



Clee Hill Community Wildlife Group

Curlews – some good news for a change.

The Clee Hill Community Wildlife Group area covers 80 square kilometres (20 2x2 kilometre squares, known as tetrads), which have been surveyed since 2012, and we added an extension to the north-west of four more squares, surveyed since 2019. All except one square were surveyed in main area, and three out of four in the extension, and 33 people helped with survey

The Curlew results were the most encouraging for some years: 7 – 8 pairs were found in the original area, one more than last year, and two more in the extension. Three nests were found, one a relay by the same pair, but although all three of those nests were predated, a chick fledged from each of two other nests, one on Magpie Hill and one near Coreley. This is great news, the first fledged young for some years!!! A distribution map can be found on our website. Let us know if you know of any other pairs, please.

For other species, there were 2 - 3 pairs of Lapwing: at Hollywaste, the only known since 2017, and 8-9 pairs of Kestrel: Clee Hill is a county hotspot, and we are supporting a nest box and ringing project. Five nests were found. At least two Cuckoo territories were located, but there must be more, and there were more Barn Owl: sightings than for many years. There were probably 3 pairs, and one nest was found with 3 fledged young. Two Red Kite nests were also found, in the same places as last year..

If you know of any breeding sites for any of these species, please tell us about them. Please don't assume we already know about them. In particular, does anyone know if there were definitely two pairs of Curlew at Hollywaste, and did anyone see any Curlew chicks or fledged young?

Also, check our website www.ShropsCWGs.org.uk for details of future activities.