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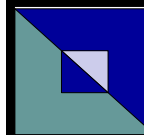
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THE LOCAL RAG
ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSWAW

Welcome to the
March Edition

Volume 16 Issue 2
2019

Editorial

Spring

Spring is one of the four temperate seasons, following winter and preceding summer. There are various technical definitions of spring, but local usage of the term varies according to local climate, cultures and customs. When it is spring in the Northern Hemisphere, it is autumn in the Southern Hemisphere and vice versa. At the spring, or vernal equinox, days and nights are approximately twelve hours long, with day length increasing and night length decreasing as the season progresses. Spring and "springtime" refer to the season, and also to ideas of rebirth, rejuvenation, renewal, resurrection and regrowth. Subtropical and tropical areas have climates better described in terms of other seasons, e.g. dry or wet, monsoonal or cyclonic. Cultures may have local names for seasons which have little equivalence to the terms originating in Europe.

If you were to ask you may find that there are a lot of people who would say that spring is their favourite season. This is generally because it follows winter, when everything is dark and cold. Come springtime everything is beginning to wake up, the trees start to come into bud and the spring flowers show their colours.

We have many Snowdrops in the garden all showing their green and white colours. We also have a good number of daffodils out, showing their yellow and green and we look forward to the Camelias which we have in red, white and pink.

My Health

Once again, thank you to all who continue to ask about my health and for the cards which still keep coming.

The last report from the NDDH, looking at my latest scans, was that the infection, in my brain and in my ear, has completely cleared up, so I am now well on my way to a good recovery. Elsie.

Publication and Distribution

The Alverdiscott and Huntsaw Local Rag is produced by the Editor Elsie Potter and Assistant Editor David Potter and is distributed free by a team of volunteers to every residence in our area. Finance is provided by the Parish Council, income from advertisers and donations from community organisations and individuals. Local reporting is easy - e-mail your items to: thelocal.rag@btinternet.com or drop in to Webbery Cross Cottage. The more articles you send the more likely the Local Rag is to continue.

The date for inclusion in the next issue is **20th of each month**. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or amend any article submitted. Any article published does not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial team.

The Local Rag
Webbery Cross Cottage
Webbery
EX39 4PU
Phone 01271 858534

e-mail thelocal.rag@btinternet.com

From The Assistant Editor

We have had several compliments and comments saying that the new layout for the Local Rag is to your liking. It's good to know I can get something right...

After accidently making the December Su Doku so difficult I've now had complaints that the last one was too easy.! I hope the one on p12 is more to your liking.

The next meeting of the Alverdiscott Community Hall Committee will be the AGM and will be held at the hall on Monday 1st April at 7.30pm. The AGM will be followed by a normal business meeting. Remember these meetings are open to all so you are welcome to attend. Finally, we welcome a new advert this month. It's for **"Your IT Man"** Simon, details on p9.

Accounts for Local Rag February - December 2018

Brought Forward	£499.93		
Income		Outgoing	
Advertising	£235.00	Printing	£542.00
Donations	£66.00		
PC Grant	£320.00		
Totals	£1,120.93		£542.00
Carried forward	£578.93		

*****BINGO EVENING*****

At Lovacott Village Hall

On Wednesday 3 April

Doors Open at 7pm - Eyes down at 7.30pm.

All in Aid of Horwood and Newton Tracey

Community Primary School

Details from Lindsey on 01271 858549

Newton Tracey Cricket Club News

Youth coaching is starting at Park School Barnstaple, Friday evenings starting March 1st until April 5th from 6.30 - 7.30. Age from 7 onwards up to 16. All are welcome.

Any seniors who might be interested in playing please make contact with me, Graham Moore on 07760 197550.

Emergencies

Police - Fire etc.	999
Electricity	0800 6783105
Gas	0800 111999
Water	0800 1691144
RSPCA	0300 1234999

Medical

NHS - Advice Line	111
Barnstaple Hospital	01271 322577
Bideford Hospital	01271 322577
Torrington Hospital	01805 622208

For a GP out of hours call Devon Doctors on 0845 671 0270

Community Hall Bookings

Alverdiscott	David Potter 01271 858534
Huntsaw	TBA

Community Contacts

Advice Lines

Police	101
Crimestoppers	0800 555111
CAB	01805 626126
FCN	0845 3679990
Samaritans	0845 7909090
Western Power Enq.	0800 0963080
North Devon Council	01271 327711
Torrington District Council	01237 428700

Sandra Brown PCSO 30096@dc.police.uk

Your local neighbourhood policing team at Torrington Police Station email address:

torrington@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Scam Watch

HM Revenue and Customs Alert



Action Fraud has experienced an increase in the reporting of malicious calls, voicemails, text messages or emails to members of the public purporting to be from HMRC.

