

## The Whalley Deanery Synod

Parish Representatives: Mrs Diana Wilkins

& Mrs Philippa McFall

Meetings in 2015

### 1. At All Hallows, Mitton. On 18<sup>th</sup> June

**Reflecting on The Parish Questionnaire.** Four themes emerged:

1. Links with schools
2. Flexibility in worship
3. Sharing resources
4. Discipleship

To help identify and clarify our Christian objective the Anglican communion has 5 marks of mission:

1. To proclaim the good news
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform unjust structures in society; to challenge violence and pursue peace
5. To safe guard the integrity of creation and sustain life on earth

### 2. At Mytton Fold hotel on 14<sup>th</sup> September

**The Migrant/ Asylum Crisis, a Christian prospective.**

Dr. Karl Moeller, University of Cumbria, gave a talk based on exegesis of both O.T and N.T texts, pointing to the need for;

- an understanding that all we have is God's gift
- for which we should give thanks
- which should lead to reckless generosity to others.

Discussion followed, finishing with a plenary session.

### 3. At St. Mary Magdalene, Clitheroe. on 28<sup>th</sup> January

**Explanation of Vision 2026 by the Bishop of Burnley.**

Healthy Churches transforming communities.

This was followed by discussion and prayer.

From 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> September the Archbishop of York and many Bishops from across the north of England will come to Lancashire to help parishes with the Vision work. All deaneries will be asked to put on a simple weekend of events for local communities while the bishops are in the Diocese.

Kirsteen Walmsley has kindly agreed to be our Parish Champion.

## From the Parish Registers – 2015

### Holy Baptism

12<sup>th</sup> July Molly Violet daughter of Rebecca and Ross Smith of Brockhall

### Holy Matrimony

24<sup>th</sup> May Benjamin Coates and Danielle Whittaker of Barrowford  
6<sup>th</sup> June Stephen Horrocks and Elizabeth Bloor of Worston  
18<sup>th</sup> /July James Akers and Caitlin Howard of Manchester  
14<sup>th</sup> August Benjamin Laverick and Laura Hind of Burnley  
5<sup>th</sup> September Christopher Morley and Fiona Dundon of Barrowford  
10<sup>th</sup> December James da Cpsta and Emma Cooper of Houghton

### Christian Funerals

22<sup>nd</sup> July Interment of ashes Constance Roberts aged 90 of Brierfield

PARISH CHURCH OF  
ST LEONARD  
DOWNHAM & TWISTON

IN THE UNITED BENEFICE OF  
OF DOWNHAM, ST. LEONARD  
& CHRIST CHURCH CHATBURN



### Priest in Charge

The Revd Andy Froud

The Vicarage, Church Street, Clitheroe

**Hon Secretary and address for correspondence**

Mr T.A. McLean, Ings End, Rimington, Clitheroe BB7 4EH

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2015

### Membership of the PCC – 2015

#### Ex Officio

The Lord Clitheroe DL – **Patron**

#### The Church Wardens

The Hon. Ralph Assheton DL, Mrs Philippa McFall  
**Warden Emeritus** – Mr Norman Lund JP

#### The Deanery Synod Representatives

(elected at the annual meeting 2014 for three years)  
Mrs Diana Wilkins. Mrs Philippa McFall

#### Elected

The Lady Clitheroe	Mr P. Naylor
Mrs B. Lewis	Mrs M. Roskell
Mr B. Lewis (Hon Treasurer)	Mrs K. Walmsley
Mr. T. McLean (Hon Secretary)	Mr J. Whitsey until October
	Mrs J. Whitsey

THE PCC MET FIVE TIMES in the year 2015.

TEN members were elected at the annual meeting; five members sit ex-officio making fifteen members in total.

Attendance at PCC meetings in 2014 averaged eleven members.

Main business items of the Council in the year 2015 were:

1. Arrangements for services and events including:
  - 1.1 Special services, including: the Assheton Sermon, Preacher The Rt Revd Julian Henderson Bishop of Blackburn
  - 1.2 A fundraising concert in June.
  - 1.3 Fund raising Gardens Open event at Downham Hall
  - 1.4 Production of new Guidebook for visitors
2. Membership of the Wider Church through:
  - 2.1. Representation at the Whalley Deanery Synod
  - 2.2. Joint worship with Christ Church, Chatburn and Chatburn Methodist Church and St Mary Magdalene
  - 2.3 Involvement in the Whalley Deanery Fundraising Committee of the Children's Society.
3. Maintenance and Improvement of the Fabric of the Church Building.
  - 3.1. Working party on restoration/replacement of organ
  - 3.2. Safety check on memorial stones
  - 3.3 Project group on conservation of Benevolent Society Banner
  - 3.4 Cleaning Rota
  - 3.5 Storm damage to finial
  - 3.6 Improved outside lighting
4. Stewardship of the Finances of the church including:
  - 4.1 Fundraising including concert and gardens open events
  - 4.2 Production of Christmas Cards for sale
  - 4.3 The disbursement of our Charitable monies.
  - 4.4 Scrutiny of accounts
  - 4.5 Use of Gift Aid.
- 5.. Promotion of Fair Trade and support of Ribble Valley Food Bank

