

The Natterjack



SYDERSTONE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the Winter 2024 edition of
Syderstone's Natterjack Newsletter

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	kimberlyjordan.syderstonepc@gmail.com
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: www.syderstonevillageandpc.info

Parish Council meetings - all take place at 7.30pm:

12 Dec / 16 Jan / 20 Feb / 20 Mar

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

Emergency Plan for Syderstone

The Parish Council has started to work on an Emergency Plan for Syderstone. This would be used in a local emergency to coordinate help. Examples of an emergency could be flood, fire, prolonged loss of power plus many more.

You may be able to help. They want to identify local people who have items or skills which might be useful in such a circumstance. Examples are chainsaws, generators, flood lights, camping stoves, gas, medical expertise, four-wheel drives, canoes. If you think you might be able to help in emergency, please contact Dawn Niemann on 01485 576217 dniemann.syderstonepc@gmail.com

An update from Dawn Niemann, Chair of Syderstone Parish Council

Neighbourhood Plan: On page 4 you can read about the next stage in the development of the Syderstone Neighbourhood Plan. Thank you to everyone who has so far contributed towards developing it. It 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.

The plan focuses on ensuring that Syderstone retains its rural identity, with any development helping to achieve a good balance of housing to meet local need and support our local businesses. It aims to protect and enhance the environment, both our heritage and wildlife.

The plan will run to 2038 so it's important that we get it right. We'd like your feedback on the document as it now stands, in particular the policies it contains and whether they're the right ones for Syderstone.

You can read the full draft plan on the Parish Council website:

<https://bit.ly/SyderstoneNeighbourhoodPlan-Reg14>

After reading it, we'd like you to complete a short online questionnaire with your feedback: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/R5U3XD/> or scan the QR code on page 4. This is different to any previous survey that you may have completed in connection with the plan. Printed copies of the survey are available in the church and the village hall, along with survey collection boxes.

If you'd like to talk to someone face-to-face about the plan, there is a drop-in session on Wednesday 4 December (10.00am – 12 noon) at the village hall. The consultation on the draft plan will run to Monday 16 December 2024.

In other news, the Parish Council is delighted to see more Community Speedwatch volunteers come forward which means more sessions can be arranged. If you would like to volunteer for Speedwatch, contact Martin Bateman on 07970 128411.

The replacement glass for the Book Exchange has arrived and should be installed shortly.

By the time you read this, the work scheduled to put back the village sign on its new metal post at the corner of Norman Way should be completed. We are aware that some of the cobbles at the base of the other village sign are loose and we are looking to get these repaired.

Syderstone Residents Shape the future of your village

Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Consultation

Syderstone Parish Council is currently developing a Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council are now at the Regulation 14 Consultation (Pre-Submission) Stage where we want to gather the community's views on the draft neighbourhood plan.

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/R5U3XD/>

The community survey where we want your views is running between Monday 4 November and Monday 16 December.

Please find an online copy available in the link above and when scanning the QR code below. Hard copies of the survey will be available to pick up and drop off at the Church and Village Hall.



You can look at the draft plan and supporting documents on the Syderstone Parish Council website-

<https://www.syderstonevillageandpc.info/neighbourhood-plan> and printed copies are available to view at the Church or Village Hall.

Please contact the Parish Clerk, Sarah Harvey at syderstoneparishcouncil@outlook.com or by telephone 01328 823391 if you are in need of a copy of the neighbourhood plan.

A drop in session will take place on Wednesday 4th December between 10am-12pm at the Village Hall back room.

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.

Thursday December 5th: Christmas party and quiz.

No meeting in January.

Thursday February 6th: To be confirmed

Thursday March 6th: Bee keeping, by Paul Welland

Syderstone Voices

One of our major achievements this year has been the launch of our "Syderstone Voices" project. This is an opportunity for people to share some of their stories of life in and around the village in previous years. Those that attended our recent History Fair may have heard some of the recordings made of Elizabeth MacLeod, Bob Daykin and Sue Greeves. Their stories are fascinating to listen to. They include tales of attending the village school, village characters, and lots more.

If you would like to hear some of these then there will be a further opportunity at our Christmas meeting on 5th December.

To finish I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Michael Parker syderstonelhg@gmail.com

Economy Storage

Syderstone Business Park

The Container and Self-Storage specialists. Removals arranged.
Secure, low-cost storage for furniture, caravans, vehicles, etc.

