









LOOK!
AMAZING
PHOTO
COMPETITION!
See page 8!

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WOLF CHRONICLE

From the Editor

Dear Members

First of all a very Happy New Year to you! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and Santa brought you lots of treats. As I write, we've just had a big fall of snow which has been great fun as all the wolves, young and old, welcome it with such glee, as do we!

We've had lots going on here at the Trust this Christmas period. December saw the start of our new Arctic Encounter experiences where guests were invited to get up close and personal with Massak, Pukak and Sikko in their enclosure and spend the day learning all there is to know about Arctic wolves.

Some of you may have heard the sad news of Duma passing away in November. At 14½ years old, Duma was our oldest wolf.



Danny with Duma before her final illness.

It was discovered that she had cancer, but her spirit remained until the end. We all feel her loss as she was a true star and a fantastic ambassador for her kind. She was even nicknamed 'Queen of the Trust'! Sadly she has recently been joined by Lunca - see over the page for a tribute to our dear old girls.

Despite a sad start, 2013 is set to be a great year and we are already planning new events and Open Days for you to come and visit us. Check out the events page for the Open Day details!

I would like to thank all of you who have sent in photos and letters. Keep them coming and we'll try to include as many as we can in Wolf Chronicle. The wolves and I love hearing from you and we look forward to seeing you real soon!

Danny
Assistant Education Officer / Assistant Wolf Keeper



Duma

12th May 1998 – 12th November 2012

It is with great sadness that, following a short illness, Duma passed away in the early hours of Monday 12 November. The findings of a post mortem on Duma by our vet found her to have advanced pancreatic cancer.

At 14½ Duma was our oldest wolf here at the UKWCT and the last of the original North American wolves hand-reared by Roger and Tsa Palmer. Throughout her life Duma had a passion for people and took her work as an ambassador wolf very seriously. She attended many schools, country shows and local events and was inevitably responsible for changing peoples' views on wolves by winning over their hearts and minds with her loving personality, strong character and cheeky nature. Those of us who were lucky enough to work with or meet her at shows will remember her fondness for ice cream! She was allowed this as a special treat and would swallow it in one gulp!

Duma was unique, she touched and enriched so many lives that, although this is a very sad time for everyone who knew her, we all want to remember her for what she was - a wonderful animal and a true Ambassador Wolf.



Lunca by Jason Siddall

Lunca

3rd May 1999 – 9th January 2013

It is with deep sadness we have to advise you that Lunca was peacefully put to sleep on Wednesday 9th January. The result of a post mortem found that she had a malignant tumour on the spleen, with secondaries in the liver.

Lunca was 13 and our oldest wolf since Duma's death in November. She was the last of our European wolves at the Trust and at the time of their birth, she and her siblings were the only European wolves to have been born and hand-reared to maturity since they became extinct in Britain in the 1700s. Roger and Tsa Palmer, who raised them, were justifiably proud of this achievement and the European wolves played a great part in changing people's perception of the wolf.

In her final years, Lunca was a gentle soul who loved attention. She would roll over to have her belly rubbed which she loved. She kept a mischievous side and teased her neighbours, the Arctics, by walking along the fence carrying morsels of meat in her mouth. This was entertaining for Lunca but annoying for the Arctics!

Lunca will be sorely missed by everyone who knew her.

Duma and Lunca photos: Jason Siddall

News

Autumn passed in a damp haze for wolves and humans at the Trust and both species became used to having mud as a constant accompaniment to the events happening on site. The wolves took everything in their stride with their warm, waterproof coats, but there's no such thing as a waterproof coat for humans!

