

**PARISH CALENDAR 2021**

AUGUST			EVENT	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
1st	Trinity IX	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs P McFall	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs J Feibel Mrs A Wallace
8th	Trinity X	11.15 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mrs A Wallace		Mrs P McFall Mrs M. Roskell
15th	Trinity XI	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs E Parker		Mr & Mrs P Mercer
22nd	Trinity XII	11.15 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mr A Herron	Mrs A Wallace	Mrs S Travis Mrs A Chadwick
29th	Trinity XIII	11.15 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mrs A Heron		Mr & Mrs C Ennis
5						
SEPTEMBER						
5th	Trinity XIV	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mr T McLean	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mr & Mrs P Eldridge

THE PARISH CHURCH OF St LEONARD IS MOST GRATEFUL TO THE  
INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS  
THAT SPONSOR THE PARISH NEWSLETTER IN AUGUST 2021  
THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL

**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 8 AUGUST

www.downhamvillage.org.uk

**From The Revd Andy Froud**

Dear Friends.

I'm writing this on Freedom Day. I wonder what future historians will make of that sentence. Some will welcome the lifting of government restrictions and others will be fearful of the effect of allowing covid 19 to spread even more widely among our communities.

These are the issues of the day but 100 or more years hence what will people make of it all?

I found an interesting piece of history today from perhaps what today would be regarded as one of the backwaters of time.

In 1847 the Revd George Gorham was presented by the Lord Chancellor to the parish church of St Peter Brampford Speke, a small Devon village near Exeter. His Bishop, Henry Phillpotts took exception to Gorham's views on baptismal regeneration and refused to appoint him. Gorham became a cause celebre when he took his appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, which caused great controversy, at the time, about whether a secular court should decide on the doctrine of the Church of England. Phillpotts, the Bishop, threatened anyone, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, with excommunication if they instituted Gorham. Many at the time saw it as the beginning of the end of the Church of England as the government was "taking it over". It was one of the defining controversies of early nineteenth century Britain.

But having studied the case and the waves that it created I had until today, missed the aftermath and a poignant footnote.

Gorham spent the rest of his life at his post in Brampford Speke. As vicar, he restored the church building, entirely rebuilding the tower: one of the donors? Bishop Phillpotts.

May our current disagreements always be reconciled in time through Christian love and charity.

Yours in Christ,

Heavenly Lord,  
 you long for the world's salvation:  
 stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess  
 and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed  
 in Jesus Christ our Lord.

DOWNHAM St. LEONARD FACTS & FIGURES		
	June	2021
Communicants	42	94
Collections		
	£	
Services	618	2,872
Visitors		120
Donations	5,297	7,669
House Boxes		
Special	1,100	6,373
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,015</b>	<b>17,034</b>

#### BIRTHS

**Naylor Frizzell** To Amy and Daniel, a daughter, Flora Elizabeth, on 13th July, weighing 8 lbs 2 oz . A sister to Charlie.  
 Congratulations from everyone

From the Editor

Dear Readers,  
 We have been late before but never as badly so as this month, for which we apologise. Being a bit late admittedly, just as it was ready for the printers we lost every word into the digital ether. Following failed recovery attempts, this is a hurried reconstruction of the August 2021 Issue.

## LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### HIGHWAYS

Did you know you can report highway faults online?

Potholes Street lights Traffic lights Broken signs

[lancashire.gov.uk/report](https://lancashire.gov.uk/report) or

Call Lancashire County Council Highways on 0300 123 6780

or for out of hours highways emergency call 101

#### HEDGEROW 'ARRY

'Arriet has been delighting in the amount of Meadowsweet decorating our parish hedgerows. This pretty and aromatic perennial was once used by Good Queen Bess to perfume her bed chamber floors. The frothy cream-coloured flowers can be steeped in hot water to make a tea, reputed to have analgesic properties similar to Aspirin. It has been used since Anglo-Saxon times to flavour mead.

Here is some more hedgerow history:

During the Anarchy of the 12<sup>th</sup> Century, for a short spell, our Parish became part of the border between England and Scotland. After the Battle of Clitheroe in June 1138, a Scottish victory allowed the old boundaries of Northumbria and Mercia to be the new international border. One detail of the bloody battle missed by Mel Gibson in his romantic Braveheart account was the fact after our local men were slaughtered, then our women and children were sent off to Carlisle to be sold as slaves.

But before we thwart Nicola Sturgeon at Swanside Bridge, history tells us that our Scottish connection was short-lived: the Battle of the Standard at Northallerton in August 1138 drove the Scottish Army of David I back northwards.

