

**PARISH CALENDAR 2011**

July/August			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
30th	Saturday	10.00am 2.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Annual Flower Show Exhibits to hall 10.00 am to Noon Public Opening 2.30 pm</i>	
7th	Trinity VII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Chatburn Christ Church</b>	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mr & Mrs J. Whitsey
		11.00am	Holy Communion Revd Anne Hardacre	Mr B. Lewis		
		2.00 to 6.00pm	50th Anniversary Event	Village Hall	<i>Whistle Down the Wind</i>	
8th	Monday	7.30 pm	History Group	Clitheroe Library	<i>Talk—Sue Holden reference librarian</i>	
9th	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Pre School		
11th	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
14th	Trinity VIII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D Wilkins		Mrs D. Braithwaite Mrs
		11.00am	Matins Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs P. McFall		
18th	Thursday	<b>6.30 pm</b>	WI	Ribchester Arms	<i>Treasure Hunt and supper</i>	
21st	Trinity IX	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Chatburn Christ Church</b>	Miss R. Hall	Mrs A. Moyle Mrs D. Wilkins
		11.00am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mrs E. Wrigley		
28th	Trinity X	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs E. Parker		Hon Mrs R. Assheton Mrs J. Wright Phillips
		11.00am	United Family Service Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs B. Lund		
<b>September</b>						
1st	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Beetle Drive</i>	
4th	Trinity XI	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Christ Church Chatburn</b>	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs P. McFall Mrs M. Roskell
		11.00am	Holy Communion Revd Chich Hewitt	Mr T. McLean		
6th	Tuesday	7.30 pm	P.C.C. Meeting	Church		

**OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE** – Canon Rodney Nicholson – 458019

**OUR CHURCH WARDENS**

The Hon Ralph Assheton – 440173    Mrs Diana Wilkins – 445250

**VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Chairman and Bookings Secretary** Mr Shaun Roney—441667

**Hon. Secretary** The Hon Mrs Ralph Assheton—440173

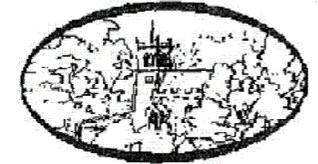


[www.downhamvillage.org.uk](http://www.downhamvillage.org.uk)

*The Newsletter was sponsored this month by a parishioner*

**PARISH OF ST. LEONARD**

**DOWNHAM & TWISTON**



**newsletter**

2011 Issue 8 August

[www.downhamvillage.org.uk](http://www.downhamvillage.org.uk)

**From Canon Rodney Nicholson**

**Viewpoint**



LAST month I enjoyed an overnight visit to London, staying with Kathleen's nephew and his fiancée at whose wedding I was to give a blessing service. Any excuse to visit the capital is welcome. I try to get there once a year, just for the day. On this occasion I didn't have long since, as it happened, I was travelling on to Cambridge the following morning for an event at Ridley Hall, my old theological college, returning home late that evening.

The short time in London did, however, allow a visit to St Paul's Cathedral which was hosting a small exhibition on the Dhalits, or Untouchables, of India. It was a stunning display with superb photography showing the poverty and humiliation of these people, some of whom have become Christians. One woman, photographed, has to support her family by clearing excrement from a back alley leading to waste disposal point. The cathedral staff handled the many visitors with tact, and I enjoyed a brief chat with a young vicar from north London who was the "duty priest" that day. He invited all the visitors to pause for prayer on the hour and was available to listen to anyone who needed him.

I then took the bus to Trafalgar Square, which was a mistake. I would have been quicker walking because, owing to a fire, traffic was diverted via the Thames embankment. At least I had views of the river. In Trafalgar Square there was time for an hour in the National Gallery before it closed at 6 pm, after which it was getting on time to catch an 89 bus out to Wandsworth.

There I was in the busy heart of London, and I was struck by the thought of how influential the Christian faith had been. A Nigerian on the bus from Kings Cross station to the St Paul's area, who helpfully gave me directions, was a Christian. The cathedral itself, one of the capital's main landmarks, calls us to Christ and is named after his remarkable apostle. St Martin's-in-the-Fields church, with its superb ministry in Christ's name to the homeless, stands there in Trafalgar Square. As for the National Gallery, well, if you removed all the pictures which depict bible scenes or the saints, you would have many gaps. Who but Christ has so put his stamp on our fascinating capital? Who but our Saviour has so changed the world?