Nuka is turning into a wonderful ambassador wolf with his sweet and playful nature. He is maturing quickly and, at 20 months old, grows better looking by the day. His head is massive and is in proportion to the rest of his well-muscled body. He has finally grown into the huge paws he has had since he was a cub and his legs are sturdy and strong. He is very happy to meet and greet the public and thrives on attention, looking magnificent in his winter coat. Then his gentle side gets the better of him and he will often cover the hand of

the lucky person with slurpy licks. His physical strength is remarkable but he is learning to control this when interacting with his handlers. However, he still likes a joke and sometimes when being visited by volunteers in the enclosure, will take a flying leap off the platform over the head of the nearest person then jump back on the platform again, leaving the volunteer dizzy from trying to keep an eye on him. For all his striking physique, he loves having one of his human friends rub his belly for him. Nuka was neutered in November and recovered rapidly from the small operation.

Tundra is still the same quiet, wary wolf on public events but is affectionate to people she knows and trusts. Recently this affection has involved lots of mud as she likes to interact with her humans in a very physical way! Tundra has become a bit braver on public walks - instead of hanging back almost out of sight, she is now happy to walk just behind or to the side of people. She needs her handlers to understand her feelings and allow her to push her own limits. Tundra has the same beautiful colouring as her brother Nuka, but she has finer proportions and is

Turn over for more!



Tala, Nuka and Tundra

Beerhams photo: Danny Kidby-Hunter

News

slightly smaller. Both she and Tala have a nimbleness of movement that Nuka doesn't have and they run rings round him during their many games of chase. Tundra has recently started to dominate her sister with more serious intent – tail high and hackles up. As hormones rise for the breeding season, it may be that she will challenge Tala for top female position in the pack. This would happen in the wild as females challenge each other for breeding rights and will still happen with Tundra and Tala, even though Nuka is neutered. Both girls will be spayed next year which will have multiple benefits for them.

Tala, the black shadow! She is the only cub to inherit her mother's colouring and is very beautiful with her black coat contrasting with her amber eyes. Tala is a reserved wolf, not quite so boisterous when greeting human friends, but she loves a rough and tumble with her siblings. Tala consents to meet and greets with the public but it is clear she is doing you a favour. Someone may get a lick on the hand if she feels like it but people are generally content with a glance from those eyes. For some months, the rivalry between Tala and her sister has been on-going but not serious. If Tundra started a squabble with her then Tala would give as good as she got and it would be over quickly. Recently it seems that Tala is allowing Tundra to dominate her and, while not actually submitting, Tala's tail is not as high as Tundra's and she does not retaliate as she used to. But Tala is a very intelligent wolf, so who knows what will happen in the coming months...



Mosi and **Torak** are now 7 years old and as lively and healthy as ever. Mosi remains the same – a wolf with charisma and attitude! She hasn't changed a lot in appearance, with her thick, multi-coloured coat of black, silver and shades of brown. Maybe she is a little grey round the muzzle now but Mosi doesn't let that get her down.

Mosi and Torak now go out on enrichment walks with their special handlers. Mosi thinks this is great and powers along at speed. The only time she stops is to mark her territory and then vigorously scrape with her back legs to spread the scent. She gives the impression that she would soon sort out any other wolf who disputed ownership of this territory. Mosi is not spayed so will come into full season soon. No doubt she will do her usual pestering of Torak until he gets fed up and tells her off. This is the only time you will see Mosi submissive!

Torak is now very eager to come out on his special walks and is often first to come on the yard to be collared. He still knows who he likes and who he doesn't, so if there is someone on site who he doesn't like he will hide at the back of the enclosure until that person can no longer be

Turn over for more!

Mosi photo: Jason Siddall

News



seen. Torak is a big, handsome wolf with tremendous strength but a joy to walk if he has a trusted handler on his lead. He stalks around the Trust's acres with Mosi and attendant humans, sniffing and marking as he goes.

If wolves could have a feeling of dread, that would be Torak as breeding season approaches. Mosi makes such a nuisance of herself, fawning over him, licking his face, not letting him walk more than a few steps without tripping him up. She is trying to persuade him to mate with her but Torak will choose his own time and won't do this until she is ready. He seems

to know this better than she does! Torak is vasectomised, so there will be no cubs from any mating.

Torak and Mosi will not be coming out for walks until after the breeding season. They will be left to behave naturally with each other, without having to bother with humans.

