

Top stories in this newsletter

Dorset COP Message from Chris Packham

Streets Alive event Dorchester Town

Dorset CAN Is now a charity

The Great Big Dorset Hedge



Photo (taken from Dorset COP website)

Image taken from Streets Alive flyer

Photo (adapted) by [Markus Winkler](#)

Photo supplied by John Calder

Chris Packham leads into the first-ever Dorset COP with poignant message



As we march towards Autumn and September, the Dorset COP (Saturday, 9th September; from 9-5 pm at the Corn Exchange, Dorchester) sets the school-year calendar at the top of the agenda.

In a powerful message to Dorset residents, recorded in July, Springwatch presenter, Chris Packham, in a special [recording](#) for the COP (or 'Conference of the Parties'), hailed it as a 'brilliant idea' whilst highlighting how scientific evidence indicates we have a 'limited time' and how we all need to 'step up' and demand the actions we require to **"secure a healthy and happy future for humanity."**

The first –ever Dorset COP takes place on Saturday, 9 September 2023

The event, which is organised by three of Dorset's leading climate action groups is put on in order to spur the local community into urgent action to combat threats posed by climate change and ecological collapse. The three groups include, [Zero Carbon Dorset](#), [Dorset Climate Action Network](#) (Dorset CAN) and [Sustainable Dorset](#) whom have all joined forces to launch the first community-led Dorset COP.

Laura Baldwin, environmental campaigner and former Olympian, who will open the conference said: "This event is not only ground-breaking but also of huge importance - not just for Dorset but for community activists everywhere. That's why it hopes to attract people and organisations from right across the county."

Giles Watts, a coordinator with Dorset Climate Action Network said: "This ground-breaking, community-led event is an attempt to apply the power of the international COPs to local issues and so galvanise Dorset into faster action to tackle the climate and ecological emergency."

The event hopes to attract people and organisations from all over Dorset and will close with a powerful declaration of intent to mirror those issued at the international COPs.

The 'Dorchester Declaration' will be a commitment to act, advocate and lobby for action on climate change and the environment across the county and will follow a series of talks by high-profile speakers (details to follow), as well as workshops, short talks, panel discussions and break-out workshops for organisations to collaborate.

Chair of Sustainable Dorset, Jenny Morisetti said: "This event, a first in the UK we believe, will be Dorset's very own opportunity for the community to network and have its say on climate and ecological issues. It will raise the power and reach of Dorset-based organisations by fostering collaboration, supporting the spread of vital information, and helping organisations to act locally in a way that puts people at the heart of decisions."

Co-founder of Zero Carbon Dorset Mark Chivers commented: "While Dorset is extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, from rising sea levels to the loss of local species unable to cope with the rising temperatures, globally others are already suffering the consequences of climate change; losing their livelihoods, homes and even lives. But by raising awareness of the urgent need to act locally and demonstrate the depth of community commitment to tackling the crises we aim to secure action from all stakeholders and spur both Dorset and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Councils to take the lead suggested by the Government's own Climate Change Committee."

The line up of speakers on the day can be found at the Dorset COP website (<http://www.dorsetcop.info//detailed-schedule> or by clicking [here](#) and the Eventbrite link to order tickets can be found at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dorset-cop-2023-tickets-675868790747> or by clicking [here](#).

The livestream on YouTube can be viewed [here](#) from 9:25 am on the day.

(Adapted from press release by Warrior Agency)

Streets Alive! Comes to Dorchester: Friday, 22nd September 2023, to celebrate National Car Free Day



Dorchester Streets Alive!

Re-claiming Our Urban Spaces

FREE ENTRY

International Car Free Day
Fri 22nd September, 12-5pm
Acland Road Car Park, DT1 1EF

A fun day full of activities for all ages and abilities to encourage everyone to get out of their cars and support active travel!

