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THE LOCAL RAG  
ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSRAWWelcome to the  
May EditionVolume 16 Issue 4  
2019**Editorial****March Winds and  
April Showers  
Bring Forth May Flowers**

In the March Rag I wrote about Spring which is the season in which we are now. So what flowers can we look forward to in May?

Well, here are some examples:

**Acacia (Mimosa)** Also known as the Silver Wattle, the not very cute name is actually a very cute round flower that grows on the sturdy Acacia tree.

**Agapanthus (African Lily)** The Lily of the Nile is an elegant and striking exotic flower. Naturally blue flowers are always a rarity and a delight to see. I ordered some of these, in blue and white, and they have just now been delivered.

**Alchemilla (Lady's Mantle)**

Alchemilla are a beautiful light green colour.

**Allium (Flowering Onion)****Alstroemeria (Peruvian Lily)**

Alstroemeria are wonderfully handy and versatile blooms for any occasion. With a multitude of bright colours to choose from, artistically flecked with dark spots, they are a wonderful addition to any setting.

My Magnolia and Cherry trees have flowered magnificently, not that we get any cherries worth eating, they are very small and bitter. However, the birds like them. I have just received a delivery of some plants that I ordered so hopefully they can go in the garden soon. The daffodils have all gone over but the tulips are flowering well. If we look along the banks the blackthorn is flowering well so there should be lots of sloes for those who like their sloe gin, and the hawthorn are coming into leaf and beginning to show signs of flowering.

Some of us may now be looking forward to Summer and perhaps a holiday.

Anyway, as Alan Titchmarsh says, "Enjoy your garden."

### Publication and Distribution

The Alverdiscott and Huntsraw 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  
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### From The Assistant Editor

Well here we are, April is over and Spring is doing its best to get over the line. Just like Brexit, it has been delayed...

To date, the Local Rag has been a Brexit-free zone which might seem slightly odd, but then again it is a very divisive subject and many of us are **really tired** of it to say the least. I must admit to having become quite engrossed with it - but in a "guilty secret" kind of way. Well, it is a bit of a "**car-crash**" and in much the same way as when you're passing a real accident, on say a motorway, it's difficult not to steal a quick glance even though you know you shouldn't!

Personally, I never did believe it was going to be easy to unpick things, not after 40 plus years, even though

some folk promised that it would be quite straightforward. What I do find difficult to understand is how we can have got ourselves into such an unholy mess, it really does beggar belief.

We seem to be behaving like the turkeys who voted for Christmas. Or maybe the lemmings who were frantically searching for a cliff edge.

However bad someone might think that being in the EU is/was, surely leaving would only be an option if it meant they ended up somewhere that was clearly and undeniable better?? Demonstrably better. Better in a way that could be very easily measured, explained or documented.

Can't wait to see what happens next. Or then again, maybe I can...

### And finally...

#### A NOTE FROM ALVERDISCOTT RECORDS

*(Found in an old Huntsraw Church Minute Book)*

Collected ye 10th day of October by churchwardens of this parish of Alverdiscott the sum of *one pound eight shillings and halfpenny* towards the relief and losses of the poor distressed people of the Citie of London which happened by a lamentable and terrible devouring fire which broke out the 2nd day of September 1666 being Sunday and continued to Friday the 7th of the said month and it was paid over to Henry Taylor Rector of this parish to be returned by **exchance** to ye Lord Mayor of the said Citie of London according to his majesty's proclamation. Sadly, the author is unknown and the record is undated.

