

PARISH CALENDAR 2023						
APRIL			EVENT	SIDESMEN/ WOMEN	ALTAR FLOWERS	CHURCH CLEANERS
2nd	Palm Sunday	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs P McFall	No Flowers in LENT	Mrs P McFall Mrs M. Roskell
8th	Saturday	2.00pm	Decorate Church			All welcome
9th	Easter Day	11.15 am	Holy Communion Ven Mark Ireland	Mrs B Lewis		Mr & Mrs P Mercer
16th	Easter I	11.15 am	Matins Chris Hegg	Mrs K Herron	-	Mrs S Travis Mrs A Chadwick
22nd	Wednesday	10.30 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
23rd	Easter II	11.15 am	Matins Chris Hegg	Mr T McLean		Mrs L Ennis Mrs A Harris
		12.15 pm	Annual Church Meetings	Election of Church Wardens, sidepersons and receive the annual report and accounts		
30th	Easter III	11.15 am	Matins Chris Hegg	Mrs A Wallace	Mrs M Roskell	Mr & Mrs P Eldridge
MAY						
6th Coronation of HM King Charles III						
7th	Coronation Celebrations	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs P McFall	Mrs C Naylor	Hon Mrs R Assheton Mrs C Naylor
		12.30	Party	Village Hall	Flyer Enclosed	
THE PARISH CHURCH OF St LEONARD IS MOST GRATEFUL TO THE INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS THAT SPONSOR THE PARISH NEWSLETTER						
OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE Vacancy OUR CHURCH WARDENS The Hon RC Assheton 07817 634392 = Mrs P McFall 441484 = Mr Walton 07979 598 057 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"				CHURCH RESOURCES Morning Prayer for Clitheroe, Chatburn and Downham is streamed on Youtube Monday - Saturday. Access it via St. Mary Magdalene' Facebook page or via the link on the website site		

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON



newsletter

2023 Issue 4 April

www.downhamvillage.org.uk

From Chris Hegg

"For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven"

BY THE TIME you read this, we will be in the season of Spring (whether you take the Astronomical or Meteorological definition) and everywhere there are signs that Winter is over. The bulbs are bursting into flower and the weather is a little less grey and a little warmer. My thoughts are turning to my garden and how much work my wife and I have to do so that we might enjoy it in the (hopefully) warm Summer days to come.

It is when I look at the beauty and order of the natural world that my faith is at its strongest. For Christians such beauty and order cannot be a mere accident. While we may have different views as to the how and when God created this earth, we all believe that this earth and everything on it are God's handiwork.

Spring also marks the time of the greatest Christian festival, Easter, when Jesus was crucified and died, but conquered death, rising again so that all who believe in him might enjoy eternal life.

As our gardens burst back into life this Spring, let us remember that this is no accident but the result of a carefully planned order of things. Christians celebrate Easter as a reminder that there is more to life than our allotted time on this earth. We look forward to eternal life in a place whose beauty and peace far surpasses anything we have yet seen ... no matter how beautiful or peaceful our gardens may be.

Chris Hegg

Almighty God, we give you thanks for Charles your servant and our King, for his devotion to his family, nation and Commonwealth and to the Earth, our fragile home. We thank you for his faith in you and his love for all peoples and for his call to be our sovereign in such a time as this.

DOWNHAM St. LEONARD FACTS & FIGURES		
	FEBRUARY	2023
Communicants	36	73
Full Accounts will be presented at the annual meeting		

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

FRIENDS and neighbours who have been unwell or who are in hospital
Lord Clitheroe, Diana Braithwaite, Ian Chadwick and Shaun Roney
Sheila and Norman Knowles

Edgerow 'Arry


AS SPRING marches forth with a welcome rise in average temperatures, the wheel of the year rolls forward. The cleansing restraints of Lent prepare us for the celebration of rebirth at Easter.

Modern traditions market this with chocolate eggs and bunnies, harking back to the pagan representations of the Spring goddess, known as *Eastre* in the Northumbrian dialect and *Eastro* in the Mercian and West Saxon tongue of old, to mark the vernal equinox.

For those directly dependant on the land's bounty, this was often a cruel time: life was re-emerging with the new green shoots rising from the soil, but there was precious little of substance to eat. This was known as the 'empty quarter' and a good reason for the need to follow a calendar and make sacrifices at times of plenty to ensure there was sustenance for the leaner times of the year.

For those eager to see quick results from planting, consider the radish: quick to germinate and available to eat within weeks of sowing. This versatile root vegetable was revered in Classical times - but also used in Ancient Greece as novel punishment.

