

## BELLS

### The Hon. Ralph Assheton Tower Captain

WE have not only gained another regular recruit, but almost reached the stage of being able to ring a "method" (the name for a bell ringing tune). This is not something that has been achieved by a Downham team for 50 years!

Frustratingly there is a periodically recurring problem with one of the bells, which we still struggle to find a cause for, let alone a cure.

## RIBBLE VALLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL

### CONCERT 24<sup>th</sup> June 2018

WHAT A beautiful afternoon to hold a Summer concert. The sun shone and Downham looked at its very best. We were entertained in the first half by a superb flautist, Ellen Buller. She is a student at Chetham's School of Music in Manchester and played some very energetic pieces. Ellen was accompanied by Paul Greenhalgh on the electric keyboard. The Burwain singers, a mixed choir, conducted by Peter Young, gave us a wonderful programme in the second half and the audience was very appreciative. The acapella rendition of "Old Pendle" was a joy to listen to. The concert ended with William Blake's "Jerusalem" and the church was filled with the sound of music from the choir and a very enthusiastic audience.

All in all, a fantastic afternoon of first class entertainment. BL

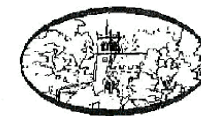
## Parish Newsletter

THE Newsletter is published by the PCC monthly, is delivered to almost every house in the Parish and some copies are sent further afield to friends with a continuing interest in what goes on around here.

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 CHRIST CHURCH CHATBURN & ST. LEONARD DOWNHAM

## PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD DOWNHAM & TWISTON



### MEETING OF PARISHIONERS & ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

**These meetings will be held on Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2019  
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 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2018
3. Election of the Church Wardens

#### 2. ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

##### AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2018
3. To receive the Annual Report 2018 of the Parish Church (attached on the following pages)
4. To receive the Audited Accounts for the Year Ending 31st December, 2018 (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

**ANNUAL REPORT OF  
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
FOR THE YEAR 2018**

**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  
**Hon Secretary and address for correspondence**  
Mr T.A. McLean, Ings End, Rimington, Clitheroe BB7 4EH

**Membership of the PCC – 2018**

**Ex Officio**

The Lord Clitheroe – **Patron**

**The Church Wardens**

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

**The Deanery Synod Representatives  
(elected at the annual meeting 2017 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

**The Finances of the Parish Church**

**Hon Treasurer Mr Brian Lewis**

**T**HE INDEPENDENTLY checked accounts of the PCC for 2018 will be presented at the Annual General Meeting, which will take place in Church on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

**From the Parish Registers – 2018**

**Holy Baptism - 5**

11 <sup>th</sup> February	Grace Emily	Daughter of Simon and Caroline Morris
28 <sup>th</sup> April	Poppy Louise	Daughter of Lee Gagnall and Nichola Thurgrind
17 <sup>th</sup> June	Oscar William	Son of Simon and Trudy Stell
8 <sup>th</sup> July	Daphne Willow	Daughter of Danielle and Benjamin Coates
12 <sup>th</sup> August	Elaine Louise	Daughter of Heather and Benjamin Hartley

**Holy Matrimony – 7**

24 <sup>th</sup> February	Simon Packington and Rebecca Jones of Clitheroe
26 <sup>th</sup> May	Rebecca Ann Fox and Joseph Ormerod of Barnoldswick
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Paul Thornton and Sian Rowlands of Anglesey
28 <sup>th</sup> August	Megan Collins and Thomas Capstick of Burnley
1 <sup>st</sup> September	Scott Andrew Boast and Mollie Faith Gladwin of Blackburn
5 <sup>th</sup> October	Richard Tokeley and Anastasia Bell of Longridge
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Christa Rachael Carnegie and Alexander Silverwood of Clitheroe

**There but Not There**

**1918 - 2018**

TIME was taken to mark the 100-year anniversary of the end of World War One, The church took part in a national initiative called There but Not There. The project aimed to commemorate those who died and to educate all generations, particularly the young on the sacrifices made and heal those veterans currently suffering the physical and mental wounds of their service by raising funds for several military charities.

Rather like the Poppy installation on the Tower of London in 2014, the project created installations across the Nation and St Leonard's took part. For the last one hundred days leading up to the 11<sup>th</sup> November seven silhouette figures appeared in the pews of the Church, to mark those from our Parish who fell in the First World War. Each of the silhouettes had with it a short biography of one of our seven. Many people were moved by the sight of the installation and a number commented in the Visitors' Book..

## The Music

**Choir Mistress - Mrs Kirsteen Walmsley**

IT HAS been fantastic to have our choir back up to full strength this year after a period of sustained illness for several members last. It is a pleasure to join in the musical celebrations of weddings, funerals, baptisms as well as our weekly services. Carol Singing again congregated on the Assheton Arms car park with carols enjoyed by friends old and new – the evening ended fittingly with welcome refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies supplied by our hosts. Christmas festivities continued with the choir joining family and friends at Downham Hall on Christmas Eve and then our 'pop up' choir sung a selection of choral pieces at our 9 lessons and carols service at the end of December. It was lovely to welcome some different faces into the choir for this special occasion – an event we hope to repeat next Christmas.

