

PARISH CALENDAR 2023

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FEBRUARY			EVENT	SIDESMEN/ WOMEN	ALTAR FLOWERS	CHURCH CLEANERS
5th	Epiphany V	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs P McFall	Mrs D Braithwaite	Mr & Mrs P Mercer
12th	Epiphany VI	11.15 am	Matins Chris Hegg	Mr A Herron		Mrs S Travis Mrs A Chadwick
15th	Wednesday	6.00 pm	Village Hall Mangt Committee	Village Hall	Committee Meeting	
19th	Epiphany VII	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Anne Hardacre	Mr B Lewis	Mrs A Wallace	Mrs L Enniis Mrs A Harris
22nd	Ash Wednesday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
		10.00 am	Ash Wednesday Services	Christchurch Chatburn		
		7.00 pm		St Mary Magdalene Clitheroe		
26th	Lent i	11.15 am	Matins Chris Hegg	Mr I Walton	NO FLOWERS	Mr & Mrs P Eldridge
MARCH						
5th	Lent II	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs B Lewis	IN LENT	Hon Mrs R Assheton Mrs C Naylor
<p>THE PARISH CHURCH OF St LEONARD IS MOST GRATEFUL TO THE INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS THAT SPONSOR THE PARISH NEWSLETTER</p>						
<p>OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE Vacancy</p>						
<p>OUR CHURCH WARDENS The Hon Ralph Assheton 07817 634392 = Mrs Philippa McFall 441484 = Mr Ian Walton 07979 598 057</p>						
<p>DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Chairman Mr Neil Wallace —441196 Hon Secretary Mrs Clare Ashworth —445112 Village Hall Bookings —info@downhamvillagehall.org.uk .</p>						
<p>Downham Social Media Resources The public Facebook page - "Downham Village" The private Facebook page "Downham & Twiston Residents"</p>				<p>CHURCH RESOURCES Regular worship is streamed by Canon Andy Froud on Youtube via St. Mary Magdalene website www.stmarysclitheroe.co.uk</p>		

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON



newsletter

2023 Issue 2 February

www.downhamvillage.org.uk

From The Revd Catharine Hale-Heighway

Our Daily Bread by Father Alex Frost

Alex about fourteen years ago on a course entitled 'Called to Serve' which helped to us answer the question of how we were specifically Called to Serve God in to-day's world.

Alex was a manager at Argos but there was something about him even then that stood out as a man of compassion. A man who understood the people of Burnley in particular. After Ordination he became Curate at St Matthew's Burnley, our school church when I was at Holy Trinity, and then later became its Vicar.

His book, 'Our Daily Bread' gives a terrific insight into the work of a Priest in an area where many have hearts of gold but sadly not much wealth in their pockets. It tells of his journey alongside his parishioners through good times and through deprivation. In her last Sermon Anne talked about the levelling up agenda and how it was always part of the mission of Jesus. But often levelling up is seen in terms of rejuvenated town centres and although that may help, as Alex says, we should be really starting with people and those who are so easily forgotten.

Alistair Campbell, in his introduction to the book, states that this is an essential read for anyone who believes that poverty doesn't exist. Sadly, we don't have to travel far to homeless people on our streets. It's not always a comfortable read but it is one you won't forget. It does have a few swear words in too but I would recommend it as an insight into Ministry not so far away from here in terms of mileage but perhaps a million miles away in terms of experience. It doesn't always make comfortable reading, but it does ask lots of questions.

If you're looking for a book to make you think this could be one for you.

God Bless.

Catherine

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; 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

DOWNHAM St. LEONARD FACTS & FIGURES		
	December	2022
Communicants	53	370
Collections £		
Services	312	6586
Visitors		274
Donations	222	8,784
House Boxes	-	80
Special		15,877
Total	534	31,601

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

FRIENDS and neighbours who have been unwell or who are in hospital Lord Clitheroe, Diana Braithwaite, Ian Chadwick and Shaun Roney

Christine Scott RIP

IT IS with great sadness that we record the sudden and unexpected death of Christine, the wife and tireless supporter of our hard working Ward Councillor, Gary. Our prayers go to him and all their family. Christ Church was full to bursting for her funeral, which was movingly led by Andy Froud . .

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism 15th January

Bobby Son of Ashley and Nichola Rutherford of Downham

NEW BISHOP

Our own Bishop (of Burnley) Philip was introduced as Bishop-elect of Blackburn by Bishop Jill at a series of joyous gatherings on Tuesday; following the approval of his nomination by His Majesty The King.. Bishop Philip says: "I believe with all my heart that God has called me to carry Jesus across Lancashire, to bear witness to his love and peace here in this county. I have done that for the past eight years as Bishop of Burnley, and I will go on doing that as Bishop of Blackburn. I am delighted to be staying in a county that I love very deeply indeed, delighted also that we will be able to carry on the work here in Blackburn Diocese."





Clitheroe Civic Society

THE CIVIC SOCIETY meets monthly on the first Monday of the month, except bank holidays, at 7.30 pm at the at The St Michael and St John Centre on Lowergate Clitheroe Speakers cover a wide range of local history topics. Membership is open to all and visitors are welcome.

