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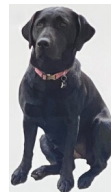
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THE LOCAL RAG

ALVERDISCOTT AND HUNTSNAY

Welcome to the
November Edition
Volume 22 Issue 10
2025

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Royal British Legion is here to help members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, veterans and their families. And we're not going anywhere.

We support serving and ex-serving personnel all year round, every day of the week.

Our support starts after one day of service and continues through life, long after service is over.



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

In the October Rag, the story of the restored phone box in Stony Cross got a mention. Well, Richard May who was one of those who helped to restore the box, has been in touch with a couple of possible uses. More details to follow, hopefully...

Local patient update

The latest on our two local casualties is - Philip Squire is progressing and has been moved nearer to home, he is now in South Molton hospital.

Peter Ley is thankfully back at home. So some good news then, but both of them still have a way to go before they are "back on their feet" again. We all wish them both well, and hope and pray for their continued recovery.

The weather has been a bit strange so far this year. Following a very dry March - we only had rain on 5 days and the total was 6mm! We had what seemed to be a long hot mostly dry spell. However, in April there was 91mm but 50mm of that fell on one day. In May there was 28mm, towards the end of the month. That carried on into June with 100mm in the first half and 10mm in the second. July had 51.5mm and then August 53.5mm. Then September made up for it with 248.5mm, almost 10ins in old money. To date, in October, there has been 49.5mm - barely 2ins. A rather mixed bag, but it's the long hot period that sticks in my memory. So far this year total rainfall is 832.5mm. In 2023 it was 1313mm in 2024 1370mm. So maybe there's more to come???

Bideford Music Club November Concert

Bideford Music Club are looking forward to their next concert on Wednesday 5th. November at 7.30pm at St. Mary's Church Bideford, when they will welcome the award winning pianist Kasparis Mikuzis. He was named as one of Classic Fm's 2025 Rising stars and is supported by the Munster Trust. Kasparis will be playing works by Mozart, Hamelin, Ravel and Rachmaninov.

Doors open at 7.00pm, all are welcome. For more information see our website: www.bidefordmusicclub.org.uk or

Facebook Bideford-Music-Club

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.

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH

FESTIVE SUNDAY LUNCH

Alverdiscott Community Hall



Sunday 14th December 12.30pm for 1pm

Tickets £25 - 3 course meal with a glass of wine

Book your place with Liz White, 01271 858441 ,

bulworthy@aol.com



From the Rector

November has a particular 'flavour' in church, with the theme of 'remembering' coming to the fore. The month begins with All Saints' Day (1st November) when we remember great Christians who have gone before us and set us an example of what it means to follow Jesus. The following day is the feast of All Souls. St Paul calls all who follow Jesus 'saints', so there is no real distinction between saints and souls, but perhaps All Souls' Day has a more quiet, reflective feel as we remember those unrecognised by the wider world but dear to us.

Sunday 9th November is Remembrance Sunday and is followed by Armistice day on 11th November. You can find a list of Remembrance Sunday services on our website, www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org Its worth checking times as some churches have changed their start times to ensure that their 2 minutes silence takes place at 11.00am. On 11 November there will be short acts of remembrance starting at 10.55am at the Tawstock and Atherington war memorials.

Advent starts on 30th November this year. Advent has a twin focus in church. Of course, we count down the days to Christmas and the celebration of Jesus' birth. The four candles on our advent wreaths remind us of the different people God used to prepare his people for the great day when he would enter the world he made in the person of his son. But advent is also a time to look forward to the return of Jesus; when, the bible tells us, Jesus will return to judge the living and the dead. For those unprepared it is a day to fear, but for those who love Jesus and long to see him, this will be the most wonderful day, when all our hopes and longings are fulfilled; hence the prayer of the early church, "Come, Lord Jesus". May this be our heart's desire and prayer this advent too.

Gary Owen - Rector of the Two Rivers Mission Community Churches

01769 560792 or 07947 358050

Events at Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

Coffee Morning

On 2 October we were raising money for the Devon Air Ambulance, and managed to raise the excellent sum of £150. **On 6 November we will be supporting The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.** So do please come along and join us between 10am and 12 noon to support this important cause. The December meeting will be on 4 December. The charity is yet to be decided. If you have a suggestion please get in touch.

Garden Club

As Philip is still out of action, the next meeting will be at the Chapel on Monday 24 November. The cost is just £1.00.