As always, a big 'thank you' to our talented pool of organists who provide us with 'live' music whenever possible. Please do ask if you would like to be involved in the music at St Leonard's in any way big or small. Thank you all.

## The Fabric of the Church Building

**The Hon. Ralph Assheton, Church Warden**

THE Church remains in basically good repair. During the year a few damaged slates were repaired, LED lights replaced the old and energy inefficient spotlights above the choir. One of the Church notice boards was updated, in line with the Arch-Deacon's recommendation.

In the Church Yard a number of sunken graves were topped up with soil to aid mowing. The stalwart St Leonard's Day volunteers did great work to tidy up the Lime trees, wall ivy and rampant roses.

We are exceedingly lucky to have so many volunteers to help with all the chores that surround the care of our ancient building, its surroundings and its ability to be enjoyed by so many visitors. Thank you to all those who lock and unlock the door and gate daily, wind the clock, mow the grass, clean the interior, arrange the flowers, change the altar frontal, check the boiler oil, keep the boiler going (usually!) and generally demonstrate that the building is loved.

### Sidesmen and women for the year 2018

#### Elected

Mrs Barbara Lewis	Mr Tom Mc Lean
Mr Brian Lewis	Mrs Eileen Parker
Mrs Philippa McFall	Mrs Anya Wallace

Mr Ian Walton

#### Co-opted in Year

Mr A Herron	Mrs K. Herron
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## 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
- Having an ever-open and well-kept Church building

### The Electoral Roll of St Leonard's Church 2018/19

Membership at the end of 2018 - 38 Members

Membership at the renewal of April 2019 - 39 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 PCC MET FIVE TIMES in the year 2018.

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

Attendance at PCC meetings in 2018 averaged eleven members.

Main business items of the Council in the year 2018 were:

1. Arrangements for services, including:
  - 1.1. Continuation of special family services, including Mothering Sunday and Christingle.
  - 1.2 Arrangements for other special services, including the Assheton Sermon, given by the Dean of Blackburn Cathedral, The Very Revd Peter Howell Jones and our Remembrance Day service and other commemorative actions..
2. Membership of the Wider Church through:
  - 2.1. Representation at the Whalley Deanery Synod
  - 2.2. Joint worship within the United Benefice,
  - 2.3 Sharing in a team ministry with Clitheroe St Paul Low Moor, Chatburn Christ Church and Clitheroe St Mary Magdalene
  - 2.4 Mission 2026
3. Maintenance and Improvement of the Fabric of the Church Building.
  - 3.1. Working through the recommendations of the Quinquennial Report
  - 3.2 Cleaning Rota
  - 3.3 St Leonard's tide clean up.
4. Stewardship of the Finances of the church including:
  - 4.1 Fundraising including 24<sup>th</sup> June concert as part of Ribble Valley Music Festival, Christmas and postcard sales. Special events
  - 4.2 The disbursement of our Charitable monies.
  - 4.3 Scrutiny of accounts
5. Supporting the Ribble Valley Food Bank, The Children's Society

WE now officially form a single Benefice of Clitheroe, Chatburn, Downham and Low Moor. What that means in practice is, of course, still being worked out.

St Leonard's is and will continue to be a traditional church: tradition (if I remember my schoolboy Latin correctly) is something which is handed on. The challenge for us is to ensure that traditions are passed onto future generations.

20th May marked the annual (as it now is) Hymn Sing on the Green with Clitheroe Town Band: it was great to enjoy a lovely Sunday afternoon with so many people.

On 4th September Revd Catherine Hale-Heighway was appointed Associate Minister to the Benefice: Catherine has proved to be a marvellous colleague, help and support. Her work is primarily but not entirely in Low Moor and Chatburn. I hope that over the next year many more of you will get to know Catherine as she builds on the tremendous work she is doing. Thanks are also due to Revd Anne Hardacre for her help in leading worship at St Leonard's.

Christmas and Easter have both seen good congregations, although our Midnight Mass was again poorly attended. A high spot many have told me, was the Christingle Service which this year took place on the Sunday morning before Christmas. My profound thanks to Helen who stepped in valiantly at the very last minute to serve as Mary: a lifetime of memories was made in one morning.

We have a wonderful musical tradition at Downham and we give thanks to God for our team of gifted organists and our dedicated choir. Our new organ features a "robot" function which has proved invaluable given the shortage of organists.

We have a prayerful, loyal and devoted congregation here at St Leonard's. Sadly, of course, since the last annual meeting we have lost Jean Whitsey, a member of our PCC and a wonderful, devoted and prayerful servant of this church for many years: she will be missed but also fondly remembered by her many friends in this church.

On a personal note I would like to congratulate Ralph on his appointment as High Sheriff and thank him for asking to serve as his Chaplain - our prayers at this church are with him.

I have valued and enjoyed this year at St Leonard's - I regard myself as truly blessed to be called to worship and serve such a welcoming church.