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## THE LOCAL RAG

ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSRAW

Welcome to the  
**August Edition**  
Volume 21 Issue 7  
2024



Picture courtesy of Alamy

### Publication and Distribution

The **Alverdiscott and Huntsraw 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

We've had quite some avian activity in the garden, over the last couple of weeks. Our local barn owl has been hunting over the field outside our window and has had some success catching mice and voles. Then one evening we had a visit from a tawny owl who landed on the bird bath for a drink and a quick paddle. We've also had house martins mobbing a kestrel who was hovering over the field, also hunting for voles. *Who'd be a vole???*

Then there are the nuthatches, 2 of them, devouring the fat balls along with a great spotted woodpecker, and all the usual smaller birds.

There is also a squirrel who has been having more than his fair share. I need some way of putting him off, any ideas...

The ongoing road works at Newton Tracey have certainly had a big impact on the local traffic flow. The Lovacott - Horwood road has been very busy, as has the Alverdiscott to Bideford lane. Already busy with the Solar Farm heavy lorries we now have cars and vans speeding through Stony Cross and passed our gate at Webbery Cross. I can't believe there hasn't been an accident yet...

It's really much more by luck than judgement. Some people just don't know how to drive along narrow lanes and too many of them are also reluctant or unable to reverse!

There is some information on p11 about a **replacement taxi service** that has been put in place by **Devon County Council**, in an attempt to ease the problems caused.

### Do You Like Books?

**Do you like good company, food or a nice glass of wine?**

**Then perhaps *Huntsraw Book Club* is for you!**

We are looking for 3 or 4 people to join us in starting a book club. Taking turns in choosing a book, we shall meet every month at a pub, a members home or cafe to discuss the book and have a social.

Sounds perfect to me! If you are interested please contact me by email

[jgcorlett@aol.com](mailto:jgcorlett@aol.com)

**Jo Corlett**

### 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

**Huntsraw Parish Hall** Jenny Staines  
01805 624490

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



**THE LOCAL RAG**  
ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSHAW

Special Christmas Edition  
Volume 1 Issue 1  
December 2004

**Editorial**  
It comes to you from the new editorial desk at Wabbery Cross. Elsie Potter is your new editor and David Potter is the Assistant Editor.

We have lived in the area for about eighteen months and are now becoming accustomed to rural life after a lifetime of living on top of Heathrow Airport.

We have been without a newsletter in the area for nigh on a twelve month so we hope that you will enjoy reading this edition which is a "Special for Christmas." I shall be understanding the editorship in the first instance for one year. My thanks go to George Cudde who has helped me get started.

There are no pictures of David in the Galapagos Islands as he was too busy photographing the wildlife, so I had to resort to one of the few pictures that we have of him.

**From The Assistant Editor**  
Hello, my name is David and I appear to be the newly appointed Assistant Editor. I don't remember volunteering for this position but there you go... Not sure what the role involves but I'm certain all will become clear.

The picture of Elsie was taken while on our adventures in the Galapagos Islands. This was back in 1997 and had been on my wish list for some time. For anyone interested in her (Continued on page 2)

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**Special points of interest:**

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- ▲ Chocolate Orange Trifle
- ▲ Turkey Parcels
- ▲ Puzzles
- ▲ Pictures for you to colour
- ▲ Put pen to paper
- ▲ Short Mat Bowls
- ▲ Memory drift
- ▲ Competition
- ▲ News from around the Parish
- ▲ Parish Council News
- ▲ Mobile Phones

**Elise on a trip to the Galapagos Islands**

**Blue Footed Boobies... and yes they really do have blue feet!**

**David on holiday in Inverness, Scotland**

## A BLAST FROM THE PAST

As you probably know by now, I am researching the history of Huntshaw village hall which has a big birthday this year. **The magic 100 years!** During the course of my research I came across an old edition of the Local Rag and it happens to be the first edition that David and Elsie edited. So in December of this year David and Elsie will have been editing the mighty tome for 20 years!!! Haven't they done a wonderful job.

The front page says it all. Elsie looking great, blue footed boobies and David with a magnificent head of hair!

**PS. the Huntshaw village hall 100th birthday party is next year. Keep your memories and photos coming. [audreyalimo@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:audreyalimo@yahoo.co.uk)**

**+++GRASS KEEP WANTED+++**

**5 to 20 acres from now until October**

**Tony Newcombe - Huntshaw - 07785 297210**



**North Devon Atlantic Classic Motor Cycle Club**  
**25th Anniversary at Sloy Park - Berrynarbor**  
**North Devon EX34 9SZ**

First race 10.30am. Spectators £10 - Under 16's FREE - Over 60's £5

**Classic Scramble - 3rd and 4th August.**

**Bar - Marquee - Live Music - Refreshments - Toilets**



## From the Rector

Well, the General Election is over, and we have a new government. Whatever our political persuasions, we must now pray for those who have taken the reigns of power. I think we can all agree that running a country is no simple task and there are many challenges our new parliament will need to deal with.

Prior to the election, the Conservatives tried to persuade us that 'the plan is working'. Labour told us it was 'time for change'.

When I look at the world we live in today, my heart cries out that it's 'time for change'. My heart longs for wars to cease, for an end to oppression and injustice, for all to live with basic human rights respected and basic human needs met. This is a change God promises us is coming when Jesus returns in glory to judge the living and the dead and to create a new heaven and earth. In the picture language of the prophet Isaiah, swords will be beaten into ploughshares (Isaiah 2.4) and the lion will lie down with the lamb (Isaiah 11.6).

But until that day comes, must we just sit back and wait, victims to what is going on around us? **Not at all!**

When Jesus began his ministry, he proclaimed that in him God's kingdom had come near (Mark 1.15). His call was to repent... to turn your life away from selfishness and align it instead with God's values. Jesus came to lead the way in proclaiming freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, setting the oppressed free, and proclaiming the year of the Lord's favour.' (Luke 4.18-19). He called, and still calls, men and women to follow him in that way.

And his plan is working.

People all over the world are still finding wholeness and healing and life in all its fulness by following Jesus. Where Jesus is honoured and loved and followed, broken relationships are mended, and communities transformed for good. Even as hearts cry out for change, people find hope in the working out of God's plan. I do wish our new government well. I pray that it will be effective in leading our nation into a good future. But ultimately, I put my faith in a God who has a plan for this world now and an even better plan for the future.

**Rev Gary's sabbatical: 27th July to 18th November**

During Gary's sabbatical, **the first point of contact for church will be the Rev Ally Hope, our curate, on [revallyhope@yahoo.com](mailto:revallyhope@yahoo.com) or 01805 439085, or 07359 294056, or your local church focal minister or church wardens.**

*Rev Gary Owen* [www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org](http://www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org)

### Events at Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

#### Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning in July was for "Over and Above," the after care unit at NDDH, and we raised £150, so many thanks to everyone who came along. The next event is on **Thursday 1 August, when all monies raised will go to the Friends of All Saints Alverdiscott.** Then on 5 September it will be for the Farming Community Network, so please do come along - between 10am and noon - and support these local causes, hope to see you there.

#### 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 29 July when we will visit the NGS gardens at **Stone Farm.** Everyone is welcome and the cost is just £1.00.

For the latest information contact Philip Squire on 01237 473692.



### \*\*\*CRAFT and CHATTER\*\*\*



We are hoping to start a new *monthly* craft club.

Starting on **Monday 2 September** from 2pm to 4pm.

Meeting in the School Room at Alverdiscott Chapel.

Bring your knitting, crochet, sewing, painting or whatever craft you enjoy.

Plenty of parking. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided all for £1.



For further details contact Wendy on 01271 858539.



### Friends of All Saints Church

The Friends group would like to thank everyone who attended the **Safari Supper** on 6th July. Thankfully the weather turned out to be dry. Despite numbers being slightly down on previous years an amazing **£1,530** was raised. Thank you everyone for your continued support.

### Leisure

### And finally a few witty - Definitions

Coffee (n.), the person upon whom one coughs.

Flabbergasted (adj.), appalled over how much weight you have gained.

Abdicate (v.), to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.

Esplanade (v.), to attempt an explanation, while drunk.

Willy-nilly (adj.), impotent.

Negligent (adj.), describes a condition in which you absentmindedly answer the door in your nightgown.

Lymph (v.), to walk with a lisp.

Gargoyle (n.), gross olive-flavoured mouthwash.

Flatulance (n.) emergency vehicle that picks you up after you've been run over by a steamroller.

Balderdash (n.), a rapidly receding hairline.

And now for some really sad news. I've run out of these funny/witty one liners.  
What am I going to do next month. . ?

### Last time the word was: BREAKFAST

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 - Not here?

Word count 28 = Good. More than 32 = Well done!

E	H	L
E	E	E
S	R	W

## Leisure

## Su Doku Puzzle No. 210

Good Luck... No, really!

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

## Solution to Su Doku No. 209

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

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

**Huntsraw Church Services**

Sunday 11th August Morning Worship 11.00am  
 Sunday 8th September **Harvest Festival** 11.00am.

**Terrier found in St Mary's church!**

On Tuesday 16th July, five good (!) residents of Huntsraw joined Rev Gary and his wife to put together a Terrier for Huntsraw church. All churches are required to keep a terrier (inventory) but for some reason, we couldn't find ours. So, we've started afresh. The speed of work was hampered by the distraction of finding interesting things! But now we have the raw materials needed, and just a bit of collating is necessary.

Church really is looking lovely, and it's a wonderful place to visit; to sit and pray, find a few moments peace and quiet, or enjoy the beauty and history of the place.

Do pop in when you get chance, and please sign the visitor book... its really encouraging to read how much people have appreciated our being open.

**Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel**

**Minister Rev Rob Blackhall 01805 628041**

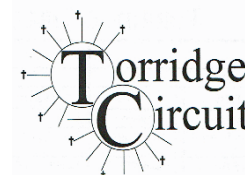
**Services planned for**  
**Alverdiscott Chapel during August**

04 Aug	11.00am	Lynne Burgon <b>HC</b>
18 Aug	11.00am	Frank Watson

**Information about the Methodist Church**

can be found here:

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





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## FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH

### MUSICAL LUNCH AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH

FRIDAY 30<sup>th</sup> AUGUST and 27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

Light lunch available from 12.30pm, music from 1pm.



## B3232 Road Closure at Newton Tracey

Notice of Temporary Disruption to bus services 71 and 72 affecting services through St John's Chapel Monday 1st July to Friday 16th August 2024. The B3232 at Newton Cross to Alverdiscott, will be closed for essential works between 1st July and 16th August 2024.

Bus services 71 and 72 will operate on diversion between Torrington and Barnstaple, which will result in no bus service for Alverdiscott, Newton Tracey, Lovacott or St John's Chapel during these works.

Devon County Council have organised for a free replacement taxi service to operate between Alverdiscott and Barnstaple via Newton Tracey and Lovacott. This will be operated by **Just Taxi Devon** on a pre-booking basis as per the timetable below.

All journeys must be pre-booked at least one day in advance of travel on

### 07557 261273. REPLACEMENT TAXI SERVICE

**1ST JULY TO 16TH AUGUST 2024.**

ALVERDISCOTT, All Saints Church	09.47 13.07	BARNSTAPLE Bus Station	12.00 14.00
NEWTON TRACEY, Opp Hunters Inn	09.50 13.10	EASTACOMBE Cross	12.10 14.10
LOVACOTT Garage	09.53 13.13	ST JOHNS CHAPEL, Rushcott Cross	12.12 14.12
ST JOHNS CHAPEL, Rushcott Cross	10.03 13.23	LOVACOTT Garage	12.18 14.18
EASTACOMBE Cross	10.05 13.25	NEWTON TRACEY, Opp Hunters Inn	12.21 14.21
BARNSTAPLE Bus Station	10.15 13.35	ALVERDISCOTT, All Saints Church	12.25 14.25

**THIS SERVICE IS OPERATED BY JUST TAXIS DEVON**  
**PLEASE CONTACT THEM TO BOOK ON 07557 261273**

ALVERDISCOTT - BARNSTAPLE BUS STATION

This service is financially supported by Devon County Council.

**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 19<sup>th</sup> September in Alverdiscott Community Hall at 7.30pm - all are welcome.**

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

**Huntshaw Village Harvest Supper**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**

**Something different on the menu**

***Chilli and Nachos!***

**Traditional harvest puddings to follow**

**Tickets £12.50 (Child £5)**

**To book call 01805 624490**



Bring your own alcohol,  
elderflower cordial on tables.



**Looking forward to welcoming you.**

**\*\*\*Next date to Save\*\*\***

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October.**

**Huntshaw Village**

**Pub Games and Race Night**

**Licensed bar**

**Details to follow...**



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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.

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Call or email for full details.



### Domestic Appliance Repairs

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

1st	Wendy Bysouth	£25
2nd	Jane Hardwicke	£15
3rd	Liz White	£10

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their Supporters Club tickets for a further year. Anyone who is not a member but would like to join should contact Louise Saunders on 01271 858522 or, [louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com](mailto:louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com)

## ALVERDISCOTT COMMUNITY HALL HARVEST SUPPER



FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

7PM FOR 7.30PM

TICKETS £20

Three course meal

LICENSED BAR

BOOK YOUR PLACE WITH LIZ WHITE

01271 858441

[bulworthy@aol.com](mailto:bulworthy@aol.com)