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Dorset Climate Action Network - Newsletter Sept 2026



DCAN Newsletter - September 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 - ***Stronger Together***

DCAN is involved in big events later this year. Dorset Greener Homes will open private homes all over Dorset in October, to showcase eco-improvements and nature friendly gardens.

We are also organising Dorset COP, a climate and nature solutions conference at Coastland College's Kingston Maurward campus and a Youth COP as part of the college's Environment Week in November.

As part of the run-up to our Dorset COPs and [Carbon Literacy Action Day](#), we are running [Carbon Literacy workshops](#) for town and parish councils and community groups.

The Great Big Dorset Hedge project continues to survey hedgerows to help farmers get grants for maintaining hedges.

We are represented on two Dorset and BCP (Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole) Council groups, the Local Nature Recovery Delivery group and the new Dorset Climate Adaptation Strategy Steering Group.

Our members are also involved in rivers and beaches, transport and community energy projects. If you would like to be involved in any of these, please [contact us](#).



DORSET COP



CLIMATE ACTION, NATURE RECOVERY AND ADAPTATION
A COUNTYWIDE NETWORKING EVENT

Dorset COP: How to impact Climate and Nature

This year's fourth COP - Dorset's equivalent of the international COPs or 'Conference of the Parties' - is on **Saturday 14 November** and is being organised by Dorset Climate Action Network (DCAN) in collaboration with Coastland College at their Kingston Maurward campus.

The day-long event, focusing on 'How to make an impact for climate and nature', is taking place at the same time as the latest UN Climate Change Conference (COP31) in Turkey from 9-20 November that's expected to make increasingly urgent calls for action from global leaders.

Dorset COP 26 will include workshops, talks, clinics, seminars and networking events during the day - details of which are still being finalised - as well as the Question Time afternoon highlight.

For the first time this year, the Saturday event will be preceded by a special Youth COP on Friday (13 Nov) aimed at students from local schools.

A Question Time style session will include three MP's, the leaders of Dorset and BCP councils, two climate experts and a retired general. Get your questions ready!

[More....](#)

Running this event requires sponsorship - we already have pledges from Lush, Efeca, and CAF bank but we need more. If you are interested in sponsoring the conference, please get [in touch with us](#).

For more information on Dorset COP 26 and to book tickets, go to the [Dorset COP](#) website



Dorset COP Venue - Kingston Maurward Campus - Near Dorchester



Dorset Greener Homes

Are you considering improving your home to make it more energy-efficient? Insulation, solar panels and batteries, rainwater harvesting or heat pumps? You can visit one of our greener homes, either during their open days in the middle of October or by appointment at other times. Find a **Greener Home** near you to get unbiased advice on what works and how quickly it pays for itself.

If you might be willing to open your own home for a day to visitors seeking advice, please **contact Sam** for further details.

The Great Big Dorset Hedge

Plenty going on this month with surveys happening all over Dorset. To get involved please visit the **GBDH web pages**.

