

Curlew Action

Newsletter February 2022

In This Issue

Art, poetry, and amazing binoculars

1,000 mile walk for Curlews

David Gray's tour, featuring Curlew Action!

Have you seen our new website?

Curlew Hero - Wahkuna Vega

It's nesting season!

Conservation: lessons from the curlew



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WEBSITE: [CurlewAction.org](https://www.CurlewAction.org)

Art, poetry, and amazing binoculars



The annual World Curlew Day Art and Poetry competition is back on this year at Curlew Action, and it's going to be better than ever! In order to enter, create a piece of visual art in any medium (such as painting, sculpture, drawing or print) featuring a curlew, or write a piece of curlew-inspired poetry, and send it to [Ellen](#) by 6pm on Wednesday 13th April. Take a look at our [website](#) for more information before you enter.

And there's more good news: we are thrilled to announce that this year Curlew Action will be partnering with Leica Sport Optics, whom you might know as the company that makes some of the best binoculars that money can buy! Leica is supporting this competition, as well as several other events throughout the year, with equipment, resources and logistics which will help take our outreach and fundraising to the next level this year.

'The wonderful call of the curlew is disappearing from our natural landscapes and we at Leica are proud to partner with Curlew Action to help them halt the decline. Allowing us to continue to enjoy these enigmatic birds into the future.' - Jason Heward, MD Leica UK

Thanks to Leica, we will be holding our first ever in-person event later this year, to celebrate the best of the artwork coming from this competition and to meet some of our fantastic supporters! To have a chance of getting your artwork displayed in a beautiful Mayfair gallery, make sure to enter by April 13th.

CURLEW ACTION NEWSLETTER
| February 2022

1,000 Mile Walk for Curlews

On March 7th, our chair of trustees, Roger Morgan-Grenville, will embark on an epic walk from the south coast of England to the north coast of Scotland, fundraising for Curlew Action. The walk will span over 1,000 miles and take him almost two months, aiming to raise a huge £75,000 for the charity. Despite this mammoth task seeming almost impossible, Roger says 'the effort is needed, and is worth it, if we want to save what is precious in nature for our children.' If you would like to learn more, or donate to support Roger and help Curlew Action fund our important work this year, please visit Roger's walk page [here](#).

David Gray's tour, featuring Curlew Action!

Our amazing patron, David Gray, has decided to make Curlew Action the official charity of his upcoming UK tour. In this incredible honour for the charity, David will be showing a video about our work at his shows, speaking about the importance of curlews and wildlife, and asking his fans to donate what they can. As a tiny charity, we are hugely lucky to have the support of someone like David, who can help to get us, and the humble curlew, in front of a much wider audience than we otherwise could.

