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**THE LOCAL RAG**

ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSNAY

Welcome to the  
**April Edition**  
Volume 18 Issue 3  
2021**Hedden's Farm Shop - Woodtown Farm**

Hedden's is a local family farming business in North Devon with a long heritage of selling quality potatoes and vegetables going back generations.

In 2018, Ian and Michael were reflecting on the heritage of the business and decided to try supplying households around Bideford, Torrington and Barnstaple with bespoke fresh fruit and veg boxes. The business went from strength to strength, and necessitated the growing of more produce and adding additional product lines, as well as expanding the delivery area further across north Devon.

After much thought they then decided to open a farm shop, on-site at the farm in Woodtown. So, on Monday 2nd November 2020, the shop became a reality. The idea proved to be a good one and the shop did well. Since then Darren Manley has joined the team. Darren brought with him a vast amount of experience in traditional local butchery. The farm shop stocks a wonderful array of meats, vegetables, salads, fruit, dairy and eggs, as well as ice-cream from Tennacott Farm, and Blackwells Pasties of Bideford.

If you haven't yet paid them a visit, then I recommend that you do, soon.

I can personally vouch for the quality of the meat and vegetables, and the pasties aren't bad either! Here we have a local success story that deserves our support.

David - Asst Ed.

Check out the website at:

[Fruit And Veg Boxes North Devon | Heddens of Woodtown Farm](#)

Woodtown Farm, East the Water, Bideford EX39 4PP



### Publication and Distribution

The **Alverdiscott and Huntsnaw 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](mailto: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](mailto:thelocal.rag@btinternet.com)

### From The Assistant Editor

Spring is in the air. There are new born lambs in many of the fields locally. Joyce has sent a picture of some of her new arrivals, see p7. The daffs are out in the gardens and along the road verges and all is well with the world. Well OK, maybe that last bit is stretching the truth, but apart from CV19 things do look very springy. If the weather calmed down and warmed up, one could almost believe everything was normal.

In the garden the birds are definitely looking frisky and acting in a very springy fashion. We have 5 robins that are displaying and chasing each other around. I can't decide if they are fighting or flirting. Time will tell... The collared doves are nest building, **again**. Hopefully this time they will finish it, lay some eggs and

raise some chicks. On Tuesday morning I got up early, to put out the recycling, and I'd say there was definitely a bit of a dawn chorus going on.

So far this year we've had 331mm of rain - just over 13ins. It seems like more, but this time last year we'd had 431mm or nearly 17ins. The forecast is for it to be mainly dry until the end of the month. Let's hope they are right, my grass needs cutting but it's far too wet and I haven't mastered walking on water.

The vaccination roll-out is still going well, although today there are stories of a hold up in the vaccine supply. I hope that doesn't come about, we need everyone to have their shots, and Elsie and I need our second one! Stay safe and stay well.

(Continued from page 11)

manipulated to exclude an outstanding candidate, who was clearly the preferred choice of so many of our local parishioners, in favour of their own selected candidates. It is not democratic, it is against the whole principle of local representation and I do not wish to be part of a Parish Council which is so blatantly acting out of personal interest and directly against the interests of the local community, so I feel I have no choice but to resign.

Helen Bolton

### Books for Sale

Anne Gilks, who has recently moved into Stony Cross, has a good number of **Clive Cussler** books that she would like to sell. Clive Cussler is a well known American adventure novelist and, underwater explorer.

Those interested should give Anne a call on **07739 581839**

### Emergencies

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Water	0800 1691144
RSPCA	0300 1234999
Calor Gas	0345 7444999

### Medical

<b>NHS - Advice Line</b>	<b>111</b>
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 & Enquiries

<b>Alverdiscott</b>	David Potter 01271 858534
<b>Huntsnaw</b>	Suzy White 07711 787853 <a href="mailto:huntsnawparishhall@outlook.com">huntsnawparishhall@outlook.com</a>

### Community Contacts

#### Advice Lines

<b>Police</b>	<b>101</b>
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

#### Coronavirus Test Line 119

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)

### Newton Tracey Cricket Club

#### Newton Tracey welcome new members for 2021

The Government roadmap is permitting outdoor sport from 29 March, with appropriate social distancing, but we hope that at some stage during the summer things can return to normal. In the meantime we will have appropriate social distancing measures in place which **must** be followed.

We will be participating in the English Cricket Board programmes for young children.

From 5-8 there is **Allstars** for the beginners.

From 8-10 there will be **Dynamos** for the older beginners and the previous Allstars.

Thereafter we will be offering hard ball cricket in a joint venture with **Chulmleigh Cricket Club** for matches.

