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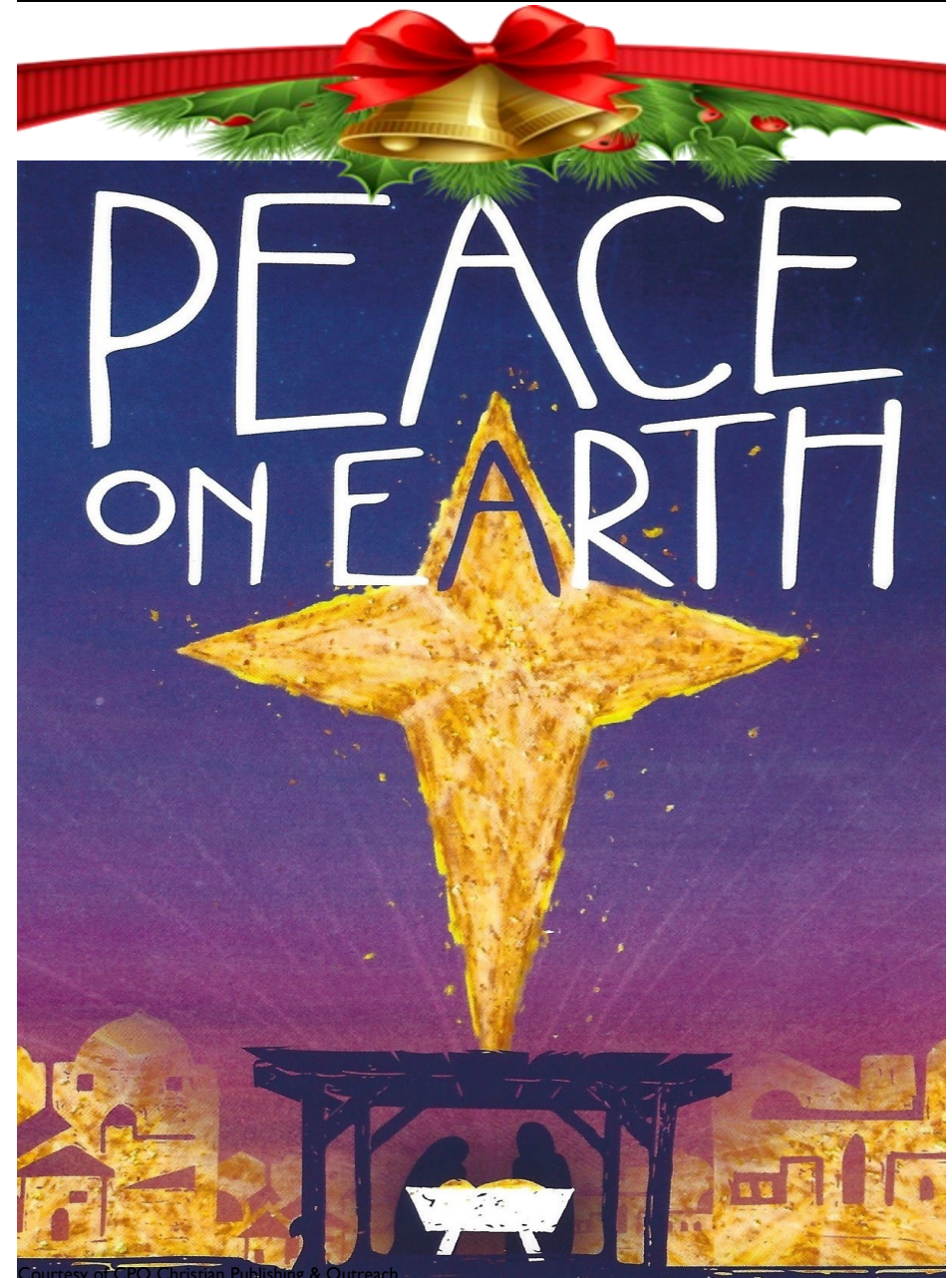
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# THE LOCAL RAG

ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSNAY

Welcome to the  
December Edition  
Volume 18 Issue 11  
2021



Courtesy of CPO Christian Publishing & Outreach

### Publication and Distribution

The **Alverdiscott and Huntshaw 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

Welcome to the December edition and a Happy Christmas to all our readers. We hope you have a good and safe time and can meet in safety with those you love.

We also extend a warm welcome to our latest advertisers, **Matt** and **Ant**, turn to p4 and p7 for full details.

Covid is still firmly with us, and this is particularly true in Devon, where we seem to have gone from one of the safest places in England to one of the least safe. How and why this has happened is not clear but it does highlight the danger we are all in, and the need to maintain our guard. We must all be vigilant and resist the urge to relax and go back to our old habits. With Christmas upon us there are more and more events and attractions in the local area. All

events advertised in the Rag will go ahead under the current Covid rules. This may lead to them having to be cancelled at short notice. It is to be hoped this will not be necessary but safety must be uppermost in our minds.