Contact: Paul – **07899982331**

Economystorage3@gmail.com

ellisium
BEAUTY

Relax and indulge in beauty and holistic treatments in our cosy little beauty salon in Syderstone

We offer: Facials, Body Treatments, Indian Head Massage, Manicures and Pedicures (Shellac & Vinylux), Waxing, Eye Treatments, LVL, HiBrow

Explore our Treatment Menu further on Facebook, Instagram or call/txt
07597 723666

**SYDERSTONE
CHRISTMAS TREE
BLESSING, SWITCH ON
AND CAROLS 4.00PM
SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER**

**At 4pm outside the
village hall then ...**

AFTER THE BLESSING

- **Christmas songs in the
hall, led by the
Syderstone singers**
- **Mince pies and snacks**

BAR OPEN 3PM 'TIL 9PM



**LICENSED BAR: REAL ALE 'WORTH THE WAIT',
LAGERS, CIDERS, GUINNESS, BEERS, WINES,
FIZZ AND SOFT DRINKS**

AT THE AMY ROBSART VILLAGE HALL, SYDERSTONE

AMY ROBSART VILLAGE HALL, SYDERSTONE

Registered Charity No. 271842

The village hall committee has seen some significant changes in its membership over the last few months. Caz Appleby has taken the role of Chair of the committee following the resignation of Chris Little. Chris remains on the committee for the time being but intends to step down at the next AGM in April. We thank Chris for his commitment and dedication over the last 10 years, both as a Trustee, as Chair and before that as Treasurer.

We are also delighted to announce that two new committee members have been co-opted to our ranks, Kate Sharman and Jennifer Hennessy.

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 are always looking for fresh ideas for activities or classes that you would like to see happening at the hall. If you have a bright idea to discuss, do contact one of the committee members on the list below.

The Village Hall Management Committee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Caz Appleby	Chair/ Communications Manager/Arts & Crafts rep	caz@syderstonevh.co.uk 07817 803221
Fay Woods	Secretary / Book Club representative	fay@syderstonevh.co.uk 01485 576395
Martin Niemann	Treasurer/ Local History Group representative	martinn@syderstonevh.co.uk 07837 183048
Tim Chaloner	Booking & Events Manager / Bowls representative	tim@syderstonevh.co.uk 01485 578630
Chris Little	Site Manager	chris@syderstonevh.co.uk 01485 578270
Martin Bateman	Property Manager	07970 128411
Gary Garford	Improvement Programme & Funding Manager	07306 049024
Jim Carr	Community Liaison	07791 905054
Anita Taylor	Coffee Morning representative	01485 578524
Gerry Taylor	St Mary's rep/Money Club	01485 578524
Simon Wood	Parish Council representative	01485 576297
Kate Sharman	Co-opted member	
Jennifer 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.**

INDOOR BOWLS (Short mat)
Contact: Tim Chaloner (see hall list)

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
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

TECH SKILLS FOR LIFE
Drop in session for technology advice/help

Monthly - 3rd Wednesday
10.00 – 12.00

ARTS & CRAFTS
Contact: Caz Appleby (see hall list)

Weekly
Wednesday 1.45 - 4.15

YOGA – Saturday Slow Flow
Contact: Jess Wells (07961 647507)

Weekly
Saturday 8.45 – 9.35

VILLAGE HALL POST OFFICE
Contact: Chris Little (see hall list)

Every Week
Wednesday 9.15 – 12.00



Unwanted Christmas presents?

The village hall is always on the lookout for possible raffle prizes so if, after Christmas, you have any gifts which are 'surplus to requirements' or that you can't realistically find a use for, that could have a potential re-use as a raffle prize, we'd be happy to take them off your hands. If you prefer to leave them wrapped – then that's fine too. You might even get (un)lucky and win them back in a future raffle!! We are also looking for unwanted bottle gift bags. If you can help out – thank you! There'll be a box in the hall for you to put them in.

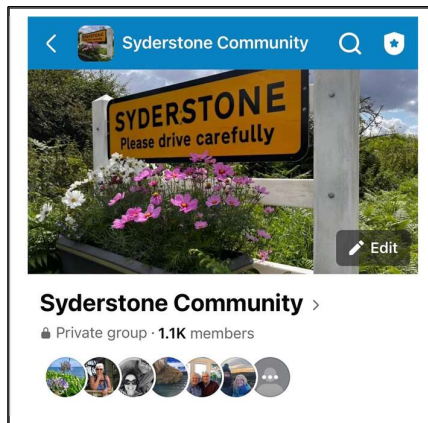
Yoga – Saturday Slow Flow

A new yoga class has started at the village hall, run by Jess Wells who has recently moved into the village. Called 'Yoga Slow Flow', it's a great start to the weekend. This friendly, upbeat class takes place every Saturday morning (8.45am – 9.35am) throughout December. If there is enough interest it should continue into 2025. The 50 minute session costs just £7. Book your place with Jess Wells on 07961 647507 (call, text or WhatsApp).

