

The Natterjack

SYDERSTONE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



**Welcome to the Winter 2023 edition of
Syderstone's Natterjack Newsletter**

Syderstone cleans up its act

Thank you to everyone to took part in the Syderstone litter pick on Saturday 19 November. This community event takes place twice a year and is organised by the Parish Council. Usually a great opportunity for some fresh air, exercise, company and a good laugh; this year was no exception. 35 people from across our community took part, along with a number of children and at least one dog!



The collectors covered a wide area, including The Street, Creak Road, Mill Lane, Rudham Road, Docking Road, Ashside and Tattersett Road. All in all, we managed to collect 45 bags of rubbish, along with some more unusual items, many of which sadly seemed to have been fly-tipped.

A great effort all round, with thanks to the seven support helpers based at the village hall. The trailer pick up service for the full bags and bulkier items was very welcome. Everyone was rewarded by sausage, bacon and mushroom rolls together with hot drinks in the village hall afterwards, provided by a crack team in the ARVH kitchen!



Photo credits: Caz Appleby

Lighting up Syderstone for Christmas

As in previous years, Syderstone will be having its own Christmas tree, complete with twinkling lights, outside the Amy Robsart Village Hall. This year's tree lights 'switch-on' will be on Sunday 3rd December followed by carol singing, a licensed bar and mulled wine!

Here's what to expect:

4.00pm: Blessing of the tree and lights switch on by Father Clive

Followed by Fakenham Town Band playing a selection of Christmas carols and songs (song sheets will be supplied

– please bring a torch so you can see the words!)

Mulled wine and mince pies in village hall, courtesy of FRISC (Fund Raising In Syderstone Community).



Sunday 3rd December is the night after the next pop up bar and there will be a licence for people to enjoy the usual selection of alcoholic beverages.

This year to help with funds for the event we will be running a Christmas anagrams competition and a raffle - both to be held on the Saturday night. Raffle tickets will be £1 each/£5 per strip. The anagrams sheet at £2 per entry will be available at the coffee morning on Wednesday 29th November and at the Saturday Pop Up Pub or from either Gwyn Williams or Sarah Speake at 1 The Street. £25 will go to the winner of the anagrams competition (there will be a 'winner take all' tie break question).

On the night there will be a cash collection in the village hall, organised by FRISC. This will be split 50/50 between East Anglian Air Ambulance service and supporting FRISC's continued donation towards the emptying of two of the village dog waste bins.

This event is usually a terrific opportunity for individuals and families to get together to launch the seasonal celebrations and to meet up with friends from across the community for some singing, chat and festive food. So wrap up warm and don't forget to bring a torch!

Thank you to Dizzy and Bob Gough who have sponsored the Christmas tree again this year. Thanks also to Kate Sharman for supplying our fabulous cover photo (taken last year).

Slam dunk on the Syderstone playing field!



A new basketball net and playing area has recently been installed on the playing field, thanks to the Syderstone Parish Council. This has been funded by grants from the Jack's Lane Community Benefit Fund and the Chiplow Community Benefit Fund. Suitable for all ages, so why not go along and try it out!



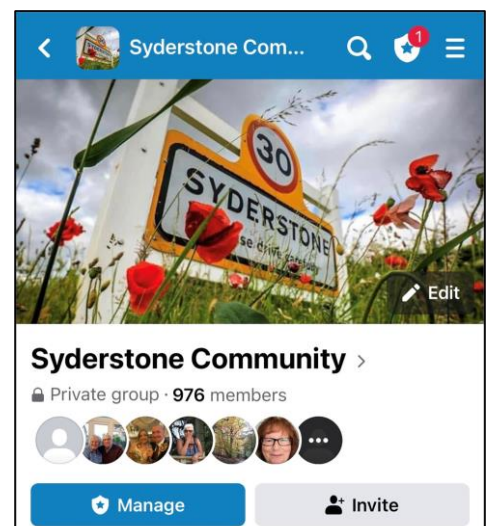
Mobility and access in Syderstone

The Parish Council is seeking your views on whether you think that there are any access issues in the village for people with a disability. Parish Council Chair, Dawn Niemann explains, "We recently had a letter from a parishioner about raised kerbs and accessibility. We'd like to hear from people in the village to find out if others are struggling so we can highlight it to the Council's Highways Department."

