children's events the wolves have small amounts of cooked meats because it isn't safe for children to handle raw meats. Apart from a Wednesday when a chunk of deer is thrown over to each wolf to show the public how they eat in the wild, the wolves are hand fed individually through the fence by volunteers or work experience students. This ensures that each wolf has the correct amount of food and when they stop eating or start to bury food the bucket is taken away and the amounts of each meat left weighed and logged. Quite often the wolves aren't hungry and refuse food so that is recorded on the food log so that if it continues for a few days it may indicate a health problem which needs to be investigated.

For some reason the Arctic wolves gobble their food as if they had never eaten. Pukak pounds the ground and jumps at the fence! Motomo (the unsocialised wolf) and Tundra (very wary of strangers) usually have their food thrown over the fence and Motomo is brilliant at catching the meat in mid-air. It goes straight down his throat! Most of the other wolves take food gently.





# Trust Wolves



The shortening days and cooler nights prompted the wolves new coat growth and the wolves nearly double in size as the thick soft undercoat that keeps them warm to -50 degrees grew.



The Beenham pack are now six and half and fully adult wolves. In the wild they would probably be coming to the end of their lives but here at the Trust they are in their prime. The pack structure remains intact with Tundra as the dominant female, **Tala**, as subordinate and **Nuka** as the dominant male and peacemaker.

Nuka, with his curious and affectionate nature, is still happy to come out on public walks and do his duty as an ambassador wolf, much to the delight of his many admirers. The girls are still willing as well although **Tundra** has always been shy with strangers. This gives Tala a chance to come to the front for a short time, although she is always careful not to be too bold as this usually ends up in a telling off from her sister.

Wednesday open days are always a great way to observe the interactions and behaviour of the Beenhams and Nuka in particular, seems to know what his job is - to look stunning and provide ample photo opportunities! Tala too, is quite the poser, often stretching out and looking glamorous in her gorgeous silver and black coat. Tundra reverts to her shy self but can be glimpsed loping amongst the trees which gives the impression of a wolf in its wild habitat.

The Beenhams remain very popular and as long as they stay willing, we hope that they will continue to delight their fans on walks and continue to be the fascinating and affectionate characters that they are.



# Trust Wolves

Both **Torak** and **Mosi** look stunning in their thick winter coats. Torak's coat has autumnal shades and his long bushy tail has shades of browns and a brick red tip. He certainly is a stunningly handsome male. Mosi has kept to her beautiful silver grey look with splashes of black. It seems impossible that Torak and Mosi are nearly 12 years old, especially when they are seen racing around their enclosure and hurtling up and down the mound chasing each other. One afternoon they were hilarious to watch. Mosi had stolen some of Torak's deer and she had it in her mouth to bury when Torak appeared in front of her. She turned and ran the other way only to find Torak had trotted round some bushes to get in front. Again she ran to the mound just in time to see Torak coming over the top. Everywhere she tried to go with the meat dangling out of her mouth Torak got there first. In the end he got bored and sloped off to his favourite tree and left her to bury the meat. Mosi sometimes catches a pheasant or other bird who is investigating their enclosure. Magpies are the favourite with pigeons a close second.

Torak lopes round his territory daily and scent marks the perimeters as he would in the wild.

Mosi's favourite game is to empty her newly filled water bucket with her paws. She will do it each time the bucket is refilled until after 3 times the handler stops filling it. Game over, she trots away and the bucket is filled later on. It is very important to give captive animals a variety of enrichment, especially animals as intelligent as wolves. The enrichment walks are greatly enjoyed by both wolves and their favourite handlers. Other forms of enrichment include melons and coconuts stuffed with tasty treats and in the warmer months, ice lollies made from raw eggs, meats, pig's ears and cheese. Torak will lay and crunch his up whilst Mosi urinates on hers and waits until it has defrosted-that's if Torak doesn't steal it first! Hessian sacks smothered in citronella and eucalyptus oil are useful to deter flies and Torak and Mosi roll on them to cover themselves in the smells. Straw filled sacks soaked in perfumes are also favourites- Mosi particularly loves mens aftershave.

Truly an iconic pair!



Torak by Nikki Davies, Mosi by Bob Breach

Turn over for more!





