



DCAN Newsletter - March 26

*Community-led action to cut carbon emissions,
adapt to our changing climate and restore nature across Dorset*

Bringing you the latest news and updates...

Editorial

I am finding it all too easy to fall into the rabbit hole of anger and depression at the criminal, corrupt, hateful and wilfully blind leadership of the US, Russia, Israel and other countries.

However on the plus side, Operation Epic Fury will severely disrupt the oil economy, which may accelerate progress to more sustainable technology. The move to renewables is 'beyond our wildest dreams' (Fateh Birol, director of the IEA). Over 50% of the UK's electricity came from renewables in 2024; the price of solar panels has dropped 99.3% since 1975 and battery storage by 93% since 2010. Access to these technologies is increasingly widespread, a bottom-up democratic shift to small scale with villages all over the world able to install electricity for lighting and refrigeration.

The opening of UK's first geothermal plant in Cornwall will produce not only 3GW of electricity but potentially up to 2000 tonnes of Lithium per year.

Other cheering news can be found in 'Our World in Data' website. Cheap energy for all and the future decline of the petrostates is something to look forward to.

Sam



Dorset CAN Energy Group

We will meet on 30th March at 7.00pm to update on progress in the energy field and discuss the role of this group in moving to more renewable community based energy and reducing heat waste from homes in Dorset.

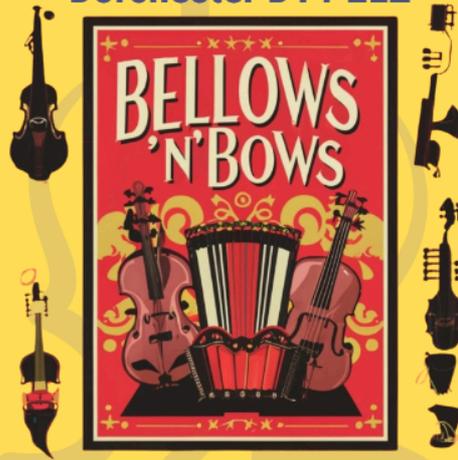
Please [click on this link](#) to register before the meeting.

BARN DANCE

Saturday 25th April 2026

7pm - 10pm

St Mary's Community Hall, Alexandra Road,
Dorchester DT1 2LZ



with caller MICHAEL CATOVSKY

Light refreshments and soft drinks included in ticket price
BYO alcoholic drinks

TICKETS £15 and Under 16's £8 IN ADVANCE

£20 and under 16'S £10 ON THE DOOR

To book advance tickets email:

henrylovegrove@btinternet.com

A fundraising event for DORSET CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK



Join us for our Fundraising Barn Dance!

The Barn Dance is being held on Saturday 25th April 2026 in Dorchester.

Email [Henry Lovegrove](mailto:Henry.Lovegrove) for tickets.



Great Big Dorset Hedge

With 500 metres of hedgerows planted on Hurst farm at Moreton and 4 km planted in a dozen other farms, our volunteers have made a huge impact this winter. Now we will return to mainly hedgerow surveys and by the time we are in April there will be loads of them all over the county.

Meanwhile, behind the scenes there are dramatic changes afoot.

[Read More](#)

Community Energy Projects

DCAN and Dorset Community Energy have been successful in our bid for £40,000 from the Great British Energy-Community Energy Fund. The award is for a feasibility study for a community-owned windfarm North of Dorchester. The project is due to start in April and will take 6 months to complete.

Meanwhile the Feasibility study for the Loders Community Project is under way also funded by the CEF. The purpose is to decarbonise local areas and reduce the bills especially for poorer households.

Carbon Literacy

We have run a number of Carbon Literacy training for councils, and Climate Fresk games.

Would any councils or groups like us to run another of these sessions?

If so please [contact Belinda Bawden.](#)



DEFRA Starts Consultation on Beach Designation

DEFRA has agreed the West Bay Swimmer's application for East Beach in West Bay near Bridport as one of 13 locations in England to go to public consultation on its designation as a bathing beach.

