Camlad Valley Community Wildlife Group ANNUAL REPORT 2019



Bird Walk on Roundton Hill - Peregrine spotted!

CAMLAD VALLEY COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP ANNUAL REPORT 2019 Chairman's Introduction

Welcome to the annual report of the Camlad Valley Community Wildlife Group. The past year has enabled us to build on the legacy of the support, administrative and financial, that we received from the Stiperstones and Corndon Hill Landscape Partnership Scheme, and to start to identify a broader scope of activity for the group.

Thanks are due to all the members of the committee for their support and enthusiasm. Peter Fenner very ably took over managing our website presence and media publicity. We were very pleased to welcome Carl Pickup on to the committee, with his professional links to Shropshire Wildlife Trust. Through our secretary Sandy Scott we are also linked to Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust; a reflection of our unique position straddling the Shropshire/Powys border.

Early in the year the committee had useful discussions with Clive Faulkner of MWT over the possibility of becoming affiliated to the Trust and, although we decided not to pursue that option at the time, such an arrangement remains a possibility. Close co-operation with both trusts and other organisations in the area with similar objectives is the way forward and provides opportunities to extend the reach and effectiveness of the community group. It's particularly exciting that 2020 will see involvement in the Stepping Stones project.

Aside from the details of the activities of the Curlew and Lapwing Survey and Plant Groups in 2019, I would like to mention the following:

- We were not able to follow up last year's bird-box making event with a great deal of monitoring. The owl boxes do not seem to have been used (other than by jackdaws) and blue tits were the main beneficiaries of the small boxes. This year we plan to be more selective about the siting and monitoring of boxes and would be grateful to hear from members who have suitable sites and would be able to monitor them, with support and guidance
- A River Health Training Day (joint event with Upper Clun CWG) was held in March
- Leo Smith led a well-attended bird walk at Roundton Nature Reserve on 26 May.
 Although the weather was not brilliant and it was a little late in the summer for birdsong, attendees were rewarded with a good view of the peregrines
- Rob Rowe led a scrub clearance work party at a site near Priest Weston
- The river fly monitors carried out just one survey on Roundton Brook but plan more in 2020
- Members took part in the annual butterfly surveys at Roundton and other sites

Please contact Sandy Scott, sscott10@hotmail.co.uk if you are not already on our mailing list and would like to receive details of relevant events, or even better, with positive suggestions for future activity. Google Camlad Valley Community Wildlife Group for our website.

Mary Napper-White Chair, CVCWG February 2020

CURLEWS, LAPWINGS AND OTHER BIRDS SURVEY

Objectives

Bird Group members were asked to find out where Curlew and Lapwing occur in the breeding season, record behaviour indicative of breeding, and record other species, most of which are of nature conservation importance (i.e. they are Target Species for Government Agri-environment Schemes operated by Natural England or the Welsh Government, or they are on the *Red List* or *Amber List* of *Birds of Conservation Concern* in England or Wales because they have suffered large declines in the last 25 or 50 years, and / or are Target Species in one of the national Biodiversity Action Plans).

In addition to Lapwing and Curlew, the target species were:-

- Kestrel
- Red Kite
- Barn Owl
- Grey Partridge
- Snipe
- Skylark
- Meadow Pipit

- Cuckoo
- Dipper
- Swift (nest sites only)
- Yellow Wagtail
- Dunnock
- Wheatear
- Stonechat

- Spotted Flycatcher
- Tree Sparrow
- Linnet
- Bullfinch
- Yellowhammer
- Reed Bunting

A bird survey was carried out in this area for four years as part of the Stiperstones-Corndon Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS) area, but from 2018 onwards the responsibility fell to the newly-formed Camlad Valley Community Wildlife Group. It complements surveys carried out by the Upper Onny Wildlife Group since 2004, and it is intended to repeat it annually, to monitor long-term population trends for key species, as well as establish the current population and distribution.

Methodology

The area has been divided up into 20 tetrads (2x2 kilometre squares, each made up of four of the one-kilometre squares shown on Ordnance Survey maps). A map showing these tetrads, and the reference code, is attached (Appendix 1).

People who agreed to help were allocated a square / tetrad, and requested to survey it once during each of three specified two week periods, around 1 April, 1 May and 15 June.

- The first period follows the arrival of Lapwing and Curlew back on the breeding grounds. This is the best time to find breeding Lapwing (first egg date is usually around 1st April).
- The second period is the best time to find breeding Curlew (first egg date is usually around 30th April).
- The third period is timed to find any Curlews that have successfully hatched and still have chicks. It is also the best time to find the Other Target Species.

