



Welcome to December's Natterjack, Syderstone's Community Newsletter

As you'll see from the photo above there is now a brand-new dog bin, provided by the parish council. It is at the bottom of Jack's Lane and is already being used. The parish council has also been gifted another bin and currently permission to site it is being sought.

News from Syderstone Parish Council



A sunny morning in October saw 34 people turn up to the litter pick. Numerous bags of rubbish were collected along with various car tyres and wheels, tractor parts and an oil drum! It was noted that sadly there is a lot of litter in Mill Lane between the business park and Tattersett Road. Huge thanks both to those who came and those who pick up litter all year round. A further date has been arranged for Sunday 6th March 2022.

The funding application for the Neighbourhood Plan is being completed which will, if successful, allow the matter to proceed.

It has been agreed to proceed with the new TROD on Docking Road from the pond to the bridleway leading to Rudham Road which will make a safe circular walk. Hopefully it will be installed next year.

Quotes have been received for some new playground equipment and when the grant fund opens again next year funding will be sought.

The parish council now own the phone box which has been decommissioned. Martin Bateman has offered to coordinate the restoration and alterations to it so now is the time for all those who wanted it to be a book/seed swap to get in touch to form a working party and help make it happen. Martin can be contacted at **mbateman.syderstonepc@gmail.com**.

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Huge thanks once more to my fellow Councillors and Karen for all their time and effort from which we all benefit. Happy Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous new year everyone.

Syderstone Parish Councillors

| Dawn Niemann – Chair | 01485 576217 |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Dave Daly – Vice-chair | 01485 576222 |
| Martin Bateman | 01485 576124 |
| Paul Welland | 01485 576249 |
| Gary Kidd | 01485 578507 |
| Debs Candy | 07951 317570 |
| Trudie Blackshaw | 07398 267694 |
| Parish Clerk, Karen Orgill | 01485 576079 |

Parish correspondence to:

Hand mail: Parish clerk at 1 Rudham Road

Email: syderstoneparishcouncil@outlook.com

Website: syderstoneparishcouncil@norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Next Parish Meetings are;

** Thursday 7.30pm 16th December ** Thursday 20th January 2022 Thursday 7.30pm 17th February

Can you find 10 hidden Christmas Robins?

Sunday 5 December is the date for the switch on of the FRISC Syderstone Christmas Tree. Please note the event now starts slightly earlier than previously advertised - Fr Clive will bless the tree at 4pm followed by Fakenham Town Band accompanying the carol singing. Mince pies and mulled wine will be served in the village hall afterwards. The event is free but donations are most welcome to our village defibrillator and East Anglian Air Ambulance. Thank you to Jane and Richard for their kind donation of the Christmas tree.

NATURALLY SYDERSTONE

We've all heard of the patriotic 'Dig for Victory' slogan that encouraged our forebears to grow their own food at a time of wartime emergency. But Syderstone's full hedgerows late this autumn remind us that another slogan might have been equally appropriate – 'Pick for Victory'.

The next time you find the bright red oval fruits of wild roses, you could be looking at them in a different light. Older residents of the village may remember the taste of rose-hip syrup. It was a taste that became popular during World War Two, and for a very good reason. As the German blockade of allied merchant ships grew ever tighter, fresh citrus fruit became a rarity and children began to show symptoms of vitamin deficiency.

Government scientists, searching for natural replacements at home, hit on rose-hips, which had been on the menu since at least Elizabethan times. Research showed that a cup of pulp contained as much vitamin C as 40 oranges. By 1941, the Ministry of Health had instigated voluntary collection of hips from the countryside by County Herb Committees. By the end of the war, some 450 tons were collected every year. Did Norfolk folk take part? Perhaps someone in the village can shed light on this?

If you're trying to use rose-hips at home, then make sure you mince the fruit, stew it, then strain out the prickly seeds, which can be an irritant. Country folk called them 'itchy-coos', hence the Small Faces song of the 1960s, Itchycoo Park.

An alternative might be to leave them where they are for wildlife to enjoy. Our thrushes – blackbirds, redwings, fieldfares, song and mistle thrushes certainly eat them, though they're often among the last fruit to be taken. Packed with vitamins, yes, but maybe rather too much like medicine?



(Photograph Sarah Niemann)

St. Mary's Church News

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

The Autumn Fayre was very successful and enjoyed by everyone.

Services are now back on regular times with Fr Clive taking a 10 a.m. Eucharist on alternate Friday mornings. This is followed by coffee and cake. (See noticeboard for dates)

Authorised Worship Assistants take a service on the third Sunday in the month at 10 a.m. This is an informal service about 45 minutes followed by coffee.

