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ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSWAW

Welcome to the
April Edition
Volume 19 Issue 3
2022

**"Five things I encourage people to do",
says Director of Public Health Devon**

Steve Brown, Director of Public Health Devon, said this week that with COVID restrictions now lifted, people may be uncertain about what they should be doing if they test positive for coronavirus. COVID case numbers in Devon are rising again, the latest data shows a 63.4% increase in cases in a 7 day period.

Steve has listed five things that he is encouraging people to do:

1. Stay at home if you can, if you have symptoms of coronavirus or any infectious illness, or have tested positive for COVID, and avoid seeing others until you're better ☐
2. Unless you are exempt, please continue to wear face coverings when in indoor public spaces with people you don't live with.
3. Still test, especially before visiting older or vulnerable people, or before going to your GP or to visit someone in hospital. If you test positive stay home for 5 days or until your symptoms have gone
4. Keep up with your vaccinations, because they're proven to help protect you and others from becoming ill
5. Wash your hands regularly

Covid Boosters

Spring boosters are being offered, from 21 March, to people at greatest risk of Covid infection, in the latest phase of the vaccine programme.

The groups eligible for the spring booster are: o People aged 75 and older
o Residents in care homes for older adults, and o People aged 12 and over who are immunosuppressed (have a weakened immune system). This includes people in different groups including those with underlying health conditions such as chronic leukaemia or lymphoma, and those who have had immunosuppressive treatment, following organ transplant, or radiotherapy or chemotherapy.

An additional dose of Pfizer or half dose of Moderna is being offered as a precaution to people in Devon who are at extreme high risk from Covid infection, many of whom had their first booster 6 months ago. This will help protect them if Covid rates are high over the summer months and reduce their chances of needing hospital treatment if they do catch the virus.

The best time to have the booster is around 6 months after the previous booster, although the minimum interval is 3 months.

People can have the booster either at a walk-in clinic or booked appointment. You can find your nearest walk-in clinic on NHS England's site finder. Appointments can be booked from 21st March via the National Booking System.

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

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

Greetings and welcome, to Spring. Yes it's true, Spring is on its way. I've seen my first bumble bee and my first peacock butterfly in the garden. What more proof do you need..? The stormy weather, with such high winds that did so much damage, seems to have passed - hopefully never to return. Days are getting longer and the sun even has some warmth. All I've got to do now is give the grass its first cut while I can still see over it!

Life is slowly edging back towards normal. Although the reports show that Covid cases are increasing again. We all need to continue to take care and exercise caution. The number of cases in our local area is as high as it's ever been. Having said that there are several events being planned in the Rag area. In Huntshaw there is

going to be a talk called 'The Art and Science of Bells and Bell Ringing' in aid of the Huntshaw Bell Restoration Fund - details on p11. The *Musical Lunches* are starting again at All Saints and there is a Friends *Spring Lunch* planned at Alverdiscott Hall on 15 May, see p14 for details of both.

We are also having a *Big Breakfast - remember them?* - at ACH on Sunday 1 May - details on p15.

The **Alverdiscott Community Hall AGM** will be held on Monday 9 May. This will be a "real" meeting, in the side hall at 7.30pm.

The information on the front cover is taken from the weekly updates received from **Devon County Council**.

Coming to a Hall near YOU... The Spring Big Breakfast

Alverdiscott Community Hall

On Sunday 1 May from 9am to 1pm

Start with a choice of Porridge, Cereal or Juice

Then the Full English or Pick and Mix Your Favourites

All Followed by Tea - Coffee - Toast

Adults £8 - Under 12's £5



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Water	0800 1691144
RSPCA	0300 1234999
Calor Gas	0345 7444999

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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

Alverdiscott Hall	David Potter 01271 858534
Huntshaw Parish Hall	Suzy White 07711 787853

huntshawparishhall@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: torridge@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk
For routine messages that **do not** require prompt action.

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH ALVERDISCOTT

Back for 2022

MUSICAL LUNCH AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH

FRIDAY 29TH APRIL

Light lunch available from 12.30pm, music from 1pm



DROP IN RELAX & ENJOY



FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH

SPRING LUNCH

SUNDAY 15TH MAY

AT ALVERDISCOTT COMMUNITY HALL

Roast with all the trimmings, choice of desserts & a glass of wine,

Tickets £15, - 10 yrs and under £7.50

Make your reservation with Joyce Ley 01271 858230

or louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com 01271 858522

Book early – places are limited.

Road Closure Notice - TTRO 2244156

The B3232 will be closed between Newton Cross and Windmill Cross on Tuesday 3 May and Wednesday 4 May 2022. The work involves access to BT joint boxes, and gully clearance.

A diversion will be in place but appears to involve a route via Bideford.

More information and detail is available from this link:

[Map \(wdm.co.uk\)](http://Map(wdm.co.uk))

From the Rector

This month we will be celebrating Easter. Of course, for some people Easter is just a long weekend and a chance to overindulge on chocolate. But for many people Easter is an important reminder that Jesus, God's son, died on a cross and rose again.

