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**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 April Local Rag.

There seems to be lots going on in this issue. Spring must be just around the corner, there are a couple of AGM's and the well loved Musical Lunches are coming back. There's also a couple of Big Breakfast's scheduled - my personal favourite.

In addition there's an invite to a very, very special birthday. Details are on p15.

And looking ahead to May we have a **Spring Lunch** planned.

You'll all be overjoyed to know that the Witty One-liner page has made a come back. And there is also a poem on p14 which will hopefully make you smile and maybe yearn for the old days... Maybe we should have a Poetry Corner as a regular

feature? I know there are some very talented folks out there.

In spite of the seemingly endless rain, and cold weather, spring really must be on its way. There is a lot of birdy activity in and around the garden.

Apart from the usual suspects, like various tits, robins and blackbirds we have pied wagtails and bullfinches. We've also had a tawny owl perching in the tree behind the garage. He wasn't on his own there were at least 2 others nearby all calling for a mate. Sadly I didn't hear any females responding...

And don't forget we have the **Police and Crime Commissioner Elections** coming up on Thursday 2nd May. You will need some sort of photo ID to be able to vote.

A Passport or driving licence will do.

## AN INVITATION TO STUART FULLER'S 90th BIRTHDAY on 20th April 2024 between 10.00 – 12.00 or 2.00 – 4.00

**On Saturday 20th April, Stuart will be 90.** Please come along to Hillcrest, in Horwood EX39 4PB to help Stuart celebrate his 90th birthday by calling in for cakes, tea/coffee/cold drinks.

No presents please, but if you would give something in lieu of presents, Stuart suggests that money donations are given to **Devon Air Ambulance**.

Everyone is welcome and you can just turn up.

**Carol & Paul Booth, Janice & Stuart Fuller**

No need to RSVP, but if you have any questions, please contact Paul Booth on 07949 917809.

**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**

<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

**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

Torrige 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.

## Yesteryear

The milkman delivered the bottles  
The coal man kept us warm  
Queuing to make a phone call  
Was once considered the norm

Dad would be down the pub  
On the day he got his wages  
We'd never heard of google  
We simply had the yellow pages

We all had hand me down clothes  
We also had our Sunday best  
When Elvis shook his hips  
Not everyone was impressed

We took back the empty bottles  
For pieces of silver and gold  
We went to market and jumble sales  
For the bargains being sold

Passed love letters in the classroom  
Played marbles on a drain  
If mum didn't have our pocket money  
We wouldn't dare complain

We took pride in where we lived  
Those streets on which we grew  
Some may say its better now  
I'm not so sure that's true

We were told smoking was good for us  
So we thought we'd give it a try  
We coughed and choked and spluttered  
And we never questioned why

We kids had a sip of babycham  
Or sneaked a drop of dad's beer  
Looking back it seems so innocent  
Those glorious days of yesteryear.

### Danny Fenn the Boleyn poet.

We collected matchboxes and stamps  
Played penny up the wall  
Could play outside for hours  
If someone had a ball

**Danny** originally wrote short verse about football from a fan's point of view, and then began to branch out more. The more he scribbled down, the more words seemed to just fall from his pen onto the paper.

Wages still came in a packet  
Seemingly bursting at the seams  
A holiday in foreign lands  
Was simply the stuff of dreams

*Taken from: WriteOn interviews:  
16 October 2022. Asst.Ed.*

## From the Rector

Not long before his crucifixion, a group of people approached one of Jesus' disciples and asked if they might 'see' Jesus. Jesus took the opportunity to teach about his impending death on the cross, when he would be 'lifted up' and 'glorified'. You can read the story in the bible, in John 12. 20-33.

Crucifixion was designed by the Romans to be the ultimate in suffering and shame. And yet, it is as Jesus is lifted up on a cross, that Jesus can be seen for who he truly is... the divine Son of God who loved us humans to the end, dying a death we deserve that we might receive the life he gives. It is as Jesus is lifted up on the cross that he is glorified... an instrument of torture becoming a throne of love. If we want to 'see' Jesus for who he truly is, then we need to look up to the cross.

Wonderful though the cross was, if that had been the end of Jesus, then what a sorry tale it would have been. But it was not. Three days later Jesus rose from the dead. Forty days after that, he ascended to another throne; this one in heaven at the right hand of God the Father.

The conviction of those who have chosen to follow Jesus and be known as his, is that Jesus is alive today. He stands at the door of each and every life, and when we open the door of our lives, he comes in. We need never be alone again.

I still occasionally meet people who aren't sure if they would be welcome to a church service. And just occasionally I meet people who aren't sure, if they came, what they should wear, or what they would need to do. I'd like to assure everyone that they are welcome in any of our churches. There are no rules about what you have to wear. You don't even need to 'do' anything; you're welcome to just sit in the back pew and watch (as long as there's not someone there already – back pews are very popular!). If you want to 'see' Jesus, then come. If you've never met him, we'd love to introduce you. And if you haven't spoken to him in a while, we'd love to help you get reacquainted.

*Rev Gary Owen*

01769 560792 07947 358050

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

**Events at Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel**

**Coffee Morning**

The Coffee Morning in March was for North Devon Talking Newspapers and we raised £125, so well done to everyone. The next one is on **Thursday 4 April and is for Water-Aid**. Please do come along - between 10am and noon - to support this worthwhile cause.

