

THE ALTONIAN WEEKLY

WEEK 12

Alton Town Council, Town Hall, Market Square, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 1HD www.alton.gov.uk

Messsage From The Town Hall

Welcome to this weeks Altonian. We are very pleased to be able to publicise the launch of the Alton Community Share project. Many of us will have taken the opportunity to declutter during lockdown so if you have any items which you think may be suitable to donate, please see the details below. Alternatively, if you have taken up a new creative challenge during the last few weeks and need to borrow any equipment to help you, please do pop down to the community centre from next Wednesday to see if there is anything suitable to take out on loan.



For further information please contact altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com Martin on 07423 162654 or Philippa on 07866 389505

Alton Community Share

Alton Community Share is a new community initiative organised by the community for the community, led by Alton Climate Action & Network (ACAN) with Alton Town Council.

Alton Community Share is a library of free activities, materials and equipment to help keep individuals and families busy and active, all donated by the community for the benefit of others, particularly whilst Covid -19 keeps us centred on our homes. Donated items should be clean, quality objects in good condition and working order. Unfortunately, we are unable to accept electrical or petrol-powered items.

Donations of all shapes and sizes are welcome:

Puzzles & board games (complete sets), books (less than 3 years old), musical instruments (playable condition), garden games, sheet music, craft items (e.g. knitting patterns, cross stitch) DVDs, toys (no soft toys)

Strict hygiene and control of infection rules will be followed. Items donated will be quarantined for 72 hours to ensure there is no possibility of transmitting Covid-19 from them. Alton Community Share will ensure that the Community Centre will be carefully organised to ensure social distancing.

For further information: Martin on 07423 162654 or Philippa on 07866 389505

A31 Group of Practices Doctors Surgeries

We are pleased to announce that, after a really successful nine weeks of working together as a single unit to support our local population, we are now able to step back to each practice managing its registered patients independently. Should there be an increase in coronavirus infection however, we may revert to a collaborative approach.

Although this will not be an immediate return to all previous services and clinics, this will enable practices to increase the provision of care for patients with non-urgent and long term conditions, and to plan for a 'new normal'.

We are mindful that there are still risks that need to be managed, so to do this and maintain safety for patients and staff:

Practices will continue to triage all patient requests and enquiries to ensure they receive the right care from the right person as quickly as possible. To do this effectively:

Please continue to contact your practice via eConsult, if at all possible. The exception to this is if you are wishing to make an appointment for a blood test that has been requested by a clinician or you have been asked to make an appointment for immunisations, other injections or a smear test; patients without access to the internet or unable to access eConsult will still be able to speak to a receptionist via the telephone.

Practice doors remain closed to walk-in patients and enquiries. Access arrangements for pre-booked appointments at your surgery will be discussed with individual patients when an appointment is made.

The local minor injuries service (open to all: Mon-Fri ~ 8am - 6:30pm) will be available from Chawton Park Surgery (01420 542542) and The Wilson Practice (01420 84676). People requiring this service should telephone one of the surgeries before attending.

Save Water While At Home

The weather is changing this week but we would like to share some important information, from South East Water, with you for when the weather improves again.

When it's hot and we're all at home, water use rockets. Last weekend our fantastic keyworkers pumped an extra 140 million litres of water through our network. We understand the world we now live in is very different to before and although we've made plans covering the next 60 years of water use, as with everyone else, we could never have predicted this unprecedented situation which COVID-19 has brought about.

These two easy actions will help make sure there is enough water for our communities, while fighting the virus. Thank you for doing your bit and being a water saving hero.

For more information (and some cool freebies). For more information visit **South East Water**.

HCC Recycling Centres

Advanced warning new <u>pre-booking</u> system for residents to access

Household Waste Recycling Centres
will be introduced at all Hampshire
HWRCs from mid-June. More details
next week when we have them.

Suspect Covid-19?

Please remember that, although the likelihood is much reduced, if you suspect you are suffering from COVID-19, you should visit NHS111 Online (www.111.nhs.uk) to check your symptoms and seek appropriate guidance in the first instance, or telephone NHS111 if you do not have access to the internet.

from the A31 Group of Practices: Bentley Village Surgery, Boundaries Surgery, Chawton Park Surgery and The Wilson Practice