Fr Clive leads a Praise Service on the second Sunday in the month at 4 p.m. followed by coffee. Well known hymns, a short reading and homily from Fr Clive.

Friday 17th December – 6pm Carol Service at St. Mary's Church Sunday 26th December – 10 am Benefice Eucharist at St. Mary's Church

Services are being added all the time and will be found on the noticeboard, Creakes Benefice website and Facebook.

Everyone is welcomed to all the services and we are now registered as an Inclusive Church.

Please come and join us, we are a very friendly congregation. For any further information please contact one of the following:

Fr Clive 01328 823293 - Email: clive.wylie@dioceseofnorwich.org

Churchwardens:

Anne Bennie 07817 879581 - Email: annemariabennie@hotmail.com

Paul Offord 01485 578218 - Email: pauljeanne@btinternet.com

PCC Secretary - Julie Goddard 07515 648928

Email julia.a.goddard@gmail.com



News from Stanhoe Methodist Church

We welcome anyone who would like to join us for Morning Services in December, at Stanhoe Methodist Church. Our annual Christmas Carol Service will be held on **Sunday, 5th December at 11am**, and will be led by our Minister, Rev. Dr. Richman Ncube. **On 19th December at 11am**, we shall have our usual Morning Service, with Christmas Carols, led by Elizabeth MacLeod. Masks are not compulsory, but optional; hand sanitisers are available at the door.

We pray that you will all enjoy a very happy and blessed Christmas.



Any queries to Judith Chaloner On 578 630 or Elizabeth MacLeod on 578 392)

2-5 June 2022 is the date for the celebration of the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. Current ideas include a church service, a possible beacon lighting, a children's competition and a street party. We need as much help as possible - any entertainers, bunting makers, bag pipers, village criers and anything that would contribute to the weekend would be most welcome. Please can any parishioners who can help make these things happen get in touch with syderstoneparishcouncil@outlook.com as soon as possible. There will be a meeting in January to move things on.....It's only six months away!

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12 Questions with: Bob Daykin – Bob and his sister are the oldest Syderstone Residents.

- 1. Sweet or savoury? Savoury
- 2. Lark or owl? Lark
- 3. Favourite place? Scottish Highlands
- 4. Beer or champagne? Beer
- 5. What would you sing at Karaoke? Don William's 'You're My Best Friend'
- 6. If you had a warning label what would it say? Forgive my language
- 7. Glass half empty or half full? Half full I'm a very positive person
- **8.** If you were a superhero what powers would you like to have? I'm very contented with life as I am
- **9. Scone, cream or jam first?** Jam as I don't like cream
- 10. Favourite beach? Wells-next-the-sea
- 11. Scariest thing you've ever done? Flying in an old Dakota in the 1950's.
- 12. Favourite flower? My dahlias or anything with blue flowers

Just in case you don't know Bob, he was born in Syderstone village in 1935 and apart from two and a half years in the army, when he was stationed on the banks of the Suez Canal (1953-1956), Bob has lived in Syderstone. He worked on the land for the Woods family for over 40 years until his retirement. Since 1935, Bob has seen many changes in the village which include the installation of water pipes (previously water was drawn from the village pumps), installation of electricity and he can remember the 'night soil men' known locally as The Honey Men.

Syderstone in Bloom - Calling all gardeners!!

Having seen village gates with flower beds in other villages I would like to bring some more colour to



Syderstone. The Parish Council has obtained permission for our new village gates to be planted up. I am looking for volunteers to take on these gates and cultivate and maintain flowers, plants and shrubs, ideally for all year colour and interest. If anyone would be interested in doing this, please contact Martin on 07837 183018 or e-mail

<u>martinniemann@btinternet.com</u>. We can then arrange a get together in the new year with a view to some spring planting. We may even have a little competition!

AMY ROBSART VILLAGE HALL - (ARVH)

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Living with Covid!

After a long period when the **Post Office** was the only user of the hall, **we** have re-opened – tentatively – whilst trying to keep you and others safe First to open was the Parish Council and Rainbows

Then Indoor Bowls and Arts and Crafts,

And now Yoga and Book Club

And just 2 weeks ago *Coffee Morning* opened to great excitement, but, it was tinged with sadness because we've had to say "Au Revoir" to *Marian and her team* – they will still have their coffee but won't be serving it!

Marian, "a Syderstone treasure", began the Coffee Morning in 2001 and it's been open for around 50 weeks a year ever since. But it's not just been coffee, regular participants were also treated to outings and a Christmas special.