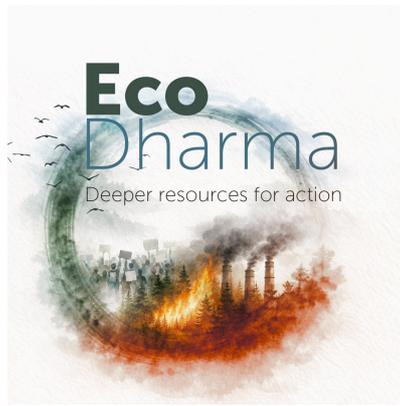
A similar campaign was successfully conducted for Church Cliff Beach in Lyme Regis in 2024 by the River Lim Action Group. Vicki Elcoate, from the action group, said: "it's a lever to secure better water quality and the pressure is now on South West Water and the Environment Agency to find a solution to our pollution problems."

Please give your support by completing the [**short survey**](#).

Woodburning stoves

Many of us heat our homes with woodburners and they provide a low cost way of keeping ourselves warm. But in towns the particulate levels can get dangerously high in winter, and the pollution is particularly unhealthy if people burn treated or unseasoned wood. With modern efficient burners and dry fuel this can be less of a problem.

DEFRA are conducting a [**Consultation on solid fuel burning**](#) to which you may want to contribute.



Burnt-out campaigner?

Are you a tired activist needing recharging, and looking for inspiration to carry on? *Deeper Resources for Action: An Ecodharma Gathering* is a week-long retreat 17-24 September.

Email [Colin Tracy](mailto:colin@ecodharma.org) for further details or visit [this website](http://ecodharma.org)



National Emergency Briefing

The People's Emergency Briefing Film

In November 2025, the National Emergency Briefing held in Westminster, brought together leading experts to present the latest evidence on the climate and nature crisis to politicians and other influential people in Westminster.

A 45 min documentary film is being launched this April to and will combine authoritative scientific content from the Westminster event with reactions from members of the public and some more familiar faces.

The film will deliver the frank facts about the threats ahead, but also the enormous benefits if the Government leads genuine emergency action.

Community Film screenings

NEB are asking communities and individuals to share screenings in your constituency and invite your MP to attend.

Below is the link which provides guidance and digital materials including a facilitated discussion guide and designs for leaflets and posters for screening the film.

<https://www.nebriefing.org/host-the-film>

Dorset CAN will be happy to share and promote any community screenings of the film, please just [email us](#) with details.

Dates for your Diary

11 March, 17:00-20:30 screening '[The People Vs Climate Change](#)' at Bournemouth University Talbot Campus.

14 March 11:00-12:00 Greener Schools with Edd Moore at Dorchester Library. [Book here](#)

25 March 9.30am-3.30pm Dorset Local Nature Partnership Annual Forum 2026: Launching the Dorset Local Nature Recovery Strategy at the George Albert Hotel, near Dorchester. [Details here](#)

26 March 7.30-9.30pm The Great Green Pub Quiz at the Royal Lion, Lyme Regis with Anne Swithinbank from Gardeners Question Time. [Turn Lyme Green](#) and [Woodroffe School PTFA](#) are raising funds for a new school biodiversity garden. Book a table or place in a team via enquiries@turnlymegreen.co.uk

30 March DCAN Energy Team meeting online - [Details here](#)

This year's Great Dorset Beach Clean will take place between 1st and 12th April 2026. Check [Litter Free Dorset's interactive website and map](#) as events are being added

25 April 7pm St Marys Church Hall, Dorchester: **DCAN Barn Dance** with Bellows and Bows, caller Michael Catovsky. [Details here.](#)

More details of these events will be available on the [events page](#) of our website

If you would like to be involved, please [email us](#).

Help us with a small donation - Follow this link

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