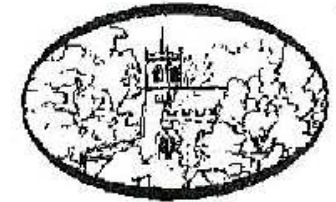


Parish Calendar 2013						
November		Event		Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
3rd	Trinity XXIII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Christ Church Chatburn</b>	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs C. McGrath Mrs J. Smith
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mr T. McLean		
7th	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Dr Irene Ridge—Wild Orchids</i>	
10th Remembrance Sunday		8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs E. Parker		Lady Clitheroe Mrs C. Ashworth
		10.50 am	Matins Revd Alan Reid	Mrs B. Lund		
11th	Monday	7.30 pm	WI Bingo Night	Village Hall		
14th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
17th	Trinity XXV	8.30 am	Holy Communion	<b>Christ Church Chatburn</b>	Mr T. McLean	Mrs S. Marlow Mrs E. Parker
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs P. McFall		
	Sunday	7.00 pm	Concert	Grand	<i>In aid of Rotary Charities</i>	
18th	Monday	1.00 pm	History Group Trip	Manchester People's Museum Conservation Dept		
20th 23rd	Wednesday to Saturday	7.30 pm	Downham Stage 2	Village Hall	<i>Arnold Ridley's The Ghost Train</i>	
21st	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	<b>Chatburn Methodist Church</b>	<i>Sheena Byrom—Catching Babies</i>	
24th	Christ the King Sunday before Advent	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D. Wilkins		Mrs S. Travis Mrs A. Chadwick
		11.00 am	Matins Service for Christ the King Revd Rodney Nicholson	Mr B. Lewis		
<b>December</b>						
1st	Advent Sunday	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Christ Church Chatburn</b>	NO FLOWERS IN ADVENT	Mr & Mrs B. Lewis
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs B Lewis		
5th	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	<i>Christmas Party</i>		
<p><b>OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE</b> – Canon Rodney Nicholson – 458019</p> <p><b>OUR CHURCH WARDENS</b></p> <p>The Hon Ralph Assheton – 441210 Mrs Philippa McFall—441484 Mrs Diana Wilkins – 445250</p> <p><b>VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</b></p> <p><b>Chairman and Bookings Secretary</b> Mr Shaun Roney—441667</p>						
		<a href="http://www.downhamvillage.org.uk">www.downhamvillage.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.downhambanner.com">www.downhambanner.com</a>				

## PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON



# newsletter

2013 Issue 11 November

From Canon Rodney Nicholson

Viewpoint



REMEMBRANCE weekend can be a powerful experience although I personally would change two aspects. One, I would limit the wearing of poppies (particularly on television) to the weekdays before Remembrance Sunday because, by being worn earlier than that, they conflict with All Saints tide.

Actually, news readers are not yet wearing poppies this year, so maybe there has been a change of policy. Two, I would include the remembering of the dead of all nations – German, Japanese, Argentinean and so on – since Jesus calls us to love our (former) enemies.

That said, I always find the Festival of Remembrance a moving portrayal of the courage and suffering of ordinary men and women caught up in terrible conflicts. Especially poignant is the grief of widows and other family members. We hear tales of extraordinary bravery, sometimes on the part of young people still in their teens who abandoned their own safety to rescue comrades, perhaps under fire from the Taliban.

We would not today use those lines of the Roman poet Horace, popular after the First World War, "Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori" – it is sweet and glorious to die for one's country. There is nothing sweet and glorious about having your brains blown out on a French battlefield. The words of GK Studdert-Kennedy, the renowned First World War chaplain, come nearer the truth: "Waste of manhood, waste of God". Horace's sentiments were not generally inscribed on Second World War epitaphs because by the 1940s people focused on the horror, not the glory, of conflict.

Whether one is a pacifist, a pacifist except in certain circumstances (which would include Hitler's genocide) or one who detests war but accepts that it may be the lesser of two evils, there can be no denying that war is simply horrible. It destroys millions of people, all of whom bear God's image, and injures many more. It causes untold cruelty to the animal world and is an assault on creation itself. How anyone can enjoy a violent film defeats my imagination. For that matter, any violence is wrong, including verbal violence or treating someone coldly.

