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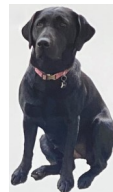
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THE LOCAL RAG

ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSRAW

Welcome to the
June Edition
 Volume 22 Issue 5
 2025



**Huntsraw Parish Hall is celebrating its 100th Anniversary
 on Saturday 21 June.
 Details on page 7.**

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

First-off I need to apologise for my mistake in the word puzzle last month. The nine letter word was MICROWAVE but I accidentally missed out the V and gave it 2 E's, sorry. I expect you all worked it out anyway - didn't you...

Well it won't be long now, Saturday 21 June to be precise, before the Huntshaw Parish Hall Centenary Celebrations take place. Sounds like it will be a good event. Details are on p7.

The hot sunny weather continues but I reckon someone, somewhere must be praying for rain. It can't be normal to be this hot, sunny and dry for this long, so early in the year. In April we had 91mm, or a little over 3.5ins if you prefer. The 91mm fell over just 11 days, and 50mm of it

was on just one day!

So far, up to 19 May we've had only one wet day and that produced only 2mm.

No doubt it will all end with a flash, a bang and a downpour, no good to anyone.

The birds in the garden seem to be happy enough. We have 2 active martin nests with many adult birds circling overhead. We've had a young robin being fed by an adult, in the garden. And just yesterday I found a very young gold crest trapped in the conservatory! It really didn't look very happy, so might have been in there for a while. Anyway I managed to catch it in the plastic beaker I normally use for spiders and put him outside. It sat on the grass for a while and then flew off, so fingers crossed he recovered.

The Parish Council have had the bus shelter at Alverdiscott re-roofed.

They have retrieved the old roof tiles, and these are available if anyone has a use for them.

There are 175 x 50cm x 25cm, and 11 x 50cm x 38cm.

They are available to take away for a small consideration to help offset the cost of the repairs.

Graham White - 01271 858441

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
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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.

From Huish to Huntshaw!

Just a reminder that on Sat 5th July to celebrate Huntshaw's newly refurbished Bells we are organising a tour of bell ringing at 5 churches starting at Huish in the morning at 9.30am and ending at Huntshaw with a cream tea and prosecco.

The tour is starting at 9.30am at Huish and ending at Huntshaw with ringing starting at approx. 2.30pm, where cream teas will be served to both those who have been on the tour and locals who would like to come and sit and listen to the bells with a glass in their hand! The ringing at Huntshaw will be from about 2.30 to 3.30pm.

Many different bands ranging from Exeter up to Torrington and Bideford will be on the tour ending at our church but if you are a bell ringer or member of a band that would like to participate and want more info please contact rsears2017@gmail.com.

Also, if you're not a ringer yourself and are keen to hear more of the 'music' you can go to the following locations at the times below: -

9.30am to 10.30am Huish church – 3 bells

10.45am to 11.45am Beaford church – 6 bells

12noon to 1pm – Great Torrington – 8 bells

1.15pm to 2.15pm – St Giles in the Wood – 6 bells

2.30pm to 3.30pm – Huntshaw church – 3 bells

We have organised clear blue skies and a warm sunny day so come along at 2.30pm on Saturday to listen and enjoy a lovely cream tea and prosecco while you're there.

Richard Sears

From the Rector

You are invited!

Churches across the southwest of England are issuing an open invitation to attend a church service on Sunday 8th June; Pentecost Sunday. All are invited; whether you attend church regularly, occasionally or have never set foot inside a church building before.

Churches, of course, come in all sorts of shapes and sizes. Some meet in beautiful historic buildings; others meet in village halls, homes or even cinemas. Some offer choral music, others loud worship bands and others quiet reflection. All these things are really just a matter of style. What matters is the substance. What all true churches have in common is a love for Jesus and a desire to live in relationship with him and serve his purposes in the world... and a space for those who want to find out more.

Recently I attended a Christian conference in the Royal Albert Hall. Five thousand Christians from eighty-three countries and numerous church denominations filled the hall with worship and prayer. It was a truly inspiring occasion, and maybe just a tiny taste of heaven.

If we hired a fleet of buses and took every person who lives in the ten parishes which make up the Two Rivers Mission Community to London, we'd probably all fit into the Royal Albert Hall. Our communities are small, and consequently the congregations which meet in church each Sunday are small too. We can't do choral music or worship bands each Sunday... although we do sing and its often very beautiful! What we can, and do, do is honest, authentic Christian community, focused on Jesus... and to me its beautiful... and a tiny taste of heaven.

And so, I want to say to you, "you're invited". We aren't closed shops or exclusive cliques, or even special interest groups for people who like cold buildings, uncomfortable seats and bad coffee. We are people who have found meaning, purpose and community in a relationship with Jesus. And we offer a warm welcome to anyone who might appreciate the same.