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Crazy Cycle Circus | Street Art |
| Street Football | Stalls |
| Skateboarding | Demos |
| Fitness | Exhibitions |
| Circus Skills | Music |
| Cycle Smoothie Making | Talks |
| Bike Ride About Town | Food |



Dorchester is to host a ‘Streets Alive!’ event celebrating International Car-Free Day in Acland Road car park on 22nd September 2023. There will be a festival with stalls, music, activities, and demonstrations in the car park in the afternoon from 12pm to 5pm. Local school children will be taking part with members of the public invited as well!

Throughout the afternoon there will be music, demonstrations, talks, food, stalls and a range of fun activities including street art, bike disco and bike polo, cycle training and repairs, street football, and more! Streets Alive will be based around the theme of active transport, encouraging the public to find fun and engaging alternatives to driving.

Many of Dorchester’s primary and middle schools are supporting this event. Some children will be walking, cycling, or scooting to the event from school which will give a powerful visual message that our streets are for everyone! At the event, there will be a range of activities and demonstrations for them to enjoy including some inter-school games. Their experience and learning will be used by the schools as part of their curriculum delivery.

Julie-Ann Booker from Dorchester Transport Action Group said, “The event will take a space in the centre of town usually occupied by cars and reclaim it for the townsfolk for one day, turning it temporarily into a joyous space for a series of fun and educational activities.

The central idea is to gently encourage a behavioural change from using cars to active transport which will bring a range of benefits including, reduced levels of air and noise pollution and a reduction in our carbon footprint. The event will be open to everyone: old and young, mobile, and not so mobile, to experience the centre of Dorchester in a new way”.

Local cycling groups are also being encouraged to participate in a mass cycle on the day of the event. The route will finish at the Acland Street Car Park where there will be a circuit of the car park. This cycle ride will be another act of temporarily “reclaiming our streets”.

Dorchester Streets Alive aims to be inclusive of everyone: young people, older people, sporty people, those who are less mobile, and those who use walking aids or wheelchairs.

How can you get involved in Dorchester Streets Alive?

- Book a stall - Food & drink, crafts, education, etc.
- Come and speak about climate issues.
- Perform on the stage.
- Sponsor a prize/giveaway.
- Organise a fun activity.
- Promote your active travel business.
- Promote your local club/activities.
- Help with fundraising for this event.
- Come along on your bike, skateboard, scooter, or mobility scooter!
- Join the community and help with the organisation.
- Help promote the festival.

Giles Watts, Secretary of Dorchester Transport Action Group commented, “This event will be positive for Dorchester and bring people into the centre of town which will be good for the community and businesses alike.”

To get involved, please contact Dorchester Streets Alive at: dorchesterstreetsalive@gmail.com or call Giles Watts at 07840 061712. You can also like/follow the event at www.facebook.com/DorchesterStreetsAlive or [@dorchesterstreetsalive](https://www.instagram.com/dorchesterstreetsalive) on Instagram.

We’re delighted to announce that, after a long wait, Dorset CAN has become registered charity number 1204328.

The great leap forward: Dorset CAN is now a registered charity



We had a special meeting in December, open to all members, where it was agreed that the current unincorporated organisation should be wound up once we’d secured registered charity status.

That moment has now arrived.

Benefits include: more robust governance structure tried and tested and regulated by the Charity Commission; more funding opportunities; ability to claim Gift Aid on donations. And, just generally more people understand what a registered charity is!

Our charitable purposes are:

A) To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by working with others to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote biological diversity and restoration of nature.

B) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in Dorset.

Vicki Elcoate is currently the Chair and there are ten trustees. Most of the donkey work will still be carried by the Action Team, which has more active members than the trustees including the project coordinators. If you want to get in touch about any of this please contact: dorsetcan@gmail.com.

Purbeck Active and Sustainable Travel Week



Every year on or around 22nd September, communities across the globe celebrate [World Car-Free Day](#), encouraging motorists to give up their cars for a day. The event highlights the numerous benefits of going car-free to citizens—including reduced air pollution and the promotion of walking and cycling in a safer environment.

This year it is coming to the Planet Purbeck Festival with a range of opportunities for everyone to experience active and sustainable travel options between 15th and 23rd September.

