

# If you see a colour-ringed Curlew,

please report it to Leo Smith

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Tony Cross has colour-ringed well over 100 different Curlews passing through the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust Reserve, Dolydd Hafren (near Welshpool), on their way to breeding sites, starting with 20 in March 2015. The British Trust for Ornithology provided financial support in 2016, which is gratefully acknowledged.

Each colour-ringed bird can be identified individually, and many of them have been re-sighted already. Two of the first 20 were found breeding in the south-west Shropshire Hills, in the Stiperstones – Corndon Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS) area in 2015, and the same two were breeding at the same nest sites in 2016 and 2017. In total, 16 colour-rings were read on nesting birds (9 male and 7 female) in 2017 in the LPS area, and two were nesting in the Upper Clun. One was photographed at Wood Lane in September 2017. Two wintered on different estuaries in south-west England in 2015-16, and they each returned to the same estuary in 2016-17. There have been reports of other individuals too, so a good start has been made in building up a picture of local Curlew movements between their breeding sites and wintering grounds, the survival rate of breeding adults, and turnover within breeding pairs.

For more information about the LPS, and the Curlew Recovery Project, see [www.stiperstonesandcorndon.co.uk/curlewcountry/](http://www.stiperstonesandcorndon.co.uk/curlewcountry/). To contribute to the Upper Onny Wildlife Group Appeal for funds to continue with Curlew nest monitoring and protection after the LPS finishes in March 2018, see their pages on the Community Wildlife Groups website, [www.ShropsCWGs.co.uk](http://www.ShropsCWGs.co.uk)

Wherever possible, please check each Curlew you see for colour rings (see photo). The orange ring is much more conspicuous than the yellow. The two letter code which identifies each bird uniquely is on the yellow ring only.



Even if you can't read the code, it would be helpful to have a report of the location and date, please, so we can check it out