We long for peace in the world but sometimes we need peace in our own hearts. Peace, said Jesus, is his gift to us, which we receive through admitting our need and accepting his love and forgiveness.

PLEASE NOTE  
Remembrance Day service  
starts at 10.50 am

*Rodney Nicholson*



ORD, we beseech thee to keep thy household the Church in continued godliness; that through thy protection it may be free from all adversities and devoutly given to serve thee in good works ; to the glory of thy name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	September	2013
COMMUNICANTS	52	526
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	167	2,038
VISITORS	165	822
DONATIONS	2290	6,322
HOUSE BOXES	-	136
TOTALS	622	9,328

### OUR PRAYERS ARE SAID FOR

**Bob Swarbrick** who is making progress.

### FAREWELL

**Dean and Belinda Logan, Arthur, Esme and Agatha** left Lowergate Farmhouse, Twiston in October. We wish them Good luck in their new home.

### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

#### HOLY BAPTISM

WE had two baptisms last month. We welcomed to the Harvest service on 6th October **Ross and Rebecca Smith** currently living in Stockport. It was a poignant occasion because Ross and Rebecca Smith had a stillborn baby, **Toby**, eighteen months ago but then a second son, **Sam**, a year later. We baptised Sam but included Toby in the service, giving the family a baptism candle for him, in the anticipation of being reunited with him one day. The guests were happy to share in the service, having attended Ross and Rebecca's wedding here four years ago. Rebecca was brought up with her family in West Bradford.

Another couple who were married here in recent years, **David and Lindsay Shuttleworth** (nee Creighton) of Gisburn, brought their second daughter, **Faye Leila**, to a family service on 27<sup>th</sup> October for baptism. Her sister, Evie Grace, was baptised here three and a half years ago. We sang choruses/songs particularly suitable for Bible Sunday and the family joined in the worship enthusiastically, enjoying light refreshments afterwards. David continues his work as an electrician, while Lindsay will be returning to her work as a nursery nurse in the new year. RN

The November Parish Newsletter  
has been sponsored by  
Adams and Company, Accountants of York Street, Clitheroe

### ROSIE'S CORNER

A YEAR ago I told you about my eating my lunch in a bus shelter on a wet Monday in Whitley Bay. This year we visited the desolate resort on a cold Tuesday to satisfy VicR's desire to see this part of Northumberland's coast. It wasn't much better, although we did have our picnic on a seat on the promenade, but even the seagulls looked as though they'd rather be somewhere else. We soon got the bus back to Newcastle where VicR took us down to the river and across one of the Tyne bridges. We then laboured uphill to the bus station for our 2-hour journey northwards and back to the cottage.

VicR and McK took me to church on the Sunday morning, which was fine once we had found the church. VicR seemed confused over whether it was near the Co-op, which it wasn't, or the coffee shop, which it was. Anyway, the small congregation seemed pleased to see me, and the American lady preacher talked about creation, which I suppose includes me, for I am told that God intended me to be here.

That afternoon we saw some bigger examples of God's creation when we took a boat trip to the Farne Islands to see some seals. They were impressive creatures but ignored us because their minds were set on catching fish. I suppose they're as keen on fish as I am on cheese – which VicR sometimes decides to share with me, though I'm only allowed a morsel. Talking of larger creatures, there's a ram in the field next to the vicarage. He is said to be rather a bad tempered old tup (a bit like VicR when his preferred black pudding is sold out) but he has just been joined by twenty ewes - the ram, that is, not VicR. McK says that the tup has cheered up no end, enjoying a new lease of life, but I don't understand what she's talking about.

O well, "'tis mystery all", as one of VicR's favourite hymns puts it. One mystery which I still can't solve is why birds always escape when I chase them. It was still fun, however, running after seagulls along the glorious beach near Bamburgh. McK seems to think it a good thing that I now accept that I can't catch them because she can let me off the lead, fairly confident that I won't run far away. Maybe it's good just to enjoy life without needing to have all the questions answered. VicR talks about the wonderful mystery of a heaven that's big enough for all who really want to go there. I suppose that kind of mystery is good. But I still don't understand why he's so fond of black pudding.

