

**PARISH CALENDAR 2022**

APRIL			EVENT	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
3rd	Lent V	11.15 am	Holy Communion Canon Andy Froud	Mr T. McLean	<b>NO FLOWERS</b>	Mrs B. Lewis Mrs j Shepherd
6th	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Craft & Laugh Group	Worston Mission Rom	<i>Downham WI venture non members welcome</i>	
10th	Palm Sunday	11.15 am	Matins Canon Andy Froud	Mrs K Heron	<b>IN LENT</b>	Mr & Mrs I Walton
14th	Maundy Thursday	7.30 pm	United Benefice Service	St Paul's Low Moor		
15th	Good Friday	10.30 am	Service	St Mary Magdalene		
16th	Saturday	2.00 pm			Decorate Church	
17th	Easter Day	11.15 am	Holy Communion Canon Andy Froud	Mrs P McFall		Mrs J Feibel Mrs A Wallace
21st	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Calf's Head	<i>Narcs friend or foe? And 73 Seasons, a Japanese take on wellbeing.</i>	
24th	Easter I	11.15 am	Matins Canon Andy Froud	Mr B Lewis		Mr & Mrs A Herron
MAY						
1st	Easter II	11.15 am	Holy Communion Canon Andy Froud	Mrs E Parker		Mrs P McFall Mrs M. Roskell

THE PARISH CHURCH OF St LEONARD IS MOST GRATEFUL TO THE  
INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS  
THAT SPONSOR THE PARISH NEWSLETTER  
IN APRIL 2022 THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY A PARISHIONER

**OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE** — Canon 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  
Canon Andy Froud  
on **Youtube** via  
St. Mary Magdalene website  
www.stmarysclitheroe.co.uk

**PARISH OF ST. LEONARD**

**DOWNHAM & TWISTON**



**newsletter**

2022 Issue 4 APRIL

www.downhamvillage.org.uk

**From Canon Andy Froud**



Dear Friends.

When you see this image, what do you think of? Do you imagine that something has been born and freed? A bird? An alligator? A dinosaur? A duck-billed platypus? (Come to think of it I don't know what the eggs of any of those animals might look like - but use your imagination)

How does it make you feel? Happiness at the new birth or sadness that the perfect shape of the egg has been broken?

It is certainly an unusual image for Easter, miles away from the traditional advertising of chocolate Easter eggs.


Why do we have Easter eggs? One theory is that they represent the new life of both spring and that offered through Christ. Another is that the egg shape represents the stone rolled away from the tomb. Both can, of course be true (as well as a return to chocolate after the fasting of Lent)

For me this picture symbolises the brokenness of Easter: Christ's journey to the cross of Calvary, His suffering and His death for the sins of all. Eggs can be both extremely strong and immensely fragile, much like the human body itself. But the image also represents the broken power of sin, death and hell. Christ by His death has destroyed the power of death.

The picture is above all one of new life and new potential - it reminds me of the words of the angel to the women who had come to Christ's tomb - "He is not here, He is risen. (Matthew 28:6). The power of Christ's resurrection is ultimately beyond description and our ability to understand but through faith we may share in His risen life now and for eternity


A very Happy and Blessed Easter

God of peace and justice,  
 we pray for the people of Ukraine today.  
 We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.  
 We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,  
 that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.  
 We pray for those with power over war or peace,  
 for wisdom, discernment and compassion  
 to guide their decisions.  
 Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,  
 that you would hold and protect them.  
 We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.  
 Amen.



**Clitheroe Civic Society**

Next meetings of the Society at 7.30 pm at the Assembly Hall (St Michael and St John Parish Hall) Lowergate Clitheroe BB7 1AG	
Monday 4th April John Lambert <i>Henry Parkinson—A Pioneer of          Industrial &amp; Commercial Clitheroe</i>	Monday 9th May Andrew Snape <i>The Problem with Philip:          A Holden Martyr</i>




**STAGE - 2 - DOWNHAM  
 @ HURST GREEN VILLAGE HALL**

The Winslow Boy' by Terence Rattigan,  
 Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022 to Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022  
 inclusive, at 7.30 pm Doors open at 7pm.

