

PARISH CALENDAR 2021

JANUARY			EVENT	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
3rd	Christmas II	11.15 am	Holy Communion Rev'd Andy Froud	Mr T McLean	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs D Braithwaite Mrs J Shepherd
6th	Wednesday	Epiphany				
10th	Epiphany I	11.15 am	Matins Rev'd Andy Froud	Mr A Herron		Mr & Mrs P Mercer
17th	Epiphany II	11.15 am	Holy Communion Rev'd Andy Froud	Mrs E Parker		Mrs S Travis Mrs A Chadwick
19th	Tuesday	6.00 pm	Village Hall Management	Zoo,m	Committee Meeting	
24th	Epiphany III	11.15 am	Matins Rev'd Andy Froud	Mrs K Herron		Mr & Mrs C Ennis
31st	Epiphany IV Assheton Sermon	11.15 am	Matins Rev'd Andy Froud Rev'd Mark Williams	Mrs B Lewis	Mr & Mrs B Lewis	Mr & Mrs P Eldridge

FEBRUARY

7th	Epiphany V	11.15 am	Hoy Communion Rev'd Andy Froud	Mrs A Wallace	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Hon Mrs R Assheton Mrs C Naylor
-----	------------	----------	-----------------------------------	---------------	--------------------------	------------------------------------

THE PARISH CHURCH OF St LEONARD IS MOST GRATEFUL TO THE INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS THAT SPONSOR THE PARISH NEWSLETTER IN JANUARY, 2021 THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY BOWLAND BIO-ENERGY

OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE — The Rev'd 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"

**ONLINE 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 1 JANUARY

www.downhamvillage.org.uk

From The Rev'd Andy Froud

Dear Friends

The World Economic Forum believes that COVID 19 gives an opportunity to begin afresh and rebuild the economy sustainably following the pandemic. It was unveiled in May 2020 by Prince Charles and WEF director Klaus Schwab.

They called it the Great Reset and through it hope to improve capitalism by making investments more geared toward mutual progress and focusing more on environmental initiatives.

In response a conspiracy has also rapidly spread, also called the Great Reset, which holds that COVID 19 is deliberately designed and spread by powerful and secretive interests to bring about the New World Order.

Whichever of these you believe (or neither) it seems to me that COVID 19 has shown up how unsustainable how way of living was and the need for us to live differently for the benefit of others and ultimately, God's creation. Although nobody predicted COVID 19 we have had other close calls: Ebola and SARS to name but two of the most famous. Worldwide rapid travel and the destruction of wildlife habitats leading to humans coming into close contact with animals and their diseases made something like COVID 19 emerging more and more likely. And COVID 19 has hit the poorest hardest, while most of us in the Ribble Valley have been spared its worst effects.

Many of the people I have talked to over the last few months have asked: "do I believe that the pandemic is part of God's plan?" I don't believe that suffering, loneliness and death are part of God's plan but I do know that they are part of our earthly existence.

The Christian faith is that not just each new year but each new day and indeed each breath of our lives is the opportunity for our own Great Reset. Forgiveness of sins in Christ is the new beginning which we have been offered through His death and resurrection. Without forgiveness we remain stuck in the past: without the resurrection, death is the winner.

May I wish you every blessing for 2021 and may you share in Christ's risen life

Yours in Christ,

O God,
 who by the leading of a star, manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
 mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith,
 may at last behold your glory face to face;

DOWNHAM St. LEONARD FACTS & FIGURES		
	November	2020
Communicants		201
Collections		
	£	
Services	72	2,842
Visitors	-	123
Donations	272	8,921
House Boxes	-	30
Special	1,871	7,670
Total	2,215	19,686

IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS

Ian Walton Shaun Roney, Harry and Kath Brown and Jon Whitsey.
 and to those with ongoing medical treatments and those shielding.
 The family of the late Leslie Buckle

CHURCH CLEANING

WE HAVE to thank two retiring people from the Church cleaning rota. Di Braithwaite has been a member of this rota since its inception in an earlier millennium. Brian Lewis has been on the rota together with Barbara for over ten years and has not been too well for the last few months. Thank you both for your dedicated service. We are grateful for the efforts of all those who are members of this important group. Downham Parish Church is always welcoming and spic and span.

