

Tanat to Perry

Community Wildlife Group



Bird Survey Results 2019



CONTENTS

Tanat to Perry Community Wildlife Group.....	1
Curlews, Lapwings and Other Birds Survey	2
Objectives.....	2
Methodology.....	2
Curlew.....	3
Lapwing	5
Kestrel.....	7
Other Target Species	8
Anecdotal Local Evidence for the Decline of Lapwing and Curlew.....	9
Objective Evidence for the Decline of Lapwing and Curlew	9
Comparison of TP CWG Survey Results with the Shropshire Bird Atlas 2008-13.....	11
Use of CWG Survey Results.....	12
Work With Individual Farmers.....	12
Lessons learnt, to be applied in 2020	13
Recommendations	14
Acknowledgements	14
Other Community Wildlife Groups	15
Save our Curlews Campaign	15
Summary 2019	15
Plans for 2020	16
Further Information.....	16
Appendix 1. Map of Survey Area, showing Square Boundaries and Tetrad Codes ...	17
Appendix 2. Detailed Survey Results.....	18
Appendix 3. Bird Atlas 2008-13 Curlew map, and CWG areas and activity in 2018 ...	20
Appendix 4. Status and Finances.....	21

The Tanat to Perry Community Wildlife Group

The Group was established in March 2018, primarily to look for Curlews as part of the Shropshire Wildlife Trust (SWT) and Shropshire Ornithological Society (SOS) *Save our Curlews* Campaign. There were already Community Wildlife Groups surveying Lapwing and Curlew in most of the areas in the County where several pairs of Curlew had been found during Bird Atlas surveys carried out in 2008-13, but there was no previous coverage of the important area south of Oswestry.

Both Lapwing and Curlew have suffered a massive contraction in range and population decline in the last 20 years or so, nationally and locally. Curlew has been described as the UK's highest bird conservation priority, as we have an estimated 28% of the European breeding population, and 19 – 27% of the world population.

The aim of the Group is therefore to involve local people in surveying the area for Lapwing and Curlew, to see if the populations have continued to fall here following the Bird Atlas survey. The survey aims to locate the territories of breeding pairs, estimate the population, and if possible pin-point the fields with nests. No attempt is made to look for nests.

The area covered extends from Oswestry in the north to Kinnerley in the south, and eastward from the Welsh border to Ruyton-XI-Towns: from the Tanat to the Perry.

The launch meeting on 7 March 2018 received a presentation on the methodology and results of similar surveys carried out by Community Wildlife Groups in the Shropshire Hills since 2004 and the organisation of a similar survey in the Severn-Vyrnwy confluence in 2018.

An introductory leaflet, outlining the reasons for the survey and how it would be carried out,

with an appeal for volunteers and publicising the meeting, was distributed in the area and sent to SWT and SOS members. Posters were put up, and a press release issued.

The meeting was well attended, by 60 people, most of whom agreed to help. Several others, who were unable to come to the meeting, also volunteered to help. In total, 69 people, including 16 couples, plus one of the Shropshire Wild Teams, did survey work.

The survey was a success, and it was repeated in 2019, following another intensive publicity campaign and a well-attended briefing meeting on 5 March. Of the 50 people who attended, 26 were previous contacts (mostly surveyors), and 24 were new faces of whom 14 (including some 'pairs') signed up to survey tetrads. Other people, including some more surveyors who helped in 2018, also signed up to survey tetrads. All except 4 of the 43 tetrads were surveyed.

CURLEWS, LAPWINGS AND OTHER BIRDS SURVEY

Objectives

Participants 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 they are on the *Red List* or *Amber List of Birds of Conservation Concern* in the UK because they have suffered large declines in the last 25 or 50 years, and/or are Target Species in the national Biodiversity Action Plan).

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

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| • Kestrel | • Cuckoo | • Tree Sparrow |
| • Red Kite | • Dipper | • Linnet |
| • Barn Owl | • Swift (nest sites only) | • Bullfinch |
| • Grey Partridge | • Yellow Wagtail | • Yellowhammer |
| • Snipe | • Dunnock | • Reed Bunting |
| • Skylark | • Wheatear | • Corn Bunting |
| • Meadow Pipit | • Spotted Flycatcher | |

This was the second year in which a bird survey was carried out in this area. It is intended to repeat it annually, to monitor long-term population trends for the two main species, as well as establish the current population and distribution, and use the results to promote conservation and attempt to reverse the decline.

Methodology

The area covered by the Community Wildlife Group was divided up into 43 2km x 2km squares, known as "tetrads", each made up of four of the one-kilometre squares shown by the pale blue grid lines on Ordnance Survey maps. A map showing these tetrads, and their reference codes, is shown at Appendix 1.

People who agreed to help were allocated a tetrad, and requested to survey it once during each of three specified two-week periods, around the end of March, end of April, and mid-June.

- The first period follows the arrival of Lapwing and Curlew back on their 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.

Each survey visit concentrated on suitable habitat for the two main target species, and was expected to take around three hours. Participants were provided with detailed survey instructions, and a large scale map of their tetrad (the map filled an A4 sheet of paper) for each survey. The aim was to establish the number of territories (number of breeding pairs) for Lapwing and Curlew; no attempt was made to find nests. All survey work was carried out from public rights of way, unless a surveyor obtained the landowner's permission to look in specific fields.

A training meeting was held for those who wanted one, on Sunday 24 March. Additional evening sessions were arranged for those that could not make this date. A total of 15 participants attended altogether. All were treated to several pairs of displaying and breeding Lapwing, and most saw or heard Curlews.

Survey work was carried out in all except four of the 43 tetrads, and members spent just over 350 hours on it. This represents an excellent effort.

Many surveyors, and other local people, sent in casual records (observations in their survey squares when not actually doing the survey, or in other parts of the area at any time) of Lapwing, Curlew, Kestrel and Red Kite. Such records are extremely useful, as they often include a higher number of birds than seen on the surveys, and they help distinguish between different territories.

Note that some records, of birds heard calling from an unknown position, or seen only in flight with origin or landing place unknown, or believed to be post-breeding flocks or passing through, are not shown on the species maps showing the records received, because they are not helpful in establishing the territories of breeding pairs (the aim of the survey). However, these records are included in the count of records in each tetrad shown in Appendix 2, for completeness. Note also that records listed in Appendix 2 are attributed to the square surveyor, although the survey map has sometimes shown the bird(s) in an adjacent square, which is where they are shown in this report.

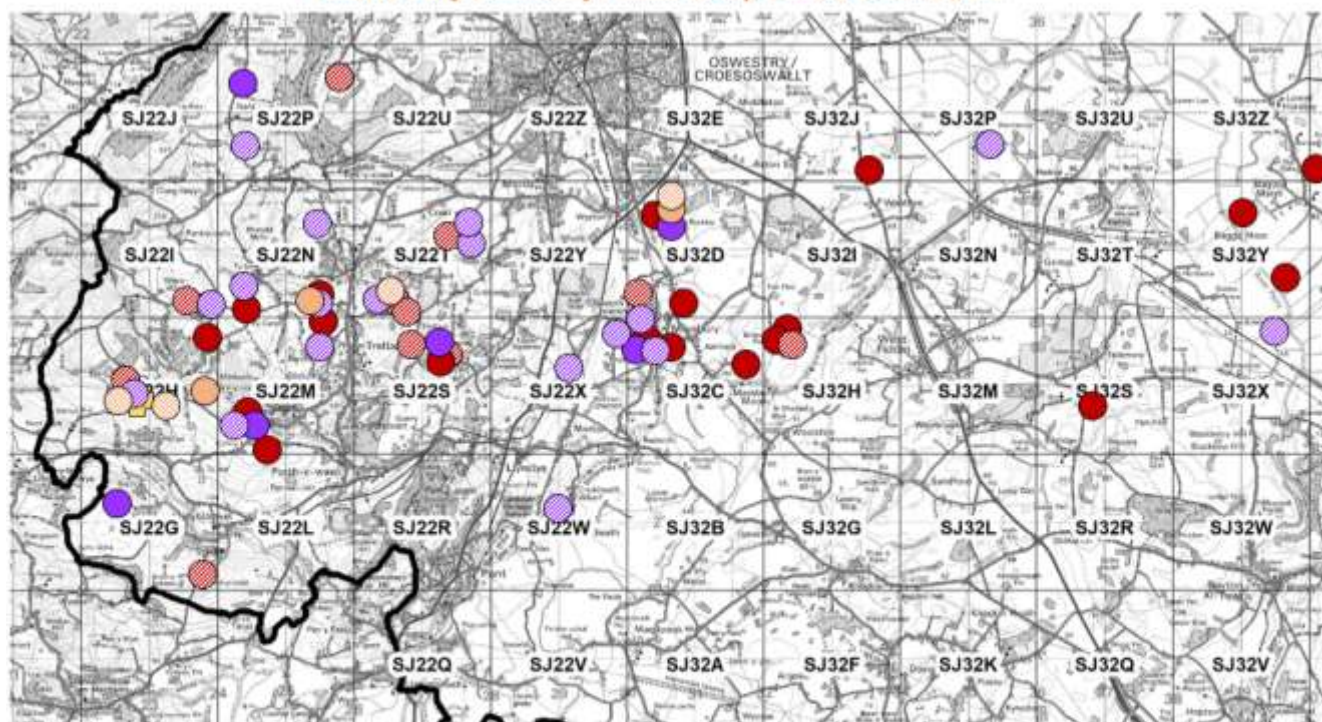
The methodology requires observations of a pair together, or a single bird on two of the three surveys, to confirm a territory. However, Curlews in particular often have large territories, and may be seen a kilometre or more from their nest site, so interpretation of the observations is sometimes difficult, unless singing or displaying birds are seen or heard concurrently. It must be stressed that on some surveys both the birds in a breeding pair might be seen, but on others only one is seen; that the same birds will probably be seen on more than one survey; and a pair nesting close to the corner of a tetrad might also be recorded in up to three adjacent tetrads, either in different survey periods or by different surveyors. Therefore the total number of observations made on the surveys will almost certainly be rather more than the total population in the area, and analysis of the results aims to estimate the total number of breeding pairs or territories, and the approximate location of the centre of each territory (i. e. the nest site). The rules of the methodology (the territory mapping method) requires the analysis to produce the lowest population estimate consistent with the records.

