

The Natterjack

SYDERSTONE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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

Coronation celebrations in Syderstone

On Saturday 6 May, many people from Syderstone and indeed further afield, gathered at the village hall to watch the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and Queen Camilla on the 'big screen'. It was a momentous occasion, filled with pomp and ceremony and it was wonderful to be able to share it with like minded people. With tea and cakes during the event and 'fizz and canapes' after, over 60 people came along to share in this historic event. Later that day, the Syderstone real ale licensed 'pop-up' bar opened along with the usual delicious barbecue.



Sunday 7 May saw the village hall big screen in action again, showing the concert from Windsor Castle live.

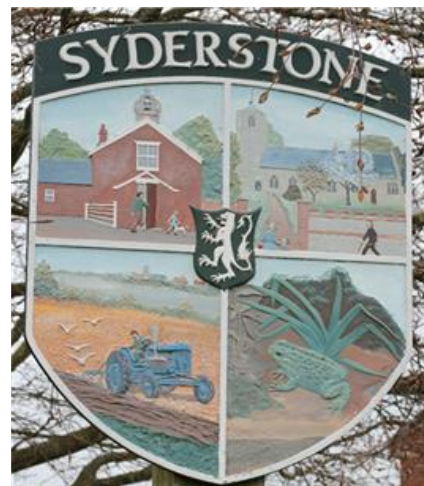
Thank you to the village hall management committee for organising the whole thing and decorating the hall in red, white and blue so beautifully. Many villagers had got involved in the painting and trimming up of food tins, which were used to great effect for flower arrangements. The village bunting came out again and decked the outside of the hall, the car park and down The Street. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to make this a unique weekend in the life of our community. Special thanks go to Wendy and Chris Little for their unstinting organisational skills, enthusiasm, determination and hard work.

Photo credits pages 1 and 2: Chris Little



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. The next two meetings are 1 June and 6 July starting at 7.30pm in the village hall.



Many Norfolk villages have a village sign, and this includes Syderstone. But what do the pictures mean? Here we unpack the symbolism behind the village sign we might walk or drive past every day.

Our sign is made up of four village scenes and one family crest.

- The first scene (top right) is the round tower village church of St Mary's, the oldest building in the village dating back to Norman times.
- The next (bottom right) is the famous Natterjack toad. These rare and protected creatures live on Syderstone common, one of only two inland sites in the UK where they are still found.
- The third (bottom left) shows Mr Richard Woods, a local farmer in a Massey Ferguson tractor ploughing a field next to the South Creak Road, with the church in the background.
- The final scene (top left) shows the Amy Robsart village hall, formerly the village school.
- In the centre lies the coat of arms of the Robsart family who owned the manor of Syderstone during Tudor times. It was Amy Robsart who was married to Lord Dudley, a favourite of Queen Elizabeth 1. She was found dead under suspicious circumstances.

Syderstone has three village signs. After receiving a grant, the Parish Council commissioned the two metal ones to be made, and they were unveiled in December 2005 by the local MP and Gerry Taylor who was then Chairman of the Parish council.

A further one was later carved by Terry Ashwell. He was concerned that the residents of Tattersett Road felt excluded, so he used his skills as a former master carver to create another sign which was unveiled in 2008.

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

Syderstone's 'secret garden' opens its gates on Sunday 4 June

A quick reminder that on 4 June, Tom and Jane White are opening their garden at The Old Rectory, as part of the National Gardens Scheme (NGS). Well worth a visit! The refreshments team from St Mary's church will be on hand with teas, coffees, cakes and rolls. A great opportunity to get together and meet friends, neighbours and other keen gardeners. The money raised from admission fees will go towards NGS charities; refreshments proceeds will go to St Mary's church, Syderstone. Admission £5 each, children free. Open: 11.00am to 5.00pm. Pedestrian access via the white gate on The Street (opposite Rectory Gardens) or vehicle access from Creake Road.



Syderstone Book Exchange

The Book Exchange, located in the old telephone box near the bus shelter, appears to be a great success especially with seasonal visitors, and is well stocked and well used. We are so grateful for your donations, but would respectfully point out that, as space is restricted, we can really only deal in fiction and popular non-fiction books, as well as children's books in good condition. Textbooks and large hardback "coffee table," type books are not really suitable for the space we have available - we leave that to the professionals in Fakenham Library!

Thank you so much for your support. For further information contact Elizabeth MacLeod on 01485 578392.

