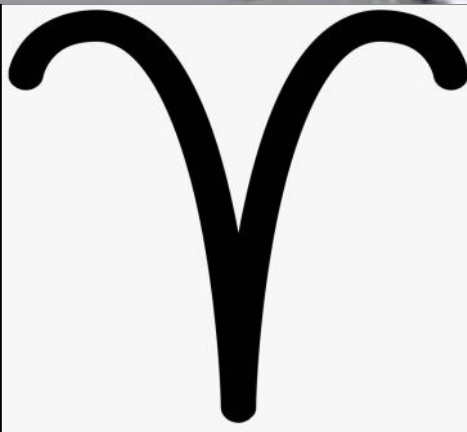


THE LOCAL RAG
ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSBAY

Welcome to the
April Edition
Volume 22, Issue 3
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

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EX39 4PU

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From The Assistant Editor

So now it's April already. The year seems to be passing by really quickly.

Saw my first bumble bee on the 19th and my first wasp on the 21st.

A barn owl has recently been hunting over the field behind us.

Great to see.

There's a pigeons nest, in our holly tree, with one egg in it, and the male sparrow is checking out the **very** old house martins nest again. They've used it for the last 4 years. Heaven knows how it's still attached to the eaves. It must have been really well made in the first place. So life is waking up and the hormones are fizzing...

Hopefully the swallows and house martins will be arriving shortly. It's usually by the middle of the month with the swallows coming first.

How do they do it?

The pictures on the cover are all about April. The daisy and the sweet peas are the birth flowers, while the diamond is the birthstone. The two Zodiac signs are for Aries (until April 19) and Taurus from (April 20 onward). Well done Wiki, and thank you.

There are four AGM's coming up in the next couple of months. Must be something in the air. Or is it the hormones?

You probably don't need to go to all of them! But maybe you could manage one or maybe two?

The committees concerned would doubtless be pleased to see some newcomers to their cause.

On p14 there is a lovely piece by the new folk who have taken over Towsers Country Kennels. Welcome Chris and Vicky.

From the Rector - Easter Greetings

For Christians, Easter day is perhaps the most joyful day of the year.

Christmas is of course a wonderfully joyful time. God becomes man amidst the poor and lowly, to share our lives and to show us God.

Counter-intuitively, Good Friday has its own particular joy, albeit amidst the deep sadness of Jesus' crucifixion. Jesus dies for us, in our place, that sin and death might be defeated.

But on Easter day, as the earth shakes and Jesus rises from the tomb, we are left in no doubt that Jesus is the all-conquering King of Kings to whom one day every knee will bow.

Easter means that for those who will bow now and live with Jesus as their Lord, there is the chance to do life not on our own, but with Jesus by our side. And when we finally meet Jesus face to face we will do so without fear or regret, but with joy at what lies ahead.

We have scheduled a service in all eleven of our mission community churches on Easter day. They will be filled with joy. We invite you to join us...

And may I wish you, from church, a very happy Easter!

A full list of Easter services and activities, including special activities for children, can be found on our website:

<https://www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org/lent-2025/holy-week-and-easter/>

Gary Owen - Rector of the Two Rivers Mission Community

Events at Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning in March raised the sum of £120 for Chapel funds. Thanks go to all who contributed. On Thursday April 3 the charity will be the **Children's Hospice South West**, so please come along between 10am and noon, and help to raise some money for this great cause. On Thursday 1 May the charity will be Action for Children.

Garden Club

The meeting in February was enjoyed by all. The next meeting will be on Monday 31 March, at 2.30pm when the guest speaker will be Mr. Bill Lee.

We meet in the school room and everyone is welcome. The cost is just £1.00.

For the latest information contact Philip Squire on 01237 473692.



*****CRAFT and CHATTER*****



Monday 7 April - 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.



Alverdiscott Community Hall AGM

Alverdiscott Community Hall AGM will be held on Monday 14 April at the Hall starting at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

The AGM will be followed by a regular committee meeting.

If you've been thinking about joining the hall team, or just want to see what goes on then please do come along.

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



Huntsraw Church Services

Sunday 13th April, 11.00am: Palm Sunday service followed by AGM. Meet at Knockworthy Cross at 11.00am to walk **(with donkeys... all being well!)** to church. A short service at about 11.15am followed by AGM at about 11.40am

Friday 18th April, 11.00am: Good Friday all-age service followed by hot cross buns.

Sunday 20th April, 11.00am: Easter Sunday communion followed by chocolate cake!

Alverdiscott Church Services

There is an 8.00am communion service following the 1662 Book of Common Prayer on every Sunday up to and including 20th April. If we have grown sufficient congregation by 20th March we will look at making this a regular weekly service.

Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

Minister Rev Rob Blackhall 01805 628041

Services planned for Alverdiscott Chapel during April

06 April	11.00am	Margaret Price	
18 April	11.00am	Rev Blackhall & Frank Watson	Good Friday
20 April	11.00am	Elsie Potter	HC

**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

Please note change of venue for April

THE NEXT MUSICAL LUNCH IS ON FRIDAY 25th APRIL

WHEN WE WILL BE BACK AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH.

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



Huntsraw Parish Hall AGM

Huntsraw Parish Hall AGM will be held on Friday 11 April at the Hall starting at 7.30pm.



All are welcome. Hope to see you there.