Curlew

The first map on page 4 shows the location of Curlews seen or heard during the surveys. They were seen in 18 tetrads altogether. The casual Curlew records received are also shown on the map, with hatched shading.

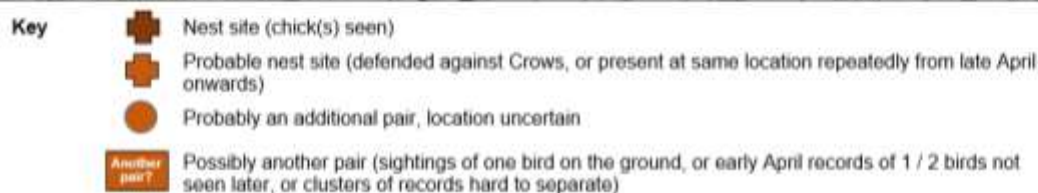
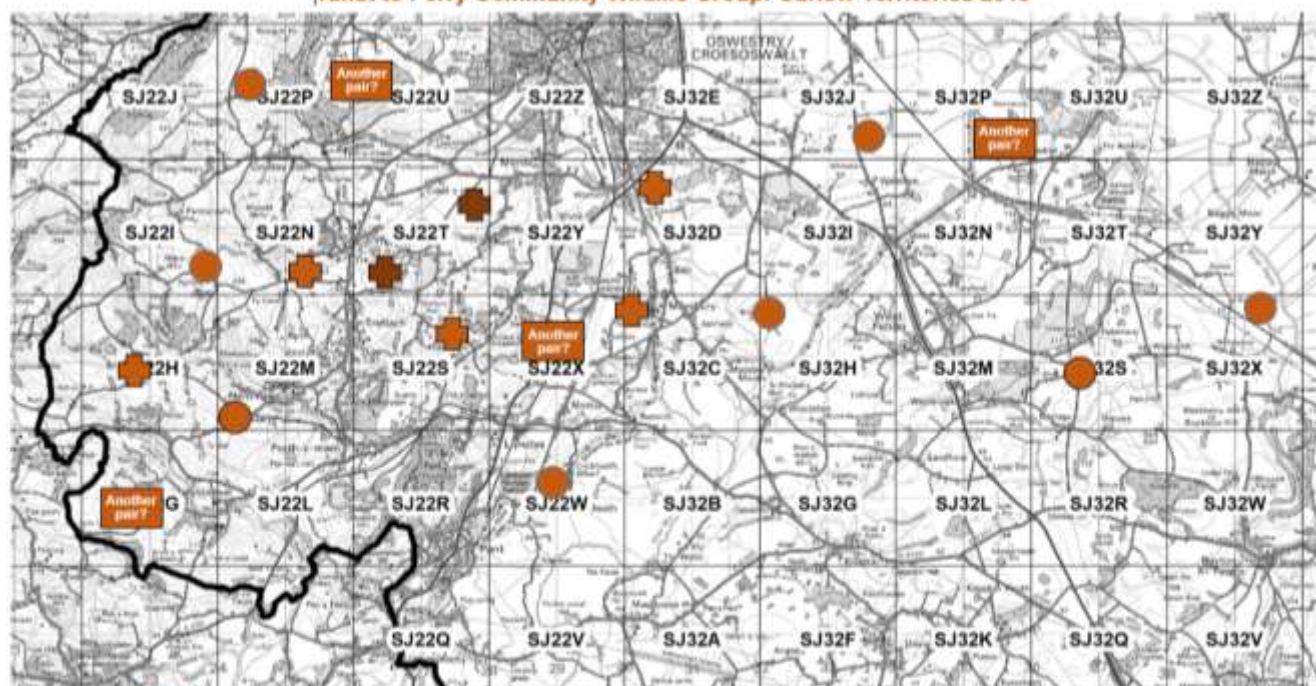
The second map shows the estimated number and location of Curlew territories in the area.

Tanat to Perry Community Wildlife Group: Curlew Records 2019



The methodology requires the analysis to produce the lowest population estimate consistent with the records, in this case 15-19 pairs, possibly more.

Tanat to Perry Community Wildlife Group: Curlew Territories 2019



Population estimate

**15 – 19
breeding pairs**

This compares with an estimate in the 2018 report of 12-15 pairs. Experience of undertaking this type of survey with more long-standing Community Wildlife Groups suggests that it takes several years to get a complete understanding of the populations, and that the apparent increase in population found in 2019 is more likely to be due to surveyors getting to know their squares better than a real increase. In future years, evidence may be found to confirm a higher population, and reduce the range (uncertainty) in the estimate.

The most useful records are of two singing or displaying males or pairs seen or heard concurrently. The boundary between the two territories will be somewhere between them. The 2018 report included, as an example, observations on one of the training sessions in the vicinity of Holly Banks (in the Severn-Vyrnwy Confluence area), when Curlews were seen or heard concurrently on several occasions, as summarised on the fieldwork survey map. This allowed a dense cluster of records collected during the subsequent survey work to be separated into five territories. Surveyors in the Tanat to Perry area were encouraged to note Curlews seen or heard concurrently, as such observations would also help separate clusters of records at several locations. In areas where clusters of Curlews were seen or heard from adjacent tetrads, composite maps of these “Curlew hotspots” were prepared and volunteers were asked to make additional survey visits, using these maps.

The Curlew population in the area is estimated at 15-19 pairs, but there is no evidence that any young fledged.

Over 150 adult Curlews have been colour-ringed since 2016, mainly at Dolydd Hafren Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust Reserve on the River Severn near Welshpool during March, when they are passing through on their way to their breeding sites. Each of these Curlews is individually identified by the two letters on the yellow ring on the left leg. Several of them have been found at breeding sites elsewhere in Shropshire. Surveyors in the Tanat to Perry area were asked to check any Curlews that were seen on the ground at breeding sites for rings, but none were.

Lapwing

The first map on page 6 shows the location of Lapwings found during the surveys. There is no indication on this map of the number of birds seen.

