



The Dear Damian event in the Town Gardens was a great success from our side - now it is up to Damian Hinds as our MP to act on people's deep concerns!

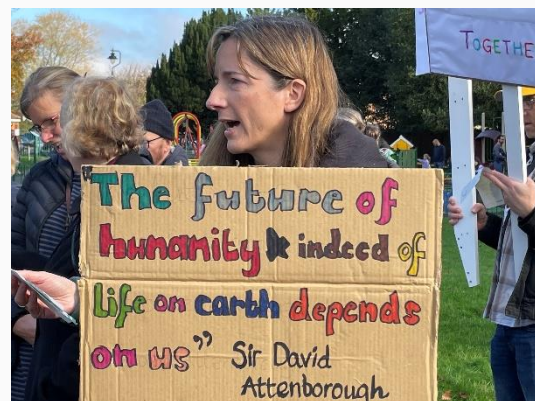
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There was a real buzz at the Dear Damian event last Saturday, organised by Alton's wonderful Guild of Optimists with ACAN and Young ACAN in support.

Young ACAN acted as our couriers and handed over all the letters and messages to Damian today when they met him to put their questions and demands to him in person.

To quote Kat Guenioui of the Guild O Optimists:

"...doing nothing is not an option. Our children deserve to have as many choices in life as we have had. We have a responsibility to act and, as our elected representative, so does Damian."



Order a fruit tree for your garden via this joint ACAN/PeCAN project

[Fruit Trees for your garden](#) order online

Upcoming events

[Kerry Banks on plant based foods on Wey Valley Radio](#) Thu 24th Nov 10am

[Eco-Xmas demo by Eco-Church at the Library](#) Thu 24th Nov 11am-12pm, Alton Library, GU34 1HT

[Community Share](#) Sat 26th Nov 10am-12pm St. Lawrence Parish Centre, GU34 2BW

[People's Walk for Wildlife](#) sadly postponed to spring 2023 from Sat 27th Nov due to rail strike

[Can Nature Count on You](#) Mon 5th Dec 7:30pm-9pm on zoom

[ACAN stall at Yuletide Fair](#) Sat 10th Dec Market Square

[Alton Repair Cafe](#) Sat 10th Dec 10:30 - 12:30pm at Alton Community Centre, GU34 1HN

[GUMBI Malawi - ACAN Fundraiser](#) 5:30-6:30pm Mon 12th Dec on zoom

How to reduce your energy bills - Tuesday hours now extended

[Energy Advice Cafe](#), Open 5 days per week, 16 Market Square, GU34 1HD

Eco-Streets workshops - still available

[Find out more about the climate crisis](#)

[A how-to guide to online activism](#)

[Mindfully re-wilding ourselves through poetry](#)

A fruit tree in every garden

This year ACAN and ALFI are joining PeCAN's highly successful "A fruit tree in every garden" project.

So do take advantage of this opportunity to buy up to 5 fruit trees per household for £15 each - half the usual retail price.

Trees available include apple, pear, plum, cherry and ornamental cherry.



There are 400 trees available to buy, on a first come first served basis, so why not order today to avoid disappointment.

[Order online](#) and pick up your tree on **Saturday 17th December, here in Alton.**

Fruit trees are beautiful in spring, fantastic for wildlife and pollinators, sequester carbon dioxide and will even give you fruit to eat.

And... a fruit tree makes a wonderful Christmas present!

Plant based foods taste good and help reduce carbon emissions.

Don't miss our own Kerry Banks talking to David Way on Wey Valley Radio at **10am on Thursday 24th November.** When she will be sharing her passion for plant based foods.



Alton Library is hosting their 2nd eco-event - open to all, so do come along for some eco-inspiration as you prepare for the Christmas festivities.

The poster for the Eco Church "Green Christmas" event features a green wavy header. It includes logos for the Alton Parish of the Methodist Church, ECO CHURCH (AN A Rocha UK PROJECT), and a recycling symbol. The event details are: "Eco Church 'Green Christmas' event Thursday 24th November 11am – 12 noon". It lists activities: "Ideas and demonstrations on how to have a more environmentally friendly Christmas including / gifting preloved items wrapping presents making plastic free decorations home-made and virtual gift ideas".

Alton Community Share

Next session Sat 26th Nov

Reduce waste & save money at this free library of jigsaws, games, toys and activities
On the 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month
at St Lawrence's Parish Centre
10am to 12 noon



Please email altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com to register for this event.



Hampshire Biodiversity
Information Centre

CAN NATURE COUNT ON YOU?

THE IMPORTANCE OF BIOLOGICAL RECORDING

**Talk by Nicky Court,
Hampshire Biodiversity Information
Centre Manager**

With a contribution from Cathy Wilson, a local Alton amateur botanist.