The piece last month, about hunting with dogs, generated quite a lot of conversation. If you turn to page 14 you will find the response from the Torrington Farmers Hunt, were they simply and calmly lay out their case.

Once again we wish you all a great Christmas and a Happy New Year. Remember there is no Rag in January so we will be back in February 2022. Take care and we hope to see you all again on the other side.

Elsie and David.



### ALVERDISCOTT COMMUNITY HALL

Hall bookings are now almost back to pre-covid levels, with regular meetings of various groups now taking place. However, we are still asking that numbers be restricted to 50 people in the Hall at one time and that hirers use the sanitising products provided.

The committee are starting to think about events for next year. We hope to return to our regular programme with a Quiz, two Big Breakfasts, a Flower Show and a Harvest Supper. However, we are always open to suggestions for new events.

In June next year there is an extra bank holiday, for the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee**. We would love to hear from you about an event that you would like to support. Offers of help to organise this special event will be very welcome. We currently have a committee of 10 people who do all the hard work. There is room for more pairs of hands! If you have any ideas for future events or would like to join our committee please contact our chair:

Liz White on [bulworthy@aol.com](mailto:bulworthy@aol.com) or 01271 858441.

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RSPCA	0300 1234999
Calor Gas	0345 7444999

### Medical

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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 Hall</b>	David Potter 01271 858534
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<b>Huntshaw Parish Hall</b>	Suzy White 07711 787853
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[huntshawparishhall@outlook.com](mailto:huntshawparishhall@outlook.com)

### 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:

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

For routine messages that **do not** require prompt action.



### Statement on behalf of the Torrington Farmers Hunt.

The **Torrington Farmers Hunt** operates within the confines of the Hunting Act 2004 at all times. We conduct lawful activities including trail hunting and hound exercise. The law is quite clear that using a pack of hounds to hunt and follow an artificial trail is a legal activity and that was confirmed by the judgment in the recent Mark Hankinson case where the court made it clear that “trail hunting is not illegal”.

The Hunting Act 2004 states that “A person commits an offence if he knowingly permits land which belongs to him to be entered or used in the course of the commission of an offence”. We are not aware of anyone ever having been convicted of this offence, and certainly no landowner has ever been convicted, or even tried, under this section in relation to the activities of a registered hunt.

Registered hunts, including the Torrington Farmers, have been very clear about their commitment to operate legally since the Hunting Act came into force in 2005 and there have been a tiny number of prosecutions of hunts over hundreds of thousands of days hunting. As a landowner, you give permission for the hunt to carry out legal activity and there can be no question of ‘knowingly permitting’ illegal hunting.

### Example Landowner Declaration.

I am writing to confirm that I have given permission for the Torrington Farmers Hunt to carry out legal activity on land at [ENTER DETAILS] on the understanding that it operates entirely within the confines of the Hunting Act 2004 and other relevant legislation. Any breach of the Hunting Act, or any other law, by the Torrington Farmers Hunt, its employees or supporters will result in the immediate revocation of permission to access and operate on the land.

# At the heart of Christmas



Last year, Christmas had a very different feel to normal. Some of us managed to get together, but many of us stayed in our little bubbles for fear of getting or passing on Covid. This year we hope for better, but are unsure... and even if we do get together will we be able to buy the turkey, presents or other trappings that we are used to having at the heart of Christmas? Will the supply chain hold up?

I love Christmas. Christmas morning is especially special – salmon for breakfast, a trip to church, opening presents and then a massive lunch... probably followed by a quick nap! We are often on our own as a family on the big day itself... my job doesn't make it easy to have people to stay and we can't get away ourselves. But we enjoy our time as a family and generally manage to see others in the week afterwards.

Trees and lights, good food and presents are all fitting accompaniments to such an important festival as Christmas. Afterall, we are celebrating the birth of God's son! It doesn't get much more important than that!

But the 'trappings' are of course not the heart of Christmas. St Augustine prayed, “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.” We all have a God shaped hole in our lives. Jesus is the one who knocks at the door of our hearts and offers to come in and make us whole. At the heart of Christmas is the Son of God entering our world to light it up with God's love, to bring us healing and hope, to give us life.

Please let me encourage you to invite Jesus into your heart, life and family this Christmas. We read in Revelation 3.20 that he stands at the door and knocks. If we open the door of our heart he promises to come in.

I wish you and yours a very happy Christmas. May you know the love, joy and peace of Jesus in your heart and home. God bless!

*Rev Gary Owen*

### Events at Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

**Coffee Mornings** are back again on the first Thursday of each month. December 2nd - 10 to 12pm will be for **The Children's Air Ambulance**. There will be no meeting in January, so the next one is on 3rd February 2022.

**The Craft Club** will meet on December 14 - 10am to 1pm.

**The Gardening Club** will be on December 6 - 2.30 to 4pm. The guest speaker will be **Peter Christie**.

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)

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### Leisure

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

**"Roast  
Dinner"  
Words**

There's 21 to  
find.