Thank you Marian and team, past and present

Anita Taylor and a happy band of helpers are taking over the running of the Coffee Morning – so we hope to see you at the hall at 10.30am on Wednesday mornings and especially for Christmas on 8th December.

The Hall Committee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

| Norman Riches | Chair | 01485 578171 | normanrriches@btinternet.com |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| Wendy Little | Secretary | 01485 578270 | secretaryARVH@outlook.com |
| Chris Little | Treasurer | 01485 578270 | treasurerARVH@outlook.com |
| Gerry Taylor | Money Club | 01485 578524 | cobblers2u@yahoo.co.uk |
| Sheila Riches | Booking | | |
| | Manager | 01485 578171 | sheilarriches@btinternet.com |
| Martin Bateman | Parish Council representative | | |
| Paul Offord | St Mary's Church representative | | |
| Linda Pearse | Arts & Crafts representative | | |
| Derek Cordery | Indoor Bowls | representative | |

GREAT NEWS

The Village Hall is being redecorated in January!

The Post Office will remain open, however, it will be closed for other activities.

Watch out for notices at the Village Hall and on the Syderstone Facebook page.

VILLAGE SCREEN CINEMA @ Amy Robsart Village Hall

syderstonecinema_ARVH@outlook.com

Finally, we're showing films at the hall again!

Average attendance for this seasons films has been over 30.

However, on each "Film Saturday", we have had a matinee (4.00pm) and an evening film (7.30pm) as part of our "keep us safe" policy.

Why don't you give it a try?

Spring 2022 Season

The programme is not yet available BUT the dates are

29 January; 26 February; 26 March; 23 April.

Look out for the programme on:

Syderstone Community Facebook page

Posters around the village and at the Village Hall.

Those on our email list will receive the programme in due course.

Syderstone Village Archive – is housed at the hall

Contact Sheila Riches - see Committee list

Broadband @ ARVH

A new facility now provided at the village hall Contact Norman Riches/Chris Little – see Committee list



ARTS AND CRAFTS @ ARVH

Those attending the recent Autumn Fair held in the Amy Robsart Hall would have seen displayed some of the beautiful and varied items produced by this Group.

Papercraft, Quilting, Embroidery, Felting, Knitting, Crochet, Patchwork, Painting, Drawing, Bespoke Cards, even Costumes for Amateur Dramatics! All these, and more, have been undertaken over time by this Group of very friendly local ladies.

However, most impressive of all is the friendship, help and encouragement we give to each other. Perhaps by trying something completely new, or by learning from another experienced Crafter or by simply enjoying an afternoon spent creating with others. Not forgetting the Tea/Coffee and Chocolate Biscuit refreshments at 3.00!

£10.00 for a 10 x Session Term, 20p per session for Refreshments.

SPRING TERM 2022

Wednesdays from 1.45 pm to 4.15 pm Starts 9 Feb 22

To find out more, please come along to any of our Sessions, you'd be most welcome! OR contact me.....

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A Christmas Quiz

- 1. Which country annually sends a Christmas tree to be erected in London's Trafalgar Square?
- 2. How many gifts in total were given in "The Twelve Days of Christmas" song?
- 3. Three of Santa's reindeer's names begin with the letter "D." What are those names?
- 4. In Slade's Merry Xmas Everybody, who is "up and rock 'n' rollin' with the rest"?
- 5. When was Love Actually released?
- 6. Which villainous EastEnders character served his wife with divorce papers in the Christmas Day edition of the show in 1986?
- 7. What name is given to small sausages wrapped in bacon?
- 8. Name the only two bands to have a UK Christmas number one in three consecutive years.
- 9. Who was killed off in the 2012 Downton Abbey Christmas special cliff-hanger?
- 10. Cliff Richard had his 12th number one hit with his sing-along Christmas classic Mistletoe and what?



"Amazon" raises funds for your Village Hall (ARVH) – your local charity

If you buy goods from Amazon please consider using smile.amazon.co.uk and select Syderstone Village Hall (known locally as Amy Robsart Village Hall) as your chosen charity.