### DOWNHAM STAGE 2 AND THE ASSHETON ARMS MEAL & THEATRE DEAL



**The Ghost Train** by Arnold Ridley is Stage Two's next production from Wednesday November 20<sup>th</sup> to Saturday November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7.30pm at the Downham Village Hall.

It is a ghostly tale involving a legendary train crash, six stranded passengers in the waiting room of a lonely Cornish station and finally, and unexpectedly, a twist to a mysterious plot!

We would love you to come and see this exciting production. Tickets, priced £6, can be purchased either from Tourist Information (01200 425556) or from Fran Osborne (01200 423301).

This time The Assheton Arms and Stage Two have joined forces to offer you a Meal Deal. For £20 you can have a starter, a main course and a drink plus a ticket for the play. The meal will be served from 5.30pm each evening, but prior bookings must be made. If you would like to take up this exciting offer please phone The Assheton Arms (441227) to book a table, a play ticket will be given you on the night. FO

## SPECTATOR

WELL I was very surprised, nay shocked, when i heard that the "post office people" had suddenly upped and left. Fancy someone doing 'a moonlight' in Downham! It was quite commonplace when i was a young 'un growing up in Bradford (eyup), in the 50's and 60's for families to do a moonlight. One minute you would be playing out with friends and the next day they had gone! Sometimes we would peer through the windows of their house to find no signs of life, no belongings, as if they had never been. My grandson Ben had never heard the expression so I Googled it. Whatever did we do before glorious Google? The meaning was given as "Moonlight flit" ..often shortened to just "Moonlight", when someone departs suddenly, often to avoid debts, often from rented accommodation and mainly in the middle of the night, hence "Moonlight" This got me thinking about sayings and meanings which then led me onto a site about Northern Sayings and some were absolutely hilarious. Here are some of my favourites:

**"Ooh I could eat a buttered frog"** (meaning I'm hungry)

**"Hanging about like a piece of cheese for fourpence"** (nothing better to do)

**"They could eat an apple through a barbed wire fence"** (got big teeth)

**"He could peel an orange in his pocket"** (meaning he's a scrooge)

And **"this is a corker "** (meaning the best)

**"They've got a face like a farmers bum on a frosty morning"** (I have no idea what that one means—but can I say bum in the Parish Magazine? oh dear now I've said it twice!)

Anyway, moving swiftly on ....and going back to the Post Office, I don't know what happened, but I do know that I liked Margaret, she was friendly, hardworking and she made the best egg and chips I have ever tasted. I'm sorry I didn't get to say goodbye. I will miss her, and her egg and chips!! I know that she and Keith had been unhappy for a while because their dreams of a future in Downham were never realised, which is very sad. I do hope they find happiness and peace wherever they settle next and I wonder what is going to happen to our village shop next...der der de der (you have to imagine dramatic music with that).

And finally, we are hurtling towards Christmas again, YEY, a season I love dearly. It seems the older I get the more excited I become and I look forward to adding to my growing collection of naff decorations like the singing, dancing, Christmas tree which shimmies and sings "Jingle Bell Rock" It never fails to raise a smile. I'm not too excited about the cold winter weather that accompanies my favourite season, but I have a feeling that this year it may be a bit more bearable, as I watch the farmers drive past on those very frosty mornings.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

THE WORLD'S largest Christmas project run by Samaritan's Purse is appealing for Christmas parcels for children who would not otherwise receive a present this year. We are invited to fill a medium sized shoe box with gifts for a child. A leaflet is available in church which lists age groups, what is wanted and what items should not be included. Our three parishes have supported this appeal for a number of years now; we sent, collectively, over a hundred boxes last year. Boxes are wanted by local organisers before 17th November. The steps are easy 1. decorate a box, 2. decide on gender and age group 2 to 4, 5 to 9 and 10 to 14. 3. Fill box—no perishables, no sharps, no glass. 4. attach label. 5. Enclose donation of £2.50 to cover costs of shipping. 6. leave box in church. Details are in the leaflet and at [www.samaritans-purse.org.uk](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk)



