

PARISH CALENDAR 2021

MAY			EVENT	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
2nd	Easter V	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs A Wallace	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs S Travis Mrs A Chadwick
6th	Thursday	7.00 am 10.00 pm	Local Election	Village Hall		
9th	Easter VI	11.15 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mr T McLean		Mr & Mrs C Ennis
13th	Thursday	7.00 pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Church	See note on page 3	
	Ascension Day	7.30 pm	Streamed Service	From Blackburn Cathedral		
16th	Easter VI	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs P McFall	Mrs Barbara Lewis	Mr & Mrs P Eldridge
23rd	Whit Sunday	11.15 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mr S K Herron		Mrs R Assheton Mrs C Naylor
30th	Trinity Sunday	11.15 am	Matins Revd Andy Croud	Mr I Walton		Mrs B. Lewis Mrs J Shepherd
5						
JUNE						
6th	Trinity I	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs E Parker	Wedding	Mrs J Feibel Mrs A Wallace

THE PARISH CHURCH OF St LEONARD IS MOST GRATEFUL TO THE
INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS
THAT SPONSOR THE PARISH NEWSLETTER
IN MAY 2021 THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY BOWLAND BIO ENERGY

OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE — The Revd Andy Froud
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OUR CHURCH WARDENS
The Hon Ralph Assheton —441210 = Mrs Philippa McFall - 44148 =Mr Ian Walton 445063

DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman Mr Neil Wallace —441196
Hon Secretary Mrs Clare Ashworth —445112
Village Hall Bookings —info@downhamvillagehall.org.uk

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"

CHURCH RESOURCES
Regular worship is streamed
by Rev Andy Froud
on **Youtube** via
St. Mary Magdalene website
www.stmarysclitheroe.co.uk

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON



newsletter

2021 Issue 5 MAY

www.downhamvillage.org.uk

From The Revd Andy Froud

Dear Friends



BACK in the day in Blackpool, amongst the fancy goods in the windows you could see a Round Tuit. It was a plate on a stand that promised that now you would be able to do everything, all the odd jobs you'd been putting off, all the chores you'd do - when you got a Round Tuit.

Some of us are better than others at doing what we say we're going to do; but none of us want to be that person who never does what they say they are going to do. Consider how we may read the Bible: do we really believe that it is God's word? And if we do believe, do we really act on our belief? The Letter of James in the New Testament challenges us to not just believe, or say that we believe, but to act on our faith. When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we pray that "Thy Kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven " But each year (this year May 13th - 23rd) we particularly pray that God's Kingdom will come and commit ourselves to work for it. It has to begin with prayer, without which we can do nothing.

So, as a church, we will be creating opportunities to pray for and work for the coming of God's Kingdom on earth. Thy Kingdom Come (or TKC as you may see it described), started in 2016 as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England. In the last four years it has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer. I hope that you will join in some of the activities that we have planned but above all that you will take some time to pray and reflect on what it really means for God's will to be done.

Yours in Christ

LOOK at the rainbow and praise its Maker;
it shines with a supreme beauty, rounding the sky with its gleaming arc,
a bow bent by the hands of the Most High.

DOWNHAM St. LEONARD FACTS & FIGURES		
	March	2021
Communicants	38	52
Collections	£	
Services	659	903
Visitors	-	120
Donations	433	1,466
House Boxes	-	-
Special	25	2,495
Total	1,106	4,984

IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS

Family and Friends of Kath Swarbrick
All those continuing to shield due to the Covid restrictions
The Queen and all the Royal Family

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

11th February Funeral Kathleen Brown of Downham
13th April Funeral Kathleen Swarbrick
25th April Interment of Ashes Kathleen Swarbrick long time resident of Downham

Downham Preschool

DOWNHAM Preschool have been out and about in the village enjoying the sunshine and having an ice cream on the village green. We are going to venture down the new walk way to Greendale one day soon we are looking forward to trying it out.

We had a special visitor at Preschool, Beth brought in a pet lamb for us to feed, not sure who was more excited the staff or the children. We also have some eggs arriving which we will be hatching over the next couple of weeks, it is such an amazing thing to watch.

We have lots of fun things planned this term, Pirates, princesses, insects growing and more, hopefully we will have some budding gardeners among us.