6th February	Jenny Palmer	My Family and other Quakers
Author and researcher Jenny was born in Twiston and returned there in retirement after a career in teaching in London, . She has published studies on her family and Hill farm life.		
6th March	Nick Burton	On the trail of two Toms



The Forest of Bowland – and The Folly!

DUE OUT THIS month, the latest Discover Bowland guide is packed with information to help people enjoy and understand this beautiful part of Lancashire and

North Yorkshire. From a close-up on curlews and a focus on wildflower meadows, to exploring the link between arts and wellbeing and ideas for easy access routes, the latest guide is full of ideas and inspiration – including a feature on the Pendle Hill Story Map:

<https://www.pendlehillproject.com/explore-story-map>

The free guides will be available from visitor information centres and a range of local businesses.

Looking ahead to March, why not join us online to find out all about The Folly? One of the Yorkshire Dales' only Grade 1 listed buildings, The Folly is an unmistakable landmark in the centre of Settle. Built in the late 17th century, the building has been variously a residence, a farm - and even a fish and chip shop! Now owned and managed by the North Craven Building Preservation Trust (and home to the Museum of North Craven Life) this fascinating building has had a varied history.

To find out more about its past and hear about some of the exciting plans for the future, book your free place via: <https://www.trybooking.co.uk/CBLW>
For more Festival Bowland events, and for an online version of the new Discover Bowland guide, visit: <https://www.forestofbowland.com/>

Clitheroe Parish Church Operatic and Dramatic Society Presents
Anything Goes -

Cole Porter's fast-paced comedy musical that takes you back
to the Golden Age of high society on the high seas
At The St. Mary's Centre, Clitheroe BB7 2DG
11th to 18th February www.thopera.co.uk



Village Hall Committee

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO RETURN the questionnaire being used to gather local opinion, suggestions and needs. A copy was enclosed with last month's edition of this newsletter and may be returned to any committee member – most of you know who at least some of us are! You can also email info@downhamvillage.org.uk for a word copy to fill in and send back.

We now have a dedicated **Facebook** page for the village Hall please like and share far and wide to your friends and family as it is open to all. It will feature Village Hall events and information.

The Committee has plans to improve the outside space for the Village Hall and are keen to hear from for anyone interested in helping with this project please contact Clare or Olivia: No obligation – but 'an opportunity to work with some of the area's top garden designers to create something really special, sustainable and great for local wildlife. Detailed plans to follow next month.

STAGE 2 DOWNHAM

WE HAVE just been subject to a great treat, Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw A period piece of manners and morals given by this talented company had great resonance with present day society. Well acted, beautifully dressed and cleverly set to deal with changes of scene. The production was a great start to the next phase in the life of the Hall.

Village Hall Committee The next meeting of the Committee takes place on Wednesday 15th February at 6.00 pm at the Village Hall



Ribble Valley Fund Raising Committee

Lasagne Supper by Candlelight

At The Kings Centre Millthorne Avenue
off Henthorne Road Clitheroe BB7 2LE
Sunday 26th March 2023
At 7.00 pm

soft drinks available, vegetarian option available
and a selection of salads and delicious puddings
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
Phone: Tom 445471 Philippa 441484 Brian 441925

'Edgerow 'Arry

THE LAST FEW weeks of persistent rain and spells of deep freezing had me pondering on global warming - or climate change (or chaos) as it is better known, following the rebrand. For the record, I'm not a denier of the trends we have seen over the past few decades but rather, I am more concerned about the law of unintended consequences.

An American start-up company called "Make Sunsets" has just announced it has begun releasing sulphur particles into the stratosphere in order to combat global warming. What could possibly go wrong with that then?

As the leak in my right welly became more apparent on my wet walks this month, I recalled reading about dramatic weather events just over 600 years ago - the Great Flood and Famine of 1314. Chroniclers bemoaned that it rained every day for a year. Crops failed, food prices surged and about 5% of Europe's population starved to death. It is suggested the Germanic folklore of Hansel & Gretel was based on medieval accounts of cannibalism and abandonment of children to the forests. - It puts the spectre of the elevated price of Heinz soup in perspective. Although the idea of medieval Scottish raiders venturing south in search of fruit and vegetables has a hint of irony about it.

The climate chaos of 1314 heralded the end of the Medieval Warm Period and the start of the Little Ice Age. Scientists now believe the dramatic regional weather event was triggered by a volcano in the Pacific. The sulphurous dust clouds from large volcanic events are renowned for creating dramatic sunsets around the world. Those ambitious climate meddlers in California should be careful of what they wish for. Perhaps the main lesson to learn from the ongoing climate debate is that whatever the cause, we must learn to adapt as a species and become more resilient and resourceful, as well as being more respectful of Mother Nature - and the farmers who put food on our tables.

In 1919 it was decided to establish a tuberculosis colony for members of the armed forces who had contracted tuberculosis. At the wish of the Ministry of Health, a charity called East Lancashire Tuberculosis Colony was established by the Red Cross Society and Order of St John of Jerusalem. 1920, they purchased Barrowmore Hall, near Chester. This was the only tuberculosis colony in the North. Barrowmore provided treatment and care for persons of limited means suffering from tuberculosis, and means to earn a living. Preference was given to Lancashire ex-service men, but later civilian cases who had been recommended by Tuberculosis Officers were also admitted.