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Economystorage3@gmail.com

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syderstoneparishcouncil@outlook.com

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 576297/07989 019546
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:

22 June / 20 July / No meeting in August

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

All are welcome to our informal and very friendly services at Saint Mary's Church. If you have not been before or visited for a while, do come along.

Once a month on the second Sunday at 4 o'clock we have a Praise service, an opportunity to sing some really good hymns with brief Bible readings and a commentary on the hymns and readings by our vicar Clive. On the third Sunday of the month, it's 10 am morning worship. A simple service to inspire people about the Christian faith. We normally have a joke or two! Fortnightly on a Friday morning at 10 o'clock, there is a Communion service, led by Clive, a less formal service that features a short discussion group in which everyone who wishes to takes part.

For services, please check the Creakes Benefice website or the noticeboard by the church.

- Praise Services at 4pm - 11 June - 21 July - 13 August
- Morning Worship at 10am - 18 June - 9 July - 20 August
- Friday Communion at 10 am – 9 & 23 June – 7 & 21 July – 4 & 18 August

At the end of every service, we have refreshments normally featuring a home-made cake. Even if you're not sure about church do come along and give it a try.

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

Tel: 01328 823293. Please remember Monday is Father Clive's day off.

Churchwardens: Anne Bennie 07817 879581 or Paul Offord 01485 578218

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

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News from Stanhoe Methodist Church

We had a busy Easter, starting with a visit from the Midland leg of the Pilgrim Student Cross organisation. 22 pilgrims, who had set out to walk from Leicester to Walsingham the previous week, carrying a heavy cross, reached us on Good Friday morning. We gave them drinks and hot cross buns and enjoyed a short time of worship together. We welcome them every year and are always inspired by their commitment. Two more Easter services followed, one of quiet reflection on Good Friday afternoon, and one of joyful celebration on Easter Sunday.

Our services for June to August will be held on the following dates. We meet at 11am on Sunday mornings and ALL ARE WELCOME!

4th and 18th JUNE: Morning Worship Services
2nd JULY: Service of Holy Communion
16th and 30th JULY: Morning Worship Services
13th and 27th AUGUST: Morning Worship Services

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



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Post Office closures

The Wells Post Office team provide our twice-weekly post office service. Unfortunately, a member of their staff left and this has coincided with other staff taking planned holidays, resulting in closures during the last few weeks. The individual has now been replaced but security clearances and training take time. Now this matter has been resolved the Post Office should be able to continue to provide its valuable services for the people of Syderstone and its surrounding area.

Please continue to support OUR Post Office – USE it or LOSE IT!

The Usual Suspects!!!

The village hall held its annual meeting (AGM) in the hall on the 12th April. The five elected members were all re-elected and all will continue in the same jobs (1-5 below). They are your contacts at the hall and you can normally see them at Wednesday Coffee Morning.

But we do have new blood – Tim Chaloner joins the committee as “bowls representative.”

If you would like to get involved just contact one of us.



the ARVH Committee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Norman Riches	Chair	01485 578171	normanriches@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

What's going on at the Village Hall?

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

INDOOR BOWLS (Short mat)

Contact: Tim Chaloner (see hall list)

Weekly

Monday 4.00 - 6.00

COFFEE MORNING

Contact: Anita Taylor (see hall list)

Weekly

Wednesday 10.30 - 12.00

ARTS & CRAFTS

Contact: Linda Pearse (see hall list)

Weekly

Wednesday 1.45 - 4.15

And not forgetting

VILLAGE HALL POST OFFICE

Contact: Chris Little (see hall list)

Every Week

Wednesday and Friday 9.30 – 12.00

See back page for all events taking place at the Village Hall

ANOTHER POP UP COMING SOON!!!

PUB WITH FOOD @ ARVH

EARLY JULY

Watch out on Facebook / on Posters

Can you find ten hidden bees in The Natterjack?

Syderstone Community Archive @ ARVH

Contact: Sheila Riches (see village hall list)



New additions to the archive

Photos from the Old Syderstonians Reunion;

Syderstone Newspaper articles 1990's;

Map of 1904 which shows allotments at each side of the Rudham Road as well as those on Ashside.

Can anyone remember the Rudham Road allotments and when they stopped being allotments? If so, please contact Sheila.