ALTAR FLOWERS

A LIST hangs at the rear of Church to which all are invited to contribute by entering their name in a date slot where they would be willing to arrange altar flowers. This may be a date which is in memoriam or which commemorates a particular Anniversary. Alternatively you may choose a date and ask that flowers be arranged on your behalf, You may do this by telephoning Church Warden Philippa on 441484



Clitheroe Civic Society

PRESENTS

THE RE-WILDING OF PRIMROSE LODGE

A VIRTUAL PRESENTATION
 BY JACK SPEES
 RIBBLE RIVERS TRUST

Monday 4th January 2021 at 7.30 pm

Civic Society Members & Students Free

Visitors welcome (£3.00) and should arrange access to this presentation by contacting the Treasurer: contact details @

www.clitheroecivicsociety.org.uk

from Monday Tuesday 22nd December – Noon Monday 4th January

www.clitheroecivicsociety.org.uk

Festival Bowland 2021

A YEAR OF DISCOVERY AHEAD!



HERE AT THE AONB we're excited about our brand new Festival Bowland programme, which is full of events exploring the wildlife, landscape and heritage of the Forest of Bowland. We'll be launching the listings later this month – including our "virtual" Dark Skies Festival due in February half term – so keep your eye out for auroras, photography tips, story-telling and more!

But first – why not join the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership team as they get ready for the RSPB's Big Garden Bird Watch? Suitable for families and accompanied children (and best for birding beginners) they'll be sharing lots of tips, plus a mini craft session showing you how to make a bird feeder out of simple household objects. Wednesday 20th January, 5.30pm – 7pm, online. For more information, and to book a place, email Jayne Ashe at jayne.ashe@lancashire.gov.uk

'Edgerow 'Arry

DECEMBER was unseasonably warm at times. As a result, Mother Nature briefly awoke from her wintry slumber: the distinctive vibrant yellow leaves of Forsythia were seen in the village and delicate blossom was also spotted on brambles several months too early.

Before we leave Yuletide, let us hark back a millennia to when Scandinavian settlers farmed the local fells. A favourite drink was a tea made from pine needles – a surprising source of Vitamin C. However, a word of warning: please be careful if foraging for evergreens as the similar looking Yew is deadly. To borrow a warning phrase about fungi – *you can eat any mushroom, but some only once.*

Brexit Passport Twist(on)

INTERNET researchers of historical records from Ealing may have discovered an historic anomaly that could mean Downham was never in the UK or EU. This is because of potential links to the House of Burgundy of the De Lacy family, who held the Honour of Clitheroe at the time of the Hundred Years War. Possibly an area from Twiston to Chatburn was missed from international treaties, including the 1707 Act of Union. Steps may be in place for a passport check at Pimlico.

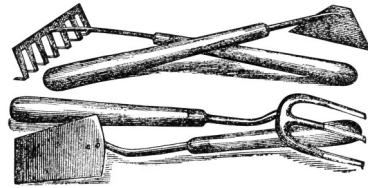
[Sub Ed: That's enough - someone has had far too much Christmas (Alec) Guinness!]



WITCH?

“HUBBY WALKING” REVIEW

FOLLOWING the launch last month of this new social care service, I availed myself the free introductory offer. The risk assessment and Covid arrangements were well organised, though the waiting room could be better described as a toddlers soft-play area, only with the soft bubbles replaced with jagged rubble. The exercise itself was well suited to the individual, with the route carefully selected to provide a safe experience for walkers and sheep. It was definitely worth every penny I paid. I will be using the service again. *Happy of Downham*

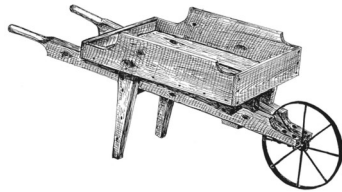


Gardening ideas for January

How about some Covid and post Brexit self-sufficiency? If the Continent gets cut off from Britain, beat the lorry queues by growing your own winter lettuce. There are many hardy types that can be brought-on indoors to maintain a ready supply of “cut and come again” fresh greens: Rocket, Mizuna and Lamb's Cress to name a few.

Now is also the time to plant garlic (although some sticklers insist that Christmas Day was the cut-off point).

Early seed propagating suggestions: Sweet Pea, Basil, Spinach and Iceland Poppies. Strict hygiene measures for pots and tools and not too much heat as this risks “legginess” and “damping off” (fungal disease).



Downham Magazine January 1889

The announcement made by the chairman that he was “glad to say we were going to hear something of the Hand Bell Ringers” was received with great applause, which were renewed as they mounted the platform.

The Downham Hand Bell Ringers practise once a year and perform every Leap Year. Considering therefore that it is four years since they performed and one year since they practised, their performance was highly creditable. After ringing round with various changes, they chimed several tunes, the first of which was somewhat appropriate to the occasion, “Should auld acquaintance be forgot”—which was loudly applauded. They finished up as they left with “Home sweet Home”—(for another four years).