*Can anyone supply the meaning for the word "exchance" as used above?*

*I have searched all over the web and can't find any reference to it. If you know what it means do please get in touch. David.*

#### Emergencies

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

#### Medical

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Bideford Hospital	01271 322577
Torrington Hospital	01805 622208

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

#### Community Hall Bookings

<b>Alverdiscott</b>	David Potter 01271 858534
<b>Huntsraw</b>	Donald Easterbrook 01805 623113

#### Community Contacts

##### Advice Lines

Police	101
Crimestoppers	0800 555111
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Western Power Enq.	0800 0963080
North Devon Council	01271 327711
Torrington District Council	01237 428700

Sandra Brown PCSO [30096@dc.police.uk](mailto:30096@dc.police.uk)

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

[torrington@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:torrington@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)

**All Saints Friends Group****FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH**

By the time you read this the Friends will have had their first AGM and we will be much clearer about the future of our church. Whatever happens we will continue to need to raise money to maintain the building and graveyard. We believe the community does not want to see the church fall into a state of disrepair, we need your support to prevent this happening and offer sincere thanks to those of you who have helped us during our first year.

It may not seem as though much maintenance work has been done so far. However, in the next two or three months, the organ will have been serviced, and stonemasons will have started on a programme of repointing and strengthening the vestry walls and attending to the internal tower walls. Some of the window grilles are the worse for wear, and we have arranged for these to be replaced. The total cost of this will be in the region of £7,000. Further into the future, the north and west faces of the tower will need to be repointed and strengthened, this is going to cost around £38,000. A proportion of this is going to have to be raised by the Friends.

We already have several fundraising events planned for this year which we hope will appeal to our community. On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May we will be serving Sunday Lunch at the Village Hall. Full details are in a separate advert - on p9. This will be a first for us so we have decided to restrict numbers rather than take on something we can't cope with. We will be serving roast with all the trimmings followed by a selection of desserts. There will also be a vegetarian option. The ticket price will include a glass of wine or a soft drink. There will also be a raffle to help boost our funds. Any donations of raffle prizes will be much appreciated. There is a concert at the Chapel on the evening of 19<sup>th</sup> so why not have Sunday lunch prepared for you followed by a relaxing evening at the Chapel?

**Cream Teas** - are on our agenda again this year. The first will be on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May at the Chapel, from 2.30 to 5pm. This event proved very popular last year, we hope you will support us.

**Musical Lunch** - Stuart Mair has offered to play the organ in the church on 31<sup>st</sup> May, 28<sup>th</sup> June, July 28<sup>th</sup> and August 30<sup>th</sup>. He will play from 1pm, but light lunches will be available from 12.30pm. We will be serving filled rolls, cakes and tea and coffee. Why not come along for an hour's relaxation?

**Safari Supper** - tickets won't be on sale for a while yet but please make a note in your diary of Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July. We have our venues finalised and a good number of volunteer helpers.

**Coming VERY Soon to a Hall Near You... The Big Breakfast**

Sunday 5 May at Alverdiscott Community Hall  
**The Big Breakfast from 9.00am to 1.00pm**  
 Start With a Choice of Cereals, Porridge or Juice  
 Then the Full English or Pick Your Favourites  
 All Followed by Tea - Coffee - Toast  
 Adults £8 - Under 12's £5

**Newton Tracey Cricket Club News**

The new season is soon upon us and we have a busy programme ahead for players of all standards.

The senior league teams will now just be 2. But plenty of friendlies to make up.

Colts teams we will have Under 15 and Under 11 league teams hopefully and we are doing the **English Cricket Board initiative for the very young - "All Stars"** - this year for the first time.

New players welcome - senior, junior, male, female.

Please contact Graham Moore on - 07760 197550.

**Friends of the Church of St Mary Magdalene Huntshaw****BATS IN THE BELFRY**

An evening dedicated to our wonderful bats  
 Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May,  
 6:30 pm for 7 pm at the church.  
**Speaker: Samantha Pickering from North Devon Bat Care.**

Admission £5 to include a glass of wine, soft drinks and light refreshments. Samantha will bring along some of her bats for you to get up close to these delightful furry creatures and there will be a bat walk.

