

# The Natterjack



SYDERSTONE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



**Welcome to the Spring 2025 edition of  
Syderstone's Natterjack Newsletter**

**PLEASE TEAR OUT AND KEEP**

## **DEFIBRILLATOR INFORMATION**

The village defibrillator is located by the entrance door to the village hall. In an emergency it is **ESSENTIAL** to phone **999 FIRST**. They will give you the defibrillator access code. If you cannot fetch the defibrillator yourself the trained volunteers listed below may be able to assist you and hopefully you'll know at least one of them.

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>
Rachel Brown	07758 336945
Tom White	07768 465746
Hilary Nelson	07562 688128
Sharron Kidd	07887 647374
Andrew Knight	07973 741098
Gary Garford	07306 049024
Dawn Niemann	07773 921784
Chris Little	07368 817264
Lee Armitage (Syderstone Business Park)	01485 578112
Paul Offord	07443 873686
Neil Chappel	07973 878212
Martin Niemann	07837 183048
Julie Parker	07841 680198
Andrew Rayner	07879 840555
Gina Knight	07980 207691
Francis Poignand	07484 854909
Martin Bateman	07970 128411
Lyndon Scourfield	07534 699590

**REMEMBER CALL 999 FIRST**

## Syderstone Parish Councillors



Dawn Niemann – Chair	01485 576217
Dave Daly – Vice-Chair	01485 576222
Paul Welland	01485 576249
Debs Candy	07951 317570
Sade Ojelade	07564 664886
Simon Wood	01485 576297
Kimberly Jordan	<a href="mailto:kimberlyjordan.syderstonepc@gmail.com">kimberlyjordan.syderstonepc@gmail.com</a>
Parish Clerk, Sarah Harvey	01328 823391

### Parish correspondence:

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

Email: [syderstoneparishcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:syderstoneparishcouncil@outlook.com)

Website: [www.syderstonevillageandpc.info](http://www.syderstonevillageandpc.info)

### Parish Council meetings - all take place at 7.30pm:

**20 March / 17 April / 15 May**

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

### THE NATTERJACK

The Natterjack is published quarterly and funded by the Parish Council. If you have information you would like to include, please contact its editor, Caz Appleby [cappleby@outlook.com](mailto:cappleby@outlook.com)

### Syderstone Community Litter Pick - Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March

Always a fabulous community event in the Syderstone calendar – our village litter pick is on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March. Why not come along to the village hall to collect your equipment and for a safety briefing at 10.00am sharp. Litter ‘picks’, bin bags and hi-vis vests supplied. Then you’ll be let loose on the streets to rummage in the undergrowth. You’ll be amazed what you can find! At 11.30am its back to the hall for free refreshments; last time the sausage and bacon rolls were delicious! Veggie options will also be available.

There’s a trailer pick up service for the full bags. Dogs are welcome as usual. **No need to book – just turn up. Bring your own gloves.**

## **An update from Dawn Niemann, Chair of Syderstone Parish Council**

The PC has quite a few projects on the go which should hopefully come to fruition shortly. We've been told by NCC Highways that the new village gates and planters for Tattersett Road should be in place by April.

The old broken glass in the top of the book exchange has now been replaced and work continues to remove the old rotten wooden pole in the base of the village sign on Mill Lane so that the sign can be returned on the new metal pole which should last for many years. The other village sign on Docking Road will be having some repairs to the loose stones on the base. Some good weather would help enormously with getting these finished! Thanks to Martin Bateman and Lyndon Scourfield for their persistence in getting these jobs done in the winter weather.

The new information board for the playing field has arrived and will be in place shortly. More on this very soon. A bid for funding for a shelter on the playing field has been submitted. This was requested by parishioners some time ago following a piece in The Natterjack, so fingers crossed for a positive outcome.

Work continues on the preparation of an Emergency Plan and huge thanks to all those who got in touch after the piece in the last edition to offer their services. These have been noted, and we'll be in touch further down the line.