SPECTATOR

WE LOST YET another character and long time resident of the village recently, Kath Swarbrick, the kindest, most selfless person I have ever met. Kath has a very large family which all adore her, and that makes her one of the richest people I have ever met.

Kath's husband Bob, who passed last year was also a character, so down to earth and funny, his stories are legendary, and unforgettable So many characters Maybe it's Downham that turns regular people into characters, we certainly have a lot of them concentrated in one area! When Jon first brought me to Downham, I was amazed, I'd never seen anywhere so beautiful.

The very first person I was introduced to was Len Crag, former vicar looking for his keys which he had misplaced! Then I met my neighbour Walter Robinson what a character he was with an anecdote for every occasion. together with a very large gin and tonic!

It has been such a pleasure to have lived in Downham for 26 years-and an honour to have been able to call these amazing characters and many others, my friends.

I've just read this back and it sounds like I'm going somewhere but you don't get rid of me that easily, although I do like to get in the last word!

“

'Edgerow 'Arry

BACK in early medieval times we had no name for the colour “orange”. It was then known by the Old English name of *geoluread*, meaning “yellow-red”. It seems a similar lack of imagination occurred with the common naming of **garlic mustard** - one of our most prolific of hedgerow herbs seen this time of year.

Though unrelated to the “stinking bulb”, *Alliaria Petiolata* gives off a garlic-like smell when its leaves are bruised or chopped. They are an ideal springtime addition to a salad, sauce or potage bowl. It's seeds make a fair pepper substitute and when crushed make a good alternative to mustard paste. The washed roots can be made into a hot, wasabi-like horseradish.

This native and invasive biennial has a 2 year growth cycle:

During its first year, garlic mustard grows in leafy, rosette like clusters and doesn't produce flowers. At this stage of its growth, you could be forgiven for mistaking it for ground ivy. In its second year the herb begins to showcase small white, cross shaped flowers which grow in small clusters that can be mistaken for dead nettles, but picking a leaf and smelling its garlic-like aroma will help confirm its identity. Also in the second year, around midsummer, it will cast distinctive seeds. If you squeeze these long pods you can extract the tiny seeds. Also known as “Poor Man's Garlic” or “Jack-by-the-Hedge” it is rich in minerals including: calcium, iron, copper, magnesium, selenium, potassium and manganese.

As a brassica, it shares its lineage with other members of the mustard family: cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, brussels sprouts, and watercress. Research suggests that garlic mustard could be among those vegetables which if eaten as part of a healthy, balanced diet, might help to prevent serious illness. It shares cancer-preventing chemicals isothiocyanates, from the mustard family, and allyl sulfides, from the garlic family.

Garlic mustard has been used as an antiseptic herb for treating leg ulcers, bruises and sores, coughs and colds, clearing a stuffy head, to encourage sweating and even as a cure for colic and kidney stones. In southern England before good footwear and painkillers, the fresh green leaves were once rubbed on feet to relieve cramp.

JA

AONB ZOOM PROGRAMME for MAY
Festival Bowland
BUMBLEBEE IDENTIFICATION - INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
Additional session

Friday 14th May 10am - 12 noon

This online training session is intended for people who already have a grasp of basic bumblebee identification. Organised by Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust and delivered by Ben Hargreaves from Lancashire Wildlife Trust, the workshop will introduce you to identifying the scarcer bumblebees and the cuckoo species.

The session is free but booking is essential. Please email catherine.mercer@ydmtd.org

PENDLE HILL LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP'S 2021 ONLINE COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY FORUM
Pendle Hill in the Past'

Join us for a series of online events and find out more about past archaeological and historical research in the area, our Community Archaeology project and how you can get involved in local archaeological exploration.

Postponed from last March, we have decided to take these events online (from 26th April) and are very grateful to the support of local archaeologists and historians for this involvement. Everyone is welcome no previous archaeology necessary.....

Tuesday 4th May 6.30pm:

Chatburn to Downham: 300 years of Lime Burning: David Johnson We are very happy to host David Johnson, who has researched and explored archaeology across Yorkshire and into Lancashire.

Saturday 8th May 6.30pm:

Community Archaeology Outreach: Danielle Knights (UCLan)

Lancashire Portable Antiquities Service: Alex Whitlock

In summer 2019, Danielle Knights joined us on an internship from UCLan and will talk more about community archaeology outreach and the activities delivered to engage with all audience groups. Alex Whitlock is a Finds Liaison Officer for Lancashire and will tell us more about the Portable Antiquities Scheme, how it has been operating through Covid and how we can engage with the service.