This is going to be discussed at the January PC meeting so if you have any views, make sure your voice is heard by emailing your thoughts by 10 January to: syderstoneparishcouncil@outlook.com

Syderstone Community Facebook page

Are you a member of the Syderstone Community Facebook page? It's a great way to keep track of what's happening and share information around the community. You'll need the Facebook app on your phone or tablet then search for 'Syderstone Community'. Simply apply to join as it is a closed group – just answer a few questions about your connection with Syderstone.



Syderstone Parish Councillors

Dawn Niemann – Chair	01485 576217
Dave Daly – Vice-Chair	01485 576222
Martin Bateman	07970128411
Paul Welland	01485 576249
Debs Candy	07951 317570
Sade Ojelade	07564 664886
Simon Wood	01485 576297
Parish Clerk, Sarah Harvey	01328 823391

Parish correspondence:

By post: Parish clerk at Byanoak, Leicester Road, South Creake, NR21 9PW

Email: syderstoneparishcouncil@outlook.com

Website: syderstoneparishcouncil@norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Parish Council meetings - all take place at 7.30pm:

19 December / 18 January / 15 February

Members of the public are welcome to join the meeting and there is an opportunity to make comments or ask questions of the Council during the first part of the meeting.



Barmer Estate

THE NATTERJACK

The Natterjack is published quarterly. If you have information you would like to include, please contact its editor, Caz Appleby at cappleby@outlook.com

The Barmer Hall estate in North Norfolk is delighted to support the Syderstone Parish Magazine 'The Natterjack'.

Barmer Hall is the sister estate to Courteenhall Estate in South Northamptonshire, which has been in the Wake family since 1672.

The estate takes a nature-led approach to farming, which means we are committed to farming as sustainably as possible, working with and protecting the environment for future generations and supporting the local community.

St. Mary's Church News

This year St Marys will have a Christmas Day service at 10.00am, led by Nick Sandford (authorised worship assistant) supported by our brilliant team. It will be informal, friendly and will welcome everyone, children, families and anyone who might be on their own. We are aiming for about 30 - 40 minutes starting with a carol or two and of course the Christmas story, even a cracker joke? An ideal place to show off your new toy, present or Christmas finery.

Before that, on Friday 22nd December, there will be the service of readings and carols with the local choir at 6.00pm with a mince pie and glass of something warming after, so come and have a good sing and start the celebrations.

Our usual services:

- **Praise Services, Sundays at 4pm: 10 Dec / 14 Jan / 11 Feb**
- **Morning Worship, Sundays at 10am: 17 Dec / 21 Jan / 18 Feb**
- **Friday Communion at 10 am: 1, 15, 29 Dec / 12, 26 Jan / 9, 23 Feb**

There are lots more services and celebrations in the Benefice, simply look at the Creakes Benefice website, keep your eye on social media and old fashioned notice boards!

To contact Father Clive email: clive.wylie@dioceseofnorwich.org 01328 823293

Website: www.syderstone.org

Churchwarden: Paul Offord 01485 578218

PCC Secretary: Julie Goddard 07515 648928 julia.a.goddard@gmail.com

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News from Stanhoe Methodist Church

All are welcome at our Services over Christmas 2023 and New Year 2024.

All services start at 11am:

2nd December (1st Sunday in Advent) Service of Holy Communion led by **Rev Dr Richman Ncube**

10th December (2nd Sunday in Advent) **CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE** led by **Rev. Gordon Tonge**, followed by seasonal refreshments

Sunday, 17th December (3rd Sunday in Advent) NO Service

24 December (4th Sunday in Advent) Christmas Eve. All age Morning Worship, led by **Sheila Johnson**, Local Preacher

31st December New Year's Eve. Morning Service led by **Mary Cumbers**, Local Preacher

Services in January will be on **14th and 28th January**.

As we pray for peace across the world at this difficult time, we wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

For further information, contact the Church Stewards: Judith Chaloner on 01485 578630 or Elizabeth MacLeod on 01485 578392 or the Minister: Rev Dr Richman Ncube on 01485 570232.