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH SUNDAY LUNCH

25th May - 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

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FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH AGM

Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 6th May at 7.30pm in the church. Everyone welcome.

Please come along and hear everything we have achieved in the last year. We will be interested to receive any

suggestions for future fund raising events and any ideas for improvements.



Friends of All Saints Church - March Draw Prize Winners

1st	Mandy Ridd	£25
2nd	Wendy Rickard	£15
3rd	Kath Hedden	£10

Anyone who is not a member of the Supporters Club but would like to join should contact Louise Saunders on 01271 858522 or, email louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com

St GEORGE'S DAY DINNER

Saturday 26th April 2025

6.30 for 7.00 p.m.

ALVERDISCOTT HALL

A Convivial Evening of English Food, Music, Beer
and Verse to Celebrate our Own Patron Saint

Traditional Beef Dinner, Recitations and Patriotic Community Songs



St. GEORGE'S DAY

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

£25 (£12.50 under 11 years)

Includes entertainment, 3 course meal and a St George flag

CONTACT: Liz White 01271 858441 or bulworthy@aol.com or
Louise Saunders 01271 858522 or louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com

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 15 May in Alverdiscott Hall.

This will be the Annual Parish Meeting starting at 7.00pm followed by the Parish Council AGM at 7.30pm.

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

E&OE

Parish Clerk email alvhuntpc@gmail.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 07828 758360

District Councillors

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

Thomas Elliott councillor.elliott@torridge.gov.uk 01805 804473

PCC for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

Alison Hernandez alison@alisonhernandez.co.uk 01392 459808

ALVERDISCOTT & HUNTSYAW PARISH COUNCIL

Firstly I would like to give a belated welcome to Andy Reed as a new councillor. I am sure that he will be a valuable member of the team in the future.

We still have **two vacancies** on the council, if anyone wishes to have a say in the future development of our area. Please contact me if you are considering becoming a member – we will need all the help we can get if the Morocco power project gets underway.

Talking of which, I am sure that most, if not all, of you will have received the latest update from Xlinks regarding the Morocco - UK power project. Whilst there are many hurdles to overcome before any final approval is given, you will have noted that Xlinks have been talking with Torridge District Council and Devon County Council about setting up a Community Benefit Fund.

This is likely to be a not inconsiderable amount, and it would be of great assistance if residents in the area could come up with ideas for such a fund. I would like this to be a kind of brainstorming exercise, so don't be afraid to propose what might seem like silly suggestions. There have been many examples in the past where such ideas have led to constructive outcomes.

As I have said, the project has not yet had final approval, but nevertheless it would be of great assistance if we had ideas ready for submission.

Please put your thinking caps on, and let either me or Jim White have any ideas – our contact details are on page 10.

Graham White Council Chairman

Leisure

Su Doku Puzzle No. 217

Good Luck...

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

Solution to Su Doku No. 216

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

Huntsraw Parish Hall Centenary

Saturday 21st June from 2.00pm.

It will be an exciting year for the Hall. In view of this we are planning the centenary celebrations - which hopefully will attract more people to find out about the history, see the refurbishments we are planning to try and complete before then.

Full programme to follow next month...

There will be displays of the history of the Hall,

The Torrige Male Voice Choir is coming,

There will be free cream teas.

Please save the date and join us on that day.



Caroline Lewis

Last time the word was: ESSENTIAL

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 are 2 words & nine letters** for which the clue is - A custom this month...

L	R	A
L	O	F
O	P	I

Word count 16 = Good. More than 20 = REALLY well done!

“We are Towsers”

Chris and Vicky Jarman would like to introduce ourselves as the new owners of **Towsers Country Kennels**.

We are pleased to announce that the kennels are now open all year round and we would like to welcome new and existing customers.

We both absolutely adore working and looking after the dogs in our care and it is very important to us that they have fun and are excited to come and spend their holidays with us.

We live onsite at the kennels with Mum (Gill), our 2 Children Kaitlyn and Paige, and our 2 Black Labradors, Autumn and Tia.

We have moved from Byfleet in Surrey, Vicky was a Childminder and Dance Teacher and Chris was a Driving Instructor. It has been our dream for many years to move to Devon and run boarding kennels and have spent this time waiting for the right opportunity to become available whilst studying and getting our qualifications and experience. Now both our children are older we are able to enjoy this new venture and make Towsers an extra special family run business.

We feel very honoured to have met some lovely people since we have moved down here and we look forward to meeting many more and being involved in our new community.

We look forward to meeting you here at Towsers.

Check us out on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok

our website www.towserskennels.co.uk

or simply contact us on **07720 844429**.

Bulworthy Farm and Noventum Power

Plans have been drawn up for yet another solar farm and battery storage site, this time on Bulworthy Farm, between Horwood, Lovacott and Stony Cross.

At the moment there is only a scoping document on the Torridge Council website – go to the Planning page and search for **I/0002/2024/SCO**, and although residents of Horwood and Newton Tracey have been advised, no such information has reached this part of the world.

A Public Consultation meeting is being held at Lovacott Hall on Thursday 27th March between 16:00 and 20:00. I would suggest that your attendance would be both instructive and helpful.

Graham White Alverdiscott & Huntshaw Parish Council

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
Torridge DC	01237 428700

Coronavirus Test Line 119

Your local neighbourhood policing team at Torrington Police Station email address:

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