

Instructions courtesy
of Lesley Knevitt

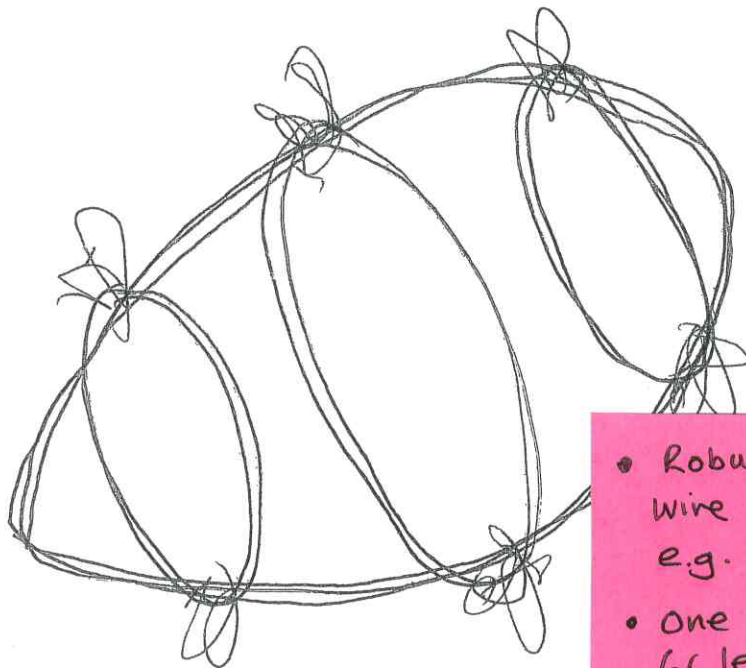
HOW TO MAKE A CURLEW OUT OF WIRE

Make the shapes to form a body frame



Take great care
especially if working
in a group - allow
plenty of space

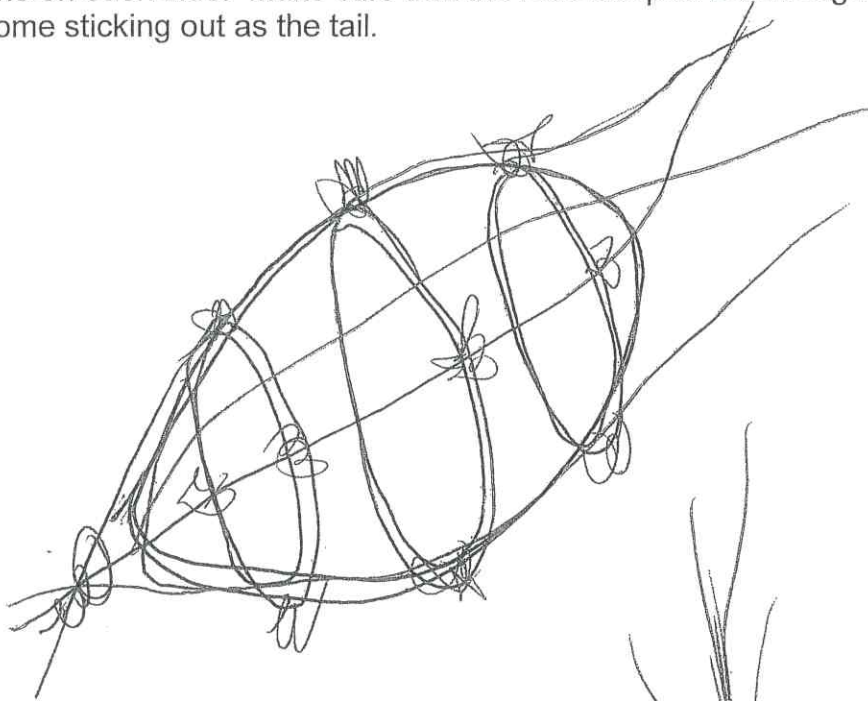
Place the circles on the main oval (which forms the dorsal and ventral edges); bind joints with thin wire.



