

## PARISH CALENDAR 2010

November			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
1st	Monday	7.30 pm	History Group	Village Hall		
4th	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Great Gardens of Europe</i>	
6th	Saturday	10.30 am	St Leonard's Day Tidy	Church		
7th	Trinity XXIII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Mrs E. Parker</b>	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs S Travis Mrs A Chadwick
		10.00 am	Joint Service Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>St Paul Low Moor</b>		
11th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
14th	Remembrance Sunday	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D. Wilkins		Mr & Mrs B. Lewis
		10.50 am	Matins Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs B. Lund		
18th	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall	<i>Graphology—Sylvia Wheatley</i>	
21st	Sunday before Advent	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Chatburn Christ Church</b>	Mr & Mrs J. Jackson	Mrs E. Parker Mrs J. Whitsey
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs P. McFall		
22nd	Monday	7.30 pm	PCC	Downham Hall		
28th	Advent Sunday	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Miss R. Newton		Mr & Mrs J. Whitsey
		11.00 am	Family Service Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs A. Greenhill Mrs B. Lewis		
December						
1st	Wednesday	7.30 pm	History Group	Village Hall		
2nd	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club		<i>Christmas Dinner</i>	
5th	Advent I	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D. Wilkins	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs D. Braithwaite Mrs J. Oldfield
		10.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mr T. McLean		

**OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE** – Canon Rodney Nicholson – 458019

**OUR CHURCH WARDENS**

The Hon Ralph Assheton – 440173 Miss Rachel Newton—429730 Mrs Diana Wilkins – 445250

**VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Chairman and Bookings Secretary** Mr Shaun Roney—441667

**Hon. Secretary** The Hon Mrs Ralph Assheton—440173



[www.downhamvillage.org.uk](http://www.downhamvillage.org.uk)

## PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

### DOWNHAM & TWISTON

# newsletter

2010 Issue 11 November

Remembrance Sunday Service is at 10.50 am.



**From Canon Rodney Nicholson**

**Viewpoint**



REMEMBRANCE Sunday affects us differently. I find it a moving occasion, especially in the light of the huge and unnecessary slaughter of World War I but also the agonies of World War II, endured not only by British people but also by Poles, Jews, Russians, Germans and many others. I think too of the millions affected by conflicts and genocides in the last twenty years. We do well to

remember.

My late father, on the other hand, who served in the army during the last War had no time for Remembrance Sunday. He just wanted to forget about the war, as did my late grandfathers, who served in the Great War. Yes, there was camaraderie in the army but my father would say, "There were some bad types there". He remembered bullying sergeant majors of whom he had no wish to be reminded. But he was no pacifist. He regarded going to war against Hitler as a necessary evil. My grandfathers rejected any lofty ideas about soldiers gallantly laying down their lives. "No one wants to die," my mother's father would say. "You just have to do your duty."

War provides a theatre both for courageous service and downright selfishness. Alongside much self-giving we had a thriving black market. Joe on Dad's Army found ready buyers for "under-the-counter" merchandise which he could always get his hands on. Perceptive novelists like Upton Sinclair and A.J. Cronin had true-to-life characters doing very nicely for themselves out of the war effort.

Today's Armed Services are far more professional than the army leaders of the First World War who shot British soldiers for no other crime than suffering from shell shock. We recognise the professionalism of the present Armed Services and honour the unselfishness of young men and women who take huge risks in Afghanistan to rescue an injured colleague. It would be wonderful, however, if at Remembrance time we had the magnanimity to take Jesus's words seriously and remember the dead of all sides, our former enemies included. And let us too remember the thousands of civilians in Iraq who have regrettably died as the innocent victims of a war for which they were not responsible.

That great Anglican padre and poet of the First World War, nicknamed "Woodbine Willie", wrote the lines from a poem entitled "Waste". Printed on page 2, they have not lost their force.

*Robert N. ...*

“Waste”

From a First World War poem by Geoffrey Studdert-Kennedy

Waste of muscle, waste of brain,  
waste of patience, waste of pain,  
waste of manhood, waste of health,  
waste of beauty, waste of wealth.

Waste of blood, and waste of tears,  
waste of youth’s most precious years,  
waste of ways the saints have trod,  
waste of glory, waste of God, - War!

