

## PARISH CALENDAR 2020

MAY	Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
3rd	Easter III			
7th	Government Review of Coronavirus lockdown			
8th	Early May Bank Holiday			
10th	Easter IV			
17th	Easter V			
24th	Easter VI			
31st	Whitsun Day			
<b>JUNE</b>				
7th	Trinity Sunday			

THE PARISH CHURCH OF St LEONARD IS VERY GRATEFUL TO THOSE BUSINESSES,  
ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS THAT SPONSOR THE NEWSLETTER.  
IN MAY THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY BOWLAND BIO ENERGY

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**OUR CHURCH WARDENS**  
The Hon Ralph Assheton - 440120 Mrs Philippa McFall - 441484 Mr Ian Walton—445063

**VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**  
**Chairman** Mr Neil Wallace 441196  
**Hon. Secretary** Mrs Clare Ashworth—445112  
**Village Hall Bookings email** [info@downhamvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:info@downhamvillagehall.org.uk)  
**or phone** 0784546 796818

Early May Bank Holiday 2020  
Instead of taking place on 4 May, the early bank holiday will be on  
Friday 8 May – VE Day. This was meant to ensure that the long  
weekend would coincide with the extended 75th anniversary  
celebrations of the surrender of Nazi Germany, which ended the  
Second World War in Europe.

## PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

### DOWNHAM & TWISTON

# newsletter

2020 Issue 5 May

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



### From The Revd Andy Froud

Dear Friends,

WHY me? Is the question that people who are suffering have asked since the beginning of humanity. Have I done something to deserve this? I personally do not believe that suffering is a sign of God's judgement, as Jesus taught on a number of occasions that wealth and health do not come from being good and sickness and poverty are not the consequences of bad behaviour.

People have told me (very unexpectedly) that they believe the covid 19 pandemic is a judgement from God. I don't see it that way but I do believe that it is a wake-up call to all of us.

Each morning I have woken to the unusually loud sound of bird song. The sky is clear of aircraft fumes by day and filled with only starlight at night. The roads are empty of cars and filled with families walking together. Neighbours run errands for each other, cook meals at home and spend time reading and learning.

I am not blind to the bad consequences of the pandemic: people are dying alone, traditional communities have been destroyed, and a new generation is being raised in isolation. I do not know what the future holds for the church. And I fear that those who are doing the most to help people through the current crisis will in years to come be the ones to bear the brunt of the cost as they were the ones to bear the cost of the 2008 banking crisis. There is where we need to discern God's hand in the working of history: are we caring for his creation, as the Bible teaches us? Are we caring for our fellow human beings, because we are all children of the same heavenly father?

I hope and pray that the society that comes out of this crisis will be one that is better than the one that has suffered this catastrophe,

Yours in Christ,

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are  
brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us  
from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Amen**

## HISTORY GROUP

OUR meeting planned for Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm has been postponed to a date yet to be agreed with our speaker, Barbara Alty, who lives at Clitheroe's oldest occupied house. Her talk *The History of Shaw Cottage 1680-2020* is illustrated with a gallery of photographs.

The meeting planned for Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 7.30 pm by our very own Jenny Palmer on *Some Pendle Quakers*, will be confirmed or postponed subject to the coronavirus regulations nearer the time.

On Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 10.00 am at Hollins Farm Rimington we are invited to a walk round and talk about the Skeleron, Rimington Lead Mines by Brian Jeffery & Peter del Strother.

## IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS

All who have or will be affected by the Coronavirus.  
In particular the most vulnerable -  
those subject to ongoing medical treatments and official "shielding".

## RECYCLING

DUE to Covid19 the collection of waste paper and glass from the Village Hall has been suspended. Sadly people have been abusing the facilities and leaving car loads of assorted waste. This has included the contents of a child's toy cupboard, an electric organ, two radiators and bags of household rubbish! The recycling facilities at the Village Hall are therefore closed until further notice.



THE new Village Hall Management Committee met on 14th April using Zoom, at least two members had problems trying to connect but the meeting was quorate and the business expedited

Fabric of the building :a number of maintenance jobs have been completed and further work awaits completion. Shaun has kindly agreed to continue to help with the heating system. Discussions on cleaning were postponed until after the pandemic.

Events: The new bookings system has started, the email and dedicated phone number have been brought into use and are shown in the newsletter and internet. All pre booked events have been cancelled but on a positive note 2 weddings have promised to re book for next year. Unfortunately the "Open Gardens" won't be going ahead. The arrangements for the village bonfire including purchase of fireworks will be discussed at the next meeting Stage 2 has placed an order for new chairs, the committee is contributing £800. towards the cost.

The bulk of the meeting was taken up discussing finances ,and the preparation of a budget. A review of the constitution and rules is to be carried out by a sub group for discussion at the next meeting to be held at 6.00 p.m. Tuesday 2nd June 2020 CA

## Bowland at Home

Living in such a beautiful part of the country is wonderful but, whilst we're all following government guidelines to stay at home, getting out to enjoy it as we'd like to is difficult. So, the AONB and Pendle Hill teams have been working on ideas for bringing the outdoors indoors.

