

PARISH CALENDAR 2017

February		Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners	
5th	Epiphany V	11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Brian Whitely	Mr T. McLean	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mr & Mrs B Lewis
6th	Monday	7.30 pm	History Group	Village Hall	<i>Downhambanner.com</i>	
8th	Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs B Lewis		
9th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
12th	Third before Lent Septuagesima	11.00 am	Matins Revd Ann Hardacre	Mrs A Wallace		Mr & Mrs J. Whitsey
13th	Monday	7.30 pm	PCC meeting	<i>Church</i>		
			Joyful Noise	<i>Chatburn, Methodist Church</i>		
16th	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall		
19th	2nd before Lent Sexagesima	11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Brian Whitely	Mrs P McFall		Mrs D Braithwaite Mrs F Eldridge
22nd	Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mr B. Lewis		
26th	1st before lent Quinquagesima	11.00 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mr I Walton		Mrs A Moyle Mrs D Wilkins
27th	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	<i>Chatburn, Christ Church</i>		
28th	Tuesday		Shrove Tuesday			
March						
1st	Wednesday		Ash Wednesday			
2nd	Thursday	7.30 pm	Gardening Club	Village Hall		
5th	Lent I	11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs E. Parker		Hon Mrs R Assheton Mrs C Naylor

OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE – Revd 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



www.downhamvillage.org.uk

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON

newsletter

2017 Issue 2 February

www.downhamvillage.org.uk



From The Revd Andy Froud

Dear Friends



STEPHEN, the first Christian of untold thousands to give his life for Christ, gave a speech to his accusers. He was told to defend himself against the charges made against him. At first, if you read the account in Acts 7, you might think he was going to get away with it. Everything he says is an affirmation of the faith which he shares with his accusers: he retells the Old Testament stories of Abraham and Moses.

Where it starts to go wrong, and you can picture the crowds starts to turn against Stephen, is when he starts to talk about how the people of Israel turned from God to worship idols in the wilderness. And even before he delivers his crushing verdict on his former friends: “you stiff-necked people”, you know what he says he believes is going to end in his death.

“The Most High does not live in houses made by human hands.” says Stephen, and he goes on to quote the prophet Isaiah: ‘Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me? says the Lord. Or where will my resting place be?’

There is always a desire and a need to build a house of God: we should have a place where Christians can come and worship and welcome others. But we always need to remember that God and the church are both bigger than any building. Everything that we build ourselves in this life will one day fall to dust: but all that we do for Christ lasts for all eternity.

Yours in Christ,

Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

**ST. LEONARD
FACTS AND FIGURES**

	November	December	2017
COMMUNICANTS	49	66	638
COLLECTIONS			
SERVICES	197	149	2,031
VISITORS	136	20	531
DONATIONS	464	232	6,957
HOUSE BOXES	-	20	75
SPECIAL		-	5,399
TOTALS	1,149	421	14,993

IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS:

Philippa McFall and the families of her nephews who died in January.

CONGRATULATIONS

Louise and Trevor Rutherford who closed the cafe at Greendale and went off to be married. We wish you continuing happiness and success with the Kitchen.

Daniel and Amy Naylor Frizell who celebrate the arrival of a son Charles Philip on 17th January.

THANKS TO THE NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTORS

Helen, Philip & Chrissy, Jeanie, Diana, Tom, Claire and Dave who get the Newsletter out to every home in the Parish (with the exception of a few with very long driveways—who get a postage stamp).

THE PCC IS GRATEFUL TO THOSE WHO SPONSOR THE NEWSLETTER.
IN FEBRUARY THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY
ADAMS and Co Accountants York Street Clitheroe

SPECTATOR

WELL, we are still counting the cost of Christmas in teeth this year! I have just made the second dentist appointment for Jon who has lost 2 caps/crowns on eating nuts in the Christmas pudding and brushing with his electric toothbrush. (that must be the one which cleans by knocking them out!)

I read somewhere that in Edwardian times, I may have the wrong era but it was definitely in someone's era, the Father of the bride would pay to have all his daughters teeth removed before the wedding as part of her dowry. Just imagine having all your lovely teeth pulled out just to save money for your soon to be husband!

It's not just the cost of treatment though, our dentist is in Brierfield, because Jon used to work in the area, and unless we can make it a Monday or Tuesday when Zoe isn't working, we have to rely on lifts. I rang Sue Hinder who very kindly mentioned in the past that if she could she would and she would this time unless she could find someone as she was supposed to be working Then she called back to say Diane would do it. "You know Diane don't you?" Erm....no....and she has only lived in Downham 3 yrs! Well, we got on like a house on fire (I wonder who made that saying up? !) and turns out she was born in Chatburn and knows lots of its history. She really was lovely and so easy to talk to. Then I made the big mistake of letting it slip, accidentally on purpose, that she was in the presence of greatness by mentioning that I am in fact THE Spectator!

It serves me right for swanking (showing off) because soon after that, we started talking about Whistle Down The Wind and we had to practically drag it out of her that she was in it and only told us she was one of the main actors when I threatened her! Wow, all the time she let me think that I was the greatness whose presence she was in when really it was the other way round...tut (mind you, she's not been in anything since, hmm!)