Speedwatch sessions are held regularly thanks to all the volunteers and we're hopeful that the new pole for the SAM2 sign on Ashside will be installed shortly.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the recent survey on the Syderstone Neighbourhood Plan. This enables local people to have a say in how and where development in the parish should take place. The policies it contains are used to decide on all planning applications in the parish, whether these are for extensions or proposals for new housing or business. It also helps to secure more funding for community infrastructure projects and will guide the work of Syderstone Parish Council going forward.

All the responses have been carefully scrutinised and where appropriate, the draft Plan has been amended to reflect the feedback. It has now been submitted to the local council for the next stage in the process. Your next chance to have a say on the Plan will be in the Autumn when there will be a referendum held in the village hall, run by Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council. Stay up to date with the Plan via the village website:

[www.syderstonevillageandpc.info](http://www.syderstonevillageandpc.info)

## Syderstone's own marathon man - Ian Walker

Just reaching out to let everyone know that I will be taking part in the London Marathon in 2025. Some, if not all of you who know me may raise an eyebrow and if you don't know me then you will probably wonder why!!!! I first ran for Action Medical Research back in 2018. A fantastic charity that I have also supported over the last few years taking part in the London to Paris cycle ride and a 10k run in London.



I will be 59 years old when I take part with the big 60 peering around the corner a few months later. I'm a proud parent and grandparent and I'm aiming to raise as much money as I can for Action Medical Research to enable them to carry on helping those in need. Please visit their website to see what amazing work they do. [www.action.org.uk](http://www.action.org.uk)

Any sponsorship, no matter how small or large, would be much appreciated. Sponsorship forms are available in the village hall. The link below goes to my 'Just Giving' page where you can donate online:

[https://2025tcs londonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/ian-walker-66abe?utm\\_source=enthuse&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=f-nurture&utm\\_content=page&utm\\_campaign=website&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=enthuse](https://2025tcs londonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/ian-walker-66abe?utm_source=enthuse&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=f-nurture&utm_content=page&utm_campaign=website&utm_medium=email&utm_source=enthuse)

Thank you.

Ian

The Pop-Up Pub on 8 March in the village hall will also be donating some of their profits to Ian's cause.



# AMY ROBSART VILLAGE HALL, SYDERSTONE

Registered Charity No. 271842

Thank you for your continuing support for the events that take place in the hall. It's here FOR YOU. Here to provide a meeting place for groups and people across the whole of our community.

We asked the community for ideas on new activities to run in the hall. Lots of people asked for a games and cards afternoon. This is now happening every Thursday between 1.30pm and 3.30pm, run by committee member Jennifer Hennessy. Just £2 including refreshments. Its proving very popular and giving people somewhere warm and welcoming to go on these dreary winter days.

## BOARD AND CARD GAMES AFTERNOON

THURSDAYS 1.30pm – 3.30pm

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♣
♠
♣
♠

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(you can even bring your own games if you like)





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**The Village Hall Management Committee**

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<b>Caz</b> Appleby	Chair/Arts and Crafts representative	<a href="mailto:caz@syderstonevh.co.uk">caz@syderstonevh.co.uk</a> 07817 803221
<b>Tim</b> Chaloner	Treasurer/ Bookings Manager Bowls representative	<a href="mailto:tim@syderstonevh.co.uk">tim@syderstonevh.co.uk</a> 01485 578630
<b>Chris</b> Little	Site Manager	<a href="mailto:chris@syderstonevh.co.uk">chris@syderstonevh.co.uk</a> 01485 578270
<b>Gary</b> Garford	Improvement Programme & Funding Manager	<a href="mailto:gary@syderstonevh.co.uk">gary@syderstonevh.co.uk</a> 07306 049024
<b>Fay</b> Woods	Secretary / Book Club representative	01485 576395
<b>Anita</b> Taylor	Coffee Morning representative	01485 578524
<b>Gerry</b> Taylor	St Mary's rep/Money Club	01485 578524
<b>Jennifer</b> Hennessy	Co-opted member	