**Garden Club**

The 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. The next one is on 25 March when there will be a talk by **Alison and Stuart Mair on the subject of Bee-keeping**. Everyone is welcome and the cost is just £1.00.

For the latest information contact Philip Squire on 01237 473692.

**'Huntshaw Parish Hall AGM is on Friday 12th April at 7.00pm in the Hall. All welcome'**

**FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS ALVERDISCOTT**

**We will be holding our AGM on Tuesday 30th April at 7.30pm in the church.** Please join us to hear our reports on the last twelve months and share with ideas for the future. We have lost a couple of committee members over the last few years. If you are interested in joining us, please come along and speak to one of the existing committee.

**Leisure**

**And now, back by popular demand...  
A few more witty one liners**

- If nothing ever sticks to TEFLON, how do they make it stick to the pan?
- Why do you need a driver's licence to buy alcohol when you can't drink & drive?
- Why do we drive on parkways yet park on driveways?
- Why is it that when you transport something by car it's called a shipment, but when you transport something by ship it's called cargo?
- If you're in a vehicle travelling at the speed of light, what happens when you turn on the headlights?
- If you tied a slice of buttered toast to the back of a cat and dropped it from a height, what would happen? *Please don't be tempted to try this!*
- Why isn't **phonetic** spelled the way it sounds?
- And finally, how did the fool and his money get together, in the first place?
- More next month, bet you can't wait...

**Last time the word was: CASSEROLE**

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 - It's a puzzle...

S	W	C
R	O	D
O	S	R

Word count 15 = Good. More than 20 = Well done!

Leisure

Su Doku Puzzle No. 206

Good Luck...

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

Solution to Su Doku No. 205

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

Anglican Community - Team Rector Rev Gary Owen

01769 560792

07947 358050



Huntsraw Church News

On Friday 1st March we celebrated St David's day, with 29 people from across the Two Rivers Mission Community gathering for a short service followed by bara brith and Welsh cakes. The daffodils were left in church for Sunday 10th March as we celebrated Mothering Sunday, with sixteen adults and one child in attendance. Sue Turner, our trainee lay reader shared a short sermon reflecting on the love of mothers for their children and how this points us to God's love for us.

**Friday 29th March: Good Friday all-age worship, 11.00am**

A simple service to reflect on Jesus' crucifixion and its significance for us. Followed by coffee and hot cross buns.

**Sunday 31st March: Easter Day communion, 11.00am**

A simple communion service with rousing Easter hymns to celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

**Sunday 14th April, 11.00am**

Morning worship followed by our church AGM.

Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

Minister Rev Rob Blackhall 01805 628041

Services planned for

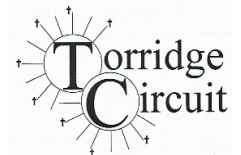
Alverdiscott Chapel in March - April - May

29 March 11.00am Rev Rob Blackhall - **Good Friday**  
Followed by tea or coffee and hot cross buns.

**31 March 11.00am At Parish Church**  
07 April 11.00am Elsie Potter  
21 April 11.00am Julia Spencer  
05 May 11.00am Stephen Hill - HC  
19 May 11.00am David Ley

Information about the Methodist Church can be found here:

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





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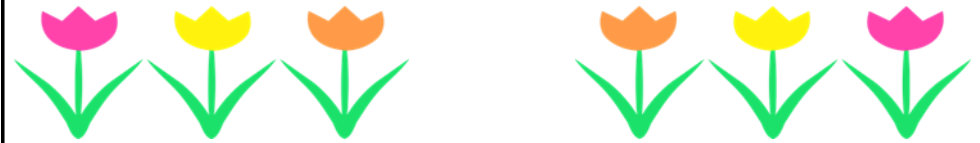
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**Janice & Stuart Fuller**

**Wish to thank all those who sent them Greetings on the occasion of their 65th Wedding Anniversary.**



**FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
SPRING LUNCH  
SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> MAY  
12.30pm for 1pm**

**AT ALVERDISCOTT COMMUNITY HALL**

Three course meal & a glass of wine,

Tickets £20 - 10 yrs and under £10

Make your reservation with Louise Saunders

[louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com](mailto:louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com) or 01271 858522

Book early - places are limited.

oo

**FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
MUSICAL LUNCH AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
FRIDAYS 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL & 31<sup>st</sup> MAY**

Light lunch available from 12.30pm, music from 1pm



**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 May in Alverdiscott Community Hall at 7.30pm.**

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 - Chair.

**Parish Councillor Names and Contact Numbers**

Graham White - Chair	01271 858441
Liz Meaney - Vice Chair	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 & 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) 01805 804473

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

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

**ALVERDISCOTT COMMUNITY HALL****FRIDAY 12TH APRIL**

7pm for 7:30pm.



**Teams of up to 6  
people**

**£5 per head,**

**Includes refreshments.**

**Licensed bar.**

**Book your place with Liz White on  
01271 858441 or email [bulworthy@aol.com](mailto:bulworthy@aol.com)**

**Huntshaw Village Breakfast**

**Sunday 21st April**

**Call 01805 624490 to book**

**9am – 11am in the Hall**

**£7pp**