Participants were provided with detailed survey instructions, and a large scale map of the tetrad (the map filled an A4 sheet of paper) for each survey. The methodology has been unchanged since 2014.

A training meeting was arranged for those that wanted one, on Sunday 31 March. Members felt that a feedback meeting during the survey period was unnecessary, so this report is the first summary of 2019 results.

Attempts were made to recruit surveyors for all 20 survey squares, but three were not covered. Members spent more than 120 hours on the surveys, a much better level of coverage than in 2018.

Curlew

The map on page 4 has been compiled from the survey maps, and other reports received of Curlews in the area. It summarises the estimated number and location of territories.

The methodology requires observations of a pair together, or a single bird on two of the three surveys, to confirm a territory. However, Curlews often have large territories, and may be seen a kilometre or more from their nest site, so interpretation of the observations is sometimes difficult, unless singing birds are seen or heard concurrently. If that does not happen, the methodology requires the analysis to produce the lowest population estimate consistent with the records, in this case 8 pairs (5 in England, and 3 in Wales).

In 2017, 7 breeding pairs were found, 2 – 3 in Wales, and 4 – 5 in England. However, in 2018 three of these pairs were found again (in SJ20Q & W, and SO29Y), but three were not found (in SO29R and S, and SO39A), although the usual level of survey work was carried out, and the tetrad containing the seventh, SO29W, was not surveyed at all. However, the 2018 report stated "The weather in 2018 was not helpful to Curlew. Strong winds and wet weather ("the beast from the east") restricted the availability of invertebrate food, and delayed the growth of grass to provide cover for nest sites, so it is possible that some pairs delayed nesting, never tried, or moved on. Hopefully some of the "lost" pairs may be re-found in 2019."

Fortunately, that is what has happened, and the 2019 territories map is similar to that from 2017. Pairs in SO29R, S and W, and SO39A, were found again. The maps from 2019 and 2017 are shown side by side on p.4.

In addition, at least one pair, possibly two, were found in SJ20K. A pair has not been recorded there before, but the part of the square where it was found has not been surveyed previously.

Casual records were collected from three separate observers of Curlews calling, or in flight, in late April in SO29S near Rhiston (but in England). There were no records after a storm on 27th April, although they may have nested but failed early.

Table 1 shows the estimated number of pairs found in each year since 2014, and the chart shows the annual trends. In most years the number of pairs has not been established precisely, so a range has been given, and the pair in SO29S nested right on the border, so it has been counted as possibly breeding in both countries up until 2017. The chart is based on the midpoint of each range, so the total population shown is not necessarily the sum of the English and Welsh populations.

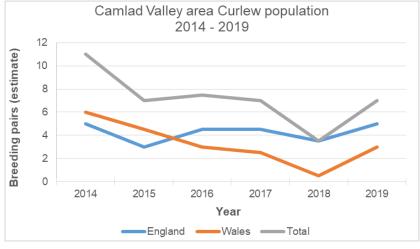


Table 1. Curlew population 2014 - 19

| Year | Numbe | r of Curle | w pairs |
|-------|---------|------------|---------|
| I Cai | England | Wales | Total |
| 2014 | 4 - 6 | 5 - 7 | 9 - 13 |
| 2015 | 2 - 3 | 4 - 5 | 6 - 8 |
| 2016 | 4 - 5 | 2 - 4 | 7 - 8 |
| 2017 | 4 - 5 | 2 - 3 | 7 |
| 2018 | 3 | 0 - 1 | 3 - 4 |
| 2019 | 5 | 3 | 7 |

Not surprisingly, it takes a few years to build up a complete picture of the Curlews in the area, which

has not been helped by the adverse weather conditions in 2018. In addition, establishing accurate estimates and trends is made more difficult as some squares have not been surveyed every year. Even so, it appears that the population is declining, and that the decline is occurring in Wales.

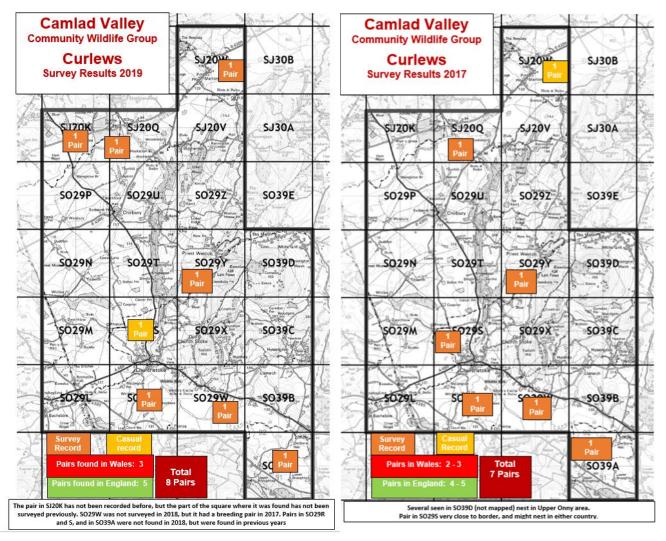
It is intended to repeat the survey in 2020 to continue to establish the distribution and trends.