# Trust Wolves

With winter coats now fully regrown, there have been the usual colour changes. **Mai** is even whiter than before – particularly her face and ears- and she has an awesome bushy silver tail. **Motomo's** tail is also stunning with the last few inches having a platinum-blond tip and he has retained the 'silverback' stripe from his ears to his tail.

Mai has once again lost her howl. The precise cause isn't known, but when she opens her mouth all that comes out is a high-pitched squeak or a dull croak. She doesn't appear to be experiencing any discomfort while trying to howl, or difficulty in swallowing. We are hoping it will clear up in time as before.

Both Mai and Motomo continue to enjoy harassing the Arctics. Motomo often charges backwards and forwards at maximum speed along the full length of the fence while Massak does the same on the other side.

If Mai obstructs his way, Motomo will leap straight over her without breaking stride. Mai and Motomo are adept at being passive-aggressive; they will both carry food and either parade up and down the fence, or carry it to a suitable spot where the Arctics can see it being eaten. Mai will often bury food in the grass tussocks a few feet in from the fence. Food-focused Pukak always falls for this neighbourly wind-up. It all helps provide mental stimulation and enrichment.

Mai and Motomo are both willing to supplement their diet with any pigeon or pheasant that makes the mistake of landing in the enclosure. Little piles of feathers are quite common. Though strangely, we never seem to find the bodies!

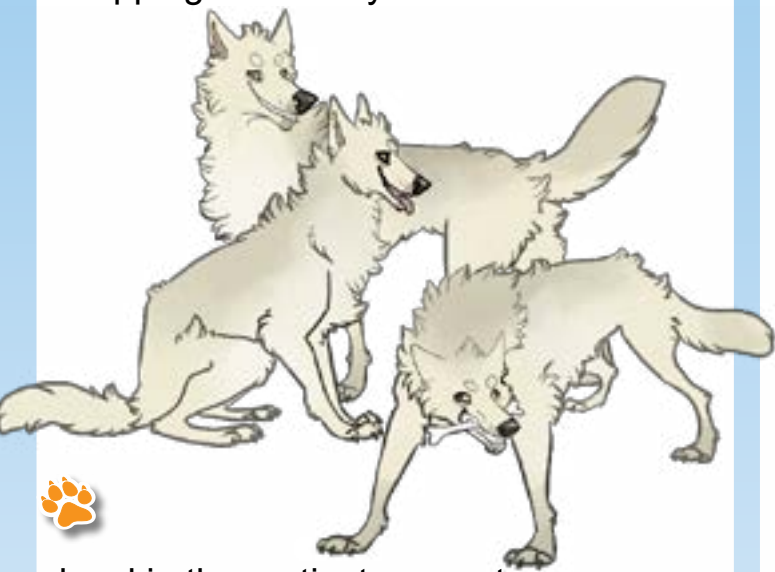


Turn over for more!



# Trust Wolves

The change in temperature means that our wolves' coats have changed to cope with the cold winter months to come. Towards the end of September beginning of October their thick seasonal undercoat started re-growing. Condensed soft fur, grey and white in colour produces a warm 'fleece' to prevent their body temperature dropping to a fatally low



level in the arctic temperatures as low as -70 degrees. Obviously here in balmy Beenham, **Massak, Sikko & Pukak** would never experience such low temperatures.

As suggested by their name, Arctic wolves survive in the coldest places on earth, however for them to do this successfully they have evolved several anatomical behavioural and physiological adaptations. Arctic wolves have proportionally smaller ears than other grey wolves; this adaptation reduces their surface area to lose heat from. The darker markings around their eyes giving an eyeliner effect helps to protect from the glare of the white of the snow. A counter current heat exchanger mechanism

in the paws allows them to remain at a lower temperature than their body's core, as the blood enters their paws it heats up therefore avoiding heat loss from the extremities. By reducing the heat loss, their paws will never 'stick' to the icy tundra. When out on enrichment walks, where a tractor has been previously parked in one of the fields and diesel has leaked, all three happily nose dive into the scent and roll without a care given. The walks provide plenty of opportunities for scent marking, sniffing new scents and rolling in fox or dog faeces.