PURBECK PARK – from 10 am every day:

- Drop into the information hub at Purbeck Park which you can get to by public transport (or leave your car)
- Try out the many other options including Trains, Buses and discounted Bike Hire from Cycleexperience
- Join the Poole Harbour Trails Community Group's escorted footpath walk from Purbeck Park to Wareham Quay (7.5 miles)
- Plans are still being developed, which may include free car parking days at Purbeck Park

BURNBAKE CAMPSITE—23 September - 10 am to 3 pm. Try before you hire / cycle skills:

- National cycling charity Sustrans will be hosting cycle skills and games that you might be able to get involved in
- Local cycle company Cycleexperience will be giving people the opportunity to try out their bikes before they hire them to go out on a ride out into the surrounding forest, which has loads of traffic free and quiet routes to choose from.

Look our for more events on the Planet Purbeck Festival website <https://planetpurbeck.org/festival/>

Planet Purbeck Festival: focus and format



Planet Purbeck has listened and evolved, based on the insights from its [2022 Impact Report](#) and really looks forward to seeing you in Sept!

Festival Focus

The Festival is a bumper celebration of Purbeck's outstanding natural world & its remarkable people, with each event playing its part in Purbeck's nature recovery.

It's all about creating events that engage the community to discover, value & embrace nature - simple!

FORMAT:

- Fri 15th - Sun 24th Sept
- Loads of locations across Purbeck
- Free entry (to nearly all events)
- Everyone's welcome; fun-filled events & entertainment for all ages
- Think wildlife workshops & forest schools, wild art & walks, Bollywood on the beach, talks & films, foraging & feasting, live music & street food plus welly-wanging etc. etc.]

Planet Purbeck Festival is striving to keep things short & sweet, but hey, this next 2 min read is absolutely vital & trust us, it's too good to shrink any further!

So what exactly are we celebrating?

Purbeck is pioneering nature recovery on an epic scale for wildlife and you, the people of Purbeck - And that, dear friends, is a pretty big deal!

We're buzzing about the exciting opportunities that lay ahead. We're chuffed-to-bits that Planet Purbeck is in the mix, helping connect the community with what's going on around us - more on that in a mo

Loads of conservation organisations, groups and individuals have been promoting nationally groundbreaking nature recovery projects such as the Purbeck Heaths, the UK's first ever Super National Nature Reserve. But wait... there's more to come, a lot more!

Nature in Purbeck is about to get TURBO-CHARGED:

- Moors at Arne - Huge new diverse wetland habitat
- South Purbeck National Nature Reserve - From Durlston to Worth Matravers & beyond...
- Wareham Arc - Gigantic collaborative nature recovery project of national significance

To paint a quick picture of what those projects (& others) could mean for us:

- A wilder look & feel to large areas of Purbeck - a greater abundance of wildlife
- Think Beavers beavering, the 8ft wingspan of the White-Tailed Eagles soaring over head & maybe one day experiencing the power of rutting Bison!
- Our celebrity Osprey's ([incredible webcam](#)) raising the first chicks in Purbeck for 200+ years!
- Flourishing Seagrass meadows helping nurture marine life around our shores... yes, that means more Seahorses!
- All of the above project & progress leading to far greater access & opportunities within nature for the whole community
- Engaging you, our local community, to encourage faster delivery of the positive benefits these projects have on our everyday lives; the economic & health benefits
- Everyone feeling pride in being part of positive & pioneering changes

However, we sense that there is a disconnection with the community. So Planet Purbeck is striving to better inform those in the nature conservation sector about our community, so they value and embrace us - including us in all their plans. Simultaneously, we aim to catalyse those in our community to discover, value and embrace nature! That's our two-pronged approach for the benefit of people and nature...

We're not imposing a vision upon you; we'll be learning alongside you...

Do you fancy? -

- *Finding out how our community can positively shape these projects?*
- *Helping define what 'community benefits' Purbeck would like?*
- *Boosting your sense of pride and place?*

Good - Your voice matters!

This is all about inclusion and collaboration - your voice is essential!