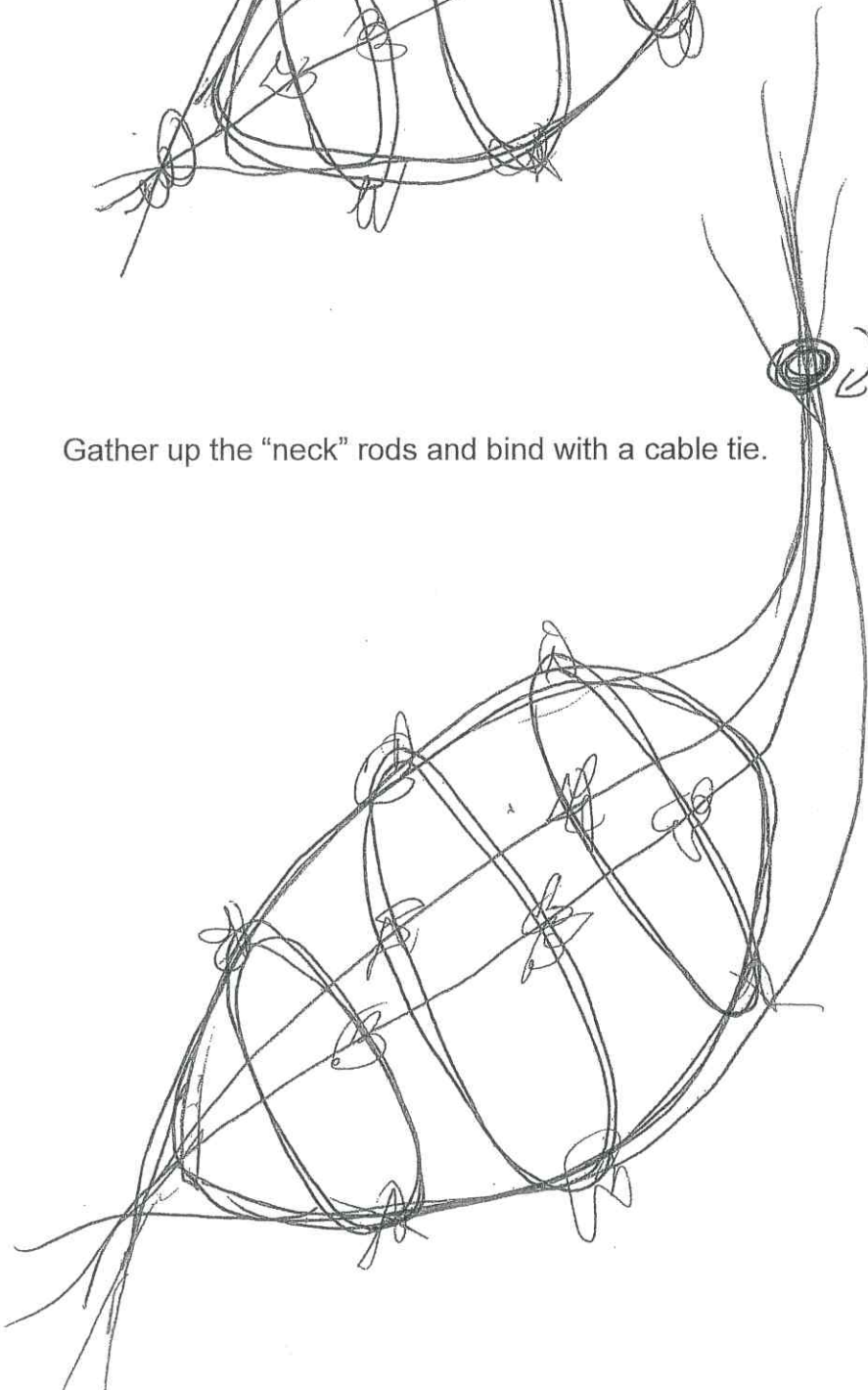
- Gloves to protect hands
- Safety glasses
- Long-nosed pliers

- Robust but flexible wire for body x 8 e.g. TIQ welding rods
- One stronger wire rod for legs (or wrap two extra rods as above together)
- Thin/Horists wire
- Salvaged/foraged chicken wire etc for body shaping