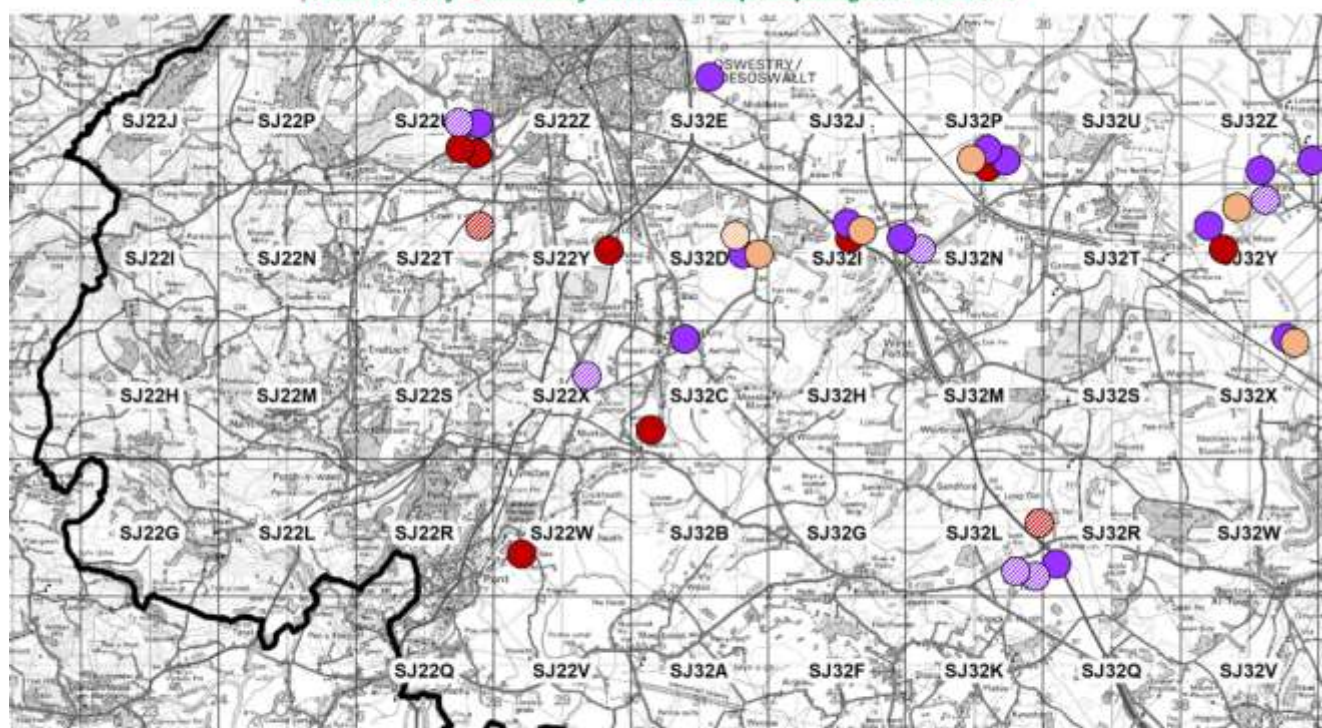
The second map groups the observations from the first two surveys into territories, taking into account the number of birds reported on the survey maps, and additional casual records, which often reported more birds than seen on the survey visits.

Lapwings usually lay their first clutch in late March or early April. If they lose this clutch, usually due to either agricultural operations or predation, they will probably re-lay. However, if the field with the nest has become unsuitable (probably because the crop has grown too tall, or stock have moved onto the field, or the food supply has gone because the field has dried out) they will have to move to a new nest site, perhaps some distance away. If the eggs hatch, the adults usually move the chicks to good feeding sites, perhaps some distance from the nest. If all breeding attempts fail, the adults start to form post-breeding flocks, and might move out of the area. Thus fewer Lapwings will be seen on the third survey, and those that are might have already been counted in a different tetrad in the first two surveys.

Therefore, pairs at sites with records in the second period but not the first may have been relocations after failed breeding attempts. However, most sites had records in both periods. Numbers seen in third period were much lower, as many breeding attempts fail, so adults become inconspicuous, or chicks are led from arable fields to grassland, and are harder to see. The field being used by a pair in SJ22Y during the first survey was ploughed before the

second, and a field with 2 pairs in SJ32R on the second survey had been ploughed by the third.

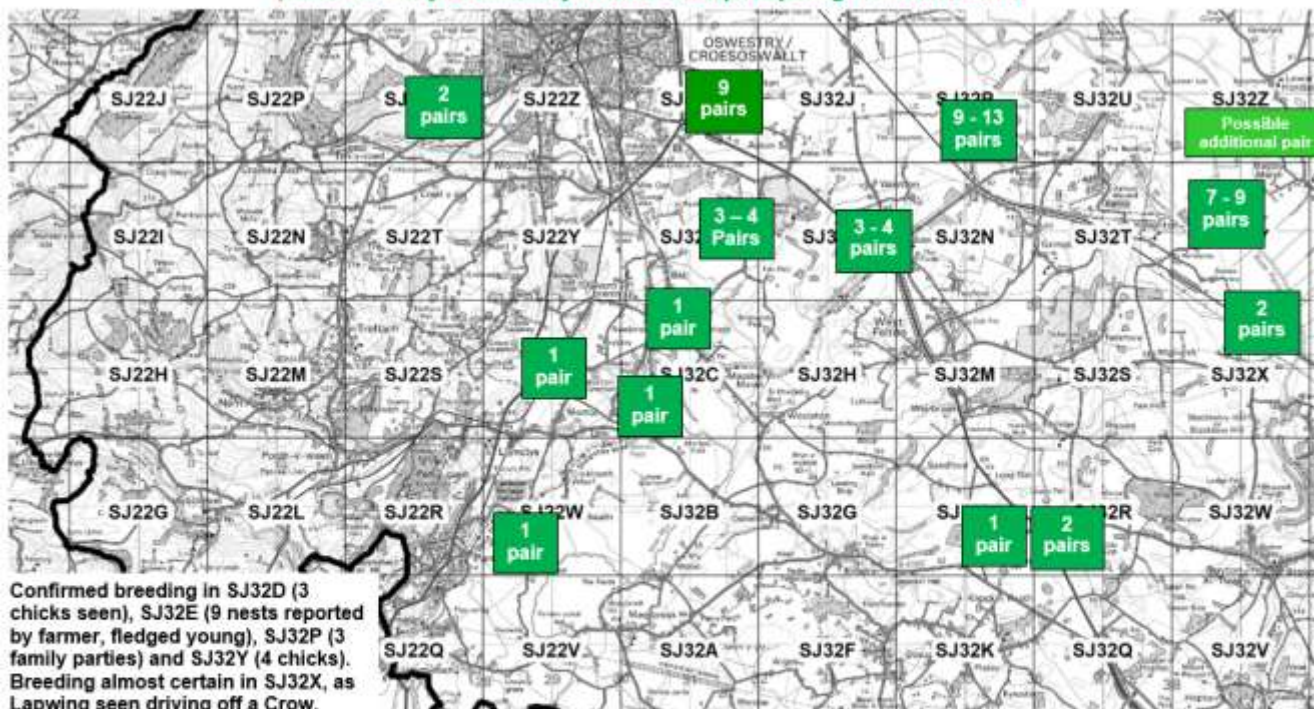
Tanat to Perry Community Wildlife Group: Lapwing Records 2019



Key

	First period 23 March - 7 April	Second Period 20 April - 5 May	Third period 8 - 23 June
Survey records			
Casual records			

Tanat To Perry Community Wildlife Group: Lapwing Territories 2019



Confirmed breeding in SJ32D (3 chicks seen), SJ32E (9 nests reported by farmer, fledged young), SJ32P (3 family parties) and SJ32Y (4 chicks). Breeding almost certain in SJ32X, as Lapwing seen driving off a Crow.

Pairs at sites with records in the second period but not the first may have been relocations, as some Lapwings move sites between breeding attempts, if the first site becomes unsuitable (field is ploughed, crop grows too high, or ground dries out). However, most sites had records in both periods. Numbers seen in third period were much lower, as many breeding attempts fail, so adults become inconspicuous, or chicks are led from arable to grassland, and are harder to see. The field being used by a pair in SJ22Y during the first survey was ploughed before the second, and a field with 2 pairs in SJ32R on the second survey had been ploughed by the third.

Estimating the population is therefore difficult, but there were probably at least 42 - 51 pairs

Numbers seen on the third survey cannot therefore be reliably added to the population estimate from the first two surveys, but evidence of confirmed breeding might be obtained.

