



Welcome to September's Newsletter!

There's a lot happening in and around Alton as summer makes way for autumn. Nature walks, litter picks, and a much-anticipated **public meeting** on **16th October** about positive local action that you can be part of. Not to be missed!

Website: altonclimatenetwork.org.uk Email: 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)

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Diary Dates

Saturday 13th September 2pm – 4pm: Community Share – *with added face painting!*

Featuring a new collection of toys, puzzles, games and more, with lots for children (and parents) of all ages. A fun and friendly initiative to support local families and entertain children whilst also making excellent use of available resources and reducing waste. All loans are free of charge. Held at **St Lawrence Parish Centre**. *And yes, this Saturday there will be (optional) face painting!*

Sunday 14th September 9:30 am: Cycle Alton: Confidence Building

Starting in Chawton car park, opposite Jane Austen's house, these rides last for about two hours with plenty of stops along the way (and there's an optional refreshment stop at the end). And excellent opportunity to build your confidence, including cycling in local traffic in Alton's town centre. For more details and to book, email: cyclealton@gmail.com

Saturday 20th September: 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!

Sunday 27th September 7pm: Guided Nature Walk – *Nighttime Nature*

Talk an amble through Ackender Woods to find out what's active in the dark. This walk is free to attend, suitable for all ages, no sign up is necessary, and it will be at a relaxed pace. Be aware that there may be narrow or uneven paths and that the walk may be rescheduled in case of poor weather. Check social media for details: @ecostreestalon (Facebook and Instagram). Meet at Pertuis Avenue entrance.



Thursday 2nd October 10 – 11:30am: Alton Litter Pick

Starts in Anstey Park car park by the British Legion clubhouse. Please bring your own gloves, although litter pickers and bags will be provided. Help make an immediate and obvious difference to the appearance of our town – in September this hardworking team collected over 20 kg of litter in just an hour and a half!

Saturday 4th October 12pm: Nature Connect Walk – *Autumn in the South Downs*

An exciting ramble through local wild spaces, this walk starts at the A3339 roundabout at the railway bridge (known by some as the, 'Gateway to Alton'.) This walk is free to attend, suitable for all ages, no sign up is necessary and it will be at a relaxed pace. Be aware that there may be narrow or uneven paths and that the walk may be rescheduled in case of poor weather. Check social media for details: @ecostreestalon (Facebook and Instagram).



Saturday 11th October 2pm – 4pm: Community Share

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Thursday 16th October 7:30 – 9:30 pm: 'Everyone is Invited to Come Together'

ACAN's public meeting – *please see details below*.

Everyone is Invited to Come Together

Please do come and join ACAN and members of the local community as we get together to discuss local action and how this can help build resilience to climate change.

A really exciting opportunity to celebrate the achievements so far, connect with other like-minded people and share ideas about the challenges of climate change and the nature crisis. No special knowledge needed – just enthusiasm and a willingness to get involved!

Interested? Then please join us on Thursday 16th October at 7:30 pm at Alton Maltings. Contact altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com for more details.

EVERYONE is INVITED 
to COME TOGETHER

to build **Community & Local Environmental Action**
in the face
of Climate Change

 **CELEBRATE** how local action is making a difference in the big picture.

 **CONNECT** with others working towards similar goals.

 **EXPLORE** new ideas and plans for the year ahead.



Thursday, Oct 16
7:30pm - 9:30pm
Alton Maltings
(Wesley Room)

Contact: altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com 

5 years of Fillup

The *Fillup* shop (15 High Street, next door to Home Hardware and opposite Goldfinch books) has now been going for five years! Here Louise Bagnall, *Fillup* owner-manager, explains the journey that she has been on during that time – and asks whether you could be part of *Fillup*'s future.

'*Fillup* first opened its doors in November 2020. Having grown more and more frustrated seeing just how much non-recyclable plastic was clogging up my own household bin, I wanted our community to have a resource where shopping without the need for single use packaging was possible and where eco-friendly and ethical products could be reliably found.

'Over the past 5 years, from our cleaning product range alone, *Fillup* has prevented the need for an estimated 44,635* pieces (1562kg**) of single use packaging. Packaging that would more than likely end up as landfill or in our oceans.

'Life on the high street is not without its challenges. Rising costs and competing with the buying power of supermarkets, amongst other things, contribute to an on-going battle to keep *Fillup* running as a financially viable business. To help us achieve this, we are asking if there are members of our community that could help us! We are determined to stick around and continue providing a much-needed resource for our town. Do you have just a few hours spare each week to volunteer? If you do, and you would like to help us on our continued mission, then please get in touch with me.'

*based on an average size of 500ml

** based on an average weight of 35g per 500ml bottle

Want to help? Then email: fillupstorealton@gmail.com

Understanding Climate Change: Interactive Workshop

Would you like to gain a deeper understanding of how climate change affects our world? Could you take part in a 60-minute workshop? ACAN's very own Scott Gudrich is leading this **Climate Mosaik Workshop**, having had very positive feedback from previous sessions.

If you could take part, then please scan the QR code below (which links to a Doodle Poll to work out a suitable date). It doesn't matter if you've attended previous meetings – you are very welcome to come again. ACAN wants to record this workshop for the public meeting in October, but don't worry: you can participate and not be shown on video.



GDPR Update

As a subscriber to ACAN's newsletter, we need to retain some of your personal information (*such as your email*) so we can let you know about all of the important things that ACAN are up to. This information is kept securely and is only used to contact you about ACAN's activities. If you no longer wish to receive this information, please let us know. This notice is to ensure that ACAN complies with *General Data Protection Legislation*. The good news is if you're happy to continue receiving the newsletter (*and for us to hold your email*) then you don't have to do anything! Just relax, and enjoy a cup of tea, perhaps with a biscuit.

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.
