



Shropshire Ornithological Society

# Save our Curlews

## Campaign & Appeal



*The Birds of Shropshire* estimated that the Curlew population declined by 77% between 1990 and 2010, down to only around 160 pairs. Curlews had disappeared from 62% of the area they occupied in 1990, and have continued to decline since. There is a real danger that they will become extinct in the County, unless urgent and effective action is taken to save them.

From November 2017, Shropshire Ornithological Society (SOS) jointly appealed with Shropshire Wildlife Trust (SWT) to support a *Save our Curlews* Campaign for the monitoring and conservation of Curlew populations across the County. SWT withdrew at the end of 2019, but Shropshire Ornithological Society 2005 (SOS 2005)\* has committed to support a long term project to continue this work by providing funding over the next three years, promoting an Appeal to SOS and Community Wildlife Group (CWG) members, and the general public, and by hosting banking facilities for the Campaign. SOS 2005 will also support grant applications and other funding requests made on behalf of the Campaign which will continue to undertake nest finding, protecting nests with electric fencing, and radio-tagging and tracking chicks to find out how they use the landscape, and what happens to them. Understanding the reasons for low levels of chick survival is the key to an effective conservation plan.

Campaign work will be co-ordinated by SOS 2005, and also involves ten independent CWGs from across the County, over 300 people who are monitoring about three-quarters of the County Curlew population.

Plans for 2020 were postponed because of Covid-19 restrictions, but the funding raised has been carried forward. In 2021 it is intended to carry on project work with CWGs in the Upper Clun and Clee Hill areas, and start work in the Strettons area, but more funds are needed to carry out the whole project in all three areas. This vital conservation work will spread in to other CWG areas in future years.

The results are sent to the South of England Curlew Forum, and the national Curlew Species Recovery Group, so the work is an integral part of the case to Government for effective Curlew conservation measures.

You can read more about what has been done since 2018, and future plans, on the SOS website [www.shropshirebirds.com/save-our-curlews/](http://www.shropshirebirds.com/save-our-curlews/)

Donations to the Appeal are vital, both to help pay for the work, and because they demonstrate to potential funders the commitment of local people to saving Shropshire's Curlews. You can donate by sending a cheque, a bank standing order, an internet banking or a bank transfer payment (see details overleaf). Please note that it is essential that whilst donations should be made out to Shropshire Ornithological Society (SOS) they should be clearly marked "Curlew Appeal". If you are a UK taxpayer, you can increase the value of your donation by 25% if you sign and send in the Gift Aid certificate (also overleaf), so please do so.

\* SOS 2005 is the not-for-profit limited company created to handle SOS's financial and property affairs.

**If, like us, you think that Shropshire will be a much poorer place without Curlews, please support the Appeal**

For further information, please contact Leo Smith  
SOS Curlew Campaign Co-ordinator, email [leo@leosmith.org.uk](mailto:leo@leosmith.org.uk), or ring 01694 720296.

Shropshire Ornithological Society - Registered Charity No. 514487  
Shropshire Ornithological Society 2005 - Company Limited by Guarantee Reg. No. 5322294  
Reg. Charity No. 1108166  
Registered Office 6 Sytche Close, Much Wenlock TF13 6JJ

# Donations

**Please note that it essential that all donations can be identified as being for the “Curlew Appeal”**

Cheques should be made payable to SOS, endorsed on the reverse “**Curlew Appeal**” and posted to Brian Andrews, SOS, 6 Sytche Close, Much Wenlock TF13 6JJ, together with the signed Gift Aid Certificate below.

Donations by internet banking, bank transfer or bank standing order should be paid in to the **Shropshire Ornithological Society Account at CAF Bank:**

**Sort Code: 40 52 40**  
**A/c No.: 00011946**

Please ensure that your payment carries a Reference which will identify you and the fund to which it is to be paid e.g.: Ref: Smith, L.N. Curlew Appeal

N.B. If you make a donation by internet banking, bank transfer or standing order, please sign and post the Gift Aid Certificate as well.

**Donation amount** .....

Name: .....

Address: .....

## Gift Aid Declaration

Tax rules allow us to claim 25p for every £ you donate to the Curlew Appeal from HMRC. If you are a UK taxpayer, please sign the appropriate section below.

### UK Taxpayers - make your gift worth more for wildlife...at no extra cost to you

I would like to Gift Aid all subscriptions and donations I make today and any I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Shropshire Ornithological Society. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that I if pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature .....

Date .....

**Register me for Gift Aid with Shropshire Ornithological Society (please sign)**

I am NOT a UK tax payer (do not need to sign)

I do not wish to Gift Aid my donations (do not need to sign)

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax refund due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid Donations on your Self-Assessment Tax Return or ask HM Revenue & Customs to adjust your tax code. Please notify Shropshire Ornithological Society if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address or no longer pay sufficient tax equal to all of your Gift Aid donations on your income or capital gains.