UNWANTED CHRISTMAS TREES

IN A BID to bring some benefit from used Christmas trees after the festivities, Downham and Twiston residents may leave their trees (not plastic ones!), minus all decorations, in the old Wood yard. (The yard is the one bounded by the Rimington Road, Chatburn Road and the “Corona highway”, as you leave Downham heading to Chatburn. The trees (together with those left over from last year) will be used for the stream and river bank restoration projects in 2021 (Covid permitting!) RCA

DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL

THANK YOU from the committee for all the wonderful letters of support that we received to back up our grant application process for the re-opening project (more than 30) and a special mention for all of you who contributed to our video. We have had very positive feedback from the various funding bodies that have received our applications for grants – particularly for the video. On the downside, ongoing inspections are revealing more and more issues around fire safety and other aspects of the fabric of the Hall that will need to be addressed as part of the project.

There will be much more news next month when we will be officially launching our fundraising appeal to the wider community via local press, the website, social media and a crowd-funding platform. We should also know then whether our applications to some of the organisations and charities we have applied to for funding are successful and to what extent. OA

DOWNHAM PRE SCHOOL

WE HOPE you have all had a lovely Christmas and all the best for 2021 - let's hope it's a kind one.

We had to think outside the box to make Christmas special at Downham Preschool this year. We could not use the village hall for our end of term party or nativity performance and there would be no visit from Santa. To make it special for the children we recorded our Nativity onto a dvd and sold them to the parents - it was fantastic even if I say so myself. We couldn't let the children miss out on a visit from Santa so we created a Santa's grotto outside and all the children visited and received a present.

We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas tree in the yard we hope we can now do it every year. We are looking forward to the new year and will fill you in with all our goings on throughout the year. Susan and staff from Preschool. JC

LESLIE BUCKLE 1927—2020

LESLIE was born in Cumbria, the family moved to Hecklin Farm, Downham when he was very young. He was the middle of three brothers a pupil at Downham School and Ribblesdale School Clitheroe. Working on the farm with cattle and sheep he assumed the tenancy of Hecklin and remained there for a whole working lifetime. Sheep and his dogs were his first farming love.

Leslie retired to Clitheroe but kept some land and a small herd of the rare breed Lonk and was an active member of the Lonk Breeders Association. He continued ballroom dancing notably at Tossie village hall and took up carving sheep-horn stick handles.

Well known as the owner of a distinctly coloured Landrover it was a familiar site on Twiston Lane long after he removal to Clitheroe. His nephew David was moved to write a eulogy in verse which was given by Revd Froud at Leslie's funeral. The overflow of people unable to attend the funeral due to restricted numbers paid their respects from the street.

THE PARISH CHURCH



ASSHETON SERMON
Sunday 31st January, 2021 at 11.15 am.

THE Assheton Sermon in memory of Sir Ralph Assheton is to be preached by the Revd Mark Williams who is Rector of the Bowland Benefice.

IN HIS WILL Sir Ralph Assheton of Downham, who died on 30th January, 1680 gave £4 a year towards *“gratifying two able ministers, other than the present incumbents, of Whalley and Downham, onely for the better occasioning of a fuller congregation of people being willing, for the most parte, to heare strangers rather than their owne (though perhaps better). Each of them to preach a sermon upon two severall days, upon the 5th February at Whalley and at Downeham on the day of the month it shall please God to call me from this transitory life, upon one of these texts, Job 19: 25-27 or Coll. 2: 3-4.”* The Downham Texts have been preached in almost equal measure down the years. The Job is “I know that my redeemer liveth” and the Colossians: “When Christ who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory”

THE REV. Mark Williams is the rector of the Bowland Benefice comprising the Parishes of Grindleton, Bolton-by-Bowland and Gisburn. He is resident at the Grindleton Rectory. Mark came to the Bowland Benefice from the post of Team Rector of Worsley, Salford in the Manchester Diocese in November 2019.

He started his working life in Grasmere before teaching RE for 7 years at Pleckgate School, Blackburn. After theological college he was curate and then priest in Barnet, North London, and then came to Burnley as Vicar of St. Mathews with Holy Trinity for eight years, before moving to Worsley.

PLEASE NOTE As far as we can tell numbers will remain restricted on 31st so PLEASE make sure that you, including our regulars, book in with the Hon Secretary or Church Warden.

Sometime ago the Diocese advised that we need to plan for the possibility of people from other parishes wishing to attend our service as their Church is over subscribed. Please, please, please make a positive booking if you want to come to the service. RCA

CHURCH SEATING

IN LIGHT of recent research, it would appear that we can have more than 30 in the congregation (except for the national limit of 30 for funerals). The limit would seem to be how many “family bubbles” can be fitted in, while maintaining 2m spacing between bubbles. We have therefore re-jigged the seats to add a few in the south aisle and by the tower door.