What a change from the shy, wolf who came to us three years ago! **Motomo** has gained such confidence over the years, no doubt helped in part by siring a litter of cubs. From catching occasional glimpses of him at the back of the enclosure, to seeing him three feet away on the other side of the fence is a wonderful experience. He will now come down to the fence line to see people as they arrive and spends much of the day in full sight, reclining on the mound or enjoying a game of fence-running with the neighbours, Mosi and Torak. Motomo is our only unsocialised wolf, as such he can't come out on walks but we are



happy that he is now so settled. He has become a very adept catcher of food as it is thrown over the fence to him. He stands, muscles tensed, watching the trajectory of the meat, then opens his mouth... and down it goes. Our visitors love to see him do this and he is happy to oblige.

Mai is turning into a silver wolf - every year her coat has more silver colour. It would be known as grey but this is Mai, so we say silver because it is more distinguished. At 7 years old, she is looking stunning and is in peak condition. Mai

Turn over for more!

News

goes out with her handlers on a walk and is usually happy to leave her partner and see her human friends. The duration of Mai's walks depends on how she is feeling at the time; they can last five minutes as she suddenly decides she wants to get back to Motomo, or an hour when she apparently feels like a change of scene. Motomo has become used to her going out but will still howl mournfully until she comes back when

there is a great reunion ritual. Mai will be sniffed all over and, if she has rolled in something horrible, has to put up with Motomo trying to get this scent over his own fur. Mai will then rush off and engage in some energetic fence-running with her sister Mosi, accompanied by a great deal of growling from them both. Motomo and Torak take a perfunctory part in this display but soon lose interest and wander off. Mai will probably not want to come out on walks as breeding season approaches. After her operation, which can most easily be described as a 'female vasectomy', she will want to be near Motomo and to mate with him, even though no cubs will result.

The only Arctic wolves in the UK, Massak, Pukak and Sikko, are fast approaching their 2nd birthday. They currently live in the first enclosure that the public sees when coming to the Trust which is a wonderful way to start their visit.



Pukak, Massak & Sikko

Sikko, the only female, is a charming creature. She is small compared to her brothers and has a fine-featured face which is often full of mischief. Sikko can be wary of people she doesn't know but with her handlers is very generous in her displays of affection. With her brothers, Sikko has been taking part in regular enrichment and training walks, gradually increasing the number of volunteers on the walk to try and get the wolves

used to groups of people. The essential period of quarantine they had to go through happened at an important stage in their development and they were only able to socialise with ten people for

six months. The training and socialisation has been a long but worthwhile task and all three Arctics are now much happier, although there is a way to go yet.

Pukak is cheekiness personified. Although he is usually the first to greet his handlers in the enclosure he has recently been flexing his muscles and a greeting can sometimes turn into a hard stare followed by a low growl. Pukak has also been testing the water with Massak,

Turn over for more!

Arctics photo: Danny Kidby-Hunter

News

until now the undisputed leader of the pack. He has yet to get the better of Massak but has never fully submitted to him either. It will be interesting to see how this develops. Although all three wolves were neutered in October 2012, the instinct to be 'top wolf' is still an integral part of their natures. Pukak loves to play the clown but handlers must be able to read his body language well to tell the difference between play and potential dominance.

Massak is the biggest of the three and very imposing. He can give the impression of being stately and dignified - until he wants to play when his

