

CONCERTS

RIBBLE VALLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL

ON SUNDAY 18th June St Leonard's contribution to the Ribble Valley Music Festival was a performance by the Stonebridge String Quartet of Chris Gibbs's work - The Bowland Suite. The composer said how very thrilled he was to hear the suite played in Downham for the first time remembering that one of the movements is entitled Moonlight over Downham. The second half of the programme was a delightful rendition of opera favourites by thirty members of Preston Opera - what a treat,

JOINT FUNDRAISING WITH THE VILLAGE HALL

A CEILIDH in the Village Hall on the evening of Friday 24th February, 2017 raised funds for both the Parish Church and the Village Hall

THE OCTAMERON Singers made a welcome return to Downham on Saturday, 30th September with a Musical Miscellany to suit all tastes. Their programme included songs from the shows, with solos and explanations of the history of each item. Refreshments were served in the interval and the proceeds divided between the Village Hall and St Leonard's Church.

Parish Newsletter

THE Newsletter is published by the PCC monthly, is delivered to every house in the Parish and some copies are sent further afield to friends with a continuing interest. The PCC is grateful that the Newsletter is sponsored by individual members, companies and Village Groups. It continues to advertise and report on events and items of interest as well as promoting the Mission of the Parish Church of St Leonard.

UNITED BENEFICE OF
St PAUL, LOW MOOR, CLITHEROE St MARY MAGDALENE, CLITHEROE
CHRIST CHURCH CHATBURN & St. LEONARD DOWNHAM

**PARISH CHURCH
OF St. LEONARD
DOWNHAM & TWISTON**



NOTICE OF MEETING OF PARISHIONERS & ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

**These meetings will be held on Sunday, 29th April, 2018
at 12.05 p.m. & 12.15 p.m. in Church after Morning Service**

All Parishioners are eligible to attend and will be most welcome

1. MEETING OF PARISHIONERS (THE VESTRY MEETING)

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of Meeting held on 23rd April, 2017
3. Election of the Church Wardens

2. ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd April, 2017
(Available at the meeting)
3. To receive the Annual Report 2017 of the Parish Church
(attached on the following pages)
4. To receive the Audited Accounts for the Year Ending
31st December, 2017 (to be presented at the meeting)
5. Election of the Members of the Parochial Church Council
6. Election of the Sidesmen and women
7. Chairman's Remarks
8. Any other business

**PARISH CHURCH OF
St LEONARD
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**ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR 2017**



Priest in Charge The Revd Andy Froud
Hon Secretary and address for correspondence
Mr T.A. McLean, Ings End, Rimington, Clitheroe BB7 4EH
tommclean2015@gmail.com

Membership of the PCC – 2017

Ex Officio

The Lord Clitheroe – **Patron**

The Church Wardens

The Hon Ralph Assheton, Mrs Philippa McFall, Mr Ian Walton

The Deanery Synod Representatives
(elected at the annual meeting 2014 for three years)
Mrs Philippa McFall

Elected

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

The P.C.C. consults together on matters of general concern and importance to the Parish. The functions of Council are to

- Promote to the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical
- Consider matters of concern to the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest
- Make known and put into effect the provisions of the Diocesan or Deanery synod
- Give advice to the synods
- Raise matters with the synod
- Take responsibility for the financial affairs of the Church
- Take care of the Church fabric and the Church Yard
- Having an ever-open and well-kept Church building

The Finances of the Parish Church

Hon Treasurer Mr Brian Lewis

THE INDEPENDENTLY checked accounts of the PCC for 2017 will be presented at the Annual General Meeting, which will take place in Church on Sunday 29th April 2018.

Thanks to the work of Brian (our treasurer), the finance sub-committee and the generosity of parishioners and visitors, we have managed to reduce the gap between what we spend and what we receive. The taking of a physical collection during services has proved successful. It is hoped that we can build on our “Just Giving” web page for easy use by friends, both near and far. There is more work still to do, but we are moving in the right direction.

