

PARISH CALENDAR 2017

April		Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
2nd	Lent V	11.00 am	Holy Communion Rev'd Andy Froud	Mrs E. Parker	NO Mr & Mrs H. Brown
4th	Tuesday	7.30 pm	PCC Meeting	Church	FLOWERS
5th to 8th	Wednesday to Saturday	7.30 pm	Stage 2 Downham	Village Hall	A Servant to Two Masters Carlo Goldoni
9th	Palm Sunday	11.00 am	Matins Rev'd Brian Whitley	Mrs A Wallace	IN Mrs S. Travis Mrs A. Chadwick
10th	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	<i>Chatburn Methodist Church</i>	
11th	Tuesday	6.00 pm	Village Hall AGM	Village Hall	
12th	Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion Rev'd Andy Froud	Mrs B Lewis	LENT
13th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall	
		7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Note Changed Date</i>
15th	Saturday	2.00 pm	Decorate Church		
16th	Easter Day	11.00 am	Holy Communion Rev'd. Andy Froud	Mrs P McFall	Mr & Mrs B. Lewis
17th	Easter Monday Bank Holiday				
20th	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall	<i>Michael Berry - Thwaites Theatre</i>
23rd	Easter I	11.00 am	Matins Rev'd Andy Froud	Mr I Walton	
		noon	Annual Church Meetings	Church	
		3.30 pm	Family Games Party	St Mary's Centre	<i>In aid of The Children's Society</i>
24th	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	<i>Chatburn, Christ Church</i>	
26th	Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion Rev'd B. Whitley	Mr T. McLean	Mrs L. Whitsey Ms Z. Ward
29th	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise		
30th	Easter II	11.00 am	Matins Rev'd Ann Hardacre	Mr B. Lewis	Mrs D Briathwaite Mrs F Eldridge
May					
1st	Early Spring Bank Holiday				
4th	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club		
7th	Easter III	11.00 am	Holy Communion Rev'd Brian Whitley	Mrs E. Parker	Mrs A Moyle Mrs D Wilkins
8th	Monday	7.30 pm	Archdeacon's Visitation	Clitheroe St James	<i>Admission of Church Wardens</i>

OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE – Rev'd Andy Froud

The Vicarage, Church Street, Clitheroe BB7 2DD
01200 423317 0796 957 6691

OUR CHURCH WARDENS

The Hon Ralph Assheton – 440173 Mrs Philippa McFall 441484

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman and Bookings Secretary Mr Shaun Roney—441667

Hon. Secretary The Hon Mrs Ralph Assheton—440173

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON

newsletter

2017 Issue 4 April

www.downhamvillage.org.uk



From The Rev'd Andy Froud

Dear Friends

All of us have to cope with failure - letting ourselves or others down. Time and again, Jesus in his ministry met with, healed, accepted and loved those who the world had judged to be failures.

But in the end Jesus joined the failures himself, a young man crucified between two petty thieves. He died, as he was born, in poverty.

Jesus death was not a failure for those of us who accept that his death was for us. Christians don't have to constantly live our lives in the fear of sin and failure because as Max Lucado writes in Six Hours One Friday: Living in the Power of the Cross: "Failures are not fatal. It's not that he loves what you did, but he loves who you are. You are his. The One who has the right to condemn you provided the way to acquit you. You make mistakes. God doesn't. And he made you."

Beyond the Cross is the Resurrection: the grave is not the final stop. It is just the beginning of something greater. I understand that possums who are famous largely for "playing possum" or pretending to be dead should also be famous for their intelligence. A possum that sees an empty cave will not enter it if there is only one set of tracks going in - only if there is a second set of tracks going out again does it know the coast is clear. Christians do not need to fear that tomb because the tracks of the risen Christ point us to our new hope and eternal life

Yours in Christ

STOP PRESS Ticket hotline is now correct on page 6.

Almighty God, who through thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: We humbly beseech thee, that as by thy special grace preventing us thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

ST. LEONARD FACTS AND FIGURES		
	February	2017
COMMUNICANTS	29	38
COLLECTIONS	£	
SERVICES	79	301
VISITORS	30	30
DONATIONS	247	479
HOUSE BOXES	2	2
SPECIAL	1,526	1,641
TOTAL	1,884	2,453

IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS:

Kath Swarbrick who is in hospital.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

Holy Matrimony

3rd March William Patrick Roberts and Michelle Ivy Strange of Tottington

FAREWELL

David, Jane and Joe & Tom Garnett have moved away from Hollins Farm. We wish them good luck in their new home.