Massak the dominant wolf continues to keep the cheeky Pukak, the lower ranking male, in line. Sikko keeps herself aloof from her two brother's tussles. However, she often takes the opportunity to snatch something they are fighting over! Massak, Sikko and Pukak remain firm favourites with visitors and people love to watch them being fed on our open days, as they literally do show the true meaning of 'wolfing' their food down, especially Pukak.



Pukak and Massak by Mike Collins





# WOLVES THAT LIVE IN UNUSUAL PLACES

Not all wolves live in normal habitats. Some have adapted to very unusual lifestyles in order to survive.

## Wolves that take refuge in minefields



In the Golan Heights area of Israel on the Syrian border, landmines and a strictly patrolled militarised zone makes it dangerous for humans, but oddly enough safe for wolves who are thriving in this unusual shelter. Cubs are raised and wolves can live without fear of persecution. Outside of this area the wolves are hunted and killed.

The landmines are not designed to be triggered by the weight of a wolf and the wolves' can detect where humans have planted the mines with their sense of smell so much greater than ours. This is a great example of how wolves can risk assess and learn.

## Radioactive Wolves

In 1986 there was a nuclear meltdown at the Chernobyl power plant in the Ukraine which left miles of land in radioactive ruins and an exclusion zone which even today is too radioactive for humans to visit for long periods, even with protective clothing. Over the last 30 years nature has reclaimed the land which humans destroyed, animals have moved back and it has become a post nuclear Garden of Eden populated by bison, beaver, horses, fish, and birds and ruled by the apex predator-the wolf. Everything is highly radioactive, but the wolves and other wildlife are flourishing in an environment that is deadly to humans. Scientists are studying the radioactive wolves to find out how they have adapted to such a hostile environment. The wolves can live in peace without fear of being hunted and killed.



Minefield - Itamar Yari, Radioactive - Bob Snaish



## Coastal or Sea Wolves

Most people think of wolves as land animals hunting deer and bison, yet another rarer subspecies exists: the coastal wolf or sea wolf, whose DNA is dramatically different from other wolves. These wolves live on the Pacific Coast of British Columbia in Canada and they hunt and fish in the water. Their lives revolve around the ocean and 90% of their diet is fish and the other 10 % muscles, herring eggs, barnacles, salmon and whale carcasses found on the beach. They will also predate upon otters and seals.

Ian McAllister, a wildlife photographer has been studying these unique wolves for decades and he said, “They are behaviourally distinct, swimming from island to island and preying on sea animals. They are also physically distinct-they are smaller in size and different from their mainland counterparts, partially due to their unusual diet. The wolves have the ability to swim for miles at a time and the longest distance recorded was 12 km. This is a truly unique species that must be preserved.”

All animals adapt to survive, but these wolves certainly have chosen unusual places to live and avoid human contact!



Sea Wolves: Ian McAllister





# Competition

To enter, simply write to the address below with the reason why you love wolves:

## WAYS OF THE WOLF COMPETITION

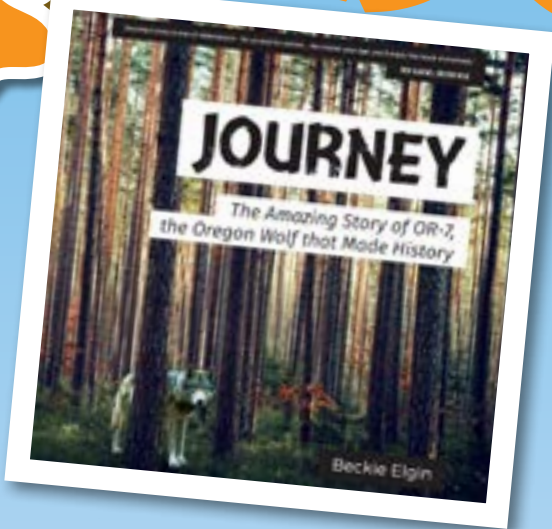
Marketing Department  
Hachette Children's Group  
Carmelite House  
50 Victoria Embankment  
London, EC4Y 0DZ