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Christmas Anagram – Re-arrange the Mixed-up Christmas Words

| 1. | Shh Tarmac Refits |
|-------|--|
| | |
| 2. | Hmm Saints Dig |
| 3. | Him Sweetener |
| 4. | Pa Prawn Rip Peg |
| 5. | Ask Own Elf |
| 6. | Racer Catch Smirks |
| 7. | Caste Indoor |
| 8. | Grail Fit Shy |
| 9. | Omelet Its |
| 10. | East Ion Tip |
| 11. | Nets Light In |
| 12. | Anagram Ya Wine |
| (Answ | ers for the Christmas Quiz and Christmas Anagram will be in the next newsletter) |



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Christmas Mushroom and Nut Wellington – (thanks to Debbie for this delicious recipe)

Ingredients

1 large red onion

500g butternut squash, peeled and cut in to small 1cm cubes

2 white onions

3 cloves of garlic

1 tbsp of fresh ginger

2 tbsp olive oil

250g chestnut mushrooms

2 tbsp of fresh parsley

1 tsp of fresh sage

1 tsp of fresh rosemary

Juice of half a lemon

2 eggs



- 1 tbsp of Madeira wine
- 1 tbsp vegetable stock

1 tsp salt and 1 tsp black pepper

1 tsp white pepper

½ - 1 tsp chilli flakes (optional ingredient and amount depends on

personal taste)

1 tsp caster sugar

150g cooked and chopped

chestnuts

150g of mixed nuts (cashew,

walnut, hazelnut)

80g fresh white breadcrumbs

1 pack of ready-rolled puff pastry

Method

- 1. Preheat oven to 180°C(fan) or 200°C
- 2. In a roasting tin with olive oil, roast the butternut squash for 30 minutes
- 3. Gently fry/caramelise the white onions, red onions, garlic, ginger and caster sugar in 1 tbsp of the olive oil for 20 minutes
- 4. Chop and add the mushrooms, herbs, lemon juice, Madeira and stock and reduce the heat to simmer for 20 minutes

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- 5. Put all the nuts in a food processor and once chopped, add the pan of ingredients and the roasted squash, then process everything together to form a paste mixture.
- 6. Place the paste mixture into a bowl and stir in the breadcrumbs, 1 of the beaten eggs, salt, black and white pepper and the chilli flakes if you are using them
- 7. Roll out the pastry into a rectangle and lay on a greased baking tray. Along the middle of the rectangle, spoon the filling mixture, leaving a 1-2cm gap at the top and bottom and a 6-7 cm gap along the two sides.
- 8. Beat the second egg and use as a wash over the exposed pastry, egg washing the edges on both long sides.
- 9. Carefully take one long side of the pastry and roll it up over the filling mixture and continue to roll the whole thing tightly, until you meet the other long side of the pastry, then roll the second egg washed edge, up over the top of the wellington.
 Neatly fold in the two ends, the way you wrap a parcel.
 Using a fork or a pastry knife, score the top of the wellington with a pattern of your choosing. Brush the whole wellington with the rest of the egg wash, place in the oven and bake for 40-50 minutes.
- 10. Remove from the oven and cut into large slices and serve with roast potatoes and your favourite vegetables







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Obituary for Reg Thompson

It is with sadness I write to inform you that my neighbour and friend has passed away.

He was a private person who cared for his village passionately becoming a very active member of the Parish Council as Councillor, Vice Chair and Chairman during his years of service. As we walk around our village, things he worked hard to achieve for Syderstone can be seen.

Reg and the Council worked to obtain through local sponsorship our first three Doggie Bins to keep the village cleaner, and this work has been continued by our current Council.

Additional footpaths (called 'Trods') were introduced in Mill Lane and Creake Road to make it safer for our village and the Village Walks Map can be seen on the wall of the Amy Robsart Hall.

Like many of us, he was keen to slow down the traffic through the village and, during his time on the Parish Council, was instrumental in introducing speed signs. He was a founder member of our Speed Watch.

Reg was active in marking the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by his involvement with the planting of the 'Jubilee Oak' and he also worked with the team from St. Mary's Church to set out the Jubilee Garden, both projects being so much appreciated today.

Reg will be much missed.

Gerry Taylor

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And lastly, the Gardening Corner



Plant tulip bulbs in pots and borders (covering them with at least twice their depth with compost or soil), plant bare-root hedging, roses, trees and shrubs, before the weather turns really cold. You might just have time to plant the last batch of broad beans or peas, you can't go wrong with Broad Bean - The Sutton and delicious peas — Meteor. Don't be in too much of a rush to clear your garden beds as insects need to overwinter in stems and leaves.

Winter is the perfect time to put your feet up and read through gardening catalogues and choose seeds ready for the busy months ahead in Spring.

If you are thinking of bringing in 'The Holly and The Ivy' (how many of you are now singing?) did you know that folklore says the Holly is believed to have protective properties and there were taboos against cutting down a whole tree and they were often left uncut in hedges when the hedges were trimmed.

Likewise, only take a small amount of the Native ivy (Hedera Helix) as its one of the best wildlife plants, giving excellent cover, nesting sites, nectar rich flowers and berries. It's the food plant for many species of moth and the holly blue butterfly.





M Bateman - Maintenance

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