THE Clerk to the Twiston Parish Meeting has written :

Please can you include in the Newsletter that, thanks to the hard work of our Councillor Gary Scott, Twiston is keeping its public telephone Many thanks Carol .

THE PCC IS GRATEFUL TO THOSE WHO SPONSOR THE NEWSLETTER.
IN APRIL THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY,
Mr and Mrs Brian and Barbara Lewis in Celebration of their Golden Wedding

SPECTATOR

WE didn't go to the special coffee morning this month, which was to celebrate Brian and Barbara's golden wedding anniversary, treacherous legs refused to work...hateful things! Actually, I was quite pleased because the golden couple came to us bearing cakes and bubbly and we had a lovely chat about life, death and the lettuce shortage. No....I'm kidding ...I have only just read about lettuce being sold on the black market for ten times it's normal price and supermarkets rationing iceberg lettuces to two per customer. That reminds me of a Peter Kay joke, "a woman goes to the Doctors and has some lettuce sticking out of her jumper, (it should be knickers really but I didn't think Ed will let me say that in the church newsletter!) anyway the doctor said, " oh dear that looks nasty, And the woman said, " that's just the tip of the iceberg!"

Well anybody can have my ration, I'm not a salad fan but if we stick to eating things that are grown here and in season, there wouldn't be as many problems, and would taste better too I'm sure

Back to the golden couple, I read an agony aunts column in a magazine some time ago, which stated that it wasn't too long ago that the average life expectancy at birth was 40, with many dying of childhood diseases and teenagers having a hard time of it too. So if you managed to stay alive long enough to say "I do", You could only expect to be together up to 20 years, even that might seem a long for some! But nowadays you could be together for 70 years and is it realistic to get on with the same person when we change and grow so much between 20 and 90? Is it realistic to expect our other half to change and grow with us?

Well obviously it is. When we come across couples celebrating golden anniversaries, it warms your cockles. Here's to another year of having someone looking out for you, someone to help you through life, someone to share your lettuce with!

THE RIBBLE VALLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2017

THE APRIL offerings of the festival are, briefly:

Saturday 8th April at 7.30 pm

A fundraising concert for St Mary's Church when the St Mary's centre Clitheroe plays host to a Gala Evening of Song with International duo Il Destino & The Rossendale Ladies Choir. Tickets are £10 from St Mary's Centre weekday mornings or call 01254 38489

Saturday 22nd April

A COUNTRY AND BLUEGRASS JAMBOREE

Demand has brought a celebration of this music genre to the Ribble Valley with this first Jamboree taking place at churches in Chatburn.

The programme includes:

CHATBURN METHODIST CHURCH £8

3.30 – 5.15 pm *Union Central*

CHRIST CHURCH CHATBURN £10

7.30 – 8.30 pm *The Grove Band*

9.00 – 10.00 pm *Britannia Blue Grass*

Individual ticket prices are shown.

A £15 Jamboree Pass for all events is also available. All proceeds go to the churches. Tickets are available from Roy Porter Butchers or call 01254 384893.



Stage Two Downham

Stage Two Downham are tackling theatre from the distant past this time round!



A Servant to Two Masters

by **Carlo Goldoni**

(you have probably heard of *One Man Two Guvnors* with James Cordon)

It's a play written in the 18C and is a rattlebag of characters, disguises, muddled identities and loads of fun.

On stage from Wednesday to Saturday April 5th-8th at the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Tickets from Tourist Information or the Ticket Hotline 07845926295 or book a meal deal at the Assheton Arms.

Come and join us and experience the 'Commedia Dell' Arte'

I promise you won't be disappointed!

HELEN PLANS SWIM FOR ROSEMERE

WHEN I was diagnosed with breast cancer in November 2015 it was my intention, having just returned to swimming after a few years, to 'swim my way' through chemotherapy to stay fit. I made headway in a couple of weeks, relishing the return to the pool. However, once chemo began I wasn't allowed to swim. The surgery and radiotherapy which followed also meant I couldn't swim.

