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## THE LOCAL RAG

ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSNAY

Welcome to the  
**March Edition**  
Volume 19 Issue 2  
2022



## Publication and Distribution

The **Alverdiscott and Huntsbay 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

There have been several deaths in the Local Rag area in the last couple of weeks. Sylvia Wheeler, Gerald Broughton and Nick Heddon have all passed away. These were local folks, well known and respected. They will be sadly missed by family and friends.

The spring flowers are doing their best to make a good show. Snowdrops, daffs and even some early blossom. But the high winds and heavy rain are hanging on and making life uncomfortable. We did the Big Garden Bird Watch this year. Gave it a miss last year. Nothing out of the ordinary sighted but the number of house sparrows was significantly higher than any other species. They seem to be making a comeback which is encouraging.

Did you know that changes to the Highway Code have now come into effect from Saturday 29 January???

One major change introduces a new hierarchy of road users which gives those who have potential to cause the most harm, such as drivers of larger vehicles, more responsibility to reduce the danger to others. Pedestrians, particularly children, older adults and disabled people, are identified as those most likely to be injured in the event of a collision.

Pedestrians sit at the top of the new hierarchy followed by cyclists, horse riders, motorcyclists, cars, vans and large passenger or heavy goods vehicles. This link takes you to a quiz. Good luck...

[QUIZ: How well do you know the NEW Highway Code? - vision-zero \(visionzerosouthwest.co.uk\)](http://www.visionzerosouthwest.co.uk)

## Remembering Gerald Broughton

When we moved to Devon and into Webbery Cross Cottage we were looking for an activity that we could do together. We came upon an article in the Local Rag about the *Alverdiscott Short Mat Bowls Club*, and decided to give it a try. That is where we first met Gerald, that was nearly twenty years ago.

Over the years we got to know him well. Gerald was very involved in the community. He had a spell on the Parish Council. He was involved in the running of the Community Hall and regaled us with tales of the pantomimes they used to put on. It was after attending a hall meeting that David suddenly found himself as secretary of the Hall Committee.

Together, Gerald and John Johnson ran the Flower Show which was and still is one of the main events in our community year. And of course, he and Pat also helped to distribute the Local Rag for many years.

So, we say thank you to Gerald for all his involvement in our local community.

We laid him to rest on 15 February, in the churchyard in which he also had a hand in keeping tidy.

*Elsie and David.*

## Emergencies

Police - Fire etc.	999
Electricity	0800 6783105
Gas	0800 111999
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 Hall</b>	David Potter 01271 858534
<b>Huntsbay Parish Hall</b>	Suzy White 07711 787853 <a href="mailto:huntsbayparishhall@outlook.com">huntsbayparishhall@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: [torridge@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:torridge@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)  
For routine messages that **do not** require prompt action.



## NEWTON TRACEY CRICKET CLUB NEWS

Well it won't be too long now till the summer.

The big success of last year was our youth programme which will continue in 2022.

Follow the links below to join our **"Allstars" and "Dynamos"** programmes:

<https://ecb.clubspark.uk/Dynamos/CourseBooking/6c84bd94-1ce8-45b0-b20f-eb567b56c3e2>

<https://ecb.clubspark.uk/AllStars/Course/2f7f653c-3f5e-46c7-98c0-ed596c9f1a68>

Please contact me for guidance if not sure which to book on, especially if the child's age, or experience might mean moving into a different category.

We aim also this year to put out teams in the **North Devon Colts League** once again, after a few years absence.

Our season starts the weekend after Easter with our first North Devon League games, and we have a full programme to fulfil, with our Devon League team moving up to G Division East which will involve some lengthy away trips to places such as Seaton and Kilmington, the last village before you hit Dorset!

Pre-season training we are just negotiating but we are having a new practice net facility built before the season that will be the envy of many clubs.

Graham Moore - 07760 197550

If there is anyone who would like to turn out for one of our teams, please make contact, we are always looking for new members.