Do you struggle with technology? Wrestle with your smartphone? Worry about how to stay safe online? How to even GET online??

Help is available every third Wednesday at the village hall between 10.00am and 12 noon. Tech Skills for Life run the drop in sessions which are completely free. No need to book – just turn up! See back page for dates.

Tech Skills for Life is part of a partnership led by Norfolk County Council, working with one-to-one with local people to teach skills to make technology easier to use and give them the confidence to use the internet safely.



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.

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE!!!

Reach every household in Syderstone – 4 times a year

This size costs just £35 a year or £50 for double this size

Contact Sarah Harvey
syderstoneparishcouncil@outlook.com

JJH Flooring

Carpets, Vinyls,
Laminates, Luxury Vinyl Tiles
We bring our shop to you to
choose in the comfort
of your home!

We work around you – day or
evening appointments available

Free measuring service
Call or text: **07491 734685**

SYDERSTONE VILLAGE SCREEN CINEMA at the Village Hall

Email: syderstonecinema_ARVH@outlook.com

Saturday 14 December – 7.00pm – An American in Paris – The Musical

We are bringing the West End to Syderstone with a special festive screening of 'An American in Paris – The Musical' – a film of a live stage show. This Live to Screen recording was filmed at the Dominion Theatre in London's West End. The Broadway musical, inspired by the Oscar winning MGM film, tells the story of discovering love in the "City of Light". Featuring show-stopping choreography, it received a record 28 five-star reviews from critics. It features glorious George Gershwin favourites such as 'I got rhythm', 'S'wonderful' and 'You can't take that away from me'. The story: Jerry Mulligan is an American striving to make it as a painter in Paris. Following an encounter with a dancer named Lise, the streets of Paris become the backdrop to a sensuous romance of art, friendship and love in the aftermath of war.

PLUS ... free refreshments..... fizz.....alcohol-free fizz.....canapes.....

Christmas-themed raffle.....Christmas music.....

Christmas jumpers very welcome (or alternative Christmas attire if you wish – use your imagination!!!!) There'll be a prize for the best.

The hall will be decorated for Christmas.

A warm festive welcome awaits!!

Doors open 6.30pm. Screening at 7.00pm. Advance booking preferred.

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

Email: 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: 25 January / 22 February / 29 March

Old Syderstonians

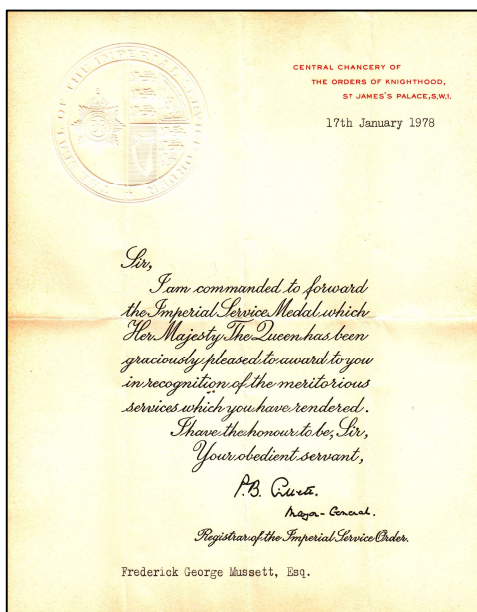
The last 'Old Syderstonians' reunion was held on Saturday 5th October. Attendance was a bit lower than normal, but all who attended had a very sociable afternoon catching up with old friends and relatives.

The next reunion, which is on **Saturday 26th April 2025**, is our 35th gathering since 2006 having missed just two, due to Covid. It is one of the most popular and long-lasting village events. It still attracts new people, finding distant relatives and bringing new information which is added to the Community Archive.

Syderstone Community Archive

At the recent local and family History Fair in November the contents of the archive were displayed in the hall covering all three sections of the hall! It always amazes me just how much material has been amassed over the last 20 years. It's thanks to all the people who have shown such an interest and have provided such a wealth of material.

This proved true when Fred Mussett's daughter Anne brought in some fascinating information relating to her late father. In 1978 he was awarded the Imperial Service Medal for meritorious service to the community. Fred was chosen to receive Maundy Money from Queen Elizabeth II at Norwich Cathedral on 4 April 1996 and Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council awarded him the Mayor's Civic Award for Voluntary Service for 1996 at a ceremony on 17 March 1997 at the Town Hall in King's Lynn.