Anyway I've decided that when I get married again, I will insist my future husband has all his teeth removed first.....kidding Jon! !

THE RIBBLE VALLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2017

THE PROGRAMME for this very popular festival has been published. **Nine** venues in Churches, Village Halls and the Clitheroe Royal Grammar School are hosting fifteen concerts in a variety of styles. The opening concert is on Friday 3rd March at Christ Church, Chatburn where the finale A Christmas Concert will also be staged on 3rd December. Copies of the full programme are available from St Leonard's Church.

This year the **Downham St Leonard** offering on the afternoon of Sunday 18th June is a contrasting, two-part classical programme. In the first half the Stonebridge String Quartet will play, for the first time in this area, The Forest of Bowland Suite by Chris Gibbs.

This music is inspired by places in the Forest and has five movements: Dawn on Pendle Hill, Noonday Sun on Beacon Fell, Clitheroe Market, Teatime in Chipping and Moon over Downham. We are especially lucky in that the composer will be present to discuss his inspiration.

In the second half, Preston Opera Company will be performing a selection of popular pieces.



RECYCLING

At present we are fortunate to have recycling bins at the Village Hall, but some users misunderstand how to use them and risk the removal of the service.

In particular the can recycling bin is for cans only. It is not like a giant "blue" recycling wheelie bin as we have at home. If plastic containers are put in the Village Hall cans bin the whole load has to be rejected and RVBC have to pay £116/ton to send the load to land fill. If only cans are in the bin RVBC can sell them, thus helping to keep our Council Tax down.

The paper and cardboard bins at the Village Hall are very useful to many, but some people insist on putting in whole, un-flattened cardboard boxes. This means that the bins are mostly filled with air. RVBC therefore have to empty the bins with a specialist wagon more frequently and with less weight of material. If this continues RVBC will have to give up offering the service, at which point, rather than just flattening boxes, we will all have to tear them into small pieces to fit in the white paper recycling bags. Please, please, please use the bins properly, or we will lose them for good!



RCA

New Discover Bowland Guide Now Available

WITH the New Year comes a brand new Discover Bowland guide full of information about the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The guide has been written with both residents and visitors in mind, offering inspiration for walking routes, ideas for Afternoon Tea stops, tips for star gazing, seasonal wildlife highlights and whole range of Festival Bowland events.

Officially launched on 2nd February, you can pick up a copy of the guide and events programme from Clitheroe Tourist Information Centre at the Platform Gallery or from a number of local businesses. Alternatively, you can download a copy from the Forest of Bowland AONB website at www.forestofbowland.com

SS

Welcome to the first Festival Bowland listing of 2017

From story telling to bird watching and guided walks to green woodworking, we have a packed programme ahead, so take a look and see what's coming up.....We look forward to seeing you this year!

Events in February and March Willow Bird Feeders at Downham

Saturday 18th February 10.30am - 12 noon or 1.00pm – 2.30pm Downham
Bring out your creative side – and keep our feathered friends happy! – by making a decorative willow bird feeder with Sally Anne Middleton. Instruction and materials provided. Suitable for adults and accompanied children 6 years and over **ONLY TWO PLACES LEFT ON THE MORNING SESSION.** Booking essential. For more information contact the AONB office on 01200 448000 or email sandra.silk@lancashire.gov.uk **£5, 1 ½ hours**

Fell Walking Sunday 19th February 10am – 2.30pm Dunsop Bridge

A pleasant valley walk following the River Dunsop, rising over the fells before return. Bring a packed lunch. Booking essential. More information contact the Visit Garstang Centre on 01995 602125, email garstangtic@wyre.gov.uk **£4.50/£3.50, 4 ½ hrs, terrain guide 5, 8 mile**

Forest of Bowland Hedge Laying Competition

Saturday 4th March 9.00am – 3.30pm Laneside Farm, West Bradford For more information contact the AONB on 01200 448000 or email sandra.silk@lancashire.gov.uk Free, 6 ½ hours

The Children's Society

Whalley Deanery
Fund Raising Committee

The Children's Society

Candlelight Supper

At The Kings Centre Millthorne Avenue
off Henthorne Road Clitheroe BB7 2LE

SUNDAY, 12th FEBRUARY 2017 - 6.00 for 7.00 pm

soft drinks available
vegetarian option available
and a selection of salads
delicious puddings
Entertainment by

Joanna Lavelle and Ian Smith presenting excerpts from
an evening with Joyce Grenfell

CHOICE JOYCE

Why not come along and enjoy the evening
Support the Society by making a donation at the Supper

Further information and tickets from

Your Children's Society Committee Member
Brian 440925 Tom 445471 Philippa 441484



HOW about having some FUN at our next FUNdraising event?

We plan to hold a Ceilidh in the Village Hall on the evening of
Friday 24th February, 2017
to raise much needed funds for both the Parish Church and the Village Hall.

Musicians from the Royal Preston Morris Dancers will lead us
in a great evening that is bound to be a lot of fun.