## What's going on at the Village Hall?

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 village events.**

### **PILATES**

Contact: Sally Storr (07837 752163)

**Weekly**

**Mondays 5.00 & 6.00**

### **INDOOR BOWLS** (Short mat)

Contact: Tim Chaloner (see hall list)

**Weekly**

**Tuesday 4.00 - 6.00**

### **BOOK CLUB**

Contact: Kate Boote (07487 677772)

**Monthly – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday**

**10.30 - 12.00**

### **COFFEE MORNING**

Contact: Anita Taylor (see hall list)  
Jams & Cakes for sale

**Weekly**

**Wednesday 10.30 – 12.00**

**4th Wednesday of the month**

### **TECH SKILLS FOR LIFE**

Drop in session for technology advice/help

**Monthly - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday**

**10.00 – 12.00**

### **ARTS & CRAFTS**

Contact: Caz Appleby (07817 803221)

**Weekly**

**Wednesday 1.45 - 4.15**

### **VILLAGE HALL POST OFFICE**

Contact: Chris Little (see hall list)

**Weekly**

**Wednesday 9.15 – 12.00**

### **GAMES AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

Contact: [jen@syderstonevh.co.uk](mailto:jen@syderstonevh.co.uk)

**Weekly**

**Thursday 1.30 – 3.00**

### **SYDERSTONE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP**

Contact: Michael Parker (07805 894284)

**Monthly – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday 7.30**

**Email: [syderstoneLHG@gmail.com](mailto:syderstoneLHG@gmail.com)**

### **YOGA**

Contact: Jess Wells (07961 647507)

**Weekly**

**Saturday 8.45 – 9.35**

## 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.

**6 March: Bee keeping by Paul Welland**

**3 April: To be advised plus Annual General Meeting**

**1 May: Visit to RAF Bircham Newton Heritage Centre. Ticketed event as limited places available. Contact: [syderstonelhg@gmail.com](mailto:syderstonelhg@gmail.com)**

### Plans for 2025

#### Syderstone Local History Group Website

One of our major goals this year is to set up a local history website, as part of the Syderstone village and parish council website. We need to plan what we want to go on the website and then prepare the webpages. Hopefully we can include a selection of the photographs from our archives, some extracts from people's stories about the village and even some audio clips from our Syderstone Voices project.

We would welcome any volunteers who could help us in this. Please contact Michael Parker for more details.

#### Syderstone Voices - oral history project

Following our start last year we plan to continue collecting the stories of people who have lived in and around Syderstone. Again, any volunteers to undertake the recordings or to do the sound editing would be welcome.

**Michael Parker** [syderstonelhg@gmail.com](mailto:syderstonelhg@gmail.com)

### **Economy Storage**

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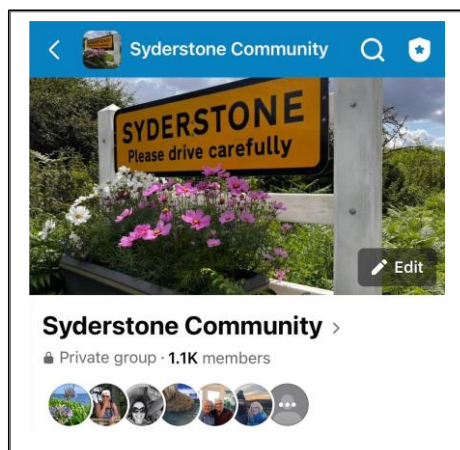
## **PILATES – classes starting up again at the village hall**

Are you feeling a bit creaky after the long winter? Hoping to stretch and tone your body and feel altogether better in spring? If you would like to come and give Pilates a go you are more than welcome. If you've done it before you will know the benefits, so do come and join us. Pilates offers a full body workout which won't leave you exhausted, but promises to strengthen your core muscles and joints, and leave you feeling relaxed.