Admission £8 for all age groups, payable on the door, cash only.

**To make a reservation simply email [stage2playinfo@gmail.com](mailto:stage2playinfo@gmail.com)**  
 stating: Your full name; Date of performance; Number of tickets required;  
 Contact telephone number. You will receive a booking confirmation.  
 To gain admission either show this confirmation on your mobile at the door  
 or show a printed copy.



EXHIBITION AT CLITHEROE LIBRARY  
**REFLECTIONS ON THE WATER**

Celebrating in words and pictures Clitheroe's Three Medieval Wells  
 Featuring a film "Water from the Well" by local historian Steve Ragnal  
 continuing in April Free entry

## ARCHAEOLOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY OPEN DAY

### **Rimington Memorial Institute**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April 11am to 3pm

*The parishes of Rimington and Middop have a long history.  
 Come along and find out about their fascinating past.*

#### ROMAN

Find out about the Roman road from Ribchester to Elslack  
 Discover the results of the Roman road dig locally  
 Visit a test pit showing parts of the road (weather permitting!)  
*For school aged children why not try an indoor activity?*  
 Make a clay pot Roman style... or...hunt for 'finds' in a mock test pit

#### LOCAL

See for yourself a selection of some of Rimington and Middop's  
 historical records, including the 1846 Tithe Map  
 Look at local records, pictures and documents available on our own  
 village website [rimington.org.uk](http://rimington.org.uk)  
 Speak to a local historian

Find out about **RIBBLE VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGY**  
 Meet some of the experts for a chat and to ask questions

#### A HOST OF GOLDEN DAFFODILS

GO DOWN to the village car park and see the glorious show of  
 mini daffodils In two large, triangular, raised beds. These bulbs



were donated and planted by Downham WI. They  
 are there to mark the Centenary of the local  
 branch, somewhat delayed from 2020, another  
 victim of Covid!

Preparation of the ground meant the import of top  
 soil and finishing with umpteen bags of bark top-  
 dressing. Congratulations to the volunteer workers  
 involved, a team led by Dawn Parker.

A magnificent sight at the end of Winter much  
 appreciated by residents and visitors alike.





**FESTIVAL BOWLAND**

The Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership project will be offering three family-friendly sessions during this year's Easter break, so why not enjoy some outdoor fun this month?

**Free Family Nature Event - Minibeast Madness**

Thu, 7 April  
10:00 – 12:00, Whalley  
13:30 - 15:30, Nelson

**Free Family Nature Event - Spring Landscape ID Walk**


Thu, 14 April, 10:00 – 13:00 Sabden  
Join us on a family friendly 1–3-mile circular walk within the landscape. We will be identifying wildlife as we go, exploring the five senses and discovering hidden views amongst the landscape.

Activities on these sessions are aimed at 4 -12-year-olds (but older and younger siblings are welcome to attend). Children must be accompanied by a parent/carer at all times.

Please come dressed appropriately, as we will be going outside to enjoy nature in all weathers.

**Booking essential** via website: <https://www.pendlehillproject.com/whats-on>

For further information, or if you have any questions, please email: [PendleHill@ernestcooktrust.org.uk](mailto:PendleHill@ernestcooktrust.org.uk)



**KEN'S QUIZ**  
IN AID OF  
**The Children's Society**

**At Clitheroe Cricket club**  
Friday 6th May at 7.00 for 7.30 pm

Teams of up to 6 players  
£10 per person including Supper

information and tickets from  
Ken or Jo on 01200 428859

**CASTLE EXHIBITION SET TO CAPTURE BOWLAND'S DARK SKIES**

THE FOREST OF BOWLAND AONB Partnership and Clitheroe Castle Museum are celebrating the area's celestial beauty with a special exhibition at Clitheroe Castle Museum will run from early April until late May admission to the gallery free.