In modern times the radish has a less exciting reputation and is somewhat overlooked. This is a shame as they are easy to grow and produce a healthy crop - of roots and leaves. If salads and fancy open sandwiches aren't your 'thing', then consider roasting them with garlic, butter or some other tasty fat. For preservation, consider pickling radishes - but the true potential of this spring root may come with fermentation - Lancashire 'Kimchi' could be just the ticket for boosting your microbiome with beneficial probiotics.



Clitheroe Civic Society

THE CIVIC SOCIETY meets monthly on the first Monday of the month, except bank holidays, at 7.30 pm at the at The St Michael and St John Centre on Lowergate Clitheroe. Speakers cover a wide range of local history topics. Membership is open to all and visitors are welcome.

3rd April	Dr Eleanor Fisher	The Diaries of James Garnett 1858—1900
JAMES GARNETT was born on 24 April 1828, the son of Thomas and Susannah Garnett of Low Moor, Clitheroe. Thomas Garnett (1799-1878) came to Low Moor from Otley in Yorkshire a few years earlier to manage the cotton mill there for his uncle, Jeremiah Garnett.		
May		Chairman's Walk



Festival Bowland Spring Highlights

It's a delight to be in Bowland during the spring-time months and this year's Festival Bowland events programme offers lots of opportunities to explore the AONB.

The well-established Garstang Walking Festival will be back between 5th and 14th May this year and you can meet the team and try some taster walks on 15th April.

Wildlife enthusiasts can join the RSPB for a guided moorland safari from Slaidburn on 21st April - repeated on 1st and 29th May, or explore the weird and wonderful world of earthworms online on the 27th April.

Step back, take a breath and reconnect with your surroundings in Gisburn Forest on a forest bathing evening with Rewilding Outdoor Therapy on 28th April.

Looking ahead to mid-May, history hounds can enjoy a walk on 13th when All Routes North will be heading to the Ribble Valley farm where Mahatma Gandhi stayed the night in 1931.

Full details of all Festival Bowland events, including booking information, can be found on the Forest of Bowland AONB website at <https://www.forestofbowland.com/Festival-Bowland-Events>

POLLING DAY—4th May

LOCAL elections take place on Thursday, 4th May. At these elections we need to take a photo ID to be able to vote. . A passport, photo driving licence or bus pass are acceptable. Polling stations, including Downham Village Hall, are open 7.00 am to 10 pm



**BURNLEY MUNICIPAL
CHOIR PRESENT
MENDELSSOHN:
ELIJAH**

**SUNDAY APRIL 30th 7PM
Burnley Mechanics Theatre**

EAST LANC'S SINFONIA
Soloists: Linda Richardson,
Kathleen Wilkinson, Grace O Malley
Amar Muchala, Dean Robinson

Tickets £15 (under 18 £8) from
the Mechanics Box Office
01282 664444 or via
www.burnleychoir.co.uk

**Mechanics
theatre**



**BURNLEY MUNICIPAL CHOIR
SING "ELIJAH"**

The choir's next concert is a performance of Mendelssohn's oratorio "Elijah" at Burnley Mechanics Theatre on Sunday, April 30th at 7pm. This is one of the great works in the choral repertoire alongside Handel's "Messiah" and Haydn's "Creation".

The professional soloists are Linda Richardson, Amar Muchala, Dean Robinson and Burnley's own Kathleen Wilkinson and Rossendale's Grace O'Malley. The orchestra is the East Lancs Sinfonia with Nigel Wilkinson conducting the performance.

Mendelssohn was fascinated by the story of Elijah and the world of dissension in Israel and Judea over the divinity of Jehovah and Baal around 865 BC in the time of King Ahab. He turned to Dr Julius Schubring to draft the text which is based on 1 Kings Chapters 17-19. Mendelssohn

was a master of descriptive composition (e.g. overture "The Hebrides" and violin concerto) and "Elijah" is a dramatic piece describing natural disasters and the suffering of the people affected and the conflict between King Ahab and Elijah. The piece ends with one final, glorious hymn of praise "And then shall your light break forth. Lord, our creator, how excellent Thy name is".

**THE CORONATION LAST TIME From the Clitheroe Advertiser
22nd May, 1953 and 6th June, 1953**

**Pageant Depicts
Downham From
Roman Days**

ONE of the principal features of Downham's celebrations will be a pageant to be held in the grounds of Downham Hall, to-morrow, Saturday, at 3 p.m.

The pageant will depict the history of the village since the Roman days and will include the arrival of the Asshetons in Elizabethan times.

Taking part will be all the schoolchildren and several adults, and the pageant, written by Mrs. W. I. Todd and Miss D. Harrison, and produced by Mr. K. Taylor, will include a Coronation ceremony when the Queen will be Edna Mackay, and her attendants Mary Singleton and Dorothy Seed.

