

Curlew Action



CURLEW ACTION

Newsletter September - October 2022

In This Issue

Webinars

A prestigious award

Natural History GCSE

Curlew socks & Christmas cards

Curlew Action at events

Into the Red

Leica Giveaway

Curlews in Sculpture

Winter Curlews



EMAIL: admin@Curlewaction.org

SOCIAL MEDIA: [@CurlewAction](https://www.instagram.com/CurlewAction)

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



Photo by Kate Haselgrave

Curlew Action webinars

Through our webinar series 'Conservation: lessons from the Curlew', Curlew Action is working to address some of the complex topics surrounding Curlews. Our two most recent webinars discussed forestry and predators. Curlews avoid nesting too close to wooded areas and tree planting has already resulted in loss of habitat for wading birds. On the flip side, we need trees to sequester carbon and the right trees enhance wildlife, including predators. Our webinar discussed how we can balance the needs of wading birds while still working towards net zero. Predation of chicks and eggs is one of the leading causes of Curlew decline and how we manage our landscapes to live alongside predators will have a huge impact on our Curlew populations. Watch the recordings of our webinars [here](#). Our next webinar, on the 16th of November, will discuss Curlews in the uplands, click [here](#) to [sign up](#).



Curlew Photo by RTS photography

A prestigious award

Our Director, Mary Colwell, was awarded the RSPB medal in recognition of her tireless work for Curlews and her 11 yearlong campaign for a GCSE in Natural History. Read Mary's full acceptance speech [here](#).

"I am particularly touched by the recognition of bringing people together. Outreach and engagement are hugely important to me, I don't believe we will save nature from the onslaught it faces unless everyone pulls together. We all have to want this - it is too important - nature deserves that we be our best and find ways to work together." - Mary Colwell



GCSE in Natural History

Plans are coming together to roll out the GCSE in Natural History, an advisory group is working with OCR to write the subject content. Curlew Action is working to ensure there is good uptake of the GCSE across England, we will keep you posted with our plans!



Curlew socks & Christmas cards

Thank you everyone who has purchased our new Curlew socks made by HebTroCo! The amazing guys at HebTroCo sent Curlew Action a cheque for £529.60 for sale of their amazing socks. Thank you so much to Ed and the team!

We are so grateful to Jessica Holme who has painted our previous Christmas cards, this year she has painted two new beautiful designs!



[Click here to visit our shop](#)



CURLEW ACTION NEWSLETTER
| September & October 2022

Curlew Action at events

Gathering

Our Patron, David Gray, and our Director, Mary Colwell, spoke at Gathering festival at Wild Ken Hill about saving Britain's Curlews. "The Wild Ken Hill event was one of those special days that spun a wild web of story, art, discussion and music. It was an honour to be part of it with Dave."

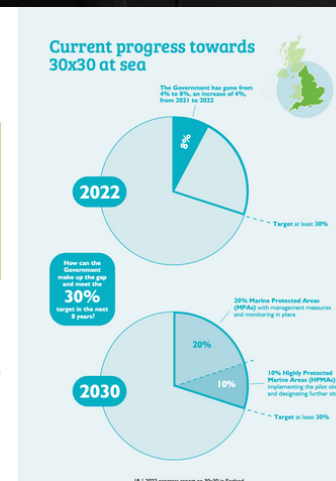
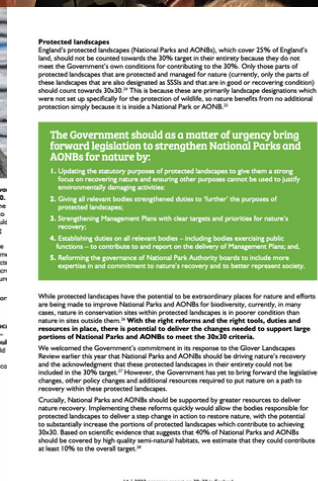
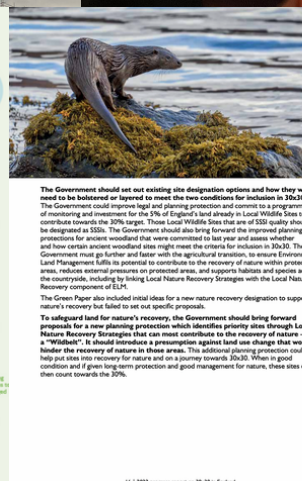
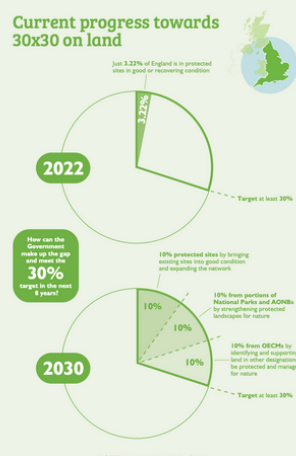
- Mary Colwell