**The Electoral Roll of St Leonard's Church**

Membership at the end of 2014: 41 members

Mrs June Rumfitt moved away

Mrs Anya Wallace joined

Miss Gabrielle Wright joined

Membership at the end of 2015: 42 members

THE fabric of the Church remains basically sound, but there have been frustrations along the way.

On the positive side:

The design, paperwork, permissions and execution of a Memorial plaque for The Hon. Nicholas Assheton, in the south aisle, was carried out.

The exterior lighting was vastly improved thanks to the legacy of Barbara Taylor. John Faraday has done a good job of seamlessly repairing the Church path.

Burnes Electrical have certified that the wiring is up to standard (apart from a few technical issues surrounding extra super duper earthing that is now needed).

On the slightly negative side:

The repair to the roof cross has been held up by insurance glitches, but has not been forgotten (there is a temporary patch to stop the rain getting in).

Sadly a storm early in the year blew over one of the Lime trees in the Church Yard. Thankfully no one was hurt and the damage was limited to the roadside wall. As a result permission was obtained from RVBC to trim all the Church yard trees and Richard Davis scampered through the branches to trim our veterans.

The boiler had an annoying intermittent fault. This was finally tracked down to a loose wire in its bowels and fixed.

Frustratingly progress has been slow with regard to the organ upgrade. Organist James has been diligently spurring the Warden to work faster! Hopefully the meetings, discussions, consultations and form filling are nearly at an end as the Faculty has been applied for. The current plan is to install a digital organ (similar to St James, Clitheroe and Christchurch, Chatburn) next to the existing pipe organ. In this way we keep our beautiful looking antique and retain the option of repairing it in the future (if and when we have a spare £60,000+!), whilst gaining a more versatile and "user friendly" instrument.

Possibly due to the Warden's storm predicting abilities, (but possibly indolence in organisation!) there was no St Leonard's day tidy up in November.

The future of the Downham Banner was thought to be secured in the autumn by a hard fought for Heritage Lottery Grant, but Lancashire County Council cuts to the Museum Service have left the project in a temporary limbo.

To finish on a brighter note. Thank you to Di Braithwaite and the Roskells for their diligent locking and unlocking duties. Without them many people would miss the opportunity to enjoy our Church during the week. Similarly thanks are due to Dan Frizzell for making sure that Downham runs as close to GMT (or BST) as the Victorian technology of our clock will allow! Thank you to all the cleaners, flower donors and arrangers, grass mowers, bell ringers, path gritters etc who are too numerous to mention. You too help to make our Church a beautiful, peaceful and safe place to visit 365 days of the year.

**Sidesmen and Women – 2015**

Mrs. A. Greenhill

Mr B. Lewis

Mrs B. Lewis

Mrs P. McFall

Mr. T.A. McLean

Mrs E. Parker

Mrs D. Wilkins

Mr I Walton

## **THE WEBSITE [www,downnhamvillage.org](http://www.downnhamvillage.org)**

**T**HE Downham Village website continues to take in the region of 500 hits a month, many browsers spend time on the Newsletter and the St. Leonard's pages.

## **THE NEWSLETTER**

**T**HE PARISH Newsletter continues to promote the mission and activities of the Church. It also includes the activities at the Village Hall and other news and items of interest that occur in Downham and Twiston.

The PCC is grateful to the eight distributors who ensure that the Newsletter is delivered to all homes in the parish.

Di Braithwaite (top of Downham) , Jeanie Creedie (middle), Helen Addy (bottom end of Downham), Christine Naylor (West Lane), Tom McLean (Twiston Lane to Ings End), Clare Ashworth (Lowergate), Dave Awbery (Twiston). A number of people who live up long drives get a postal service.

The PCC has been fortunate in receiving sponsorship from the Village Hall Management Committee, clubs, businesses and individuals in 2015 to assist in defraying the production costs of The Newsletter, which, with postage, runs to about £48 a month. The PCC thanks these sponsors.