## In Loving Memory of Gerald Broughton 12 January 1939 - 24 January 2022

I would like to thank all the brave souls who turned out on a wet and windy day to attend Gerald's funeral at the Church and in the hall afterwards. Thank you too for the donations for our two local charities.

A big thank you also to the lovely ladies who prepared the refreshments and most welcome hot drinks which I am sure everyone enjoyed.

Thank you all - Pat Broughton.

## From the Rector

**"There is a time for everything under the sun"** writes King Solomon in the book of Ecclesiastes. I'm just about old enough to remember when professional football was played in the winter and cricket in the summer. Yes, there was a time when a good all-round sportsman could play both. Not now, with cricket beginning in early April and the football season running on to the end of May! 'Seasons' help break up the day, week and year. They provide variety and interest to life; times of activity and times of rest. Wouldn't life be boring if each day, week and year were the same? Traditionally Jewish people keep a Sabbath and Christians 'the Lord's day' is a special day of worship and rest... one day to focus on God amidst the business of life; one day to recognise that we are human 'beings' and not human 'doings'!

The church has also traditionally kept certain times of year 'special'. There's nothing in the bible to say that we must, but the seasons of Christmas, Easter and Pentecost (Whitsun) invite us to celebrate the great events of Jesus' birth, death and resurrection, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Advent and Lent invite us to a time of abstinence and reflection so we are ready to share in Jesus' saving work and are ready to meet him when he returns to judge the living and the dead.

Lent this year begins on 2nd March; Ash Wednesday. In Church we will be reminded that **'thou art dust and to dust thou shalt return'** and be encouraged to repent and turn to Christ. This isn't something to be taken lightly! But sometimes in life it's good to deal with important things in a thoughtful and measured way. We'll then keep the season of Lent, forty days plus Sundays, until Easter as a time to seek God and align our lives with His. Fasting, or going without chocolate, may form part of this, but so might prayer, bible reading, attending a lent group, acts of kindness and charity.

The Bible Society is offering a daily email in Lent with a bible reading and prayers, and links to videos of the Holy Land, to help people explore the life of Jesus; what he did and said.

You can find out more at [www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/the-lent-encounter](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/the-lent-encounter)

## Ash Wednesday services:

Wednesday 2nd March, 9.15am in High Bickington

Wednesday 2nd March, 7.30pm in Tawstock

*Rev Gary Owen*

01769 560792 07947 358050

## Events at Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

### Coffee Mornings

Our next Coffee Morning is on Thursday 3 March from 10.00am until noon. Last month we raised £72 for the Prostate Cancer charity. In March all money raised will be for the **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 February 28th and March 28th. 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 March 8th.

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

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

**“Coat” Words**

**There’s 20 to find.**

ANORAK	BOLERO	DOMINO	MANTLE	SUIT
BARBOUR	CAGOULE	FLEECE	OVERALL	TAILS
BLAZER	CAPE	GILET	PARKA	TOPCOAT
BLOUSON	CAPOTE	JERKIN	SHAWL	TUXEDO

**Last time the word was: Jerusalem**

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 - Quilt

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

E	O	N
I	D	E
W	R	D

## Leisure

## Su Doku Puzzle No. 183

Good Luck...

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

## Solution to Su Doku No. 182

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

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



The church is now open between 9am and 4pm every  
Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

Drop in if you are passing and if you do please sign our  
Visitors Book. In time we hope to have some  
information on display about the Friends Group  
and the history of the church.

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 March and April

6 March	11am	Rev Sue Macbeth
20 March	11am	Rev Rob - Holy Communion
3 April	11am	Julia Spencer
17 April	11am	Elsie Potter - Holy Communion

Café Services and EXPLORE Services will resume in April.