CRAFT and CHATTER

The next meeting is on **Monday 3 November** from 2 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 just £1.

For further details contact Wendy on 01271 858539.

QUIZ NITE

At Lovacott Village Hall on Saturday 22 November.

7 for 7.30pm. £8 per person, Maximum of 6 in a team.

Nibbles and Wine provided.

Contact Karen on 07510 147546.

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**Saturday
6th
December**

7pm



Call 01805 624490 to book

Last time the word was: ELEPHANT

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 - Gun Powder Plot
Word count 28 = Good. More than 35 = Well done!

S	W	R
S	I	F
E	O	R

Leisure

Su Doku Puzzle No. 224

Good Luck...

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

Solution to Su Doku No. 223

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

Anglican Community - Team Rector Rev Gary Owen

01769 560792 07947 358050



Huntshaw Church Services

Sunday 9th November: Remembrance Sunday service 10.50am

Sunday 14th December: Christmas service

Alverdiscott Church Services

Every Sunday 8.00am BCP Communion

Sunday 30th November 11.00am Advent service

Alverdiscott Methodist Chapel

Circuit Minister Revd Andrew Vidamour 01237 478453

Services planned for
Alverdiscott Chapel during October & November

02 Nov	11.00am	Mike New	CANCELLED
16 Nov	11.00am	David Ley	HC
30 Nov	11.00am	Advent Service 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

MUSICAL LUNCHES

THE NEXT ONE IS ON

FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER

AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH ALVERDISCOTT.

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

Please note: There will be no Musical Lunch in November or December



From the Parish Council Chairman

It appears that a number of Rag readers have taken offence at my contributions to the magazine.

May I apologise if these have been seen to reflect my political views.

This was not the intention in any way; I agree entirely that as chairman, I have to be seen as being totally impartial. My political views (such as they exist) are my own affair, and I do not seek to impose these on others.

Indeed, I have been advised that I should take a back seat as regards the activities of the Bulworthy Farm Action Group for this very reason, even though I live 100 yards from the projected site, and am thus directly affected.

I submitted these columns with the intention that readers should be aware of proceedings and views expressed in council and community meetings without going into the website, which I thought I had done in good faith.

I will try to ensure that any future contributions cannot be interpreted as my views; in the meantime I would like to thank those of you who have expressed support for my efforts.

Graham White

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 20 November 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

ALVERDISCOTT COMMUNITY HALL & FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Saturday 29th November 7:00pm for 7.30 pm

Alverdiscott Community Hall Stony Cross, EX39 4PZ

Licensed Bar

Teams up to 6 - £5.00 per person

(Includes light supper)

Contact Liz or Graham White to book a table

01271 858441 or bulworthy@aol.com

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Gems from School Reports

Of my cricketing skills, my sports master wrote: *"As a batsman his efforts are more agricultural than useful and in the field he has the air of a disinterested spectator."*

The Physical Education section of my school report in the early '60's stated:
"Nigel is the best of the non-swimmers."

My art report was succinct and entirely accurate: *"Started abysmally and rose to a very low standard."*

On the subject of spelling, my 1964 school report simply said: *"Original."*

My geography report in the 1960's Said: *"Does well to find her way home."*

Friends of All Saints Church - October Draw Prize Winners

1st	Wendy Bysouth	£25
2nd	Paul Bysouth	£15
3rd	Tom Saunders	£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

In the Interests of Balance

The Gaia theory that MP Geoffrey Cox is so fond of was formulated by James Lovelock and co-developed by Lynn Margulis in the 1970s. While charming, it is irrelevant to modern climate science. By referring to it, Mr Cox displays a worrying ignorance about climate change. Surely he doesn't think he knows better than an entire planet's worth of scientists?

In the UK, solar generated around 15,225 gigawatt hours of electricity in 2023 alone. Solar has a growing role in electricity production, contributing around 5% of our annual power generation in 2024. As of summer 2025, on sunny days, at times it provided over 30% of the power we used. We're doing really well, but we still need to do better - the UK needs more solar and wind farms to secure the future for our children and theirs.

In addition, a positive statement supporting the Bulworthy solar development was read out on my behalf at the meeting, something that wasn't mentioned in the article. In the interests of accuracy and balance, it's important to know that some of us support the proposal.

Kate Goldstone

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