Our *At Home in Bowland* online resource is full of suggestions for discovering and enjoying the Forest of Bowland from the comfort of your own sofa (or garden!). With everything from stargazing and wildlife to history and family fun activities, plus stories and features from our latest Discover Bowland guide, you'll find lots of ways to keep connected to the countryside around us.

Take a look at <https://www.forestofbowland.com/bowland-home> for inspiration, whilst we stay home and stay safe. SS

## From the Downham Magazine, No 6, May 1889

A poem by Betsy Parker  
of Nutshaw, Downham:

### SPRING

Sweet Spring! We Welcome thee,  
Welcome the fresh green leaves,  
The budding hedge and the pale primrose,  
And swallows beneath the eaves.

Gone is the whirling snow  
And the bitter cold;  
The frozen stream is awake once more,  
And murmuring as of old.

The April sunshine plays  
On the sift and daisied grass,  
Where children run and the pretty lambs  
Stand watching them as they pass.

Oh happy time,  
When with bounding step and free,  
We wander through the glen and leafy wood,  
Sweet Spring, to welcome thee!

**"Covid Cookbook"**  
*21st century Ribble Valley "Dunkirk spirit"*

**Dandelion Fritters**

Wash fresh dandelion heads and prepare the following coating:

Whisk 2 eggs with 2 cloves of crushed garlic (or Ransom stalks), chopped parsley, sesame seeds, salt and pepper. Blitz leftover bread crusts in the blender. Place olive oil in a wok to heat.

Drizzle balsamic vinegar over the dandelion heads then dip in the egg mixture. Then roll on the breadcrumbs. Cook in the hot oil.

Serve with fresh salad.

JA

**Coronavirus  
by Susie Yorke**

Oh not to be in England  
Now that Corvid's here  
For isolating by oneself is very hard to bear.  
And the days stretch out in a bottomless pit  
and Radio Four makes me want to spit  
While nobody can tell me how  
it will end – in England now.

But end it will and when it does  
What joy, what parties will abound  
Families united, friends released and huge  
rejoicing all around.

Till then we'll show them how we're made  
With stiffened lip and Dunkirk pluck  
Baked beans 'en crouete', spring rolls 'sans duck'.

We mourn our losses but confess  
Our thanks that in this time of stress  
We don't have Donald Trump in charge  
And praise our brilliant NHS.

(With apologies to Robert Browning)

**Lockdown. A Personal View**

Unprecedented - a much used adjective to describe our present strange and daunting situation.

For someone stuck in a high rise flat with small children, or an old person unable to see their relatives and friends, it must indeed feel isolating and hard to bear. For those of us, lucky enough to live in the beautiful countryside, these peaceful sunny weeks have been bliss. Tranquillity to appreciate the return of Spring No traffic, no noise of slamming car doors, nothing to be heard but ewes and lambs and blessed bird song Opportunity to appreciate joyfully, the clear sky, the fantastic sunrises and sunsets, the stars and phases of the moon at night.

How much have we taken for granted all these amazing gifts from God? The locked gate to the Churchyard and St, Georges flag on the tower, reminds us of what we are missing, and of how many people are in dire straits due to the virus, but do we really want to return to all that frenetic activity, pollution and pointless driving about? Instead of straining after ever greater consumption, choice and diversity, perhaps, while, absolutely, not forgetting to pray for those who are suffering, we should take a moment to give thanks for all the blessings of this life.

PMcF

**Coronavirus - help is available to overcome isolation**

THE Downham and Twiston volunteer group that has been setup to help support the 2 villages during the Covid-19 outbreak is now regularly helping a number of households in both villages with a weekly food delivery. This has been working well with the volunteers splitting a bulk delivery from our suppliers and then distributing out to the households and it has reduced the number of trips out to supermarkets significantly. We have extended the range that is now available and are also doing a weekly trip to Roy Porters Butchers. If you are interested in using this service you can email for more details [downhamsupplies@gmail.com](mailto:downhamsupplies@gmail.com). A private Facebook group has also been set up to allow residents to stay in touch and can be found by searching 'Downham & Twiston Residents'. In addition to the deliveries calls are regularly made to check everyone is doing OK!

If you need any help please contact either **Clare Ashworth on 445112** or **Christine Naylor on 441352** they will be more than willing take your request for either essential groceries or Medication and arrange for one of the Team to collect for you. Or even if it is just a chat you want to keep in touch with the outside world then please contact us.

Now more than ever it is important to come together as a community to overcome what the next few months will bring and please listen to the instructions from the government regarding staying in your homes in order to avoid social contact and virus transmission.

If you would like to help in this effort please contact me on **440368**.

