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THE LOCAL RAG
ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSNAY
LOCK-DOWN EDITION - ON-LINE ONLY

Welcome to the
June Edition
Volume 17 Issue 5
2020

STAY ALERT

CONTROL THE VIRUS

SAVE LIVES

Publication and Distribution

The Alverdiscott and Huntsbay 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

Hello to you all. I sincerely hope you are keeping well and managing to stay safe and sane!

Now, have you seen any bees in your garden? I don't mean bumble bees or hover flies, but real **honey bees**. I've seen two so far this year and not more the half a dozen last year. They were both in the conservatory, so I caught them and put them outside. I'd say that they seem to have disappeared, almost completely. We have a **choisya** in our garden which gives off a beautiful scent, like honey. It should be covered with bees, all hungry for the nectar. There are a few bumble bees and a variety of other flying insects but I've not seen a single bee. Where are they all? Given that they are very important and necessary for the pollination of

so much of our fruit and other crops it would seem to be very serious that they appear to be so reduced in numbers.

Some good news, the swallows finally arrived at Webbery Cross on 28 April. A little later than normal but very welcome. No sign of the house martins yet...

We have a couple of bicycles in our garage. They haven't been used for several years! Elsie and I are passed the point of no return as far as bike's are concerned! Given the current situation if you need a bike get in touch. They will probably need new tubes and tyres but otherwise they should be ok. No charge, but maybe you could make a donation to your favourite charity.

Planned Events during 2020 at the Village Halls
Please note - All Events have been cancelled up to August.
This is not based on any information received.
It is just me trying to be positive!

Alverdiscott

Big Breakfast	Sunday 3 May	Cancelled for now
Friends Spring Lunch	Sunday 10 May	Cancelled for now
Treasure Hunt	Sunday 5 July	Cancelled for now
Friends Safari Supper	Saturday 25 July	Cancelled for now
Flower and Produce Show	Saturday 8 Aug	May go ahead???
Harvest Supper	Friday 18 Sept	May go ahead???
Big Breakfast	Sunday 25 Oct	May go ahead???
Friends Autumn Lunch	Sunday 22 Nov	May go ahead???

Huntsbay

VE Day Celebrations	Cancelled for now See p11
A Bat Evening by Bats in Churches	Cancelled for now See p11

Emergencies

Police - Fire etc.	999
Electricity	0800 6783105
Gas	0800 111999
Water	0800 1691144
RSPCA	0300 1234999
Calor Gas	0345 7444999

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

Huntsbay Lorraine Hooper
07912 503992

lorrainehooper489@btinternet.com

Community Contacts

Advice Lines

Police	101
Crimestoppers	0800 555111
CAB	01805 626126
FCN	03000 111999

Samaritans - Free from any phone 116 123

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

An Incredible Hero!

Captain Tom you're a marvel - you have
brightened our days
And lifted our spirits in so many ways
While walking your garden with the aid of your
frame,
Raising funds for our NHS 'Heroes' - your aim!

We've been living our lives in self-isolation,
So watching your efforts was sheer inspiration!
We began to look forward to watching the News,
It made such a change from daily 'virus' reviews!

We saw how the money in 'thousands' rolled in!
And when it was 'millions' - you surely pondered
within
Just how much the eventual total would be?
That cash was a total that no-one could foresee!

You appeared on the TV most days it transpired,
With celebrity tributes from folk who admired
Your simple idea - which had prompted a nation
To contact 'Just Giving' and make a donation!

And what about singing with the 'star' Michael Ball?
A 'Number 1' single - and that wasn't all!
Sir Tom Jones sent a message, he just wanted to say
He didn't mind that you'd taken his 'record' away!

Your One-hundredth Birthday was then drawing
nearer,
With the fund-raising total becoming much clearer,
Almost 30 Million Pounds - an incredible sum!
With still more donations expected to come!

Soon details of your thousands of cards were
unfurled,
They'd been sent from well-wishers from all parts of
the World,
The one from the Queen was delivered to your
door,
With a unique special message seldom witnessed
before!

Then your birthday arrived - One Hundred years
old!
In just a few weeks, we'd watched your story
unfold,
It was truly amazing - a real 'Fairy-tale',
A great story we're sure that will never grow pale!

Your celebrations began on 'Breakfast' TV
With Naga and Charlie - and what a pleasure to see
A Spitfire and Hurricane fly overhead,
You had watched them in 'anger' - now in
'peacetime' you said!

An 'Honorary Colonel' was a tribute indeed,
A worthy recognition for all you've achieved,
And Best Wishes from Boris - with an added
citation
That your efforts had truly inspired our great
nation!

At midnight that evening, the 'Just Giving' site
closed,
In the following days the final total disclosed -
Near 33 Million pounds - for your 'One Hundred'
laps!
A far cry from your aim to raise 'One Thousand' -
perhaps?

