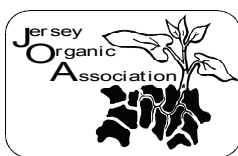


# JERSEY ORGANIC ASSOCIATION



ISSUE 82 – September 2009

## Organic Fortnight 2009 5 – 20 September

It's that time again!

Once only a week long, the creators of this event, the Soil Association, decided to make it a fortnight as they felt there was just too much to cram into a seven days.

Organic Fortnight is a nationwide campaign highlighting all the great things about organic. Up and down the UK, people in shops, schools, cafes, churches and farms will be hosting events and raising awareness.

See [www.soilassociation.org](http://www.soilassociation.org) for all the things they are doing.

Here, too, in the Island, the Jersey Organic Association is highlighting the benefits, how it is fundamentally a sustainable way of producing enough good quality food, whilst caring for the environment and life-forms and without contributing to climate change.

- **Host an Organic Dinner.** We are encouraging members (and their friends) to do just this. What better way to raise the awareness about why organic is the healthy choice, the best for animal welfare and the right thing for the planet!  
Check out [www.dinner4good.com/soilassociation](http://www.dinner4good.com/soilassociation) or tips. Please contact a Committee member if you would be interested in a JOA dinner at Ad Lib Restaurant which features organic food.
- **Natural Living Fair.** This is a health, healing and environment fair being held at the Royal Jersey Show Grounds, Trinity on the 18, 19 & 20 September.  
**Stand.** We will be there with an information stand publicizing.  
Organic Fortnight  
**Talk.** Also we have two “live” slots where in one of the rooms we will be doing a small presentation “Organic Food, the Climate & Us”. This is scheduled for 3pm on Saturday and 12.30pm on Sunday.
- **Campaign.** Save the Honeybee!  
Last but not least we are promoting this campaign organized by the Soil Association. Over the last two years there has been a massive drop in bee numbers and one of the prime suspects are neonicotinoid insecticides. Their use has been banned or suspended in France, Germany, Italy and Slovenia but not in the UK yet. Information about this at the JOA info stand and also [www.soilassociation.org](http://www.soilassociation.org) .

# Lady Eve Balfour Memorial Talk

Eve Balfour founded the Soil Association in 1946 to “*research into the wider implications of soil vitality and the right ways of maintaining and promoting it*” Her original adage of “*Healthy soil, healthy plants, healthy animals, healthy humans*” is timelessly relevant. The Association is still thriving today and has widened its’ remit considerably! It is now the premier organic organization in the UK, and beyond, upholding the founder’s high standards for the production of health-giving food, animal welfare and care of the wider environment.

To celebrate these origins, each year we organize for a speaker to come to the island to give a public presentation on a related subject. This year we are pleased to announce that our speaker will be Reg Knowles who is the chairman of the Allotments and Garden Council UK. And not surprisingly his presentation will be about ALLOTMENTS!

The event will take place in October. Exact date, venue and times to be announced later.

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## Allotment update

The states appointed “Allotment Working Party” on which we had a presence has submitted its’ report to the relevant department with its blueprint of how allotments can work in Jersey.

The initial feedback was that the feasibility guidelines were broadly accepted.

We will be watching future developments and reporting back.

The campaign to have allotments in the Island that the Association started in 2007 collected a number of names of those interested in obtaining one. Hopefully we will be able to pass these on in the near future.

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## J-CAN Petition to States of Jersey on Climate Change

Jersey Climate Action Network (J-CAN) are preparing a petition to submit to the States of Jersey, ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference 2009, which is due to take place in Copenhagen between 7<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December. The petition reads:

***‘Following publication of the targets agreed at the Copenhagen conference, the Council of Ministers should give detailed consideration to these targets and report back to the States within six months of the closing date of the Conference on how they intend to respond, their report to include detailed proposals and timescales.’***

For further information or to add your name to the petition, please refer to the J-CAN website at [j-can.org.je/](http://j-can.org.je/) or telephone Mark Forskitt on 864063.

***Help!***



**The  
Jersey Organic  
Association  
Needs  
You!**

**Do you have any time** spare on Sat 19<sup>th</sup> & Sun 20<sup>th</sup> and would like to help at our info stand at the *Natural Living Fair* being held at the Royal Showground, Trinity.

The stand will feature a static display promoting Organic Fortnight and the benefits of the organic way with leaflets etc. We will be selling natural cotton bags with our logo on made in India by the fair-trade co-operative Vandanamu [www.vandanamu.co.uk](http://www.vandanamu.co.uk) and also promoting the *Save the Honeybee* campaign.

You don't have to be an organic boffin to (wo)man the stand, only a little enthusiasm for one of the best causes going! The info stand will be, by and large "self-talking" so as to say, but any human presence would be a real plus.

So come on, help get some sense into this world!

The Fair is open from 10–6 Saturday and 10-5 Sunday. Please contact Angela Parr-Burman on [angparrburman@hotmail.com](mailto:angparrburman@hotmail.com) (or, if you don't have internet access, on tel. **07797 844940**) to let her know which 2 hr shift you would be willing to cover. Shifts are 10-12, 12-2, 2-4, 4-6 Sat and 10-12, 12-2, 2-4, 4-5 Sunday but we would also appreciate help in setting up the stand.

## **Branchage Film Festival, Film on 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

The following film by JOA member Maya Hammarsal is being shown as part of the Branchage film Festival.

Title: MAN WITH THE SEASONS

Director : Maya Hammarsal

30 min Documentary on Peak Oil, Climate Change, Permaculture and the future of Jersey with Mark Forskitt

Showing: Friday 2nd October 6pm (part of a short film programme : Branchage Film Festival)

Old Magistrates Court, Free entry.

### **JOA Events of Summer 2009**

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June, JOA members enjoyed a guided walk with countryside Manager John Pinel. This took place on the scenic headlands of Noirmont, where John informed the group about the ecology of the area, the effect of fires and the work done to manage habitats by reducing invasive or inhospitable vegetation. The JOA extends its thanks to John.

Some fifteen to twenty members took part in the JOA's picnic on 26<sup>th</sup> July. All those who came contributed a dish and, with a little co-ordination, ended up with a varied and plentiful spread! The setting was in St Peter's Valley, at the home of JOA committee member Sarah Johnson. Sarah took us on a guided tour of her fields, including her new polytunnels under construction, and swallows nesting in an outbuilding. To complete the picture, we were lucky to get weather that was pleasantly warm and dry. Thanks to all who took part for the lovely food, your company and especially to Sarah for providing the venue.

***Helen Weston***

**The JOA Newsletter** is produced quarterly and distributed to local outlets and members, with copies to the Soil Association and Garden Organic. Members' contributions are welcome.

**Items for the Newsletter** should be sent to the editor, Sarah Matlock, La Petite Robeline, La Rue des Bonne Femmes, St Ouen, JE3 2ET, tel: 487883 (h) and 758012 (w) e: sarah@cimarine.co.uk

**Membership Enquiries** should be addressed to the Membership Secretary, Pat Harris, The Cottage Farm, La Rue du Bel au Vent, St Lawrence, JERSEY, JE3 1ND, Telephone: 730007

**Website:** <http://jerseyorganicassociation.org.je>