*Rodney Nicholson*

LET thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of thy humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please thee; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	June	2011
COMMUNICANTS	54	274
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	194	912
VISITORS	149	467
DONATIONS	2,235	5,447
HOUSE BOXES	66	171
TOTALS	2,644	6,997

#### OUR PRAYERS are said for

Elsie and the family of **Max Clement**.  
Jennifer and the family of **Bill Smith**

**Bob Swarbrick** who is recovering at home.

**Chris Swarbrick** who is recovering after complicated spinal surgery at Preston.

**Alan Spensley** who has had a very nasty encounter with a bull and who is recovering at home.

**Edith Hart** who has had surgery to her arm.

#### FAREWELL

**Alan and Jill Oldfield** who, after many years at Red Syke, Twiston, have moved to be nearer their family. We thank Jill for her many years of service in the Choir and as a member of the Church cleaning rota

**Rachel Newton**, Church Warden, for the past year and who is moving from Clitheroe to Scotland, see page 7.

#### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

##### HOLY MATRIMONY **Wedding from Clay House**

JULY 2<sup>nd</sup> saw the marriage of **Richard Travis and Sonja Torgersen** of Clay House farm. It was a jubilant occasion, enhanced by exquisite harp and flute playing from the Melandra Duo and with a strong musical lead from our own choir and organist, Adele Pridding, with the bell ringers playing their part. The harpist, Maxine Molin-Rose contributed to a concert in St Leonard's a year or two ago. There were guests from Orlando, North America, and Sonja's mother, Edna, from Sweden, along with others from various parts of the country. Richard and Sonja, who drove up in the main street in an open-top car after the ceremony, looked very happy, and we wish them a deeply happy marriage. RN

##### FUNERAL SERVICES

8th July **Bill Smith** of West Bradford and formerly of Downham.

11th July **Max Clement** of Clitheroe and formerly of Gerna Farm, Downham.

#### St Leonards Centenary Art Competition

One of the events to mark the centenary of the refurbishment of St Leonard's Church will be an art competition. There will be prizes!

Entries will be displayed at the Village Hall on the day of the Flower Show (30th July).

Winning work will be displayed in Church at the special Centenary Service on 30th October.

The competition is open to all resident children and to the pre school children

Four Age groups:

Preschool 7 and under  
12 and under 18 and under

Entries can be in any medium & should have one of the following titles:

100

*Alleluia!*

*A Century of Worship  
Seen at St Leonard's*

**Please bring entries to Church  
between 5 & 6 pm on  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July**

#### DOWNHAM PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting

**Downham Pre-School at 7pm**

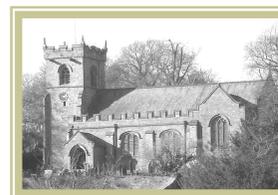
Tuesday, 9th August

The meeting is open to all residents of Downham Parish.

#### RETIRED POLICE HORSES

##### Did you know?

LANCASHIRE Constabulary, Mounted Branch, names all its police horses after places in Lancashire. One of their horses is a 17hand, 11 year-old bright bay gelding called "DOWNHAM". A notable equine artist, MICHAEL MILLER, has painted a beautiful portrait in oil of Downham with a police officer. This painting will be on view at the Downham Flower Show On 30th July, to promote their charity - The Retired Lancashire Police Horse Benevolent Fund, with prints and cards etc .



#### CHURCH WARDEN RACHEL NEWTON WRITES:

I am moving to a new job with Scottish Water and horse, dog and I will be based in Edinburgh from mid August so I will not be able to carry on my sidesperson, deanery synod and church warden duties at St Leonards after the end of July.

I am very sorry to give you such short notice and hope you find a replacement soon. I have enjoyed very much being part of the church community at Downham and will miss it very much.

Thank you Rachel for your roles in our Church which started with your doing sidesperson duties at 8.30 am and later expanded to the other jobs which you took on. We shall miss your contribution to our meetings and church life generally. With the best wishes of the PCC and parish to you as you go to Scotland.

## DIARY OF NO ONE IN PARTICULAR

I WOKE up remembering I have to register my septic tank by the end of 2011. Had it been a dream? How did I know this? I couldn't recall. It must have been in the Daily Telegraph, so that's alright then. Haunted all day with the memory of the 1,000 pound fine for failure to register I, of course, Googled septic tank registration. There it was. No dream, rather a nightmare.

The Environment Agency Office, in Sheffield, urgently it seems, need to know this. Five page form to fill in. Pages and pages of guidance and FAQs (frequently asked questions). And the ever so slightly threatening "be sure that you read all the guidance so as to submit only accurate information".

It occurs to me that the environment agency only has to ask the water companies, since those of us who have septic tanks are exempted from a percentage of the Water and Sewerage Charge. That would be too simple and besides—data protection! We can't have one agency telling another about their customers—unless it suits them of course and, moreover, this way it's the customer who does all the work.