There is exceptionally good evidence that Jesus was a real person who lived and died in Israel some 2,000 years ago. There is also compelling evidence that Jesus rose from the dead. A recent survey showed that nearly half of all British people believe in Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

The challenge for Christians is to explain what difference it makes.

For me, it comes down to this:

Jesus died so that through faith in him I can be forgiven for all that is wrong in my life (and I know there is much) and so that I can become a child of God.

Jesus rose again and is alive now. This means that I can have an ongoing relationship with him; he is a very real presence in my life day by day.

Jesus ascended to heaven, from where he watches over me and where he is preparing a place for me.

Believing in Jesus' death and resurrection is a great place to start. But if it remains just an intellectual fact, it really doesn't get you very far. This belief needs to be acted upon... just like believing planes can fly is great but unless you get on one you won't get off the ground.

If you are one of those people who believe in Jesus; that he was born, died and rose from the dead, but have never really done very much about it, let me encourage you to have a go at praying. Take some time to talk to Jesus, trusting that he is alive and interested in you. You don't need to use any special language, not even a thee or thou! Be respectful, but just share with Jesus what's on your heart or mind... and then listen to see what he might have to say in return.

Happy Easter!

Rev Gary Owen

01769 560792 07947 358050

Events at Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

Coffee Mornings

Our next Coffee Morning, which is for the **RNLI**, is on Thursday 7 April from 10.00am until noon. Last month we raised £75 for **Talking Newspapers**. Please do come along and enjoy a coffee, or tea, and a good old chat. All are welcome, hope to see you there.

Gardening Club

From now on we shall be reverting to the last Monday of each month (except Bank Holidays) for our meetings at 2.30pm in the chapel schoolroom. Our next meetings will be on 25 April and 30 May. Everyone is welcome and the cost is just £1.00.

Arts and Crafts Club

Meetings are now in full swing. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at the chapel schoolroom from 10.00am until 1.00pm. Tea, Coffee and light refreshments are provided. All are welcome, so why not bring along your craft/hobby and enjoy a pleasant morning with friends. The cost is just £1.00. Next meeting will be on 12 April.

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

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Leisure

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

"Painting" Words

There are 18 to find.

BRUSH	DOODLE	IMAGE	PICTURE	TINT
CANVAS	DRAWING	MURAL	SCENE	WASH
DAUB	FRAME	PALETTE	SHADOW	
DIAGRAM	GLAZE	PAPER	SKETCH	

Last time the word was: Eiderdown

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 - Compliance

Word count 20 = Good. More than 28 = Well done!

D	E	C
B	E	O
N	I	E

Leisure

Su Doku Puzzle No. 184

Good Luck...

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

Solution to Su Doku No. 183

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

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



All Saints Church Alverdiscott

On Friday April 15th **Good Friday** there will be an All-age Worship Service in Church at 11.00am. We extend a very warm welcome to everyone, especially our friends from the Methodist Church.

Also, a date for your diary: **MAY 29th** we have a joint service at 11.00am to which everyone is invited.

Please see [Two Rivers Mission Community](#) 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 April and May

3 April	11am	Julia Spencer
10 April	5pm	Rev Rob - Café Service HC
15 April	11am	Rev Rob Good Friday Service
17 April	11am	Elsie Potter - Holy Communion
24 April	5pm	Elsie Potter - EXPLORE
1 May	11am	Paul Bate
15 May	11am	Margaret Price

Current Covid advice from the Methodist Church can be found here:

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

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



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**Huntsraw Bell Restoration Fund**

"The Art and Science of Bells and Bell Ringing."

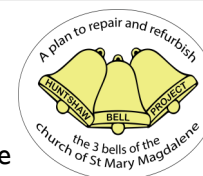
On Sat 14th May at 2.30pm - with Ian Campbell.

The church's top advisor on its bells in Devon, Ian will be bringing a laptop computer with speakers to demonstrate bell sounds and changes, and a large demonstration bell which is hung for full-circle ringing (about 8 feet high) to demonstrate the difference between bells hung "dead" and full circle. We will also have a set of handbells, with their volunteers, to give a demonstration which shows the principles of change ringing. There will also be large information boards and a DVD on a continuous loop from the Devon Guild of Ringers.

We plan to lay on teas & refreshments and also activities for the children, to make it a family afternoon, and all will be allowed to try ringing the large bell after the talk. Basically Ian says his talk is more like entertainment than a straight talk.... so something for us all to look forward to!

Entry will be free, but donations gratefully accepted.

Richard Sears

**Huntsraw Bell Restoration – A Big Thank-You to Staines Trailers.**

The tower in its present form was added to the church in 1439, with 3 bells sitting on a framework of oak trusses, these in turn resting on 3 horizontal oak foundation beams. Over the centuries, as rot set into these oak beams, newer ones were placed in-between them, closing the gap, meaning that nowadays there's no way to drop a bell down between the beams for repair. Part of the Faculty granted is to do some enabling works for **Taylor's Bell Founders** in the form of placing two steel beams below the bell chamber that will allow two of the 600 year old oak beams to be moved apart, creating a gap to drop the bells through and down to the font area below.