HBIC relies on data collected by volunteers to provide its vital independent and impartial wildlife data service, used by planning authorities, developers, utilities, landowners and many others.

MONDAY 5 DECEMBER ON ZOOM 7.30 - 9.00 PM

Please email
altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com
for the zoom link



ACAN will have a stall at the Christmas market again this year - with lots of environmentally friendly bits and tips to make this Christmas extra special, despite the cost of living crisis.

If you can spare an hour or two to help on the stall do email altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com it is always a lot of fun.



Next Session Sat 10th December

Bring your items for repair along to Alton Community Centre from 10:30am to 12:30pm on:

10th Dec, 18th Feb, 15th Apr

The repair team will be at your service to assist and advise you on repairs to small household items.

Supporting sustainable agriculture in Malawi at the Gumbi-Alton Permaculture Project

Unfortunately this much anticipated update on the GAPP project had to be abandoned due to technical difficulties with zoom. Please accept our sincere apologies for this and rest assured that, by going back to our usual system of asking people to register their interest [via email](#), this will not happen again.

We extend our grateful thanks to those of you who have already made very generous donations to the project and very much hope you will be able to join us on **Monday 12th December at 5:30pm**



ALTON

ACAN

Gumbi Education Fund

Rescheduled Meeting

**THE GUMBI-ALTON
PERMACULTURE PROJECT**

Amazing Progress!

Supporting sustainable agriculture in Africa

Join us for an international Zoom
LIVE with the Gumbi young farmers & Luwayo Biswick in
Malawi and the Gumbi Education Fund in the UK

Mon 12 Dec, 5.30 pm
for the Zoom link please email
altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com

More info about GAPP on our website:
tinyurl.com/GumbiParadise

GUMBI



Alton Energy Advice Cafe

Now open for an extra session at 10 – 12 on Tuesdays to coincide with Market Day.

Come in and chat about practical steps for reducing energy bills, other problems with bills or installing draft-proofing and insulation.

We can also advise on longer term projects such as heat pumps and solar panels.

We have comfy sofas and tea, coffee and cake on offer as well as lots of leaflets and information about Energy and ACAN in general.

Open: Mon 10–12, Tue 10–12 & 6.30–7.30, Wed 12.30–2, Fri 10–12, Sat 10.30–12.

Find out more about the climate crisis

This workshop offers general information on the climate crisis, its possible effects and what we can do about it at a community level. What does "global warming" mean for us? What is "too much CO2"? What can we as individuals and communities do to have a positive impact?

We examine some of the main "talking points" of the climate crisis and provide some information on how exactly these topics relate to our lives.

We also talk about the most effective actions we can take and discuss ways individual action could turn into communal action.

Duration: approximately 2h

email us on ecostreetsalton@gmail.com to find out more

Date and time by negotiation.



A how-to guide to online activism!

We can now offer a recording of this workshop to anyone who wants to watch it in their own time.

[Online Activism Workshop](#)

passcode: *Gc2XJfT

Duration: 34minutes



Where to find reputable petitions on topics that concern you. How to tell an effective petition from a not-so effective one. Anonymous participation - make your opinion count without exposing yourself. Easy ways to interact with the government. Digital citizenship.

This workshop aims to give a quick and easy introduction to campaigning for change on a local, national and global level. Participants will walk away with hands-on knowledge on how to make their voices count in the often overwhelming 'jungle' of online-activism.

Poetry Workshop:

Mindfully re-wilding ourselves:

Expand your mind. Explore your creativity. Express yourself. We will head out into nature. As we walk, I will talk about the ecosystem we are visiting. Then I will take the group through some guided contemplation and present an easy to follow outline to get everyone writing poetry based on their sensory and emotional experiences.



Group size limited to 8 people to ensure a personal and intimate setting. Under 18's welcome if accompanied by an adult
email us on ecostreetsalton@gmail.com to find out more
Duration: approximately 1.5h | No prior experience in writing poetry required!

This workshop can be offered at a time to suit for small groups. Individuals can also apply but may have to join with others to get the full benefit.

Call to Action

Here in ACAN we have a [range of groups](#) already set up and many more ideas of things we would like to do if we had more volunteers, and you may have ideas of your own you would like to pursue.

It doesn't matter how much or how little time you can spare we have volunteering opportunities to suit.

To get involved do fill in our [volunteers form](#)

Or just email altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com and let us know what you would like to do.

As ACAN has grown so have our costs.

Most grants do not cover running costs, such as insurance, zoom subscription, examination of accounts.
If you can help with one off or regular donations please use the button below for our CAF donate page.
Many thanks.

[Donate to ACAN](#)