Fred Mussett - the Mayor's Civic Award for Voluntary Service 1997

Has anyone else got hidden treasures like this at home? If so, please contact me:
sheilarriches@btinternet.com or 01485 578171.

St. Mary's Church News

All our services are inclusive and relaxed with opportunities for discussion and reflection. Everyone is welcome.

Friday 20th December: 6.00pm Carol Service with organist, Benjamin Howell
Christmas Day: 10.00am Family Service

Once a month at 4.00pm there is a Contemplative Prayer Group meeting led by Father Clive. Dates: **10 Dec / 14 Jan / 11 Feb**

Choir meets every Friday at 3.00pm. Everyone is welcome to join in.

Details of all Services are on Noticeboard outside St Mary's.

- **Praise Services, 2nd Sundays at 4pm: 8 Dec / 12 Jan / 9 Feb**
- **Morning Worship, Sundays at 10am: 15 Dec / 19 Jan / 16 Feb**
- **Friday Communion (Eucharist) at 10am: 13, 27 Dec / 10, 24 Jan / 7, 21 Feb**

The Eucharist and Praise Services are conducted by our Rector, Father Clive Wylie, SCP with the Authorised Worship Assistants leading Morning Worship. Refreshments are served after all services.

Contact details:

Father Clive*: clive.wylie@dioceseofnorwich.org 01328 823293

Website: www.syderstone.org (*not available Mondays)

Churchwarden: Paul Offord 07443 873686

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

Serving the communities of Barmer, Blenheim Park, Syderstone & Wicken Green

Economy Timber

Sawn and Planed Timber, Decking,
Fencing, Sleepers, Roof Sheets and
Paving Slabs, Felt, Screws, etc.

Contact: Paul

07899 982331

www.economytimber.co.uk

A T Vehicle Services

Proprietor: David Armiger

All types of vehicle servicing and
repairs, welding and MoT
bodywork.

Tow bars supplied and fitted.

Also, windscreens and waxoyl

Tel: **01485 578112**

24 hour: **07885 079978**

News from Stanhoe Methodist Church

All are welcome at our morning services, which are held on alternate Sundays at 11am, and are followed by refreshments and a time of fellowship.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas. We also assure you of our prayers - we have a group of people who commit to praying every day for people who are in particular need, (known as a Prayer Chain) either through illness or other problems. We only use first names, so privacy is maintained.

If you want further information, or would like us to pray for you, please contact Judith on 01485 578630 or Elizabeth on 01485 578292. If you would like to speak to our Minister, Rev. Dr. Richman Ncube, his number is 01485 570232.

8th December:	Advent Morning Worship
22nd December:	Christmas Carol Service
5th January:	Morning Worship
19th January:	Morning Worship
2nd February:	Methodist Covenant Service with Holy Communion
16th February:	Morning Worship

Stanhoe & Barwick WI – first Thursday afternoon of the month 2.00pm

Come along and see what our WI gets up to. Book club, speakers, trips, lunches. Our 44 members enjoy a wide range of activities. Our programme is being finalised for next year, with speakers including Hedgehog Rescue, Commonwealth War Graves and local Maldon Chocolate!

Visitors are most welcome. £5, including refreshments.

Contact 07825 216009 for more details. Find us on:

Facebook (Stanhoe and Barwick WI) or www.stanhoe.org/WI or www.thewi.org.uk

Andy's General Store

Fresh Bread, Milk, Newspapers,
Frozen Food, Confectionary,
Beer, Wines and Spirits, locally
sourced Ham, Bacon, Sausages,
Pies and Vegetables. Dry
Cleaning Agent.

Priced Right Stores - Four Winds

Tel: **01485 528094**

Martin & Co

**Chartered Accountants in
Syderstone**

All accountancy services including
company & sole trader accounts
and taxation, payroll, VAT, tax
returns and business consultancy.

Call: **07837 183048 (Martin)**

martinniemann@btinternet.com

NATURALLY SYDERSTONE - DECK THE HALLS

The secateurs are sharpening this month for one of the most traditional Christmas customs. But why are we bringing indoors branches of an especially prickly tree? A wonderful mix of fact and fantasy accompanies Britain's commonest evergreen.

People have been singing about decking the halls with boughs of holly since at least the eighteenth century, when the Welsh melody was first printed. The custom of dragging handfuls inside is much older though – possibly even older than Christianity itself. The tree was believed to be a fertility aid (aren't they all?) and possess properties that defended people from evil spirits in the house. But woe betide anyone who cut down a whole tree – that meant decades of bad luck.