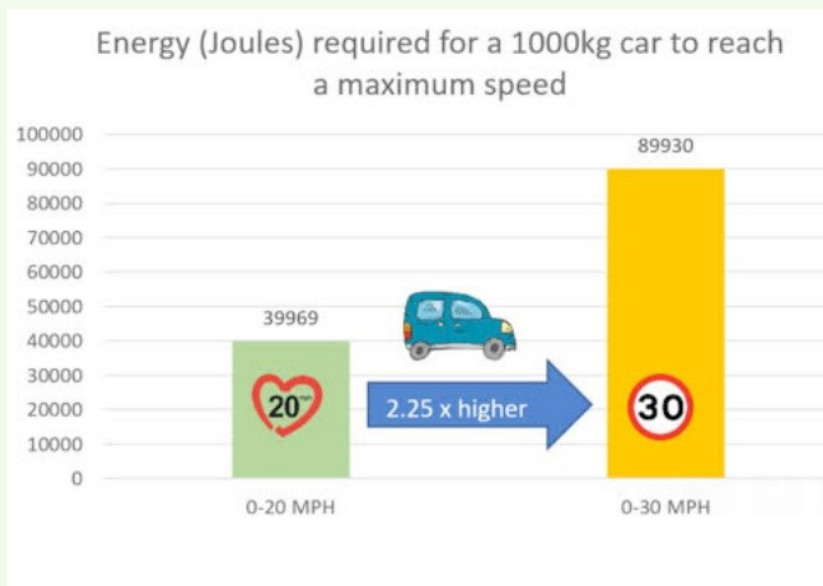
Whilst a lot of this important nature recovery work is about the butterflies, lizards, birds etc. it's also for and about people - us too! Nature recovery for people is about to get real - you heard it here first!

We can picture the Festival vibes already... Can you?

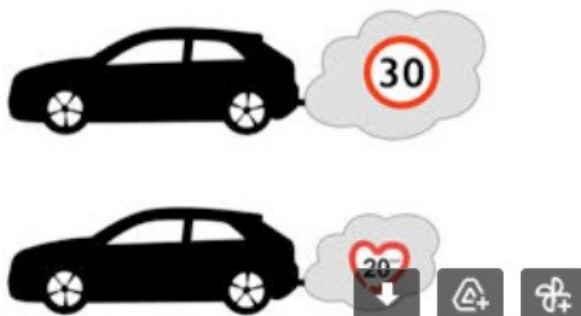
Fantastic, because you're all invited. Come along and help yourself to a great big dollop of the after-glow we dream of; Quality convo's with your loved ones & witnessing the joy as the kids run wild (a safe 'laughing & exploring' kind of wild that is!) while us 'adults' savour a few local ciders...

Good times (to be) had by all!

"20 is Plenty" and the Stockholm Declaration Campaign for Speed Awareness



New research shows that 20mph limits reduce CO₂ and NOx by 25% compared to 30mph



Thirty (30) km/hr is becoming the *new standard* and best practice for cities and communities around the world that want to increase their liveability. In February 2020 30km/h was referenced in the [Stockholm Declaration](#) and endorsed by 130 Road Safety Ministers from around the world as the key initiative for Speed Management.

In August 2020 the General Assembly of the UN endorsed the Stockholm Declaration as the foundation for its 2nd Decade of Action on Road Safety 2021-2030.

The key resolution is that countries *should*:-

"Focus on speed management, including the strengthening of law enforcement to prevent speeding and mandate a maximum road travel speed of 30 km/h in areas where vulnerable road users and vehicles mix in a frequent and planned manner, except where strong evidence exists that higher speeds are safe, noting that efforts to reduce speed in general will have a beneficial impact on air quality and climate change as well as being vital to reduce road traffic deaths and injuries;"

Dorset Plant Heritage talks

Dorset Plant Heritage

New Season of talks



Autumn Flowering Perennials with Rosie Hardy

An illustrated talk by respected award winning nurserywoman.

Dorford Centre **Dorchester** (Opposite Top of Town car park)

Doors open 7 pm 7th September 2023

Refreshments and Plant sales.