In 1983, following the opening of a new General wing, on the West Cheshire Hospital site, Barrowmore Hospital was closed. Barrowmore Industries and Colony remain on the site. They are still managed by the original Charity, and provide care, accommodation, training and work for disabled people.

A hundred years ago The Red Cross was supported by local detachments Downham was one such.

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY.

DOWNHAM DETACHMENT.

A HOT POT & ENTERTAINMENT

will be held in
Downham School,
on

FRIDAY, FEB. 26th;
at 7-30 p.m.

in aid of the Prisoners of War Fund
and East Lancashire Tuberculosis
Colony.

Admission : 1/6.

THE PARISH CHURCH

THE INTERREGNUM

THE FIRST few weeks have gone reasonably smoothly. Chris Hegg successfully led Matins without "stabilisers" (despite having a stinking cold) and Andy quietly slipped back to perform a final Baptism, which had been long in the diary.

A second Matins was led by Warden Ralph Assheton due to a long standing appointment in Chris Hegg's calendar. In a short Address the warden skilfully interwove the story illustrated in a panel of the East window together with the bible readings chosen for the day.

Farewell to Andy

THE PACKED HOUSE at St Mary's for Andy's final service showed how much he was admired and respected across the four Parishes. The standard service format was slightly amended to allow for Andy's favourite hymns and the handing over of a painting of St Mary's, along with glowing tributes from Catherine and Howard Blackburn (one of the St Mary's Wardens). All were invited across the road to St Mary's Centre where we enjoyed a "Jacobs Join".

Phil Naylor and Alan Herron then led Andy in a remake of the Two Ronnies "Four Candles" sketch, which culminated in the handing over of four silver candle sticks from the St Leonard's congregation.

Many thanks to the Wardens and everyone at St Mary's for laying on such a good send off and for magnanimously sharing the proceeds of the collection between all four Churches.

**Ash Wednesday Services
February 22nd**

Rev Catherine Hale-Heighway will take the services:
10 am at Christ Church, Chatburn
7 pm at St. Mary Magdalene's Clitheroe

Lent Study Groups

We shall use the Blackburn Diocese Lent studies entitled "That you may know the truth". Catherine has ordered and will collect materials for all four churches. They will be available from Ash Wednesday.

There will be two study groups, both of which are open to all four churches.

Tuesday mornings at 11 am at Christ Church Chatburn
March 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th

Thursday evenings at 7pm at 1, Gills Croft, Clitheroe BB7 1LJ
March 2nd, 9th, 16th and 30th

DOWNHAM BRIDGE

MAYBE LCC Highways do read the Newsletter?

No sooner had I commented last month on the delay in repairing the bridge, than it was sorted!

Thank you LCC. The garish (and useless) warning signs which had been littering the area have also been removed which has restored the beauty of the middle of the village once more.
RCA

COFFEE CLUB

IT IS WITH great pleasure and anticipation, that we announce the return of our Coffee Club, hopefully in February, unless there's 6ft of snow and travel is impossible.

We're meeting on the last Wednesday every month, from 10.30 until 12.30. There's going to be the usual refreshments and volunteer bakers are always appreciated. In fact any cake, will be welcome, it doesn't need to be home made.

One difference will be the absence of the bring and buy and book stall, due to a lack of storage space, going forward. However, if anyone wants to bring favourite books and have a sort of swap shop, that could be a viable option, providing you take your unwanted books home.

Although the format is going to be different, Brian and I are hopeful that we can still enjoy coming together for a brew and catch up with old friends and maybe get to know some new ones too.

The Christmas Party was a great success and it was lovely seeing how much everyone enjoyed meeting up again, after the long period of lockdown and we're really looking forward to welcoming as many of you as possible on Wednesday, 22nd February from 10.30 onwards.

Cheers,
Brian and Barbara



TREES

SADLY a few more dead and dying trees have had to be felled recently.

In answer to a query as to why some of the biggest trees have not been felled to ground level, there are three reasons.

The truly big trees are so fat that once they are on the ground they are too big to easily convert into firewood, so cost more to chop up than they are worth as logs.

Many of the hedgerow trees have fencing wire or nails buried within them, so it is safer not to use a chainsaw anywhere near the base.

By leaving the main stem as a "monolith" a variety of wildlife, including Woodpeckers, Bats, Tree Creepers, various Beetles and Fungi have a home, whilst Ivy growing up the stems provides nectar for bees and insects, followed by winter berries for Blackbirds and the like.

And in April, 1940 from the Clitheroe Newspaper this snippet

One of the finest beech trees in Ribblesdale was felled quite recently near to Green Lane Farm, Downham. Its massive bole was 15 ft. in circumference above the root spread and extended almost the same distance to the first branch. At some time a huge branch had been torn off and this had taken a strip from the trunk. Nevertheless there is an enormous amount of good timber in this patriarch, whose age may well exceed 150 years.