

## ALTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, Market Square, Alton, Hampshire GU34 1HD

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Full details of all of your Town, District and County Councillors (including their email and/or fax addresses) can be found on the Alton Town Council website, along with a full range of essential local phone numbers and useful points of contact

## ALTON SPRING FESTIVAL

MAKE THE VERY BEST OF YOUR GARDEN!

ALTON TOWN CENTRE  
SATURDAY MAY 9TH  
10am till 3pm

With Hampshire Farmers' Market,  
Craft Market, Demonstrations,  
Competitions and Stands

For further details contact:  
Hampshire Farmers' Market Office 01420 588671  
[www.hampshirefarmersmarkets.co.uk](http://www.hampshirefarmersmarkets.co.uk)



The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance needs £3,000 a day to keep its helicopter and highly trained crew in the air. Airborne within three minutes of a 999 call, the Air Ambulance can reach most of its operational area within fifteen minutes. It can transport patients directly to the most appropriate hospital for their needs, which can mean the difference between life and death for many people.

You can help this vital service and raise money for the charity by recycling any unwanted mobile phones. Just put the phone in an envelope addressed to Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, Freepost London 16281, London, WC1N 3BR - no stamps are needed.

You can also recycle your textiles for the cause, and information on your nearest textile bank, plus details of other ways you can help our local Air Ambulance, are available at [www.bagitup.org.uk](http://www.bagitup.org.uk).

## 2009 Town Calendar

Date	Event	Time	Venue
24, 25 & 26/04	Funfair		The Butts
Sun 26/04	St George's Day Parade	2.15 - 4pm	Town Centre
Sat 9/05	Alton Spring Festival	10am-3pm	Town Centre
Sun 10/05	Alton College Jazz & Big Band	12 - 2pm	Public Gardens
Wed 27/05	Crafty Kids' Workshop	1-3pm	Assembly Rooms
Fri 29/05	The Lost Toy	2-3pm	Public Gardens
Sun 31/05	Songs From The Shows	2.30-3.30pm	Public Gardens
Sat 13/06	Lions' Country & Western Event		Public Gardens
20/06 to 18/07	Jane Austen Festival		
Sun 28/06	Victorian Cricket Tournament		The Butts
Sat 4/07	Amery Hill Presents.....	Afternoon	Public Gardens
Sat 11/07	Food Festival		High Street
Sat 11/07	Last Night of the Proms	7.30-10pm	Public Gardens
Sun 19/07	Alton Running Day & Bus Rally		Anstey Park
Fri 24/07	Punch & Judy Show	2 - 3pm	Public Gardens
Fri 31/07	Wobbly Wizzard	2 - 3pm	Public Gardens
Fri 7/08	Big Foot the Clown	2 - 3pm	Public Gardens
Sun 9/08	Bagshot Concert Band	2.30-4.30pm	Public Gardens
Fri 14/08	Teddys Bears' Picnic	2 - 3pm	Public Gardens
Fri 21/08	Jester Giggles	2 - 3pm	Public Gardens
Sun 23/08	Cactus Brass	2 - 4pm	Public Gardens
Fri 28/08	Stevo the Magician	2 - 3pm	Public Gardens
Sun 29/08	40's Day		Town Centre
Sun 29/08	Over the Wall Funday		Anstey Park
Sat 5/09	Health Fayre		Assembly Rooms
Sat 26/09	Classic Car Show		Town Centre
28 & 29/09	Funfair		The Butts
1 to 4/10	Word Fest		Town Centre
Sun 8/11	Remembrance Day	10.45am	Crown Hill
Fri 27/11	Christmas Lights Switch-on	5.50pm	Market Square
Sun 6/12	Yuletide Festival	10-4pm	Town Centre

Don't forget to look at [www.altonevents.co.uk](http://www.altonevents.co.uk)

## Putting experience to good use

Home-Start Weywater, who are looking for a Chair of Trustees, have three questions to put to you -

Would you like to contribute to the support of local families with children? Do you have a few hours to spare per week? Could you use your organisational and management skills and experience to help us?

