



**Let us hope 2023 sees an ever bigger  
groundswell of concern and  
action on the climate crisis that our  
leaders cannot ignore**

Website: [altonclimatenetwork.org.uk](http://altonclimatenetwork.org.uk) Email: [altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com)  
Facebook: [@AltonClimate](https://www.facebook.com/AltonClimate) Twitter: [@AltonClimate](https://twitter.com/AltonClimate) Instagram: [alton.can](https://www.instagram.com/alton.can)

We have known for a long time that we need to act fast to save as much as possible for future generations so please look at our ideas for actions you can take in 2023 to reduce emissions and build resilience in our local community.

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#### **What to do in 2023**

[Respond to the consultation on the EHDC local plan](#) deadline January 16th  
[Order a fruit tree for your garden](#) - order online  
[Join a hedge planting party](#)  
[Subscribe to ACAN's new YouTube Channel](#)  
[Join the Couch to Carbon Zero program](#)  
[Visit the Alton Energy Advice & Eco Cafe](#), Tue to Sat 10am-12pm, 16 Market Square, GU34 1HD  
[Request a Free energy survey for your business](#)  
[Learn how the circular economy works](#) (or other courses)  
[Catch the bus](#) - Stagecoach is offering £2 single fares on any of their buses 1st Jan to 31st Mar  
[Volunteer with ACAN](#)

#### **Upcoming events**

[Community Share](#) Sat 14th Jan 10am-12pm St. Lawrence Parish Centre, GU34 2BW  
[Scott Gudrich on the EcoStreets project on Wey Valley Radio](#) Thu 26th Jan 10am  
[Listen to the children](#) launch Sun 29th Jan Lounge Bar, Community Centre GU34 1HN  
[Mayor's fundraising Quiz for ACAN](#) Fri 10th Feb 7pm Assembly Rooms GU34 1BA  
[Alton Repair Cafe](#) Sat 18th Feb 10:30 - 12:30pm at Alton Community Centre, GU34 1HN

#### **Workshops**

[Find out more about the climate crisis](#)  
[A how-to guide to online activism](#)  
[Mindfully re-wilding ourselves through poetry](#)

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## What to do in 2023

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### Respond to EHDC's Local Plan Consultation

This is our opportunity to tell the council that we want the climate emergency to be the primary consideration in all their planning decisions.

New plans are reviewed every 5 years so we need to take this opportunity, while we can, to demand zero carbon housing and nature friendly developments.

To make it easier our sister group [PeCAN have produced some guidance and a draft response](#)

Or you can jump straight in [here](#).

Remember you don't have to answer every question and there are many Yes/No or Rank in order of priority, type questions so don't be put off and be sure that your response will matter and will be counted.



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### A fruit tree in every garden

We are delighted to announce a further grant means we can offer more fruit trees for sale. So please be sure to place your order soon for up to 5 fruit trees per household for £15 each - half the usual retail price.

[Order online](#) and pick up your tree here in Alton in February.





## **JOIN A HEDGE PLANTING WORKING PARTY IN WILL HALL MEADOW OR GREENFIELDS**

**Create precious habitat for wildlife - and have some fun! Bring the family!**

**We are thrilled to have funding for lots of hedge plants from the CPRE Hedge Fund, "I Dig Trees" and Cllrs Richard Platt and Steve Hunt**

***10.00 am – 12.30 pm on all dates***

**WILL HALL MEADOW** (meet near the roundabout, corner of Basingstoke Road and New Odiham Road - near the source of the River Wey):

**Saturdays 28 January & 11 February**

**GREENFIELDS** (meet at the end of Northanger Close near the play area)

**Sundays 5 & 19 February**

**Just turn up – dress warm and bring a spade!**



Email

[AltonClimateNetwork@gmail.com](mailto:AltonClimateNetwork@gmail.com)





Alton Climate Action  
Network  
@AltonCAN



Do subscribe to our [ACAN Youtube Channel](#) where you will find updates from our Gumbi project in Malawi alongside videos of online meetings you might have missed and workshops from the Eco Streets project.

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## Couch to Carbon Zero

On the basis that [every one of us](#) can be a planet hero, 2 wonderful women have come up with a 10 day program of actions to reduce our impact on this earth. After all, in their words, "we can't just wait around for a bunch of bureaucrats and vested interests who don't act fast enough".



So please click [here](#) to go to day one of the busy person's guide to cutting carbon and see what you can do.