For catering purposes it would be helpful if you let us know that you are coming. Further information: Audrey Alimo 07952 028013 or [audreyalimo@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:audreyalimo@yahoo.co.uk) or check out our website: <https://www.huntshawchurch.com/>

**Activities at the Methodist Chapel**

Our Coffee Morning in April raised £130 for Guide Dog Puppy Training. The next Coffee Morning, which will be on May 2nd from 10am until noon, is for **“Action for Children”**. 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 5 May 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 26 May at 5.00pm.

**Gardening Club** - Details from Cynthia Courtenay on 01805 601323. Meeting fee is £1 which includes tea and biscuits. **Note** - the next meeting will be on May 20th (the 27th being a Holiday) at 2.30pm. There will be a talk about *“Passion Flowers”* by Dawn and Steve Morgan.

**Alverdiscott Craft Group** - The Craft group meet at the Chapel on the second Tuesday of the month - next meeting is 14 May 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**

On Sunday 19 May at 7.00pm, at the Chapel, there will be a Concert by the

**Barnstaple Ladies Choir.**

**Light Supper.**

**All are welcome.**

**West Barton Farmhouse  
Alverdiscott**

Holiday accommodation for relatives or friends visiting North Devon and needing somewhere to stay. Reasonable terms.



Telephone 01271 858230 for details

**Leisure**

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

**Presidents of the USA  
30 to find.**

ADAMS PIERCE POLK WASHINGTON MADISON CARTER  
BUSH TAYLOR TRUMAN EISENHOWER HERBERT MONROE  
HAYES TYLER WILSON ROOSEVELT JOHNSON HOOVER  
GRANT NIXON FORD CLEVELAND LINCOLN CLINTON  
TAFT OBAMA TRUMP KENNEDY REAGAN ARTHUR

**Last time the word was: Encourage**

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 - **Sight**

Word count 28 = Good. More than 35 = Well Done!

T	E	S
P	A	C
C	E	L

## Leisure

Su Doku Puzzle No. 152

Good Luck.

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

Solution to Su Doku No. 151

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

## Anglican Community - Interim Rector Rev Tracey Doyle

May 2019

**Sunday 5th Easter 3**

Alverdiscott	11.00am	US at Chapel
Newton Tracey	11.00am	Morning Worship
Tawstock	11.00am	Holy Communion

**Sunday 12th Easter 4**

Horwood	9.15am	Prayer Meeting
Huntsyew	11.00am	All Age Worship
Tawstock	11.00am	Morning Worship
Yarnscombe	6.30pm	Holy Communion

**Sunday 19th Easter 5**

Alverdiscott	11.00am	Holy Communion
Newton Tracey	11.00am	All Age Worship
Tawstock	11.00am	Family Service
Yarnscombe	6.30pm	Songs of Praise

**Sunday 26th Easter 6**

Horwood	9.15am	Holy Communion
Tawstock	11.00am	Morning Worship
Huntsyew	6.30pm	Evening Prayer

[www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org](http://www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org)
**Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel - Minister Rev Rob Blackhall**  
**01805 628041**

<b>05 May</b>	11.00	Mrs Lorna Dawe US
	5.00	Rev Rob Blackhall CW
<b>12 May</b>	11.00	Mr Paul Bate
	6.30	At Torrington - Easter Offering
<b>19 May</b>	11.00	Mr Duncan Withall
	7.00	<b>Barnstaple Ladies Choir</b>
<b>26 May</b>	11.00	Mrs Julia Spencer
	5.00	LA EX

[www.torridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk/](http://www.torridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk/)




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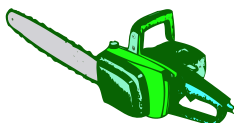
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**Parish Council Contact Details****Parish Councillor Names and Contact Numbers**

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	07767 888000

**Litter Along Our Lane**

I'm planning to have another "litter-pick" as I did last May. The date will be Sunday 12 May from 2pm onwards. I'll be starting from Webbery Cross and walking towards Stony Cross. You can of course do it the other way round if you want.