For the adults we have a full programme of fixtures starting at the end of April until mid September. The social distancing measures will remain in place until the end of June at earliest in line with the Government roadmap so cricket isn't quite the same as there won't be the traditional cricket tea, changing facilities or showers. But it's a small price to pay to allow a naturally social distanced sport like cricket to take place.

The link to apply for Allstars and Dynamos are available via the following links. Or please give me a call if you'd like to know more.

<https://ecb.clubspark.uk/Dynamos/Course/723ae68d-62ba-477a-a770-89559b531b3a>

<https://ecb.clubspark.uk/AllStars/At/newtontracey>

**Graham Moore 07760 197550**

### From the Rector Rev Gary Owen - 01769 560792

**Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

This the cry that will echo through our churches on Easter morning. But is it true? Did Jesus really rise from the dead on the first Easter morning? And does it really matter anyway?

Whilst there is no doubt that Jesus existed (there are too many non-Christian contemporaries of Jesus who wrote about him) many people have sought to explain away the resurrection. Let's look at a few:

- Jesus never really died – he just fainted and revived in the cool of the tomb. *But* Roman soldiers were experts at crucifixion and people didn't survive. There is no other record of someone simply fainting and reviving.
- Jesus' disciples stole Jesus' dead body and hid it to fake the resurrection. But the Roman governor Pilate had the tomb guarded by soldiers to make sure this didn't happen.
- Jesus did die and remained dead in the tomb – the women who discovered the empty tomb went to the wrong one. *But* the women had seen Jesus laid in the tomb on the Friday and are unlikely to make a mistake about something so important.
- Jesus' disciples were so traumatised by Jesus' death that they hallucinated about seeing him alive. *But* would lots of people have had the same hallucination – and these were tax collectors and fishermen not prone to flights of fancy!

There is also positive evidence for the resurrection: the many appearances of Jesus over forty days, the transformation of the disciples from a defeated rabble to courageous witnesses prepared to die for their belief in a risen Jesus. There is the testimony of billions of people over the last 2000 years that Jesus is alive and real to them.

But what does it matter whether Jesus died and rose again? After all, these events took place over two thousand years ago. Put simply, if Jesus rose from the dead, then it proves him to be who he claimed to be: the Son of God, and we may therefore take seriously everything he said and did. We can believe that it is through him that we can find a relationship with the living God and enjoy eternal life for ever. We can enjoy a relationship with him today.

Please see [www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org](http://www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org) for up-to-date information.



Now more than ever is the time to  
**take up music.**

Ever wanted to try a sax, a flute  
or the liquorice stick (clarinet)?



Playing the piano can be so therapeutic.

My adult pupils have found it really calming during these trying times  
Contact me for details as to how to start thinking about it.

Anne - 07739 581839 or Email - [gilksanne@gmail.com](mailto:gilksanne@gmail.com)

### 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

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

### The Easter Story

### 25 Words to Find

RESURRECTION	CHOCOLATE	ENTRANCE, WENT	RETURN
EASTERSUNDAY	EGGS	BELIEVE, RISEN	PRAY, THANKS
JESUSCHRIST	ANGEL, ROLLED	GARDEN, MARY	
HALLELUJAH	STONE, AWAY	LORD, ALIVE	
EMPTYTOMB	PETER, RAN	DISCIPLES	

### Last time the word was: Valentine

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 - **Take a letter...**

Word count 32 = Good. More than 37 = Very Well done!

A	Y	R
E	E	T
C	S	R

## Leisure

## Su Doku Puzzle No. 173

Good Luck...

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

## Solution to Su Doku No. 172

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

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



All Saints in Alverdiscott will be open for  
private prayer on Saturdays from 9.00am to 4.00pm.

Please observe social distancing rules.  
Sanitise hands on arrival and departure.  
Only use those areas not taped off.

[www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org](http://www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org)

Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel  
Minister Rev Rob Blackhall - 01805 628041

We are living in very difficult times.  
Life feels very different, and it is hard 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 challenging 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/>

<http://torridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk/>





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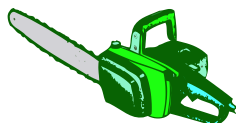
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**A Message from Helen Bolton**

I became a Parish Councillor in October 2019 because I hoped to make a difference; the Council was falling short of many of the protocols required as a properly functioning Parish Council, e.g. no website, failure to deal properly with planning applications, insufficient transparency etc., and I was keen to work towards properly representing the interests of the local community and addressing local issues and concerns. Councillor Goldstone was co-opted at the same time and we shared similar views and objectives.