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AMY ROBSART VILLAGE HALL - (ARVH)

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We're coming to the end of another successful year

The Pop Up Pub has now established itself as a regular feature in the village hall calendar. We are already thinking about some more dates for Pop Up Pubs in the new year.

At the other end of the spectrum, we are nearing completion on the conversion of the annexe to create a small independent space – our first small space and a place for small groups like Book Club. This is the area at the far end of ARVH; it comes complete with internet facilities and charging points – hopefully, all in place in the new year. More information about how to hire this space coming soon.

Also, ARVH now has its own section on the Parish Council website:

syderstoneparishcouncil@norfolkparishes.gov.uk

We're also coming to the end of an era

Norman Riches, our Chair, is standing down at the end of 2023. He has been Chair for 18 years and has led the committee through many changes and improvements at the village hall. Everyone at the village hall wish him well and success in whatever he turns his hand to.

Merry Christmas from the ARVH Management Committee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Norman Riches	Chair	01485 578171	normanrriches@btinternet.com
2. Wendy Little	Secretary	01485 578270	secretaryARVH@outlook.com
3. Chris Little	Treasurer	01485 578270	treasurerARVH@outlook.com
4. Gerry Taylor	Money Club	01485 578524	cobblers2u@yahoo.co.uk
5. Sheila Riches	Booking Manager	01485 578171	sheilarriches@btinternet.com
Martin Bateman	Parish Council representative		
Paul Offord	St Mary's Church representative		
Anita Taylor	Coffee Morning representative	Tel: 01485 578524	
Linda Pearse	Art & Craft representative	Mob: 07747 804102	
Tim Chaloner	Bowls representative	Tel: 01485 578630	
Martin Niemann	Local History Group rep	Mob: 07837 183048	
Gary Garford	Co-opted		

What's going on at the Village Hall?

Your village hall hosts all sorts of activities. You are very welcome to attend any of these by contacting the named person in each case. All our groups are friendly and inexpensive. They are places to make new friends and have a relaxed and enjoyable time. **See back page for all events taking place at the village hall.**

INDOOR BOWLS (Short mat)

Contact: Tim Chaloner (see hall list)

The last bowls session of 2023 will be Tuesday the 12 December.

We will start the new year with a session on Tuesday the 9th of Jan 2024.

New bowlers most welcome. £3 per session with the first session free.

Weekly

Tuesday 4.00-6.00

BOOK CLUB

Contact: Kate Boote (07487 677772)

Monthly – 2nd Tuesday

10.30 - 12.00

SYDERSTONE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Contact: Michael Parker (07805 894284)

Monthly – 1st Thursday 7.30 – 9.30

Email: syderstoneLHG@gmail.com

COFFEE MORNING

Contact: Anita Taylor (see hall list)

Pam's Jams & Cakes for sale

Weekly

Wednesday 10.30 – 12.00

4th Wednesday of the month

ARTS & CRAFTS

Contact: Linda Pearse (see hall list)

Weekly

Wednesday 1.45 - 4.15

VILLAGE HALL POST OFFICE

Contact: Chris Little (see hall list)

Every Week

Wednesday and Friday 9.15 – 12.00

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Syderstone Community Archive @ ARVH

Contact: Sheila Riches (see village hall list)

32nd Old Syderstonians Reunion Saturday - 7th October 2023

This meeting was rather special in that several of our attendees were celebrating reaching their 80th birthday this year. Many thanks to Judy Napolitano for organising a cake in the form of an open book, decorated with the Village Hall on one side and the list of people reaching their 80th on the other. There was of course a cake-cutting ceremony, lots of photos were taken and everyone enjoyed a slice of the cake! Unfortunately, not everyone listed could make this reunion, especially Kenneth Edge, who has sadly had to relinquish his role as editor of 'The Syderstonian' due to eyesight problems. Ken has produced the newsletter since 2008 and has always included fascinating and informative articles written by himself besides lots of input from other Old Syderstonians, they were keenly read by everyone. He also had an e-mail distribution list of people both from the UK and many places abroad who were also able to keep in touch with Syderstone from far and wide. On behalf of myself, Avril Macarthur and all the Old Syderstonians I would like to say a huge thankyou to Ken for all his efforts over the last 15 years and we hope that the newsletter can be continued in one form or another.