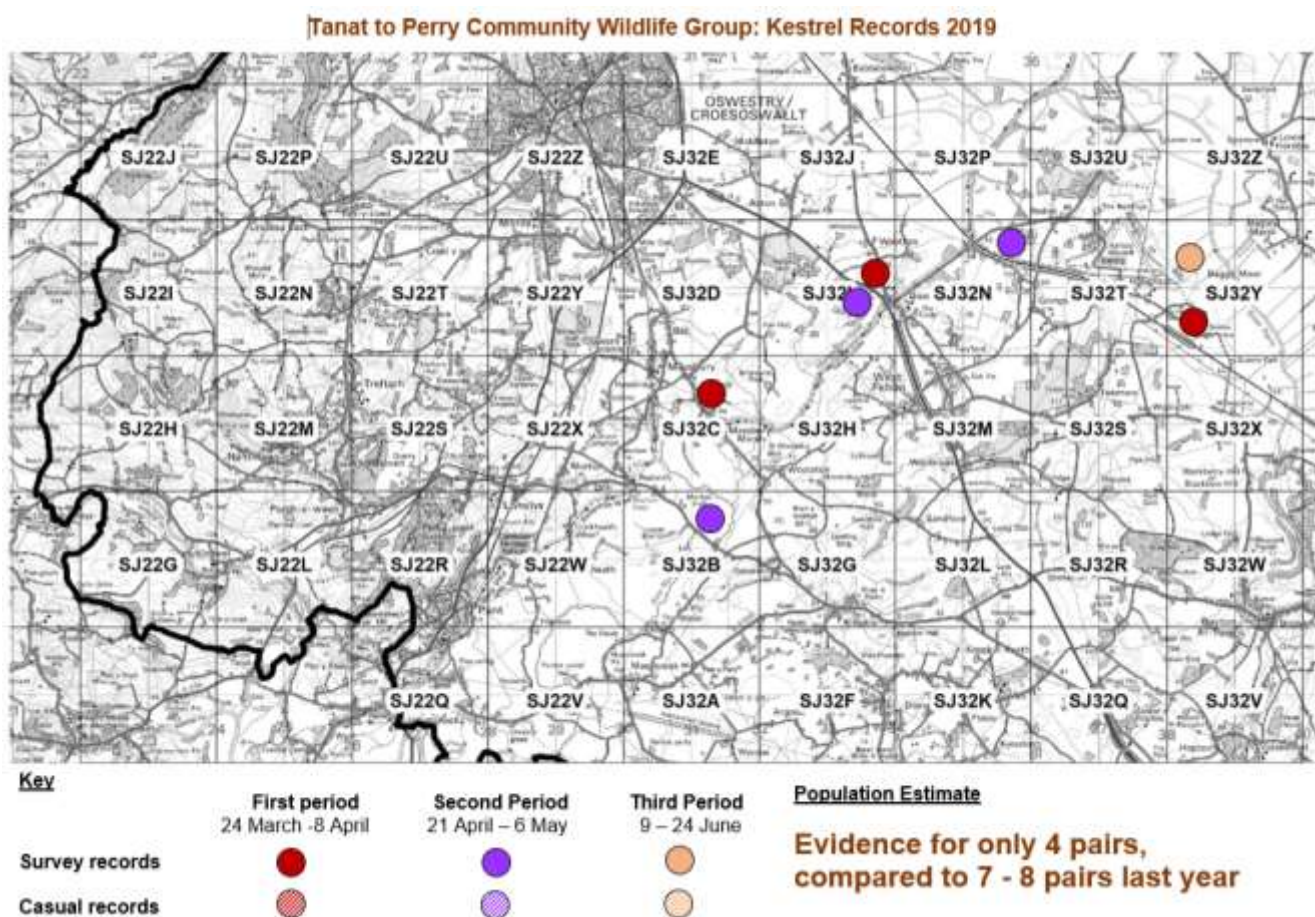
There were confirmed breeding records in SJ32D (3 chicks seen), SJ32E (9 nests reported by farmer, fledged young), SJ32P (3 family parties) and SJ32Y (4 chicks). Breeding almost certainly occurred in SJ32X, as Lapwing seen driving off a Crow.

There was no evidence of fledged young from the surveys, but the dates for the third survey would probably have been too soon to find them.

From the observations and analysis, it is estimated that the Lapwing population in the area is 42 - 51 breeding pairs, very similar to the 2018 estimate of 44 - 47 pairs.

Kestrel

The location of Kestrels seen during the surveys is shown on the map below



Kestrels forage up to about 1.5 kilometres from their nest site, so some of the dots will be different observations of the same individuals. However, it is likely that the clusters of dots represent around four pairs, compared to around seven last year. Kestrel numbers were much lower in all the Community Wildlife Group areas than last year, suggesting that 2019 was a very poor year for them. No nest sites were found, nor were any fledged young reported.

Kestrels have also declined considerably in recent years, and the Shropshire Ringing and Raptor Groups have launched a nest box scheme to help improve breeding success, and try and find out the reasons for the decline.

Other Target Species

The Other Target Species recorded during the surveys are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1. Other Target Species - Summary

Tetrad	MAXIMUM SINGLE COUNT FROM ALL SURVEYS IN EACH TETRAD												
	Kestrel	Red Kite	Snipe	Barn Owl	Skylark	Meadow Pipit	Yellow Wagtail	Duncock	Wheat-ear	Linnet	Bullfinch	Yellow-hammer	Corn Bunting
SJ22 G		1	7		1			3		45			
SJ22 H													
SJ22 I			1					5					
SJ22 J		2			2						1		
SJ22 L					1								
SJ22 M											2		
SJ22 N						3		1					
SJ22 P													
SJ22 Q								2		1	2		
SJ22 R								1					
SJ22 S													
SJ22 T													
SJ22 U													
SJ22 V								5				1	
SJ22 W												1	
SJ22 X								1			1	1	
SJ22 Y		1											
SJ22 Z													
SJ32 A								3				2	
SJ32 B	1	1		2	1							1	
SJ32 C	1				2							2	5
SJ32 D								4			1	1	
SJ32 E													
SJ32 F								2					
SJ32 G		1											
SJ32 H					7	4	1			2	1	1	6
SJ32 I	1	1											
SJ32 J												20	
SJ32 K		1			2								
SJ32 L													
SJ32 M					1			1					
SJ32 N	1			1	4					4			
SJ32 P					1				2				
SJ32 Q					1								
SJ32 R		1			1		1	1				1	10
SJ32 S					1			3					
SJ32 T													
SJ32 U													
SJ32 V													
SJ32 W													
SJ32 X													
SJ32 Y	1				10		2	3					
SJ32 Z					10			1	4	1		1	3
Totals	5	9	8	3	45	7	4	36	6	53	8	32	24

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 primary aim was to look for Lapwing and Curlew, and all participants were familiar with both these two species, but several participants made no attempt to look for, or record, the other target species.

However, participants were requested to make an effort to record Kestrels, as they too have declined considerably in recent years.

Note that participants 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).

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 of the total population will have been recorded.

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. The results of every survey are shown in Appendix 2.

The Red Kite sightings in 2018 and 2019 were the first time some of the observers have seen them in the area, reflecting the rapid spread of Kites in recent years. The first successful breeding in Shropshire for 130 years occurred as recently as 2006, but 35 nests, and another five pairs, were found in 2019, and there are probably many more pairs. They are still mainly in the south-west hills, but a nest north of Shrewsbury was reported in 2017, and a likely nest in the Tanat to Perry area in both survey years, and a reported nest in 2019, are the furthest north in the County to date, so it is likely that breeding will become a regular occurrence here in the near future.

Most species were found only in small numbers, reflecting the scarcity of their habitat, and four were not recorded at all: Swift (nest sites); Stonechat; Spotted Flycatcher and Tree Sparrow. Where they are found, these species do not occupy the habitats targeted in this survey. Casual records of Swift nest sites would be gratefully received, as the Swift population in England has declined by 50% since 1995. Records are passed to the Shropshire Swift Group, which is organising a conservation programme for them.

Five other species were recorded in one tetrad only: Grey Partridge (SJ22U); Cuckoo (SJ22U); Dipper (SJ22G); Whinchat (SJ22V); and Reed Bunting (SJ32H).

Grey Partridge has virtually disappeared from Shropshire. Cuckoo is increasingly rare – there were no casual records, and it has declined by 41% in the UK between 1995 and 2017, and by 70% in England and 77% in the English West Midlands in the same period. There is little suitable habitat in the area for the other three.

Anecdotal Local Evidence for the Decline of Lapwing and Curlew

Participants 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.

Objective Evidence for the Decline of Lapwing and Curlew

In England, Lapwing and Curlew are in decline, nationally, and in Shropshire. Objective evidence for this comes from Bird Atlas work, and the Breeding Bird Survey carried out each year by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), and the summary tables in the annual State of the UK's Birds.

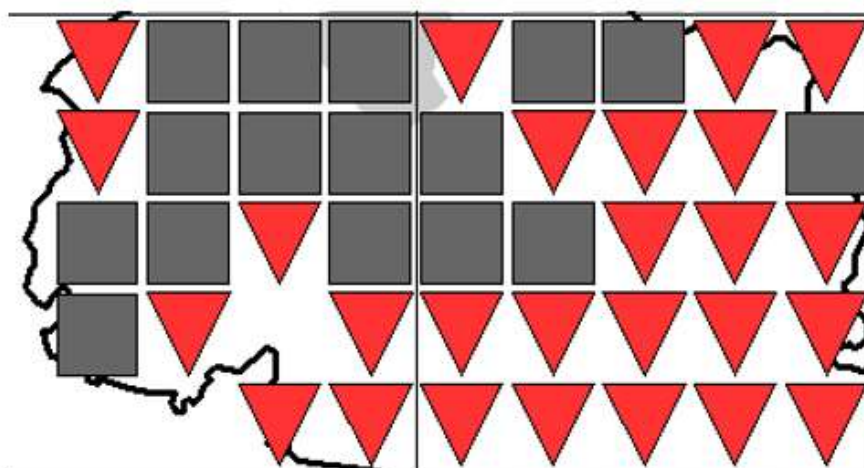
In the UK, Curlew has declined by 65% between 1970 and 2015, and 48% between 1995 and 2017. In England the decline has been 30%, and in Wales 68%, between 1995 and 2017.

Lapwing has declined by 64% in the UK between 1970 and 2015, and 42% between 1995 and 2017. In England the decline has been 28%, between 1995 and 2017. The decline in Wales since 1995 has been so large that there is insufficient data now to calculate a change.