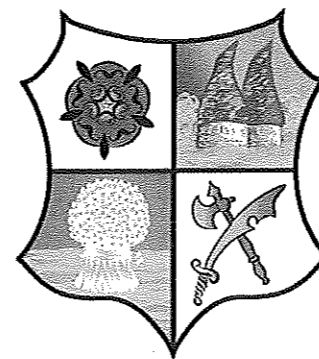
Home-Start is a voluntary organisation which offers regular support, friendship and practical help to families (with at least one child under the age of five) when they are going through difficult times. The service is provided by trained Home-Start volunteers who work on a one-to-one basis with families in their own homes. They aim to prevent crisis and family breakdown by re-enforcing and emphasising the benefits and pleasures of family life.

Now they need support themselves, in the form of a volunteer leader who can help their group of dedicated trustees to keep taking the scheme forward in what have become very challenging times for a charity.

If you feel this describes you, then contact Caroline Wallis on 01420 544865 for more information.

Home  
START

Support and friendship  
for families



# THE ALTONIAN

ISSUE NUMBER 26 - SPRING 2009

The Official Newsletter of Alton Town Council -

published quarterly to keep you informed

## Confronting crime and the fear of crime

"I have no doubt that the cameras will hopefully not just deter and help solve crime, but also lessen the all important fear of crime as people go about their business in the town centre," declared Cllr John Smith as he announced the start of work on Alton's Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) network.

Cllr Smith, who chairs the Town Council's Crime & Disorder Working Party, explained that the council had become "fed up" with inconclusive discussions and decided to act. "When it appears that a much-needed project is going nowhere, sometimes someone has to say, OK, we will do it," he stressed.

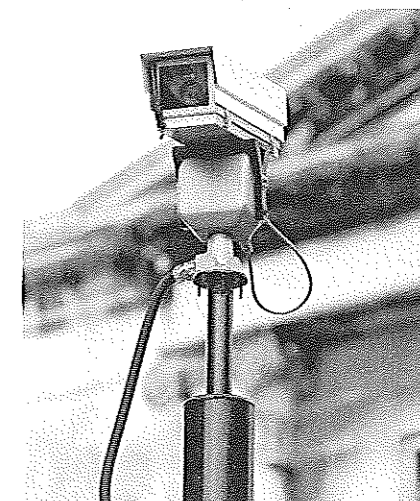
The Town Council's pledge back in the spring of 2007, to secure provision of CCTV in Alton town centre within two years, will shortly become reality with work on the long-awaited scheme now under way.

It has taken almost a decade to get to this stage, with town centre traders expressing growing concerns that, with most other towns having the "ever watchful eyes", shoplifters and other criminals were beginning to see Alton as a soft target. An increased level of criminal damage and anti-social behaviour, particularly during the evenings, was the

final element which led councillors to press on, even though it means that the Town Council is having to take on a great deal of the initial funding, plus the ongoing costs each year. These are around £2,450 for equipment maintenance and £10,000 for the monitoring work.

The draft scheme was costed at £106,000 but the council and its consultants, working with the successful contractor, altered the design so that the desired results were achieved in a more cost effective way. This resulted in a much lower initial spend of £80,121, which is especially welcome given that an appeal to traders with a target of £10,000 only raised £2,000. Other groups have helped out with the set-up funding, including contributions from East Hampshire District Council's Community Safety Partnership Project Fund (£8,400), the EHDC Community Initiative Fund (£15,000), the Hampshire Police Authority (£3,000) and the local Police budget (£1,000).

"While there is still a concern over whether it is right that the Town Council should be leading on such matters and taking on this not insignificant funding, I am nonetheless delighted that we have delivered something that we promised we would do," concluded Cllr Smith.



The five-camera scheme will use wireless technology to broadcast the images to Alton Police Station, where they can be watched live or retrospectively, before transmission on to the full-time monitoring suite operated by Winchester City Council.

Four of the cameras will be mounted on dedicated columns at Normandy Street/Victoria Road, Crown Hill (opposite the Assembly Rooms), High Street/Market Street, and outside Westbrooke House. A fifth will be on the Town Hall to monitor the Market Square and the top of Amery Street.