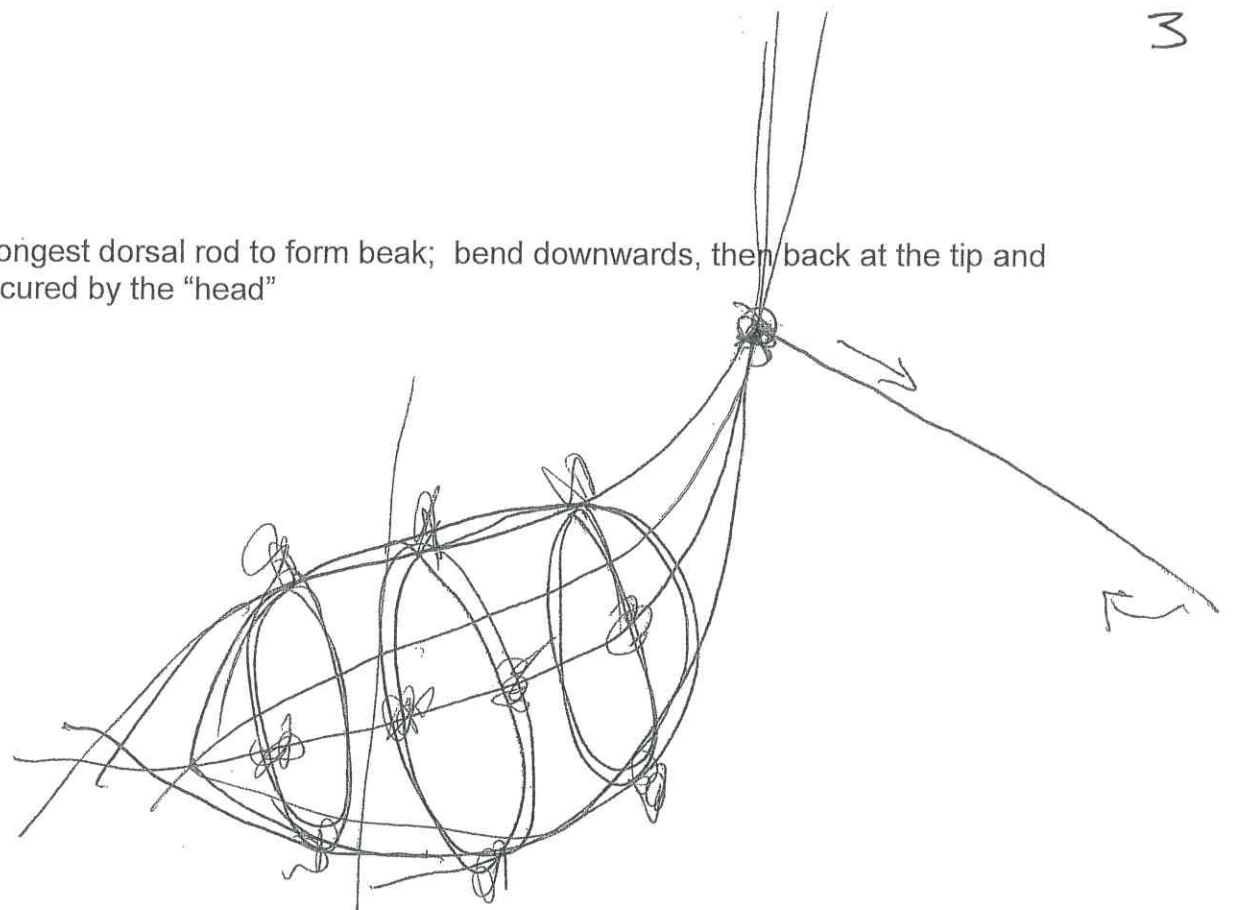
From the "tail" end, feed wire rods over/under/over (or through overlapped wire of the frame circles) to emerge at the "neck" end of the oval – one dorsal, one ventral, and one on each side. Make sure that the rods are pushed through enough to leave some sticking out as the tail.