Members free Visitors £5

(For more information contact

alexandrob.ab@gmail.com)



Water 'quality' and Rivers update



Water quality campaigners across Dorset are making good progress by keeping pressure on the water companies to make much needed improvements.

South West Water has promised to crack on with improvements to the Lyme Regis sewage system after concerns were raised about poor water quality.

The company has pledged to invest £20 million in the town's creaking system after high levels of bacterial contamination were found in the river and sewage was found leaking onto the bathing beach.

After the River Lim Action Group publicised high levels of discharge from Combined Sewer Overflows into the river, South West Water carried out improvements at the Uplyme Sewage Treatment Works which has led to improved water quality. They also fixed an unlawful, pongy discharge from a pipe which should have been releasing rainwater. This had attracted a lot of local attention over many months – so it was widely welcomed when it was restored to its former, sparkling quality.

This article continues on the next page

Water 'quality' and Rivers update cont'd

Going East, the Lower Char Community Project (www.riverchar.org) in Charmouth has had success working with Wessex Water to understand the different pollution issues within the river and Wessex Water has started work to eliminate spills at one key site. South West Water has also agreed to fund the Nurdle Organisation (Nurdle.org) to clean up the huge number of tiny plastic beads that are littering the river mouth and foreshore.

Water quality monitoring is ongoing along the Char and several new trainees are about to get going on Riverfly monitoring, the results of which will help inform the Environment Agency of any particular areas for concern. LCCP is an active member of CROWD (the Clean Rivers of West Dorset group, which includes our MP) working to improve water quality in the six main rivers of West Dorset and the coastal waters they feed.

Another CROWD member, the Winniford River Action Group (WRAG) has been testing for *E. coli* along the length of the river that runs through Chideock.

WRAG has already identified a pipe leaking into the river and is beginning work with Wessex Water to understand and resolve pollution issues on the river. The bathing pools at Seatown and Charmouth are a particular concern for both groups.

Dorset CAN organised a water quality networking event earlier this year with three leading speakers which was well attended and enabled 12 river groups across the county to share their experiences.

For further information: https://www.dorsetcan.org/all_news/bright-blue-dorset-event

Green Martinstown update and more recent events



Hedges, Wildlife, Farms and Government – with John Calder

Green Martinstown is holding another 'World Renowned Supper Evening' on October 28th at 7 pm at Martinstown Village Hall. In order to book contact Colin Tracy on colintracy66@gmail.com

Well—perhaps not quite so 'world renowned' but nevertheless developing a formidable reputation for the high quality of supper! Our guest speaker is John Calder, Project Manager of the Dorset Climate Action Network's project The Great Big Dorset Hedge (GBDH).

John will speak about the critical importance that hedgerows play for wildlife habitats and mitigating against climate change, whilst at the same time allowing space for farming and the essential production of food.

The surveying of hedges, now taking place in Martinstown and elsewhere across Dorset, is an essential first step in assessing hedges for the Sustainable Farming Incentive – part of the soon to be introduced Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS). John will speak about how the GBDH scheme works and how we are liaising with farmers. John is part of the team working on hedges for DEFRA.

There will also be information about Sustainable Dorset's Green Living Project and we are now hoping to form another team or two who want to engage in the project.

The Great Big Dorset Hedge (Martinstown)

We have just had news that another farmer in the Martinstown parish is happy for us to survey their hedges. Once we complete this we will have surveyed nearly half of the parish having already completed one cross-farm survey. We have a team of ten people on the survey team. It is a great way to get to know the locality which may not necessarily be accessible otherwise!

Green Martinstown update and more recent events *cont'd*

Testing the Waters of the River Winterbourne

At last we have received the necessary kits to enable us to test the water quality of the River Winterbourne that runs through the Martinstown parish. Rising at Winterbourne Abbas and joining the River Frome at West Stafford we have located 10 testing sites that will be tested monthly. Tests will monitor the temperature, phosphate content, turbidity and density of solids. Interestingly and somewhat alarmingly, the phosphates below the sewage works were 500 times higher than above the sewage works.