Back to the on-line form. The information required includes a twelve-digit Grid Reference for the point of effluent discharge. Had I managed all these years without knowing anything at all about grid references to now be thrown into jail for submitting false information? Google again, "how to get a grid reference". Another nightmare. Magic maps in the end. You just highlight the exact spot on the map and press the "?" button and, low and behold—an EIGHTEEN digit grid reference. Wonder if I've guessed correctly which twelve digits they want?

Declaration: to the best of my knowledge the information is accurate—we may prosecute for inaccurate information. Press the submit button; see you in court.



DOWNHAM & TWISTON  
GARDEN CLUB

**BEETLE DRIVE**

AT THE VILLAGE HALL

THURSDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER

at 7.30 pm

Admission £3.00 Children £1.50  
Including light refreshments

**ALL WELCOME**

AS the public spending cuts bite we see a report that somewhere in Hampshire there is a new home for the elderly in the pipeline. Could be a bit cramped.

DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL  
**WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND**  
50th ANNIVERSARY REUNION  
EVERYONE WELCOME  
Free admission  
Donations gratefully received to be divided  
between Downham Village Hall  
& Help for Heroes  
DISPLAYS OF MEMORIBILIA  
**Sunday, 7th August 2.00 to 6.00 pm**  
FILM SHOWINGS 2.15 & 4.00 pm  
A chance to meet up with long-lost friends  
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

WE are pleased to report that after a five-way heart by pass and a pacemaker fitting Bob came out of intensive care within a couple of days and from high dependency care (including a week in isolation, having collected a hospital infection) at Blackpool Victoria hospital, within a total of three weeks. He is making good progress back at home in Downham.

We would like to pas on our heartfelt thanks for the prayers, cards messages and practical support we have been given during this very difficult and emotional time. Thank you all. We are so lucky to be part of the extended family of Downham & Twiston. Thank you so much. Kath (Swarbrick) and family.

## Bill is remembered with a wood

**B**ILL Smith (79), who died in The Manor House after being ill for some time, will always be remembered by a wood which can be seen from St Leonard's church. He helped his father, William, the woodman at Downham Hall, to plant Hookcliffe wood on the slopes of Pendle Hill in about 1950. The Smiths had moved to Downham Mill from Redcar shortly after the war, when Bill was 15, in order for William to take up his appointment. Bill then lived at Heyhouse Farm for eleven years, farming with the Jacksons, after which he moved to Rimington on becoming a lorry driver for Edgar Duckworth. While at Heyhouse, like other young people of his time, he went to one of the east Lancashire towns, Accrington, for some social life, and met his wife-to-be, Jennifer, who lived in Oswaldtwistle. They were married in 1962 and had two sons, Philip and Stephen and, in time, four grandchildren, two of whom – Jessica (14) and Phoebe (8) read at the funeral service.

Bill was brother to Derek Smith, husband of the late Stella, who is now married to Susan and living in Billington. Bill and Jennifer moved to Greendale, then to West Bradford. We remember Bill with fondness.

## Max never really left Downham

**M**AX Clement (77), whose funeral took place in St Leonard's on July 11<sup>th</sup>, never completely left Gerna, the farm on the side of Pendle Hill to which his family moved after the war, and which he and Elsie ran for 25 years. Ever since their move to Clitheroe twenty-nine years ago, he and Elsie would walk in the vicinity of Gerna and chat to the present occupiers, Colin and Jenny Aspinall. The large congregation at his funeral service was its own evidence of how much a part of the local community Max remained.

Max, who came from a farming family in Garstang, met Elsie at a dance in Newton and the couple were married at Slaidburn in 1960. Their three children came along: Dale, who sadly died as a young man, Donna and Michelle, and the young family greatly enjoyed their life at Gerna. In later life Max worked at Greenacre garage, from which he never really retired. The staff thought a great deal of him. A man who could speak his mind, Max had many interests, from reading to travel, and he particularly liked aircraft and flying. Only two weeks before he died he visited Manchester airport. He will be greatly missed.

## Marriage

**J**AQUELINE Wilkins, daughter of Steve and Diana of Lower Smithy Fold, is now Mrs Wolfson, He is David, (a medical engineer). They were married at the York Maze, licensed for weddings, where there is also a set of maize mazes & giant play areas for (grownup) kids. We were able to camp there & they began their married life under canvas.

**THE PARISH CHURCH**

**VISIT BY LINKED-PARISH PRIEST**

**W**E ARE delighted to welcome the Revd Chich Hewitt, priest-in-charge of Holy Rood, Swinton, Manchester on Sunday September 4<sup>th</sup> at 11.00 am. The people of Holy Rood are also celebrating their centenary this year, so we have established a link between the two parishes, with Rodney Nicholson preaching at Swinton that same morning.