**POEM by MOLLY WALTON of TWISTON**

I have a view of Pendle Hill  
where witches twist and turned  
as they cast their spells  
upon these fells  
as their heathen fires burned.  
Great-grandma worked the cotton mills  
beneath those barren hills,  
and clogs she wore  
while mee-maw talked  
above the noisy looms.  
With smoke from chimneys and cobbled streets,  
we speak to strangers who we meet.  
Lancashire is friendly, of that I'm proud -  
It's better than Yorkshire, or so I've found.

The views in this poem are not necessarily shared by our vicar.

<b>DOWNHAM St. LEONARD FACTS &amp; FIGURES</b>		
	February	2022
<b>Communicants</b>	52	69
<b>Collections</b> £		
Services	560	1,502
Visitors	20	20
Donations	272	544
House Boxes		
Special		
<b>Total</b>	<b>852</b>	<b>2,066</b>

**LANCASHIRE & WESTMORELAND HEDGELAYING GRAND PRIX**

THIS YEAR'S Lancashire and Westmorland hedge laying competition was a great success. Hosted in Downham on the 26<sup>th</sup> of February, 25 hedge layers attended to compete at various levels in the traditional skill. The experience of competitors ranged from those



Laying a hedge carried out by a competitor

who had only one day of experience competing in the starter class, to those with increasing experience in the novice class, to the more-practiced professionals in the open class. There were also several young competitors on the day.

As part of the greater, regional hedge laying 'Grand Prix' competition running through Lancashire and Cumbria, competitors at Downham laid 7 metres of hedge each over a 5-hour period, totalling over 150m length of hedge laid on the day. Each competitor or team were then judged on points on neatness, use of

stakes and their straightness, distribution of material within the hedge, and overall appearance. Proud winners of the day announced by Dave Padley from the Lancashire and Westmorland Hedge Laying Association then received a Forest of Bowland tankard, presented by Ralph Assheton, of the Downham estate. Not all was gifted to the winners however, as every competitor received £10 for taking part, a free lunch supplied by the Cabin at Barley, and free refreshments from Downham ice cream shop as made possible by funding from the National Heritage Lottery Fund.

The noises of chainsaws from the competition field also attracted a steady slew of interested visitors throughout the day. Facilitated by the dry and sunny weather, this provided us with the precious opportunity to talk about our traditional boundaries, their importance within our landscape

and their management. Chatter was not restricted to visitors, however, as the competition allowed the opportunity for the rural skills community, who may not have connected since the start of the pandemic, to reconnect.

We would like to make a special thank you to all those who competed, those who came along and showed interest, and to the Downham Estate for hosting the competition. We are also thankful to local businesses: the Downham ice cream shop and The Cabin at Barley who kept everyone warm and cheerful with food and re-



freshments. The biggest thanks however goes to Dave Padley from the Lancashire and Westmorland Hedge Laying



**THE PARISH CHURCH  
ANNUAL MEETINGS**

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS (The Vestry Meeting) and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place on Sunday 24th April, 2022 at 11.45 am, in church, following the morning service.

At these meetings Church Wardens, Parochial Church Councillors, and sidesmen & women are elected for the ensuing year. The meeting also receives the annual report and financial statement of Church activity for the previous year.

All parishioners are eligible to attend.

Nominations for election of Wardens, PCC and Sidesmen and women may be posted in the box at the rear of church.. The Wardens

**CONCERT**

AS THINGS start to get back to normal the PCC is pleased to announce that the Annual Concert is to be resumed on Saturday 11th June with a performance, in Church, by the Lancaster Singers..

**JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS  
5TH JUNE**

AT ITS recent meeting The PCC agreed to join with the Village Hall committee in organising a village event in the Croft opposite Hare Green. It was also agreed to end the weekend with a return to Hymns on the Green at Whitsuntide with the Barnoldswick Band . In the event of wet weather everything would be re-located to the Church.