In some parts of the country, hollies were lopped regularly and its waxy-leaved branches given as sheep and cattle feed. Those leaves may be sharp and tough, but in calorific terms they are more nutritious than those of any other tree. Groves of holly were called 'hollins' and we can still see remnants of that practise in places with 'Hollin'. Medieval foresters pollarding this tree might be given Hollins as their second name.

Woodworkers value the pliable character of this light wood, and for a tree that was thought to have power over horses, one particular use in the days of carriages and stagecoaches was phenomenal. At its peak, the country was turning out around 200,000 horse whips out of holly every year.

The famous carol that describes it by name notes that "the holly bears a berry" and its winter fruit harvest sustains many a blackbird and other thrushes in these lean months. But not all trees carry berries. While white flowers are found on all trees in spring, only female trees grow those berries "as red as any blood".



Paper-Klip

For all your stationery needs!

Office Supplies, Local Books, Copying &
Printing Service, Photography Printing
Service

(6 x 4 ask for special price)

Tel: **01328 862146**

Email: sales@paper-klip.co.uk

Infinity Gas

All domestic heating and plumbing
work undertaken



Contact: Mat/Kerry Connolly

Tel: **01485 529419**

Mobile: **07450 148831**

M Bateman – Maintenance

Your local, friendly maintenance man

No job too small

Email: Bateman1@btopenworld.com

Mob: **07970128411**

Tel: **01485 578124**

Coal Merchant

And Haulage Contractor

M.E. Ayres & Sons

Prompt delivery just a phone call away

Tel: **01485 518316**

Mob: **07717343916**

meayrestransport@aol.co.uk

DALY Construction & Building Services

Contact: daviddaly8@icloud.com

Mobile: **07778 005119**

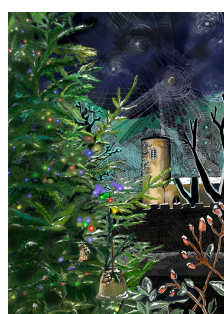
Tel: **01485 576222**

1 Mill Lane, Syderstone

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

Weekly events at the village hall such as the Post Office, Indoor Bowls, Arts and Crafts and Coffee mornings are not included in this list (see page 8).

DECEMBER			
1st	Christmas tree blessing, switch-on, carols	4.00pm	Village Hall
1st	Pop Up Pub	3.00 – 9.00pm	Village Hall
4th	Drop-in session - Neighbourhood Plan	10.00 – 12.00	Village Hall
5th	Stanhoe and Barwick Women's Institute	2.00pm	Reading Room, Stanhoe
5th	Local History Group – Party & Quiz	7.30pm	Village Hall
6th	Mobile library	2.10 – 2.40pm	Ashside / Village Hall
7th	Yoga – Saturday Slow Flow	8.45 – 9.35am	Village Hall
10th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	Village Hall
12th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	Village Hall
14th	Cinema – An American in Paris-The Musical	7.00pm	Village Hall
14th	Yoga – Saturday Slow Flow	8.45 – 9.35am	Village Hall
21st	Yoga – Saturday Slow Flow	8.45 – 9.35am	Village Hall
18th	Tech Skills: Digital Switchover 2025	10.00 – 12.00	Village Hall
20th	Carol Service	6.00pm	St Mary's Church
25th	Christmas Day Family Service	10.00am	St Mary's Church
JANUARY			
3rd	Mobile library	2.10 – 2.40pm	Ashside / Village Hall
14th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	Village Hall
15th	Tech Skills for Life	10.00 – 12.00	Village Hall
16th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	Village Hall
22nd	Home-made cakes/jams at coffee morning	10.30am	Village Hall
25th	Village Cinema	7.30pm	Village Hall
31st	Mobile library	2.10 – 2.40pm	Ashside / Village Hall
FEBRUARY			
6th	Stanhoe and Barwick Women's Institute	2.00pm	Reading Room, Stanhoe
6th	Local History Group	7.30pm	Village Hall
11th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	Village Hall
19th	Tech Skills for Life	10.00 – 12.00	Village Hall
20th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	Village Hall
22nd	Village Cinema	7.30pm	Village Hall
26th	Home-made cakes/jams at coffee morning	10.30am	Village Hall
28th	Mobile library	2.10 – 2.40pm	Ashside / Village Hall



Thank you to Kate Sharman, who lives in the village, for the beautiful Christmas artwork of St Mary's church, featured on our front page