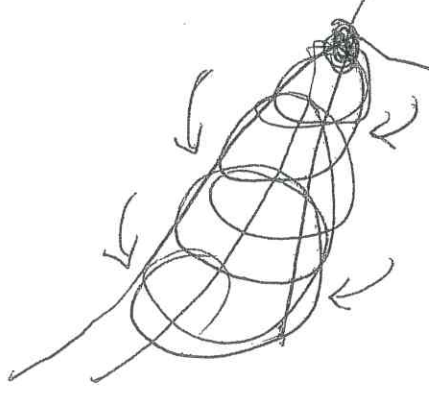
Gather up the "neck" rods and bind with a cable tie.



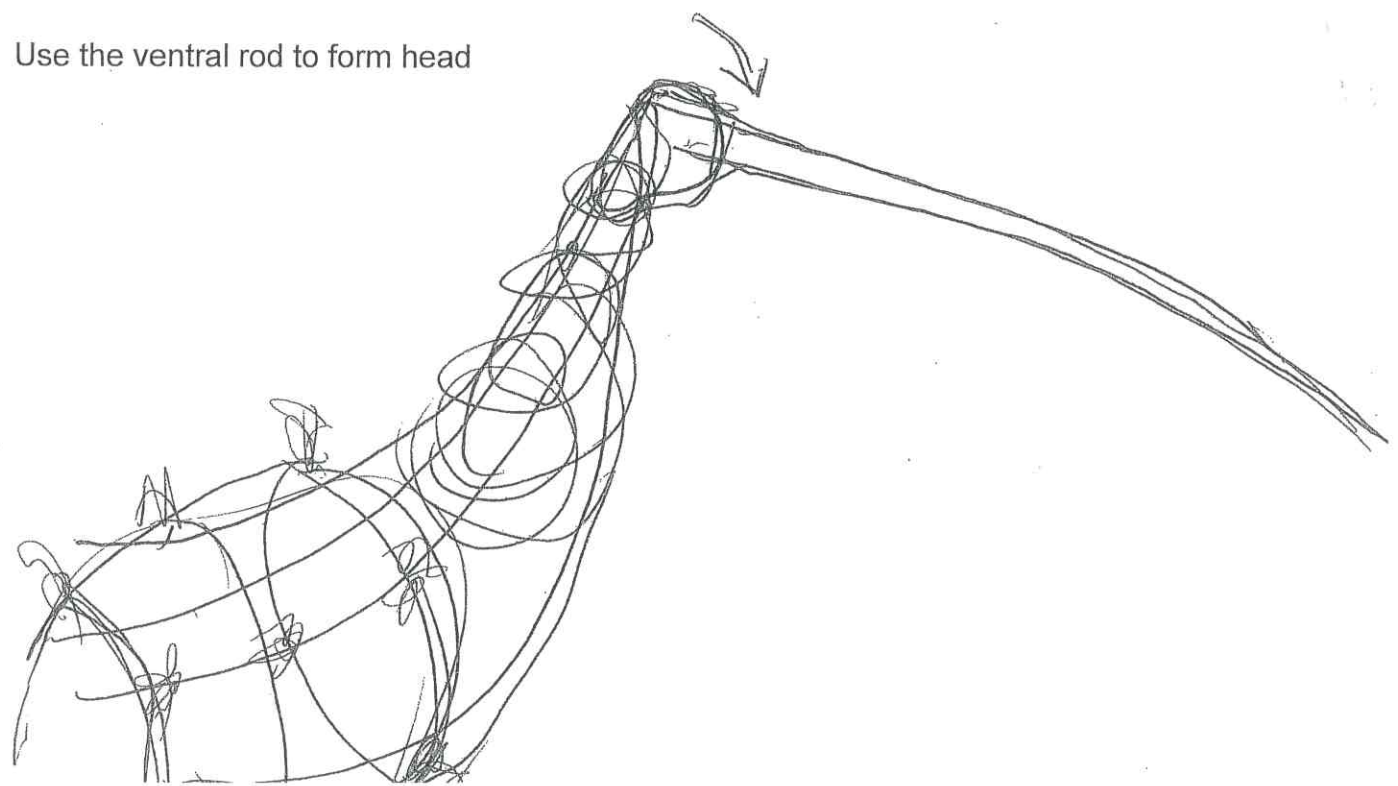
Use the longest dorsal rod to form beak; bend downwards, then back at the tip and will be secured by the "head"