The fraudsters state that as a result of their non-payment of tax or other duty, the victim is liable to prosecution or other legal proceedings such as repossession of belongings to settle the balance but can avoid this by arranging for payment to be made immediately by method such as bank transfer or by iTunes gift cards - really??? Asst. Ed.

If the victim is hesitant or refuses to comply, the fraudster makes a threat such as immediate arrest, bailiffs or in cases where the victim appears to be of overseas origin; deportation.

Often, the period for which the tax is allegedly due is distant enough to guarantee the victim will have little, if any, paperwork or ability to verify the claims. Once the money is paid the suspects sever all contact.

It is vital that the public exercise caution when receiving messages or telephone calls of this nature.

What you need to do

Always question unsolicited requests for your personal or financial information. Just because someone knows your basic details (such as your name and contact details), it doesn't mean they are genuine. Instead, contact the company directly using trusted methods such as a known email address or phone number.

Listen to your instincts. If something feels wrong then it is usually right to question it. No genuine organisation will ask you to pay taxes, bills or fees using iTunes Gift Cards, or any other type of voucher.

Don't be rushed or pressured into making a decision. Under no circumstances would a genuine bank or some other trusted organisation force you to make a financial transaction on the spot.

Report Phishing attempts. If you receive a call, text or email of this nature and have not lost money, report this as a phishing attempt to **Action Fraud**.

**Anglican Community
Interim Rector Rev Tracey Doyle**



March 2019

Sunday 3rd	Next Before Lent		
Alverdiscott	11.00am		At Chapel - Holy Communion
Newton Tracey	11.00am		Morning Service
Tawstock	11.00am		Holy Communion
Yarnscombe	All Afternoon		Outreach Rev Paul
Sunday 10th	Lent 1		
Huntsyew	11.00am		All Age Worship
Tawstock	11.00am		Morning Worship
Yarnscombe	6.30pm		Holy Communion
Sunday 17th	Lent 2		
Alverdiscott	11.00am		Holy Communion
Newton Tracey	11.00am		All Age Worship
Tawstock	11.00am		Family Service
Yarnscombe	6.30pm		Evening Worship
Sunday 24th	Lent 3		
Horwood	9.15am		Holy Communion
Tawstock	11.00am		Morning Worship
Huntsyew	6.30pm		Evening Prayer

www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org

**Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel - Minister Rev Rob Blackhall
01805 628041**

03 March	11.00	Rev R Blackhall	S US
	6.30	Rev A Vidamour	
10 March	11.00	Mrs Nancy Hall-Tomkin	
	6.30	Rev R Blackhall	S
17 March	10.30	At Torrington	
	5.00	CW	
24 March	11.00	Mr D Watson	
	6.30	Rev L Burgon	S
31 March	11.00	LA	
	5.00	Rev R Blackhall	EX

www.torridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk/



Activities at the Methodist Chapel

Our Coffee Morning in February raised £95 for Christian Aid. **The next Coffee Morning, which will be on March 7th from 10am until noon, is for "Talking Newspapers"**. Come and enjoy good coffee, good company and support a very worth while cause. Our Coffee Mornings are very popular and enjoyable social occasions.

Café Worship - The next Café Worship is on Sunday 17 March at 5pm. Come and enjoy your tea and maybe learn a thing or two...

EXPLORE Services - An interactive Bible Study. Fellowship, starting with tea or coffee, with a choice of hymns and shared prayers. The next EXPLORE service will be Sunday 31 March at 5.00pm.

Gardening Club - Details from Cynthia Courtenay on 01805 601323. Meeting fee is £1 which includes tea and biscuits. The next meeting will be on March 25th at 2.30pm.

Alverdiscott Craft Group - The Craft group meet at the Chapel on the second Tuesday of the month - next meeting is 12 March at 10.30am, but you can pop in when you want and leave when ready. The Chapel has ample car parking. Cost is £1 per meeting. All are welcome. For more information call Stuart Fuller on 01271 858258 or email stuart.fuller454@gmail.com

Dates for your diary

We shall be running a Lent course following the York Course "On the Third Day". This course is open to anyone who would like to join us - feel free to just come along. There will be five sessions commencing Wednesday 13 March at 2.30pm for the five Wednesdays of Lent. If you would like further information, then please contact Elsie on 01271 858534. If you can't manage all five sessions it's not a problem, just come along to those you can.