Gary Owen - Rector of the Two Rivers Mission Community

Events at Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

Coffee Morning

In May we raised the sum of £125 for the All We Can Myanmar Earthquake Emergency Appeal, well done to all. **On Thursday 5 June the charity will be Action for Children.** So do please come along and join us between 10am and 12 noon.

Garden Club

The next meeting will be on Monday 26 May, yes I know it's a bank holiday, when we will visit the home of Linda and Fray Southgate, at Horwood Farm. Please gather at the Chapel at **2.15pm** so we can carshare.

The cost is just £1.00. **For the latest information please contact Philip Squire on 01237 473692.**



CRAFT and CHATTER



The next meeting is on
Monday 2 June - 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.



Farewell and Thank You

Viv & Kate from Auto-Mo-Beel, would like to thank everyone for the cards, gifts and best wishes on their imminent retirement.

We moved to ND about 22 years ago and I started going to Viv with all my vehicular problems, pretty much from the start. He has worked on all 5 of my vehicles. Thank you both for all you've done. Asst Ed.

PS. When is the chainsaw coming back...

We haven't had any for a while so here we go - brace yourself...

The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference.

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan Island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.

She was only a whisky maker, but he loved her still...

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.

No matter how much you push the envelope, it will still be stationery.

A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France could result in Linoleum Blownapart.

Atheism is a non-prophet organisation.

And finally, everyone's favourite - Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

Last time the word was: MICROWAVE

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 - TABLOID

Word count 30 = Good. More than 35 = Well done! **Apologies for the error last month. Asst Ed.**

W	P	P
E	E	R
A	S	N

Leisure

Su Doku Puzzle No. 219

Good Luck...

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

Solution to Su Doku No. 218

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

Anglican Community - Team Rector Rev Gary Owen

01769 560792 07947 358050

Huntshaw Church Services



Sunday 8th June: Morning service, 11.00am Pentecost Sunday

Sunday 22 June: Service to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the village hall, 11.00am.

Turn to page 13 for more information about Huntshaw Church

Alverdiscott Church Services

We have decided to continue our 8.00am communion service each Sunday in Alverdiscott church. Between 5 and 9 people have gathered each week during Lent and we've decided to continue and try to build further.

The service follows the 1662 Book of Common Prayer.

We do hope that residents of Alverdiscott will join us, as well as those from further afield who appreciate the traditional BCP service and those who need an early morning service due to other commitments later in the day.

Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

Minister Rev Rob Blackhall 01805 628041

**Services planned for
Alverdiscott Chapel during June**

01 June	11.00am	Elsie Potter	
15 June	11.00am	Rev Rob Blackhall	HC
22 June	11.00am	At Torrington	
29 June	11.00am	At Parish Church	

Information about the Methodist Church
can be found here:

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





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FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH

THE MAY MUSICAL LUNCH IS ON THE 30TH.

THE NEXT ONE IS ON FRIDAY 27th JUNE

AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH ALVERDISCOTT

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



ALVERDISCOTT & HUNTSNAY PARISH COUNCIL

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
Parish Council Chairman

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 17 June in Huntshaw Parish Hall at 7.30pm - all are welcome.

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 - Vice Chair	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**

Mark Barry mark.barry@devon.gov.uk 07392 433699

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

What are you doing on Saturday 21st June? From 2.00pm to 6.00pm.

It's Huntshaw Parish

100th **Hall's**

*Anniversary
1925 - 2025*

*There will be
displays of*

local history



*Launch of a booklet on the
history of the hall*

Torridge Male Voice Choir at 3.00pm

The Homes of Huntshaw Project

*A chance to see the recent
refurbishments*

Free entry Free cream tea Free parking

*There are lots of road signs pointing to
Huntshaw, and this would be an
opportunity to see where those roads lead!*

EX38 7HH

Come and enjoy the afternoon.

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Open Garden & Afternoon Tea

West Pristacott Farmhouse Harracott EX31 3JR

Gordon and Ann-Marie Ford

are opening up their garden at West Pristacott Farmhouse - Harracott

in aid of *All Saints Church Alverdiscott* on Sunday 22nd June 2025

between 2.00pm and 6.00pm for Afternoon Tea.

£7.50 per person.



St George's Day Celebration

Thank you to everyone who came to the event on 26th April, we hope you all enjoyed the evening. Special thanks go to John and Liz Riddington Young for suggesting the event, and arranging the entertainment.

All money raised will be split between the Friends and the Village Hall.

Friends of All Saints Church - May Draw Prize Winners

1st	Liz White	£25
2nd	Brian & Janet Tythcott	£15
3rd	Wendy Lingham	£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



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