

PARISH CALENDAR 2022

EEBRUARY			EVENT	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
6th	Epiphany V	11.15 am	Holy Communion Canon Andy Froud	Mrs P McFall	Mrs D Braithwaite	Mrs B. Lewis Mrs J Shepherd
13th	Epiphany VI	11.15 am	Matins Canon Andy Froud	Mrs K Herron		Mrs J Feibel Mrs A Wallace
17th	Thursday	7.40 pm	WI	Calf's Head	<i>Kathryn Ball Travels in China</i>	
20th	Epiphany VII	11.15 am	Holy Communion Canon Andy Froud	Mrs E Parker	Mr T McLean	Mrs P McFall Mrs M. Roskell
26th	Saturday	From 9.00 am	Lancashire and Westmoreland Hedgelayers	Downham information centre	<i>Bowland leg of National Hedge –laying Grand Prix</i>	
27th	The Transfiguration	11.15 am	Matins Canon Andy Froud	Mrs A Wallace		Mr & Mrs P Mercer
MARCH						
2nd	Ash Wednesday					
5th	Saturday	10.00 am	Tree Planting	Jubilee Barn	<i>Platinum Jubilee Wood</i>	
6th	Lent I	11.15 am	Holy Communion Canon Andy Froud	Mrs B Lewis	NO FLOWERS IN LENT	Mrs S Travis Mrs A Chadwick

THE PARISH CHURCH OF St LEONARD IS MOST GRATEFUL TO THE
INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS
THAT SPONSOR THE PARISH NEWSLETTER
IN FEBRUARY 2022 THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY
The Twiston and Downham Bell Botherers

OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE — Canon Andy Froud
The Vicarage, Church Street, Clitheroe BB7 2DD
01200 423317 —0796 957 6691 —andyfroud@gmail.com

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"**

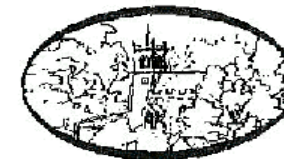
CHURCH RESOURCES

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 2 FEBRUARY

www.downhamvillage.org.uk

From Canon Andy Froud

Dear Friends.

ARE you led by your heart or by your head? I'm not advertising Valentines Day on the 14th of this month by the way (plenty of others will be doing that) I'm looking back on the last two years since the beginning of the covid 19 pandemic and the changes that we have seen over that time.

Remember standing on the doorstep to clap the NHS? That seems a lifetime ago as the government in England resists imposing restrictions which would ease the pressure on the NHS and its workers. The great torrent of support for the NHS which saw so many windows decorated with the NHS logo and rainbows has subsided.

Sentiment is powerful but it is not long-lasting. Passion is strong but may soon subside. But we seem to privilege passion over anything else. Social media drives people into sharply divided tribes driven by loyalty or hatred. And if I had a pound for every time that I have heard a person or business described as being "passionate" about what they do...

But equally we cannot resort to just "using our heads". I loved watching Star Trek as a child and my favourite character was the half-human, half Vulcan science officer, Mr Spock. Spock always struggled with his human heritage but also the distant history of his people who had been fierce warriors but renounced passion in favour of "logic". If I had a pound for every time Spock said "it is not logical"...

Of course we need both. Our rationality and our passions are God-created and God-given and together make us human. Jesus quotes Deuteronomy 6:5 to his questioners when they demand of him what the greatest commandment is "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

Both our hearts and our minds need to be led by God

Yours in Christ

And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

DOWNHAM St. LEONARD FACTS & FIGURES		
	December	2021
Communicants		3308
Collections		
Services	832	6,752
Visitors	-	272
Donations	272	9,301
House Boxes	-	157
Special	-	10,984
Total	1,104	27,466



STAGE 2 DOWNHAM



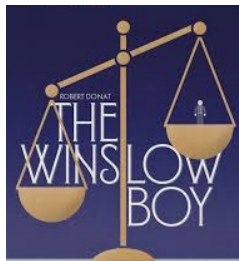
We are very pleased to be able to tell you that the Stage Two drama group are up and running once more! After the last two difficult years we are happy to let you know our plans and look forward to welcoming you back. However, Downham Village Hall is in the process of being renovated so, sadly, we are unable to perform our Spring Production in Downham but we have a new venue!