Current Covid 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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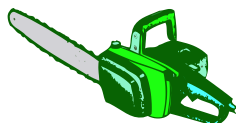
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**Huntshaw Bell Restoration Fund**

A Talk by Michael Jones - **\*\*UPDATE\*\***

The talk, entitled "**Huntshaw in Pre-Historic Times**", is planned for Saturday March 12th at Huntshaw Parish Hall. Michael says he intends describing what may have been going on in and around the area throughout 7,000 years of prehistory and into Roman times - **and it will of course include Berry Castle and the Bronze Age Barrows at Haycroft (Where Huntshaw's very own Bronze Age Dagger was dug up).**

Price on the door will be £5 - Tea and Coffee included. Starts at 7pm.

-----OOO-----

**"History of Bells and Bell Ringing Through the Ages."**

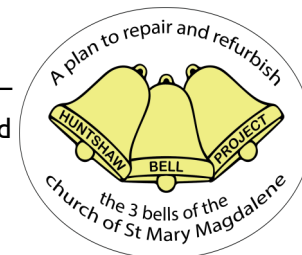
**On Sat 14th May - with Ian Campbell.**

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 – start time at about 2 or 2.30pm... to be confirmed later.

**Richard Sears**



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

**The next meeting will be at Alverdiscott Community Hall on Wednesday 9th March at 7.30pm.**

**Parish Councillor Names and Contact Numbers**

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 [alverdiscotthuntshawparishclerk@outlook.com](mailto: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](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

**Huntshaw Parish Hall Events****Huntshaw Parish Hall AGM**

Saturday 9th April 3pm - cream teas until 5pm

We have vacancies on our committee and would love to hear from anyone in the Parish who may be interested in joining us.

Contact [huntshawparishhall@outlook.com](mailto:huntshawparishhall@outlook.com)

**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.

**Platinum Planting**

At the Big Jubilee Lunch street party we will be asking members of the Parish to pledge to plant a tree this autumn/winter to celebrate. Pledges will be collected and we will arrange the trees for you. We will also be planting a tree to commemorate the day.

Contact [huntshawparishhall@outlook.com](mailto:huntshawparishhall@outlook.com) for more info.

**Huntshaw Parish Hall hire**

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

Please contact [huntshawparishhall@outlook.com](mailto:huntshawparishhall@outlook.com) for more info.

**Suzy White**

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### **FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH ALVERDISCOTT**

#### **Church Maintenance**

The church tower is in urgent need of repair, there are some cracks forming and we are also seeing some small pieces of falling masonry on a regular basis. The total cost of repair will be in the region of £45,000. We have applied for a grant towards the cost of repointing and replacing stonework, and we also have some existing trust funds plus money raised by the Friends over the past three years. There is no guarantee our grant application will be successful but without the repairs being undertaken the church could very quickly fall into a state of dangerous disrepair.

We have a number of supporters who currently donate on a monthly basis towards the Friends funds; this can in most cases be eligible for Gift Aid. If you wish to see the church building remain in a good state of repair, and feel that you could contribute in this way, please contact the Friends at the numbers below. Alternatively any one off donations, however small, towards the cost of the works would be very gratefully received.

Graham White – Chairman bulworthy@aol.com 01271 858441

Louise Saunders – Treasurer lousesaunders4bp@gmail.com 01271 858522

#### **Fundraising Events**

A big thank you to everyone who has supported our Take Aways. Numbers at the last one were significantly lower than previously so we have decided not to run any more for a while. People seem to feel happier about mixing now so we are hoping to hold a Spring Lunch at the Hall in April or May. Full details will be in the next edition.

#### **The winners of our Supporters Club Draw for February were:**

1st. John Ridd £18

2nd. Pat Broughton £11

3rd. Jeanette and Paul Matthews £7

***If you are interested in joining our Supporters club please contact Louise at the above phone number.***

#### **Ocean View Country Music Club**

At Alverdiscott Community Hall EX39 4PZ - Live Music Every Tuesday 7.30 to 10.30pm

Entrance - Members £6 - Non Members £7

No Bar so BYO - Tea and Coffee Available in the Interval

All Welcome - Sorry No Line Dancing

For More Information Contact Keith on 01237 441529