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THE LOCAL RAG

ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSRAW

Welcome to the
March Edition
Volume 18 Issue 2
2021



Publication and Distribution

The **Alverdiscott and Huntsnay 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

The Local Rag extends a warm welcome to two new advertisers this month, see p4 for details.

The cold wet weather continues, I know it's winter, but really, when is it going to cheer-up.

We did the **RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch**, and all the birds promptly disappeared! I think they must know and just like to have a bit of fun by keeping a low profile for a couple of days. Having said that, our local sparrow hawk took-out one of the collared doves last week and settled down to eat her meal right in front of me. I was able to watch her for several minutes before she flew off.

I can also report that Elsie and I have both now had our CV19 shots and I

can also confirm that it really does **not** hurt. The vaccination roll-out is going very well, one of the things the government has definitely got right, let's hope it stays that way.

I know that everyone just wants to get back to normal at all costs. But I would hope we've learned that if we relax the strict rules too quickly all that will happen is that the virus gets the upper-hand again and we have to hit the brakes once more.

Spring flowers, like those on the cover, are coming up in our garden which is a wonderful sight. They may all be yellow but they are all completely different. Definitely my favourite time of the year. Here's hoping that the spring is warm and sunny and the unlock goes well...

Cont'd From Page 9

When children could freely wear National Health glasses, and teachers all stood at the FRONT of their classes.

Back in the days of rocking and reeling, when mobiles were things that you hung from the ceiling.

When woodwork and pottery got taught in schools,

and everyone dreamed of a win on the pools.

Back in the days when I was a lad, I can't help but smile for the fun that I had.

Hopscotch and roller skates; snowballs to lob.

Back in the days of tanners and bobs.

Anon.

Thanks to Philip Squire for this one.

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

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 & Enquiries

Alverdiscott	David Potter 01271 858534
Huntsnay	Suzy White 07711 787853 huntsnayparishhall@outlook.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

Coronavirus Test Line 119

Sandra Brown PCSO 30096@dc.police.uk

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

torrington@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Huntshaw Church Services

We hope to hold an Easter service in Huntshaw church on Sunday 28th March at 11.00am, followed by our Church AGM. If this is not possible, we plan to hold the service and AGM on Zoom. All are welcome.

Newton Tracey with Alverdiscott and Horwood

Depending on the contents of the Prime Minister's announcement on 22nd February, and local circumstances, we hope to resume services in Horwood church on 14th March and Newton Tracey on 21st March.

In the meantime, services continue in other Mission Community churches and on Zoom.

Please see www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org for up-to-date information.

Cont'd from page 7

What does a Festival Church at Huntshaw look like? Here are a few thoughts from the PCC:

- The church will be open for prayer and visitors every day.
- Visitors will encounter a welcoming atmosphere.
- At least six festivals including Christmas, Easter and Harvest will be celebrated each year.
- As well as traditional worship, festivals will include outside activities such as walks, visits and picnics.
- Baptisms, weddings and funerals will continue
- Partnership working with community and commercial interests will be promoted.
- The church will serve as a resource which is accessible and attractive with cultural, educational and social events taking place.
- The building will become environmentally sustainable, striving to meet the Church of England Environment Programme targets.
- The building will be economically sustainable, meeting the costs of mission and maintenance whilst maintaining healthy reserves.

For more information on Festival Churches follow these links:

<https://www.churchofengland.org>

<https://afchurches.org/>

Further discussion will take place at PCC AGM.

From the Rector Rev Gary Owen - 01769 560792

Last month I tried to dispel the myth that there is a conflict between Christianity and science. This month I thought I might try to tackle another myth – that there is a conflict between Christianity and business.

Some people seem to think that Jesus was some sort of proto-communist, perhaps based on his command to the rich young ruler to sell his possessions and give all he had to the poor. Jesus is equated with being “nice” and therefore opposed to business, which, it is supposed is hard nosed and cut-throat in pursuit of profit.

But if my history of cheesemaking (see last month) reminds us that monasteries were a seedbed for scientific discovery in the middle ages, then the Reformation reminds us that the world of business can be an arena in which God can be served and glorified. At the Reformation the church rediscovered the truth that “the earth is the Lord's and everything in it” (Psalm 24.1), that God could be served equally as well out in the world as behind the walls of the monastery, and that through the world of business the earth could be made fruitful, in obedience to God's command to Adam and Eve. Christian principles, such as honesty, integrity, fair dealing, obedience to the law and responsibility of actions create an environment in which business can flourish.

I suggest that business is inherently good. Creating a product that helps people, communities or the world to flourish, or providing a service which does so, is good. Providing a means of employment so people can provide for their families is good. Creating wealth which enables schools and hospitals to be built is good.

Many of the businesses with which we are familiar were founded by Christians to do just these things: Barclays, Cadbury's and Unilever to name just three.

However, sadly, business is subject to corruption (the Fall) as much as any other area of life. Greed and the love of power become the driving force behind our work, rather than earning a living, the service of our fellow humans and the glorification of God. It is then that business can become a tool for evil rather than good. Business must therefore be regulated to provide the necessary moral framework for its flourishing.

Our local businesses deserve our support and encouragement, as do businesses elsewhere. I know these are tough and uncertain times for some. I regularly pray for the businesses of our mission community. I'd invite you to join me.

