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**THE LOCAL RAG**

ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSRAW

Welcome to the  
November Edition  
Volume 20 Issue 10  
2023



**Lest We Forget**

### 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

It's no good you trying to ignore it.

The Christmassy feeling is getting stronger.

There are 3 adverts in this edition.

There's a Christmas Lunch, a Christmas Party and a Festive Quiz to watch out for. Full details inside.

And of course there are now only **64** sleeps to Christmas! It's getting closer by the day...

I'm pleased to announce that - **The Bells Have Come Home** - to St. Mary Magdalene in Huntshaw. After many months of restoration work they have been successfully and safely re-hung. Details and pix on p14/15.

And, if you receive your copy of the Rag in time, remember there is a short service of thanksgiving on

Friday 27 October, at 12.30pm, at **All Saints in Alverdiscott** to celebrate the successful completion of the repairs to the tower.

### Memorial Garden

The paved area at Alverdiscott Hall has been completed, and we have taken delivery of our smart new bench, which will be installed shortly.

And although we haven't had any **one** person volunteering to take over the editorship of the Local Rag, we have had a suggestion that it could be taken on by **a team of editors**, each taking turns to produce an issue or two. Would **YOU** consider becoming part of that team? To find out more details, please get in touch.

The clock is still ticking...

**The 500 year old Tenor Bell being hoisted into position.**



### Emergencies

Police - Fire etc.	999
Electricity	0800 678 3105
Gas	0800 111 999
Water	0344 346 2020
RSPCA	0300 123 4999
Calor Gas	0345 744 4999

### 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

### Local Hall Bookings & Enquiries

**Alverdiscott Hall** David Potter  
01271 858534

**Huntshaw Parish Hall** Jenny Staines  
01805 624490

[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 DC 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.

### Huntsraw's Bells Have Really Come Home

All 3 bells are safely back in their tower. The work took 5 days. The heaviest was the Tenor bell weighing in at over half a ton... and took a lot of effort to haul up the tower on the continuous chain hoist. Many thanks to all those that helped on the rota to assist the bell hanger, and also to Staines Trailers for the use of their telehandler to take the bells off the delivery lorry.

The bells are currently set to chime the hour from 8am to 8pm, but there is also the facility to chime the quarters with the two smaller bell which sounds quite nice, but people living nearby will have to choose if they want that.

The first official full pealing of bells will happen when the Bishop of Crediton comes for the Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 19th November at 2pm, to which all are invited.

Thereafter they can be used for church services, weddings, funerals and even at the Village Fete!

**The Treble Bell** in situ, showing the clapper hanging inside and the electronic hammer mounted on the outside.

**Richard Sears  
October 2023.**



### A message from the Rector

The nights are drawing in and in the Owen house the season for drawing the curtains and settling down to watch a movie is upon us. The other night we watched the remake of **Whisky Galore**, the tale of a small Scottish Island during the Second World War. Disaster strikes when the island 'runs dry'- there is not a drop of whisky to be found anywhere.

Then, one foggy night, a ship laden with the spirit runs aground on the rocks off the island. The islanders are preparing to 'liberate' a few cases for themselves but are brought to a halt when the fiery parson reminds them that it is the sabbath. The 'liberation' effort must wait until the clock strikes midnight. Yet on Monday the parson is quite happy for the islanders to be about their business... and to share in their efforts, recognising the "provision" of the Lord!

The film is full of warmth and humour. Members of the small community accept each other, foibles and all – and there are many foibles to make the viewer smile! They worked together, played together and faced their challenges together.

Whilst not wishing to be legalistic about keeping one day holy to the Lord, I do think we were better off as a society when one day in seven we rested from our labours and spent time with God, with family and with community. As humans we are not designed to be on the go 24/7.

But the thing that really struck me in the film was the simple faith of some of the characters; the young woman kneeling by her bed asking God to give her fiancé the courage to stand up to his overbearing mother and go through with their marriage. Might we sometimes overcomplicate life? Might we sometimes need to just share our thoughts and prayers with God, trusting that he loves us and cares for us?

*Rev Gary Owen*

01769 560792 07947 358050

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

### Events at Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

#### Coffee Morning

The October coffee morning raised £130 for the North Devon Hospice, thank you to all who attended.. **On Thursday 2 November we shall be raising money for the Devon Air Ambulance.** The final coffee morning for this year will be on Thursday 7 December and will be for the Harbour Community Bideford. Please do come along - between 10am and noon - to support our worthwhile causes.

#### Garden Club

Garden Club meetings are normally on the last Monday of each month (except Bank Holidays when it will usually be the Monday before) at 2.30pm in the Chapel schoolroom. However, our next visit will be on **Monday 6th November and** we shall be at John Turner's garden at Horwood. Everyone is welcome and the cost is just £1.00.

#### Arts and Craft Group

**Due to declining numbers the Arts and Crafts group is now closed. Thank you to all who have supported it in the past.**

### Got Any Good News???

From The Editor

As we go about our daily business, we cannot help but be aware of the news and events going on around our world. Particularly as it all appears to be bad news. We are being bombarded on every side with the news about the wars in Ukraine and Israel. So many people being killed and injured. So many lives and homes destroyed. People being left homeless, hungry and without sanitation.

I am wondering if you have any GOOD news to share? Maybe a significant birthday, a new baby, a wedding. If you have, and I'm sure someone must have, then let us know so that we can share it with others.

I'll start you off - the Garden Club is going great guns, (thanks mostly to Philip) we have visited several wonderful gardens in our local area over the last few months, and greatly enjoyed our hosts hospitality.

