



THE ALTONIAN WEEKLY

WEEK 19
25th May 2023

Alton Town Council, Town Hall, Market Square, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 1HD
www.alton.gov.uk 01420 83986

The Plan Kicks Off



The Assembly Rooms were buzzing on Friday and Saturday as the Alton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group held their first public engagement event. It was very successful, with

more than three hundred people coming along to examine the scope and intent of the proposed new Plan. As part of the process, they were invited to write their comments on Post-It notes and stick them on the relevant policy display board in the hall. Feedback was excellent – there are literally hundreds of sticky notes and postcards for the Group now to assess. All the comments and views are to be distilled into an Evidence Base which will be used to shape and help define the new Neighbourhood Plan.

This current Neighbourhood Plan was implemented after a public referendum in 2016 and updated in 2021. For the last seven years it has protected the town from speculative development, but it will expire in November this year. That's one of the reasons why the Steering Group believe that getting a new Plan in place is so important for the town.

The Group is volunteer led; sponsored and supported by Alton Town Council. There's further information available at:

Website: <https://www.alton.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>

Email: altonneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/altonneighbourhoodplan>

Instagram: [@altonsneighbourhoodplan](https://www.instagram.com/altonsneighbourhoodplan)

Their next consultation event will be held during September, when the public will be able to express views on a range of potential policies in the emerging Plan.

Last weekend's event will no doubt help greatly in formulating these options.



Your Councillors



Welcome to the new Town Council which comprise of 13 councillors who represent 7 wards into which the town is divided.

You can find contact details and the wards they represent on the Alton Town Council website:

<https://www.alton.gov.uk/your-councillors/>

£2 Bus Fare Cap Extended



Discounted bus travel has been extended as part of Help for Households support scheme.

To help people with cost-of-living pressures and save on everyday travel costs, the government has extended its scheme where the price of single bus fare is just £2 until the end of October 2023, and then £2.50 until 30th November 2024, when bus fare will be reviewed.

For more information go to: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-extends-2-bus-fare-cap-and-protects-vital-services>

Alton Walking Festival

We are now in our final week of this year's Alton Walking Festival and there are still walks available.

If you would like to find out more about the town, why not join the Town Guides for a tour around the town on Saturday 27th and Tuesday 30th May.

How about a longer walk (10 miles) on Bank Holiday Monday discovering the North West of Alton

During half-term on Tuesday 30th May we have a family walk in Holybourne.

For full details on all walks and the above please go to <https://bookwhen.com/altonwalkingfestivalmay2023>



Alton Repair Cafe

FREE!
Donations appreciated

Bin it? No way!

Next Session:
SATURDAY 3rd JUNE
10.30 – 12.30
Alton Community Centre

Our volunteers offer free help with repairs to
Clothes & textiles • Electronics
Mechanical • Small Electrical
Furniture • Bikes

Covid-secure venue with social distancing

One item each please.

Part of the global **Repair Cafe** movement



Armed Forces Day Convoy



Featuring this year in Hampshire's Armed Forces Day Convoy, will be a tribute to the WW2 role of Princess Elizabeth.

The Princess, at age 18, joined the ATS (Auxiliary Territorial Service) which at its peak strength had 200,000 members. After successfully completing her driving and vehicle maintenance course, she was posted to the Mechanical Transport Training Section in Surrey. One of the vehicles she was known to have worked on and driven was a K2 military ambulance.

On the 24 June, an original K2 ambulance will drive in the convoy with a special passenger. Harriet Ball is an actress and living history re-enactor who portrays Princess Elizabeth in her ATS role. A spokesperson for the voluntary organisers said, 'We are very pleased to include this special attraction for 2023 because it is a way of recognising our female service personnel past and present'.

Also included in the convoy will be the veterans coach, with the passengers representing all service personnel. Many of the Royal British Legion motorcycle escort riders are veterans. More than 45 classic military vehicles are already registered to take part and the high-profile safety vehicles are being supplied free of charge by South Coast Cop Cars.

The convey departs from Southwick PO17 6ED and travels the B2177 to Wickham. It will divert via the A32 and A334 into Wickham Square arriving at approximately 10.20 am. The drive through is estimated to take eight minutes with the convoy departing via Bridge Street on to the A32.

From Wickham the convoy will travel the A32 through the communities of Droxford, Corhampton, Warnford, West Meon, Privett, East Tisted, and Farringdon. It will then exit on to the A31 and drive into Alton, through the town centre to its destination venue at Anstey Park (GU4 2NB). The town council is organising a big free family event from 10 am to 4 pm with a welcome to the convoy at approximately 11.30 am.

The event is supporting the annual Poppy Appeal and local charities.

A seat in the convoy is available on request.