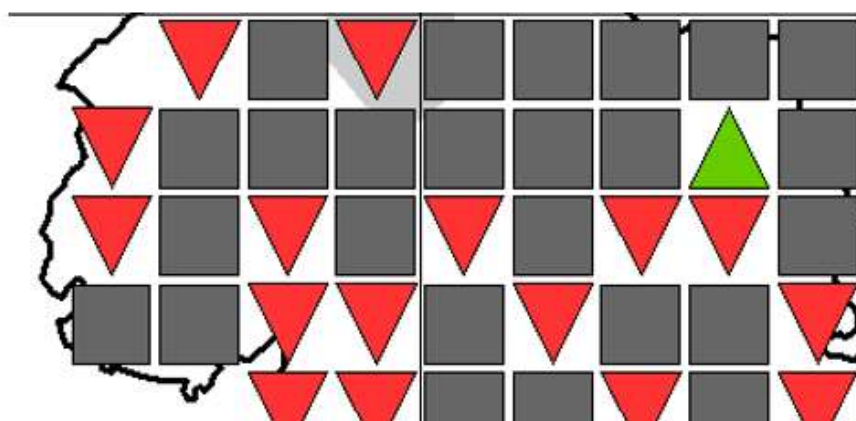
Shropshire Ornithological Society undertook six years' fieldwork between 1985 and 1990, and covered all 870 tetrads in the County. The results were published in *An Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Shropshire* in 1992. The survey was repeated in 2008-13, with similar amounts of fieldwork effort, and the Atlas maps (included in *The Birds of Shropshire*, published by Liverpool University Press in 2019) are directly comparable.

Breeding Distribution Change Maps for the Tanat to Perry CWG area (1985-90 to 2008-13)

Curlew



Lapwing



Maps copyright Shropshire Ornithological Society. Not to be reproduced without prior permission

The resulting breeding distribution change maps for the Tanat to Perry CWG area are shown here. The black line along the left of each map is the border with Wales, and the background pale grey shape at the top in the middle is the town of Oswestry. The grid lines enclose the 10km squares SJ22 and SJ32 on the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Each symbol represents a tetrad (2x2km square on the OS grid, 25 tetrads in the 10km square SJ32, but seven mainly in Wales in SJ22 are excluded).

Tetrads where each species was found in both Atlas surveys are shown as grey squares, and tetrads where it was found in the earlier period, but not the more recent period, are marked with red downward triangles. It was not found in either period in the blank

squares, and a gain in the later period is shown as a green upward triangle. It will be seen that the range of both species declined substantially in this area in that 20-25 year period. Curlew was still present in 16 tetrads, but lost from 26, while Lapwing was still present in 25, lost from 16 and gained in one.

Surveys including counts complement these maps. The county Lapwing population has fallen from about 3,000 pairs in 1990 to only about 800 in 2013, a decline of around 70%. The Curlew population has fallen from about 700 pairs in 1990 to about 160 pairs in 2010 (a 77% decline).

Surveys carried out by several other Community Wildlife Groups suggest that the population has fallen further since 2010.

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

Action to reverse the declines must start by improving the breeding success of the remaining pairs, so conservation action in the areas where they are still found, such as the Tanat to Perry CWG area, is vital. Such action is being taken, nationally and locally. 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.

Both species nest on farmland, and the Countryside Stewardship Agri-environment Scheme (part of the system of payments to farmers through the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union) includes provision to reward farmers for sensitive management of habitat on their farms, and providing other environmental benefits. The scheme includes specific prescriptions, and payments, for Lapwing and Curlew habitat, but it unlikely that new applications will be successful.

A new Agriculture Bill has been submitted to Parliament by the Government, and it remains to be seen whether the post-Brexit agri-environment schemes will be effective in reversing the decline of farmland birds.

Comparison of Tanat to Perry CWG Bird Survey Results with the Shropshire Bird Atlas 2008-13

The next two pairs of maps show, on the left, the results of the Bird Atlas 2008-13 for the 43 tetrads covered by the survey, and, on the right, the results of the survey in this area, as shown on the 2018 maps in last year's report, and the 2019 maps on pages 4 - 6. Each dot represents at least one observation during the Atlas period, or during the 2018 and 2019 surveys, in the appropriate tetrad.

- Large dot = Confirmed Breeding (Bird seen sitting on nest, or chicks seen)
- Middle dot = Probable Breeding (Pair or display seen)
- Small dot = Seen or heard in suitable habitat
- No dot = Not found

Curlew



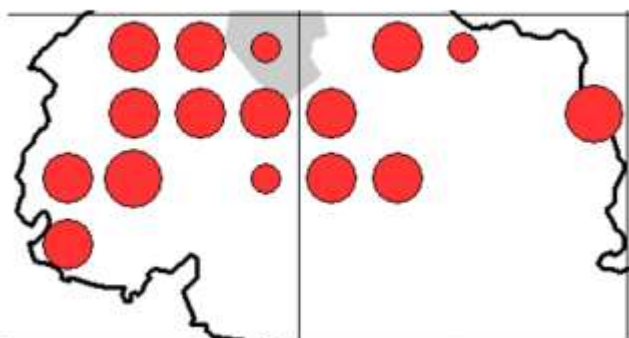
Tanat to Perry
Community Wildlife Group

Curlew

Comparison between Bird Atlas 2008-13 (left)
and CWG survey 201819

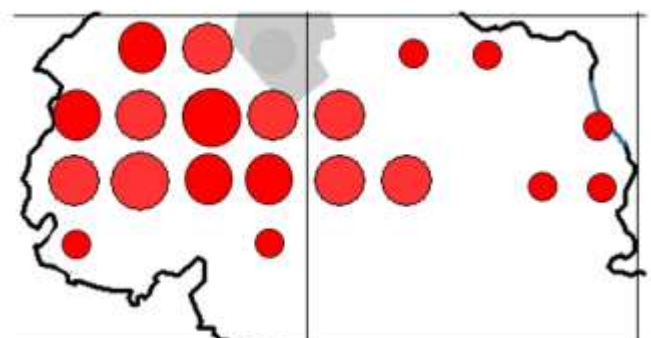
Bird Atlas 2008-13

SJ 22 (east) & SJ32



Tanat to Perry CWG 2018-19

SJ 22 (east) & SJ32



Lapwing



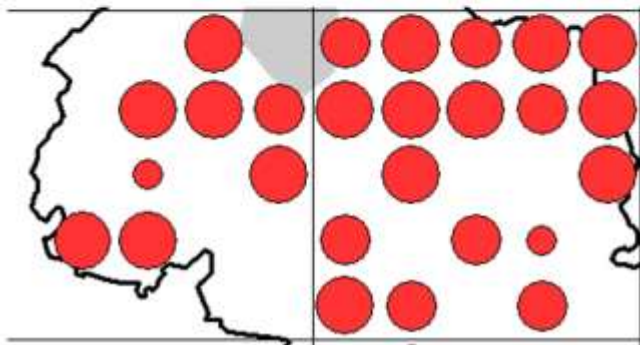
Tanat to Perry
Community Wildlife Group

Lapwing

Comparison between Bird Atlas 2008-13 (left)
and CWG survey 2018-19

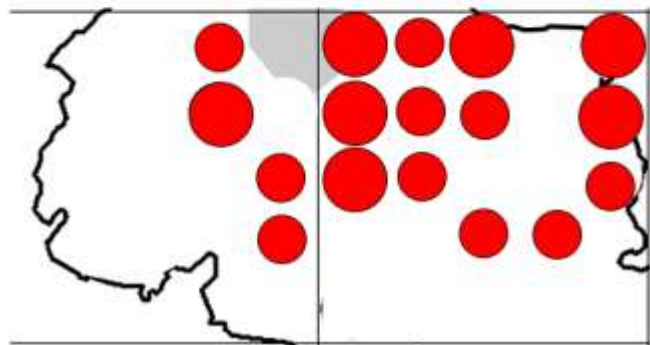
Bird Atlas 2008-13

SJ22 (east) & SJ32



Tanat to Perry CWG 2018-19

SJ22 (east) & SJ32



It must be stressed that the Atlas map includes survey work over six years, not two, but most tetrads will not have been visited every year, and it was only necessary to find the highest level of breeding evidence once in the six years, and the surveyors were looking for breeding evidence for all species.

Also, while Curlews, as long as they survive, are generally site faithful, Lapwing on arable farmland have to follow the crop rotation to find bare earth or spring crops, so the same pair(s) may occupy several tetrads in a period of several years.

Even so, it is unlikely that the 2018 and 2019 surveys found all the pairs, and results should improve as surveyors get to know their squares better, and more people find out about the survey and contribute records or information. It is likely to take 2-3 years to build up a complete picture.

However, the two target species are conspicuous and noisy, so most will not have been overlooked, and these maps suggest strongly that the decline of both species has continued since the Atlas survey in this area too.