**Take care  
Elsie**

### Leisure

### A Few More Medical Mishaps...

The patients past medical history has been remarkably insignificant with only a forty pound weight gain in the past three days.

Skin: Somewhat pale but present.

The pelvic examination will be done later, on the floor.

By the time he was admitted, his rapid heart had stopped, and he was feeling better.

The patient was seen in consultation by Dr. Blank, who felt we should sit on the abdomen, and I agree.

Patient was released to Outpatient department without dressing.

I have suggested that he loosen his pants before standing, and then when he stands with the help of his wife they should fall to the floor.

The patient was in his usual state of good health until his airplane ran out of gas and crashed.

Coming from Detroit, this man has no children.

### Last time the word was: SUNFLOWER

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 - Inglenook

A	C	L
E	E	I
F	R	P

Word count 32 = Good. More than 36 = Well done!

Leisure

Su Doku Puzzle No. 202

Good Luck...

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

Solution to Su Doku No. 201

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

Anglican Community - Team Rector Rev Gary Owen

01769 560792

07947 358050



Huntsaw Church Services

Sunday 12th November: **Remembrance Sunday** service at 10.55am

Sunday 19th November:

**Dedication of the bells with the Bishop of Crediton** at 2.00pm followed by refreshments in the village hall. All are welcome!

Sunday 10th December: **Carol service** at 11.00am

You can find out more at -

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

Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

Minister Rev Rob Blackhall 01805 628041

Services planned for Alverdiscott Chapel in November

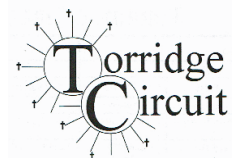
05 November 11.00am Rev R. Blackhall - Holy Communion

19 November 11.00am Elsie Potter

Information about the Methodist Church can be found here:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/>

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



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**FESTIVE QUIZ**

**FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup>  
DECEMBER**

**Alverdiscott Community Hall**

**7pm for 7.30pm**

**Teams of up to 6 people - £5 per head**

**Includes festive refreshments -**

**with licensed bar**

**Book your place with Liz White**

**01271 858441 or [bulworthy@aol.com](mailto:bulworthy@aol.com)**

**Raising funds for All Saints**

**Church & Alverdiscott**

**Community Hall**



## Parish Council News

## Notice of Parish Council Meetings

Two vacancies have arisen on the parish council, one to represent Alverdiscott, and the other for Huntshaw. Council meetings will now take place **every other month on the third Thursday**, alternating between the two village halls.

**The next meeting will be on Thursday 16th November at 7.30pm in Huntshaw Parish Hall.**

We would welcome those interested in becoming a councillor, and invite you to come along and give a **(very!)** short presentation about yourself.

Graham White - Chairman.

## Parish Councillor Names and Contact Numbers

Graham White - Chairman	01271 858441
Liz Meaney - Vice Chairman	01805 624990
Bernard Hardwicke	01271 858676
Helen Bolton	01271 858885
Caroline Lewis	07890 764234
Gill Ross	01271 858392
James White	01271 858580
Paul Matthews	01271 858652
Alan Matthewman - Parish Clerk	01769 560740

E&amp;OE

Parish Clerk email [alvhuntpc@gmail.com](mailto:alvhuntpc@gmail.com) **Please note new address**

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 &amp; Crime Commissioner

## County Councillor

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

## District Councillors

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

Thomas Elliott [councillor.elliott@torridge.gov.uk](mailto:councillor.elliott@torridge.gov.uk)

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

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

## FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH

## EARLY CHRISTMAS LUNCH

26th November 2023 - Alverdiscott Community Hall  
12.30pm for 1pm

Tickets £20 - 2 course meal with a glass of wine

Book your place with Louise Saunders 01271 858522

[louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com](mailto:louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com)



## Alverdiscott Parish Church

**There will be a United Service at Alverdiscott Church on Sunday  
October 29th at 11.00 am.**

**A very warm welcome is extended to everyone.**

**Following the service we will not be serving Coffee  
as our team will be at the Village Hall serving the Big Breakfast.**

**Do hope you will be able to join us there.**

**Barbara Ford**

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### **Advertising in your Local Rag is easy and produces great results.**

210 Local Rags are distributed every month, some even find their way out of the local area. The Rag is also available to view on the Parish Council website, all for a very reasonable annual fee.

Small-ad's and items for sale are usually included free of charge.

Call or email for full details.



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### **Friends of All Saints Church Supporters Club – October Draw Prize Winners**

1st	Wendy Rickard	£25
2nd	Cath Hedden	£15
3rd	Lorraine Miller	£10

If you are not a member but would like to join please contact Louise Saunders on 01271 858522 or, [louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com](mailto:louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com). The cost of a year's membership is £12. As a member you will be helping us to keep our church in good order and stand the chance of winning a monthly prize. All Members also receive the monthly Newsletter.

## **SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

### **Christmas Party Huntsraw Parish Hall**



**Come and join the**

**Christmas fun with games, quizzes, music**

**A glass of mulled wine on arrival**

**Festive finger fare**

**Mince pies**

**Bring your own drinks**

**!!Christmas jumpers essential!!**

Doors open at 12.30 pm. £8 per adult, £3 per child.

To reserve your tickets: Email [huntsrawparishhall@outlook.com](mailto:huntsrawparishhall@outlook.com)  
or call Audrey on 0795202 8013

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

On **Friday 27th October** we will be celebrating the completion  
of the repairs to the tower.

There will be a short service of thanksgiving at 12.30pm, followed by some

Music and a **“Soup and Sandwich Lunch”**.