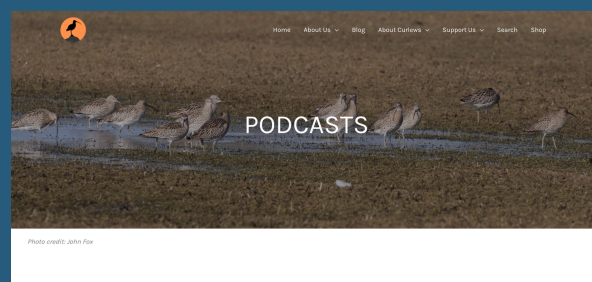
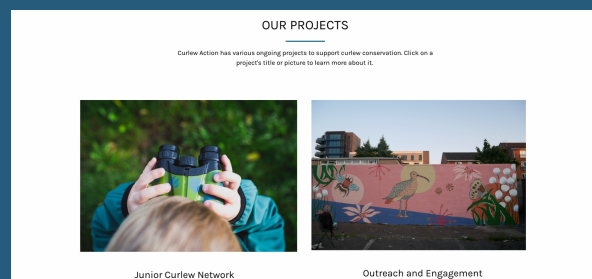
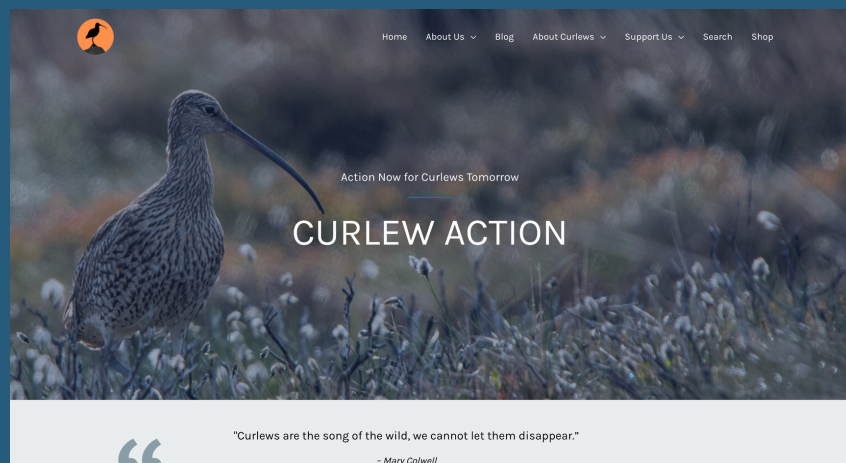
"After more than two years of Covid disruption, it looks like the White Ladder 20th Anniversary shows will finally be happening this Spring. As was my intention in 2020 I will be making Curlew Action my charity of focus across the tour and actively trying to raise as much money as possible through live text donations, online appeals and even an obligatory VIP/guest list curlew charge! Throughout the tour and also in the build up to it, I will be attempting to shine a spotlight on these wonderful birds and the many difficulties that they face. Come on you curlews!"

If you would like to see David on his White Ladder 20th Anniversary tour, there are tickets available [here](#).



Have you seen our new website?

Since being a voice for curlews and all the UK's declining wildlife is such an important part of what we do at Curlew Action, it's essential that our website is a fantastic resource for anyone who wants to learn more, or to do something to help. That's why we've been working hard behind the scenes to build a new website which we hope will be full of all the information you need, as well as a way of attracting people who are new to conservation issues, and somewhere to easily find any Curlew Action content you might be looking for, such as our blogs and competitions. You can find the site at our usual address, visit our site [here](#). We hope you enjoy it!



Curlew Hero: Wahkuna Vega

We have once again been blown away by the generosity of our supporters here at Curlew Action. In December, US-based ambassador Wahkuna Vega decided to sell



tickets to her holiday dance showcase in Palm Beach, Florida, in aid of Curlew Action, and to match the funds raised with her own donation. The event was a resounding success, and through hard work and generosity her fundraising efforts totalled an unbelievable £1,493 - thank you Wahkuna!

Reporting ringed curlew

If you spot a ringed curlew please email details to the email addresses below. Include as much information as possible including: location, date, time, numbers/ letters on ring, colours of bands, photo.

sightings@waderstudygroup.org
cc in info@curlewcalls.org

Photo credit: Sam Franks



CURLEW ACTION NEWSLETTER
| February 2022

It's nesting season!

This is a very exciting time of the year, we're approaching breeding season! Between March and July curlews and other ground nesting birds will be building their nests and raising their young. Curlew chicks are highly vulnerable and we know that the decline of curlews is due to chicks not surviving to adulthood. Disturbance from recreational activities including dog walking and off the path hiking is contributing to failed nest attempts. Let's work together to make sure the 2022 breeding season is successful by keeping dogs on leads and sticking to the paths in nesting areas. Curlew Action ran a competition to design our official sign to advise people to take care in nesting areas, these are our two winning designs by Ellie Stacey and Lucy Kenner! They are available to download on our website home page [here](#). Please use them to protect curlew and other ground nesting birds in your local area.



Design by: Ellie Stacey



Design by: Lucy Kenner

Conservation: lessons from the curlew

In our new six-part seminar series for 2022, we put together a panel of experts to tackle a topic at the centre of conservation debates today, and ask the simple question: what can we learn from the curlew? As a bioindicator species which has been declining for a number of years, it's time for us to take lessons from the successes and failures of curlew conservation. If you missed the first event, 'Curlews on Farmland', you can catch it [here](#), and our next seminar on headstarting will be on Wednesday 16th March at 6.30 - click [here](#) to sign up.