RCA

OUR Gift Aid Officer Stephen Wilkins. resigned from the post in February, on moving from the parish. The PCC expressed thanks for Steve's efforts in introducing the various gift aid initiatives from the very early days of the scheme, which began with finance act of 1990. Ian Walton has kindly agreed to take over this function and indicated that he would resign as independent examiner of accounts.

From the Parish Registers – 2017

Holy Baptism -- 3

10 th September	Dolly May daughter of Stuart Pollard and Trudy Ward of Worston
22 nd October	Olivia Karen daughter of Jonathon Walker and Gemma McBride of Clitheroe
22 nd October	Logan Michael son of Kurt Villiers and Gemma McBride of Clitheroe

Holy Matrimony - 7

3 rd March	William Roberts and Michelle Strange of Tottington
6 th May	Michael Barker and Hannah Bowness of Clitheroe
3 rd June	Heather Ruth Dakin and John Hartley of Chatburn
8 th July	Anthony Jones and Rachel Gregory of St Albans
15 th August	James Hardman and Renata Agabiti of Grindleton
2 nd September	John Geoffrey Braithwaite and Gemma Griffiths of Clitheroe
16 th September	Jamie Griffiths and Hannah Rafferty of Chadderton

Interment of Ashes - 1

26 th November	Edwin Jackson late of Chatburn & on the electoral roll of St Leonard
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The Fabric of the Church Building

The Hon. Ralph Assheton, Church Warden

The Quinquennial report on our fabric was received in early spring. There were no critical issues raised. Both the lightening conductor and the bells were inspected during the year and are in a satisfactory state.

Repairs during the year included a number of small broken and cracked window panes, slipped slates, a broken gutter, pointing of some external stonework and worn panels to two doors.

The new electronic organ was augmented with a recording and remote playing device, allowing us to have music even when we have no organist at a service. Mirrors have been installed to allow the organist to see down the aisle.

Thanks to our cleaners, security staff (Di and Molly), clock winder (Dan), mowers (Shaun and Andrew) and all who do numerous tasks, week in and week out. Thank you also to those of you who helped with the St Leonard's Day tidying. Many hands do make for lighter work.

Ringing Report

The Hon. Ralph Assheton Tower Captain

2017 has been another good year, in that we have gained another 4 newcomers to learn to ring. We have rung at a couple of weddings and been to practice at Clitheroe, Chipping, Whalley, Waddington and Accrington. We now have a bigger team (though of course much less experienced) than almost any tower in the Deanery. We have been able to carry out some overdue bell maintenance and generally had a jolly time!

Whalley Deanery Synod

**Parish Representatives
Mrs Philippa McFall and one vacancy**

At St. Peter's Salesbury vocations. The Bishop of Burnley (cancelled) 28th February

At Ribchester Village Hall Eucharist. Elections of officers.
June 15th

At St.James's Clitheroe. Role of Synods. Report from Diocesan Synod. 9th October

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LEONARD

WE, THE PARISHIONERS of Downham and Twiston, aim to serve God in the furtherance of His Kingdom on Earth through effective pastoral ministry

We attempt to achieve this in our contribution to the quality of life in the Parish by:

- Fostering an atmosphere of warm welcome in church
- Use of the liturgy, our material and human resources in a way which enables the whole community, including children, to worship Him
- Showing pastoral care in our neighbourhood
- Sponsorship of, and personal interest in, village activities
- Showing practical concern for mission and need outside our own Parish

The Electoral Roll of St Leonard's Church 2017/18

Membership March 2017 - 37 Members

There was one removal from the Roll in year
Mrs Joyce Jackson – died

There were two additions in year
Mr Anthony Jones and Miss Rachel Gregory

Membership March 2018 - 38 Members

Electors are those qualified to attend and to vote at the annual parochial church meeting where elections take place for Church Wardens, parish representatives for the Deanery Synod and the Parochial Church Council.

A new roll is prepared every six years. Renewals are now due in 2019, 2025 etc.

In the years between renewals, revisions are prepared for presentation in the annual report of the Parish Church.

The Business of the P.C.C.

Mr Tom McLean Hon Secretary

THE PCC MET SEVEN TIMES in the year 2017.