Tues 1st Sept BCP Bournemouth Greenspace BH8 0AJ Mel	Weds 2nd Sept Child Okeford House Child Okeford DT11 8DX Dirk	Thurs 3rd Sept Cardmill Farm, Whitchurch Canonicorum DT6 6RP Helen	Fri 4th Sept The Ferals Tarrant Keyneston DT11 9JH Dirk	Sat 5th Sept Ewleaze Farm, Dorchester DT2 9JN Helen	Mon 7th Sept Mappercombe Farm Nettlecombe DT6 3SS Helen
Tuesday 8th Sept Longmoor Farm Partnership Gillingham SP8 5QW Dirk	Tues 8th Sept BCP Bournemouth Greenspace BH8 0AJ or Goodens Farm Stoborough Wareham BH20 5AQ Mel	Weds 9th Sept Cardmill Farm, Whitchurch Canonicorum DT6 6RP Helen	Tues 15th Sept Goodens Farm Stoborough Wareham BH20 5AQ Mel	Tues 15th Sept Pipplepen Farm South Perrott DT8 3HS Helen	Weds 16th Sept Gutchpool Farm, Gillingham SP8 5QP Dirk
Fri 18th Sept Longmoor Farm Partnership Gillingham SP8 5QW Dirk	Fri 18th Sept Canada Farm, Winterborne Stickland DT11 0LU Mel	Fri 18th Sept New Barn Farm, Piddletrenthide DT2 7RE Helen	Tues 22nd Sept Goodens Farm Stoborough Wareham BH20 5AQ Mel	Tues 22nd Sept Manor Farm, Winterbourne Steepleton DT2 9LG Helen	Weds 23rd Sept Gutchpool Farm, Gillingham SP8 5QP Dirk
Weds 23rd Sept Mappercombe Farm Nettlecombe DT6 3SS Helen	Weds 23rd Sept Canada Farm, Winterborne Stickland DT11 0LU Mel	Fri 25th Sept Ewleaze Farm, Dorchester DT2 9JN Helen	Fri 25th Sept Gutchpool Farm, Gillingham SP8 5QP Dirk	Tues 29th Sept Delcombe Farm, Milton Abbas DT11 0BT Mel	Tues 29th Sept Springwood Farm, Buckton Newton DT2 7DJ Helen
Weds 30th Sept Longmoor Farm Partnership Gillingham SP8 5QW Dirk	Weds 30th Sept Furzeleigh Down Farm Axminster EX13 5SQ Helen				

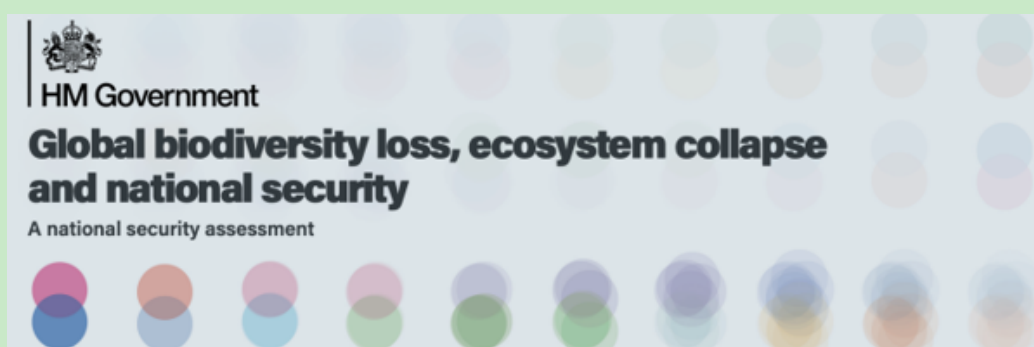
The Great Big Dorset Hedge Survey Schedule for Sept

Peoples' Emergency Briefing

With 116,000 signatures, the petition to hold a parliamentary debate on the Climate emergency has reached the necessary threshold, which will trigger a debate in the Commons later this year.

Next Thursday a separate debate will take place in Westminster hall. A report commissioned by the Joint Intelligence Committee on '[Global Biodiversity Loss, Ecosystem Collapse and National Security](#),' has not been published in full. "The decline in the health of nature globally threatens the UK national security and prosperity", leading to food insecurity, a possible 12% loss of GDP by 2030, forced migration and conflicts over water and food resources. [An ITN report](#) outlines the problem.

We suggest [writing to your MP](#) requesting them to attend the debate, and support publication.



Local screenings of the People's Emergency Briefing include:

Weymouth Pavilion - 8 September

Broadwindsor Comrade's Hall - 11 September

Lyme Regis Pine Hall, Baptist Church - 16 September

Martinstown Village Hall - 2 October

Maiden Newton, St Mary's Church - 12 October

Check the NEB Screening map for details - [National Emergency Briefing](#)

Balcony Solar Systems

Balcony Solar systems are set to become available nationwide on the 27th August 2026, but what are they and what do they do?

