



# THE ALTONIAN WEEKLY

**WEEK 1 8th January 2021**

Alton Town Council, Town Hall, Market Square, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 1HD  
[www.alton.gov.uk](http://www.alton.gov.uk) 01420 83986

## Message From The Town Hall

Welcome to our first issue of 2021. We will be continuing to produce the Altonian on a weekly basis which will be available to download from our website [www.alton.gov.uk](http://www.alton.gov.uk) or you can have a copy delivered straight to your mail box by emailing [community@alton.gov.uk](mailto:community@alton.gov.uk). If you know of anyone who doesn't have access to the internet and would benefit from reading this please print a copy for them.

Our MarmArt Trail is still available for you to complete. If you've not already done so why not do it as your permitted exercise if you are local to Alton and only in your household group.

The Town Council can still be contacted via phone or e-mail as normal.

## Public Facilities

The current national lockdown has affected the use of some public facilities.

Public Toilets and Playgrounds remain open as do all public open spaces and parks. Skateparks and sports courts are closed as is public access to both the Town Hall and the Assembly Rooms.

For more information please go to <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

## Best Dressed Shop Window

CONGRATULATIONS to [Qwirky Women](#) in Market Street, winner of the Best Dressed Window Display 2020.

Runners Up were Mainly Framing, on Market Street and Injeanious Hair & Beauty on Lipscombe Rise.



## HCC Updates

Following the Government announcement on Monday 4 January 2021, Hampshire is in National lockdown:

### Stay at Home.

Some of Hampshire County Council Services are

affected by the pandemic. Please visit [www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk) COVID-19 webpages for the latest updates and changes to services, as well as for information and guidance.



## Alton Food Cupboard

The Alton Community Cupboard remains open during Lockdown, supporting 134 local families. They are still temporarily operating from the back of the Community Centre every day from 11:30-13:00 except Thursdays and Sundays.



In their bid to reduce Alton's surplus food and prevent it from going to landfill, they rescued and redistributed over 22,000 kilos of food in 2020.

The Cupboard is very grateful to the dozens of volunteers who give their time and petrol to this project. We have flourished in this, our first year together and it is all down to our volunteers and supporters.

## Alton Community Share

In view of the lockdown and increasing numbers of Covid-19 infections we have taken the decision not to open the Community Share on 16th or 30th January 2021 and to review the situation on a monthly basis.

## Winter Reading Challenge

On Monday 11 January Hampshire Library Service will be launching their Winter Reading Challenge! All you need to do is read 4 books and you have until 27 February.

Sign up on Monday 11th January at: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/kids-zone/>



## Alton Climate Change



**Swimming against the plastic tide: are we helpless?**

**Wednesday 13 January 2021 at 7.30 pm**

Email [altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com) for the Zoom link

Alton Climate Action & Network is hosting a presentation by Alison Melvin, founder of the Binsted Eco Network, looking at the facts - and some of the myths - concerning our use of plastics, and exploring whether and how we can break the plastic habit.



The event will include a quiz and discussion, and information about what's going on locally to combat plastic pollution, and how you can get involved.

**MarmART Trail**

Alton Town Centre, Nov 24th 2020 - Jan 23rd 2021

PRESENTED BY:  
**ALTON TOWN COUNCIL**

Join us for a free, marmot-alicious, family day out this Winter.  
The Marmot Winter Olympic Team are in town and it's your job to find them all!

Scan their QR codes to learn the names and stories of all 10 merry marmot athletes and then read a free e-book about their Winter Olympic adventure.

#AltonMarmots **MarmARTTrail.com**

SCAN FOR MORE INFO:

Following the announcement from the government, East Hampshire is now under national restrictions to stop the spread of coronavirus.

[Many businesses must now close](#). There is [information on the restrictions](#) and [businesses that can stay open](#) on the [GOV.UK](#) website.

## **Local restrictions support grant (for 5 November to 2 December 2020)**

**Who should apply:** businesses that were required by law to close as a result of the national coronavirus restrictions (sometimes referred to as the second lockdown). [Apply now.](#)

## **Local restrictions support grant - tier two (closed business)**

**Who should apply:** businesses (pubs and bars that were unable to provide a substantial meal) that were required by law to close as a result of tier two restrictions from 2-25 December 2020. Pubs, bars and restaurants that provided takeaway services during these restrictions can still apply for a grant. [Apply now.](#)

## **Local restrictions support grant - tier two (open business)**

**Who should apply:** businesses that were not required to close but were financially severely impacted as a result of the local tier two restrictions from 2-25 December 2020. Eligible businesses must operate in the sectors of hospitality, hotel, bed and breakfast or leisure. [Apply now.](#)

## **Christmas support payment for wet-led pubs (2 December to 29 December 2020)**

**Who should apply:** pubs that derive less than 50% of their income from food sales and meet the scheme criteria. This scheme will close at the end of January 2021. [Apply now.](#)

## **Local restrictions support grant - tier four (closed business)**

**Who should apply:** businesses required by law to close as a result of the tier four restrictions that were introduced on Saturday 26 December 2020. Businesses that received a payment under the local restrictions support grant for 5 November to 2 December do not need to reapply for a tier four grant. [Apply now.](#)

## **Additional restrictions grant (from 26 December 2020)**

**Who should apply:** businesses with ongoing fixed property-related costs that have been affected by the tier four restrictions since Saturday 26 December 2020.

This discretionary scheme is aimed at businesses that are not eligible for a local restrictions support grant (tier four) for closed businesses.

[Apply now.](#)