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES

	SEPTEMBER	2010
COMMUNICANTS	50	470
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	206	1,565
VISITORS	124	829
DONATIONS	200	6,022
HOUSE BOXES	-	232
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>8,648</b>

OUR PRAYERS ARE SAID FOR

Elsie Barker who is now at home from hospital.  
Norman Knowles who has returned home after surgery.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS - HOLY MATRIMONY

Saturday, 23rd October, 2010 Julian Williams and Julie Mary Brown of Whalley.

Valerie Hall

A FEW of us went to visit Val in September and were cheered to find her looking really well and happy. She recognised us and asked questions about Downham and, although still confused, I think she appreciated the company. The staff made us a welcome cuppa and we all agreed that the visit was worthwhile once again. A lift is available when I go again, which will probably be before Christmas. Barbara Lewis, 440925.

Source of the Miners’ Strength

THE world rejoiced at the recent rescue of the Chilean miners from the San Jose mine. Significantly, prayer and faith in God were visibly expressed throughout their ordeal, both by the miners themselves who appointed one of their number as an unofficial chaplain and by the families waiting outside. Chile is a strong Roman Catholic country whose Christian faith was evident. The president of Chile himself unashamedly prayed with the miners’ families. The whole atmosphere is affected when real faith is present. RN

Living gratefully

Canon Rodney Nicholson

KATHLEEN and I interrupted our 10-day holiday in Norfolk recently to attend what proved to be a wonderful and celebratory event – a friend’s memorial and thanksgiving service in York. The friend in question was one Ian Smith, who for many years was area secretary for CMS (Church Mission Society) in the north east. His wife, Carol, was a school friend of Kathleen’s.

We drove to Peterborough then took the train to York. Our return train journey took nearly two hours longer than expected. We could have said, “Awful, what an inconvenience, we deserve a better service than this”. The reason was that necessary repair work being done between Newark and Grantham, so that the train was diverted via Lincoln, Spalding and Sleaford. The electric locomotive had to be replaced by a diesel engine for the diversionary stretch, since the line isn’t electrified, then an electric loco re-connected at Peterborough for the onward journey to London Kings Cross. All this took time.

The good thing was that as we passed through Lincoln we had a fine view of the floodlit cathedral. It is most unlikely we shall ever have this view again, and it was entirely thanks to the repair work. So we can criticise or praise that rail journey. I know which we did.

WHALLEY ABBEY FELLOWSHIP

THE TAPESTRY OF MUSIC

Music for Advent And Christmas

Tickets £10 including wine and mince pies

SUNDAY 28th NOVEMBER at 7.00 pm

In the Great Hall of The Abbey

Tickets from the Abbey Office  
01254 828400  
or  
Abbey Coffee Shop  
01254 828404

WHALLEY ABBEY FELLOWSHIP

COFFEE MORNING

TUESDAY 9th NOVEMBER

10.00 am to 12 noon

Various stalls in the Great Hall of the Abbey with Coffee and Mince Pies

TICKETS £1.50

## Downham's Global Wedding

Canon Nicholson

**G**UESTS flew in from New Zealand, India, North America, Dubai and Egypt to join others from Scotland, London and other parts of the UK, including Worston, for the marriage of Julie Mary Brown (45) and Julian Williams (37) last Saturday. The 150-strong congregation's good spirits were undiminished by their 45-minute wait for the bride, which caused by a problem with the vintage buses. Bell ringers, St Leonard's choir with Adele at the organ and a guest trumpeter for the Trumpet Voluntary made for a jubilant service, after which the guests travelled to Broughton Hall for the reception in hired marquees.

Julie's past career included working for a time as project manager for the Tempest family at Broughton Hall. Most of her working life, however, has been spent in television and, indeed, met Julian, a cameraman, at the Beijing Olympics. Before the wedding Julie was leading a film crew at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi where the cameramen were struck by the poverty of many of the local people and usually gave them their own lunch time sandwiches. Born in Aberdeen, Julie spent her early years in Zambia, then returned to the UK, living for a time, recently, in Worston.

Julian is an Anglo-Indian – a member of that community whose male ancestors married into the Indian aristocracy – but left India as a child after his father's death to be brought up in America by his uncle and aunt. They became his new parents although he kept in close touch with his real mother who stayed in India then came to England. Both "mothers" walked out with Julie's father, John, in the procession after the service.