So, here we are April 2017, a year on from my operation... what are my plans? Well, I am going to 'Swim the Channel' for Rosemere Cancer Foundation... 21 miles Dover to Cap Gris Nez near Calais or to be exact, 1,344 lengths at Stonyhurst College swimming pool! I will 'set out' from English shores on June 1st, swimming a mile a day, 64 lengths, (Sundays off), arriving 'in France' on Saturday June 24th, exactly a year since my treatment finished.

Why? Well this is 3 fold; I wish to give something back, by raising funds for Rosemere. They have just launched their 2017 Appeal and are also building the new Chemotherapy Unit at Burnley Hospital, where I received my chemo. They provided the radiotherapy at Preston as my final part of treatment. Rosemere give the most excellent care and are deserving of our support. Secondly, in support of friends who are going through treatment. Finally, a personal challenge for myself. I can't run marathons or cycle the length of Britain, but I can swim!

Training is underway. The 'arrival' in France will be marked with a fun celebration in the village with a French theme ... details to follow in the May newsletter along with Just giving page information.

If anyone would like to sponsor the traditional way on a sponsor form please ring me on 441015. Thank you to the village community for your support, in particular to the Addy family over the last 18 months." HA

BARBARA LEWIS HAS WRITTEN

WELL what can I say? When we decided to hijack the March coffee morning and open it up to anyone who could come along, the last thing we expected was a party, BUT Carole took over and we didn't get a look in. We were told not to turn up before 10 o'clock, not to go near the kitchen and we had to sit and chat, so we did as we were told (you don't argue with Carole). However we weren't prepared for the beautifully decorated tables, white cloths, gold napkins, doilies, sweets and last but not least, gorgeous floral decorations with our favourite yellow roses. Carole had rallied the troops! Thanks Carole and sincere thanks also Molly, John, Frances, Peter and Di, you were wonderful. We had a memorable morning, spent with all our friends and neighbours and we really appreciate all your good wishes, cards and gifts. You made our special anniversary EXTRA special xx

PENDLE HILL LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP

Calling all Journalists, Writers, Bloggers, Photographers and Creatives...

If you're a talented writer or a creative person looking for a new high-profile challenge and interested in uncovering the many stories around Pendle Hill for a national audience, we want to hear from you. We're assembling a select team of talented volunteers to help launch a major new website. Please email hello@pendlefolk.com for further info.

You are invited...

The next Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership Gathering will be held on Tuesday 11th April at Grassroots Centre, Nelson from 2pm to 4pm and at St Mary's Hall, Sabden from 6.30pm to 8pm. Please come along to one of these venues and find out more about the project, what has been happening in the past few months and the plans for the programme. Everybody is welcome. Please contact jayne.ashe@lancashire.gov.uk / 01200 448000 for more details.



Why not dance away the night to a 60's and 70's Disco? The village hall committee are organising another FUNdraising event and you are very welcome to join us.

on Friday 28th April at 7.30 pm

Tickets are just £10 Each including 60's & 70's Food
There will be a cash bar on the evening

Further information and tickets Please ring Sue Hinder on 440912
mob 07966699326 or Barbara on 440925

THE PARISH CHURCH

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

THE AGM of the Parish Church will be held at 12.00 noon on **Sunday 23rd April** immediately after the morning service. The meeting includes the election of Church Wardens and Members of the Parochial Church Council.

TREES

THANKFULLY, all the tree surgery work that has gone on over the last two years meant that there were no reports of trees or branches crashing down during Storm Bertha. Now that Richard has gone round all the roadside trees in the Parish he is now searching the outer reaches of the Estate in Worston, Rimington and Twiston. Once that is done he will be starting the task of checking trees near buildings and footpaths.

WALL DAMAGE

SADLY, the miscreant who drove their Range Rover into the croft wall below the church during a Sunday service has not been found. The description and number left by a witness proved inaccurate, so the Estate will have to pick up the tab (again!). If any readers have information that could help track down the villain it would be much appreciated.

AGM



THE AGM of the Village Hall Committee is to be held at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 11th April at **6.00 pm Main business will be election of Committee and Members, to receive the review of 2016 and to start to plan the Gardens Open and other events for 2017. All welcome. OA**

GARDEN CLUB

IT was the A.G.M. this month for the Garden Club but we soon dispensed with that. We had the Treasurers report ,everything looking rosy! Then we discussed the Committee, all staying in position !