Last year we asked Eddie Staines if he could help and he has generously donated two metal 'I' beams – not only that, he sent them away and paid for them to be galvanised, saving the Bell Fund nearly £1000. So, thank you Eddie and thanks also to Arron Baker of Staines Trailers for checking our beam calcs and doing the drawings.

Richard Sears.



The Beams being delivered to the door in March.

Parish Council News**Parish Meeting & Annual Parish Council Meeting**

The **Parish Meeting** will be held at Huntshaw Parish Hall on
Wednesday 11th May 2022 at 7:00pm.

This will be followed immediately by the
Annual Parish Council Meeting at 7:30pm.

Parish Councillor Names and Contact Numbers

Donald Easterbrook	07971 278984
Bernard Hardwicke (Vice Chairman)	01271 858676
Jean Huxtable	01271 624199
Peter Ley	01271 858230
Graham White (Chairman)	01271 858441

E&OE

Parish Clerk email alverdiscotthuntshawparishclerk@outlook.com

Parish Council Facebook page: [@alverdiscotthuntshaw](https://www.facebook.com/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 07828 758360

District Councillor

Rosemary Lock councillor.lock@torridge.gov.uk 01805 804254

PCC for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

Alison Hernandez alison@alisonhernandez.co.uk 01392 459808

Huntshaw Parish Hall Events**Parochial Church Council AGM**

Sunday 15th May at 4:30pm at Huntshaw Parish Hall

To entice you a cream tea will be served.

The meeting will be preceded by a brief service in the church at 4pm

You would be most welcome at one or both of these events.

Big Jubilee Lunch at Huntshaw June 5th

Come and celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in Huntshaw on Sunday June 5th 12-4pm. 1950s themed food and (optional) fancy dress, a real street party vibe with music and games. £10 adult. £5 child under 15s.

Family ticket £25 (2 adults 2 children)

Tickets available until 28th May from Jenny Staines 01805 624490.

Grab a Shovel and Plant a Tree!

Make your mark in Huntshaw and do something that will last a lifetime. Join us and plant a tree! Trees are a natural way to help combat the climate crisis – but we need more of them! In honour of the Queen's Green Canopy to mark the Platinum Jubilee we want to plant 70 trees in Huntshaw over the next 12 months. **More information in the next edition of the LR** or if you can't wait that long then contact Audrey on audreyalimo@yahoo.co.uk or look at huntshawchurch.com

-----OOO-----

Huntshaw Parish Hall hire

The Hall is available to hire at £10 per hour.

Please contact huntshawparishhall@outlook.com for more info.

Suzy White

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FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH ALVERDISCOTT

March has been a quiet month for the Friends but our Supporters Club Draw went ahead as usual. The winners were:

1st Joyce Ley £18 - 2nd Pat Broughton £11 - 3rd Lorraine Miller £7

If you are interested in joining our Supporters club please contact Louise:
louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com or 01271 858522.

We are pleased to report that we have two events planned, a **Musical Lunch** on Friday 29th April and a **Spring Lunch** on Sunday 15th May. Please see the separate adverts, on p14, for details. Hopefully by May, the number of Covid cases will have reduced but we will still need to restrict numbers to be sure everyone feels comfortable.

The Friends will be serving refreshments at All Saints after the service on **Good Friday** 15th April and will be working with the Community Hall committee to organise the **Big Jubilee Lunch** at Alverdiscott Hall on 5th June.

"If Walls Could Talk" A short history of Alverdiscott, by A.C. Edgecombe.

This book has recently been reprinted and is on sale at £5.00 per copy, all proceeds will go to the church. It gives a lot of information about the history of our area and tells us that our church is the oldest surviving building in the Alverdiscott parish. Well worth a read. Copies are available from Liz and Graham bulworthy@aol.com or from the church.

The Freedom Centre Barnstaple

Many of you will have seen the large warehouse style building near McDonalds in Newport, Barnstaple with **"The Freedom Centre"** emblazoned across the side. Ever wondered what's inside? I popped in for a tour with Roger, the CEO, to find out.

The centre itself offers a drop-in service for those who are homeless or struggling to cope with life. There's hot food and a listening ear available. There are showers and a foodbank. There's also a team of support staff, including council officers and medical professions to help people get back on their feet, offering a joined up, holistic approach. The centre is also the hub from which an addiction recovery centre and supported housing is run.

The Freedom Centre is a Christian charity offering its services freely to all. Much of its income is generated from its activities, but it also welcomes donations, especially to buy those 'extras' that can't be gained from other funding sources. It welcomes volunteers from the community, and prayers from local churches.

Find out more at www.freedomcommunityalliance.org.uk/ and sign up for their email newsletter.

Rev Gary Owen