It is wandering our Partish hedgerows betwixt historic Northumbria and the southern Saxon lands that raised a botanical thought: could our hedgerow plants help "Make Mercia Great Again"? One of the fruits of Alfred the Great's educational reforms may have been the Anglo-Saxon medical text: *Bald's Leechbook*. One interesting remedy was an eye salve that used garlic - a hedgerow favourite, mixed with leeks, wine and bile from a cow's stomach. The concoction was to be mixed in a brass bowl and left for 9 days. It is interesting to note that this recipe was replicated in laboratory conditions by a microbiologist at the University of Nottingham. It was found to be effective against the hospital superbug MRSA.

So, it seems our hedgerows and historic heritage may hold a treasury of botanical cures to help alleviate the worrisome modern scourge of antibiotic resistance.

# Festival Bowland in August



## Summer Family Fun

Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership are running two free, family nature events during August. A great chance to explore the local countryside!

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August** sees a traditional boundaries walk, starting from Downham. Discover what a traditional boundary is and have a go at building a drystone wall with child friendly kit. Identify trees within a laid hedge and explore the wildlife that live within these boundaries. Plus, a trail, natural crafts and minibeast hunting.

The following week, on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August**, enjoy a summer landscape walk from Barrowford - spotting wildlife, exploring the senses and discovering hidden views.

Both sessions are aimed at families with children between the ages of four and 12 years old and a parent or carer must accompany youngsters at all times

## Thursday, 2 September

6:30pm **From Noctules to Natterer's: Learn more about Bowland's bats (ONLINE)**  
Booking, which is essential, will open three weeks prior to each event, to allow for any Covid-19 guidelines to be put in place. *(Both events are dependent upon any restrictions which may be in place at the time.)*

For further information, or if you have any questions, contact [PendleHill@ernestcooktrust.org.uk](mailto:PendleHill@ernestcooktrust.org.uk). To book your place go to [www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/the-ernest-cook-trust-33570219027](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/the-ernest-cook-trust-33570219027)  
After booking you will receive all meeting instructions and additional details about location. SS

## ASH DIEBACK

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL is launching a campaign over the summer to raise awareness about the problem of Ash Dieback disease in Lancashire and to inform tree owners of their responsibilities to check and maintain their trees to ensure they are safe. Home and land-owners are encouraged to check their trees and find out more on our web page [www.lancashire.gov.uk/ashdieback](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/ashdieback)

People who want to report a dangerous tree near a highway or footpath can use the Report It tool on the LCC website [www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/)

Downham Estate has an active and mammoth campaign of dealing with it's trees.

Anyone with an Ash tree on their property should check its health this summer to ensure it does not become a danger to themselves or others.

Ash Dieback is a highly destructive disease caused by a fungus which has spread throughout the UK in recent years. It can lead to infected trees shedding branches or limbs, or potentially collapsing as the tree dies.

There is no cure for the disease and it is fatal in the vast majority of cases. Contamination is beyond the point where the spread of infection can be stopped and the disease is now known to be present across 56% of the UK, including 96% of Lancashire.

The LCC website has more information on identifying Ash trees and signs of the disease, permits and licences you may need, and finding a professional to undertake any work. RCA



You will have to imagine a heavenly blue flower or spot a large group of these plants on Pendle Road. A woody herbaceous perennial up to five feet tall native of Europe and best known when cultivated for salads. Away from cultivation plants appear to grow well in poor meadow soil and recently disturbed roadside verges, where, after a very few years they loose the battle with stronger grasses and other more aggressive plants. However the Downham specimens of chicory are well suited to their present position and are increasing, if slowly, for our pleasure..

## News from the archives:

1899,  
Locals came to catch a glimpse of Mozaffar Al-Din The Shah of Persia, travel through Chatburn by train.



## The Shab.

I fear the invention of window blinds did not receive the benediction of those who congregated near Swanside in the hope of seeing the Shah as he passed on his way to Scotland on the 17th. The royal saloon came and went, but alas! his majesty was invisible. The blinds were drawn down. We sincerely sympathise with the disappointed assembly, especially with the fair damsel who after waiting for a considerable time, under shelter of a huge umbrella sorrowfully returned home without seeing even the shadow of the monarch whose advent she had so ardently expected

We must confess we were of a party that went down to the railway to try get a peep at the Shah. One declared he saw him dressed in red! The rest said they saw about a dozen of the Shah's suite in dark uniforms, but whether the Shah was one of them we could not tell; very likely he was not. At all events there was the "Special Train," and the Shah



**THE PARISH CHURCH**

**ARCHDEACON'S THANKS to Church Wardens**

FOLLOWING the Churchwardens' Briefing Events held recently Archdeacon Mark and Archdeacon David want to express their appreciation for the work of our wardens and wish them well in their term of office. The Diocesan webpage Churchwardens' Training/Briefings has also been updated and now contains all the information provided at the events themselves - together in one handy place alongside other useful resources. Meanwhile, the latest edition of Archdeacons' Visitation News. We are committed to reducing the environmental impact of print and paper, so this will only be available online this year. You can print out a copy, or copies, locally if you want. This online magazine contains information about our current period of 'Unlock' updates on Whalley Abbey; information about the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC); about our work 'caring for creation'; how to engage with the various communication channels in the Diocese and much more. Please do have a look – it is of interest to all, not just churchwardens.

