

PARISH CALENDAR 2017

March		Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
1st	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday			
2nd	Thursday	7.30 pm Gardening Club	Village Hall	AGM and Anne & Gordon	
5th	Lent I	11.00 am Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs E. Parker	NO	Hon Mrs R Assheton Mrs C Naylor
8th	Wednesday	10.00 am Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs B Lewis	FLOWERS	
9th	Thursday	10.00 am Coffee Club	Village Hall	and the Lewis's golden wedding	
12th	Lent II	11.00 am Matins Revd Ann Hardacre	Mrs A Wallace		Mrs P McFall Mrs M Roskell
13th	Monday	7.30 pm History Group	Village Hall	Chris Spence 18 and 19C Village Politics in Slaidburn	
		Joyful Noise	Chatburn, Methodist Church		
16th	Thursday	7.30 pm WI	Village Hall	97th Birthday Party and 'From Muck & Music to Stones & Roses'.	
19th	Lent III	11.00 am Holy Communion Revd Ann Hardacre	Mrs P McFall	IN	Lady Clitheroe Mrs A. Wallace
22nd	Wednesday	10.00 am Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mr B. Lewis		
25th	Saturday	Put your clocks forward one hour at bedtime tonight			
26th	Lent IV	11.00 am Mothering Sunday Revd Ann Hardacre	Mr I Walton	LENT	Mrs S Marlow Mrs E. Parker
27th	Monday	7.30 pm Joyful Noise	Chatburn, Christ Church		
April					
2nd	Lent V	11.00 am Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs E. Parker	-	Mr & Mrs H.Brown
4th	Tuesday	7.30 pm PCC Meeting	Church		

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 3 March

www.downhamvillage.org.uk



From The Revd Andy Froud

- Argh! We're going to die! (In response to thunderstorm / huge wave/ rollercoaster/ my driving)
- Yes, we are kids, but hopefully not today.
- Dad, you're weird

My children and I have gone through this routine so many times they can now fill in the responses themselves.

At the heart of the Ash Wednesday liturgy is this phrase - Remember that you are but dust and to dust you shall return. We are called to remember our own mortality, as we do in the funeral service - give us the wisdom to use aright the time left to us here on earth.

The 40 days of Lent are a time for us to remember that as human beings we will all one day die. The Bible tells us that we have three score and ten or four if we have strength: many of course today live longer, but still the truth remains the same - our days are limited.

But the second part of both phrases reminds us of the ultimate purpose, not just of Lent, but of our existence as human being: to turn away from sin and turn to Christ. The 40 days of Lent are in a real sense a time of preparation for the celebration of the great feast of Easter. Our fasting, self-denial and extra prayerfulness prepares us for the resurrection season of Easter. This life is in part just a preparation for life eternal with Jesus

The Common Worship service for the interment of ashes reminds us that though we are dust and ashes, God has prepared for those who love Him a heavenly dwelling place.

Yours in Christ

WHEN ye fast, be not as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face, that thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly. Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

St Mathew 6: 16—21

ST. LEONARD FACTS AND FIGURES	
	January 2017
COMMUNICANTS	9
COLLECTIONS	£
SERVICES	222
VISITORS	-
DONATIONS	232
HOUSE BOXES	-
SPECIAL	115
TOTAL	569

IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS:

Joyce and the family of Edwin Jackson
Rebecca and the family of Philip Loftus

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

Funeral

10th February **Edwin Jackson** 12th March, 1926 to 30th January 2017.

Interment of Ashes

19th February **Philip Loftus** 1946 to 2016 Formerly of Twiston

THE PCC IS GRATEFUL TO THOSE WHO SPONSOR THE NEWSLETTER.
IN MARCH THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY
Doting Granny Linda in celebration of the Birth of Archie

SPECTATOR

I GOT very excited when I read in last months newsletter that we are to get Broadband in Downham.....yay and whoop whoop. Hang on, don't we have that already? "Well, yes we have" said Jon when I asked him, "but if this is fibre optics it should speed things up"

I don't know about you but nearly everything goes too fast for me nowadays, thank you very much. But I'll tell you what I want, what I really really want, oops, just popped into my head but if you missed the Spice girls, you won't get it..Sorry.. now where was I? aha yes, what I would like is a mobile phone signal. I know I should be grateful that I can sometimes get a signal when there's an R in the month in the back bedroom in a certain window, if I stand on one leg and press my mobile to the glass whilst singing "why are we waiting."But come on!