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## Alton Energy Advice and Eco Cafe

Now opening 5 days a week Tuesday to Saturday  
from 10am – 12noon.

Come in and chat about practical steps for reducing energy bills, or other problems with bills or get advice on 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.

Appointments can be made for other times if you cannot attend during opening hours – email [energyalton@gmail.com](mailto:energyalton@gmail.com)

The Café is also available to be used for eco-groups and activities at other times.

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Energy Alton is delighted to announce they have a part-time employee whose first job has been to launch free energy surveys for local businesses - see below for details.

Energy Alton have been running a successful home energy advice service in Alton for the past 10 years. To date we have delivered home energy surveys to more than 100 households in Alton and have recently opened an Energy Café in partnership with Alton Town Council to provide advice to households struggling with their fuel bills.

Small businesses are being hit hardest by spiraling and unpredictable energy costs. Energy Alton has teamed up with Community Energy South to offer free and independent energy advice to small businesses across East Hampshire

## What we offer

A free energy survey at your business premises by one of our trained volunteers. The visit lasts about an hour and we discuss:

- energy loss through the walls, roof, windows and floors;
- efficiency of your heating system;
- hot water appliances and controls;
- use lighting and energy use;
- damp, condensation and draughts;
- your fuel bills

A written report, showing actions that you could take to reduce your energy costs plus information about any funding support available.

A follow up phone call to see how you are getting along

Free webinars on energy savings and how recent developments in the energy markets may affect your business

Phone 07811 462 659 for a free a energy survey,

Email [energyalton@gmail.com](mailto:energyalton@gmail.com)

or visit us at <https://energyalton.org.uk>

We cover Alton and the surrounding villages.





Future Learn have a huge range of short [courses on the Environment and Nature](#).

Most are free, unless you want a certificate, so if you ever thought you might like to know more about

[The Circular Economy](#) or [Regenerative Agriculture](#)

amongst many other topics why not take a look.

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## Catch the Bus



From 1st January to 31st March bus fares will be set at a fixed £2 per single journey (return £4).

So now is the perfect time to explore by bus and leave the car behind.

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## Volunteer with ACAN

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 email [altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com) and let us know what you would like to do.

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## Upcoming Events

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### Alton Community Share

**Next session Sat 14th Jan**

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



## Hear all about the amazing Eco Streets Project.

Scott Gudrich our Eco-Streets project leader will be talking to David Way on Wey Valley Radio at



**10am on Thursday 26th January.**

When he will be describing what the project has involved and how it is going.

**LISTEN TO THE CHILDREN**

If nature runs out we'll have none to show and pass down to future generations - imagine a world without wonder!

**EXHIBITION**

What are the worries of our local children regarding the Climate & Nature Emergency, what do they ask of us and how can we help them - and ourselves! - be agents of positive change?

Find out at this exhibition, curated by Eco Streets, ACAN and Young ACAN.

Sun 29th January: Launch at The Lounge Bar, Alton, with introduction & live music  
Touring to various venue in Alton and Petersfield. Dates to be announced!

Follow us on Social Media @ecostreetsalton for updates!

## Listen to the Children

Scott Gudrich, leader of the Eco-Streets project, surveyed many pupils of The Butts School about their concerns about the climate and environmental crisis.

He was so moved by their responses that he has put together an exhibition of quotes.

Do come along to see it.

The launch is at the Lounge Bar in the Community Centre but then it moves on to several other locations in

Alton, Petersfield and possibly also Guildford.

Follow posts on the Eco-Streets Facebook and Instagram pages for dates and venues.

**Mayor's  
Fundraising Quiz  
for ACAN  
7pm Fri 10th Feb  
The Assembly**



**Rooms**

ACAN's second Mayoral fundraising event will be a quiz so please save the date.

Tickets £10 will include vegan or meat chilli with rice and tortilla chips  
Come along with a team of 6, or join a team when you arrive.  
Bring Your Own drinks

There will be a raffle so if you have anything you would like to donate as a prize do bring it along.

There will be prizes, but remember it is the taking part that counts - that and buying the ticket!



**Next Session Sat 18th February**

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

18<sup>th</sup> Feb, 15<sup>th</sup> Apr, 3<sup>rd</sup> Jun

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

**Workshops**

**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](mailto:ecostreetsalton@gmail.com) to find out more  
Date and time by negotiation.

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## 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.

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## 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](mailto: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

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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](#)