**The Herald 16th November 2023 issue**

Waterside Climate Action Network (WaterCAN).

WaterCAN's next open meeting will be held on the 8th January 2024 at Hythe Community Centre when Lucie Mann will be leading a discussion on "A Regenerative Culture-what does it mean and how can the Waterside embrace it?"

This promises to be a lively and challenging session. Lucie is the regenerative lead at New Forest Aquaponics CIC, and will be exploring the concept of regenerative culture in her talk. Please bring your ideas and thoughts on what you believe this means and the changes you would like to see in the culture of the Waterside.

New Forest Aquaponics CIC runs many community projects in the Waterside and this will be an opportunity to find out more about them and understand how they link together.

On the 12th February 2024, Philip Thomas from our local cycling group will be leading a session on "Active Travel", looking at the importance of opening up transport routes to encourage more active and less environmentally damaging travel. Hythe Community Centre 7.00 till 9.00 pm. More details in the next issue. All welcome. The Community Centre cafe will be open for refreshments on both occasions.

It has been suggested that WaterCAN should be providing tips on simple actions we could all be taking to reduce the impact of climate change on the environment, and, with the news that 2023 will have been the hottest year ever globally, perhaps very timely. So, a few tips for an eco-friendly Christmas to get us started:

Buy locally as far as possible;

Avoid plastic wherever possible;

Use recyclable wrapping paper:

For workplace secret Santas, why not introduce a charity shop purchases only rule?

We'd like to make this a regular feature, and would welcome readers' views and tips to share. Please contact us at Watercan2024@gmail.com, or join in the general debate on our Facebook page. Check out our website for a wide range of further information at e-voices.org.uk/WaterCAN.

And finally, thanks to The Glen public house for their extremely welcome support for us.