Thank you and stay safe  
Daniel Naylor-Frizzell



**Downham  
Social  
Media  
Resources**



The public Facebook page -  
**"Downham Village"**

The private Facebook page  
**"Downham & Twiston Residents"**

Various Whatsapp groups including  
**"Downham WI Here to Help"**

UK Government instructions  
REMAIN CLEAR:

**STAY INDOORS AT HOME**

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or essential work
- If (briefly) outside, stay **TWO** metres (6ft) away from other people
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home

If any Downham Estate tenants have concerns about rental finances, please contact Ingham and Yorke - Tom Manson - [tmanson@inghamandyorke.co.uk](mailto:tmanson@inghamandyorke.co.uk) or 423655.

The Estate will of course help wherever it can, within the limits of its own resources

**THE PARISH CHURCH**

THERE will, for the time being be **no regular services** at St Leonard's

**ONLINE CHURCH RESOURCES**

DAILY worship is streamed by Rev Andy Froud on Youtube via the St. Mary Magdalene's website:

[www.stmarysclitheroe.co.uk](http://www.stmarysclitheroe.co.uk)

ONLINE resources are also available via the Church of England website:

[www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)

**DONATIONS TO CHURCH**

WE are all missing the ability to get out and about. No doubt those who regularly attend Church are missing that too. On the other side, the Church is missing you as well! Quite apart from matters spiritual, the Church relies heavily on visitors for donations to pay its bills. Amongst the other calls on your money at this difficult time, do remember that Andy and the Diocese are working just as hard as ever and the fabric of our building still needs to be cared for.

Do consider giving money to the Church, either;  
By cheque made payable to the "PCC of Downham", c/o The Hon Treasurer, 39 Chestnuts, Downham BB7 4BT  
By remote banking to: Sort Code 002317  
Account No 39133679

**LANCASTER CHOIR**

THE planned summer concert at Downham on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2020 is cancelled. The PCC will consider re-arranging the concert for the same weekend next year i.e. Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2021. TM

**CHURCHYARD SHEEP**

THE Church of England is recommending that Churchyards are not mown during the lockdown. The Vicar and Wardens have decided to make use of sheep to do the job, especially as there are currently no flowers on graves and the roadside gate is locked. Depending on how the experiment goes we may continue to do this as it will save time and petrol. RCA

**BRIDLEWAY**

AT LONG last the bridleway to Chatburn is complete - well almost, it needs a few gates at each entrance which will arrive once Empress Fencing is back up and running. Villagers are welcome to use the route, but please do not encourage your friends and relations from outside the village! In particular, please do not mention or advertise it on social media, at this time or we may find visitors flocking to try it out. The official opening will be arranged once lockdown is over. RCA

**FLY TIPPING**

SOME people may have noticed the Chairman of the Parish Meeting furtively checking their wheelie bins on St Georges Day. This was not to leave presents, but to find somewhere to put 22 bags of rubbish that had been fly-tipped near Hookcliffe Wood! RCA

**SCAM WARNINGS**

LANCASHIRE Country Council advises vigilance against a number of known telephone, internet and cold-calling scams happening at the moment. Do not give personal information to unsolicited enquirers. Please take care. JA

**GARDEN CLUB**

HIYA friends and neighbours I do hope everyone is keeping well. It is such a weird time but I do think us oldies here in Downham and also in Twiston are fairing better than the rest of the people. We are being looked after so well here and I would like to say thank you so much to everyone for everything you are doing.

Obviously the garden club is still on hold for the time being. So until we can all be together again, keep social distancing. But most of all KEEP SAFE. With love to you all Carole CA

**BICYCLE FOUND**

ANYONE missing a bicycle recently please contact Jason on 441015 as one has been found in the village.

DOWNHAM WI has been busy behind the scenes since their 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday party celebration, in March, was postponed due to COVID-19.



On 16<sup>th</sup> March they created a WhatsApp group called 'Downham WI here to help' so that vulnerable members could ask for help getting prescriptions and shopping etc. but this has proved to be so much more.

A few days later, on March 19<sup>th</sup> members were able to share pictures of themselves toasting to the Downham WI Centenary and these photos were uploaded onto the Downham Village Facebook page by WI member, Helen Addy.

The following week, after lockdown had come into force, members enjoyed a virtual coffee morning on the Wednesday.

Since Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March, Susan Whittaker has set a weekly quiz in which, so far, Julie Ascroft and Barbara Lewis have triumphed, but winners will have to wait until restrictions are lifted before they can claim their prizes.

Secretary, Yvonne Carter, a retired nurse, had launched a wordsearch competition at the Centenary lunch on 15<sup>th</sup> March to win a gin hamper by making as many 3 letter or more words from 'Downham Centenary Year'. By the closing date, of 13<sup>th</sup> April, she'd receive loads of entries and the winner was Kathryn Ball with 794 words verified. Asked how she'd come up with so many Kathryn said "there were too many letters to think of all at once so I put out the appropriate letter tiles from my Scrabble set and used those to help me go through possible permutations alphabetically. It's a lovely hamper with all sorts of goodies, including a bottle of gin donated by Bowland Distillery.

The most poignant action has been donating the thirty-three remaining Downham WI Centenary chocolate bars to local NHS staff in Clitheroe Health Centre, perhaps only a small thing but just a gesture of appreciation of the wonderful work they are doing KB