Wednesday 12th May 6.30pm:

Higher Standen Farm – Excavation of a Bronze Age ring ditch near Clitheroe: David Cockcroft (Archaeological Research Services)

New developments usually involve some form of archaeological work, and we are pleased to host David Cockcroft who will tell us about the discoveries found near Higher Standen Farm.



Kath Swarbrick

Katherine Elizabeth Swarbrick (née Penaluna)
13th March 1938 - 31st March 2021 - aged 83 years

Kath was born on the 13th March 1938 in Millom Cumbria. As a little girl she was very sporty and loved attending dance lessons. Unfortunately, her Dad passed away when she was 14 due to the miner's disease silicosis. There wasn't enough work in Millom, so Kath and Grandma moved to Blackpool, initially living in a static caravan. At 15 Kath was employed as a machinist at the Waller & Hartley toffee factory. She worked with Bob's cousin who introduced them at the Tower Ballroom and they immediately hit it off..

They were married on the 1st September 1956 at Holy Trinity Church, Blackpool. Kenneth was born in 1957 & Linda in 1959 just before they moved to Rose Cottage, Downham. Christine arrived in 1960 and they moved to Brookside.

In 1965 they returned to Blackpool to help with the family business and Christopher (Gem) was born in 1972 . The opportunity arose for Bob to return to Downham and they moved into Top Row where they lived happily for the next 47 years.

Both Kath & Bob threw themselves into village life. Bob became captain of the cricket club and Kath a stalwart of the tea and village fund-raising brigade. Kath also found her true vocation in life as an Occupational Physio Aide at Clitheroe hospital. She loved helping stroke patients recover and assisting them back into their homes. She's still fondly remembered by staff today.

They had 47 wonderful happy years at Top Row. They enjoyed many foreign holidays and loved celebrating every family occasion including both their Golden and Diamond wedding anniversaries with their 4 children, 7 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren.

When Bob passed away, after 62 years of marriage Kath was unsurprisingly devastated. In September 2019 she moved to Hazeldene Residential Home. She immediately settled in and appreciated the love and dedication she received from all the carers. They recently celebrated her 83rd Birthday and made sure she felt very special. She was very special! They were both very special!

A family friend said that it's so sad that both Mr & Mrs Downham are no longer with us, they were a great double act who have left a wonderful legacy: their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren who all loved them dearly!

Downham Parish Meeting 7pm Thursday 13th May

THE Parish Meeting (not to be confused with the similarly styled PCC Annual Meeting) will take place as shown above. In a change from normal custom and practice we will not be in the Village Hall (or its car park), but in Church by kind permission of the Vicar and Wardens. The meeting will comply with current Covid rules, but please remember to bring a face mask.

THE PARISH CHURCH

Church yard sheep

BY popular request the sheep are due to return to the Church Yard shortly. As was the case last year, they will be fenced off from the path, Church steps and ashes plots by an electric fence. Please use the temporary gate provided to access the area they are grazing to avoid shocking yourself!

Local elections Thursday 6th May

THE Downham Polling Station will be in the Village Hall. Those voting there are asked to bring a face mask and your own pen or pencil. Hand sanitiser will be provided. Remember to maintain social distancing. Should you be a postal voter, remember that you can deliver your completed voting slips and envelope to the Polling Station on the day, if you have forgotten to post it!

The LCC candidates for Ribble Valley North East are: David Birtwistle (Ind), Gaye Tomasine McCrum (Green), Anthony McNamara (Lab) and Mirfin (Con).

The Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner candidates are: Mark James Barker (Reform UK), Neil Darby (Lib Dem), Clive Grunshaw (Lab) and Andrew James Snowden (Con)..

"Corona Highway" litter bin

RVBC have yet to decide whether we can have a bin...

Recollections of Downham Characters

MANY residents will remember Miss (May) Barton, who was for many years the head mistress of Downham Primary School (where the Pre school now operates) and village resident. When once asked (rather cheekily) whether she had ever considered getting married replied, "Just because I am on the shelf, does not mean that I haven't been taken down and dusted!"