<https://commemorativeconvoys.org/>

Coronation Year Armed Forces Day Convoy Saturday 24th June 2023



7:00am: Convoy Assembles Southwick PO17 6ED
10:00am: Convoy Departs Southwick via B2177
10:30am: Wickham Square
10:45am: A32: Droxford » Warnford » West Meon » Privett » East Tisted » Farringdon
11:30am: A31 Alton: Butts Road » High Street » Normandy Street » Anstey Road
12:00pm: Arrival at Anstey Park GU34 2NB

*Times are subject to prevailing traffic conditions

Alton Town Council will be hosting an event in Anstey Park 10am - 4pm
Veterans / Entertainment / Displays / Stalls / Catering and more



Fundraising for the Royal British Legion Riders Branch

Find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/commemorativeconvoys) [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/commemorativeconvoys) CommemorativeConvoys

<https://commemorativeconvoys.org>



ARMED FORCES DAY
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT
An Official Armed Forces Day Event

CAN YOU HELP?

We're looking for some new volunteers to help with...

KA ALTON CENTRE		
After-school	After-school is about chilling out, chatting and having fun with games, crafts, pool and tuck shop.	Any week day (2.45-4.45pm) General support Dom@thekingsarms.org.uk
SuperSONIC	SuperSONIC is our club for young people with an additional need often autism.	Wednesdays (6-8pm) General support Mandy@thekingsarms.org.uk
Journey	Journey is our faith-based programme for young people. We run an evening youth group and support Christian Unions in the local schools.	Thursdays (6-8pm) General support Dom@thekingsarms.org.uk
Back Office	If you prefer to help behind the scenes, then this role could be for you. We're looking for someone to support the team with simple admin tasks and cleaning.	Any day (2-3 hours a week) Will@thekingsarms.org.uk

Other opportunities at our KA Petersfield centre

After-school: Mon-Thurs, general support or crafts and cooking
• Contact: Annemarie@thekingsarms.org.uk

East Hants Young Carers: Kitchen support Thurs (5.15-7pm)
• Contact: Mandy@thekingsarms.org.uk

SuperSONIC: Wed (6-8pm)
• Contact: Mandy@thekingsarms.org.uk

More info



SCAN ME

THE KINGS ARMS

www.thekingsarms.org.uk/volunteers
07493 701984

The Kings Arms Registered Charity No. 1087176 Company No. 04107491

www.ethicalveganevents.com

**alton
vegan market**

10.00 - 15.00
high street
alton, GU34 1AB

join us to experience the very best in street food and drinks, ethical products, gifts and produce. come visit us on

saturday 27 may
saturday 25 november

ALTON TOWN COUNCIL

ethical
vegan
events

discover more about our events

f i

Cardiac Rehab Taking fitness to heart

Spring Lecture 2023



Sophie Christiansen CBE

I fought to live

I fought to win

Now I'm fighting for equality

Thursday 1st June 2023

at the Alton Maltings Centre, GU34 1DT

7pm Welcome Reception / 8pm start

Tickets £20 to include wine & canapes

Call 01420 544 794 to book

JOIN US FOR THE BIG LUNCH

The UK's annual celebration for neighbours and communities.

PICNIC IN THE PARK WITH ALTON CONCERT BAND

SUNDAY 4TH JUNE,
1:00PM - 3:00PM,
ALTON'S PUBLIC GARDENS

THEBIGLUNCH.COM

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

f t i @edencommunities | #TheBigLunch



BIOBLITZ

Help count the species in Flood Meadows

Thursday 1st June

(Half Term)

10.00am - 4.00pm



Alton Town Council is organising a Bio-Blitz in Flood Meadows. An event that focuses on finding and identifying as many species as possible in a specific area over a short period of time. There are different identification walks that you can book to join in with including:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 10.00am | Alton Society Flood Meadows Volunteering Tour |
| 11.00am | AVLAN Wildlife Identification Walk |
| 12.00pm | Lichens as indicators of air quality with Alton Natural History Society |
| 1.00pm | Wild Flowers of Flood Meadows with Alton Natural History Society |
| 2.00pm | Invertebrate life in the River Wey - sampling sessions with AVLAN |
| 3.00pm | Insect Life in the Trees and Meadows with Alton Natural History Society |

There will also be an **Eye Spy Family Trail Sheet** and **HBIC Recording Sheets** available at the event between 10am and 2pm from the information stall should you wish to explore the nature and wildlife in Flood Meadows independently

Plus we will be joined by experts from Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC) Alton Natural History Society, Alton Local Action For Nature (AVLAN), Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Hampshire and Isle of White Amphibian and Reptile Group (HIWARG) and the Parish Pollinator Project from the Nature Recovery Team at Hampshire's Countryside Service



To book onto the expert led identification walks please either scan the QR code or visit Ticket Source website:
www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/t-morqqqd



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www.alton.gov.uk