Well over 150 Curlews have been colour-ringed at the Dolydd Hafren Montgomery Wildlife Trust Reserve on the River Severn near Welshpool since March 2015, and four have been found breeding in the area, one near Owlbury, one near Hockleton and two near Marton.

From the observations and analysis, it is estimated that the Curlew population in the area in 2019 is 8 breeding pairs (5 in England, 3 in Wales)

The English population appears unchanged, but it appears that 2 - 3 pairs have been lost in Wales.

The survey should be repeated in 2020, to clarify the number of pairs actually present and the location of nest sites and foraging areas, and work towards regular monitoring to establish a population trend.



Lapwing

No Lapwing were found in the area, but two of the squares where they have been found previously, SO29L and N, were not surveyed.

Unlike Curlew, Lapwing are not site-faithful, as they have to follow farm crop rotation to find bare earth or spring crops, so the annual population fluctuates. It is therefore important to survey squares every year, even if no Lapwings were found in the previous year.

There have been previous years when few Lapwing were found, as low as two pairs in 2015 and one in 2018, but 2019 is the first time none have been found. There were 10 -12 pairs in 2016.

Anecdotal Evidence for the Decline of Lapwing and Curlew

Members of the Bird Group who live in the area, and other local residents, say that Lapwings and Curlews are less common now than they used to be. Some members talked to local farmers in the course of their surveys, and they too said that Lapwings and Curlew are less common now than they used to be. Lapwings have apparently declined much more than Curlews.

Other Target Species

The other Target Species recorded during the surveys are summarised in Table 2 below.

The summary table shows the maximum count for each species on any one survey in each tetrad. This may under-record some species, but the alternative – adding all the counts together – would lead to considerable double or triple counting of some individual birds.

Note that members were asked to record individual birds, not pairs (so at some locations both the birds in the pair were recorded, and in the final survey some recently fledged juveniles may have been recorded as well).

Table 2. Other Target Species - Summary

| I able 2. | Other | Maximum Number of Each Species Recorded (Individual Birds) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|----------|--|-------------|---------|-----------------|----------|----------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| | | | | Maxim | num Num | ber of E | ach Spec | ies Rec | orded (In | dividual | Birds) | | | | |
| Tetrad | Wales | Red Kite | Snipe | Skylark | Meadow Pipit | Cuckoo | Dunnock | Wheat- ear | Stone- chat | Tree Sparrow | Bullfinch | Yellow- hammer | Reed Bunting | | |
| SJ20 K | Y | 1 | 1 | 5 | | | | 1 | | 10 | | | | | |
| SJ20 Q | Υ | 1 | | 1 | | | 2 | | | | 2 | 2 | | | |
| SJ20 V | N | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SJ20 W | Υ | 3 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | 2 | | |
| SO29 L | Υ | Squa | re not surv | veyed | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 M | Y | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 N | Tiny Bit | Squa | re not surv | veyed | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 P | N | 1 | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 R | Y | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 S | Y | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 T | N | 2 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 U | N | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| SO29 W | ALL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 X | Y | | | | | | 2 | | | | | 3 | | | |
| SO29 Y | Υ | | | 1 | 1 | | 2 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| SO29 Z | N | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 A | Tiny Bit | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | 2 | | | 6 | | | | | |
| SO39 B | Υ | Square not surveyed | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 C | ALL | 2 | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| SO39 D | Υ | 2 | | 5 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Totals (20 T | etrads) | 17 | 2 | 22 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 16 | 3 | 7 | 2 | | |

As expected in a survey of this type, the expertise of members, and the time they had available to undertake the surveys, varied considerably. The survey squares also vary considerably, in accessibility and terrain. The "detectability" of the birds themselves also varies considerably, according to prevailing weather conditions, time of day, stage in the breeding cycle, and the normal behaviour of each species. Thus the survey results will give an indication of the species present, and perhaps their habitat preferences, but only a very small proportion will have been recorded.

Unsurprisingly, three of the more scarce Target Species were not recorded at all during the surveys – Barn Owl, Grey Partridge or Dipper - but, surprisingly, no Kestrel, Swift (nest sites), Spotted Flycatcher or Linnet were recorded either.

However, there were records of Barn Owl in SO29S, and of Yellow Wagtail in SO29R.