Michael Parker had an avid audience all afternoon enjoying his rolling slideshow of old Syderstone photos which he showed using the television kindly donated to the hall by Martin Niemann. The photos provoked many informative comments and anecdotes, which were duly noted.

Syderstone Community Archive

The Archive is always keen to accept photographs, stories, and memorabilia relating to Syderstone. We can scan and return original photos if they are precious to you, or you may like to donate them to the ever-growing collection. If you have any family treasures hidden away in a drawer or a loft, please do not throw them away before we can have a look at them. One photo can unlock such a lot of information if the right people look at it. Remember, your old photos are like gold dust to the archive.

VILLAGE SCREEN CINEMA at the Amy Robsart Village Hall

Email: syderstonecinema_ARVH@outlook.com

Saturday 16th December 7.30pm

WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT? (12A)

How do you find lasting love in today's world? For documentary-maker and dating app addict Zoe, swiping right has only delivered an endless stream of Mr. Wrongs, to the dismay of her eccentric mother. For Zoe's childhood friend and neighbour Kaz, the answer is to follow his parents' example and opt for an arranged marriage to a bright and beautiful bride from Pakistan. As Zoe films his hopeful journey from London to Lahore to marry her, she begins to wonder if she might have something to learn from a profoundly different approach to finding love.

Starring Lily James, Shazad Latif and Emma Thompson.

Tickets: £4.00 advance booking - pay at the door

Tel: 01485 578171 Email: syderstonecinema_ARVH@outlook.com

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024 - SPRING SEASON

So far we have our first film booked, we also have forthcoming dates. More information on the new season's films will follow on noticeboards, mailings and FaceBook. Make sure you're on our mailing list (address above).

Saturday 27th January 7.30pm

BOOK CLUB - THE NEXT CHAPTER (12A)

A feelgood comedy film, to brighten up a dark January evening. This highly anticipated sequel follows four best friends who have known each other for 50 years, as they take their book club to Italy for the fun girls trip they never had. When things go off the rails and secrets are revealed their relaxing vacation turns into a once in a lifetime cross-country adventure. Starring Jane Fonda, Diane Keaton, Candice Bergen, Mary Steenburgen

2024 CINEMA DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: 24 February ; 23 March; 27 April

Autumn Fair – thank you for your support

Thank you to everyone who came along to support the recent Autumn Fair, held at the Amy Robsart Village Hall on Saturday 4th November. Just over £1000 was raised for St Mary's church, Syderstone. Pam Protheroe, who masterminded the whole thing said: "Thank you to everyone who had helped in whatever capacity, stallholders, organisers, caterers and the ARVH hall management committee. An all-round community effort."

Coffee Morning – Wednesday 10.30 -12.00 (£2 for tea/coffee & biscuits)

Make a new year resolution " I must go to Coffee Morning this year"

Your coffee morning is open almost EVERY WEEK of the year!

Use it as a meeting place; use it as a place to make new friends; visiting the Post Office? just pop in, you'll be made very welcome.

You may be thinking it's not for you – why not just give it a try?

It's for old and young, men and women who want to meet up with other villagers and have a chat over a cup of coffee or tea and biscuits. You can even have a flutter – buy a raffle ticket to support the village hall and be present for the monthly Money Club draw which supports the village hall.

POP UP PUB @ ARVH

SAT 2 DECEMBER

5.30PM – 10.30PM

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NATURALLY SYDERSTONE - Pretty in pink

How do you tell the colour of one of Britain's most popular garden birds without even seeing it? It's easy – the chaffinch shouts it out for you. "Pink! Pink!" calls the male chaffinch, and one look at this insistent creature says it's not wrong. The male has a rosy flush all down its front, neatly offset by blue-grey crown and shoulders. If you're German, then you'll hear it call the chaffinch name. Der Fink is the finch! The female is a dowdy counterpart, trading pink for greenish-brown with buff underparts. Both sexes behave just the same – they're ground hoppers, forever bobbing about on the hunt for seeds.

