

CRAWFORD NEWS



Reliable Newspaper Deliveries

SIX DAYS A WEEK

Alverdiscott & Surrounding Areas

Tel: 01805 625592 Mob: 07850 617372

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.

C.T.A. CENTRE - West Park Yarnscombe EX31 3LZ

YOUR LOCAL TRAINING PROVIDER FOR ALL YOUR INDUSTRIAL AND CONSTRUCTION TRAINING NEEDS.

We are able to handle all the classifications of plant for which Construction Skills offer CPCS cards. The centre opened in 1991 and comprises a site which replicates all construction site conditions. There are 40 acres of dedicated training area plus 7 acres of woodland (for chainsaw training) which means that it is possible to carry out more than one type of training at any one time.

Contact the team on: 01271 858575 Email: training@ctacentre.co.uk



P D B Plumbing

Plumbing - Heating - Gas

01271 858549

07957 218532

****Free Estimates****

24 Hour Call Out

THE LOCAL RAG
ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSRAW

Welcome to the
February Edition
Volume 22 Issue 1
2025



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

So here we are in a brand new year, untouched by human hand. Where did 2024 go? It just seemed to speed by, with hardly a word said.

I really do hope that 2025 is a lucky number and things do get better, but I'm not going to hold my breath!

As happened last year, you will notice that this is a slim-line version of the Rag. That will be because there were fewer articles and adverts sent in and so we are down to just 12 pages.

I regret to say that I have also had to resort to half a page of dubious jokes.

Hopefully next month normal service will be resumed...

However, looking ahead, the Alverdiscott Community Hall Committee held their first meeting

of the new year on Monday and have put together a list of events they hope to hold throughout 2025.

The following list is provisional. Any changes, and full details will of course be advertised in the Local Rag before each event.

The Spring Big Breakfast will be on Sunday 23 March, details p7. The Flower and Produce Show will be on Saturday 2 August. Harvest Supper is planned for Friday 19 September. The Autumn Big Breakfast will be on Sunday 26 October, and we finish with a Christmas Quiz on Saturday 29 November.

And that's another year gone by!

The good thing is the spring flowers are starting to show through. The snowdrops are out and the daffs are not far behind. Roll on Spring!!!

Last time the word was: SOMETIMES

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 - Love is in the air...

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| E | A | N |
| I | E | T |
| N | L | V |

Word count 20 = Good. More than 25 = Well done!

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

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| NHS - Advice Line | 111 |
| 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

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 DC | 01237 428700 |

Coronavirus Test Line 119

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.

Leisure

Su Doku Puzzle No. 215

Good Luck...

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

Solution to Su Doku No. 214

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

From the Rector

Perhaps as we get older, and have more to look back upon, we find that we have more regrets... I wish I'd done this or not done that. Maybe we could have done things differently... but hindsight is a wonderful thing.

If people have not grown up with a faith, or have wandered away from Christian beginnings, I think its tempting later in life to look back with regret and think, "oh well, it's too late now".

Jesus told a fascinating story about a vineyard owner who went to the town square one morning to hire people to work in his fields (Matthew 20.1-16). He found some, agreed a wage for the day and gave them their jobs to do. He went back throughout the day, and each time hired more labourers; the very last ones only beginning work as the day was drawing to a close. When the vineyard owner gave each labourer his pay, everyone was amazed that those who had joined the workforce only at the end were given a full day's wages. The moral of the story (or at least one of them!): with God it's never too late.

Now for any younger people reading this, I'd definitely say, sign up to following Jesus now! However old you are, as long as you have breath in your body, it's never too late, but today is always the best day to start following Jesus; in Jesus we find life in all its fullness... and who knows what tomorrow will bring?

I have to confess to more than a few regrets in my life. I'm not sure that I could join with Frank Sinatra in singing, "regrets I have a few, but then again too few to mention". But the thing I don't regret is, as a relatively young child, kneeling beside my bed and inviting Jesus into my life and promising to follow him for ever. He's been faithfully with me ever since. And the regrets in my life? When I've hurt or failed others, I can say sorry and try to put things right as best I can. I can learn from my mistakes. But in the end, I know that the things I've got wrong don't define me, and I know they won't determine my eternal destiny.

As always, I and other members of the Two Rivers leadership team are happy to talk to anyone who would value a chat; maybe about how to follow Jesus, or maybe about how to find peace about things from the past. Feel free to get in touch.

Rev Gary Owen

01769 560792 07947 358050

www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org

Events at Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning on Thursday 5 December, which was for the Harbour Community Bideford, was very successful. We had many donations of food items and also raised the sum of £100. So thank you, and well done to all who came along.