It will be seen that Skylark, Dunnock and Yellowhammer are widespread and fairly numerous, and the remaining species that were found are present only in their specific habitats, and in small numbers.

A Kestrel was seen around Cowlton / Lan Fawr (SO29X and Y) several times, including three birds on one occasion later in the summer. Cuckoo has been a *Red List* species on the *Birds of Conservation Concern* in the UK since 2009, but it was again recorded in one tetrad, on Corndon Hill. No other casual record was received for either of these two species.

Red Kites were seen in 10 tetrads, compared with seven last year, five in 2017, seven in 2016, six in 2015 and two in 2014. No evidence of breeding was reported, but given the rapid spread and population increase (over 40 pairs in Shropshire now – the first successful breeding for 130 years occurred as recently as 2006), it is likely that breeding will become a regular occurrence in the near future.

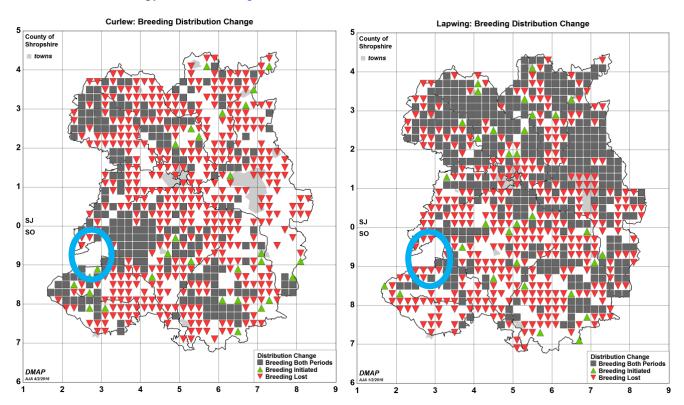
Decline of Lapwing and Curlew

Lapwing and Curlew are in decline, across the UK, in England and Wales, and in Shropshire. Objective evidence for this comes from Bird Atlas work. The distribution maps showing the results of the recent 2008-13 survey area can be compared with the same area on the maps shown in *An Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Shropshire*, based on six years fieldwork 1985-90, and published in 1992. Both sets of maps have been compiled on the same basis, with similar amounts of fieldwork effort, so the decline is undoubtedly real.

The maps show tetrads where each species was found in both Atlas surveys (grey squares) and tetrads where it was found in the earlier period, but not the more recent period (red downward triangles). The Camlad Valley CWG area is within the blue ovals.

Surveys including counts complement these maps. The county Lapwing population has fallen from about 3000 pairs in 1990 to only about 800 now The Curlew population has fallen from about 700 pairs in 1990 to about 160 pairs in 2010 (a decline of over 73% for both species).

Other evidence for the decline of Lapwing and Curlew can be found on the website of the British Trust for Ornithology www.bto.org



Conservation action is being taken nationally. Both species have been designated as UK Biodiversity Priority Species by the Government, as part of its commitment to international biodiversity targets, precisely because of the rapid decline, and both species are now on the *Red List* of *Birds of Conservation Concern 4*, published in December 2015.

In England, both species nest on farmland, and recent and current agri-environment schemes (part of the system of payments to farmers through the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union) included rewards for farmers for sensitive management of habitat on their farms, and providing other environmental benefits. Farmers applying to join had to take into account the habitat requirements of a number of birds, including Lapwing and Curlew, if they breed on or near the farm, or use land there for feeding. Many farms in the area will benefit from Higher Level Environmental Stewardship agreements for 10 years from the date of signing, the last in 2014.

In Wales, Lapwing and Curlew have both been designated as Principal Biodiversity Species in the Welsh Government's Biodiversity Action Plan. Bird Atlas work has been undertaken at the 10km square level, rather than the 25 times greater resolution at tetrad level, so no information is available about change in the Welsh part of the Camlad Valley CWG area. Population monitoring for the two species is carried out by specific surveys, but none have taken place in recent years.

The higher level farm payments scheme in Wales, Glastir, has been revised, as part of the new Common Agricultural Policy being implemented through the Rural Development Programme 2014-20.

In both countries, the funds available for current agri-environment schemes have been reduced, and the procedures are more bureaucratic, providing fewer benefits for birds. Future arrangements to protect birds and their habitats on farmland, when the EU programme ends in 2020, are not clear.

Curlew Country

The Stiperstones-Corndon Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS) operated a Curlew Recovery Project in the area from 2014 to 2017. Fieldwork research established that most nests were predated (more than half by foxes), and when the nests were protected with electric fencing, most nests survived but almost all chicks were predated before fledging.