**West Barton Farmhouse
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Leisure

P	A	I	N	R	O	F	I	L	A	C	F
N	E	I	A	N	A	I	S	I	U	O	L
O	E	N	S	A	S	N	A	K	R	A	O
T	R	D	N	O	G	E	R	O	Q	H	R
G	A	I	S	S	Q	O	Y	C	A	H	I
N	W	A	A	Q	Y	K	O	D	R	A	D
I	A	N	X	W	C	L	I	Q	I	W	A
H	L	A	E	U	O	A	V	G	Z	A	K
S	E	N	T	R	I	H	R	A	O	I	S
A	D	N	A	O	A	O	I	Q	N	I	A
W	E	D	W	T	E	M	Q	O	A	I	L
K	O	A	U	G	M	A	I	N	E	Q	A

**American States
24 To find.**

- OHIO KANSAS ARIZONA WASHINGTON GEORGIA
- OREGON ALASKA MAINE ARKANSAS COLORADO
- FLORIDA HAWAII PENNSYLVANIA DELAWARE NEWYORK
- IDAHO IOWA CALIFORNIA KENTUCKY OKLEHOMA
- UTAH TEXAS LOUISIANA INDIANA

Last time the word was: Hypnotist

Only For Fun. You have 15 minutes to find as many words as possible using the letters shown in the grid. Each word must contain four or more letters, one of which must be the central square. No letter may be used more than once in each word. No proper nouns, plurals or foreign words allowed. There is one nine letter word for which the clue is - Habitually

Y	R	I
L	U	T
N	E	O

Word count 25 = Good. More than 30 = Well Done!

Leisure

Su Doku Puzzle No. 150

Good Luck.

8	9		7		1	6	
	1		6		8		
4	7						
5	3		8				
			7		2		
			1			7	9
						9	4
		2			6	5	
	5	4		9		2	8

Solution to Su Doku No. 149

5	1	9	4	2	6	7	3	8
8	6	3	7	9	5	1	2	4
2	7	4	3	1	8	9	6	5
9	5	7	6	4	2	3	8	1
1	4	2	8	3	9	6	5	7
3	8	6	5	7	1	2	4	9
4	9	1	2	8	3	5	7	6
7	2	5	1	6	4	8	9	3
6	3	8	9	5	7	4	1	2

ALVERDISCOTT COMMUNITY HALL

Stony Cross, EX39 4PZ



Friday 12TH April 2019

7:00pm for 7.30 pm

Licensed Bar

Teams up to 6 - £5.00 per person (Includes light supper)

Contact Liz or Graham White to book a table

01271 858441 bulworthy@aol.com

We will be raising funds for North Devon Animal Ambulance and Hall Funds

All Saints Church Alverdiscott AGM

The AGM will take place on

Tuesday March 5th at Webbery Barton at 2.00pm

Anyone who lives in Alverdiscott Parish is invited to attend.

Huntshaw Church Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Annual General Meeting

Monday, 25th March 2019 at 10 am, in the Church.

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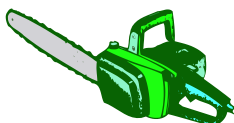
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**Parish Council Contact Details****Parish Clerk - Jean Huxtable**

Garnacott Farm

Huntshaw

EX38 7HG

Phone: 01271 858282 - Email: jean-huxtable@hotmail.co.uk

The Parish Council Website: TBA

Parish Councillor Names and Contact Numbers

Peter Denard Chairman	01805 622453
Andy Rickard V Chairman	01271 858470
Francis Courtenay	01271 858322
Peter Ley	01271 858230
Donald Easterbrook	01805 623113
Eddie Staines	01805 623255
Colin Webber	01271 858419
Allan Clements	01271 858555
Bruce Millar	07392 304567
Mark Holmes	TBA

**LOVACOTT VILLAGE HALL
REFURBISHMENT OF TOILETS**

As part of the ongoing improvements in the Village Hall, it has been agreed to refurbish the ladies' and gents' toilets.

If you are interested in quoting for this work please contact Brian Tilbury, on 01271 858327 to obtain a copy of the specification and to visit the hall.

Thank you.

**Parish Council News**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at Huntshaw Village Hall on Wednesday 13 March at 7.30pm.