Starting on Monday 7 April, Pilates classes will be up and running at the village hall on Mondays at 5 pm and 6pm. Each fifty minute session combines a standing warm-up, mat work and a guided relaxation.

The price is £6 drop in per class or £30 if you book six classes. Please let me know if you'd like to attend and I'll reserve you a place (also your preferred time). Further information will be available on Syderstone Community Facebook page in March.

All welcome. If you have any questions about Pilates, please get in touch. Sally Storr Tel 07837 752163 or [sallyastorr@gmail.com](mailto:sallyastorr@gmail.com)



### **Syderstone Community Facebook page**

Syderstone Community Facebook page is a great way to keep track of what's happening and share information. Want to join? 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) and just answer a few questions about your connection with Syderstone.

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## SYDERSTONE VILLAGE SCREEN CINEMA at the Village Hall

Email: [syderstonecinema\\_ARVH@outlook.com](mailto:syderstonecinema_ARVH@outlook.com)

### Saturday 29 March – 7.30pm – The Critic (15)

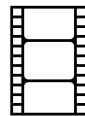
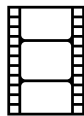
Set in 1930s London, The Critic revolves around a feared theatre critic named Jimmy Erskine, his loyal assistant, a newspaper owner who wants to get rid of the critic, and an actress who has been devastated by his excoriating theatrical reviews. The critic's determination to survive ensures that the other characters are caught in a web of blackmail, deceit and murder.

Starring Gemma Arterton, Lesley Manville, Ian McKellen and Mark Strong.

### Saturday 26 April – 7.30pm – Paddington in Peru (PG)

Paddington Bear has been living with the Brown family in London for many years now, but he still feels the tug of his Peruvian roots. Hearing that his Aunt Lucy, now living in the Home for Retired Bears, has been missing him terribly, Paddington and the Browns set off to Darkest Peru, only to discover on arrival that Aunt Lucy has disappeared. So off they go into the Amazon to find her, accompanied by boat captain Hunter Cabot and his daughter Gina. What could possibly go wrong?

Starring Hugh Bonneville, Emily Mortimer and Ben Whishaw.



**Doors open 7.00pm. Screening at 7.30pm.** Advance booking preferred.

Tickets: £6 adults and £4 for children under 14.

**Email: [syderstonecinema\\_ARVH@outlook.com](mailto:syderstonecinema_ARVH@outlook.com) or call 01485 578270**

Make sure you're on our mailing list by emailing us at the address above.

**CINEMA DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: 31 May / 28 June**

### **35<sup>th</sup> Old Syderstonians Reunion**

The 35<sup>th</sup> Reunion on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April in the Amy Robsart Village Hall from 2pm-5pm marks a real milestone. The Reunions started in 2006 and during this time we have lost meetings only to Covid. As always, refreshments will be available and there will be the usual bumper raffle! Everyone is welcome, current and ex residents. It is a relaxed, entertaining afternoon mixed with a lot of historical memories, a chance to meet up with old friends and an opportunity to look at material from the Community Archive.

### **Syderstone Community Archive**

I have been collecting newspaper reports for Syderstone sports teams, football, cricket, darts, dominoes. If anyone has any photos, or memorabilia they would like to share with the archive please get in touch.

[sheilarriches@btinternet.com](mailto:sheilarriches@btinternet.com) or 01485 578171

### **Digital Switch over 2025 in Syderstone – yes it affects YOU**

Traditional landline phone systems will soon be a thing of the past. Between now and the end of 2025 most telephone providers will be switching their customers from old analogue (copper-based) landlines to new upgraded services using digital technology. The digital switchover applies to **all phone lines** no matter who your telephone provider is (BT, Virgin, Sky, TalkTalk etc). The BT digital switchover is planned to be completed by the end of 2025. Your communications provider will let you know when yours is happening, and you won't need to do anything about your phone service until then. **From the date of the switchover, landline telephones will no longer work via the socket on the wall.** Instead, they will need to be connected to a broadband router or digital adapter. For most households that already have broadband the change will be something as simple as plugging your phone into your broadband router instead of the wall socket. **Your telephone company will send you instructions on what to do.** For most customers, it is a simple and completely free transition to digital with no home installation work required. And you can keep your current phone number.