The LPS ended in March 2018, but the Curlew project has continued, under the name "Curlew Country". It has concentrated on the trialling of Headstarting. This involves removing eggs from Curlew nests, incubating them artificially, rearing chicks in captivity, and then releasing them into the wild after they fledge, at or near a potential breeding site. It is considered to be a short term measure to try to boost the Curlew population while discovering the appropriate measures to improve breeding success to the level needed for recovery. Under a Natural England licence, 21 curlew chicks were reared and released in 2018, and 33 in 2019. While this has been a successful technique for other species, it is not known whether our local Curlew chicks will survive and return to their natal area to breed; if they do it will probably not be until they are two years old. However, if it does work it will lead to a significant short-term increase in the local Curlew population and it is important to continue the trial.

Use of CWG Survey Results

In addition to helping the Curlew Country fieldworkers, the survey results are made available to Natural England, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and the Welsh Government.

In England, they show the importance of particular areas for these species, which will hopefully encourage farmers to manage their land more sensitively, and provide Natural England with objective evidence to judge individual farm applications to join agri-environment schemes, enabling them to target the use of their limited resources more effectively.

The results also reinforce and supplement the results from other Community Wildlife Groups operating in the Shropshire Hills, which together now cover well over 500 square kilometres, around two-thirds of the Shropshire Hills AONB. These results help inform the AONB Management Plan, which has now been revised to cover the five years 2019 – 24.

Coupled with the results of other surveys, the results may also contribute to the identification of potential new Local (County) Wildlife Sites. These sites are monitored by Shropshire Wildlife Trust, which encourages the landowners to manage them so they retain their value for wildlife.

<u>In Wales</u>, discussions will take place with Montgomery Wildlife Trust about the use of the results to identify potential local Wildlife Sites in Montgomeryshire, and how to use the results to promote conservation of the species.

Other Community Wildlife Groups

The first Group, the Upper Onny Wildlife Group, first surveyed Lapwing and Curlew in 2004, and has done so every year since. Upper Clun CWG started in 2007, Kemp Valley in 2009, Clee Hill CWG in 2012, and Rea Valley and Camlad CWGs (part of the Stiperstones-Corndon HLF funded Landscape Partnership Scheme) in 2014. Stretton Hills CWG was launched in 2012, and surveyed Lapwing and Curlew for the first time in 2017. The Three Parishes CWG, covering Weston Rhyn, St. Martin's and Gobowen, undertook a Bird Survey in 2017. All these groups continued with a Lapwing and Curlew survey in 2018, when they were joined by new CWGs covering Oswestry south (Tanat to Perry) and Severn-Vyrnwy Confluence. A further Group, centred on Abdon (near Brown Clee), also started in 2018, the initiative of a local resident.

All these groups (except Kemp Valley, which has no breeding Curlews) continued with their surveys in 2019. Clee Hill and Abdon extended their areas, to close the gap between them and monitor known additional Curlew territories. Between them, the 10 groups cover around three-quarters of the County's breeding Curlews. The Curlew distribution map from the County Bird Atlas 2008-13, overlain with the Community Wildlife Group areas, can be found on the SOS website www.shropshirebirds.com/save-our-curlews/

In 2019, these Groups covered 267 survey squares (tetrads), totalling 1,048 square kilometres. There were 320 participants, who spent a total of more than 2,350 hours on survey work, and 94 - 115 Curlew territories were identified. This is a clear indication of the concern that local people have for the decline of Curlew, and their willingness to support action to do something about it.

Further information can be found on the joint website for all the Community Wildlife Groups in Shropshire, www.ShropsCWGs.org.uk

Recommendations

Natural England and the Welsh Government are recommended to encourage farmers with breeding Lapwing or Curlew on or near their land, to join the appropriate agri-environment scheme, utilising the appropriate options to maintain and enhance the habitat for these priority species

Acknowledgements

Most importantly, thanks to the Group members who undertook the survey work, or sent in casual records:-

Ros Burns, Hazel Cribb, Sally Currin, Stuart Dickinson, Avril Dickinson, Peter Fenner, Bernard Gillespie, Norman Goalby, Trevor Holden, Ian Kidd, Steve Pastfield, Huw Prole,

Chris Radford, Paul Roughley, Sandy Scott, Jackie Thomas, Mary Napper-White and Steve Wright.

Thanks also to:-

 Joe Penfold, LPS Community Officer, who organised all the Bird Group meetings, distributed information to members, and nurtured the Community Wildlife Group through to its launch as an independent constituted body in November 2017.

Summary 2019

This report summarises the sixth year of bird surveys.

Seventeen of the 20 tetrads were surveyed, and we now have a better understanding of the population and distribution of Lapwing and Curlew, and the status of the Other Target Species. The surveys provide evidence of a continuing decline in the Curlew population.