**Planning Applications**

Application Number and Date	Description	Parish Comment	LPA Decision And Date
1/0507/2018 23/05/2018	Conversion of Barn to Dwelling at West Webbery Farm, Webbery.	Emailed	Awaited
1/1021/2018 20/11/2018	Conversion of agricultural barn to 1 No. dwelling (Amended Plans) at Haddacott Farm, Huntshaw.	Emailed	Awaited
1/1152/2018 30/10/2018	Single-storey side extension. Installation of roof lights, alterations to ground and first floors, installation of French doors, raise chimney stacks and replacement of external doors with window. Retrospective single storey rear extension. Twitchen Cottage Huntshaw Torrington EX38 7HQ.	Emailed	Approved 15/01/2019
1/0021/2019 23/01/2019	Single storey rear extension and first floor balcony to front elevation at Becanleigh 8 Alscott Gardens Alverdiscott EX31 3QJ.	Emailed	Awaited
1/1326/2018 28/01/2019	Retrospective change of use of farm buildings and yard to a mixed B1, B8 & B2 use at Southdown Adventure Ltd. Alverdiscott.	Emailed	Awaited

**MAKING OUR CHURCH YARDS BUZZ AGAIN**

Our wildlife is struggling! Birds are not singing and bees are not buzzing. The wild-flower rich grasslands that are essential for the survival of our insects, bats and birds have been virtually destroyed by the pesticides and chemicals used on our meadows and gardens. Furthermore, we cut our grass to within an inch of its life. While grasses survive this harsh treatment, wild flowers are killed off as they have no opportunity to flower or seed. We must do more to nurture our delicate eco systems.

This brings me to the matter of our church yards. Most of us visit church yards at some time or another and we have certain expectations of what we will find within them. We want to see an expanse of vibrant green with grass cropped tight to the ground to create a neat and attractive finish that is pleasing to the eye and a pleasure to walk upon? But ... (Some of you may need to take a deep breath and count to 10 here) ...

Should we let parts of our church yards run wild?

Dedicating an area of our church yards to nature where wild flowers and plants would flourish and to which insects, butterflies, birds and small mammals would be attracted would be a start in addressing the balance between the needs of nature and what we want.

Most of our church yards have graves that are not tended. Grass and foliage in these areas could be left to grow from April through to the autumn. Once the plants have flowered, they should be cut no lower than 2" with a strimmer or scythe with the grass and wild flowers left for a few days to drop their seed. The hay can then be raked off and stacked in a corner to create a wildlife habitat. Hedgehogs spring to mind. There should be a sign to explain what is happening so that visitors don't get the impression that the area is being neglected. Paths should be cut short and grassland should continue to be maintained around graves that are visited.

If you want to take things a stage further, what about adding bug hotels, butterfly houses and bird feeders? Or even consider a beehive? Our church yards are potential nature reserves and havens for plants and wildlife that are fighting for survival elsewhere and we should do all we can to fully utilise them.

Audrey Alimo

The Friends of the Church of St Mary Magdalene Huntshaw invite you to An OPEN DAY 7th April 11 am - 2 pm

Find out about our plans to create an eco-friendly graveyard and get updates on the repair work on the tower and the bell restoration. We shall be launching the 'History of Huntshaw church in 100 objects' and sharing our ideas for getting onto the **Torridge tourist trail**.

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Friends of All Saints Alverdiscott

The Committee are busy planning fund raising events for the year. Unfortunately we have already had to change some dates from those in last month's Rag. **The Bingo Evening will now be on Wednesday 17th April** at Alverdiscott Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm. Tickets are £6 and can be obtained in advance from Liz and Graham (see below) or you can pay on the door. There will be a licensed bar plus tea and coffee. Easter themed prizes plus a draw.

We will be serving Cream Teas at the Chapel on 27th May and are planning a Spring/ Summer Lunch and our Safari Supper. Dates for these have not yet been fixed. The suggested date of 20th July for the Supper is likely to change as we are having difficulties fixing dates when our volunteers and venues are all available. In next month's Rag you will find information about some organ music and lunches we are planning at the church.

Our Quiz Sheet will soon be available – look out for it at one of our events but if you can't wait contact Liz and Graham for a copy.

Some of the money we have raised has already contributed to maintenance work at the church. The electrics have all been tested and the heaters are now all working. Some interior repairs are planned in the near future and the Friends will be giving the church a spring clean before our Easter service.

For further information on any of our events contact Liz and Graham – 01271 858441 or email - bulworthy@aol.com

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS ALVERDISCOTT

Wednesday 17th April at Alverdiscott Community Hall 7pm for 7.30pm

Tickets £6

in advance from Liz and Graham 01271 858441 or pay on the door

Licensed bar plus tea and coffee



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