



The countryside charity
Sussex

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'Walk Like a Hedgehog' for Sussex Wildlife



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The Countryside Charity, CPRE Sussex is asking people to 'walk like a hedgehog' to raise funds for the organisation's ongoing work in the countryside.

Hedgehogs can travel up to 3km in one night and the charity is hoping to get families, groups and individuals from across the county walking the same distance as part of its Hedgerow Hike for nature next month (September).

Over the past decade, the UK has lost more than half its rural hedgehogs, (*The State of Britain's Hedgehogs*, by People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) and the British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS)). This is largely due to the loss of habitat, declining food sources and destruction of nesting sites. CPRE Sussex works to protect the countryside and to prevent the loss of important habitats.

"Hedgerows are vitally important" says CPRE Sussex Chair, Prof Dan Osborn. "They are major features of the Sussex landscape and essential habitats supporting over 2,000 species, including our much-loved hedgehogs".

"Three kilometres is a remarkable distance for such a small animal to travel, but it's not such a great distance for us, so we are hoping that lots of people of all ages will take up this challenge and 'walk like a hedgehog' for such a good cause."

The hike can be carried out anywhere in the county and is open to all ages.

"Hedgerows also help in the fight against climate change," adds Prof Osborn. "They are brilliant at capturing carbon. Each year a new hedgerow can absorb the amount of carbon produced by a car travelling over 1,000 kilometres or 620 miles – that's Eastbourne to Aberdeen".

Join the Hedgerow Hike at: <https://www.cpresussex.org.uk/discover-your-countryside/hedgerow-hike/> and sign up by requesting a sponsorship form or setting up a Just Giving page.

For more information please contact:

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To promote, enhance and protect a thriving countryside for everyone's benefit

President: Lord Egremont

Campaign to Protect Rural England Sussex Branch CIO | Registered charity number: 1156568

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