Courtesy , Wild Ken Hill

30 by 30 progress report

The UK government has committed to protecting 30% of land and sea in England for nature. Ellen and Roger from the Curlew Action team attended the 2022 progress report in Westminster. The report, prepared by Wildlife and Countryside Link, found that limited progress had been made. In the last year, the Government has added 0.22% on land, for a total of 3.22% towards 30x30, and a maximum of 4% at sea, to reach at maximum 8% of the 30% target. Loss of suitable Curlew habitat due to tree planting, farming, development and recreational disturbance is a serious threat to our remaining population. To read Wildlife and Countryside Link's full report click [here](#).





Into the Red

Into the Red is a collaboration between 70 authors and 70 artists with a single goal: to raise funds to support conservation work aiming to reverse the declines of our most at-risk birds. "For these birds, the 70 species on the UK Red List, their message for us has changed to an SOS, a clarion call to act. And we must listen to them, before it is too late." - BTO. Our Patron, singer-songwriter David Gray, reads his beautiful authored piece - The Curlew - which appears in the book. To watch the full video, edited by Tom Young, click [here](#). To purchase Into the Red click [here](#).

Curlew Action and Leica giveaway

To celebrate our partnership with Leica, we are giving away some amazing prizes to one lucky winner.

Includes:

- Leica Trinovid HD 8x32 binoculars
- Leica binocular accessories
- Curlew Action x Leica tote bag
- Curlew Action x HebTroCo socks
- Curlew Action pin badge



For a chance to win the prize bundle, all you need to do is:

1. Share our giveaway posts on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#)
2. Follow Curlew Action and Leica Sport Optics Nature, Birding & Leisure on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram
3. Sign-up to Leica News [here](#) and confirm your subscription with the double opt-in

Competition closes 5pm on the 23rd of November, so get your entries in before then!
The winner will be notified shortly after the competition ends. See full T&Cs [here](#).





Curlews in Sulpture

Simon Griffiths

Curlew Action would like to thank Simon Griffiths for his generous donation of his beautiful Curlew sculpture which he raffled off to raise funds for Curlew conservation. Simon raised £1,653.60! Thank you Simon and everyone who entered the raffle!

"Being raised in the north Pennines the song of the curlew is the sound of spring, I cannot imagine the turning of the season without that melancholy, bubbling cry." - Simon Griffiths

Steph Smith

My relationship with Curlews began early, through my dad. My dad, by his own admission was not the most academic of men, but he had taught me to skin a rabbit, catch and clean a trout by the time I was 10 - all for the table. We went sea fishing around Morecambe Bay and it was on these trips that his beloved Curlew appeared. It was his favourite bird and he'd often scream "Curlew!!", taking everyone by surprise. This later became our family greeting to each other! His love of nature and the outdoors stayed with me and I used many of my experiences throughout my teaching career.

Since I began making sculptures, my enthusiasm has been fuelled by working closely for Curlew Action with Primary School children. Our aim is to make children aware of the plight of the Curlew and to encourage their active research and participation, in identifying ways we can protect them.

In terms of sculpture, I've been extremely fortunate in having my birds selected for exhibition at The Mall Galleries in London with the Society of Women Artists and the Royal Society of Marine Artists. Raising the profile of this bird and its future.

Most recently, just outside my window where the Curlews feed, I have a Visitor whose other "home" is identifiable. He's from the Forest of Bowland, according to his tag! Another example of people working hard to monitor and track this bird.

The Grosvenor Estate in Abbeystead Lancashire has been tagging Curlew as part of their work with waders.

A vast network of people who care. I'm delighted to be part of it!