There are currently talks between the Parish Council and Wessex Water about the possibility of a reed bed sewage system in the fields beyond the sewage works which are ideally suited. The landowner, the farmer and Wessex Water view this favourably.

Food Resilience In Dorset Zoom meetings



On July 10th DorsetCAN held an Open Zoom Network Event on 'Food Resilience in Dorset', informed by three wonderful speakers, who gave generously of their time:

Rebecca Sandover - [Devon Food Partnership](#) – offering us a systemic overview of how the Devon Food Partnership developed alongside some case studies of local projects

Peter Samsom - [Landworkers Alliance](#) from Northumberland who focused on local supply chain issues, sharing his experience of the pros and cons of different possible pathways.

Anne Haydon MBE - Director and Founder of [Your Planet Doctors and Grow Your Own Rainbow Gardens Project](#) who inspired us with her thriving work in Bournemouth.

We also had 'pop-up' introductions to various Dorset groups: the impressive work of [#HelpandKindness](#), [Bridport Food Matters](#), [Common Ground Project](#), [Cock Crowing Farm](#) and the [Open Food Network](#)

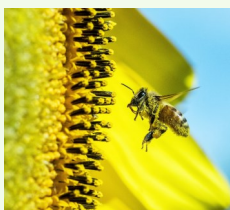
As we heard that evening, to become a member of [Sustainable Food Places](#) could well be a significant step for Dorset as a county. In their networking role, [DorsetCAN](#) have decided to follow this up with a little bit more research, to see if there is sufficient interest and support countywide to make sense of Dorset applying to become a member in March 2024.

Following the success of the previous meeting, we also held another Zoom meeting entitled: **Sustainable Food Places : who are they and should Dorset become a member?**– on Wednesday August 30th.

Alex Ward from Sustainable Food Places was there to answer questions arising and help us think about whether to become members of SFP in the future. We do hope to put the recording on our Zoom channel very soon.

Slides from the Food Resilience meeting and further information can be found at: https://www.dorsetcan.org/all_news/dcans-food-resilience-in-dorset-event-a-success/

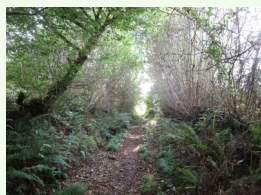
Special meetings from September on a Monday evening



Largely, the second Monday of the month will be given over to a special DCAN topical meeting.

The meetings will be for The Great Big Dorset Hedge (during Planet Purbeck week; likely a Zoom meeting). We will also hold a further Youth event (9th Oct), a pollinators event (13th Nov) and a Waste event (11th Dec). Do watch our website at https://www.dorsetcan.org/news_events for more details

The Great Big Dorset Hedge



Through August, the GBDH survey teams continued to excel themselves with yet more survey coverage, and with increased emphasis where it matters most (farmer-approved across-farm surveys). Of the 287 km of field boundaries now surveyed no less than 20% are merely wire fences so (in theory) we can expect to plant new hedges without slicing big fields into small fields - so long as a landowner is willing.

Of the 230 km of actual hedgerows surveyed only 5% had been recently rejuvenated confirming the large potential for more hedges to be laid than is currently happening. So, our ambitions are realistic if we can just keep up the current pace in West Dorset *and* if we can extend that model across all of Dorset.

Of the twelve farms involved so far in cross-farm surveys, we can report very positive responses in all cases. One farmer has already made a charitable donation to Dorset CAN for the analysis we did that enables them to approach the new hedgerow components of the Sustainable Farming Incentive with a clear focus on priorities. Three are currently considering making a similar donation. Two more have yet to see our analytics because we have yet to do enough surveys for that to have happened. What we need is to increase our volunteer base from the current level of 175 to nearer 400, and for our three really energised survey clusters to be matched by about a dozen more across the county. Exciting times.

