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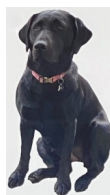
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## THE LOCAL RAG

ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSRAW

Welcome to the  
July Edition  
Volume 22 Issue 6  
2025



## ALVERDISCOTT FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

Saturday 2nd August

Doors open 2:30pm Entry 50p

### 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

Please note the date for the next Parish Council meeting, at Huntshaw Parish Hall, is Thursday 17 JULY, not June as stated last month.

It's been a while coming but it's almost time to celebrate **Huntshaw's newly refurbished Church Bells**. On Saturday 5 July at around 2.30pm you can listen to the bells and enjoy a cream tea and a free prosecco.

Full details on p7 - make a note on the calendar now!

The Flower and Produce Show is also getting closer. Hope you have got all your entries sorted out...

Also, if you were a Cup Winner last year do you know where the cup is? Have a look through the cupboards and give it a quick polish. We would like them all back by 2 August please!

The house martins have been busy. We now have 4 nests on the cottage which is more than we've had for several years. Maybe that's a good sign that their numbers are slowly increasing. What is increasing is the amount of *guano* being deposited on the car and the windows! I suppose I shouldn't complain too much, it's great to see them flying around in large numbers again.

On page 14 there are a few quiz questions to keep you busy in your spare moments. Answers will follow next month. The questions were sent to me quite a while ago, by John Riddington Young, so thank you John and apologies for taking so long to get them out there. The rest of them will appear next month I hope. Have fun...

### Holsworthy Amateur Theatrical Society

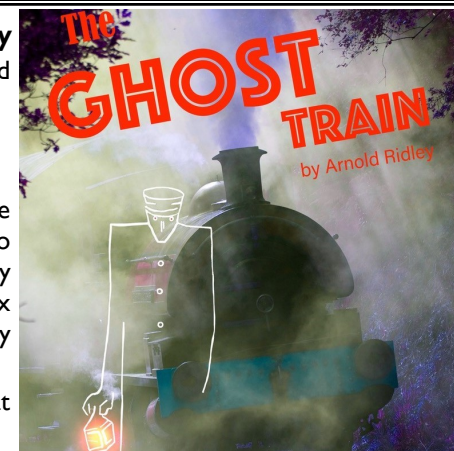
(HATS) are thrilled to be bringing Arnold Ridley's **The Ghost Train** to life this July.

3, 4, 5 July & 10, 11, 12 July at 7.30pm.

Bodmin St. Holsworthy EX22 6BH

In the 100th anniversary year since the comedy thriller was first produced, prepare to be entertained as the theatre whisks you away to a small Cornish wayside station, where six unsuspecting characters become accidentally stranded.

Tickets are available now online at [www.holsworthytheatre.co.uk](http://www.holsworthytheatre.co.uk)



### Emergencies

Police - Fire etc.	999
Electricity	0800 678 3105
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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
Torrington DC	01237 428700

**Coronavirus Test Line** 119

**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.

**NORTH DEVON QUIZ.**

1. What was the name of the canal which once ran through North Devon?
2. What was this canal built for?
3. Which world famous poet went to school in Westward Ho?
4. Which world famous author, historian and friend of Charles Darwin is claimed to have written one of his novels in the 'Royal Hotel,' Bideford?
5. This year there was an exhibition in the Barnstaple Museum about a great British artist, who painted a watercolour of 'Barnstaple Bridge at Sunset' in 1814. Name him.
6. What is the connection between the church in Newton Tracey and Canterbury Cathedral?
7. What is the connection between the top of Codden Hill and the North Devon District Hospital?
8. What is 'Bideford Black'?
9. Where in North Devon was the final battle between the Viking King Hubba and King Alfred's Army?
10. Name the flagship of Bideford's Sir Richard Grenville, which sank off the Azores in 1661.
11. What was the immediate previous name of 'The Quay' public house in Instow?
12. The Chinese restaurant in Barnstaple, 'Fullam,' was formerly an excellent pub. What was it called?
13. Name the first person to sail around the world single-handed and state his connection to North Devon.
14. Which nationally famous Bideford ceramic artist (well-known for his *sgraffito* harvest jugs) celebrated his 90th birthday recently?

My thanks go to **John Riddington Young** for all these questions. There are more, which I shall include as space allows. Answers next month. Have fun and good luck.