The populations in the Camlad Valley area in 2019 are estimated at 8 pairs of Curlew (three pairs in Wales), but no Lapwing were found.

This is valuable information for the conservation of these species. Further survey work in future years will add to this baseline, and establish population trends in the area.

Plans for 2020

The Bird Group intends to repeat the Bird Survey next year. New participants are needed, so we hope to recruit new members.

The next Bird Group meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 10th March at the Horse and Jockey, in Churchstoke, primarily to plan the bird survey. New members will be very welcome.

Everyone interested in birds is welcome at all meetings and events.

Details can also be found and downloaded from the joint website for all the Community Wildlife Groups in the Shropshire Hills, www.shropsCWGs.org.uk,

Leo Smith February 2020

PEOPLE AND PLANTS 2019

These ten events took place within the areas of the Camlad, Rea Valley and Upper Onny Wildlife Groups and were open to anyone interested in plants, whether a complete beginner, an experienced botanist or somewhere in between. A leaflet was produced with the help of Cassy Clayton from Natural England. These were distributed as hard copies and electronically and the events were advertised through the Community wildlife groups and the Shropshire Hills AONB. I am particularly grateful for funding from the AONB Conservation Trust Fund. The events were all well attended with a mixture of 'old hands' and some new recruits. This combination meant that there were always several experienced botanists to help the newcomers.

As well as plants we recorded birds and insects where possible.

These sessions were popular, with a total of eighty attendees made up of fortytwo different people putting in 264 hours of recording time.

Sunday 7th April Ancient Trees, Linley

Our first walk of the year was to visit the wood pasture called Old Mores wood near Linley. This is a hillside area of ancient oaks which were revealed some 10 years ago upon felling after having been hidden in a Spruce plantation for 50 years. Some had died due to being shaded out but many survived and form a remarkable and unusual habitat. We walked from Lydham to Linley looking at other ancient trees in the landscape and then measured and recorded some of the old pollards.

Saturday 27th April

Gittinshay Wood is a private woodland managed by the Forestry Commission, situated to the east of the Stiperstones

After a night of torrential rain and gale force winds this event was nearly cancelled but five people turned up and we went ahead and the day was dry.

This was a session on woodland plant identification and we produced a botanical list for this woodland which was species rich. The young Habberley Brook runs through it and there is an understorey of Bird Cherry, and also several small ponds containing blunt leaved pondweed.

Wednesday 15th May Early Grasses, Hurdley

An introduction to early grasses following on from a request from last year. We looked at woodland and meadows paying particular attention to grasses but also looking at early flowering Spring ephemerals on Roundton Hill and in a nearby wooded dingle.

Wednesday 22nd May

Wildflower Verges, Prolley Moor

Identifying the plants to be found in roadside verges. This turned out to be a very large group bolstered by a further party of 12 National Trust volunteers who helped monitor the progress of last year's verge management.

Monday 10th June

Meadows and Grassland, Stapeley

Exploring and recording some of the flower-rich SSSI grasslands in the area. Species rich fields with unusual plants such as Dyers Greenweed and a profusion of Heath Spotted Orchids.

Monday 24th June

Rush pasture, east side of the Stiperstones

We were looking at an area adjoining the Stiperstones national nature reserve. A day surveying species-rich grassland and rush pasture and looking out for the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary butterfly. The east side of the Stiperstones is a stronghold for this rapidly disappearing species; they need Marsh Violet for the caterpillars to feed on and we found it here in large quantities, and saw a few of the butterflies on the wing and feeding on Marsh Thistle.

Tuesday 9th July

Rush pasture, east side of the Stiperstones

A day surveying species-rich grassland and rush pasture further north than the last site. This was a local wildlife site but had not been surveyed for some years. Eight keen eyed botanists found several new species and it was in excellent condition.

Wednesday 17th July

Grasses, Sedges and Rushes, Stapeley

An ID day, looking at grasses, sedges and rushes. Met at the car park near Mitchell's Fold and slowly worked our way down into the valley to the west over several hours. The ten species of sedge found reflects the richness of the area.

Sat 12th October

Fungi foray on Roundton Hill

It was still rather dry at this point so not a huge number of fungi [apart from parasols which were in great profusion] around but enough to keep people interested.

Sunday 20th October.

The Bog Fungi Foray

A joint outing with Shropshire fungi group. This area always seems to turn up new species and this visit was no exception with a Bolete called Xerocomus chrysonemus being a first county record.

Records were sent to Shropshire Wildlife Trust, Shropshire Fungi Group and Montgomery Wildlife Trust, and the survey results and species data from the training sessions will also be shared with NBN and other projects, such as Stepping Stones and Restoring Shropshire Verges Project.

