



# Curlew Action

## Newsletter March 2021



Photo credit: Tim Melling

### Curlew Recovery Partnership

This month, the new Curlew Recovery Partnership (CRP) has been set up to coordinate and support the work of curlew conservationists across the UK. The CRP is financially supported by Defra and steered by the input of nine curlew organisations, including local groups and national charities like Curlew Action. We are thrilled to say that our founder, Mary Colwell, has been selected as chair of this steering group! As well as being a wonderful development for Mary, this is also incredible news for curlews and their enthusiasts. Having been a deeply committed conservationist for years, Mary has freely given her time and energy to protecting wildlife, and especially the curlew. This means she is ideally placed to offer her depth of knowledge, expertise and leadership to this cause. Under the capable guidance of Mary and her CRP colleagues, we look forward to seeing the effects of new cooperation and ideas to help tackle the decline of the curlew.



#### *In This Issue*

**Mary Colwell named chair of Curlew Recovery Partnership**

**Hugely successful new ambassador programme**

**Get your curlew t-shirts, artwork and cards**

**It's not too late to get involved with World Curlew Day!**



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**CURLEW  
RECOVERY  
PARTNERSHIP**  
ENGLAND

Let's get the bad news out the way. This month we have seen even more devastating reports of last year's curlew nests failing to fledge around the UK. This is massively worrying for the stability of our population: as the large population of long-lived curlews continues to struggle to breed, and older birds start to die, this could lead to a relatively sudden drop in population when the breeding troubles of recent times catch up with us. This means it's more important than ever that we get this breeding season right by focusing on our crucial work: protecting curlews by supporting and developing cooperation between the farmers and landowners responsible for nesting sites, who are in the best position to improve their breeding success.

## Ambassador blog



### Creating future naturalists: why is natural history education so important?

*Written by Chris Platt.*

Natural history covers so many walks of life ranging from science, to community engagement, to wellbeing. It branches into every part of our lives and affects the delicate balance of the natural world. It's for this reason that the need to educate people about natural history and conservation is so important. Translating these complex causes into ways that are meaningful for people is a key element of any project or programme looking to protect any species. But, why is it so important? Is there really a case for natural history to be embedded into our formal and everyday education?

[Click here for the full blog post!](#)

## Ambassador Programme

We have also recently kicked off our ambassadors programme. This is a hugely exciting new project where some of our most switched on curlew fans, campaigners and experts can become an ambassador for the charity, representing us in various ways both on the internet and (eventually!) around the UK. Already, we have been blown away by their enthusiasm and their aptitude for conservation and wildlife communication. Some ambassadors have started working on projects of their own, including planning Curlew Action events and even writing an ambassadors blog, which you can check out on our website now!



# Curlew Action Merchandise

Many of you will know that we are now selling even more curlew-themed merch on our websites. This includes fantastic, highly sustainable t-shirts made-to-order by Teemill, to go with the beautiful artwork in our gallery, and an ever-increasing range of greetings cards. If you would like to get your hands on some of this great stuff, have a look at our online 'Curlew Shop'.

[Click here to visit our shop](#)



## World Curlew Day, April 21st

Finally, we've got lots of exciting plans for World Curlew Day on the 21st April. These include 'Kiltwalks', where supporters anywhere can do a walk or any similar fitness challenge on 23rd-25th April, and by organising this (and fundraising for Curlew Action) through the Kiltwalk website, the Hunter Foundation will top up the funding by an additional 50%. After a challenging year for charity fundraising, this will be a huge boost, and we would be thrilled if any more curlew fans would like to take part in their own Kiltwalk! On top of this, we've got a competition going for any budding artists and writers of all ages. To enter, send in a piece of curlew artwork or poetry, with your age category (U16 or 16+), to [ellen@curlewaction.org](mailto:ellen@curlewaction.org), to be in with a chance of having your artwork featured on our social media, and your poetry read out by a celebrity!

[Support our walkers or sign up for your own kilt walk!](#)