## Cut Price Fame

Rodney Nicholson

**I** WAS rather sorry to see that Tony Blair's memoirs have already been reduced in price. The book is on special offer at various outlets and has even been on sale for £5, I believe. Surely the prime minister who brokered the Good Friday agreement in Northern Ireland, brought peace to the former Yugoslavia and fought vehemently for poverty-reduction across Africa deserves better than that. His book might have been held at full price for six months at least! But, then, I noticed Margaret Thatcher's "The Downing Street Years" similarly on sale for £3.99 in a charity shop. How quickly today's celebrity becomes yesterday's man or woman, and their achievements barely remembered. The important strut briefly on the stage of history and then are no more.

And yet there are those towering personalities who will ever be remembered for changing the course of the world: men and women of unimpeachable honour, justice and courage like Nelson Mandela, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Aung San Suu Kyi – the Burmese opposition leader and prisoner of conscience. Such people can be remembered at All Saints' tide, as well as the more obvious historic saints.

We too are here for a short time then leave the world as we entered it – naked. Yet if we consciously live our lives trusting the eternal God and seeing him as the beginning and the end, then we have both a vital present and a glorious future. "Your lives are hidden with Christ in God", St Paul says. If we leave God out, everything ultimately is pointless. If we hold fast to God, we can never be losers, there is no wastage and we know the destination to which we are traveling.

## Penguins' warmth

**P**ENGUINS huddle together in a circle to keep themselves warm. After a time, however, the ones on the outside get cold and change places with those on the inside. Perhaps the animals can teach us something about a fairer society.

## SHOEBOXES



**T**HIS is a very special year for Operation Christmas Child, writes Derek Hardacre, being the 20th year of 'Love in a shoebox'. Can we beat last year's combined efforts of Chatburn, Downham and St. Paul's in providing over 200 shoeboxes? Please make the effort to wrap and fill a shoebox or two, between now and November, with gifts for underprivileged children in 18 countries across Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. The shoeboxes may be taken to church or ring 429341 for collection. There are leaflets in church about what and what not to put in and to include money for postage and processing. The final date for pick up is 18th November. RN

## Church Brow hedge and wall

**B**Y THE TIME you read this, work may have already started to repair the roadside wall on Church Brow, leading up to the Village Hall. Sadly there is bound to be some inconvenience over the coming weeks to drivers heading to and from Annel Cross, as some of the work will have to be done from the road. The hedge itself will need to be savagely cut back, and some of the saplings cut down.

Hopefully residents of Church Brow will enjoy the added evening sun, while the rest of us will not have the worry of dodging potential fallen stones. Although the road will not be widened, it will probably feel wider, so beware of speeding drivers! RCA

## St Leonard's Day—Saturday, 6th November

To mark St Leonard's day this year the PCC will be holding a "Jacob's Join Elevenses" in Church. All are welcome to drop in between 10 am and Noon. In addition to sharing some refreshments it is planned to give parishioners a chance to view some of the church's usually hidden documents, books and belongings. RCA

## Commonwealth War Graves Commission

With quiet efficiency the CWGC tends not just those graves in large war cemeteries, but even those scattered through the country church yards, such as ours. Their northern team, based in Manchester, aims to visit every grave every 18 months. Initially a supervisor inspects each grave and is responsible for ordering a new stone should the original be damaged or weathered badly. A few weeks later the team arrive to wash the grave stones, straighten loose ones, or trim back vegetation.



In this way the Commission ensures that every grave is kept smart and safe so that we have no excuse to forget the sacrifice made by our forbears. RCA



**THE PARISH CHURCH**

**FAMILY SERVICE  
Harvest Festival**

**O**N SUNDAY 3rd October, the parish thanksgiving for the harvest was conducted by Canon Rodney Nicholson, at 11.00 am. Our offerings on the day were donated to the Bishop's Harvest Appeal, this year for development work in Zimbabwe and Pakistan. Our harvest gifts were for the Blackburn Churches' Asylum Seekers project.

As ever, this thanksgiving for our food and other gifts from God, was held in a beautifully decorated church, with music led by the choir and organist Adele. It was a typical and traditional village event which singles out our community from the ordinary.

**UNITED SERVICE**

**W**E JOIN the congregations of Chatburn and Low Moor at St Paul's on 7th November, at 10.00 am, when Bishop Geoff, Bishop of Lancaster, will preach and bless the re-ordered church.