Rob Rowe Plant Group Organiser

Camlad Community Wildlife Group

Receipts and Payments for year ending 31/3/20 (as at 11/2/20)

Payments In

Date Receipts £

24/7/19 Bal 105.60 16/12/19 Cash 17.00

Payments Out

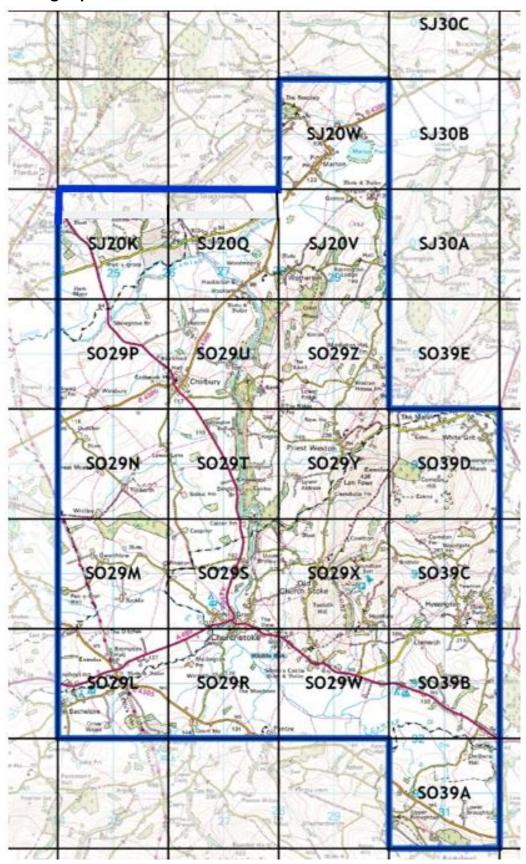
Date Cheque No. Payment £ 27/11/19 0009 L. Smith 12.00

Payments in £17 Payments out £12

Monies in Bank £110.60 Hire of Hall £25.00 Final balance £85.00

Huw Prole, Treasurer CVCWG

Appendix 1. Map of the Camlad Valley Community Wildlife Group Survey Area, showing Square Boundaries and Tetrad Codes



The Group's area includes Churchstoke, Chirbury and Marton, and Corndon and Roundton Hills, and part of Offa's Dyke, as shown on the map.

Each square ("tetrad") on the map is 2x2 kilometres, using gridlines marked on Ordnance survey maps. Total area: 20 tetrads = 80 square kilometres.

Appendix 2. Camlad Valley CWG Bird Survey Results 2019 Survey Results: First Period 23 March - 7 April

| | Wales | Surveyor(s) | Time : | Spent | | | | N | umber | of Each | Specie | s Record | ded (Ind | dividua | Birds) | | | Reed Bunting | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|--------------------------|--------|-------|---------|----------|-----------|--------|---------|-----------------|--------|----------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Tetrad | | | Hrs | Mins | Lapwing | Curlew | Red Kite | Snipe | Skylark | Meadow Pipit | Cuckoo | Dunnock | Wheat- ear | Stone- chat | Tree Sparrow | Bullfinch | Yellow- hammer | | | | | | | | |
| SJ20 K | Υ | Steve Pastfield | 5 | 40 | | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | | | | 1 | | 10 | | | | | | | | | | |
| SJ20 Q | Υ | Sandy Scott | 4 | 30 | | | 1 | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SJ20 V | N | Steve Wright | 1 | 35 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SJ20 W | Υ | Paul Roughley | 2 | 0 | | 2 | 3 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 L | Υ | | | | (Squa | re not s | urveyed) |) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 M | Υ | Steve Wright | 2 | 5 | | <u> </u> | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 N | Tiny Bit | | | | (Squa | re not s | urveyed) |) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 P | N | Ros Burns | 2 | 30 | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 R | Υ | Peter Fenner | 2 | 0 | | 4 | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 S | Υ | Bernard Gillespie | 5 | 15 | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 T | N | Ros Burns | 1 | 0 | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 U | N | Jackie Thomas | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 W | ALL | Norman Goalby | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 X | Υ | Hazel Cribb | 2 | 30 | (No ta | rget spe | ecies rec | orded) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 Y | Υ | Chris Radford | 3 | 0 | | 2 | | | 1 | 1 | | 2 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 Z | N | Jackie Thomas | 2 | 0 | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 A | Tiny Bit | Huw Prole | 1 | 40 | | 2 | | 1 | 2 | | | 2 | | | 6 | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 B | Υ | Trevor Holden | | | (Unab | le to do | survey) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 C | ALL | Stuart Dickinson | 1 | 40 | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 D | Υ | Stuart & Avril Dickinson | 2 | 10 | | | 1 | | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 D | Υ | Ian Kidd | 3 | 45 | | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 D | Υ | Sally Currin | 4 | 0 | | | | 1 | lots | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Totals (2 | 0 Tetra | ds) | 47 | 20 | 0 | 21 | 9 | 3 | 20 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | |