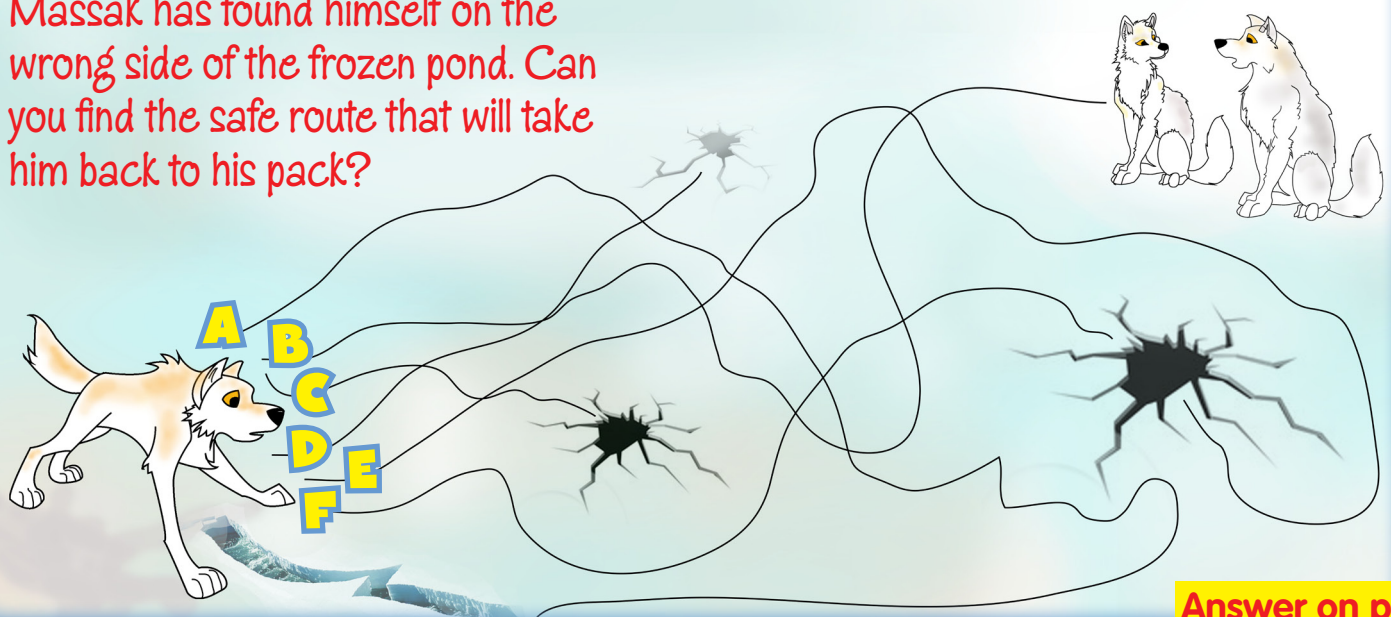
behaviour is akin to that of a young cub - an extremely large cub! Handlers keep out of his way when he is in play mode and hurtling around the enclosure. Massak is still the wariest wolf in the pack but is getting a little braver as his curiosity gets the better of him. On his walks though, he dislikes people walking behind him and will stop until everyone has gone past, then he is happy to continue. In his occasional squabbles with Pukak, he growls in a very intimidating way and raises his tail as high as he can to indicate dominance. The squabbles don't last very long and Pukak usually walks away with his tail between his legs, but there is definitely a feeling of unfinished business between the two. Sikko wisely keeps her distance during these altercations. We are proud and happy to have the only Arctic wolves in the UK.

Angela Barrow, Senior Handler

Puzzle

MASSAK ON THIN ICE!

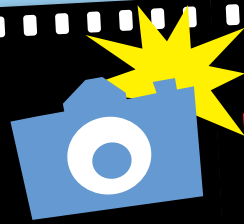
Massak has found himself on the wrong side of the frozen pond. Can you find the safe route that will take him back to his pack?



Answer on p12!



Competition



THE UK WOLF CONSERVATION TRUST PRESENTS

THE JOAN PADDICK PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS 2013

Ever dreamt of following in the footsteps of greats like Monty Sloan, Jamie Dutcher or Art Wolfe and pursuing a career as a wildlife photographer? If so, this may be something to help you on your way!

The UK Wolf Conservation Trust is excited to announce the launch of its new annual wildlife photography competition, in memory of Joan Paddick (*right*), who was a keen photographer and valued volunteer of the UKWCT. Joan was known for her quirky images and in light of this, freshness, originality, creativity and innovation will need to be at the forefront of entrants' minds and should be reflected in all submitted images.



WIN!