Many of us are familiar with solar powered energy through rooftop solar panels. However, under new regulations, compact balcony solar systems consisting of just one or two panels are becoming legal across the United Kingdom. They have the potential to be highly beneficial for the environment as well as for renters and those who live in apartments and flats.

[Read More...](#)

If you own a roof, a fixed set of solar panels may represent better value. Also if you can add a battery system to a solar panel you can use the electricity at night or at peak times. Some further caveats may be seen [here](#) or [here](#).

Organic September



Organic September is a month-long campaign run by Soil Association with the intention of inviting people to try out organic lifestyles!

The positives of going organic are undeniable- it has so many benefits for the environment, farm animals, wildlife and humans themselves. Organic September

encourages people to try organic options for a month and realise the benefits of healthy soil, sustainable farming and animal welfare.

Some of the Soil Association's tips on going organic include starting small and swapping a few essential items initially, eating seasonally to reduce carbon footprint, utilising your freezer to reduce waste and growing some of your own food! More tips and information can be found [here](#).

Organic does not stop with food either- organic beauty products and fashion are becoming more widely used and are helping to reduce harm to the planet. Organic beauty and skincare is better for the environment and also holds many benefits for the skin, whilst organic textiles are more ethical, long lasting and sustainable. Soil Association has its very own checker to see whether beauty and fashion brands are certified under their organic standards. Check it out [here](#).

Wanting to take on Organic September? Follow this [link](#) for more information and tips

Written by Evie May Davis - DCAN Volunteer

Second Hand September - Are you taking part?



This September, Oxfam is challenging everyone to shop second hand in a bid to help the planet in a time of climate crisis. Oxfam says themselves, “By recirculating clothes – buying, wearing and donating second hand– you’re giving fashion a longer life and cutting down the demand for new”.

Fashion is one of the largest polluting industries because it wastes so much clean water and is a heavy polluter from transporting clothes, not to mention the amount of unwanted clothing that ends up in landfill.

By 2050, the amount of unworn clothes around the world could almost stretch from Earth to Mars and back! In addition, 99% of a clothing item's lifetime in the UK is

spent in the closet and is worn for less than 5 days! With this in mind, why not take on Second Hand September and do your bit to reduce fast fashion waste?

Some tips for taking on Second Hand September and finding some hidden gems are to shop out of season, mend and alter clothes, have an open mind and donate your own unwanted items!

More information can be found on this [link](#) and [reasons for getting involved are here.](#)

Written by Evie May Davis - DCAN Volunteer

Tell the Government to say No to Rosebank and Jackdaw

The government has a big decision to make: whether to permit development of the Rosebank and Jackdaw North Sea oil and gas fields. The two projects were approved by the previous government in 2023, but their consents were found to be unlawful as they had been given without an assessment of the full climate impacts, including the greenhouse gases that would be produced when the oil and gas were burned.

The developer has submitted new applications, this time detailing the vast amount of greenhouse gases these projects would give rise to – 254 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent in the case of Rosebank.

The decision is expected imminently. It is highly politicized. The industry is lobbying hard to persuade the government and the media that the sites should be permitted. Yet scientists agree that there is no room for any new oil and gas if we are to keep temperature rise below 1.5C. If you haven't done so yet, write to your MP asking them to call on the Government to reject new oil and gas drilling.

Read more [here.](#)

Dates for your Diary

- 19 September Planet Purbeck [**Discovery Fest**](#), Swanage
- 17-18 and 24-25 October [**Dorset Greener Homes**](#)
- 3 and 11 November [**Carbon Literacy**](#) for community groups & councils
- 13 November - Dorset Youth COP 26, Kingston Maurward
- 14 November - [**Dorset COP26**](#) climate and nature conference Coastland College, Kingston Maurward campus.

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Dorset CAN
Climate Action Network

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