### Terms & Conditions:

1. This is a competition to win 1 of 3 copies of the book *The Ways of the Wolf*. The winner will receive a copy of the book and will receive four free entry tickets to the Wolf Trust on any Wednesday (11am – 4pm). The runners-up (x2) will receive a copy of the book. The runners-up will be drawn after the winner is chosen.
2. The winner will be selected from the correct entries received in accordance with these terms and conditions based on the following criteria: the entrant clearly states what they love about wolves and why. If entrants follow the criteria then the winners will be chosen at random. The winner shall be selected by an impartial member of the Marketing & Publicity team whose decision will be final.
3. The winner may see their entry posted on the Hachette Children's Group (hereafter the 'Company') website, Wolf Conservation Trust website and on other websites, Facebook and social media accounts connected to either company.
4. There is no purchase necessary to enter.
5. The competition opens at 12:01 am on 10th January 2018 and closes at 11:59 pm on 30th April 2018. Any entries received outside these specified times and dates will not be eligible for entry into the competition.
6. The competition is open to anyone except employees of the Company, their families, or anyone professionally connected to the competition either themselves or through their families. If the winner is under 18 years of age, the winner will be asked to have his or her guardian complete waivers, consent forms and/or other documentation as prerequisite for being awarded the prize.
7. Only one entry per person allowed. Second or subsequent entries will be disqualified.
8. The Company is not responsible for contacting or forwarding prizes to entrants who provide unclear or incomplete information or for entries lost, misdirected, delayed or destroyed.
9. The Company reserves the right to alter the prizes or cancel the competition without notice. No cash alternatives to prizes will be provided.
10. The winner's name will be published in the May edition of *Wolf Chronicle* magazine.
11. The Company will make available the name and county of the winner to anyone who requests this information by writing to the following address: Hachette Children's Group, Carmelite House, 50 Victoria Embankment, London, EC4Y 0DZ.
12. By entering the competition you agree to be bound by these terms and conditions.
13. This competition is being organised by the Marketing Department of Hachette Children's Group and the *Wolf Chronicle* magazine.

# Book Reviews

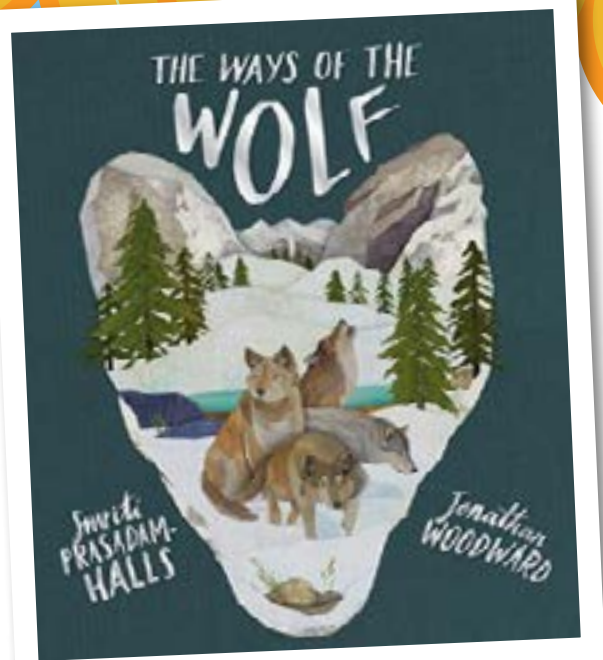


## JOURNEY - The Amazing Story of OR-7, the Oregon Wolf that made history by Beckie Elgin

OR-7's story is written through the eyes of the wolf himself. I think the book is very informative; within each chapter there is accurate detail into the lives of wolves, their history of persecution, their geographical ranges and other aspects.

The book focuses on OR-7 and the section of his life where he starts his own pack and describes in detail OR-7's journey across America mapping the vast amount of land that OR-7 travels. The layout of the book makes it easy to read and offers further reading and other useful websites to show how you can involve yourself with the conservation of wolves. Overall I would say this book is worth the read.

by Hannah-Marie Stanton



## The Ways of the Wolf by Smriti Prasadam-Halls .Illustrated by Jonathon Woodward

This is one of the most comprehensive, beautifully written children's natural history books that I have ever read. The outstanding illustrations bring the words to life and draw you into the fascinating world of the much misunderstood and wrongly feared animal-the wolf.