An **exclusive UKWCT Photo Day*** and a signed copy of **Living With Wolves!**

*Terms & conditions apply.

This year's theme for the competition is **British wildlife.**



The competition is open to everyone with a camera and a passion for wildlife! We are looking to promote an eco-friendly ethos while photographing wildlife in their natural environments, therefore entrants must consider the welfare of their subjects to ensure that they do not do anything to injure or distress any animals or destroy their habitat in an attempt to secure an image.

Turn over for more info!

The competition will run from **Monday 4th February to Monday 5th August 2013.**

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU. EMAIL US AT education@ukwolf.org

Seal photo: Danny Kidby-Hunter









Competition



THE CATEGORIES

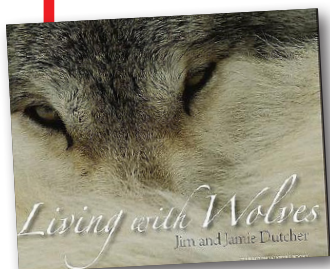
-  The Joan Paddick Photography Award (for anyone 18+)
-  The 6 - 12 years category (age as at 5th August 2013)
-  The 13 - 17 yrs category (age as at 5th August 2013)
-  The Wolf Team category (for UKWCT employees, volunteers, associates and immediate family only)

THE PRIZE

EXCLUSIVE Winner's Photography Day - Saturday 12th October 2012

An exclusive photographic experience at The UK Wolf Conservation Trust. The winners* and one accompanying guest will spend the day with the Wolf Trust Team learning about wolves and photographing the Trust's ambassadors. Winners will have access to the photographic viewing areas and platform throughout the morning and then will join some of the wolves on their afternoon walk.** The day will finish back at the Trust where the winners can watch the wolves being fed and will go away with a memento of their day.

* It is the sole responsibility of the winning entrants to arrange their own transportation to the UKWCT.
** Due to the UKWCT's policies, the winner of the under-13s category will be unable to attend the afternoon walk on 12th October but will be awarded a place on our children's wolf walk during half term.



The overall winner of the Joan Paddick Photography Award will also receive a signed copy of Emmy Award-winners Jim and Jamie Dutcher's *Living With Wolves* which will be presented to them by the UKWCT staff during the exclusive Photography Day on Saturday 12th October.

Download the application form from www.ukwolf.org

The prize is as stated. There is no cash alternative and it cannot be sold or transferred.



Send digital images to ukwolfconservationtrust@googlemail.com with The Joan Paddick Photography Awards in the subject box. Postal entries must be sent to: The Joan Paddick Photography Awards, The UK Wolf Conservation Trust, Butlers Farm, Beenham, Berkshire, RG7 5NT

Please read the competition rules before entering. These can be found on page 14.

THE JUDGES



Tsa Palmer
- Director and co-founder of UKWCT.



Danny Kidby-Hunter
- Assistant Education

Officer/Assistant Wolf Keeper, Editor of *Wolf Chronicle* (amateur photographer).



Vicky Allison Hughes
- Education Officer, *Wolf Print* Editor (amateur photographer).



Jim & Jamie Dutcher, wildlife filmmakers and wolf conservationists. www.livingwithwolves.org



Bob Brind-Surch, wildlife photographer. www.naturesphotos.co.uk



ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT WOLVES? EMAIL US AT education@ukwolf.org



Wolf Blood

In February last year the Trust was visited by a camera crew who brought actress Aimee Kelly, star of CBBC's *Wolfblood*, and her acting coach to observe the Trust's wolves.

Wolfblood is a CBBC fantasy drama and follows Maddy, a young wolfblood, as she learns to cope with the daily struggles of being a teenager. A wolfblood is a person with superhuman abilities and who transforms into a werewolf (wolfblood) during the full moon or at times of heightened emotion. Although blessed with extraordinary speed, agility, enhanced senses and superhuman strength, she must hide her secret in order to keep her and her kind safe from the human race.