### **What help can I get?**

It's important to let your phone provider know if you are vulnerable in any way e.g. over 75, have disabilities or health conditions, are a telecare user, unpaid carer, living anywhere with poor mobile phone signal etc. If you fall into any of these categories, do call your phone provider to ensure they have your circumstances on record. This will make things easier for you when it comes to switchover time.

## St. Mary's Church News

The Burns Lunch held at the village hall on 24 January raised £288.50 for the church. Heartfelt thanks to all who supported this event.

Events coming up (see posters nearer the time):

4 March: Shrove Tuesday soup and pancake lunch in the village hall

2 April: Lent Group 'God in the Laundry Room' at the church

5 April: Coffee morning - craft table, cakes and raffle Julie Goddard's home

11 March; 8 April and 13 May at 4pm: Contemplative Prayer Group

For details of services see the noticeboard outside the Church or visit the Website [www.creakesbenefice.org](http://www.creakesbenefice.org)

Eucharist Service alternate Fridays at 10am

2nd Sunday Praise Service at 4pm

3rd Sunday Morning Worship at 10am

Good Friday: The Pilgrim Cross (Ely leg) visits Syderstone: service at 10am

Easter Day: Morning Worship at 10am

### Contact details:

Father Clive\*: [clive.wylie@dioceseofnorwich.org](mailto:clive.wylie@dioceseofnorwich.org) 01328 823293

(\*not available Mondays)

Churchwarden: Paul Offord 07443 873686

PCC Secretary: Julie Goddard 07515 648928 [julia.a.goddard@gmail.com](mailto:julia.a.goddard@gmail.com)

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## News from Stanhoe Methodist Church

We extend a warm welcome to anyone who would like to join us on alternate Sunday mornings, followed by refreshments and a time of fellowship.

2 and 16 March: Morning worship services at 11am

30 March: Mothering Sunday. Morning Service at 11am

13 April: Morning Service at 11 am

18 April: Good Friday at 10am: We welcome pilgrims from the Pilgrim Cross Midland Leg, for refreshments and a short time of worship

20 April: Easter Sunday: Morning worship Service at 11am

4 May: Service of Holy Communion at 11am

18 May: Morning worship service at 11am

Please contact local Church Stewards for further information: Judith Chaloner on 01485 578630; Elizabeth MacLeod on 01485 578392.

Minister: Rev. Dr. Richman Ncube on 01485 570232

## Stanhoe & Barwick WI – first Thursday afternoon of the month 2.00pm at Stanhoe Reading Room

Have you ever wondered what goes on at a modern W.I? Here at Stanhoe and Barwick WI - whether you are into crafts, cookery or even campaigning, whether you're looking for friendship, fun or fascinating speakers - we have all that and so much more. Our next few meetings include :

6 March: Tim Dutton - The Commonwealth War Graves Commission

3 April: Robert Smith - Wells Harbourmaster

8 May: (note change of date) V.E Day celebrations featuring The Castaway Crew shanty singers

Why not come along and see for yourself? Visitors always welcome.

Contact [stanhoeandbarwickwi@gmail.com](mailto:stanhoeandbarwickwi@gmail.com) for more details.

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## NATURALLY SYDERSTONE – BLOSSOM TIME

In just a few weeks, the rose family will bring into flower some of its more unusual members. They may turn white, but there is nothing bland about cherry blossom.