Use of CWG Survey Results

Most importantly in the short term, the survey results will be made available to Natural England. They show the importance of particular areas for these species, which will hopefully encourage farmers to manage their land sensitively, and provide Natural England with objective evidence to judge individual farm applications to join Countryside Stewardship, and information 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, and the north-west. The former 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 the sites sensitively, so they retain their value for wildlife.

Conservation action to halt and reverse the decline of Curlew in particular is becoming increasingly important at the regional and national level. The South of England Curlew Forum is encouraging local conservation projects, and collating results from Shropshire and all counties to the south of us, to show that Curlews are still declining, and productivity (the number of fledged young per breeding pair) is not sufficient to maintain even the existing depleted population.

Shropshire has about 20 – 25% of the Curlew records contributed to the Forum, including those from this Group.

The same information is contributed to a national Curlew Species Recovery Group, comprising RSPB (who provide the chair / secretariat), BTO, GWCT, WWT, JNCC, National Trust, Birdwatch Ireland, National Parks Ireland and the four country-based statutory agencies. The purpose of the group is to bring together five statutory agencies and various non-governmental organisations to shape and drive a co-ordinated programme for Curlew conservation

More importantly in the longer term, the location of Curlew territories and nest sites will provide vital information to the *Save our Curlews* campaign. Subject to locating the approximate locations of the centre of several Curlew territories (i.e. the field(s) containing the nest site), and the appeal raising the necessary funds to employ someone to find the nests and put up and maintain electric fences to protect them, it is hoped to start nest protection in the near future. A professional ornithologist will be employed to find nests once we are confident that we have located several territories. This will obviously require permission for access to the appropriate land, and co-operation from farmers on how their land is managed, so building relationships with individual farmers will be a crucial part of our work in future years.

Finally, records of all target species are being added to the BTO BirdTrack database.

Work With Individual Farmers

Several members talked to local farmers while conducting their surveys, who were friendly and helpful. A lot of useful information was received, including reports of Curlew nests in previous years, and a Red Kite nest. Some volunteered access to their land, particularly to find and protect Curlew nests if and when this work starts in the area.

A record has been kept of the contact details of these farmers, and efforts will be made to keep in touch with them as the group, and the *Save our Curlews* campaign, develops.

Lessons Learnt, to be Applied in 2020

More emphasis will be placed on noting the behaviour of Lapwing and Curlew, to try and ascertain whether birds are part of the same breeding pair, or different ones, and whether they were defending nests or chicks, indicating the nesting field and level of breeding success.

Recommendations

Natural England is recommended to encourage farmers with breeding Lapwing or Curlew on or near their land to join appropriate agri-environment schemes, when available, 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:

Claire Backshall	Anthony Griffiths	Bill Mullen
Linda Baines	Richard Halahan	Claire Norris
Vic & Cath Baldry	David Hardwick	David & Cathy Osselton
Mike Bastow	Neil & Jeanette Henderson	Dave & Gwyn Parish
Catherine & Adam Bowles-Jones	Elaine & Delwyn Hughes	Carol & Howard Perry
Simon Brown	Dave Jones	Carl Pickering
Carol Carpenter	Elaine Jones	Pam & Steve Roberts
Cathy & Dennis Carter	Mary & Vicky Kidson	Steve Roberts
Dennis Cooke	Deborah Knox	Shropshire Wild Team
Michele Coxon	Hannah Langford-Rhodes	Sue & Steve Southam
Beryl Davies	Jacky Leather	Paul Tainty
Warwick Davies	Val Lewis	Joanne Thompson
Sue & Artie Edmonds	Alison Lindsay	Siân West
Jane Evans	Eric Lloyd	Alec White
Sue Franklin	Andy Lowe	Helen Williams
Charles & Sally Green	Jeff Marais	Alistair Wilson
Ros Green	Patrick & Erica Martin	
	Stephen Morris	

Casual records are very important, as they often allow more accurate interpretation of the survey results. Several of the surveyors, and a number of additional people, also supplied additional casual records.

Vic & Cath Baldry	Anne Garton-Jones	Alison Lindsay
Carol Carpenter	Anthony Griffiths	Stephen Morris
Cathy & Dennis Carter	Neil Henderson	Robert Parker
Andrew Dale	Elaine Hughes	Fiona Peate
Warwick Davies	Carol Jones	Carol & Howard Perry
Allan Dawes	Dave Jones	Carl Pickering
Sue & Artie Edmonds	Haydn Jones	Susan Rice-Oxley
Jon Edwards	Hannah Langford-Rhodes	Sarah Roberts
Jane Evans	Jacky & Mark Leather	Sue Swindells.
Sue Franklin	Val Lewis	

Special thanks to Claire Backshall, who publicised all the meetings, distributed information to members, organised the training, co-ordinated the work and collated the results.

Thanks also to:-

- Richard Hammerton, Shropshire Council Biodiversity Data Officer, who provided the survey maps.
- Allan Dawes, for helping with the fieldwork training.

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 is attached as Appendix 3, overlain with the Community Wildlife Group areas.

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

Save our Curlews Campaign

SWT supported the *Save our Curlews* campaign and appeal during 2019, but has subsequently withdrawn from it. SOS is continuing to support the appeal in 2020, and has also made a commitment to part-fund the campaign itself over the next three years. Applications will also be made to other funding bodies.

The identification of Curlew territories by the Community Wildlife Groups is the foundation of the campaign. When local knowledge has located them sufficiently for a professional ornithologist to have a good chance of finding several nests, it is intended to find them and protect them with an electric fence, and then radio tag the chicks that hatch, to gain information on how they feed, and the threats they face. The work will hopefully be funded by the campaign and appeal.

Such work was carried out in the Upper Clun and Clee Hill CWG areas in 2018 and 2019. In 2018, three nests were found and fenced in each area. No chicks survived in the Upper Clun, but at least one, probably two, fledged in Clee Hill. In 2019, four nests were found and fenced in the Clee Hill area, five chicks were tagged and followed, and a brood of three all fledged. Unfortunately, because insufficient funds were available to allocate enough time to nest finding, only one nest was found in the Upper Clun, and permission could not be obtained to fence it. Detailed reports of the work in each of these two areas, and more information about the aims of the campaign, can be found on the SOS website www.shropshirebirds.com/save-our-curlews/ If you want to donate to the appeal see the same website.

Summary 2019

This report summarises a very successful second year for the Group. Members showed a high level of commitment in carrying out the surveys.

All except four of the 43 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 populations in the Tanat to Perry CWG area are estimated at 15 - 19 pairs of Curlew, a small increase on last year, and 42 - 51 pairs of Lapwing, a similar number to last year. The apparent increase in Curlews is more likely to be due to surveyors getting to know their squares better than a real increase in population.

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

Plans for 2020

The Group intends to repeat the Bird Survey next year, and in subsequent years, to clarify the number of pairs of Curlew and Lapwing actually present, and the location of nest sites and foraging areas, and work towards regular monitoring to establish a population trend. More participants are needed, so we hope to recruit new members.

The Group's meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4 March 2020 will largely be about planning the 2020 survey. Everyone interested in birds is welcome to participate. The venue is Morda Social Club, Weston Road, Morda, Oswestry SY10 9NS (turn opposite the Miners Arms, then 200 yards on the left).

Further Information

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| • Claire Backshall | tpcwg@shropscwgs.org.uk | 01691 830691 |
| • Leo Smith | leo@leosmith.org.uk | 01694 720296 |

Further copies of this report can be obtained from either.

Leo Smith
Claire Backshall
February 2020

[illegible]

Appendix 2. Detailed Survey Results

First Survey Period (23 March - 7 April)