Watch a clip of when Aimee visited the Trust and met Nuka and Tala.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/clips/p00y9t7y>



Wolf Facts



Making sense - communication

PART ONE

In the first part of her feature on wolf communication, Deborah Duguid Farrant examines the famous wolf howl.

If you ask anyone, adult or child, how a wolf communicates the first answer you get is that they howl. Is this right? Yes, it is but howling is only a part of how the wolf communicates.

If you think of howling as the wolf equivalent to a phone call then it makes sense that they would not be on the phone all the time – looking around me I see my family all texting, playing games and yes, occasionally making a call on their phones.

A howl is a way for wolves to contact each other when there is great distance between them. It is a sound that carries so the wolves listening know exactly where it is coming from. It can mean many things, like:

- Wake up, we are going hunting.
- We are going out to play.
- Come home, you have been out for too long!
- I am lost where are you all?

- We are over here!
- I am on my own and looking for a friend, would you like to join me?
- I am on my own too, that would be nice.
- I have found food - come and join me for dinner.
- O-oh! Trouble! Help me!
- Howl with me, it is fun.

and many more besides.

A pack of wolves will all howl on a different note (imagine a musical scale). They like to get onto the highest vantage



point and howl whilst facing in different directions. This way the sound travels further and by howling in different notes and pitches they can make four wolves sound

like a much larger pack, making it easier to defend their territory.

You can see that howling is a very important part of wolf communication but when you read the next edition of *Wolf Chronicle*, it will become clear that it is just one small part of how they talk

Torak and Mosi photo: Vicky Allison-Hughes



ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT WOLVES? EMAIL US AT education@ukwolf.org



Letters

We love hearing from you about anything wolf related. Here is a selection of letters and pictures we've received recently.

"Thank you for having me. Tell ITV they are great for interviewing me and I learnt that wolves don't smell. The presentation was interesting and I learnt a lot. Walking with the wolves was very fun and enjoyable. I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to you. I used to fear wolves but now think they are nice and lovable creatures. My favourite bit was touching and stroking the wolves under the belly. I think I stroked Nuka, who was very nice and exceptionally well trained because of you. It was even more exciting with the ITV cast."

Yours sincerely
Luca del Vecchio

"I am writing to you to tell you how enjoyable my trip was at the Wolf Trust. The speech at the beginning was great as it made me change my whole view on wolves as I thought before they would be extremely dangerous. All the fairy tales show the wrong view!

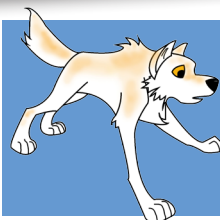
However the walk was the best because I got to stroke a real wolf, Tala, who was very cool. You got to see them interact with each other and it was amazing to watch. I would like to thank you once more for the fantastic experience in meeting and learning about the wolves."

Yours sincerely
Edward Ault

These letters are from pupils at Hoe Bridge School in Woking who paid us a visit recently. Thanks guys!



Here are some pics from our annual Halloween Pumpkin event back in October. Mai really enjoyed her treat-filled pumpkin!



**MASSAK
ON THIN ICE!**

The answer is route B!

Events

UKWCT OPEN DAY

● Monday 27th May 2013

11am - 5pm

Advance tickets:

£8 - adults and non-members.

£5 - members, children (3-11 years) and senior citizens.

Children under three are free.

£24 - family ticket (2 adults and 2 children).

On the day at the gate:

£10 - adults and non-members.

£5 - members, children (3-11 years) and senior citizens.

£30 - family ticket (2 adults and 2 children).

Tickets are available via our online shop. Booking not required. Sorry, no dogs on site. The site is accessible for those with mobility scooters and wheelchairs.

We've plenty to see and do!

- Look around the Trust
- See our wolves



- Photography sessions from the platform and holding areas
- Ask the experts about living with wolves
- Listen to the wolves howling
- Hug A Husky
- Quirks Animal Roadshows



- Other animal exhibits
- Birds of prey flying demonstrations
- Dog agility display
- Archery
- Childrens' activities including face-painting, nature trail, pond dipping and bouncy castle
- Refreshments and picnic tables available

The Joan Paddick Photography Awards competition rules 2013

1. The subject for the UKWCT's Joan Paddick Photographic Awards 2013 is **British wildlife**. The theme is open to individual interpretation but entries must have the natural world at its heart. Photographs of animals in captivity (such as zoos or safari parks) and family pets are not eligible.