Unfortunately any efforts to address these issues was frequently ignored or opposed and it became apparent that existing Councillors and the Parish Clerk did not share our enthusiasm to 'put things right'. 2020 was a particularly bad year for the Council; lockdown made it necessary to undertake meetings using 'Zoom' and this was bitterly opposed by the rest of the Council and several meetings were boycotted as a result. Later in the year it became apparent that the total inefficiency of the Council **in the two years preceding our co-option** meant that failure to meet the strict financial disclosures and send completed financial statements in time resulted in fines totalling almost £1,400 – a vast amount in relation to our precept of £4,180!

The final straw took place at meetings in March 2020, November 2020 and January 2021 when the same excellent candidate applied for co-option onto the Council and was enthusiastically supported by parishioners, several who spoke in the public session and 12 more who sent emails supporting her application. **Despite this massive show of support from what is a large percentage of parishioners from this tiny hamlet, on each occasion an opposing candidate was co-opted in her stead!** This failed candidate would have been the only member of the Council living in Huntshaw and was eminently suitable and very well qualified for the role. As it is now, of the five Councillors supposed to be representing Huntshaw I am the only one who actually lives in the Parish. Three of the remaining four actually work for Staines Trailers, a local Company who are known for openly flouting Planning Laws and whos' business is creating intolerable living conditions for other local residents, and they all live in other Parishes. The fourth lives in the Parish of St. Giles in the Wood. I find I cannot accept the way these co-options were corruptly

(Continued on page 15)

### Parish Council News

There have been yet more changes to the Parish Council. The new Parish Clerk has stood down and two councillors have resigned. There is an up to date list below.

There is no planning application information at the moment but hopefully normal service will be restored, shortly.

### Parish Clerk - TBA

Parish Council Email: [contact@alverdiscott-huntshaw-parish.org.uk](mailto:contact@alverdiscott-huntshaw-parish.org.uk)

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

Parish Council Website: <https://alverdiscott-huntshaw-parish.org.uk>

*Remember, The Local Rag is available on the PC website*

### Parish Councillor Names and Contact Numbers

Peter Ley	01271 858230
Donald Easterbrook	07971 278984
Eddie Staines	07831 262808
Bernard Hardwicke	01271 858676
Alan Saunders	01271 858522
Des Thorpe	01805 893105
Jean Huxtable	01271 624199
Colin Webber	01271 858419

### County and District Councillors

#### County Councillor

Linda Hellyer [linda.hellyer@devon.gov.uk](mailto:linda.hellyer@devon.gov.uk) 07828 758360

#### District Councillor

Rosemary Lock [councillor.lock@torridge.gov.uk](mailto:councillor.lock@torridge.gov.uk) 01805 804254

### \*\*\*\*Gardening Magazines\*\*\*\*

**Janet and Phil, in Alscott Gardens, have some magazines in need of a good home!**

**RHS Magazine, Gardeners World and Garden Answers.**

**If you can help them out call 01271 858802.**

Joyce and Peter are busy lambing as you can see from this picture.

These are Zwartbles, originally from Holland.

These four belong to Joseph, Joyce's grandson. They started with two but are now lambing 20. Cute or what???



### This Made Me Smile

A man, smelling of booze and cigarettes, sat down on a park bench next to a priest. His tie was stained, there was red lipstick on his collar and a half-empty bottle of gin was sticking out of his torn coat pocket. He opened his newspaper and began reading.

After a few minutes the man turned to the priest and asked, "Tell me Father, do you know what causes arthritis?"

The priest replied, "My son, it's caused by loose living, consorting with cheap wicked women, too much alcohol, contempt for your fellow man, sleeping around with prostitutes and lack of a regular bath."

The drunk muttered in response, "Well I'll be damned," then returned to his paper.

The priest, thinking about what he had said, nudged the man and apologised. "I'm really very sorry. I didn't mean to come on so strong. How long have you had arthritis?"

The man answered, "Oh I don't have it, Father. I was just reading here that the Pope suffers from it."

**And the Moral of the story is:** Make sure you understand the question before offering the answer...

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### Two Rivers Mission Community Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday (28<sup>th</sup> March): services in each church as normal.

Maundy Thursday (1<sup>st</sup> April): 10.30am in High Bickington and 7.30pm in Horwood.

Good Friday (2<sup>nd</sup> April): 10.30am in High Bickington, 11.00am in Huntsraw and 2.00pm in Tawstock.

Easter Day (4<sup>th</sup> April): services in each church as normal.

**More details can be found at**  
**[www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org](http://www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org)**

### Latest Covid -19 Update

The link below will take you to the "latest" CV19 update from Devon CC

[Members' COVID-19 Bulletin: 19 March 2021 \(govdelivery.com\)](https://govdelivery.com)



### HERE TO HELP WITH YOUR FOOD SUPPLIES!!!

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