Strangely, Norfolk has two native cherry species where most southern counties have just one. Wild cherry is ubiquitous in Britain, blooming at the beginning of April. This is the progenitor of commercially grown cherry species, propagated by cuttings or grafting. Cultivated cherry trees grown in Kent were taken to Victorian London's markets where the sellers sang "Cherry ripe". One month after native wild cherry's big show a hardy little northern upland species called bird cherry has somehow found itself flowering in this county. Visit Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Wayland Wood near Watton (30 miles south of here) to see some of the finest displays of its white blossom, appearing in spectacular long sprays as if they were cherry chains.

In your own garden, you might be growing one of the far eastern species. By far the best known is Japanese cherry. Whole hillsides in its home country burst into flower, making it one of the world's most famous floral displays. But for all its beauty and impact, the show is disappointingly short-lived. Within just a few days, spent petals are raining down on the ground. Perhaps its transience is part of the appeal.

In the cultivation of cherries things can start to get seriously strange. Such trees were grown primarily for their ornamental qualities and propagation with this in mind has been taking place for at least 700 years.

Most bizarre of all was botany's first known abnormality, observed some 2,000 years ago. Double-flowered cherries can produce flowers within flowers and extra petals instead of reproductive organs. Sterile they are, useless to wildlife, but boy what a show!



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Mobile: **07778 005119**

Tel: **01485 576222**

1 Mill Lane, Syderstone

## What's on ... events taking place through the month

Weekly events at the village hall such as the Post Office, Games and Cards, Indoor Bowls, Arts and Crafts and Coffee mornings are not included in this list (see page 7).

<b>MARCH</b>			
1st	Yoga with Jess	8.45 – 9.35am	Village Hall
4th	Soup & Pancake Lunch – Shrove Tuesday	12 noon	Village Hall
6th	Stanhoe and Barwick Women's Institute	2.00pm	Reading Room, Stanhoe
6th	Local History Group – Beekeeping	7.30pm	Village Hall
8th	Pop Up Pub	5.00 – 10.00pm	Village Hall
9th	Village Litter Pick	10.00 – 11.30am	Village Hall
11th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	Village Hall
15th	Yoga with Jess (*then weekly thereafter)	8.45 – 9.35am	Village Hall
20th	Tech Skills – free IT help for everyone	10.00 – 12.00	Village Hall
20th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	Village Hall
26th	Cakes and bakes on sale - Coffee morning	10.30 - 12	Village Hall
28th	Mobile library	2.10 – 2.40pm	Ashside / Village Hall
29th	Cinema – The Critic	7.30pm	Village Hall
<b>APRIL</b>			
3rd	Stanhoe and Barwick Women's Institute	2.00pm	Reading Room, Stanhoe
3rd	Local History Group	7.30pm	Village Hall
7th*	Pilates with Sally (*then weekly)	5.00 & 6.00pm	Village Hall
8th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	Village Hall
16th	Tech Skills – free IT help for everyone	10.00 – 12.00	Village Hall
17th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	Village Hall
18th	Good Friday service with Pilgrim Cross	10.00am	Stanhoe Methodist
18th	Good Friday service with Pilgrim Cross	10.00am	St Marys Church
20th	Easter Sunday – Morning worship	10.00am	St Marys Church
20th	Easter Sunday – Morning worship	11.00am	Stanhoe Methodist
25th	Mobile library	2.10 – 2.40pm	Ashside / Village Hall
26th	Old Syderstonians Reunion	2.00 – 5.00pm	Village Hall
26th	Cinema - Paddington in Peru	7.30pm	Village Hall
<b>MAY</b>			
1st	Local History Group – RAF Bircham visit	7.30pm	TBA
8th	Stanhoe and Barwick Women's Institute	2.00pm	Reading Room, Stanhoe
13th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	Village Hall
15th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	Village Hall
21st	Tech Skills – free IT help for everyone	10.00 – 12.00	Village Hall
23rd	Mobile library	2.10 – 2.40pm	Ashside / Village Hall
28th	Cakes and bakes on sale - Coffee morning	10.30am	Village Hall
31st	Village Cinema	7.30pm	Village Hall



Thank you to Caz Appleby for photographs on the front cover and page 14