**From the Rector - Ecclesiastes 3.1** famously says:

*There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.*

We are now well into the summer season, my favourite of the year. The warmer weather and longer evenings make it possible to get out and about much more. There's fruit and veg to pick in the garden. And most importantly of all, there's cricket to watch! It feels possible to slow down a little, linger longer, and smell the flowers.

The church year has a particular feel through the summer months too. After following the life of Jesus through from Advent to Pentecost, we stop and draw breath through the season of Trinity. There's time to pause and reflect.

We've planned three summer events which we'd love to invite people from across the mission community to join in: a pilgrimage to Brentor, a prayer walk to Baggy Point and a quiet day at Nethergrove. They will give us chance to connect with God, but also each other; to slow down, linger longer and smell the roses. Please do come and join us.

**Pilgrimage to St Michael de Rupe church, Brentor - Sunday 6th July.**

Meet at Brentor car park at 4.00pm for a picnic, short walk and then service in the church at 6.00pm.

**Prayer Walk to Baggy Point - Saturday 12th July**

Meet Rev Gary at the National Trust car park, Croyde, at 9.50am, walk to Baggy Point for prayers at 10.30am before returning to Croyde for a coffee. Part of South West Awake and organised by Churches Together in Barnstaple.

**Quiet Day – Into God's presence - 30th August, 10am – 3pm.**

Everyone is welcome to a quiet day at Stables cottage and Nethergrove House. Lunch will be provided and there will be refreshments throughout the day. The quiet day will be a time for you to spend quality time with God. There will be a few crafts, a chance to walk a labyrinth and prayer corners to help you get the most out of your time praying, reflecting and listening to God. Please let Tracey know if you would like to come for catering purposes.

**Please turn over to p4 for more from Gary...**

**Gary Owen - Rector of the Two Rivers Mission Community**



### Events at Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

#### Coffee Morning

In June we raised the sum of £100 Action for Children. **On 3 July all donations will go to "Over and Above"** the after care unit at North Devon District Hospital. So do please come along and join us between 10am and 12 noon. Then on 7 August we will be supporting the Harbour Community in Bideford,

#### Garden Club

The next meeting will be on Monday 30 June, when we will be visiting Maggie Harvey's garden. Please gather at the Chapel at **2.15pm**. The cost is just £1.00.

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



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

**We will be taking a summer break in July and August.**

So the next meeting will be on Monday 1 September.

For further details contact Wendy on 01271 858539.



Cont'd from page 3

### Work experience reflections:

For a week in June, Rev Gary's godson, Matthew joined the Two Rivers Mission Community for a week's work experience.

He helped Rev Gary with 2 weddings in Tawstock. On the Sunday he shared something of his spiritual journey in church, as well as reading the lesson. He also shared his testimony with the Monday morning group in Beaford. Matthew helped Gary lead two school assemblies on the theme of Pentecost. A highlight was attending the archdeacon's visitation! Perhaps less excitingly, but a realistic reflection of **"vicaring"**, he got stuck in with lots of admin and Zoom meetings.

#### Matthew writes:

I have really enjoyed my time in the Two Rivers and I want to thank everyone that has been a smiling face and has welcomed me into this wonderful

Cont'd on page 5

### Hope you enjoyed the last lot, here's a couple more...

Two men went fishing together in a lake. For a time they caught nothing. Then suddenly, they found tht the boat was surrounded by a shoal of fish. They caught all that they wanted and then fell to discuss how they could find this marvellous spot on future expeditions. The first man said that he would dive overboard and paint a circle on the bottom of the boat. The other agreed that this was a splendid idea and they rowed back the landing stage feeling very contented. It was only when they got there that the second fisherman raised a doubt. "Suppose", he said, "we don't get the same boat next time?"

Judge, to a member of the Jury Panel who was about to be sworn in but stated that he was deaf in one ear.

"I'm afraid that you can't serve on this Jury. You can only hear one side."

A very nervous young policeman was giving evidence in the Magistrates Court about the arrest of the defendant in the dock, who was charged with causing a breach of the peace.

Policeman: "He was using bad language to me when I arrested him."

Magistrate: "What did he say?"

Policeman: "He called me 'a Worship', you bastard."

### Last time the word was: NEWSPAPER

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 - Where you live Word count 29 = Good. More than 35 = Well done!

D	S	R
N	E	C
E	I	E

## Leisure

## Su Doku Puzzle No. 220

Good Luck...