Some friends of ours went on holiday to Africa and on an excursion to the desert , they asked about an oddly shaped tree and were told that it housed a mobile signal mast. SO, if you live in the Masai Mara desert, you can axe BT and their extortionate charges, and use your mobile. But not alas if you live in Downham! (I can hear Ralph now inviting me to take my mobile and go and live in the Masai Mara desert. Its ok, I know he's kidding. Well I think he is?!). Anyway, I suppose faster broadband will have its advantages, but could it not be too fast please, I'm having a job keeping up.

Actually, the main subject occupying my mind since 5th December, is the new addition to our family, Lucy's new baby, our grandson, Archie, what a gorgeous little thing he is and everyone comments on his lovely long hair. Not as much as Donald trump of course but Rod Stewart would be jealous. I love him to bits, (Archie, not Rod Stewart!) and there's nothing like a baby for putting things into perspective and making people smile. just ask next door, they've got two....but I'm not jealous...tut x

THE RIBBLE VALLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2017

THE MARCH offering is the Festival opening concert at Chatburn Christ Church on Friday 3rd at 7.30 pm and includes the championship section of the Wingates Band. Music from all around the world is to be presented under the banner "Around the World in 80 Minutes". Tickets are £10 from the usual outlets—Roy Porter's or 01254 384893.

GREENDALE CAR PARK

AT LAST RVBC have agreed to us using traditional materials for the new car park at Greendale. Work will start shortly to move the existing roadside wall back a few feet. This will allow the required visibility splays to be created. Once the wall has been moved there will probably be a pause as we then have to get LCC Highways to do some work before we can actually make the parking area.

RCA



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
07833203495 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!



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

GARDENS OPEN 2017

HERE, already, is the early Open Gardens plug/plea for any assistance on offer for 22nd and 23rd July – teas, cake baking, stall staffing etc. This year the Charities to benefit are the Downham Village Hall and Crossroads Care Ribble Valley. We get this in the March Newsletter in order to be ahead of the Downham feature in the April issue of our rival publication Lancashire Life Magazine. Any offers of help or ideas for the 2017 opening, please email Olivia [olivia@asshetonpr.co.uk]

Photos of last year

Any nice images of last year's event to help updating the village website would be extremely welcome also. Please send to olivia@asshetonpr.co.uk



ON FRIDAY, 24th of February, the village hall was packed to capacity as the musicians of the Royal Preston Morris Dancers led everyone in an evening of dance at the Ceilidh evening.

We all had a great time and very quickly the enthusiastic participants were wheeling around the hall in gay abandon!

The dancing was punctuated by a great Pie and Pea Supper and an exhibition dance from the Morris men.

A big thank you to the village hall committee for organising the event and to Ian and Tom Walton for manning a very popular bar. A profit of £335 has been shared between Church and Village Hall. Everyone is now looking forward to the 60's & 70's Night on 28 April 2017.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

OUR Gift Aid officer . Stephen Wilkins. has resigned from the post on moving from the parish. The PCC expressed thanks for Steve's efforts in introducing the various gift aid initiatives from the very early days of the scheme, which began with finance act of 1990. Ian Walton has kindly agreed to take over this function and indicated that the Independent examiner for the accounts would now change.

BELLS The Tower Captain reported that the practice nights were going well. He thanked Ian Walton's brother John for the charming model of the belfry door complete with light and recording of St Leonard's bells. The model may be seen on the table in Church.

COLLECTIONS IN CHURCH

At the last PCC meeting it was decided to change the way that we take the collection at services. From 1st March we will cease using the collection plate on the stand at the back of church for people to use on entry and will take a collection during the service instead. It is felt that this will be less confusing to visitors who often walk past the plate without noticing it. We will see how this experiment works over the coming months.

THE PARISH CHURCH

THE ASSHETON SERMON

THIS Annual event in the Downham Calendar, was preached, on Sunday 29th January within the 11.00 am morning prayer service. A good congregation that included members of the Blackburn Prayer Book Society heard The Archdeacon of Blackburn, The Ven. Mark Ireland. The preacher took the old testament text from verse 25 of Chapter 19 of the book of Job "For I know *that* my redeemer liveth, and *that* he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth".

WHALLEY DEANERY CANDLE LIGHT SUPPER

THIS ENJOYABLE event, in aid of the Children's Society was well supported by St Leonards and Christ Church and raised in excess of £500. As ever the food was excellent, thanks to a combination of Tim's Country Kitchen (Lasagne) and volunteers (the exquisite puddings, table decorations and clearing up)..