From Wednesday March 30th until Saturday April 2nd we are inviting you to Hurst Green Village Hall, which is a lovely big venue with a bar and a large car park, to see our production of 'The Winslow Boy' by Terence Rattigan. Set just before the outbreak of The Great War, the play is based on the true story of a teenage cadet who is dismissed from Osborne Naval College after being accused of stealing a five shilling postal order.

The story has great local interest as the boy at its heart was a pupil at Stonyhurst College.

Put the performance dates in your diary – all start at 7.30pm – and booking arrangements will be sent to you shortly.

We are very excited to see you all again so best wishes from all of us at Stage Two.



The hedgelaying grand prix returns to Downham!

THE TRADITIONAL country craft of hedgelaying has been practiced for hundreds of years for the benefit of all that live in the country, people and wildlife alike by mindfully managing hedgerows. In order to preserve the skill for the future, the National Hedgelaying Society organises a nation-wide competition every year from Cornwall to Cumbria involving people from all walks of life along the way.

This year Downham, in conjunction with the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership and the Downham Estate, is once again hosting the Bowland leg of the Lancashire and Westmoreland hedgelaying grandprix and is inviting everyone to join on the day. From seasoned professionals competing to be national champion, to newcomers, novice watchers and willing learners, the ancient skill of hedgelaying is open to all

So, if you are interested in gaining understanding and expert knowledge of the craft, or just wanting to join the friendly festivities, we hope to see you at the Downham information centre on Saturday the 26th of February from 9.00 am.



Hedgelaying under Pendle in 2019



BOWLAND DARK SKIES FESTIVAL



Stargazing and

Scheduled Monuments

A REMINDER that the Bowland Dark Skies Festival will be lighting up February half-term once again this year. Our face-to-face events have proved very popular and are now all fully booked but you can still enjoy some family-friendly fun with our free online sessions.

How about a Live Moon Watch at 7pm on Sunday 13th, or Exploring the Universe with Robots on Monday 14th and Discovering Bowland's Bats on Tuesday 15th – both from 2pm until 3pm.

Full details, including booking links, are on our website at: <https://www.forestofbowland.com/dark-skies-festival-2022>. For more information email sandra.silk@lancashire.gov.uk

For something a bit more down to earth, Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership's Archaeology Co-ordinator, Jess Wight, will be delivering a virtual talk on the evening of Monday 28th February – all about the Scheduled Monuments to be found around Pendle Hill.

Join her to find out what a Scheduled Monument is, why they are important and how they are selected.

Tickets for this free event, which starts at 7pm, are available from the TryBooking website at this link

<https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BKWO>.

For more information email jayne.ashe@lancashire.gov.uk

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CLITHEROE CIVIC SOCIETY

THE NEXT TWO MEETINGS of the Society are listed below. Meetings begin at 7.30 pm and take place at The Assembly Hall (St Michael & St John's Parish Hall) Lowergate, Clitheroe BB7 1AG. No members are welcome at a charge of £3.

7th February Nick Burton
Gandhi's Northern Weekend

In 1931 Gandhi visited Britain to attend the Second Roundtable Conference to discuss the future status of India. He captured the public imagination wherever he went, he visited cotton mill workers in Lancashire – a sensitive visit, given his involvement in the campaign for homespun Indian cotton.

7th March Sally Leeming
The Life and Times of Donald Coates

Donald Coates was a member of a long established Clitheroe family who were drapers on Castle Street. A Clitheroe Grammar School old boy he qualified as a chartered surveyor was involved in St Mary's Church and many organisations including as a Founder member of the Civic Society.



CORONAVIRUS 19 GUIDANCE FOR WORSHIPPERS AT DOWNHAM St LEONARD

THE message is that, although many restrictions to try and limit the spread of Coronavirus have now been lifted nationally, we continue to urge caution so are asking our congregation to continue wearing masks inside Church (other than when singing or standing to read aloud – psalms, Creed), and to observe hand sanitizing and social distancing generally.

Social intercourse after the service has ended must be outside the Church in order that there are no delays in worshippers egressing the building.

The Church Wardens

EDGEROW 'ARRY

SHROVE TUESDAY harks back to a time when folk medicine knew of the need to purge the body. New medical research appears to be rediscovering the vital mechanism of resetting our endocrine systems. This natural rise and fall of our mammalian fat stores - designed to be built up after harvest time and naturally depleted during the "lean quarter" after a period of dark hibernation. This is the circle of life, based on the solar equinoxes and measurable via the "sunshine hormone" - Vitamin D.

It seems a "spring purge" helps with a system reset.

Our hedgerows have a herb that reappears this time of year- the humble cleaver - *Galium aparine* - thought to have links to ancient Brethoinic fairy lore. This is relevant to our parish as we live in the shadow of one of the mighty "Pens" - a faint linguistic reminder of our link to Cambria in the West.

There is a corpus of old medical texts attributed to the *Physicians of Myddfai* of medieval Camarthenshire - a medical tradition, originating in the 13th century that lasted for over 500 years. These herbal healers considered the use of cleavers to be a panacea plant, especially due to their ability to cleanse the lymphatic system. Their original recipe called for the addition of sea salt. Modern studies confirm this helps the adrenal glands produce cortisol.

It makes you wonder what medical marvels are still to be re-discovered along our hedgerows!

Young 'Arrison would like to remind local readers of the RSPB "Big Bird Watch" at .rspb.org.uk.

From the Downham Magazine of 1889 an item about our church bells

THE third day of this month is the anniversary of the first ringing of Great Paul. Our readers may not all remember that when our fourth bell was added to the three old ones, the third bell S. Katherine by name was at the same time "recast." By that is meant that an entirely new bell was substituted in its place. The old S. Katherine, being composed of very good metal was melted down and put into the pot of metal which was subsequently cast as the new bell for St. Paul's London, known as Great Paul. It is, we believe, the largest bell in England that swings. Other bells are larger but they are all fixed.

So our old S. Katherine adds her melodious vibration still, but in a very different place to our quiet Pendle side village.

THE PARISH CHURCH

**Feast of the Transfiguration
27th February 2022**

THE Christian commemoration of the occasion upon which Jesus Christ took three of his disciples, Peter, James, and John, up on a mountain, where Moses and Elijah appeared and Jesus was transfigured, his face and clothes becoming dazzlingly bright (Mark 9:2-13; Matthew 17:1-13; Luke 9:28-36).

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

WE welcome Alan and Katie Herron and Ian and Laura Walton to the church cleaners' list. The PCC is very grateful to all those who participate in the cleaning rota and is always delighted when new volunteers come forward to help to keep St Leonards in good order and a place that is fit for the worship of God and a pleasure to visit..

If anyone out there can spare two hours or thereabouts once every ten weeks our Wardens would be glad to hear from you remembering that the more people who carry out this duty the less frequently it comes round! PM



ASSHETON ARMS

AFTER being in Administration for 18 months, the Estate has at last been able to get back the lease. The deal was eventually agreed in a flurry of activity in late January. The pub will remain closed for the moment as arrangements for its future management and renovations are carried out. Rest assured that it will be open again as soon as possible.

Jubilee Planting - The Queen's Green Canopy

TO mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee a small wood will be planted next month, adjacent to "Jubilee Barn". It is thought that the barn (which on maps from pre 1900 is called Lanehead Barn) was rebuilt for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897. It seems appropriate that a structure that was built to mark the first Diamond Jubilee in British history, should be complimented by an adjoining wood to commemorate the first Platinum Jubilee.