Community Archive Open Dates

The archive is working well with the newly formed local history group and there are now regular **"open to all"** archive mornings normally held on Friday mornings. Watch out for the *next one on posters and on Facebook AND please bring along any family photos, local information, etc.*

Old Syderstonians 31st Reunion - Saturday, 15th April 2023

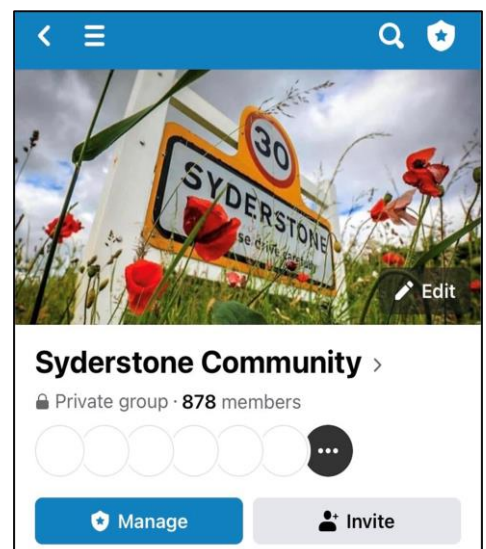
Around 30 people attended the reunion and enjoyed a very convivial afternoon catching up with old friends over tea and cakes. Ray Harper made a very welcome re-appearance and was able to chat away the whole afternoon. New photos of the former Harper family home 'Hillside' and of the Edge and Sharpe families were donated to the Community Archive.

The next reunion will be held on the **7th October 2023** when several Old Syderstonians will be celebrating their 80th birthday.



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.



VILLAGE SCREEN CINEMA at Amy Robsart Hall

Email: syderstonecinema_ARVH@outlook.com

Saturday, 27th May 7.30pm

A MAN CALLED OTTO (15)

A feel-good film – described as joyous, lovely, funny and life affirming.

Otto is a curmudgeonly widower with staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People think him bitter, and he thinks they are idiots. Otto's well-ordered, solitary world gets a shake-up one November morning with the appearance of new neighbours, a chatty young couple and their two boisterous daughters, who announce their arrival by accidentally flattening Otto's mailbox with their truck. What follows is a heart-warming tale of unkempt cats, unlikely friendships, and a community's unexpected reassessment of the one person they thought they had figured out. A remake of the Swedish film A Man Called Ove. Starring Tom Hanks and Mariana Treviño.

Saturday, 24th June 7.30pm

EMPIRE OF LIGHT (15)

If the celluloid-scented power of cinema can pave the way for meaningful human connection, is there still hope for the once majestic movie theatre?

Margate, England, 1980. As widespread unemployment and a rising wave of extremism plunge the seaside town and Margaret Thatcher's Britain into recession, depressed Hilary sticks to her daily routine as the dutiful front-of-house manager at the Empire: a dying, golden-era movie palace. But movies can't keep lonely Hilary's inner demons at bay. And then, bright-eyed new employee Stephen suddenly enters the picture, shaking Hilary's troubled existence. Starring Olivia Colman, Colin Firth, Toby Jones and Michael Ward.

Saturday 29th July 7.30pm

MATILDA THE MUSICAL (PG)

An adaptation of the Tony and Olivier award-winning musical, based on the book by Roald Dahl. Matilda, the precocious child of unloving parents, is sent to Crunchem Hall where she is nurtured by the delightful Miss Honey but must face the terrifying head teacher Agatha Trunchbull. Armed with a sharp mind and a vivid imagination, she dares to take a stand with miraculous results. Starring Lashana Lynch, Emma Thompson and Alisha Weir.

Tickets: £4.00 advance booking - pay at the door

Tel: 01485 578171 Email: syderstonecinema_ARVH@outlook.com

NATURALLY SYDERSTONE - Liberate your lawn

You may be old enough to remember the clatter of a manual lawnmower; dad's job every week throughout the summer. You'll certainly be familiar with the annoying whine of today's electric mowers, especially annoying when it's not you doing the work and you'd been hoping for a peaceful summer's afternoon.

But what if you didn't do any more lawn cutting this summer? Neighbours might appreciate the quiet. Wildlife such as bees, butterflies, marmalade hoverflies and grasshoppers, would certainly value your forbearance.

If you're not familiar with "NoMowMay, then hold those rotor blades for a minute to hear more. It's an initiative that was started by nature charity Plantlife some years ago and has caught on in a big way. The idea is simple: you just don't cut your lawn, or part of your lawn again, until the autumn.

So what does that mean? Well, it gives all the pretty little flowers in your lawn, such as forget-me-nots and wild daisies, a chance to flower instead of being cut before their prime and provides a sweet nectar-abundant heaven for all of the insects that rely on them.