The road verges are looking great at the moment, or they could be if it wasn't for all the litter, there are primroses, bluebells and violets in amongst the grass and hawthorn looking fresh and green in the hedges and banks. So now seems to be a good moment to give the place a tidy up. If you can spare some time to join in and help out, ***please, feel free to come along.*** Just bring a black bag and some gloves. David.

### Parish Council News

Next meeting is in **Alverdiscott Hall on Wed 8th May 2019 at 7pm**. The Annual Parish Meeting will be followed by the Parish Council AGM. Any member of the Parish is welcome to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to bring up any issues they might have.



### Planning Applications

Application Number and Date	Description	Parish Comment	LPA Decision And Date
	Full Details Available on Torridge District Council Website - <a href="http://www.torridge.gov.uk/plans">www.torridge.gov.uk/plans</a>		
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
1/0021/2019 23/01/2019	Single storey rear extension and first floor balcony to front elevation at Becanleigh 8 Alscott Gardens Alverdiscott EX31 3QJ.	Approved	Approved 21/03/19
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
1/0210/2019/ FUL 03/04/19	Erection of a dwelling and associated works Agricultural Building At Grid Reference 250454 123756 Huntshaw Devon.	Emailed	Awaited

### Parish Clerk - Jean Huxtable

Garnacott Farm  
Huntshaw

EX38 7HG - **Phone:** 01271 858282 - **Email:** [jean-huxtable@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jean-huxtable@hotmail.co.uk)

**The Parish Council Website:** TBA

### Are you a 'Living Stone?'

I wonder if you've ever been asked, 'Are you alive?' Seems a bit of a funny question. However, Peter writes in the Bible (1 Peter 2) that like Jesus we too are, or should be, 'living stones.' Stones (people) that are alive to God. Alive to all that He wants to do in our lives. Alive to one another with the purpose of being built together into the community of God, which is the 'Church.' Alive to His Spirit dwelling in us. Alive to the world which looks at us and hopefully, sees Jesus. Sounds great doesn't it. But let's be honest, sometimes that's not what others see. Sometimes, we the Church, appear to be made up of:-

**Lonely stones;** those who remain self sufficient, able to cope on their own and fail to see the need of belonging with others.

**Lumpy stones;** those whose rough edges are pretty obvious and yet often expect others to change and fit into their shape.

**Lazy stones;** those who believe that the work will get done but not by them.

**Leaning stones;** those who rest their lives and faith on anything but Jesus the rock.

And yet God wants us to be **Living Stones**, being built together, supporting each other, working together for the common good.

Building stones (or bricks) become useless by themselves, it's only when they are incorporated into a building that they really become of use, fulfilling the purpose they were made for.

There is the story of the king of Sparta, who constantly boasted to a visiting monarch of the great walls of Sparta. The visiting monarch, who could not see any walls, eventually asked the king, 'where are these great walls of Sparta about which you boast so much?' The king pointed to his troops and said, 'These are the walls of Sparta, every man is a brick!' Have you ever thought of yourself as a brick (Living stone) essential to the building of God's Church, needing each other? That's how God sees us, therefore, let's ask Him to make us bricks (Living Stones) together so that those around us will see the living church and want to know Jesus for themselves.

PS. at one time or another I've probably been all of the stones above!

Blessings, Rev Paul

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## FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS ALVERDISCOTT

### SPRING SUNDAY LUNCH

at

**Alverdiscott Community Hall**

on

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 1pm**

Sunday Roast, with all the trimmings, a choice of desserts and  
 a glass of wine.

Tickets £12 - 10 years and under £6

Available from Joyce Ley 858230 or Liz White 858441

**Book now – numbers are limited.**



## From Tragedy to Triumph

At Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel during the season of Lent we decorated, Sunday by Sunday, our cross with the symbols of Christ's passion. This included the whip with which he was scourged, the crown of thorns and the purple robe with which he was mocked. Then on Easter Sunday we decorated that same cross with flowers. Thus turning the tragedy of Good Friday, Christ's death on the cross, into the triumph of Easter Sunday when God raised him from the dead. All very moving experiences.



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