## Shelter is guaranteed

Alton Town Council has come to the rescue of three more under-threat bus shelters in the town, at Butts Road, Anstey Road and Normandy Street. Privately owned by Clear Channel UK, they were funded through the large integral advertising panels, but the company no longer wishes to provide them. The Town Council has now taken on responsibility for all but one of the bus shelters in the town.

"Being a regular bus user myself, I know only too well how important it is to have some shelter while waiting," explained Cllr Robert Saunders, chair of the council's Planning & Transportation Committee. "I'm delighted that we have put the needs of the public first rather than entering into a long wrangle about who should be responsible."

## Alton's warm welcome

The *Welcome to Alton* leaflet, often a visitor's first introduction to our town, has recently been updated and relaunched. The new look is thanks to award-winning Alton photographer and designer, Martin Saban-Smith LMPA, who chose Roger Burnett's Dancing Girls sculpture in the Allen Gallery garden to feature on the front cover.

"This leaflet may be small but it is packed with things to see and do in and around Alton and makes the area sound very attractive," reflected Cllr Roger Fitzer, who chairs Alton Town Council's Recreation Committee. "I would recommend it not just for visitors, but also for residents who may be looking for things to do themselves, or perhaps ideas for what to do when they have guests staying."

The leaflet, which has been funded by the Town Council, is available from all public buildings, including the Town Hall.

# Your Local

# Councillors

**Wooteys**  
**Town**  
 Cllr R T Fitzer  
 19 Eagle Close  
 Alton GU34 2LJ  
 Tele: 01420 87356

**Town**  
 Cllr R A Saunders  
 3 Borovere Lane  
 Alton GU34 1PB  
 Tele: 01420 82669

**District**  
 Cllr J M J Janes  
 81 London Road  
 Alton GU34 4EL  
 Tele: 01420 87010

**Amery**  
**Town**  
 Cllr R J F Evans  
 3 Chapter Court  
 Alton GU34 1JF  
 Tele: 01420 88006

**Town**  
 Cllr P J Robinson  
 PO Box 33  
 Alton GU34 2WB

**District**  
 Cllr Dr A R Ludlow  
 7 Kings Road  
 Alton GU34 1PZ  
 Tele: 01420 83922

**Whitedown**  
**Town & District**  
 Cllr A B Chick  
 33 Kellynch Close  
 Alton GU34 2EG  
 Tele: 01420 86101

**Town**  
 Cllr Mrs P E Jones  
 3 Buckingham Close  
 Alton  
 GU34 1QZ  
 Tele: 01420 86119

**Holybourne**  
**Town**  
 Cllr D J Willoughby  
 2 Bonhams Close  
 Holybourne  
 Alton GU34 4HT  
 Tele: 01420 88834

**District**  
 Cllr Mrs G Watts  
 16 Farnham Cloisters  
 41 Shorthearth Road  
 Farnham, Surrey GU9 8SX  
 Tele: 01252 520810

**Eastbrooke**  
**Town & District**  
 Cllr Ms P J Bradford  
 14 Gauvain Close  
 Alton GU34 2BB  
 Tele: 01420 82970

**Town**  
 Cllr Mrs R L Fitzer  
 19 Eagle Close  
 Alton GU34 2LJ  
 Tele: 01420 87356

**Ashdell**  
**Town**  
 Cllr D Crocker  
 8 Vaughans  
 Alton GU34 2SQ  
 Tele: 01420 85358

**Town**  
 Cllr Mrs B C Carpenter  
 14a Butts Road  
 Alton GU34 1ND  
 Tele: 01420 84122

**District**  
 Cllr A Joy  
 26 Huntsmead  
 Alton GU34 2SF  
 Tele: 01420 85251

**Westbrooke**  
**Town & District**  
 Cllr J F Smith  
 6 Stillions Close  
 Alton GU34 2RX  
 Tele: 01420 83281

**Town**  
 Cllr A G Patel  
 94 Medstead Road  
 Beech Alton GU34 4AE  
 Tele: 01420 88245

**County Councillor  
 for Alton (Town)**  
 Cllr Dr A R Ludlow  
 7 Kings Road  
 Alton GU34 1PZ  
 Tele: 01420 83922