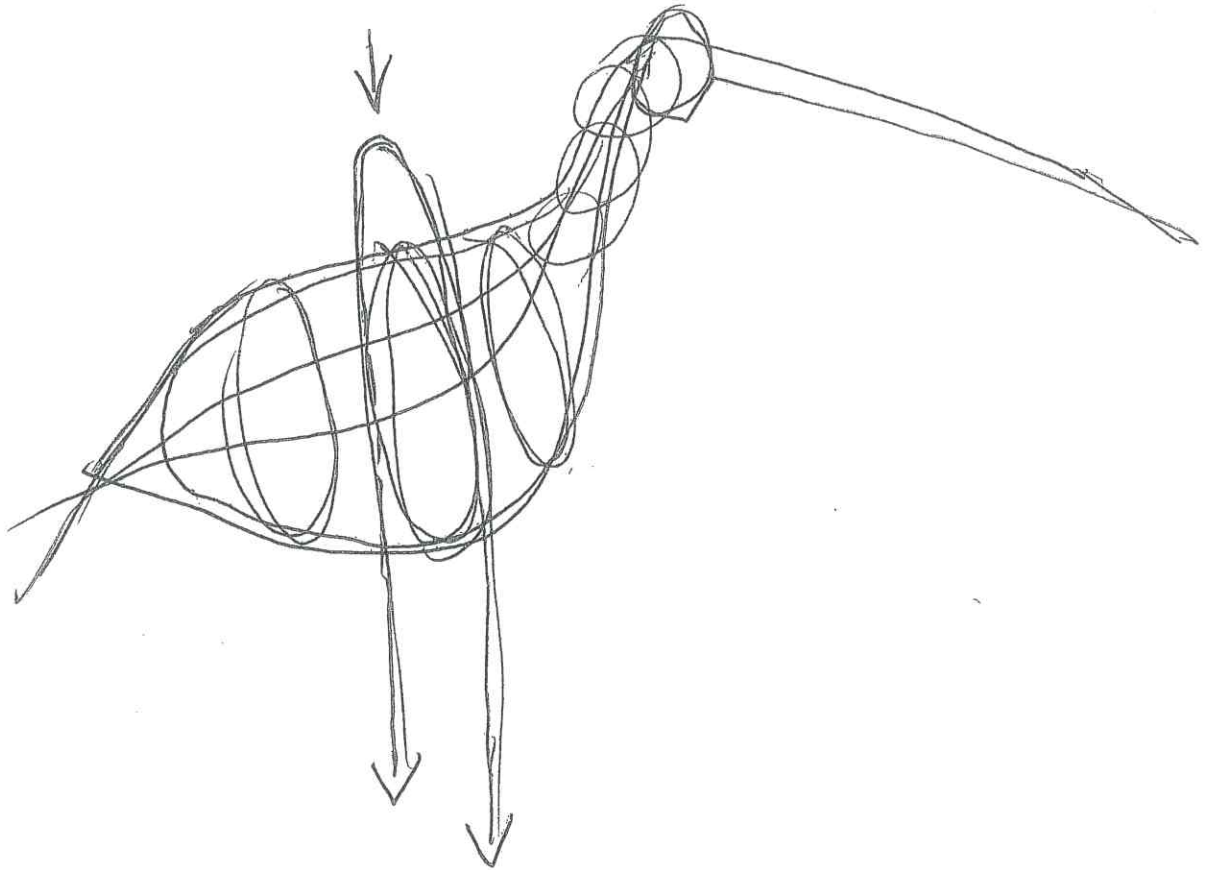
Use the side rods to form neck



Use the ventral rod to form head



Sit a hoop of wire rod over dorsal large circle and down each side to form legs; bind with wire. Bend to form joint but ensure the lower bit of leg is vertical and leave the lower leg very long so can be pushed into ground.



You now have a basic and very robust frame for your curlew. Decorate as desired; for example

- more rods pushed through frame
- cut a piece of wire netting and mould round body and neck, winding loose ends round frame
- embellish the top of the leg to form a feathery base joint
- use wire wool to stuff body
- add decorative metal to form wings, or eyes