The top number that we can accommodate is however dependant on how big each bubble is. In theory we could fit 13 bubbles of 5, plus 5 bubbles of 2 = 75. In practice we will be closer to half that, as most of the congregation are single or doubles. RCA

FINANCES

ST LEONARD’S financial year coincides with the calendar year, so we will soon know how hard Covid has hit our coffers. The omens are not looking good. Most of our expenses have not disappeared (clergy pay, insurance, heat and repairs), but much of our income over 2020 has vanished (only 1 out of 5 planned weddings took place, no summer concert, no visitor donations).

While it has been a joy to see more people in Church on those Sundays when we have been able to have a service. (We currently average 22, when last year we were nearer 15), these extra worshippers do not make up financially for the normal events and donations from tourists that we could have expected to receive.

Please consider making a donation to St Leonard’s. It is after all an important part of the community which we would all miss (even those who are not practicing Christians).

The Wardens

DECORATIONS

THE illuminated Christmas cross, which has for the last couple of years brightened up the East window of Church, was moved this year to the south side of Church.

It hopefully brought a little seasonal cheer to those coming down Pendle Road, or even those eccentrics who clamber around on Pendle itself after dark! RCA

PILGRIMAGE

2020 was the year of Cathedrals and Pilgrimages. I had planned to walk the newly demarcated pilgrim route between Whalley Abbey and Blackburn

Cathedral, with the Dean of Blackburn, in the spring. Sadly the event had to be called off because our old friend Covid. Once the second “Lockdown” ended we decided to go ahead with the endeavour. The route is about 8 miles long and uses existing public footpaths, pavements, bridleways and the canal towpath. When starting from the Abbey the hardest part of the walk comes almost at once, in the shape of the south flank of Whalley Nab. Thankfully the path avoids the summit and settles down to a gentle walk through some surprisingly quiet and pretty countryside.

On reaching the outskirts of Great Harwood we were startled to have our mid-day path crossed by a scurrying Mole! Our route followed the pavement through the centre of the town, which in more normal times would have provided a chance to stop for a drink or snack.

As you leave Great Harwood the route takes you through the cemetery, before joining a path that soon leads down to the Leeds Liverpool Canal. The tow path (like the bulk of the route) was virtually deserted. It was hard to believe that we were almost in Blackburn, especially when we spied a Kingfisher darting along!

The last leg of the journey peacefully passed behind Whitebirk, Green Bank and Daisyfield, finally leaving the tow path at the impressive Eanham Wharf. The last couple of hundred yards of pavement prior to arrival at the Cathedral were the only “built up” section where our hiking kit (complete with pilgrim’s staves and “Camino de Santiago de Compostella”-esque Scallop shells), felt marginally out of place.

The journey took 3 hours. As long as you time it correctly (or are prepared to wait) you can catch the train to be reunited with your car.

I thoroughly enjoyed the walk and would recommend it, though you do need to take a good map and have stout walking footwear (no need for crampons). There were only two stiles to clamber over. RCA

BURNS NIGHT 2021

AS WITH so many events, the Covid restrictions have made it impossible for a community event in the Village Hall this year. We will celebrate the Bard via the Downham Village Facebook page with photos and clips of previous celebrations together with a weblink to the ABF—The Soldiers’ Charity.

FINAL QUIZ for this year completed.. Susan made a good one yet again, questions presented by Yvonne, we only have minute to answer before next question!! The Whatsapp page is on fire at times the banter is unbelievable the humour even better!! The prizes make it all worthwhile. Members can join in via iPad if they have one instead of mobile phone, just put the number on the group page.

The quiz is having a break until January, but in the meantime members have had a delivery yet again.

Members can continue to join-in Zoom meetings and events up to and over the holiday period, available on Facebook, you tube, live stream from other Federations.

A Christmas card and parcel were taken out to members by some of the committee. The contents can now be revealed as hopefully members will have opened them by now. Firstly, in the lovely specially commissioned Christmas Cards, there was the Fabulous Christmas Quiz, 4 pages long, including a picture round, and answers have to be in by 7th January 2021, when Susan mark and will reveal the winner of a rather splendid hamper!!

The parcel revealed its contents of: A photocopy of the original Constitution signed 100 years ago, in the form of a scroll on paper, and a little Christmas sweet. A lovely Christmas cracker, knitted by our member, Rosemary Norgrove, grateful thanks, with a our specially commissioned chocolate bar inserted.

A printed Ode to Covid 2020, written by Laura Jayne Heyes, a friend, just to keep the events, as they happened all those months ago, for future posterity!! Am sure they will soon be a distant memory!! That completes the series of mementos for the Centenary!!

New members welcome, contact: Diane by email dianepoole1984@gmail.com or 07904 111167 DP