I must mention your daughter, who was glowing
with pride,
As she helped with your hearing while sat by your
side,
And the rest of your family - they too played their
part,
With encouraging words spoken straight from the
heart!

But over the weeks as you appeared on our screen,
Your humble demeanour so clearly was seen,
Your concern was for others - your gratitude too,
No hint of 'self glory' - a real 'Gent' through and
through!

'Colonel' Tom you're a hero - with worldwide
acclaim!
Simply 'millions' of people now aware of your fame!
You will go down in history with your 'fundraising'
success
As a 'Beacon of Hope' midst all the "virus" distress.

**By Muriel
Moore**

**From the rector**

On Thursday 21st May the Church celebrated Ascension Day. In times past children in church schools would be given time off to attend services. This year they were all off school anyway and our service was online!

Ascension is an important festival for Christians. It reminds us that Jesus has gone up to heaven where he is now seated in glory at God's right hand (Ephesians 1.20). Does this mean that Jesus, who was so real and present to his disciples whilst on earth, is now a distant and remote figure? Not at all! Jesus, the bible tells us, is watching over us each day, and talking to the Father about what we need. Because he has shared our human lives and suffered at the hands of others he can sympathise with our difficulties, but as the One seated on the throne in heaven he is also powerful to help.

When I think of Jesus in heaven I picture him looking down on me, watching what I'm doing, understanding what I'm feeling, and talking to the Father about me... "you see Gary down there...he could real do with.... would you give him..." I'm encouraged by Jesus' promise that he is getting a place ready for me, so I can spend forever with him. I am grateful that for now for his giving me the gift of his Holy Spirit each day to connect me with him and help me do life in relationship with him.

The bible says that when we become Christians, by inviting Jesus into our hearts and lives, we are "incorporated" into Christ. What happens to Jesus happens to us. In a strange mystical sense God has already 'seated us with Jesus in the heavenly places' (Ephesians 5.6). Our future with Jesus is sure.

Through the chances and changes of life, through the difficulties we face, I have found the truth of Jesus' promise, "I am with you even to the end of time". Its this that gives me strength for today and hope for tomorrow. I pray that you might know the truth of this promise too.

The building is shut, but the church is open:

We are hopeful that we will be able to open our church buildings again soon, maybe initially for private prayer and then subsequently for services and activities. However, the church is very much alive and active, albeit in a slightly different way.

Here are a few of the things we are up to:

Posting Sunday services on YouTube (search for "Two Rivers Mission Community" in the YouTube search bar)

Holding Sunday services, coffee morning, homegroups and Alpha on Zoom
Providing collective worship via YouTube for our local schools to use whilst they are not in their buildings.

Alverdiscott Flower and Produce Show

In a mood of optimism, we are hoping that the **Alverdiscott Flower and Produce Show**, planned for Saturday 8 August, will still go ahead. It is a whole 2 months away, so it could happen. In that case it could be an excellent way to help celebrate a return to normal.

One positive that may come out of the current situation is that all you gardeners, cooks and "handicrafters", who are currently in lock-down, must all have more time than you normally would to prepare!!!

So watch this space and as the weeks pass we will be see what might be possible.

Do You Need Assistance During Covid -19?

If you live in the Local Rag area and are having problems due to the current situation there are several groups in the local area who are offering to help out. They will take on tasks such as shopping, collecting prescriptions and even walking the dog, all of which can be more difficult than normal, right now. Please get in touch with the Rag and we will see if we can find someone to help you.

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Leisure

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

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CINNAMON	SAFFRON	PIMENTO	THYME	MACE

Last time the word was: Chocolate

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 - Was it called Alex???

Word count 20 = Good. More than 25 = Well done!

I	A	R
R	E	U
H	C	N

Leisure

Su Doku Puzzle No. 164

Good Luck...

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

Solution to Su Doku No. 163

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

Anglican Community - Team Rector Rev Gary Owen
01769 560792 07947 358050



Cont'd from page 3.

Sending emails and posting on Facebook to keep people connected. Sending paper copies of worship resources to those not on email. Lots of phoning round.

Our parish nurse (Julia) remains active in the community.

Free food is available under the arch at High Bickington and lych gate in Roborough.

These are all in addition to the efforts of Christians to love and support their neighbours in practical ways.

As the Church of England we exist for the benefit of everyone who lives in our parishes, whether they consider themselves religious or not. Everyone is welcome to join in our activities. If you would like more details, please get in touch with us. If there is anything we can do to help let us know and we'll see what we can do.

Rev Gary

www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org

Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel - Minister Rev Rob Blackhall - 01805 628041

We live in very difficult times.

Life already feels very different, and it is difficult to imagine not meeting and worshipping as we usually do.

If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to ask.

