

After exploring the church, the pupils listened to an explanation of the Banner story by the Revd Andy Froud and Church Wardens Ralph Assheton and Philippa McFall. The Children asked many questions about its purpose and conservation. The vicar, assisted by the children, conducted the box containing the banner from its storage place. It was, he said, something like a funeral after which the Banner would rise again when conserved and be seen and enjoyed by future generations.

Unfortunately, the box could not be opened for a final viewing in Downham before the nine-month conservation programme. Banner steering group member Clare Ashworth explained that it is too fragile and could be further damaged by being opened rolled out and then refurled for transportation.

Head Teacher, Emma Gardiner, said that the Downham Banner group and Chatburn School intend to continue with the Banner project, research into the parable of the Good Samaritan, and the history of friendly societies being included in the school and Church calendar.

The mini banners drawn by the children have been on display in the Church. They have been judged by Caroline Assheton with prizes awarded. You will also be able to see the children's mini-banners at downhambanner.com

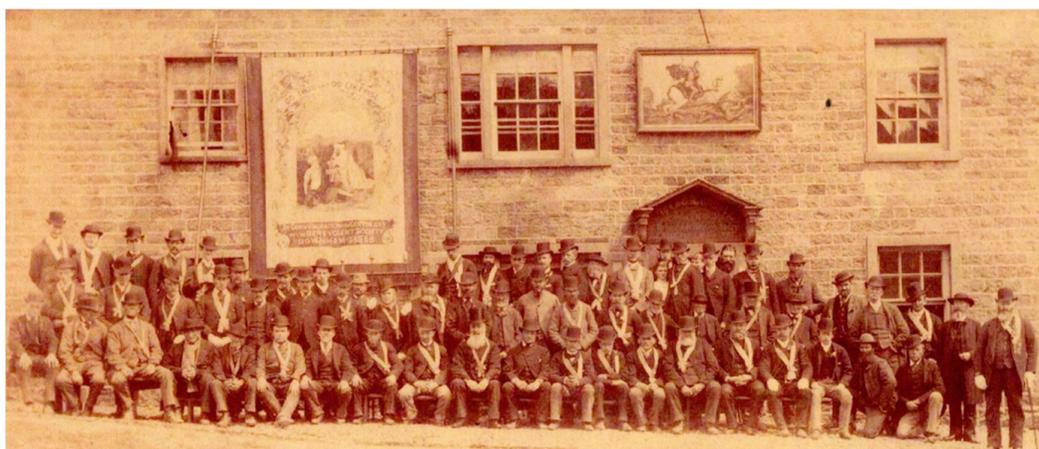
NEW MINI-BANNERS MADE TO MARK MOVE OF OLD DOWNHAM BANNER TO MANCHESTER FOR CONSERVATION

Chatburn School pupils proudly display their mini-banners



The Downham Banner was made in 1885 to commemorate the Centenary of the Downham Benevolent Society. It is a very large Banner, made of silk and is now in need of urgent conservation. Thanks to a generous grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Banner is going to be conserved by The Peoples Museum in Manchester.

To mark the occasion of the 1885 Downham Banner leaving St Leonard's Church, Downham and Twiston, for the last time, the senior year pupils of Chatburn School crossed the road and lined the route. They also made their own mini-banners in the spirit and design of the Downham Banner with the theme "Go thou and do likewise".



downhambanner.com Saving a bit of Lancashire



Chatburn C of E School



Banners

made by Children

at Chatburn

C of E Primary School

as part of their

banner project in

Summer Term 2016

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