Tickets are just £10 each
including Supper and a Welcome drink
There will be a cash bar available on the evening.
To reserve your tickets now, please contact Phil Naylor on 441352



THE PARISH CHURCH

CAROL SERVICE

THE ANNUAL Parish Carol Service took place on Sunday, 1st January, at 11.00 am As ever it took the form of nine lessons and carols. The readings telling the story of the prophecy of Christ's coming and of his birth in Bethlehem were shared among eight parishioners and the Minister, the Revd Andy Froud. This year the service was subtly tweaked in order to allow for more verses of fewer hymns to be sung, while keeping the length of the service to 45 minutes. The singing was ably accompanied by James on the new organ and our choir hidden amongst the congregation!

As is traditional, none of our readers are usual performers in Church, so we are particularly grateful to Neil Wallace, Alice Walmsley, Jamie Frankland (from the Seafood Pub Company), Claire Ashworth, Sue Hinder, Phil Naylor, James Lund and Caroline Assheton, for agreeing to take part. It was a lovely way to spend the first morning of 2017. RCA

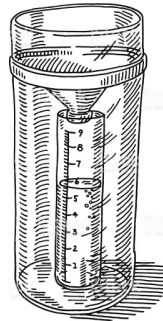
THE ASSHETON SERMON

THIS TAKES place on the Sunday nearest the anniversary of the death of Sir Ralph Assheton and will be preached, this year, on Sunday 29th January within the 11.00 am morning prayer service by The Archdeacon of Blackburn, The Ven. Mark Ireland.



RAINFALL

IT IS amazing the difference that 12 months makes. In December 2016 we had 3.04 inches of rain, whilst in December 2015 we had 14.8 inches! (The December average is 4.83"). The total rainfall for 2016 was 47.64", compared with 60.25" in 2015. The average since 1865 is 45.8"



COFFEE CLUB

It was business as usual in January, after the Christmas break but there were a few empty chairs due to holidays and illness. Our very own Carole was recuperating at home after a short stay in hospital the previous weekend, She's fine now and has been out and about this week. We missed her on the bring and buy stall but Di very kindly took over. Our guest baker this week was Molly and her delicious toffee cake was a winner with everyone. Our thanks to you and Di.

Our next meeting is on February 9th from 10am. BL

Footnote....Our March coffee club is on the 9th and Brian and I would like to invite everyone to join us in a glass of fizz and a piece of cake, to help celebrate our Golden Wedding Anniversary. We extend this invitation to anyone else in the village. If you would like to pop in, between 10 and 1, you'll be made very welcome. The usual refreshments will still be available of course. Last but not least, your presence NOT presents is all we ask, hope you can make it.

Brian & Barbara

DOWNHAM & TWISTON HISTORY GROUP

THE next meeting is the postponed January presentation originally scheduled for Monday 30th. It will now take place a week later on Monday 6th February at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall. Members of the downhambanner.com group will make a presentation of their progress so far. There will be a discussion about the History Group programme for 2017. New members and visitors, as always, are most welcome. TM

BROADBAND

AFTER months, if not years, of what had appeared to be fruitless efforts, it suddenly looks as if Broadband coverage for the village may be just around the corner!

The BT sub-contractors involved with laying cables, asked on Tuesday for a Friday meeting to agree a site for the necessary box to house the connections. At said meeting it transpired that work was due to commence in 22 hours, on Saturday morning! John Faraday's team of Richard and Terry manfully dug all Friday afternoon to prepare the site. The sub-contractors appeared on the Saturday to start work and by Tuesday afternoon the cable ducts, cabinet and road repairs were complete!

It is anyone's guess as to when the cabinet will be fully operational, what service will be available or what it will cost, but something is happening at last! RCA

Similar activity has been seen at Lowergate Twiston. But no dancing in the streets yet.



President, Mrs Judith Nixon, welcomed members and the speaker to the January meeting and wished

everyone a Happy New Year. The speaker was Tracy Roke whose talk was, 'Message with Flowers'. Tracy explained the meaning and historical significance of flowers and herbs and the importance of their medicinal use in past times. President, Judith Nixon, gave the vote of thanks.

Committee member, Diane Poole, reported on the recent Resolution meeting she attended and gave an explanation to members of the six resolutions, which were all extremely worthy causes. Members then voted for the Resolution they wish to be carried forward to the AGM in Liverpool, later in the year. Treasurer, Marion Courtney, reported on money raised last year, by weekly competitions and other activities, for the Pendleside Hospice and the ACWW. Members have many local and WI events to look forward to in the coming months. In February the Clitheroe Amateur Opera production of Mack and Mabel and a Ceilidh at the Village Hall on the 24th February organised by the Village Hall Committee. In March the WI Spring Council Meeting in Southport, with inspirational women speakers, and later in the month Downham WI's 97th Birthday Party in the Village Hall.

The next Downham WI meeting will be at 7.30 on the 16th February, when David Tomlinson from Warburtons Bread will be speaking about 'The Staff of Life.'

If you would like to hear the talk, come along and give the WI a try, you might just enjoy it and you will be assured a friendly welcome. You do not have to live in Downham . AK