Archaeological puzzle

METAL detectorists have for a number of years been granted permission by the Estate to look for treasure on parts of their land. Sadly, nothing of great value has been found (yet!), but last year they did find 10 jacket buttons close together at Springs Farm. Said buttons were brass with a coat of arms upon them and were manufactured by G & H Boullivant of Birmingham in 1818. Research revealed that this was the Lane-Fox crest. The family owned land bordering Springs, to the north, until the mid C19 when they sold the land in order to fund the rebuilding of their home Bramham Park, which had burned down in 1828. History does not relate how a full set of jacket buttons ended up across the brook. Was the jacket dumped whilst the wearer was up to no good, or taken off in the heat of passion and forgotten?

Dog Poo bags

PLEASE remember that there is no point in taking the trouble to bag up dog waste and then leave the bag littering the countryside. Detectives are on the case of someone who regularly throws their filled bags across the brook in the field beyond Brookside. Please take it home and bin it properly! It is totally unreasonable to expect someone else to clean up after you. RCA

One Swallow doesn't make a summer...

THEswifts are not back yet but a solitary swallow was seen quite early in April. If blown northwards by the warm winds, the poor little chap(ess) probably had a shock with the freezing night temperatures.

Also seen this month: curlews, bullfinches, chaffinches, pied and yellow wag tails, tree creepers, buzzards and a Tawny Owl swooping through the village HA



Gardening Club

THE planned lifting of COVID restrictions before midsummer's day allows for the promise of a Garden Club walk. More info in June's newsletter.

Sunday May 9th is Garden Day—for online ideas and inspiration visit www.gardenday.co.uk

May in the old calendar marks the move into Beltane—a time of new beginnings and natural rebirth. Once celebrated by bonfires to cleanse the soil, perhaps hark back to olden times with a little garden bonfire, then use the ash to feed the soil.

"No mow May" is a national campaign to encourage gardeners to help beleaguered pollinators to be safeguarded an early food source. One way is not to mow every patch of lawn just yet. Let the dandelions bloom (but perhaps pick them before the fluffy seeds set and the "dandelion clock" strikes aerial havoc.

FROM THE DIOCESE

IT'S NOT long until Thy Kingdom Come and we have some further updates on arrangements in this edition. From Ascension to Pentecost, Christians from 172 countries - including in our Diocese - will come together again in prayer for more people to come to know Jesus.

As a Diocese we will be marking #ThyKingdomCome (this is the hashtag to use across social media) with a series of services available online. There is now a comprehensive page with information and resources [on the Diocesan website](#).

There will be an online All-Age Launch Service on Wednesday, May 12 with our Bishops and the Board of Education team. Also, daily online services at 4pm following the launch, led by churches across the Diocese. Special services for Ascension Day (Thursday, May 13 at 7.30pm) and Pentecost Sunday (May 23 at 4pm) will be livestreamed from the Cathedral. The Daily services will premiere at 4pm on the Diocesan YouTube channel

MEMBERS received an Easter goodie bag with Dingbat quiz, with chance to win a hamper, National Federation Raffle ticket, chance to win various prizes, and Easter egg inside a lovely knitted animal character, kindly knitted by member Rosemary Norgrove whose knitting talents are legendary, thank you again Rosemary. All the bags were delivered by members of the committee.



The winner of the dingbat quiz was Beverley Rothwell, who happened to be on her way to her birthday celebration weekend when she was notified, perfect timing!

The weekly quiz has now resumed following as Easter break, Susan is being kind to us all for now at least, the winning prize is always welcome!!

As always new members are welcome, contact Diane Poole 07904111167, email: dianepoole1984@gmail.com DP

"Al Fresco" Coffee Club



HI TO ALL our Coffee Club friends. As you know the Village Hall is out of bounds at the moment but the garden at 39 The Chestnuts isn't and Brian and I would like to invite you to an outdoor get together, probably in May/June, date to be decided nearer the time.

We'll wait for a settled period of fine weather, then either phone, text or email you with the details. There'll be separate tables but you can sit in your bubbles of course. We'll provide the refreshments and we're going to donate any money raised to the Village Hall refurbishment programme. We've missed our Coffee mornings and are looking forward to catching up with everyone and may be able to have another in August, weather permitting.

Take care, see you soon
Barbara & Brian