Tetrad		Square Surveyor	Time		Other target species looked for	Number of Each Species Recorded																
			Hrs	Mins		Kestrel	Red Kite	Grey Partridge	Snipe	Cuckoo	Barn Owl	Skyhawk	Meadow Pipit	Yellow Wagtail	Dipper	Duncock	Wheat-ear	Whin-chat	Linnet	Bullfinch	Reed Bunting	Yellow-hammer
SJ22	G	David Hardwick	4	0	Yes				7			1			1							
SJ22	G	Sue & Steve Southam	3	5	Yes										3							
SJ22	H	Sue & Artie Edmonds	2	20	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																
SJ22	I	Carol & Howard Perry	3	0	Yes				1						1							
SJ22	J	David & Gwyneth Parish	2	0	Yes													1				
SJ22	L	Val Lewis	6	0	Yes						1											
SJ22	M	Jacky Leather	4	0	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																
SJ22	N	Cathy & Dennis Carter	3	15	Yes							3			1							
SJ22	P	Claire Norris & Mike Bastow	2	0	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																
SJ22	Q	Claire Backshall	1	15	Yes										2				2			
SJ22	R	Eric Lloyd	5	15	Yes										1							
SJ22	S	Jeanette & Neil Henderson	2	40	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																
SJ22	T	Warwick Davies																				
SJ22	U	Carol Carpenter & Beryl Davies	2	30	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																
SJ22	U	Elaine Jones & Bill Mullen	4	5	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																
SJ22	V	Charles & Sally Green	2	30	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																
SJ22	W	Andy Lowe & Dennis Cooke	6	0	Yes																	1
SJ22	W	Elaine & Delwyn Hughes	3	15	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																
SJ22	X	Sue Franklin	1	25	Yes										1							
SJ22	Y	Steve Roberts	4	15	Yes			1														
SJ22	Y	David & Cathy Osselton	3	40	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																
SJ22	Z	Carol Carpenter & Beryl Davies	2	0	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																
SJ32	A	Mary & Vicky Kidson	4	30	Yes										1							2
SJ32	B	Sian West	6	5	Yes			1			2										1	
SJ32	C	Anthony Griffiths	2	5	Yes		1					2									2	5
SJ32	D	Vic & Cath Baldry	3	45	Yes										1						1	
SJ32	E	Linda Baines																				
SJ32	F	Carl Pickering	2	15	Yes										2							
SJ32	G	Alec White	3	0	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																
SJ32	H	Anthony Griffiths	2	20	Yes							7	4					2	1	1		4
SJ32	I	Jane Evans & Helen Williams	2	40	Yes		1															
SJ32	J	Catherine & Adam Bowles-Jones	2	30	Yes																	20
SJ32	K	Jeff Marais	3	10	Yes			1				2										
SJ32	L	Jeff Marais				Not surveyed																
SJ32	M	Dave Jones	3	0	Yes							1										
SJ32	N	Paul Tainty	3	20	Yes						1	4						2				
SJ32	N	Simon Brown & Shropshire Wild Team	3	30	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																
SJ32	P	VACANT				Not surveyed																
SJ32	P	VACANT				Not surveyed																
SJ32	P	VACANT				Not surveyed																
SJ32	Q	Deborah Knox	4	10	Yes							1										
SJ32	R	Sian West	5	35	Yes			1				1									1	10
SJ32	S	Erica & Patrick Martin	5	15	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																
SJ32	T	VACANT				Not surveyed																
SJ32	U	Michele Coxon	4	0	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																
SJ32	V	Joanne Thompson	15	15	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																
SJ32	W	Alison Lindsay	1	30	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																
SJ32	X	Alison Lindsay	1	30	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																
SJ32	Y	Richard Halahan	2	35	Yes		1								3							
SJ32	Z	Stephen Morris	3	0	Yes							6			1						1	
Total			153	30		3	4	0	8	0	3	26	7	0	0	18	0	0	4	4	1	29

Second Survey Period (20 April - 5 May)

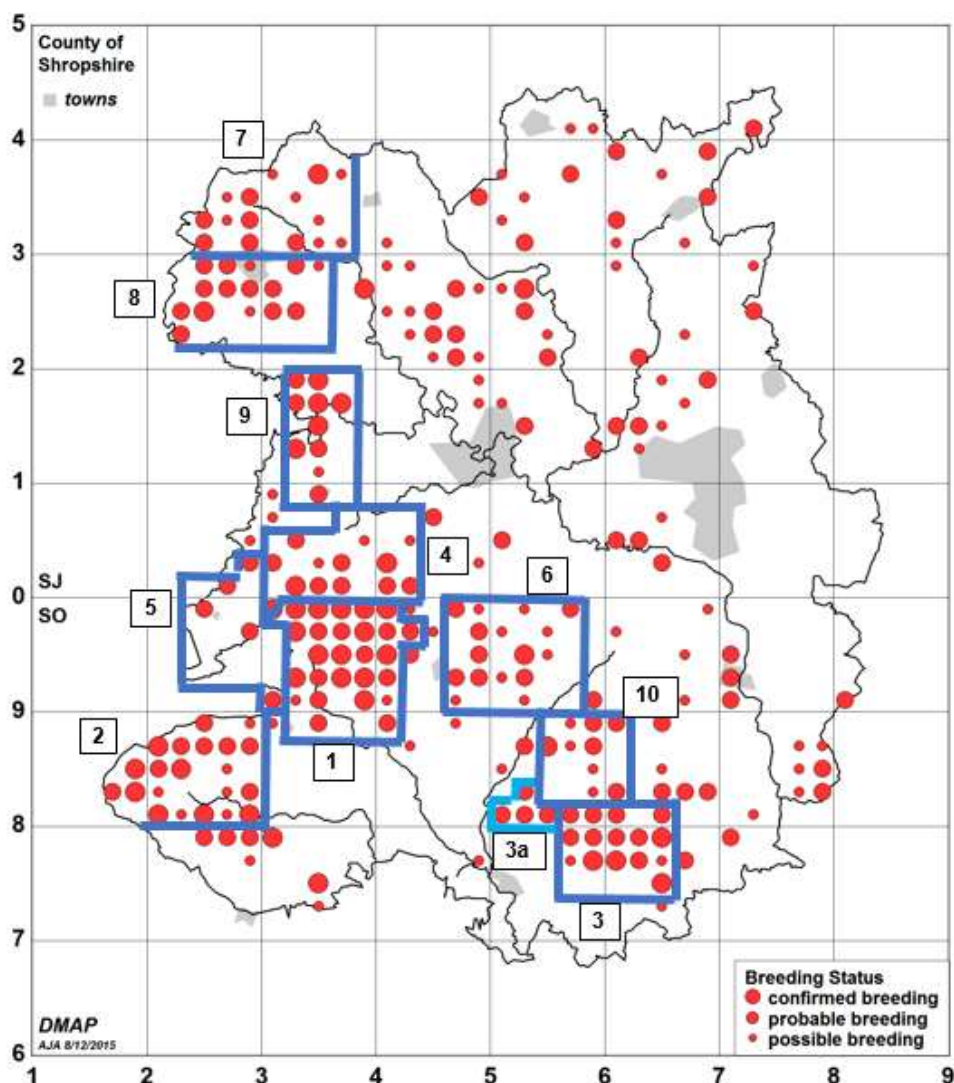
Tetrad		Square Surveyor	Time		Other target species looked for	Number of Each Species Recorded																	
			Hrs	Mins		Kestrel	Red Kite	Grey Partridge	Snipe	Cuckoo	Barn Owl	Skyark	Meadow Pipit	Yellow Wagtail	Dipper	Duncock	Wheat-ear	Whinchat	Linnet	Bullfinch	Reed Bunting	Yellow-hammer	Corn Bunting
SJ22 G	David Hardwick	4	30	Yes											1	1							
SJ22 G	Sue & Steve Southam	3	10	Yes							1								2				
SJ22 H	Sue & Artie Edmonds	2	30	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																		
SJ22 I	Carol & Howard Perry	2	30	Yes												3							
SJ22 J	David & Gwyneth Parish	1	20	Yes							2												
SJ22 L	Val Lewis	6	0	Yes							1												
SJ22 M	Jacky Leather	5	0	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ22 N	Cathy & Dennis Carter	2	0	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ22 P	Claire Norris & Mike Bastow	3	0	No	0	0	(Did not look for optional target species except K. and KT)																
SJ22 Q	Claire Backshall	1	30	Yes												2			1				
SJ22 R	Eric Lloyd																						
SJ22 S	Jeanette & Neil Henderson	2	15	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ22 T	Warwick Davies																						
SJ22 U	Carol Carpenter & Beryl Davies	3	30	No						1													
SJ22 U	Elaine Jones & Bill Mullen	3	0	Yes			2		1														
SJ22 V	Charles & Sally Green	2	30	Yes												5		1				1	
SJ22 W	Andy Lowe & Dennis Cooke																						
SJ22 W	Elaine & Delwyn Hughes	3	15	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ22 X	Sue Franklin	2	40	Yes																			
SJ22 Y	Steve Roberts	3	45	Yes															1			1	
SJ22 Y	David & Cathy Osselton	3	20	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																		
SJ22 Z	Carol Carpenter & Beryl Davies	3	30	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																		
SJ32 A	Mary & Vicky Kidson	4	30	Yes																		1	
SJ32 B	Sian West	5	0	Yes	1																		
SJ32 C	Anthony Griffiths	2	0	Yes																	2		1
SJ32 D	Vic & Cath Baldry	3	45	Yes													4						
SJ32 E	Linda Baines																						
SJ32 F	Carl Pickering	1	50	Yes																			
SJ32 G	Alec White	2	30	Yes		1												2					
SJ32 H	Anthony Griffiths	2	0	Yes																			
SJ32 I	Jane Evans & Helen Williams	2	50	Yes	1	1																	
SJ32 J	Catherine & Adam Bowles-Jones																						
SJ32 K	Jeff Marais				Not surveyed																		
SJ32 L	Jeff Marais				Not surveyed																		
SJ32 M	Dave Jones	3	0	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ32 N	Paul Tainty	3	0	Yes	1						3								4				
SJ32 N	Simon Brown & Shropshire Wild Team	3	0	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ32 P	David & Gwyneth Parish and Pam & Steve	1	20	Yes										1									
SJ32 P	Jointly covered - above				Not surveyed																		
SJ32 P	Michele Coxon	3	40	Yes																			
SJ32 Q	Deborah Knox	3	20	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ32 R	Sian West	6	0	Yes		1					1		1			1							
SJ32 S	Erica & Patrick Martin	4	15	Yes													3						
SJ32 T	VACANT				Not surveyed																		
SJ32 U	Michele Coxon	2	30	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ32 V	Joanne Thompson																						
SJ32 W	Alison Lindsay	1	30	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																		
SJ32 X	Alison Lindsay	2	30	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																		
SJ32 Y	Richard Halahan	2	45	Yes							10		2										
SJ32 Z	Stephen Morris	3	0	Yes												1		4					
Total			123	30		3	3	2	0	2	0	30	0	4	1	25	6	1	7	1	0	6	7