Ten members were elected at the annual meeting; four members sit ex-officio (with ONE vacancy - The second Deanery Synod representative) making thirteen members in total.

Attendance at PCC meetings in 2017 averaged eleven members.

Main business items of the Council in the year 2016 were:

1. Arrangements for services, including:

- 1.1 Continuation of special family services, including Mothering Sunday, Harvest and Christingle.
- 1.2 Arrangements for other special services, including the Assheton Sermon, given on 29th January, 2017 by the Archdeacon of Blackburn, The Venerable Mark Ireland, and Remembrance Sunday
- 1.3 Arrangements for Hymn Singing on the Green with Barnoldswick Band on Whitsun Day.

2. Membership of the Wider Church through:

- 2.1 Representation at the Whalley Deanery Synod
- 2.2 Joint worship with Christ Church and St Mary Magdalene.
- 2.3 Sharing in a team ministry with Chatburn Christ Church and Clitheroe St Mary Magdalene
- 2.4 Consultation about Pastoral reorganisation ,
- 2.5 Vision 2026

3. Maintenance and Improvement of the Fabric of the Church Building.

- 3.1 Provision of recording device for the new organ
- 3.2 Receiving and taking action on The Quinquennial Report
- 3.3 Cleaning Rota

4. Stewardship of the Finances of the church including:

- 4.1 Fundraising including 16th June concert as part of Ribble Valley Music Festival and Octameron Concert on 30th September, arranged in partnership with the Village Hall Committee.
 - 4.2 Christmas card and postcard sales.
 - 4.3 Changes to the method of collection
 - 4.4 Scrutiny of accounts.
 - 4.6 Improved communication with visitors about running costs.
5. Supporting the local Charities, including
 - 5.1 Ribble Valley Food Bank
 - 5.2 The Children's Society

Our Worship

Priest in Charge Revd Andy Froud

I would like to thank everyone who makes the church of St Leonard Downham such a marvellous and unique place to worship. In no particular order, because all have a valuable role to play; our sidesmen and women, our churchwardens, our cleaners and flower arrangers, our talented team of organists, and the clergy who assist when I am unable to be with you and especially the Reverend Anne Hardacre. None of it would function without our Treasurer and Secretary and Parochial Church Council, for whose support I am extremely grateful.

I would also like to thank our Patron who I first met some nine years ago when my appointment to Clitheroe Parish Church was first mooted; at that time it was considered that Clitheroe and Downham made a natural link and that when Canon Rodney Nicholson retired I would become Priest in Charge of Downham. I feel that I am very privileged to serve as your minister here and I hope he has no regrets about his presentation some three years ago.

I am very hopeful that this week we will be able to make an announcement which will give me more opportunities to exercise my ministry in Downham, with the appointment of a new Associate Minister at St Paul's, Low Moor.

The Music

Choir Mistress - Mrs Kirsteen Walmsley

Sadly, due to ill health the choir has often been reduced by 50% in supporting the varying styles of worship and needs of our different clergy this year . As always it has been our pleasure to join in the musical celebrations of weddings, funerals, baptisms and weekly services. Carol Singing again congregated on the Assheton Arms car park with heartily sung carols in near perfect weather conditions – the evening ended fittingly with refreshments of mulled wine.

Our new organ now has the added facility of a recordable sound card meaning that we can have music at services when an organist is unavailable. The system is easy to use and is a growing bank of music and hymns is being accumulated on the sound card. A special mention must go to James Robinson for his additional work with the new organ and sound box. Also a big 'thank you' to our talented pool of organists who provide us with 'live' music whenever possible. In the year we lost the services of Mr John Hampshire who moved away. The thanks of the congregation were conveyed to John at his last service in August, 2017.

There are lots of musical events planned for the coming 12 months – please do ask if you would like to be involved. Thank you all.

Sidesmen and women for the year 2017

Mrs Barbara Lewis
Mr Brian Lewis
Mrs Philippa McFall

Mr Tom Mc Lean
Mrs Eileen Parker
Mrs Anya Wallace

Mr Ian Walton