**ASSHETON ARMS**



VISIBLE WORK is currently concentrating on getting the fabric and exterior appearance of the pub up to scratch. Joinery repairs and a thorough repainting are improving its appearance no end. Behind the scenes discussions and meetings progress in order to find a suitable new operator.

Sadly readers will have to hold out for a few more weeks before being able to enjoy a pint and a meal. Hopefully the wait will be worth it!

RCA

**JUBILEE TREE PLANTING**



Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March was a glorious sunny day. After what felt like almost constant wet weather in the preceding weeks, it was a joy to have plenty of sun and an army of volunteers to plant the Queen's Copse. A few residents took the opportunity to inspect the Jackal reconnaissance vehicle brought along by the Queen's Own Yeomanry, though only one looked to be of an age where he might one day become a recruit! The trees were planted, staked and guarded in record time followed by a happy picture of the occasion. Hopefully the 70 Whitebeam trees will be a reminder in years to come of a remarkable moment in our country's history.

RCA

**DOWNHAM PRE SCHOOL**

DOWNHAM Preschool is in the process of updating the yard area. We now have artificial grass, new mud kitchens and some new sit and ride toys. We have donated our old toys to the Special School in Oswaldtwistle (Whiteash).

We are hoping to get out and about in the village now the weather is getting better, we love the ice cream shop!!! The children like nothing more than running free in the fields.

Susan and Staff



WITH THE END of the seemingly ceaseless rain in February, work on the Village Hall has moved on at a great pace.

John, Terry and Richard (with occasional labouring support) have done a fantastic job of completing the re-roofing. The weather was kind (well virtually no rain anyway.) Blissfully the underlying timbers were all sound, though the slates that came off largely crumbled to the touch. The old felt was beginning to fail badly, so the work that has been done came just in the nick of time!

The replacement fire escape is having its final pieces fabricated, so should be ready to instal as soon as the scaffolding is removed.

The electrical wiring is a mind bogglingly complicated process, looking rather like a spaghetti fight gone wrong. Thankfully the "spaghetti" will soon be safely tucked away in the walls, loft and cellar. Meanwhile it is a death trap to the unwary.

Please do not think that you will be brightening the contractors' day by just "dropping in" to take a look at progress! The place is literally a building site and not a visitor attraction.

RCA.

A meeting at The Mission Room Worston to decide the running of the Craft and Laugh group was a great success with members and guests enjoying different crafts with decision to meet on 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday each month at 7pm. Next meeting 6th April.



5 members attended Lancashire Federation Spring Council Meeting at The Premier Suite of Bolton Stadium, held on International Women's Day 8 March. Ladies who knit entertained with the history of knitted garments, hilariously displaying them, even the knitted swimming costume. The main speaker was the founder if the Mowgli restaurant chain, Nisha Katona, a former Barrister in Child Welfare, and was the 1<sup>st</sup> Black female Barrister to be appointed. However her love of cooking dishes taught by her mother proved to be too much to ignore and she changed direction. The latest restaurant to be opened is coming to Preston shortly.

On the same day some members walked on the field footpath to Worston and back to Downham, enjoying wonderful weather, stopping to enjoy daffodils planted on the two garden areas on the Village Car Park.

On 17<sup>th</sup> March 29 members and 6 guests from Rimington enjoyed a wonderful buffet to mark the occasion of 102<sup>nd</sup> Birthday at The Calf's Head. A delicious Birthday cake with fresh fruit, made by David and Lucy Carter, was served with cream for dessert. Entertainment was provided by Arthur Geldard who sang a fantastic selection of songs with members joining in and at tim'@es provided the backing! Arthur won his audience over with his endearing personality and tales of his Nan being in the WI and taking him to their events, an encore provided, a fitting end to a brilliant evening!

Next coffee and chat on 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday April, 10 am at Shackletons, as always Sharron, and Susan hosting.

Next meeting on 21 April, 7.30pm, at Calf's Head Worston, *Narcs friend or foe? And 73 Seasons, a Japanese take on wellbeing.* More information, Diane Poole, 07904 111167,