You'll also be creating a grasshopper nature reserve, because field and meadow grasshoppers need grass cover to thrive. You will soon hear the calming trill of grasshopper chirruping (made when they rub their back legs against their wings), and children will delight in seeing the little 'hoppers jumping around everywhere when you swish the grass.

What will the neighbours think? Make a virtue of it. Cut a neat edge around the outside, so they see that it's a deliberate policy and not lazy neglect. You could even put a sign up explaining to passers-by that you're creating your own grasshopper nature reserve.

You'll enjoy the rest and wildlife will benefit. What's not to like?



Do you have any issues the Police can help with?

Every three months, the next being July, Parish Councillor Paul Welland attends the Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel (SNAP) Priority Setting Meetings with the local Policing Beat Managers. The public meetings are arranged to discuss any issues or concerns residents feel should be brought to the attention of the police. If you wish Paul to raise any issues on behalf of Syderstone residents, please let him know. Names are not divulged at the meetings, so anonymity is protected. Syderstone residents can contact Paul in the strictest confidence via email: pweland.syderstonepc@gmail.com

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

If you enjoy the company of intelligent and vibrant women, it might be for you. If you enjoy meeting new people and eating tea and cake, it's definitely for you! Some of our members can only make meetings; others can only join in our activities. Either way, it's easy for them to dip in and out as their lives allow. One thing is certain, whatever they do they are assured of a warm and friendly welcome. We might just be the WI for you.

1st June: A talk by Simon Grant of West Norfolk Beekeepers Association.

6th July: Our Annual Garden Meeting (sorry - members only).

3rd August: A demonstration of flower arranging from Crystal Dyball

7th September: Claire Howard will demonstrate making jewellery.

Where? The Reading Room, Stanhoe. 2.00pm.

Visitors are most welcome, unless stated. Our charge is £5, which includes refreshments. Members free.

Please contact Valerie (01485 576261) for further details.

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Mobile library in Syderstone

Did you know that the mobile library van visits Syderstone every month on a Tuesday afternoon?

The stopping times and places are:

2.25pm – 2.35pm: Outside 14 Ashside

2.40pm – 2.55pm: Outside the Village Hall

The date for the next visit is 6 June.



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Do you have any tales or recollections of ghostly happenings in or around Syderstone?

A year and a half ago, local author Dr Paul Lee published a book detailing the ghost stories and legends of King's Lynn and West Norfolk. He is now working on a second edition (hopefully to be published this October) and during his research he has uncovered many new tales and this has made him conscious that there are probably many more similar "unknown" accounts in our region.

Paul has spent a long time researching the ghosts of Syderstone, in particular the Old Rectory but there was only supernatural behaviour recorded there between 1797 and the mid-1840s. He has received unverified stories that ghostly phenomena was recorded in the 1920s and possibly as late as the 1990s (when it was a care home). Also of interest to him are stories linked to the former Lynn Arms pub, a woman screaming in a garden and even a phantom highwayman (he has very little information about the last two).

Paul is keen to hear from anybody with any ghostly tales to share to get in touch with him. You can email him at: Dr Paul Lee
paul.lee.1971@gmail.com



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At a glance – your what’s on guide

June			
1st	Stanhoe and Barwick Women’s Institute	2.00pm	Reading Room, Stanhoe
1st	Local History Group	7.30pm	ARVH
4th	Open Garden with refreshments	11.00am - 5.00pm	The Old Rectory
5th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
6th	Mobile library	2.25 – 2.55pm	Ashside and ARVH
7th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
7th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
12th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
13th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	ARVH
14th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
14th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
19th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
21st	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
21st	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
22nd	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	ARVH
24th	Village Screen Cinema – Empire of Light	7.30pm	ARVH
26th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
28th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
28th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
July			
3rd	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
5th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
5th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
6th	Stanhoe and Barwick Women’s Institute	2.00pm	Reading Room, Stanhoe
6th	Local History Group	7.30pm	ARVH
10th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
11th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	ARVH
12th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
12th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
17th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
19th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
20th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	ARVH
24th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
26th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
29th	Village Screen Cinema – Matilda The Musical	7.30pm	ARVH
August			
2nd	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
3rd	Stanhoe and Barwick Women’s Institute	2.00pm	Reading Room, Stanhoe
7th	Indoor bowls (short mat)*	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
8th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	ARVH
9th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
14th	Indoor bowls (short mat)*	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
16th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
21st	Indoor bowls (short mat)*	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
23rd	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
30th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH

*subject to there being enough players available