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

## Solution to Su Doku No. 219

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

Anglican Community - Team Rector Rev Gary Owen

01769 560792 07947 358050

## Huntsy Church Services

Sunday 13th July: Morning service, 11.00am Morning worship

## Alverdiscott Church Services July

Every Sunday 8.00am: 1662 Book of Common Prayer Communion

oooooooo

Cont'd from page 4

community. It has been a very, very interesting and inspiring experience learning and taking part in rural ministry and one that I will not forget for a long time.

I particularly enjoyed the Beaford Morning Group who made me feel very included and allowed me to connect to God in a way that I have not done before. (Hopefully I didn't bore you too much with my testimony!). I hope that I may cross paths with some of you again.

Thanks everyone, and every blessing for the future.

Matthew



## Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

Minister Rev Rob Blackhall 01805 628041

Services planned for  
Alverdiscott Chapel during July

06 July 11.00am Nancy Hall -Tomkin

20 July 11.00am Linda Davis

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 JUNE MUSICAL LUNCH IS ON THE 27TH.

THE NEXT ONE IS ON FRIDAY 25th JULY

AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH ALVERDISCOTT

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



### ALVERDISCOTT & HUNTSRAW PARISH COUNCIL

I am sure you will be aware of two more “net zero” projects in the area – a battery energy storage system at Gammaton, and yet another solar farm at Bulworthy.

There are no current (pardon the pun) regulations or standards for battery storage. Many scientists have stated that the Accident Hazards regulations should apply to these installations, due to the toxic chemicals given off in the event of a fire (not an unheard of occurrence). However the Health & Safety Executive disagrees – Why?

The proposed solar farm at Bulworthy is in close proximity to both the Gammaton and Litchardon Cross sites, and will take out yet more farmland from the area.

The recent application for another solar farm at Ebberley Hill has been allowed on appeal to the Planning Inspectorate, despite objections from residents and Torridge Council. The inspector allowed this, despite noting that it would “introduce uncharacteristic and industrial development over a relatively large area” and would also lead to a loss of grade 3A farmland. The outlook is not good for any objections to the two current applications.

The whole North Devon area is becoming covered in wind and solar farms, which do not necessarily deliver their promised output. The companies involved are also not always soundly funded. The Derril Water solar farm owners, Ripple Energy, have just gone into administration, so what happens now?

Further food for thought – I quote from the latest CPRE magazine – “it is worth remembering that 97% of all carbon emissions are natural, coming mostly from the oceans, plant decay and volcanoes”. It is also interesting to note that the oft-quoted 1.5 degrees temperature rise has no particular environmental basis and is in fact based on temperatures existing during the Little Ice Age hundreds of years ago.

The government is obsessed with meeting a net zero emissions target, which on our tiny island will be virtually meaningless on a global basis. So much for local democracy.....

Graham White - 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 July** 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&amp;OE

Parish Clerk email: [alvhuntpc@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:mark.barry@devon.gov.uk) 07392 433699

**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

**From Huish to Huntshaw!**

**On Saturday 5th July to celebrate Huntshaw's newly refurbished Bells we have our 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](mailto: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**



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### FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS ALVERDISCOTT

## SAFARI SUPPER FRIDAY 4th JULY

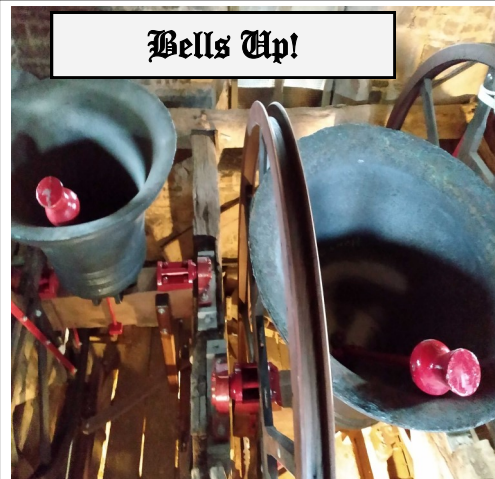
**We regret that this event has  
had to be cancelled. Hopefully  
back again next year.**

#### Friends of All Saints Church - June Draw Prize Winners

1st	Bryan Andrews	£25
2nd	Martyn Sluman	£15
3rd	Linda Gay	£10

The June draw was the final for the year. Louise will be contacting club members to arrange renewal. 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](mailto:louisesaunders4bp@gmail.com)

**Bells Up!**



**The Treble Bell**



**The Tenor Bell**



These are the bells of  
Huntsraw that will be  
ringing on Saturday  
5th July

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