Appendix 2. Detailed Survey Results (continued)

Third Survey Period (8 June - 23 June)

Tetrad		Square	Surveyor	Time		Other target species looked for	Number of Each Species Recorded																	
				Hrs	Mins		Kestrel	Red Kite	Grey Partridge	Snipe	Cuckoo	Barn Owl	Skylark	Meadow Pipit	Yellow Wagtail	Dipper	Duncock	Wheat-ear	Whinchat	Linnet	Bullfinch	Reed Bunting	Yellow-hammer	Corn Bunting
SJ22	G	David Hardwick	5	0	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ22	G	Sue & Steve Southam	3	15	Yes		1												45					
SJ22	H	Sue & Artie Edmonds	1	45	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																		
SJ22	I	Carol & Howard Perry	3	0	Yes										5									
SJ22	J	David & Gwyneth Parish	2	0	Yes		2																	
SJ22	L	Val Lewis	5	0	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ22	M	Jacky Leather	4	30	Yes														2					
SJ22	N	Cathy & Dennis Carter	3	15	Yes								3											
SJ22	P	Claire Norris & Mike Bastow																						
SJ22	Q	Claire Backshall				Not surveyed																		
SJ22	R	Eric Lloyd																						
SJ22	S	Jeanette & Neil Henderson																						
SJ22	T	Warwick Davies																						
SJ22	U	Carol Carpenter & Beryl Davies	2	30	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																		
SJ22	U	Elaine Jones & Bill Mullen	3	0	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ22	V	Charles & Sally Green				Not surveyed																		
SJ22	W	Andy Lowe & Dennis Cooke																						
SJ22	W	Elaine & Delwyn Hughes																						
SJ22	X	Sue Franklin																						
SJ22	Y	Steve Roberts																						
SJ22	Y	David & Cathy Osselton																						
SJ22	Z	Carol Carpenter & Beryl Davies	1	0	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																		
SJ32	A	Mary & Vicky Kidson				Not surveyed																		
SJ32	B	Sian West	5	30	Yes		1				1	1												
SJ32	C	Anthony Griffiths				Not surveyed																		
SJ32	D	Vic & Cath Baldry	3	45	Yes															1				
SJ32	E	Linda Baines																						
SJ32	F	Carl Pickering																						
SJ32	G	Alec White																						
SJ32	H	Anthony Griffiths				Not surveyed																		
SJ32	I	Jane Evans & Helen Williams	2	5	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ32	J	Catherine & Adam Bowles-Jones																						
SJ32	K	Jeff Marais				Not surveyed																		
SJ32	L	Jeff Marais				Not surveyed																		
SJ32	M	Dave Jones	3	0	Yes												1							
SJ32	N	Paul Tainty				Surveyed but form not received - email reported no sightings																		
SJ32	N	Simon Brown & Shropshire Wild Team	2	30	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ32	P	See below				Not surveyed																		
SJ32	P	Pam & Steve Roberts	1	15	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ32	P	Michele Coxon	3	45	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ32	Q	Deborah Knox	3	20	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ32	R	Sian West	5	10	Yes								1									1		
SJ32	S	Erica & Patrick Martin	3	10	Yes							1				3								
SJ32	T	VACANT				Not surveyed																		
SJ32	U	Michele Coxon	1	30	Yes	(Looked for optional target species but none found)																		
SJ32	V	Joanne Thompson																						
SJ32	W	Alison Lindsay	1	30	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																		
SJ32	X	Alison Lindsay	2	45	No	(Did not look for optional target species)																		
SJ32	Y	Richard Halahan	2	10	Yes	1							5											
SJ32	Z	Stephen Morris	3	30	Yes								10						1			1	3	
Total			79	10		1	4	0	0	0	1	18	3	0	0	9	0	0	46	3	0	2	3	

Appendix 3. Bird Atlas 2008-13 Curlew Distribution map, overlain by Community Wildlife Group areas, and table of CWG data and survey activity in 2018



Group		Area		First Year	Curlew		Participants			
		Survey squares (tetrads)	(sq. kms.)		Breeding Pairs (2019)		% decline since First Year	No. people	Hours	Min-utes
					Min	Max				
1	Upper Onny	31.5	125	2004	27	- 32	31	31	283	15
2	Upper Clun	31	110	2007	6	- 10	60	51	150	0
3	Clee Hill	20	80	2012	7	- 7	46	22	181	2
3a	Clee Hill (extension)	4 *	16	2019	6	- 6	n / a	1	26	30
4	Rea Valley	25.5	102	2014	9	- 10	n / a	24	173	24
5	Camlad Valley	11 **	44	2014	3	- 3	n / a	18	119	25
6	Strettons area	30	120	2017	5	- 8	n / a	45	373	38
7	Three Parishes	28	107	2017	3	- 4	n / a	21	220	10
8	Tanat to Perry (Oswestry south)	43	172	2018	15	- 19	n / a	65	356	10
9	Severn-Vyrnwy Confluence	27	108	2018	5	- 6	n / a	20	176	38
10	Abdon	16 *	64	2018	8	- 10	n / a	22	298	5
Total		267	1048		94	- 115		320	2355	17

Orange highlight = 3 CWGs incorporating "Curlew Country" area (76 tetrads)

** Area also includes 9 tetrads mainly in Wales (Camlad CWG = 20 tetrads), with 2-3 pairs of Curlew

Green highlight = 3 CWGs established in 2018

* In 2019, Clee Hill took on an additional 4 tetrads to the west, and Abdon took on an additional 7 tetrads to the west and south, to close the gap between the two areas, and cover additional squares with known Curlew territories
Some CWG areas include part-tetrads, so the total area is a bit less than the numbers of (whole or part) squares X 4

Tanat to Perry Community Wildlife Group

Status and Finances

The Tanat to Perry Community Wildlife Group (TPCWG) is one of a family of 11 such groups. Most of the others are constituted and as a result have elected officers, including a treasurer, and are able to open bank accounts. TPCWG has decided, at least for the time being, that such formality is unnecessary, particularly as there are many other wildlife organisations in the area which the group does not want to duplicate.

TPCWG was established by the SWT/SOS *Save our Curlews* campaign, and funded by the joint Curlew Appeal, specifically to locate Curlews (and Lapwings) in an area where Curlews were known to breed.

The cost of setting up the group in 2018 included hire of hall for meetings, mileage for Leo Smith to attend meetings, and itemised expenses, with receipts, for administering the CWG by Claire Backshall. This has all been claimed, and paid by SWT from Appeal funds.

Most of the other CWGs are self-financing, with running costs met by collections at meetings, donations, and raffles. Collections have been held at previous TPCWG meetings to finance the group, in anticipation of the time when Curlew Appeal funds are no longer available.

That position has now been reached, with no funding from the Appeal being available from 2020 onwards. **TPCWG will therefore continue to hold collections at meetings.**

Excluding expenses paid for by the Appeal, income and expenditure to date is as follows:

Income	£
Collection 6 June 2018 cash held by Leo	25.74
Collection 5 March 2019 held away by Leo	92.10
Addition to above paid to Leo by Claire 5 April 2019	1.60
Total Income	<u>119.44</u>
Expenditure	
Contribution to CWGs website (email 4 October 2018)	12.00
Contribution to CWGs website (email 10 November 2019)	12.00
Total expenditure	<u>24.00</u>
Balance Remaining	<u>95.44</u>

In the absence of a constitution and elected treasurer, expenditure is jointly agreed by Leo Smith and Claire Backshall, and paid by Leo Smith out of TPCWG's funds, which he holds. A spreadsheet of income and expenditure maintains a running total of the group's finances.

For further information, contact

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| • Claire Backshall | c_backshall@hotmail.com | 01691 830691 |
| • Leo Smith | leo@leosmith.org.uk | 01694 720296 |

Leo Smith
February 2020