**Party For
Downham Children**

ON Coronation Day, children of Downham enjoyed a tea party, provided by Sir Ralph Assheton, at the George and Dragon Inn. Present at the function were the Vicar, the Rev. W. Allen, and Mrs. Allen, who, after tea, presented each child with a spoon as a souvenir of the Coronation.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Special services will be held at the Church on Sunday and on Coronation Day, when a children's tea, given by Sir Ralph Assheton, Bart. will be held at Downham Hall. At the function, the children will receive a souvenir in the form of a spoon. The cost of these has been defrayed out of a special fund which was started by a house-to-house collection.

Several events to raise funds have already been held in the village. Of these, a whist drive and dance raised £21, which has been set aside for the provision of a permanent reminder in the village, and afternoon tea raised £13 to meet the cost of the pageant costumes, and a social provided the money for the Scouts and Guides to present a St. George's Flag to the Church in memory of the Coronation.

The spoons had been provided from the proceeds of a house-to-house collection and other efforts.

The children then chose Elizabeth Hornby and John Gooby to convey their thanks to Sir Ralph, and they immediately went to Downham Hall for this purpose.

Owing to the weather conditions, the sports which should have followed, were postponed to a later date, but the firework display took place, as planned, on the village green.

Earlier in the week, each resident over 70 was presented with a souvenir tin of biscuits.



**Ribble Valley Fund Raising Committee
Ken's Quiz**

In aid of The Children's Society
At Clitheroe Cricket Club
Chaburn Road Clitheroe BB7 2AS
Friday 12th May 2023
At 7.00 for 7.30

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

Further information and tickets from

Ken or Jo Robinson
01200 428859
07503 175657
07503 165453
Or email: kenrobinson@hotmail.co.uk
Or Downham Representatives
Tom, Philippa, Brian

THE PARISH CHURCH

Choir

How LOVELY it's been to welcome Di back to the choir after her operation and convalescence.

Mothering Sunday

A GOODLY number attended our Mothering Sunday service led by Anne Hardacre. At the conclusion Anne gave out pots of miniature daffodils to children for their mothers, to mothers—and to everyone in celebration of the joys of family life.

**Easter Arrangements
Celebration**

CLITHEROE Christians in Partnership has arranged a celebration of the Resurrection at Clitheroe Castle on Easter morning at 6.15 am for fifteen minutes. The Easter Sunrise Service will be led by The Revd Catharine Hale-Hieghway..

At St Leonard we end lent by decorating church on Saturday 8th April at 2.00 pm.

Other services within the combined benefice are

Maundy Thursday April 6th

7 pm Holy Communion at St. Paul's Low Moor

Good Friday April 7th 10.30 am at Paul's Low Moor – Joint service with Clitheroe Christians in Partnership Followed by the Walk of Witness to the Castle

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS

THESE will take place after morning prayer at 12.15 pm on Sunday, 23rd April.

A short PCC meeting will be followed by the Annual Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry Meeting and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. All parishioners are welcome to attend



TOADS

INTRIGUED by the warning signs that have mysteriously appeared for a couple of weeks at Twiston Mill every Spring since 2008 we learn that toads hibernate in the dry—in stone walls for example—and return to the mill lodge to breed in the first few days of Spring.

Being very sleepy on awakening from hibernation they cross the road extremely slowly and many are lost, run over by traffic and more are taken by watchful predators.

Please watch out and take care.



COFFEE CLUB



IT WAS Coffee Club with a difference this week, courtesy of Phil and Chrissy Naylor. To help celebrate their Ruby wedding anniversary,

they invited members and villagers to join them in a delicious buffet. The room looked lovely and cheerful and they brought along members of their family, including the youngest, Alby, who tucked into the spread with great gusto. We took a trip down memory lane, with the help of dozens of photos, marking the happy couple's lives together, plus their wedding album.

There was a very lively atmosphere and everyone agreed it had been a most enjoyable "Coffee Club" We send our thanks and congratulations to you both XX

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, April 26th at 10.30 am. Looking forward to seeing you there,

Barbara & Brian



Refurbishment

Contributions to the new 'garden'/village hall exterior plans are always welcome, as are willing volunteers to give us a hand with this exciting new project being planned in conjunction with John Foley of Holden Clough Nursery.

The next phase of the refurbishment is tackling the flat roof over the entrance area and smartening up the green room .

The daffodils of the former WI, planted around the edge of the car park a goodly number of years ago, are looking very cheerful and SPRING-LIKE. A fitting reminder of the women and their organisation that served here for over a hundred years.

CORONATION

Arrangements for our coronation celebratory party are enclosed. We look forward to marking the new reign in Downham style and point to the press cuttings of 1953—how things have changed!