## TIME BANK TO THE RESCUE !

ON asking around locally about borrowing a travel cot for impending visit of a twenty-one month old great great nephew last month, someone suggested the Time Bank may be able to help. A 'phone call to Sue Hinder and we were able to collect a brand new cot still in its carton – apparently we were the first request! Can thoroughly recommend it – packs into a neat box and very easy to put up and down. Just wanted to say thank you to the Time Bank and our relatives (from Cambridge) were very impressed and interested in the concept of Time Banks.

Molly & John R.

## NEW BISHOP

JULIAN Henderson was consecrated Bishop of Blackburn at an inspiring service in York Minster on October 10<sup>th</sup> – the feast of St Paulinus, first bishop of York and a leading missionary to the north of England. Archbishop John Sentamu was in fine form, humorously pointing to the cold wind "which had blown across from Lancashire" then, later in the service, celebrating the diamond wedding anniversary of the new bishop's parents, who were present in the minster.

Then at another moving service, in Blackburn Cathedral nine days later, Bishop Julian was welcomed and inaugurated in his new ministry, during which he stressed that he was "a servant of the servants of God". The Foodbank was emphasised, with members of the congregation being invited to bring a tinned ready meal. Along with the civic leaders present was Abdul Hamed Qureshi, chairman of the Lancashire Council of Mosques, representing other faith communities. The collection was given to the Mosamaria Aids project in South Africa.

RN

## 'THE BURIED TREASURE OF JAMES DIXON.'



AFTER an interesting 20 year career in radio and television and a lifetime's involvement in community theatre, Harriet Roberts began working at Child Action North-west in April 2010 and took on her most interesting and ambitious challenge yet! How do you raise money for a charity with a 120 year history that most people haven't heard of with no volunteers and no fundraising department?

She was struck by the ambition and passion of the staff, the stories of the families and the chance to make a difference to the lives of local people. Despite never having been a fundraiser before, she agreed to take on the task of addressing the problem of £1.4m lost in the revenue from local authorities and to build up the community rapport that once existed under the founder, James Dixon, a man of great faith.

In her illustrated talk at Downham WI in January she will explain how she struck gold in the cellars of the old orphanage building. She unearthed what Lancashire Record Office described as a 'unique collection' of complete archives dating back to the first orphan to be admitted in 1891. Dixon was not only a philanthropist but an entrepreneur and a contemporary of Dr Barnardo and much of his writings, ephemera and diaries also exist as well as his monthly magazine, sponsored cot plaques and photographs.

At the WI meeting in January we will find out why the archives were described as 'treasure', how the BBC got involved and how celebrities and businesses have been giving their support since. See also History Group report in "Roundabout".

**THE PARISH CHURCH**

**HARVEST**

Our Harvest Family Service—with baptism was on Sunday 6th October at 11.00 am. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers, seasonal branches of wild fruits and leaves with many gifts for the food bank.

The congregation was swelled by family and friends of Ross and Rebecca Smith whose infant child Sam was baptised.

The collection was divided between Church funds and with over £100 for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal—to a Bolivian cocoa project and to a Chilean traidcraft project, helping local people with the marketing of their blueberries and honey

**AT the end of the month a second family service took place for another baptism, this time Faye Leila, daughter of David and Lindsey Shuttleworth, Granddaughter of Anne Crieghton, and Great Granddaughter of Raymond Newby. A real local party.**

Our next family service will be the Christingle at Christmas time when we look to supporting the work of the Children's Society.

**ST LEONARD' DAY TIDY**

VOLUNTEERS will be more than welcome to assist with the annual tidy at church on Saturday 7th November between 10.30 am and noon.. If dry there will be one or two outdoor jobs otherwise reaching those parts that the weekly clean does not. RCA

**DOWNHAM AND TWISTON HISTORY GROUP**

THE GROUP was treated to a two-act meeting on Monday, 28th October in the Village Hall. Jennifer Palmer gave an illustrated preview of her next book (at

present un-titled) about the generations of her family who have occupied the farm at Twiston since the seventeenth century. She is devoting this work to the branch of the dynasty that occupied, and still occupies, the Hill Foot farmhouse. Very interesting and so completely illustrative of life in Twiston over some hard and some progressive times.

