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## NEWSLETTER

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# Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community

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The **Christmas countdown** has well and truly started. Schools are finishing in the next few days or so, many of us are looking forward to spending some days with family and friends and the DSPOC newsletter has taken on a Christmassy feeling too - try and answer the three Christmas questions that are sprinkled through the newsletter (answers at the bottom)...

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### What is the name of the horse in Jingle Bells?

We are absolutely delighted that **SEA LIFE Weymouth** - part of the SEA LIFE communities and Merlin Entertainments - has signed up to the Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community. They have decided they will only have sustainable palm oil (SPO) in the food they sell in their café and they will do this by asking their suppliers whether they supply them any products with palm oil. If there are any products that contain conventional palm oil, they will either switch to another product, work with their supplier to encourage them to switch to SPO (we can help!) and even switch supplier to one that uses physically sourced SPO. We are so pleased to work with them on this campaign - free of charge of course.

With the addition of SEA LIFE Weymouth, we have now reached our target for **3 out of the 5 categories** we need to complete to become the world's first sustainable palm oil county. <https://www.efeca.com/>

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# MONTHLY UPDATE

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## In which author's novel is it 'always winter but never Christmas'?

**The Chatterboxes**, a YMCA funded youth action disability group in Bournemouth has become our latest fully-fledged champion! Although they don't buy any food for their sessions, they instead either use the community fridge for free food or young people donate food to the project such as Nutella and Biscoff for special occasions (which use 100% physically sourced certified sustainable palm oil). They have been running awareness sessions with young people about sustainability and certified sustainable palm oil products. Scroll to the bottom of the YMCA Bournemouth website to see the policy statement and logo.

The magnificent **Ossies Climate Action Group** from St Osmunds' Middle School in Dorchester have written to their stall holders for our Summer and Christmas Fairs to make sure they use/sell certified SPO, they have spoken to the Art, DT and Science Subject leaders (and those who buy the resources) to audit (and hopefully change) palm oil use, and they have contacted Local Food Links to establish a link with them to find out how they've switched to CSPO.

They also have their policy statement on their school website. Therefore they have done all the steps to become a fully fledged champion! Well done and thank you to St Osmunds' Middle School.

**Sustainable Dorset** is one of our long-term supporters and once again they shared our October newsletter on their website so that all their followers and supporters could read about DSPOC - thank you Tracey.

## How many presents in total we were given in the 12 Days of Christmas?

The **Bridport arm of the DSPOC** met up and discussed next steps. In the new year, a group of volunteers including the Mayor of Bridport will go around and speak to many of Bridport's businesses to discuss the project with them, and to let them know why it is important to ask suppliers about what kind of palm oil they have in their food products.





# NUMBER OF THE MONTH



**Number of the month: 8 + 2.** This is the current number of Sustainable Palm Oil Communities here in the UK - Mochdre, Hull and East Riding, Chester, Oxford, Saltash, Plymouth, Newquay and Dorset - plus the 2 soon to come-on-board communities of North Devon and Blackpool. I also know that Chester Zoo are in talks with several other localities too, so the community of communities is growing!

## Answers:

1. Bob - as in "Dashing through the snow. On a one horse open sleigh. O'er the fields we go, Laughing all the way. Bells on bob tail ring, making spirits bright, What fun it is to laugh and sing, A sleighing song tonight". An alternative answer though is that the horse has no name as bobtail is a horse tail style...
2. C S Lewis - Narnia in The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
3. 364