The first meeting for 2025 will be on **Thursday 6 February and will be for the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.**

We have not raised money for this charity before so please do come along between 10am and noon, all are welcome.

Garden Club

The first Garden Club meeting for 2025 will be on Monday 27 January. Our 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. Everyone is welcome and the cost is just £1.00.

For the latest information please contact Philip Squire on 01237 473692.

CRAFT and CHATTER

Monday 3 February - 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.



Parish Council News

Notice of Parish Council Meetings

Vacancies still exist on the Parish Council.

Council meetings now take place **every other month on the third Thursday**, alternating between the two village halls.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 20th March in Huntshaw Parish 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 |
| Bernard Hardwicke | 01271 858676 |
| Helen Bolton | 01271 858885 |
| Caroline Lewis | 07890 764234 |
| Gill Ross | 01271 858392 |
| James White | 01271 858580 |
| Paul Matthews | 01271 858652 |
| Andy Reed | 01271 858974 |
| Alan Matthewman - Parish Clerk | 01769 560740 |

ESOE

Parish Clerk email 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 07828 758360

District Councillors

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

Thomas Elliott councillor.elliott@torridge.gov.uk

PCC for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

Alison Hernandez alison@alisonhernandez.co.uk 01392 459808

**HEDDENS OF WOODTOWN FARM
BESPOKE VEGETABLE BOXES and FARM SHOP**

Carrots - Broccoli - Onions
Parsnips - Cauliflower - Swede
*****Local Delivery Available*****

Enquires and Orders phone Michael: 07738 163912
email - woodtownfarm@outlook.com
Or visit our Website
www.heddensofwoodtown.co.uk

**Dubious Jokes**

I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me!

A sign on the lawn at the **Drug Rehab Centre** read: "Keep off the Grass"

The midget fortune-teller who escaped from a prison was described as "a small medium at large."

When the cannibals ate a missionary, did they get a taste of religion?

A vulture boards a plane carrying two dead racoons. The stewardess looks at him and says, "I'm sorry sir, only one carrion allowed per passenger."

Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One turns to the other and says "Dam!"

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

| | | |
|-----|---------------|-----|
| 1st | Wendy Bysouth | £25 |
| 2nd | Emma Ford | £15 |
| 3rd | Gordon Ford | £10 |

If you are not a member but would like to join, please contact Louise Saunders on 01271 858522 or, 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.

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

**Forthcoming Services at Huntshaw Church**

Sunday 9th February at 11.00am.

Sunday 9th March at 11.00am. Lent

www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org

**Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel
Minister Rev Rob Blackhall 01805 628041****Services planned for
Alverdiscott Chapel in February**

| | | |
|-------------|---------|-----------------|
| 02 February | 11.00am | Linda Davis |
| 16 February | 11.00am | Ley - HC |

In the event of extreme weather conditions
services may have to be cancelled.

**Information about the Methodist Church
can be found here:**

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



Local Services



ANTS CLEANING SERVICE

Offering various types of cleaning.

Residential and holiday accommodation catered for.

Regular or just a one off clean. Excellent references available.

Own cleaning materials supplied.

07504 244542

01271 858 974 (answerphone)



DEL MAR Landscaping

Garden Design ❖ Construction ❖ Maintenance

- ❖ Decking
- ❖ Patios
- ❖ Walls
- ❖ Sheds
- ❖ Hedgework
- ❖ Fencing
- ❖ Paths
- ❖ Steps
- ❖ Ponds
- ❖ Turfing
- ❖ Block paving
- ❖ Ground clearance
- ❖ All year round
- ❖ Free estimates
- ❖ Fully insured

Phone 01271 374409 Mobile 07791 030025

e-mail delmar.landscaping@tiscali.co.uk

**FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH -
MUSICAL LUNCHES**

Please Note Change of Venue

We will be holding our lunches in January, February & March
in the Methodist Chapel

Please join us on Fridays 31st January, 28th February & 28th March
Light lunch available from 12.30pm, music from 1pm



**The Spring Big Breakfast
at**

Alverdiscott Community Hall

On Sunday 23rd of March 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 £10 Under 10's £5

Profits raised will be shared between the Hall Funds and
the North Devon Hospice.

We are a local charity providing specialist care and support to people who are affected by a life-limiting illness.

Although many of our patients have cancer, we also care for people who have other life-limiting illnesses too, such as Motor Neurone Disease, Heart Failure and COPD, among others.