An additional treat was a recitation of a number of her poems by Christine Thistlethwaite, who now lives in retirement in Clitheroe but who hails from neighbouring Rimington, where she and husband Bert farmed at Lower Gills, for many years. Christine's work covered country life, the weather (appropriately storms) and some wry observations about life today. Members very much enjoyed the highly polished performance and look forward to hearing more in the future.

The next meeting is a shared one between the History group, which has been very generously invited to join, on 16th January, with the WI. They have been able to secure a presentation on the history of the Blackburn Orphanage from Harriet Roberts, the fund-raising officer of the charity Child-Action North West.

On 18th November the group is going to visit the Manchester People's Museum where, it is hoped, the Downham Banner will be conserved. This will be an afternoon visit departing Downham at approx 12.30 for a 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm visit. Any one who is interested in joining us please let Tom know on 445471.

**HARVEST LUNCH**

A PICNIC at the Village Hall on Sunday 6th October was enjoyed by a number of families and individuals including some visiting family members. With thanks to Dave and Olive for organising the teas and coffees.



**COFFEE CLUB**

LAST month's Coffee Club was well attended and June and Edith did their usual sterling job on the bring and buy, thank you ladies. Our next is on 14th November at the usual time and we look forward to seeing you all then.



We're having a change for our December meeting. Instead of our usual coffee morning we thought it would be nice to have a club lunch of soup and sandwiches, plus the obligatory mince pies. This is on the third Thursday of the month the 19th. We will need to have names in order to help with catering and hope as many members as possible will come. It should be a good do!

BL

Footnote June and Edith are having the day off, so no bring and buy that day.

**GARDEN CLUB**

A REASON for the self-styling of Kevin Briggs as a lunatic was soon revealed at his excellent talk to the Gardening Club on Thursday 3rd October. It is because he is a volunteer Warden, conservationist, worker, researcher and much more, on a five-kilometer stretch of the River Lune. In a riveting talk he told of how he takes care of his stretch of River bank and surroundings and has been responsible for halting the decline of some species by careful management. Some of his unusual duties include a regular survey of cow pats—vital information about the food supply for different species, including the number of dung flies per square meter.



Members enjoyed the talk and the refreshments afterwards—and of course the RAFFLE!

The next meeting is at the Village Hall on Thursday 7th November and includes a presentation by Dr Irene Ridge on Wild Orchids.

CA

**Downham W.I. September Meeting**



Downham W.I.'s September meeting was the Annual General Meeting. Mrs Julie Parker completed three years as President and in her address commented how much she had enjoyed her time as president and how quickly the three years had gone. She has been an exemplary President who has carried out her duties with skill and integrity. Mrs Frances Garner succeeds Mrs Parker as President. A new committee was also elected and Mrs Christine Newhouse continues as Secretary.

Downham W.I. looks forward to another year of interesting talks from a range of speakers, the opportunity to attend a variety of courses both locally and at Denman College, Oxfordshire and to participate in locally organised walks and events.

**Our next event will be a Bingo Night on the 11<sup>th</sup> November at Downham Village Hall, which is to raise funds for a bursary, to send a W.I. member to Denman College.**

Our next W.I. Meeting will be at Chatburn Methodist Chapel on the 21<sup>st</sup> November at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Sheena Byrom, a local author and midwife, whose subject is 'Catching Babies'. A.K.

**CLITHEROE THE GRAND  
CONCERT  
SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER  
DOORS 7.00 PM  
GRACE O'MALLEY  
SLAIDBURN SILVER BAND  
TICKETS £9  
FROM THE GRAND 421599  
DIANNE 441113  
TREVOR 423689  
IN AID OF ROTARY CHARITIES AND  
CROSSROADS CARE RIBBLE VALLEY**