

# Tanat to Perry Community Wildlife Group

## Welcome To Our Curlew & Lapwing Survey

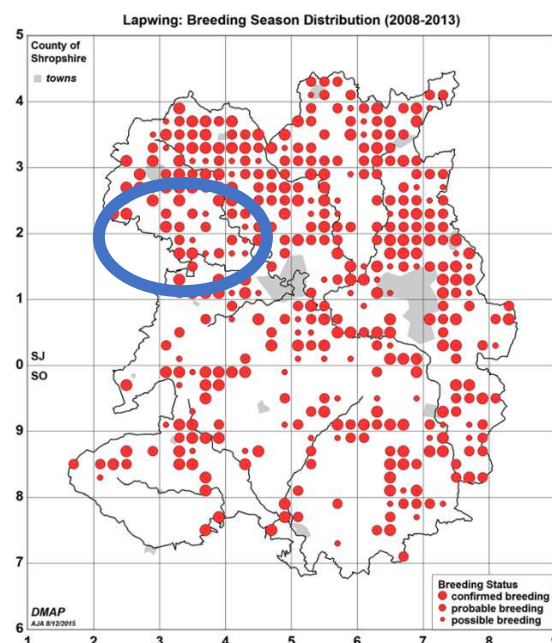
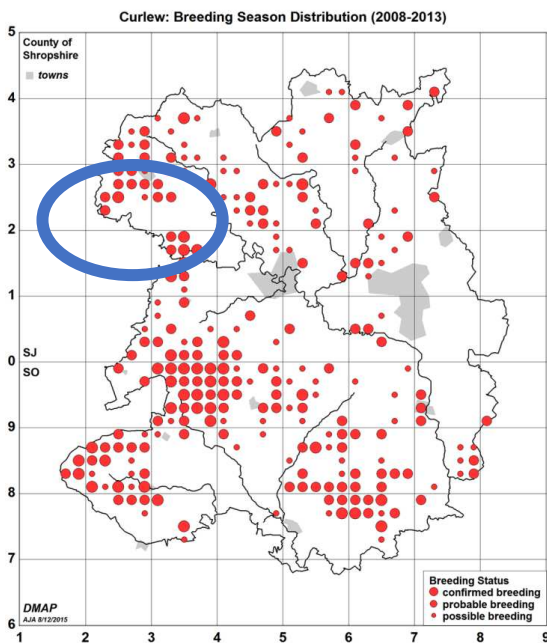


Lapwing and Curlew have suffered a massive decline in population and contraction in range in the last 20 years or so, both nationally and in Shropshire.

Community Wildlife Groups (CWGs) are conducting ongoing surveys across Shropshire to locate and count our remaining Curlews and Lapwings, and to monitor their populations. This is necessary before any conservation measures to try to reverse the decline can be attempted.

Our Group was set up in March 2018 to cover an area extending 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 maps show the breeding populations of Curlew and Lapwing in Shropshire found during six years' fieldwork (2008-13) for the most recent Bird Atlas project. The **blue ring** indicates our study area: it's a lot of ground to cover!



**Aim**  
Our aim is establish the location and number of breeding pairs of Curlew and Lapwing within the Group's study area. This survey uses a different methodology from the Bird Atlas because it's not necessary to prove breeding, but it *is* necessary to try to locate each pair and map them all.

Last year, our wonderful volunteers found an estimated 15 – 19 breeding pairs of Curlew and 42 – 51 pairs of Lapwing, slightly more than in 2018 as we're getting better at finding them! This year we aim to locate any that we missed and learn more about their breeding success and preferred habitats.

- Method**
- Each helper takes on a tetrad (2km x 2km square).
  - Three visits are needed (around 1 April, 1 May and mid-June) with possibly a fourth visit in mid-July for Curlew. Each visit takes around 3 hours, at times to suit you, using public rights of way.
  - Mark sightings of Curlew and Lapwing on a map; other target species may be recorded as an option.
  - Survey instructions, maps and recording sheets are provided.
  - A practical training session is held in March for anyone who would like it.

**You don't have to be an expert; you need only to be able to recognise Curlews and Lapwings!**



### Study Area and Priority Tetrads

The map (above) shows the Tanat to Perry CWG’s study area; the squares are the tetrads, and the reference code of each is shown. The table (left) lists all the tetrads in the area, and shows where our volunteers found Curlew (CU) and Lapwing (L.) in 2018 and 2019.

We aim to cover every tetrad, as there may be some that have Curlew or Lapwing even though they were not found during previous years’ fieldwork. However, it is most important to survey tetrads where Curlews or Lapwings were recorded in 2018 or 2019; these are prioritised 1 (both species), 2 (Curlew only) or 3 (Lapwing only) in the ‘Priority’ column.

### How You Can Help

We need more fieldworkers to build upon the foundations laid in the first two years. The survey is straightforward and a great way of adding value to a walk in the countryside! We also welcome ‘casual records’ of Curlew and Lapwing anywhere in our study area during the breeding season (March to July), and reports of possible nest sites.

Looking ahead, we’d like to hear from farmers and landowners who would be interested in working with us to develop future conservation action.

### Four Ways to Get Involved

- Survey a tetrad** – you don’t have to be an expert birdwatcher!
- Send us your sightings** of Lapwing or Curlew in the breeding season
- Sign up** for occasional email news about our project
- Make a donation** to help fund this study and future conservation

### Further Information

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Tetrad	Found 2018		Found 2019		Priority for 2020
	CU	L.	CU	L.	
SJ22G	•		•		2
SJ22H	•		•		2
SJ22I	•		•		2
SJ22J					
SJ22L			•		2
SJ22M	•		•		2
SJ22N	•		•		2
SJ22P			•		2
SJ22Q					
SJ22R					
SJ22S			•		2
SJ22T	•	•	•	•	1
SJ22U	•	•		•	1
SJ22V					
SJ22W	•		•	•	1
SJ22X	•		•	•	1
SJ22Y				•	3
SJ22Z					
SJ32A					
SJ32B					
SJ32C	•	•	•	•	1
SJ32D	•		•	•	1
SJ32E		•		•	3
SJ32F					
SJ32G					
SJ32H	•	•	•		1
SJ32I		•		•	3
SJ32J	•	•			1
SJ32K					
SJ32L				•	3
SJ32M		•			3
SJ32N				•	3
SJ32P	•	•	•	•	1
SJ32Q					
SJ32R				•	3
SJ32S			•		2
SJ32T					
SJ32U					
SJ32V					
SJ32W					
SJ32X			•	•	1
SJ32Y		•	•	•	1
SJ32Z		•	•	•	1

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