Head out of your garden and into the open fields and you might spot a whole flock of chaffinches. Though it's harder to pick out detail at a distance, watch when they fly for distinctive white wing bars. And here's a curious fact; the chaffinch flocks in our East Anglian winters are visitors from Scandinavia, and they consist almost entirely of male birds – they are so-called bachelor flocks. Head to Wales, Ireland or western England and you are more likely to find all-female flocks. Nobody is quite sure why this mobile sex segregation takes place.

We can help chaffinches in the winter by putting out seed feeders, but a word of warning. It's possible to love them to death. Between around 2006 and 2018, chaffinches suffered a catastrophic decline, with numbers falling by about a third. This was almost certainly the result of human carelessness. When we don't keep bird feeders clean, they are apt to harbour disease, and a particularly virulent one called trichomonosis killed millions of chaffinches at that time. So make sure you strip down your feeders and wash them regularly. Enjoy your chaffinches and listen for them telling you they're here.



Syderstone Local History Group

Syderstone Local History Group meets monthly in the village hall at 7.30pm on the first Thursday of the month and welcomes anyone with an interest in village history, its buildings, families or customs.

7 December **Syderstone then and now – old and new photos
(with mulled wine and mince pies!)**

January **No meeting**

1 February **Topic to be confirmed**

For more details about Syderstone's Local History Group, please contact Michael Parker, email syderstonelhg@gmail.com or Tel 07805 894284.

Syderstone Book Exchange – located in the former phone box

We are very grateful for your donations of books, especially children's books. The book exchange has been well used, especially by children, throughout the summer months and into autumn. Unfortunately, we do not have room for anything other than books, so no jigsaw puzzles please. Thank you again for your support. Elizabeth MacLeod 01485 578392.

Stanhoe and Barwick Women's Institute – meets every third Thursday

Thursday 7th December: Christmas entertainment from Stuff and Folly.

The Reading Room, Stanhoe at 2pm.

Visitors are most welcome. Our charge is £5, which includes refreshments. Our 2024 Programme is still under wraps, but will be full of our usual entertaining and informative talks. We return on January 11th and thereafter on the first Thursday of each month, from 1st February. Please contact Valerie (01485 576261) for further details.

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1 Mill Lane, Syderstone

December 2023			
2nd	Pop Up Pub : food from Green Park Kitchen	5.30 – 10.30pm	ARVH
3rd	Christmas Tree lights switch on, carols & pub	4.00pm	ARVH
5th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
6th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
6th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
7th	Stanhoe and Barwick Women's Institute	2.00pm	Reading Room, Stanhoe
7th	Local History Group - Syderstone then & now	7.30pm	ARVH
8th	Mobile library	2.10 – 2.40pm	Ashside and ARVH
10th	Christmas Carol Service	11am	Stanhoe Methodist
12th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
12th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	ARVH
13th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
16th	Village Cinema – What's love got to do with it?	7.30pm	ARVH
19th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	ARVH
20th	Coffee morning (home-made cakes & jams)	10.30am	ARVH
22nd	Christmas Carol Service	6.00pm	St Mary's Church
24th	Morning Worship for Christmas	10.00am	Stanhoe Methodist
25th	Christmas Day Service	10.00am	St Mary's Church
January 2024			
3rd	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
5th	Mobile library	2.10 – 2.40pm	Ashside and ARVH
9th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	ARVH
9th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
10th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
10th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
11th	Stanhoe and Barwick Women's Institute	2.00pm	Reading Room, Stanhoe
16th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
17th	Coffee morning (home-made cakes & jams)	10.30am	ARVH
17th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
18th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	ARVH
23rd	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
24th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
24th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
27th	Village Cinema – Book Club - The next chapter	7.30pm	ARVH
30th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
31st	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
31st	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
February 2024			
1st	Stanhoe and Barwick Women's Institute	2.00pm	Reading Room, Stanhoe
1st	Local History Group	7.30pm	ARVH
2nd	Mobile library	2.10 – 2.40pm	Ashside and ARVH
6th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
7th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
7th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
13th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	ARVH
13th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
14th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
15th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	ARVH
20th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
21st	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
24th	Village Screen Cinema – TBC	7.30pm	ARVH
27th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
28th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH