

PARISH CALENDAR 2017						
January			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
1st	Christmas I	11.00 am	Carol Service Revd Andy Froud	Mrs E. Parker		Mrs P. McFall Mrs M. Roskell
2nd	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	<i>Chatburn, Christ Church</i>		
8th	Epiphany I	11.00 am	Matins Revd Brian Whitely	Mrs A Wallace		Lady Clitheroe Mrs A Wallace
11th	Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs B Lewis		
12th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
15th	Epiphany II	11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Brian Whitely	Mrs P McFall		Mrs S Marlow Mrs E Parker
16th	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	<i>Methodist Church Chatburn,</i>		
19th	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall	<i>Tracy Roke Message with Flowers</i>	
22nd	Epiphany III	11.00 am	Matins Revd Ann Hardacre	Mr I Walton		Mr & Mrs H Brown
24th	Tuesday	6.30 pm	VH Management Cttee	Village Hall	Meeting	
25th	Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mr T. McLean		
29th	Epiphany IV	11.00 am	The Assheton Sermon Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mr B Lewis		Mrs S Travis Mrs A Chadwick
30th	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise History Group	<i>Chatburn, Christ Church</i> Village Hall	Downham Banner dot com	
February						
5th	Epiphany V	11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Brian Whitely	Mr T. McLean	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mr & Mrs B Lewis

OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE – Revd Andy Froud - 423317

OUR CHURCH WARDENS

The Hon Ralph Assheton – 440173 Mrs Philippa McFall 441484

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman and Bookings Secretary Mr Shaun Roney—441667

Hon. Secretary The Hon Mrs Ralph Assheton—440173



www.downhamvillage.org.uk



A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON

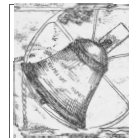
newsletter

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From The Revd Andy Froud



Dear Friends

The word of 2016? Post-truth, according to the Oxford Dictionary. For those of you, who like me, are time-travellers from the twentieth century, apparently this means that "objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief." There is perhaps nothing new to this, as Goebbels understood: keep repeating a lie often enough and people will begin to treat it as if is the truth.

It was perhaps always going to happen - twenty years ago, when I was at college "postmodernism" was all the rage. There was, according to the undergraduates, no objective truth. Truth was entirely dependent on the individual. In America, people talked of "creating their own reality".

But whatever the philosophers may say, we know for ourselves that there are some things which are simply true. Everything living being will one day die. Night follows day. We need to eat and drink to survive. The truth is hard. The Founding Fathers of America claimed that some truths were "self-evident": perhaps there are less self-evident truths than there used to be.

The Bible tells us that "we say that we have no sin then the truth is not in us and we deceive ourselves" (1 John 1:8) The worst kind of deception, in my experience, is self-deception. But I know that I can never be entirely free of it. The good news is that Jesus claimed to be the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6), a claim that Pilate, with his mocking, "postmodern" question "what is truth?" cannot recognise.

My prayer for 2017 is that the may truth set us and the whole world free.

AND I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown". And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

M. Louise Haskins—1908

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES

	NOVEMBER	2016
COMMUNICANTS	49	572
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	178	2,084
VISITORS	45	950
DONATIONS	250	6,452
HOUSE BOXES	-	273
TOTALS	473	9,759

IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS:

PAUL SUTTON and the family of the late Yvonne.
The Family of the late Derek ADDY. Bernard and Carolyn Gethins

ALTAR FLOWERS for 2017

The flower list for the coming year is now displayed at the back of church. If any parishioner would like to contribute and arrange the altar flowers for a particular anniversary, or indeed, for no particular reason other than to make an important contribution to life here, please enter details on the list.



Jason Addy of Brookside writes:

As a young national servicemen in the early 1950s my late father, Derek, became well acquainted with Ribblesdale. As part of his regimental boxing training he cycled along the old A59 from Rochdale to his RAF base at Dishforth

"I remember my father bringing me to Downham many times from the 1970s. Countless picnics on Hare Green created a deep affection for what Derek believed was the loveliest village in the kingdom.

"I have my father to thank for introducing me to common kindnesses and the simple pleasures found in the English countryside. "When speaking with the frequent visitors to our village today I am reminded of my father's outlook on life. Some of the people that wander through Downham today may be our neighbours and part of our community in the years to come

"At my fathers funeral in lieu of flowers, there were donations to Crossroads Care Ribble Valley the local organisation that did so much to make his final few years so comfortable and dignified.

Rip Derek Addy born Rochdale November 1932 died Clitheroe 2016.

SPECTATOR

MY new mantra for 2017 is "Count your Blessings" no matter what happens and whatever life throws at me, I shall utter (either to myself or out loud....so don't be thinking I have started talking to myself) "Linda, count your blessings."
Some friends the other week asked who I would take with me if I was stranded on a desert island. My mind was racing with excitement, ooh, would I take Robert Diniro or Al Pachino? What about Mick Jagger? So many choices. "Who would you take?" I asked and without hesitation she pointed to her husband. What? At first I thought she had taken leave of her senses. Then I realised there was no point taking a possibly egotistical film star that I might not like when really I would want my best friend, Jon. How lucky am I to have found him, got him to marry me (he still doesn't know how that happened!) and have spent the last 22 years together. He is definitely a blessing. We may not be in the best of health but we are doing ok. So what if he does snore, I bet Mick snores and he could have other questionable habits that would drive me up the wall, or the nearest tree. Jon has been tried and tested and yes we fall out sometimes but we know how lucky we are too.

We are still waiting for Lucy's Archie to make an appearance, he doesn't seem very keen to come out and meet us! Poor Lucy is HUGE and I am hoping that Archie is big and that she is not just carrying a lot of water, otherwise, there could be a tsunami heading for Bradford Royal Infirmary! My family, ah, another blessing.

I try not to watch the news, it is so upsetting to see what's happening in the world. We have so much and others have nothing. So I am going to stop moaning and whining about little things and just take a moment each morning before I get out of bed or before I go to sleep to count up my blessings.

HAPPY NEW YEAR to my lovely friends and neighbours. Yet another blessing xxx

Festival Bowland 2017 Starts in Downham!

JOIN us at Downham Village Hall on Saturday 18th February for the first Festival Bowland event of 2017. Keep our feathered friends happy – and bring out your creative side – by making a decorative willow bird feeder with Sally Anne Middleton. Workshops are suitable for adults and families with children 6 years and over and all materials will be provided. The cost is £5 per person and both morning and afternoon sessions available but need to be booked in advance by contacting the Forest of Bowland AONB on 01200 448000 or by emailing sandra.silk@lancashire.gov.uk

SS

Pendle Hill Project Volunteering Activities!

When: 9.30am – 3.30pm on Sunday 8th January

Where: Lower Gazegill Farm, Dancer Lane, Rimington, Clitheroe BB7 4EE

What: Tree planting

Please come prepared for all weather types, with sturdy outdoor boots and suitable outdoor clothing which you don't mind getting muddy and plenty of layers. Please also bring a packed lunch for the day.

For more information please contact Jayne Ashe on 01200 448000 or email jayne.ashe@lancashire.gov.uk.

RIBBLE VALLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2016

Dear Music Lover,

2016 was (and still is) a very intense, productive, exciting and at the same time pretty tough and challenging year for most people. We are living in very turbulent times and it gives us, concert organisers and artists, even deeper reasons to spread positive energy, and to express some gratitude toward all the good that happens to us every day.

Roy, Christine, Barbara and I would like to thank you all for your support throughout the first two years the **Ribble Valley Music Festival** and making it the success it has become

During that time the festival has brought a lot of people together to enjoy music, mark significant occasions, and to raise money for participating churches – a magnificent **£11,076** has been raised.

Sit back and enjoy again some of the events of this year by following link:
[Ribble Valley Music Festival 2016](#)

We shall continue to bring artists to the area, to overcome mobility issues and produce events with innovative content.

In the meantime we thank you for your fabulous support and wish you a **Happy New Year**.

Best wishes Clive - on behalf of all at Ribble Valley Music and all the church teams.



VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR AN HOUR OR SO

Tesco has offered Christian Aid a collection to take place on Friday 27th January at their Clitheroe store.
Please offer an hour or so to help with this.

It is suggested we offer a block of time ie one hour, one and a half hours in the morning, midday or afternoon and leave the organiser to make up a rota then send out the exact times. Please send your offers to Phil Naylor [philip_m_naylor@msn.com]



OUR 2017 calendar captures the unique sense of place of Bowland featuring some wonderful, seasonal landscape, wildlife and farming photographs – we hope you enjoy it! The photographs were all kindly shared by local people and visitors to the area via the AONB website, to view all the images visit:
www.forestofbowland.com/visitorphotogallery

All funds raised from calendar sales will be donated to Champion Bowland a small charity which works to enhance the outstanding landscape of the Forest of Bowland AONB. It does this by raising funds from visitor donations and charitable activity; and these funds are then awarded to local projects which benefit the environment, local communities and visitors. By buying this calendar you are helping Champion Bowland to continue to support local projects. Thank you for your support! £8.50 plus p and p.



THE 2017 ASSHETON SERMON will be preached on Sunday 29th January within the 11.00 am morning prayer service by The Archdeacon of Blackburn, The Ven. Mark Ireland.

The Venerable Mark Ireland, came to Blackburn from All Saints Church in Wellington with St Catherine's Church in Eyton, both in the Diocese of Lichfield.

He knows the Diocese of Blackburn well, having begun his career in ministry here as a Curate at St Gabriel's Church in Blackburn from 1984-1987.

That role was followed by another stint as a Curate at Lancaster Priory (and Chaplain at Lancaster Prison) from 1987-1989 before he was appointed Vicar of Baxenden St John Church near Accrington, where he remained until moving south, in 1997, to Lichfield.



HOW about having some FUN at our next FUNdraising event?

We plan to hold a Ceilidh in the Village Hall on the evening of
Friday 24th February, 2017
to raise much needed funds for both the Parish Church and the Village Hall.

Musicians from the Royal Preston Morris Dancers will lead us
in a great evening that is bound to be a lot of fun.

Tickets are just £10 each
including Supper and a Welcome drink
There will be a cash bar available on the evening.
To reserve your tickets now, please contact Phil Naylor on 441352



THE PCC IS GRATEFUL TO THOSE WHO SPONSOR THE NEWSLETTER
IN JANUARY THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED IN LOVING MEMORY OF
DEREK ADDY

THE PARISH CHURCH

ORGAN APPEAL SUCCESS

WE have done it! After five hectic months of fund raising events, letter writing and generosity from many, we have achieved our goal of raising the entire £20,000+ cost of the new electronic organ. The appeal thermometer has been suitably decorated with balloons to mark the achievement, but will probably have been removed by the time you read this.

The final fund raising event that took us over the finishing line was the Carol singing outside The Assheton Arms just before Christmas. December was also marked by promises of donations from The Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund and a generous Gisburn resident.

Our greatest thanks should probably go to The Church of Christ of Latterday Saints, who have contributed over £7,000 to the Appeal and who provided us with such a memorable evening of joyous music in November. It goes without saying that all the donations, both large and small, helped us reach our target. Therefore, on behalf of the PCC and congregation, a big THANK YOU to everyone who gave their time and/or money.

RCA

CAROL SERVICE

THE annual service of Nine Lessons and Carols takes place in Church at 11am on Sunday 1st January. What better way to start the New Year than to join in singing some well known carols, in order to blow away the cobwebs from New Year's Eve? The service lasts less than an hour. For those who have not heard it, this will be an ideal occasion

RCA

CAROL SINGING

IN A departure from previous practice the Revd Andy Froud and the Church Choir led carol singing on the front of the Assheton Arms on Sunday 18th December. A goodly crowd of parishioners and visitors sang the favourites including a very entertaining rendition of the *Twelve Days of Christmas* expertly conducted by the vicar.

GARDEN CLUB

THE CLUB Christmas Dinner at The Village Hall on Thursday, 2nd December at 7.30 for 8.00 pm. was attended by 35 members. The company, really good menu and very pleasant surroundings enhanced by the colourful seasonal decorations made for a great night out. Nothing had been forgotten by the organiser, (whose innate modesty prevents her from submitting the December Newsletter report) including amusing table decorations in the form of gold trumpets colourful crackers and other delights.

The club is indeed fortunate to have the enthusiasm and energy of Carole Ashworth who does all the hard work in bringing the event to last minute perfection.

Guests made a very generous collection for Crossroads Care Ribble Valley which the committee made up to a round one hundred pounds. The evening ended with an every-ticket-a-winner raffle. Feeling highly satisfied we hibernate till early spring.



CHRISTMAS COFFEE CLUB

OUR December meeting had a very festive feel to it, as we celebrated our 4th Christmas coffee club lunch. Around 30 members enjoyed delicious home made soup with bread rolls, generously provided. by Olive and Dave. We then had a variety of sandwiches followed by mouth-watering cakes and mince pies. Our thanks go to Lady Clitheroe, Molly and Frances, who also adorned the tables with very clever Christmas cracker floral decorations. Our friend Jill Cragg was a very welcome visitor and the atmosphere was really jolly, with the new trimmings and beautiful tree being much admired. Carole Brian and myself really appreciate your continued support and wish everyone a very happy and healthy New Year. We hope to see you all at our next meeting on 12th January from 10.00 am.

BL

DOWNHAM & TWISTON HISTORY GROUP

THE January meeting will take place on Monday 30th at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall. Members of the downhambanner.com group will make a presentation of their progress so far. There will be a discussion about the History Group programme for 2017. New members and visitors, as always, are most welcome.

TM

DOWNHAM & TWISTON HISTORY GROUP

ON November 28th, David Joy gave an enthusiastic and informative presentation on a little-known piece of history: the cowkeepers of Liverpool. When the railways arrived, farmers from the Pennine Dale came up with an ingenious idea. Instead of transporting the milk, which would have soured overnight, they transported the cows on the train, set up shop and shippens on the corner of terraces in Liverpool and proceeded to supply the town with milk from their horse-drawn carts. One such family, the Joys, originated in Hebden, near Grassington, moved to Liverpool in 1861 and continued the tradition into the 1960s. The industry was well regulated, and the cows well looked after, with a diet of grass cuttings, bran, spent grain, molasses and oil cake. The Liverpool and District Cowkeepers organisation played a vital part in maintaining community life and the link to the Dales was kept when the cows returned every so often to calve. The talk was amply illustrated with memorable photos of cows being driven through the streets of Liverpool on their way from the station or to graze on common land. The new techniques of re-fridgeration, pasteurisation and sterilisation marked the end of an era.

JP

Liverpool Cowkeepers

In November, President, Mrs Judith Nixon, welcomed members and guests to the Christmas outing to the Calf's Head, Worston. Everyone enjoyed a delicious three-course meal. Long standing member Molly Roskell received the silver bowl of flowers on the occasion of her 80th Birthday. Entertainment was provided by Matt and Yvonne Pinder. Matt played a range of string instruments, the history of which was explained by his wife, Yvonne. Everyone enjoyed a delightful evening and President, Judith Nixon, thanked Barbara Lewis for planning the evening and Yvonne and Matt Pinder for their knowledgeable musical entertainment.

Members and guests enjoyed a glass of Buck's Fizz as they were welcomed to the December meeting by President, Judith Nixon. The Village Hall looked wonderful, with the new Christmas tree and decorations, the decoration of which was due to members of the Village Hall Committee. There were reports of recent events attended by WI members. Diane Poole talked about a 'Fizzical Fun Taster Day' she had enjoyed. Judith Nixon thanked the members and husbands who had given their time to the weeding and planting of the Village Car Park, the results of which will be on display in March. A group led by Frances Garner had decorated one of the Christmas trees on display at the Christmas Tree Festival, Christ Church, Chatburn.

Speaker Bill Blackledge, talked about keeping indoor Christmas plants fresh and showed members how to plant Christmas baskets. Bill very kindly donated some Christmas baskets as raffle prizes. The raffle was to raise money for the Denman Bursary. Susan Whittaker won the Competition Cup. Many thanks go to Susan for running the Competition Cup for the last few years. Eileen Roberts has now taken on that role. The 'Charity Draw', where money is collected for a local charity, was won by Barbara Lewis for the Pendleside Hospice.

President, Judith Nixon, wished members and guests a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The next meeting will be in the Village Hall on Thursday, 19th January at 7.30 when the speaker will be Tracy Roke talking about 'Message with Flowers'. New members are always welcome.

AK