**COVID –The Latest**

NOW that the Government has lifted most legal Covid restrictions, it is down to organisations to work out their own way forward as safely as they reasonably can. For the next few weeks the following guidance is given to visitors to St Leonard's.

Face masks should be worn whilst moving around in Church, but can be removed once sitting.

The congregation are recommended to maintain social distancing and hold conversations outside Church, rather than inside.

The congregation will be able to join in hymn singing.

The congregation need not book in advance

The Church will be open to visitors each Wednesday without prior booking.

**Bell problems**

JUST when the ringers were looking forward to making music once more we have found a problem! During zealous cleaning of the rust encrusted frame to one of the bells (prior to re-painting), it has been discovered that the rust was covering a crack right through one leg of said frame. Frustratingly the frame itself is cast iron, so not simple to reweld. Technical experts are head scratching as I write, in order to fix the issue Until it is fixed we must forgo any ringing. RCA

**.THE VILLAGE HALL**

**THE Assheton Arms Team has very kindly run a raffle in aid of the Village Hall repair fund. The fundraising sub committee is very grateful to Andy and Team and reminds us that the fund needs the support of the parish.**

**The correspondence/greeting cards sold in support of the fund are available at the ice-cream shop and the Hope Shop on Castle Street, Clitheroe.**

**EARLY AUTUMN FUNDRAISER**

ADVANC NOTICE—full details next month

GREENDALE VIEW KITCHEN is kindly going to put on a fundraiser for the Village Hall on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September from 6.00 pm it will be Pizza (or alternative) and a drink for £10 with a pay bar after that. £5 per ticket sold will be donated to the Village Hall.

Early reservations will be logged at email

[info@downhamvillage.org.uk](mailto:info@downhamvillage.org.uk)

Full details about tickets next month.

**IN THE GARDEN**

**Roses**

ONE of the blessings from our erratic weather has been the effect it has had on parish garden roses. They look blooming lovely this time of year. Are we a village of banana eaters who use the skins to feed the soil?

One tip to take cuttings uses the humble potato: take a foot long cutting about the girth of a pencil. Strip it of most of its leaves (some say all). Apparently, this works for new, green growth earlier in the year but more woody cuttings can be taken now. Make a similar sized hole in a potato (don't force the cutting in the spud to make the hole as it damages the cell structure of the stalk.

Dip the tip of the rose cutting in rooting hormone (or more naturally, use unpasteurised honey). Place several specimens into a container filled with good draining compost. Keep well-watered. Apparently, the firm tubers form an ideal structure for root formation and will help feed the young rose bush.

Why not give it a go? If the cuttings fail, who knows, you may have a tub of spuds for the autumn! JA

**Virtual Garden Club “show”**

AS this was traditionally the month of the village Garden Show, we welcome a covid-safe tribute to the much-missed Carole Ashworth by posting photos of our favourite blooms and produce on the village Facebook page in place of a physical show in the in the Village Hall. Hopefully things will be more normal in 2022 so we can resume real-life meetings and visits.

In the meantime, stay safe and enjoy your wonderful gardens with family and (double-jabbed?) friends. JA

**August - sun and rain?**

THANKFULLY it did not rain on St Swithin's day this year but nevertheless please remember that August is statistically a time when flash flooding may occur. This may be due to severe thundershowers dropping biblical amounts of rain onto sun-baked soil that reduces natural drainage this time of year.

As a precaution , it is good practice to, check that drain covers are unobstructed and that you have a few sandbags and flood boards ready for peace of mind.

**Mullein**

ONE of the most interesting garden escapees that can be spotted around the village is a fine and colourful plant called mullein (*verbascum thapsus*). Known colloquially as Candleflower because the yellow flowers bud in tall, bright columns that turns to a tight cob of seed heads.

The soft, silky leaves look somewhat like the tobacco plant. The Navajo smoked mullein leaves in their “pipes of peace” and it is reputed to help with asthma and lung congestion. Perhaps this is a dodgy claim akin to those old adverts from the 1950s featuring doctors in white coats recommending their brand of cigarettes that were “kind to the throat”? However, the association with mullein in herbal medicine is longstanding as an oil, tincture and tea.