Learn all about pack life, cubs as they grow into adults, how they hunt and the prey they seek, where and how they live, their enemies and the bird that cleverly lives a symbiotic life with the wolf. Every aspect of a wolf's life is detailed in easy to read text with beautifully coloured illustrations on every page. The book seeks to dispel the myths and legends about wolves and encourages us to help protect these wonderful animals and their environment. This amazing book retails at £12.99 and is on sale in our shop and on our website.

A must for the bookshelf.

by Wendy Brooker





# Wolves Word Search

M Q Z F G J T V N U K A B A B  
 O D Y X V O F G H A R M O S I  
 T U S M R P K T U N D R A B C  
 O S G A S A M D F P R H K Y A  
 M T K I C B J A L L U O W H R  
 O W S X Y T C T S I K K O A C  
 K U P A R T H J C S R B A C T  
 B E E N H A M H B A A S A K I  
 Q T W R J L W O H Y H K T D C  
 L S B M C A N A D I A N G T P

P L N G T P  
 I A N D I A N A D I A N A D I A N  
 C S B M C A N A D I A N G T P  
 Q T W R J L W O H Y H K T D C  
 B E E N H A M H B A A S A K I  
 K U P A R T H J C S R B A C T  
 T U S M R P K T U N D R A B C  
 O W S X Y T C T S I K K O A C  
 M T K I C B J A L L U O W H R  
 A S G A S A M D F P R H K Y A  
 T U S M R P K T U N D R A B C  
 O D Y X V O F G H A R M O S I  
 M Q Z F G J T V N U K A B A B

- |        |          |
|--------|----------|
| TORAK  | TUNDRA   |
| MOSI   | NUKA     |
| MAI    | ARCTIC   |
| MOTOMO | BEENHAM  |
| PUKAK  | CANADIAN |
| SIKKO  | HOWL     |
| MASSAK | TALA     |

# ANSWERS

# Puzzle

# MASSAK ON THIN ICE!

Massak has found himself on the wrong side of the frozen pond. Can you find the safe route that will take him back to his pack?



Answer on p14

## *Junior Wolf Club Member*

I first started being interested in wolves when I was 5. I read a book with wolves in it and thought they were really beautiful creatures. I loved visiting the wolves at Wolf Conservation Trust but I haven't got a favourite Wolf because it's too difficult to choose, I love them all. I also loved the massive model of the wolf. If I see a toy Wolf in a shop I always save up to buy it, I've got 9 so far! My dream is to work with wolves one day. - Nancy age 7yrs.



**MASSAK  
ON THIN ICE!**

The answer is route B!

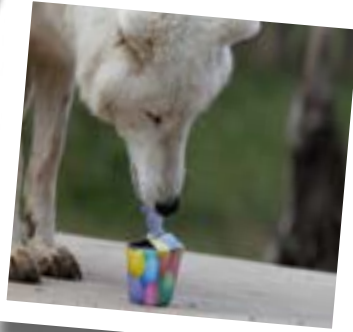


# Events

## Wednesday Visit Day

🐾 Every Wednesday 11am - 4pm  
Come along & see the wolves & at 2pm watch the wolves being fed. Additional children's activities will be held during school holidays. Pre booking not required. Junior member free entry on showing Junior member entry ticket.

Adults £8, children 3-11 £5, under 3's free.



## Valentine's Wolfy Treats

Thursday 15th February 10.30am - 12.30  
Making hearts for the wolves to eat, fill them with special wolfie treats & then hide them for the wolves to then find in the wolves enclosure (wolves will not be in same enclosure whilst treats are hidden) Places must be pre booked on 0118 971 3330. £10 per person, Junior Member £8

## Easter Eggstravaganza

Easter Eggstravaganza  
Tuesday 5th April 10.30am - 12.30  
Create egg enrichment for the wolves, as they have an eggstatic time !!! as they eat them all up. Places must be pre booked on 0118 971 3330. £10 per person, Junior Member £8

## Wolves Birthday Cake

🐾 Thursday 31st May 10.30am - 12.30pm  
Help decorate special cakes for the wolves to eat to celebrate their birthdays & then watch them wolf it down. £10 per person, Junior Member £8  
Places must be pre booked on 0118 971 3330.

# WOLF STONE



Find an oval shape stone, draw a rough outline & then infill with paint brush strokes a wolf & then varnish.