



Welcome to July's Newsletter!

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In this issue:

- Diary Dates
 - The Sustaining Impact Summit and ACAN
 - Greening Alton: Open Gardens
 - Bookkeeper and Treasurer Role
-

Diary Dates

Tuesday 8th July, 7–9pm: Energise South Downs community share offer

An evening of inspiring talks and a powerful film about community energy, hosted by Energise South Churcher's College, Petersfield.

After the screening of '*We the Power*', there will be a Q&A and talks from local sustainability leader: renewable energy, community impact, and how you can own a stake in Hampshire's green future.

Free tickets available at: ['We the Power' tickets](#)



Saturday 12th July 2pm –

4pm: Community Share session
is now **CANCELLED**

...but please do come to the August Share session on **Saturday 9th August** at 2 pm at St Lawrence Parish Centre. Plenty of toys, games and more to borrow for free. Good for your pocket and the planet!

Volunteers desperately needed. If you have some time to give, then please do get in contact here: [Join in at ACAN](#)

Saturday 26th 12pm: Nature Connect Walk - Wildlife Wonders

Join eco-guru Scott Gudrich on an informative and entertaining walk to discover woodland animals and learn fascinating facts about the furry critters that live here. Meet at the Pertuis Avenue entrance to Ackender Woods (*what3words:///exact.sooner.shallow*). Free and open to all ages.

Saturday 19th July 10 - 11am: AVLAN's 'Invertebrate sampling'.

Fancy kick-sampling for invertebrates, such as cased caddis, freshwater shrimp and mayfly larvae? Meet near the bridge across the river from the Basingstoke Road entrance to Flood Meadows and find out how to measure water quality by searching for life in the river. Fun, interesting and educational!

Saturday 19th July 10:30-12:30pm: Alton Repair Café

Bring along your very-much-wanted but malfunctioning items for repair! Saves money as well as the Earth's precious resources. Email altonrepaircafe21@gmail.com for more information.

Monday 21st July 7pm: ALFI (Alton Local Food Initiative) AGM

Meet in 'The Railway' pub in Anstey Road opposite Station Road. There will be a short business meeting, followed by drinks, snacks and an opportunity to meet the committee and other volunteers. If you're keen to be involved in, or are just interested in the work that ALFI does, please do come along!

Thursday 7th August 10 – 11:30am: Alton Litter Pick

Starts in Anstey Park car park by the British Legion clubhouse. Make an immediate and obvious difference to the appearance of our town! Recent picks have seen a reduction in the amount of litter, showing the impact of all this work, but there's always something to find!

Saturday 7th June 3pm: Poetry Workshop – Whispers of the Wild

Another chance to join the multi-talented Scott Gudrich, this time for some poetry! Meet at Anstey Park, Alton Rugby Club and prepare to be inspired. Free and open to all ages. (*what3words:///mops.welcome.roadshow*).

The Sustaining Impact Summit and ACAN

ACAN is thrilled that the 'Gumbi' project will have the opportunity to present its work during a major international conference on 28th August 2025.

The Malawi-based **Permaculture Community Training Centre** (*the Gumbi Alton Permaculture Project*) has been supported by ACAN donors since 2020. In August, it will present its work at the **African Sustaining Impact Summit**. The presentation will be led by James Gomani from Malawi, supported by ACAN's very own Jenny Griffiths.

The two-and-a-half acre farm grows a wide range of fruit trees and crops organically and sustainably and has a unique training kitchen with solar-powered cooking stoves (*pictured*). It will be running training courses from August 2025 onwards for subsistence farmers drawn from the 50 villages around Gumbi.



In its 7th year, the Sustaining Impact Summit (SIS7) organised by the African Social Enterprise Workshop convenes Africa's leading social innovators, development professionals, ecosystem enablers, and impact-focused individuals to address one of the most pressing challenges facing impact-driven organizations today: how to sustainably resource their work and scale their impact—especially when external support is limited or non-existent.

For more details, click here: [African Sustaining Impact Summit](#)

Greening Alton: Open Gardens

A big thank you to all of those who opened their gardens in June, and to those who visited them! The emphasis was strongly on encouraging wildlife and managing gardens in an eco-friendly way and some excellent discussion took place on some effective ways of doing this.

In addition to gardens, there are now several 'wildlife verges' around the town that are designed to support a range of plants, insects, amphibians, small mammals and birds. Having taken over a small site myself in December last year, it'll be a while until it's full of field scabious, knapweed and bird's foot trefoil like the 'lawn' in my own garden, but even long grass provides valuable habitat. It'll be a couple of years before I'm really happy with it but, as A.A. Milne says, *"There is no hurry. We shall get there some day."*

If you have a place in mind that is suitable and you are keen to manage it, then please do get in touch: [Join in at ACAN](#)



Bookkeeper and Treasurer Role

Once again, an urgent please from ACAN.

Firstly, a big thank you to Laura Pambos who had been working as ACAN Bookkeeper and Treasurer over the last few months. Unfortunately, Laura is now stepping back from this role. Thank you for your hard work and

dedication, Laura, during these times of change for ACAN.

ACAN now needs a somebody to fill both of these roles – *although they do not have to be done by the same person!* Do you have an hour a week to spare? Can you help ACAN and all its wonderful voluntary groups with their banking needs? The roles of bookkeeper and Treasurer can be combined (*as they are currently*) or separated into two, but neither is particularly time-consuming.

Please click on the link to download a detailed role description.

[ACAN Bookkeeper and Treasurer Role: Description](#)

Any questions? Get in touch with us for a chat about this vital role through the website contact form or email altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com

Volunteer with ACAN

Here at 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, of course, 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](#)