On Trails surveys	KM	Across Farm Surveys	KM
Jubilee Trail	74	Sadborow Estate SE	20
Wessex Ridgeway	44	Clandon Farm South	18
Brit Valley Trail	13	Tamarisk Farm	16
Macmillan Way	12	Nether Cerne Farm	15
Purbeck Way	4	Kingston Maurward	14
Other trails	8	Denhay Farm	13
On Trail Total	155	Gorwell Farm	11
		Luccas Farm	8
		East Axnoller Farm	6
		other across fam	11
		Across Farm Total	132

John Calder, GBDH Project Manager (until Christmas 2023)

Dorset Greener Homes 2023



23rd, 24th, 31st September and 1st October

Every day we read worrying news about climate change, or global boiling as the UN is now calling it, and even though our August has been unseasonably cold and wet in West Dorset the rest of the world has reached record-breaking temperatures elsewhere.

But what can we do about it?

The first steps are to reduce the energy we use directly. Around 20% of our carbon footprint is in the home, mainly for heating. We all want to reduce our energy bills, but what is the best way of going about it? Where can one get impartial advice from people who are not trying to sell you something?

In the last two weekends in September, over forty private homes, and some public buildings will be open to visitors across Dorset. In all these homes the owners have taken steps to cut their energy use, some by relatively high-tech approaches, such as heat pumps, solar panels with batteries, mechanical ventilation; others with low cost solutions, using natural materials which can be recycled at the end of the life of the building.

More follows on DGH on page 11

Dorset Greener Homes 2023 *cont'd*

Many of these pay back the cost of installation within a year or two – draft proofing, loft and cavity wall insulation, ventilation and simple maintenance of gutters and roofs and are always the first steps to be taken.

This is the tenth year we have been running open greener homes in West Dorset, and thousands of people have benefited from impartial advice and a chance to see the changes in action. Many of the earlier visitors have improved their own houses and then opened in following years to share their experience with others.

This year some of the homes have had a **professional film-maker** to produce short visits with some of these houses. They can be viewed on the website, along with the description of all the homes. Some of the homes require booking and each has a particular date and time of opening.

See www.dorsetcan.org/greener_homes/

Dorset Greener Homes is part of Dorset Climate Action Network (DCAN) and we were fortunate to receive grants from Dorset Community Energy and Wessex Water to run the event.

Earlier this year over 100 homes installed solar panels at discounted prices in Bridport, Stour Row, Martinstown and Corscombe through bulk ordering, organised by members of DCAN. Some of these deals, with or without batteries, are still available – contact dorsetcan@gmail.com.

The six films, the straw bale house in Milbourne St Andrew, Bridport co-housing as well as a SMART house in Bridport and Blandford Museum are examples of some of our new homes, this year.

Giant Dorset sand lizard makes national news



A huge artwork by artist Eilidh Middleton of Church Knowle, who creates hard-hitting, yet inspiring art installations throughout Purbeck has been unveiled and made national news. The art installation features a giant sand lizard, in a bid to raise awareness of the creatures' endangered plight,

The 20 metre long art installation, started a temporary display on 'World Lizard Day' from Monday 14th to Thursday 31st August 2023, is located at Stone Hill Down just south of East Creech Farm, near the infamous Corfe Castle. (In order to reach the installation, you can walk across the Ridge Path from Corfe Castle).

For more information see: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-dorset-66496834>

DCAN at Events Across Dorset

We are booked in for the following events until Christmas (our next newsletter will be in December, just prior to the festive period).

Dorset COP, Dorchester Corn Exchange (Saturday, 9th September)

Streets Alive Dorchester (Friday, 22nd September) & Car Free Day Purbeck Park (22nd September)

Planet Purbeck launch event (Sunday 24th September)

Dorset Greener Homes (our event—Dorsetwide) - (Dates: 23rd and 24th September, 31st September & 1st October)

Dorset Coast Forum Annual Conference, Bournemouth (27th September 2023)

Feeding Dorset, The Old Powerhouse, Blandford (Wednesday, 11th October)

Planet Wimborne Green Festival (Saturday, 14th October)

Christmas Cracker, Dorchester High Street (Sunday, 10th December)

If you would like your stories included in the next Dorset CAN Newsletter due December 2023, please email us at dorsetcan@gmail.com