Five minutes into the meeting and we were off to China .Yes Anne and Gordon were our speakers for the evening and they started off (accompanied by film) by taking us to China . The sights and sounds of the beautiful cities and the calm of the rivers all culminating in the same places at nightfall, what wonderful sights! Then of course there was The Great Wall ,a magnificent achievement . Not satisfied with China we then went off to Scotland, as in Fort William and Glencoe ,what a contrast ! China was wonderful but Scotland was superb .With senses reeling we then were treated to 5 minutes of pure noise and superb action over the Lancashire coast, the perfect ending to the presentation .

The evening ended with refreshments, the usual raffle and a good night was had by all. The April meeting will be on the **13th** at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm the speaker will be Bernard Gethings—**note the change of date .**

COFFEE CLUB

Well what a fabulous coffee morning we had this month ! Of course it was Barbara & Brian's Golden Wedding and we couldn't let it go without a party .There were cakes galore thanks to Molly and Francis who also served the teas and coffees. Barbara & Brian brought a beautiful celebration cake and some bubbly, I don't believe there was a piece of cake left at the end Andy our vicar proposed the toast and I am sure many memories were stirred with his words. I would also like to thank Di who organised the pony raffle which was won by Mrs. Mercer, I hope you like it Betty! I can't give enough thanks to everyone who helped make this coffee morning special for Barbara and Brian.



DOWNHAM & TWISTON HISTORY GROUP

ON 13th March, Chris Spencer gave us an illuminating talk on a little-known aspect of Slaidburn history, thought to be of national importance. It focused on village politics in the 18th and 19th century. Using court records, poor's land records and newspapers, he traced the often-fraught relationship between local landowners and trustees of the poor land on the one hand and inhabitants on the other. From 1619, the commons around Slaidburn were enclosed, and the poor lost grazing rights for their cattle and sheep, so some 60 acres of commons were allocated as land to be held by trustees for the use of the industrious poor. Over the years some customary practices had arisen, whereby trustees were renting out this land to each other and using the income to reduce their poor rate. This so infuriated the inhabitants that it led to a longstanding dispute, which rumbled on over centuries. Letters and petitions were written. Inhabitants were castigated as 'violent radicals'. People were arrested and tried at York, their goods and properties distrained. Eventually, remembering his early childhood experience of 1785 when bailiffs seized the family's household belongings, one John Illingworth took up the cause and investigated the Poor Land's charity. His lifelong battle was finally rewarded when the Charity Commissioners and Her Majesty's Attorney General in 1846 ruled in his favour. His portrait now hangs in the village hall, formerly the Methodist chapel JP

The next ,meeting will be Monday 24th April at 7 .30 pm at the Village Hall, when our speaker will be a return visit of Roger Frost to tell us about The Manor House at Ightenhill and the de Lacy family.

In addition, on 12th April, History Group members are invited to join the Downham banner.com trip to Wardle to look at their collection of Skerrett Banners. This will be a 10.00 am to 3.00 pm outing with a picnic. Any non members who would like to come along will be welcome and should let Tom know on 445471. TM



At Downham WI's March meeting there was a double celebration. The Institute is 97 years old and is the 4th oldest in Lancashire and, long-standing member, Margaret Walmsley was presented with her 60 years Membership certificate.

The members raised a toast with Bucks Fizz and enjoyed a delicious buffet from Blueberries Caterers.



After the buffet, Margaret Walmsley cut the Birthday cake and the members listened to a superb talk by Raymond Smith entitled: 'From Muck & Music, To Stones & Roses'

Raymond Smith described his life as a 5th generation dairy farmer before selling up and converting half his barn into his family home and creating a beautiful garden around it, using stone from a demolished cotton mill on the site, which he has planted dozens of Roses. He was also the church organist and wrote 4 musicals, using these to raise money for charity, with his biggest event being performed at the Bridgewater Hall, Manchester. He now prefers to 'take it easy' , fundraising by opening his garden a few days a year instead.

Downham WI are planning to visit his 2-acre garden at White Coppice Farm, Chorley, in July this year.

Next month's meeting will be on Thursday, 20th April, at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm the Guest Speaker will be Michael Berry, his subject The History of Thwaites's Theatre, Blackburn KB