

Shitty Ocean City



The heatwave through June raised public consciousness about both climate change and pollution. With temperatures unseasonably high in both the air and water of Plymouth, we have been warned about poor air quality, water shortages and the pollution risk in popular swimming areas in and around the city.

Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) revealed the water off West and East Hoe has a pollution risk warning in place, from sewage overflows.

Hospital A&E Departments report high numbers of people affected by the heat, whilst record sea temperatures and extreme heat anomalies off Britain's coast are killing sea life.

SAS advises against entering the waters affected to prevent swimmers from being exposed to and ingesting sewage

The collapse of the private water company, London's *Thames Water*, represents the crisis caused by making private profit out of this essential utility. We must campaign for the re-nationalisation of all water and sewage services to ensure rapid investment to manage the crisis.

"We are in deep, deep deep shit", according to *Chris Packham*, one of the UK's most respected naturalists.

"Insects, reptiles and nesting birds are being burnt in wildfires. Some of the last hedgehogs we have left are dying of dehydration, and last year, swifts dropped from the sky in 40°C."

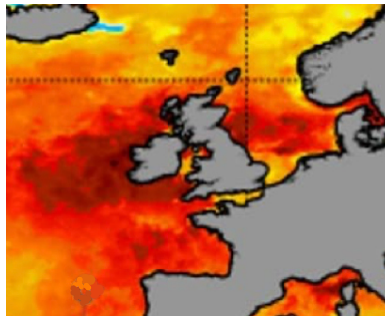
This is just the beginning.

The climate crisis is an escalating nature and humanitarian crisis, made worse by governments choosing to sacrifice everything for more oil and gas exploration. "Our government is giving the green light to over 100 new fossil fuel projects this year. It's a betrayal of humans and nature that should make us sick to our stomach. But nothing is changing.

One group is standing up, using civil resistance against these new oil projects."

Just Stop Oil will be pushing against our government for as long as they keep pushing for new oil and gas. You can donate to their campaign to keep this fight going: <https://chuffed.org/project/just-stop-oil-2023>

The oceans are symbolic of the global climate crisis. Global ocean temperatures are over one degree higher than usual, reaching a record-breaking 23 degrees Celsius in June – Britain's warmest ever. A temperature "anomaly" in the North Atlantic displayed a shocking rise in temperature far above normal levels, with a spike off North West Scotland nearing 5C above average. Sea temperatures here usually reach their highest point at the end of August – there's more to come.



Author, Martin Empson, from the Campaign against Climate Change writes: "The **cost of living crisis** will also make it harder for people to get the protection they need. We can see examples of this from the recent hot weather in Britain. In June, parts of the country saw the highest ever attendance at A&E as thousands experienced symptoms caused by air pollution, sunstroke and heat exhaustion."

"Tackling the root cause of climate change and its effects will increasingly become an issue for the trade union movement. We will have to fight for conditions that can protect workers and for energy systems capable of providing this sustainably. These battles will be a direct challenge to capitalist economic interests."

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'JOBSWASH' OR REAL SOLUTIONS?

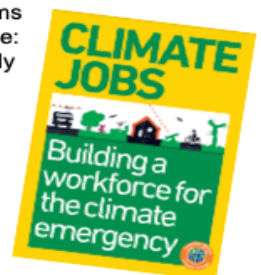
Fossil fuel and biomass companies have mobilised vast resources to promote their operations to policymakers, investors, local communities and trade unions. Much of this promotion involves highly misleading claims about the numbers of jobs to be created by the BECCS plan and the wider 'low carbon' clusters based on carbon capture.

In reality these jobs drop off dramatically once the relatively brief construction phase is over. In addition, it is risky to rely on jobs linked to technologies which may well fail or never materialise.

But also ignored are the good, sustainable and vitally needed jobs

which are foregone when funding is diverted into this pathway, and away from real climate solutions such as home insulation and genuine renewables.

Campaign against Climate Change is working to expose the greenwash and counterpose the industry jobs claims with the alternative: a workforce to truly tackle the climate emergency.



Links to further information on the issues in this leaflet can be found at cacctu.org.uk/greenwash