BROCCOLI	MUSHROOM	CARVERY	GAMMON	GRAVY	BEEF	MEAT
CRACKLING	VEGETABLE	CHICKEN	PARSNIP	ONION	LAMB	OVEN
DRUMSTICK	STUFFING	TURKEY	POTATO	SAUCE	MASH	PORK

### 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 - Glittering

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

G	P	R
I	A	L
K	S	N

## Leisure

## Su Doku Puzzle No. 181

Good Luck...

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



## Solution to Su Doku No. 180



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

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.

Please see [Two Rivers Mission Community](http://www.two-rivers-mission-community.org.uk/) for current information.

Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel  
Minister Rev Rob Blackhall - 01805 628041

We continue to live in difficult times.  
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.

## Services planned at Alverdiscott Chapel for Dec Jan and Feb

	5 December	11am	Frank Watson
	12 December	5pm	Rev Rob - Café Worship
	19 December	6pm	Elsie Potter - Carol Service
2022	2 January	11am	Julia Spencer
	9 January	5pm	Rev Rob - CW and HC
	16 January	11am	Roy Harris
	23 January	5pm	EXPLORE
	6 February	11am	Rev Rob - Holy Communion

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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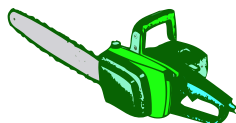
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**CAROL SERVICE AT HUNTSRAW CHURCH**

Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm

Hope to see you there.

**New year, new opportunity...**

At church we love to help people discover the difference that Jesus can make to their lives. We recognise that many people have questions about the Christian faith. Not everyone went to Sunday school and if they did it was a long time ago and they didn't pay much attention! Life doesn't always go to plan and we naturally ask **"where is God in the midst of all this?"** And then there's the intellectual questions: **"hasn't science disproved the existence of God?"**, and **"why follow a religion when it seems to cause so many wars?"**

In January we are offering two opportunities to check out the Christian faith and explore these big questions of life. We'd love you to join us:

**Alpha: Mondays at 9.30am in Beaford Church.**

Join us for an hour's introductory session on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January so you can see what it's all about and decide whether to join in future sessions. There'll be coffee and pastries, and a video taster of how **Alpha** works. No need to book, just turn up.

At the heart of life: Three sessions to ask your questions about God, life and everything and listen to the questions (and answers) of others. Tuesdays 11<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm in Nethergrove (High Bickington) and on Wednesdays 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am in Nethergrove (High Bickington).

**Contact Rev Gary to join in.**

**The Friends of All Saints Committee** - would like to thank everyone who has supported our events and the Supporters Club this year. Despite Covid restrictions and ongoing concerns about the safety of our community we have raised in excess of £4,000. We will be taking a break in January but will be starting to plan events for 2022. There is much work to be done on the church so we need to keep working to raise funds.

Winners of the November Supporters Club draw were:

1<sup>st</sup> Sarah Marchant £18.00

2<sup>nd</sup> Nigel Short £11.00

3<sup>rd</sup> Sarah Webber £7.00

**We wish everyone a healthy and happy Christmas and New Year and hope to see you at our events next year.**



**Parish Council News****Parish Council Meeting**

The next meeting will be in **Alverdiscott Community Hall** on Wednesday 12 January 2022 at 7.30pm.

The Parish Council is very pleased to announce that at the recent meeting, **Graham White of Bulworthy** was elected onto the Parish Council to represent Alverdiscott and **Yvonne Templeman of Woodtown** was elected as the new Parish Clerk. Welcome to you both. Please note, there are still 3 more seats for Alverdiscott and one for Huntshaw, if anyone is interested.

**Parish Councillor Names and Contact Numbers**

Yvonne Templeman Parish Clerk	TBA
Peter Ley	01271 858230
Donald Easterbrook	07971 278984
Eddie Staines	07831 262808
Bernard Hardwicke	01271 858676
Jean Huxtable	01271 624199
Graham White	01271 858441

E&amp;OE

Parish Clerk Email: [TBA](#)

Parish Council Facebook page: [@alverdiscotthuntshaw](#)

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

*The Local Rag is available to view on the PC website*

**County and District Councillors and Police & Crime Commissioner****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

**PCC for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly**

Alison Hernandez [alison@alisonhernandez.co.uk](mailto:alison@alisonhernandez.co.uk) 01392 459808

*SATURDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2021 AT 18:30*  
**CHRISTMAS PARTY HUNTSRAW PARISH HALL**



Come and join the Christmas fun with games, quizzes,  
music and lots more.

There will be a raffle with a beautiful chocolate house as the top prize!  
Heart warming food including vegan and vegetarian food options will be served.



Doors open at 6.30pm. £12 per adult, £6 per child.

Please email [huntshawparishhall@outlook.com](mailto:huntshawparishhall@outlook.com)  
to reserve your tickets.

**Alverdiscott Young Farmer's**

*Mulled Wine and Mince Pie*

*Christmas Quiz*

**10 December 2021 - 7.30pm Start**

Tawstock Village Hall

Teams up to 6 at £6 per person

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