Second Period 20 April - 5 May

| | Wales | Surveyor(s) | Time : | Spent | | | | N | lumber | of Each | Specie | s Recor | ded (Ind | dividua | l Birds) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|-------------------|--------|-------|---------|----------|----------|--------|---------|-----------------|--------|---------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Tetrad | | | Hrs | Mins | Lapwing | Curlew | Red Kite | Snipe | Skylark | Meadow Pipit | Cuckoo | Dunnock | Wheat- ear | Stone- chat | Tree Sparrow | Bullfinch | Yellow- hammer | | | | | | | | | |
| SJ20 K | Υ | Steve Pastfield | | | (Unab | le to do | survey) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SJ20 Q | Υ | Sandy Scott | 3 | 15 | | 1 | | | 1 | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| SJ20 V | N | Steve Wright | 2 | 10 | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SJ20 W | Υ | Paul Roughley | 2 | 10 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 L | Υ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 M | Y | Steve Wright | 2 | 20 | (No ta | rget spe | cies rec | orded) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 N | Tiny Bit | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 P | N | Ros Burns | 2 | 30 | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 R | Υ | Peter Fenner | 2 | 5 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 S | Υ | Bernard Gillespie | 4 | 30 | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 T | N | Ros Burns | 1 | 30 | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 U | N | Jackie Thomas | 2 | 20 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 W | ALL | Norman Goalby | 4 | 0 | (No ta | rget spe | cies rec | orded) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 X | Υ | Hazel Cribb | 3 | 10 | | | | | | | | 2 | | | | | 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 Y | Υ | Chris Radford | 1 | 0 | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 Z | N | Jackie Thomas | 2 | 5 | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 A | Tiny Bit | Huw Prole | 3 | 0 | | 2 | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 B | Υ | Trevor Holden | | | (Casua | al recor | ds subm | itted) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 C | ALL | Stuart Dickinson | 2 | 0 | 1 | | | | I | | | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 D | Υ | Stuart Dickinson | 1 | 0 | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 D | Υ | Ian Kidd | 2 | 45 | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 D | Υ | Sally Currin | 3 | 0 | | | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Totals (2 | 20 Tetra | ds) | 44 | 50 | 0 | 5 | 8 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 2 | | | | | | | | |

Survey Results: Third Period 8 - 23 June

| | | Surveyor(s) | Time S | Spent | | | | N | umber | of Each | Specie | s Record | ded (Ind | dividua | Birds) | | | |
|-----------|----------|-------------------|--------|-------|---------|--------|----------|-------|---------|-----------------|--------|----------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Tetrad | Wales | | Hrs | Mins | Lapwing | Curlew | Red Kite | Snipe | Skylark | Meadow Pipit | Cuckoo | Dunnock | Wheat- ear | Stone- chat | Tree Sparrow | Bullfinch | Yellow- hammer | Reed Bunting |
| SJ20 K | Υ | Steve Pastfield | 3 | 40 | | 3 | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| SJ20 Q | Υ | Sandy Scott | 3 | 0 | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | 2 | 2 | |
| SJ20 V | N | Steve Wright | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SJ20 W | Υ | Paul Roughley | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 L | Y | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 M | Υ | Steve Wright | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 N | Tiny Bit | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 P | N | Ros Burns | 1 | 0 | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 R | Y | Peter Fenner | 2 | 15 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 S | Υ | Bernard Gillespie | 3 | 0 | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| SO29 T | N | Ros Burns | 1 | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | у | |
| SO29 U | N | Jackie Thomas | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 W | ALL | Norman Goalby | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 X | Y | Hazel Cribb | 2 | 0 | | | | | | | | 2 | | | | | у | |
| SO29 Y | Y | Chris Radford | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO29 Z | N | Jackie Thomas | 2 | 45 | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 A | Tiny Bit | Huw Prole | 2 | 5 | | | 2 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 B | Υ | Trevor Holden | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 C | ALL | Stuart Dickinson | 1 | 0 | | | 2 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| SO39 D | Y | Stuart Dickinson | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SO39 D | Υ | Ian Kidd | 4 | 20 | | 2 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | |
| SO39 D | Υ | Sally Currin | | | Ĭ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Totals (2 | 0 Tetra | | 26 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 |