



Alton Climate Action Network Dates for your diaries June 2021

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As we slowly emerge from our long Covid hibernation we can come out from behind our screens and meet outdoors as well as online.

We are very much looking forward to seeing you at our stalls in the town gardens starting with the Community Fair on Saturday 19th June. and of course, the Eco Fair on Sunday 11th July.

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[Alton EcoFair Sun 11th July](#) - Remember to get started on your "Clean, Green Future" art works for our exhibition.

Verges - an update from AVLAN



Many people have been in touch recently about our lovely verges being mowed when they are full of wildflowers.

We have been saddened too and appreciate everyone's concern.

AVLAN has embarked on the very slow process of applying to adopt the management of some of our most valuable wildflower verges.

However:

- Alton is an urban area and Hants County Council's policy for urban areas requires four cuts a year to maintain sightlines and because of traditional concerns about tidiness
- We are collecting information this year on the timing of cuts and on the most important verges for biodiversity
- We plan to obtain a licence from HCC to take over the management of some of the most valuable verges for wildflowers (having consulted local residents), as soon as we can
- We plan a wider community consultation on verge mowing more generally, and will then lobby East Hants District Council and Hampshire County Council about changing the mowing regime to twice-yearly (as in rural areas) if this is supported by Altonians

We will keep you all posted on progress.

Victims of our own success

ACAN has been around for barely 2 years and we can be truly proud of what we have achieved. With many groups doing great work and many developing links with other members of our local community, we have really started to make our presence felt in Alton and the surrounding villages.

However success comes at a price and now we need to ask for your help and support if we are going to be able to keep up and extend the work we do.

Do you have the time and enthusiasm to join our happy band and help with some of the administrative workload?

We are looking for people who can help to manage some of our groups and campaigns. In particular we need help with our awareness raising campaign on the upcoming **COP26**. We have plenty of ideas and contacts with other groups in the region but do not have enough spare capacity within our existing team of workers to effectively carry these through.

Do email altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com if you feel you could set aside a couple of hours a week to work with us in the lead up to COP26 and possibly beyond We will, of course, offer as much support and guidance as you need.



Green Homes Online

Tuesday 8th June 2021 at 7.30 pm on Zoom

Please email altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com for the Zoom link

Energy Alton has filmed four local householders in their homes, talking about their different low-carbon, clean energy installations. (See below for details of how to view these videos)

They are very much looking forward to answering your questions about the clean technologies they have adopted to reduce their reliance on polluting fossil fuels (gas, oil) for domestic heating.

Domestic heating is responsible for about 1/3rd of greenhouse gas emissions in the UK so

changing the way we heat our homes remains one of the most significant ways we can reduce our own carbon footprints.

- External cladding to improve insulation and reduce energy consumption
- Solar photovoltaics with battery storage
- Ground source heat pump
- Air source heat pump

The links to the You Tube videos will be posted on the Energy Alton website www.energyalton.org.uk at the end of May. You can view the videos as often as you like at any time.



Do come to the Green Homes Online event on 8th June to hear more from the householders who have been filmed, ask questions and make contacts to follow up.



If you haven't already done so please complete East Hampshire District Council's survey regarding the future of East Hampshire's High Streets following the lockdown restrictions.

<https://www.easthants.gov.uk/town-centres-recovery-plan-east-hampshire>

Cycle Alton Cycle Training

From talking to Alton residents last summer Cycle Alton realised there was a need for local adult cycle training.

We've therefore engaged **Pedal Power**, which runs children's **Bikeability** classes in schools, to put on an afternoon of mixed classes in small groups, tailored to individual needs.

The more confident will get to ride on local roads, while free, post-training, rides with a Cycle Alton volunteer will also be available on request.



Date & location: Saturday 12th June, 2-4pm in Amery Hill School playground.

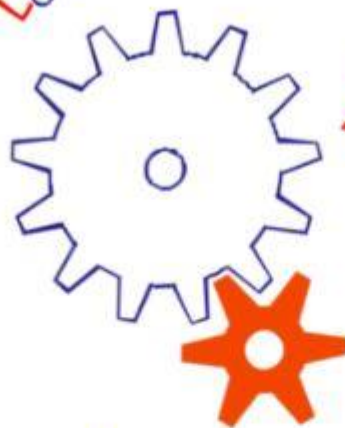
To book your place contact Darren at pedalpowertraining@gmail.com or tel **02392 290474** for further details and to discuss your needs. The **cost is £20 per adult**. We have received a grant for a few subsidised places - do ask Cycle Alton if you are interested: cyclealton@gmail.com

See more information here: <https://altonevents.co.uk/events/bicycle-training-for-adults-in-alton/>



ALTON CLIMATE
ACTION & NETWORK

Alton Repair



*Bin it?
No way!*

Café

FREE!
Donations
appreciated

Repair Cafés

Sat 19 June & Sat 21 August :
Alton Public Gardens
Sat 31 July : Alton Community
Centre
10 am – 12.30 pm

Our volunteers offer free help with repairs to
**Clothes & textiles • Electronics
Mechanical • Small Electrical
Furniture • Bikes**

*Covid-secure venue with social distancing
One item each please.*

Part of the global *Repair Café* movement





BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY

ALTON COMMUNITY SHARE

2nd and 4th Saturday of every month

10.00 - 12.00

ST LAWRENCE PARISH CENTRE
TOP OF VICARAGE HILL, GU34 2BW



Banish boredom with FREE activities for all ages
Games, jigsaws & toys to borrow for up to 4 weeks
Save money and support sustainable living
Reduce waste, re-use and recycle pre-loved stuff!



We are very much looking forward to chatting to people face to face at our stall at the

Alton Community Fair

on Saturday 19th June 10am to 2pm in the Public Gardens.



We will be launching our "Plastic Free Town" campaign at this event - do come along to find out what that entails. Our first action will be a litter pick to establish the scale of the problem in Alton.

For an idea of the scale of the problem in the country as a whole watch this video.

<https://act.greenpeace.org/page/82296/data/1>



Eco Fair

Sunday 11th July

Those of you who attended our "The Floor is Yours" event earlier this year will remember we talked about the need to show what a clean, green future could look like and asked you to submit art works depicting that future to encourage people to adopt positive lifestyle changes.

Whatever theme or medium you fancy, we would love to include your work. Our gallery is open to all - I shall be submitting something and I haven't produced any art work since I left school several decades ago!!!

So do please get started if you haven't already, and as soon as you are ready to submit let us know by emailing altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com



**Alton Town Council and
Alton Climate Action Network**

ALTON ECO- FAIR

**Celebrating Earth
Friendly Living**

**SUNDAY 11TH JULY
10AM - 4PM**

**PUBLIC GARDENS
ALTON, GU34 1EN**

FREE ADMISSION



LIVE MUSIC
TALKS ON SUSTAINABLE
LIVING
RE-USE AREA
COMMUNITY AND WILDLIFE
GROUPS
ART AND IDEAS TENT
SCULPTURE FROM WASTE
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
ELECTRIC CARS AND BIKES
ECO-FRIENDLY
REFRESHMENTS

For more information visit www.altonclimatenetwork.org.uk