**MORECAMBE BAY WALK**

**A**NNE and Derek Hardacre thank all who sponsored them on their walk across Morecambe Bay for The Leprosy Mission. They raised £450 from the three parishes.

**EAST AFRICAN FAMINE**

**W**E HAVE so far sent £250 to Christian Aid from the three parishes in response to the appeal for victims of the famine in the Horn of Africa. The Bishop of Worcester told Christian Aid that the UK's economic difficulties pale into insignificance in the face of the life-threatening crisis in East Africa where 10 million people face starvation. Our own government has responded generously and the Disasters Emergency Committee, of which Christian Aid is a member, has received £10m from the appeal – £1 for each of the people in dire need.

**AN INVITATION**

**A**NNE and Derek Hardacre invite all members of St Leonard's congregation to help Derek celebrate his 80th birthday. Please join us, says Anne, for tea/coffee and cakes on the afternoon of Sunday 21st August from 2.30pm onwards in St Paul's church, Low Moor. Derek is not expecting any presents but any donations are welcome towards a new carpet for St Paul's.

**CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COLLECTION**

**T**HE collection, taken on 8th and 9th July at Booths store, by the Whalley Deanery Fund-raising Committee of the society raised £780 for the society's work. Collectors were very grateful and noted, particularly the generosity of shoppers this year. The society is grateful for the help of parishioners who volunteer as collectors for this important occasion.

**VILLAGE HALL**

**COMMITTEE**

**T**HE COMMITTEE is currently very much occupied with replacing the heating system, which has been condemned. Grant applications are being pursued by the Hon Secretary and quotes are being obtained.. Until work is complete there will be temporary reliance on electrical heating.  
**In the meantime please continue your support of your Village Hall.**

**COFFEE CLUB**

**A** lovely sunny day and a good turnout for the Coffee Club. Good to see new faces and welcome our regulars. the nice thing about Coffee Club is that we have time to 'catch up' on news, perhaps we should call it the modern word 'networking!' With June on holiday Edith stoically ran the Bring & Buy Stall as usual except this time it was with one arm in a sling!! We hope you soon recover from your op! The stall benefited from the usual surfeit of garden produce kindly brought in, delicious blackcurrants and crisp lettuce. Thanks to everyone who cheerfully helped to clear everything away. We meet again on Thursday, 11th August at 10.00 am OAwb

**GARDEN CLUB**

**O**n Thursday, 7th July, members visited a Sabden Garden at Aureole House the home of Dr and Mrs Roland Lansdell. Shared transport departed from the bridge at 6.30 pm and the visit took place on a warm and showery evening (with one rather cosy interlude, during a heavy shower, for eight members, in a very small summerhouse). The garden is a delightful mixture of linked smaller gardens with herbaceous borders, roses, woodland walk, ponds and interesting statues and wood carvings. A forty year old Californian redwood tree planted when they moved in stands in the centre of one lawn. Members exchanged information, with their hosts about plants and the plant losses of the last severe winter. Delicious cake and coffee refreshments were served with much talk about recipes. Our next meeting is Saturday, 30th July, - he Show! Our 1st September meeting is the Beetle Drive—A family event all are welcome CA



**W.I.**

**July Meeting**

**A**RE you planning a coach tour holiday? You will realize how important the coach driver is to the enjoyment of your holiday. David Piercy entertained members with his recollections of his years driving a coach on the Isle of Man telling tales of his various passengers' exploits and his colleagues. His amusing anecdotes gave us an insight into the life of a coach driver.

Various reports included an international day at Chipping Village Hall attended by Ann Hardie who learned the secrets of ancient Japanese customs including the Tea Ceremony, Ikebana flower arranging and the wearing of the Kimono.

Many entries were planned for the WI area show and all were reminded to send their entries to Edisford School ready for the show on Saturday 23rd.

**Next Meeting**

Members were reminded of the August meeting when members will meet at the Ribchester Arms, at 6:30pm for a treasure hunt around Ribchester, followed by supper. JN



**DOWNHAM AND TWISTON HISTORYGROUP**

**T**HE planned meeting for July was cancelled and has been re-arranged for Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August. The topic has changed – we are going to meet at Clitheroe Library at 7.30pm when Sue Holden who works in the reference library will be talking to us. Just turn up at the library at the arranged time for this event.

The History Group's fourth Newsletter is attached to this edition of the Parish Newsletter and available on the village website. Follow the History Group link on www.downhamvillage.org EW

**Carol says:**  
**DON'T FORGET**  
**The Annual Flower Show**  
**at the Village Hall**  
**Saturday, 30th July**  
*Exhibits to the Hall*  
*between 10.00 am & 12 Noon.*  
*Judging from 1.00 pm*  
**Public Opening at 2.30 pm.**  
Spare copies of the show schedule are available on the table in Church.