I might not immediately know the answer, but I will endeavour to find out.

These are tricky times, but we are the Church, and we will carry on, just in a different way.

Please pray, read your Bibles and share in Worship in your homes. And to start your Bible reading - try Psalm 91 - we are all under the care of Almighty God.

Current advice from the Methodist Church can be found at

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/coronavirus-guidance/>
www.torridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk/


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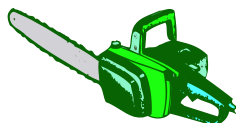
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Parish Clerk - Jean Huxtable Garnacott Farm Huntshaw EX38 7HG

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

Parish Council Facebook page: [@alverdiscotthuntshaw](https://www.facebook.com/alverdiscotthuntshaw)

Parish Council website: <http://alverdiscott-huntshaw-parish.org.uk/>

The new Parish Council website is packed with useful and relevant stuff, so do go and have a look around. If you have something that could be helpful, informative or entertaining in the current situation please get in touch, via the website or the Rag.

Parish Councillor Names and Contact Numbers

Bruce Millar	V Chairman	07392 304567
Francis Courtenay		01271 858322
Peter Ley		01271 858230
Donald Easterbrook		01805 623113
Eddie Staines		07831 262808
Tony Goldstone		01271 858437
Helen Bolton		01271 858885

Vacancies on the Parish Council

There are three vacancies on the Parish Council which will be advertised in the near future - when we get the relevant paperwork from Torridge District Council. It will be displayed on the two hall notice boards and on the website.

If anyone is interested in joining the Parish Council please do let any Councillor know or contact the Parish Clerk.

PLEASE NOTE - All the events and planned work at St Mary Magdalene Huntshaw, have been postponed until further notice pending the course of Covid -19.

Keep a watch on the website <https://www.huntshawchurch.com> for the latest updates.

Parish Council News

The Parish Council have no confirmed date for the next meeting. As soon as we are able to arrange it we will get it advertised.



Hope everyone is safe and well. If anyone requires any help or assistance please do get in touch with any member of the Parish Council and we will arrange whatever is required, if at all possible.

Stay safe everyone.

Planning Applications

Application Number and Date	Description <i>Full Details Available from Torridge District Council Website - www.torridge.gov.uk/plans</i>	Parish Comment	LPA Decision And Date
I/0399/2019 03/12/2019	Proposed extension to shed and formalisation of B2 (General Industrial) Use (amend description, revised plans, transport and noise reports) Staines Trailers Ltd Huntshaw	18/12/19	Awaited
I/1166/2019 30/01/20	Retrospective application for engineering works and change of use of land to B2 and B8 use including diversion of existing Public Right of Way. Staines Trailers Ltd Huntshaw	30/01/20	Awaited
I/0029/2020 16/01/2020	Prior notification for the change of use of Agricultural building to 1 No. dwelling under Class Q and associated operational Development. Barn at Nethercott Farm, Alverdiscott	16/01/20	Approved 05/03/20
I/0044/2020 06/02/2020	Change of use of land and siting of 30 storage containers for B8 use. North Devon Dry Storage, Yarnscombe	06/02/20	Approved 26/03/20
I/1163/2019 05/02/2020	Change of use of ancillary building to holiday let, demolition of garages and Conservatory. Alterations and replacement Single storey side and rear extensions to the Existing dwelling and associated landscaping. Longstone House, Woodtown, E t Water	09/02/20	Approved 26/03/20
I/0265/2020 16/04/2020	Single Storey Rear extension to Barn Owl Cottage, Yarnscombe.	Emailed	Approved 13/05/20

Looking on the Bright Side...

To cheer me up, my husband gave me a dart and spread a map of the world on the wall.

He said, "Wherever the dart lands, I will take you on holiday when lockdown is over". Turns out, we are spending two weeks behind the fridge...

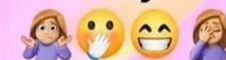
BREAKING NEWS

**Wearing a mask 🤧
inside your home is now
highly recommended.
Not so much to prevent
Covid-19 but to stop eating.**

Went to my first social distancing Christening last Sunday



I need to social distance myself from my refrigerator so I can flatten my curve.



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The house martins are still nowhere to be seen. Numbers have been decreasing each year for a while now but to have none at all is very disappointing. If you have any please let me know.

Elsie and I have been staying safe - we are also trying to stay alert but that is really difficult! - and only going out for short walks, from our front gate. We can also spend time in our garden where there is plenty to see.

The local bird population is really busy building nests and now feeding young. The sparrows have hi-jacked an old martin nest again and are busy lining it with feathers and grass. We also have a blackbird nest in the hedge but I am worried that if I can see where it is then predators will also find it. There are blue, great, coal and longtail tits buzzing around along with green finch, gold finch, garden warblers, chifchaffs and black caps.



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