The planting is planned to take place on Saturday 5th March, commencing at 10am with a photograph at 11am. Anyone who would like to take part is very welcome to come along. The tools, training and supervision will be provided by the Ribbles Rivers Trust. It is hoped that a few soldiers (duties permitting) from The Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry (DLOY) will be present, as the wood will also mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of The Queen's Own Yeomanry, of which they now form part.

The trees will all be native broadleaves, with a large proportion of Whitebeam (which has silvery foliage) for Her Majesty and Field Maple (which turn golden in the autumn) for the Yeomanry. RCA

LITTER PICKERS

THANK YOU to all those from Downham, Twiston, Chatburn (and further afield), who diligently pick litter from the road and path sides around the parish. It is gratifying that those who enjoy the peace and beauty of the area are willing to put right the thoughtless and ignorant wrongs of the squalor brigade. RCA



Metal Detectorists have recently discovered a Roman coin hoard near Gisburn. There is a you tube video of the discovery at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tPFaxWRYjB0>



COFFEE CLUB

DEAR Members, We hope you're still interested in meeting up again as soon as a venue can be arranged.

It looks as if the VH won't be available for some time and in the absence of an indoor space, Brian and I considered meeting in our garden, once the weather improves of course. We'd make arrangements for seating, tables and refreshments, also we have toilet facilities on the ground floor.

If you want to give the idea your consideration or have alternative suggestions, please let us know what you think and give us a call on 01200440925 with very best wishes Barbara and Brian

NEW CLOSE BEECH

DURING works to tidy up the walls and hedges near New Close, it became apparent that the lovely old Beech in the field below the house was in a sorry state. Not only was its top dying, but a big branch that was snapped off in a storm a few years ago had let in rot. There were large and ominous fungi sprouting from the trunk near the base. As the tree is right over a public footpath it was decided that it would have to be felled.

Hedgerow trees are always tricky to fell, not least because generations of farmers tended to use trees as fence posts, so wire and nails often lurk unseen beneath the bark! In the event, the problem was not nails, but the extensive amount of rotting, which meant that a gust of wind sent it crashing the wrong way. Thankfully no harm was done and a hazard (though beautiful) has been eliminated. Once the new fences and hedges are planted, replacement trees will added for future generations to enjoy. RCA



27 MEMBERS and one guest met at the Calf's Head Worston on 20th January. Guest speaker was Martin

Wilson from Trawden Pottery, who provided a wonderfully informative talk about types of pottery, their glazes, the history of pottery, handing round items, including a wassail bowl and its traditional history. Then he gave a demonstration on the wheel making it look so very easy inviting members to have a go, which proved to be the start of the laughter, someone mentioned The Ghost film, and singing started!! Several members proved to be natural and will wait to receive the items following firing! I don't think Martin will be quite the same again...he did say he wanted to come to see what the WI did! Members will be attending the Spring Council Meeting at Whites Hotel on Middlebrooke Retail Park in Bolton, where members resolution choice will be taken forward, also guest speaker, Misha Katona MBE, British chef and founder of Mowgli Street Food restaurants. Marion Courtney won the Christmas Quiz, and was presented with a wonderful Christmas Hamper, well done Marion. Members are attending the Clitheroe Operatic Society performance of Kipps next month.

The next coffeecat is at Shackleton's at 10 am on 2nd February, a chance for members to meet up and catch up. A new Craft and Laugh group is forming, with the first meeting to be held on 16 Feb at 7pm at the Mission Room in Worston, open to members and non-members. The Clitheroe Area Show schedule is now available, date and venue to be confirmed. Downham members are looking forward to entering the Craft section.

The speaker for 17 February is Kathryn Ball showing us her travels to China, with a brief story of a Clitheroe Marathon runner, Ann Harwood, and her first ever marathon run, and how she chose China to do it! Guests always welcome, enquiries Diane Poole 07904 111167. Email dianepoole@gmail.com DP