Please see 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

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

**Things Found in a
Hedgerow
28 To Find**

CATERPILLARS	WILDROSE	INSECTS	ROBIN	MICE	OAK
BUTTERFLIES	DUNNOCKS	WEASEL	FINCH	YEW	ASH
BLACKBERRIES	THISTLES	HEDGE	HAZEL	BUG	OWL
WHITETHROAT	SPARROW	BIRCH	NESTS	HIPS	
BLACKBIRDS	RAGWORT	HOLLY	VOLE	BEE	

Last time the word was: Treatment

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 - **Be My...**

Word count 30 = Good. More than 35 = Very Well done!

N	T	A
E	E	V
I	N	L

Leisure

Su Doku Puzzle No. 172

Good Luck...

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

Solution to Su Doku No. 171

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

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

**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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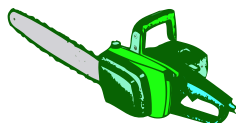
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County Council, and Police and Crime Commissioner

The government has said that elections will go ahead on Thursday 6th May for County Councillors and our Police and Crime Commissioner.

Instructions have been issued to make sure that the polling stations are as Covid secure as possible. This will be achieved in ways we have all got used to over the last year, such as social distancing, masks, screens, hand sanitiser etc., plus **you take your own pencil or pen.**

However, the government advice to those who are shielding is to apply for a postal vote. Torridge District Council - TDC - would like you to apply for your postal vote as soon as possible, to save the rush. This can be done by emailing TDC. **Anyone** can apply for a postal vote.

elections@torridge.gov.uk or telephone 01237 428700

Do You Have An Old Laptop?

I am collecting laptops, no more than 5 years old, to give to disadvantaged children and young people. If you have a device to donate, they can be dropped off at **Bideford Computers** Grenville Street, Bideford, or at **Holsworthy Computers**, on the Square. They get wiped, checked over and Microsoft Office installed.

In the meantime, I am always happy for residents to contact me about any **Devon County Council** matters. Linda.hellyer@devon.gov.uk

County Councillor Linda Hellyer - Bideford East Division
Telephone 07828 758360

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING FOR THE CHURCH OF ST MARY MAGDALENE HUNTSRAW

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Sunday 28 March 2021, 12 md at the church (or via Zoom if the lockdown has not been lifted)

The agenda has been posted on the church notice board and will include the election of representatives to the Deanery Synod and the Parochial Church Council. Becoming a festival church will also be on the agenda.

Audrey Alimo

Parish Council News

There have been some changes to the Parish Council. A new Parish Clerk has been appointed and new councillors have been elected. There is an up to date list below.

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

Parish Clerk - David Branston**07913 977106**Parish Council Email: contact@alverdiscott-huntshaw-parish.org.ukParish 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**

Tony Goldstone - Acting Chairman	01271 858437
Peter Ley	01271 858230
Donald Easterbrook	07971 278984
Eddie Staines	07831 262808
Helen Bolton	01271 858885
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 07828 758360**District Councillor**Rosemary Lock councillor.lock@torridge.gov.uk 01805 804254**FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH OF ST MARY MAGDALENE**

Around the 16th of each month our dedicated LR editor Dave reminds us that the deadline for submissions to the next edition is looming. In recent times this reminder has sent a mild quiver down my spine as I think "Oh no, what can I write about! In this awful era of lockdown/social distancing/bubbling/huddling/R's/variants - there is no news!!" Well, I am pleased to say that this month there is a little news from Huntshaw.

Firstly, the storm-damaged porch roof has now been replaced thanks to local builder Roly Pitts. Secondly, the Quinquennial Inspection has taken place and the results are awaited. This is a mandatory examination of the fabric of the building that must be done every five years. Our thanks to the Culture Recovery Fund for providing a grant to cover the costs of these two projects. Finally, our aim to become a festival church is going well and we hope to finalise plans soon.

Cont'd page 14

******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.

Huntshaw Parish Hall AGM

Our AGM is pencilled in for Thursday April 8th 7.30pm in the hall (Covid -19 restrictions permitting).

If restrictions do not allow for a public meeting then officers reports will be published on the Parish Council website and hall notice board as they were in 2020.

A public meeting will be held as soon as restrictions allow.

Any comments? Email: huntshawparishhall@outlook.com

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The Good Old Days...

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When Mothers had patience and
Fathers had jobs.

When football team families wore hand
me down shoes,

And T.V gave only two channels to
choose.

Back in the days of three penny bits,
when schools employed nurses to
search for your nits.

When snowballs were harmless; ice
slides were permitted

and all of your jumpers were warm and
hand knitted.

Back in the days of hot ginger beers,
when children remained so for more
than six years.

When children respected what older
folks said,

and pot was a thing you kept under
your bed.

Back in the days of Listen with Mother,
when neighbours were friendly and
talked to each other.

When cars were so rare you could
play in the street.

When Doctors made house calls and
Police walked the beat.

Back in the days of Milligan's Goons,
when butter was butter and songs all
had tunes.

It was dumplings for dinner and trifle
for tea,

and your annual break was a day by the
sea.

Back in the days of Dixon's Dock
Green,

Crackerjack pens and Lyons ice cream.

Cont'd on Page 15



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