Entertainment, to round off the evening was amusing and of very high quality. Joanna Lavelle and Ian Smith presenting excerpts from an evening with Joyce Grenfell called CHOICE JOYCE, comprising a selection of monologues and songs.

MOTHERS DAY

THIS IS another annual event—an opportunity to thank and remember our mothers and to return their love and everlasting concerns for us, by the small gift of some flowers. Join us on Sunday 26th March at 11.00 am at St Leonards.

COFFEE CLUB

FEBRUARY Coffee Club was busy and everyone had a good catch up. I missed my right hand man as he'd had surgery two days earlier and was forced to sit and do nothing but chat. He's much better now but still unable to do heavy lifting. Carole was back amongst us again on the bring and buy, after her spell in hospital the previous month. It was good to see you Carole. and Molly and Frances provided delicious cakes and the ever popular custard tart. Thanks ladies, your help is always appreciated.. **BL**

As I mentioned last month, Brian and I celebrate our Golden Wedding Anniversary next month and would like members and non members to join us in a glass of fizz and a piece of cake, on March 9th between 10 and 1..No gifts please, just your company is all we ask. Our usual refreshments will still be available. Hope you can all make it,

Barbara and Brian XX

GARDEN CLUB

IT IS here again! Garden Club begins again the first Thursday in March and each month thereafter. Everyone is welcome to come and join us, we have a wide range of speakers, outdoor walks and visits to different places, and of course Our Show (friendly competition, ha-ha) but most of all we have fun and enjoy ourselves. Our first speakers are Anne and Gordon, I wonder where we are off to this time!

Hope to see you there. **CA**



DOWNHAM & TWISTON HISTORY GROUP

ON Monday 6th February at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall, members remembered Edwin Jackson, a founder member of the Group and owner of a considerable collection of local history material, who sadly died on 30th January. We remembered the presentation which a friend, Dorothy Bradbury, gave in September 2012 to a packed Village Hall about Downham History and his family. Edwin was a generous member who paid the expenses for one of our visits to the People's History Museum in Manchester. We shall miss his humorous asides.

Members of the downhambanner.com group gave a presentation of their progress so far in the efforts to conserve and present the banner to a wider public. Sadly the museum arrangements for Lancashire have not yet been resolved. We know that efforts are being made to save the Museum of Lancashire at Preston from permanent closure. This is our preferred resting place for the banner, one where it is likely to be seen by most people.

Some public involvement with the banner is planned for later this year, when we shall take a trip to the conservation studios at the Peoples' History Museum in Manchester, where work on the conservation process will be in progress.

We have also discovered that some other old banners by the same manufacturer (J Skerrett of Bury) are held by a history group at Wardle, in Rochdale, and we are planning to visit them too.

The members held a short discussion about the History Group programme for 2017. This includes having some meetings on Tuesdays.

The group's next meeting will be held on Monday, 13th March at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm, when the topic will be Chris Spence speaking about "18 to 19C Village Politics in Slaidburn". New members and visitors, as always, are most welcome. **TM**



President, Mrs Judith Nixon, welcomed members to the February meeting. As usual WI members have been attending various events.

Judith Nixon said how members had enjoyed the excellent Clitheroe Amateur Opera production of 'Mack and Mabel'.

Kathryn Ball reported on how two teams from Downham WI had great fun participating in the WI Quiz at West Bradford WI. Downham WI members, Rosemary Norgrove and Marion Courtney, provided delicious cakes and refreshments for the event, raising money for Downham WI.

Diane Poole reported on attending a Presidents' Training Course, at LFWI House, Leyland. She talked about how informative the course was, how useful it was talking to other members from WI's throughout Lancashire and reminded us, as members, of the importance of the WI's Constitution.

The speaker, David Tomlinson from Warburtons, arrived a little late but very welcome after a challenging journey that included a puncture and the A59 being closed. His talk, 'Bread, the Staff of Life', was highly entertaining and informative, describing the development of Warburtons from one small shop in Bolton in the 1876 to being the largest bread producer in the UK today. It was especially interesting to hear about the company's Methodist roots and how those values still influence the company today.

President, Judith Nixon gave the vote of thanks and all members took a variety of bread home from David's generous free raffle. For those members not at the February meeting, the Resolution that went forward with the most votes from Downham WI was: 'Plastic Soup; Keep Microplastic Fibres out of Our Oceans'.

In March, members can look forward to the WI Spring Council Meeting in Southport and Our 97th Birthday Party on Thursday the 18th March at 7.30. The speaker will be Raymond Smith: 'From Muck & Music to Stones & Roses'. **AK**