

# ALTON TOWN COUNCIL



## PRESS RELEASE

21/10/2012

### Calendar to Help Fund Lights

A calendar with a difference has again been launched to help fund Alton's Christmas Lights.

*Alton Past & Present 2012* shows scenes from Alton of yesteryear (by kind permission of Hampshire County Council's Museum Service), alongside an image taken from the same spot today and has been put together by Alton photographer and designer Martin Saban-Smith.

Last year's calendar, the first, showed an assortment of street scenes, but this year's edition focuses mainly on shop and other business premises.

They are now available from the Town Hall, Assembly Rooms, Market Street Gallery and Alton Library.

Chairman of the Town Council's Recreation Committee Councillor Matthew Bayliss, said "Each year the cost of lights goes up and we have to think of new ways to generate extra pennies. Last year's calendar was very well received and this year's is just as good, showing that, while businesses may have come and gone, many of our interesting buildings are still here. I hope that this year's calendar will be enjoyed just as much as last years."

Deputy Town Clerk, Greg Burt who coordinates the lighting display, added "The Christmas lights cost around £16,000 to put on each year and are enjoyed by many. Whilst many local businesses support our annual appeal, the calendar enables residents to support the lights also. They make great presents especially to send through the post to friends and family, and what's more they are in aid of a good cause that everyone can enjoy."

- The Christmas Lights will be turned-on on Friday 25 November following a ceremony starting at 5.50pm in the Market Square.

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