Following last year's £100,000 repair scheme, which was paid for by the sale to the diocese of the parish hall, the church interior has now been re-ordered. Part of the north aisle has been screened off to provide a kitchen, meeting room and toilets, the font has been moved to the front of church and the rear half of the building cleared of pews, replaced by a few coffee tables and chairs, to provide an open area.



averaging nearly £1,000 each. The 10.00 am United Communion service will be followed by bacon rolls.

The £70,000 cost of the scheme has been mainly met by church members, making donations

**VILLAGE HALL  
MANAGAEMENT COMMITTEE**

**T**HE VILLAGE, and Village Hall Committee is once again grateful to Olive Awbery for her great grant application skills. We have recently heard that the Committee has been awarded, from the Lancashire Environment Fund, a further grant to finalise their programme of modernisation. On this occasion the investment is to complete the work in the kitchen. Mostly for equipment and installation costs, the grant will make a great difference to the quality of the hall and to users who cater for their members and guests—not to mention our own very successful and popular cookery club.

**GARDEN CLUB**

THE CLUB'S October meeting was its behind-the-scenes visit to Colne Hippodrome. Members were given warm welcome and a drink at the bar where our guide was introduced. We were filled-in on the history of the theatre.



The tour itself lasted over an hour and many questions were answered. We visited everywhere from the box office to the stage door and beyond taking in the lighting and sound department, dressing rooms, wardrobe and props departments, and all areas in between. On our return to the bar we were served with a supper of pie and peas and a brew.

Our 4<sup>th</sup> November meeting at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall is a slide show and talk on the Gardens of Europe.

**STAGE 2 DOWNHAM**



**UNFORTUNATELY there will be no Autumn production this year. The next play will be staged in April, 2011.**

**COOKERY CLUB**

**P**LEASE note the slightly later time for the next demonstration: 7.00 pm on Monday, 29th November at the Village Hall.



Stephanie is consultant chef to Rudding Park and a number of other top hotels. She has kindly agreed to do the demonstration for us for the usual paltry fee - probably and mostly because lovely Betty Mercer who lives in Downham is her granny!

She is to show us a pork assiette which sounds really fantastic with a combination of a rolled stuffed loin, pork belly square and other fab. bits and pieces and there'll be some veg too, of course. The pudding will be a Baileys Hazelnut Pavlova with Mulled fruit sauce.

Do please let Olivia know if you will be able to make it and it will be possible to have more or less vegetarian options as needed. OA

**COFFEE CLUB**

**M**OST of the regulars turned up for the October meeting some bearing very welcome gifts of delicious cakes and buns, which were really appreciated. It was lovely to have Elsie back with us, looking much better and we all wish her well. Thanks again for your help and support and I'll look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting on Thursday November 11th at 10.00 am. BL.



**WI**

**A**T THE Annual General Meeting of Downham W.I., secretary Julie Parker outlined the many events attended by members during the past year. The ninetieth year since Downham W.I. was founded has been a busy and successful year, members celebrating at Mytton Fold Hotel, attending Denman College and many other events. We received a cup for the most entries from a small W.I. at the Clitheroe Area Show, and George Taylor, aged eight, was presented with the Children's Cup at the meeting.



Thanks were extended to Eileen Parker, the retiring President, who has steered us through the past year, Olive Awbery who has helped to acquire grants for Denman College courses, Shaun Roney for organising the meeting hall for us, and the many others who have contributed to the past enjoyable year.

**COMMITTEE**

The following were elected to the Committee: Julie Parker (President) Christine Newhouse (Secretary) Marion Courtney, Elizabeth Wrigley, Anne Sharp, Pam Titterington, Andrea Kay, Rosemary Norgrove, Susan Whittaker, Frances Garner and Barbara Lewis.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 18th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall when Sylvia Wheatley will explain the history and interpretation of handwriting. New members are always made welcome.

**DOWNHAM & TWISTON HISTORY GROUP**

**A**T OUR 4th October meeting we watched a DVD about Mormon history in Lancashire, taking their story from the first preaching and conversions in Preston in 1837 and following their journey along the Ribble Valley to Downham where several families emigrated to America in the late 1830s and 1840s. The DVD is part of a set on Mormon history – anyone wishing to borrow - contact Elizabeth Wrigley on 01200 423005.

The next meeting will be on Monday 1st November at 7.30pm in Downham Village Hall [lower room]. Early warning is given of the December meeting which will be on WEDNESDAY 1st at 7.30 pm. EW