2. Entries must be taken in the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.

3. Entrants can submit one photograph in either digital or print format, in colour or black and white. If entering digital images, they must be sent in high resolution Jpg/Jpeg format with the photographer's name as the image name. Prints must be A4 in size and printed on photographic paper. Entrants submitting prints may be required to provide a digital version if their image goes through to the final round.

4. Images may be digitally enhanced to remove spots or scratches, enhance the picture to make it brighter, clearer etc, but not manipulate the content. The objective is to remain faithful to the original experience, and not to deceive the viewer or misrepresent the reality of nature.

5. The competition is open to International Entrants but it is the responsibility of all winners to be in the UK at the time of the prize-giving. Employees, Volunteers and Directors of The UK Wolf Conservation Trust, as well as their immediate families are not eligible to enter the main category but are invited to submit entries in the 'Wolf Team' category.

6. Entrants must not be professional photographers and, for the purposes of this competition, a professional photographer will be considered to be someone who makes more than half their annual income from the sale of their photographs.

7. Each entry should be marked with name, address, contact telephone number, a brief description of the content and where the photo was taken and which category you are entering.

8. Entries should be sent to: **The Joan Paddick Photography Awards, The UK Wolf Conservation Trust, Butlers Farm, Beenham, Berkshire, RG7 5NT** or ukwolfconservationtrust@googlemail.com with Joan Paddick Photography Awards as the subject.

9. The competition is open from **Monday 4th February 2013** and closes at **midnight on Monday 5th August 2013**.

10. No entries can be returned and proof of posting is not proof of receipt. The organisers accept no responsibility for entries lost, damaged or delayed in the post.

11. All entries will be assessed by a panel of judges. They will consider a range of factors including

composition, technical ability, originality, interpretation of the brief and the commercial appeal of the photographs. The judges' decision is final.

12. Entrants must be mindful of the welfare of animals and safe-guarding the environment and ensure that they do not do anything to injure or distress any animals or destroy their habitat in an attempt to secure an image. If the UKWCT Judging Panel suspects that an image has been achieved through the use of cruel or unethical practices, the entry will be disqualified and the UKWCT reserve the right to report the entrant to the applicable authorities.

13. All entries must be the original work of the entrant and must not infringe the rights of any other party. The entrants must be the sole owner of copyright in their photograph entered and must have obtained permission of any people featured in the entries or their parents/guardians if children under 16 are featured. Further, entrants must not have breached any laws when taking their photographs.

14. Entrants will retain copyright in the photographs that they submit to the UKWCT. By entering the competition all entrants grant to the UKWCT a non-exclusive irrevocable licence to publish and exhibit their photographs in all media associated with The UK Wolf Conservation Trust including, but not limited to:

- the UKWCT's website
- Wolf Print, the UKWCT's magazine
- Wolf Chronicle, the UKWCT's children's magazine
- Material promoting the competition, such as posters and leaflets
- Wolf Trust merchandise such as calendars, greetings cards or clothing

While we make every effort to credit photographers, including in printed reproductions of their work, we cannot guarantee that every use of the photographs will include photographers' names.

15. By entering, entrants will be deemed to have agreed to be bound by these rules and the UKWCT reserves the right to exclude any entry from the competition at any time and in its absolute discretion if the UKWCT has reason to believe that an entrant has breached these rules.

16. The UKWCT reserves the right to cancel this competition or alter any of the rules at any stage, if deemed necessary in its opinion, and if circumstances arise outside of its control.

17. If the winner is unable to be contacted after reasonable attempts have been made, the UKWCT reserves the right to either offer the prize to a runner up or to re-offer the prize in any future competition.

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU. EMAIL US AT education@ukwolf.org