

PARISH CALENDAR 2010					
October		Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
2nd	Saturday	2.00 pm	Decorate Church		<i>For Harvest Festival</i>
3rd	Trinity XVIII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Chatburn Christ Church</b>	Mrs P. McFall Mrs M. Roskell
		11.00 am	Family Service Harvest Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs A. Greenhill Mrs B. Lewis	
4th	Monday	7.30 pm	History Group	Village Hall	
7th	Thursday	pm	Garden Club	Visit	<i>Colne Theatre</i>
10th	Trinity XIX	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D. Wilkins	Mrs G Cragg Mrs K Brown
		11.00 am	Matins Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs B. Lund	
14th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall	
17th	Trinity XX	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Chatburn Christ Church</b>	Mrs C. McGrath
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mrs P. McFall	
21st	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall	<i>AGM</i>
23rd	Saturday	8.00 pm	Play The Storeroom	Village Hall	<i>Touring Company The Kosh</i>
24th	Trinity XXI	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Miss R. Newton	Lady Clitheroe Mrs C. Ashworth
		11.00 am	Matins Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs P. McFall	
30th	Trinity XXII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Chatburn Christ Church</b>	Mrs S Marlow Mrs J Aspinall
		11.00 am	Family Service Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs A. Greenhill Mrs B. Lewis	
<b>November</b>					
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	Mrs D. Wilkins	Lord & Lady Clitheroe
		10.00 am	United Service Bishop Geoff	<b>St Paul Low Moor</b>	

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

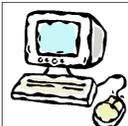
**OUR CHURCH WARDENS**

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 10 October



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

**From Canon Rodney Nicholson**

**Viewpoint**



THE POPE'S visit seems to have gone well with bigger than expected numbers at the open air events and a positive response from political leaders. The Prime Minister, accepting the Pontiff's warning of aggressive secularism, said, "Faith is part of the fabric of our country. It always has been and it always will be." Those words deserve

repeating. Many of us claim to like tradition, whether it is roast beef for Sunday lunch or "Here comes the Bride" at a wedding, but British tradition is inseparable from the Christian faith, and that includes attending worship in church. "Land of hope and glory" may sound good, but if we ignore the legacy of the saints from Ireland and Italy who brought us the gospel of salvation, then we become "Land of drift and gloom". Christianity and no other faith or non-belief lies at the heart of what is uniquely British and Western European.

The difficulty lies in what exactly the Pope means by aggressive secularism. Is he referring to the stories of officials not being allowed to wear a cross? These are a little dated now, and in any case we need to be sure of the exact circumstances surrounding an alleged ban. Nurses, for example, should not be wearing a cross – for safety and for health reasons. Is the Pope referring to birth control – an issue over which only 4% of British Roman Catholics, according to an ITV poll, share his views? Is he alluding to his strong line on homosexual life-style over which, again, the vast majority of the population does not agree with the Holy Father? If, by aggressive secularism, the Pope means these sorts of issues, then nothing is going to change. People will be attracted to him as a holy, learned and warm-hearted man but very few will let his views interfere with the running of their lives.

We can hope and pray, however, that Pope Benedict's visit will have made an impact for good on our country. This requires individuals to personalise David Cameron's words by making faith the fabric of their own lives. St Paul urges us to "to live in Christ, rooted and built up in him". As we turn then from the Pope to Christ himself, we have a Lord who would lovingly draw us to himself in whom, in Cardinal John Henry Newman's immortal words, we have "God's presence and his very self, and essence all-divine".

*Robert N. ...*

**O** GOD, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee; Mercifully grant, that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

#### ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES

	AUGUST	2010
<b>COMMUNICANTS</b>	63	420
<b>COLLECTIONS</b>	£	£
SERVICES	300	1,360
VISITORS	185	706
DONATIONS	200	5,822
HOUSE BOXES	61	232
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>8,120</b>

#### OUR PRAYERS ARE SAID FOR

**Elsie Barker** who has been in hospital since early September.

#### WELCOME

To **Tony and Jan Catlow** who are the new tenants at West Barn, Brownlow, Twiston. They have moved back to Lancashire from Cyprus.

#### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

##### BLESSING

**11th September.**

On the Marriage of **David and Laura Alejandro Medina** which took place in Mexico in May.

#### OUR CONGRATULATIONS

**Norman and Sheila Knowles** who celebrated their Golden Wedding on Friday, 17th September with an open house in the afternoon.

To **Rebecca Hoch** (Ne Nixon, formerly of The Manor House, Twiston), and husband **Rev Dr. Robert Hoch**, a son **Gabriel Edward**, born on August 29th in USA - a brother to Gwendoline and Imogen.

#### Brave words need brave actions

**Rodney Nicholson**

**I**T IS much easier to sing brave words than to match them with brave actions. For example, I chose a hymn version of Psalm 46 the other week, sung to the Dambusters' tune, which runs, "And we therefore will not fear, though the earth be moved". Most of us, I suspect, would be distinctly uneasy if Pendle Hill went for a walk. Again, choirs, congregations and soloists sing, "Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand, till we have built Jerusalem...." It's easy to voice the sentiments, but how many of us actually have a restless sword in our hands, as we struggle for social justice. But that is what Blake's Jerusalem is about.

"Onward Christian soldiers" goes well to Sullivan's stirring tune, but how true is it? I could suggest several descriptions a typical congregation: good people, people willing to learn, people glad to welcome others. I don't think "soldiers marching as to war" would be the first description to enter my mind. As the writer and broadcaster, John Bell once said, Jesus did not call us soldiers, but friends. Disciples is another term used by Jesus, but not soldiers.

One man who has done a lot of fighting and campaigning for freedom and justice, working a 100-hour week and bearing personal injuries for his troubles is Peter Tatchell. He even rugby-tackled the evil Robert Mugabe. Tatchell is passionate about human dignity, feeling deeply for those under oppression. He may not be a Christian but he is close to the kingdom of God.

#### DOWNHAM & TWISTON TIME BANK

**F**OLLOWING our meeting on 7th September at the Assheton Arms, we're sending out another Time Bank leaflet including the new offers and changes discussed at the meeting. Please discard the pink version and replace with this one.

You'll notice on the new leaflet that Mark Credie is offering help with small removals and offering a rock climbing experience at Witch's Quarry on Pendle Hill. He's happy to take your visitors too.

Mark (a fireman) has also provided details of the free Home Fire Safety Check offered by Lancashire Fire Service. They will customise the advice to your home and fit free smoke detectors. Ring freephone 0800 1691125

We are hoping to develop the Babysitting side of the Time Bank. If any one would like to offer baby sitting please get in touch. Sue Hinder 01200 440912 Sue Hinder

#### St Leonard's Church

##### Care of the Building and Church Yard

**Grave stone safety** arising from the six-monthly inspection of March, 2010, two stones had been repaired and the September Topple Testing showed that all were secure.

**Pointing** The area around St Leonard's window had been investigated for long-standing damp and no significant level was found. It is feared that the discolouration may be due to earlier applications of silicone.

**Roof** New guttering will be needed on south aisle at the join between the aisle and the nave roof and some pointing round the boiler chimney is also indicated.

##### 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

## WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS—Essential Information

**T**HE PCC is to produce a Leaflet for new people who move into the Parish. It is intended to say Welcome and to answer immediate questions which arise at a time when we can feel a bit confused about what is available, particularly in emergency. One newly arrived person recently anxiously rang round for information about a chimney sweep; not perhaps, the first thing that those of us who have been around for a few years would think of.

The leaflet is not intended to be all-embracing nor to be seen as containing PCC-backed recommendations—dangerous territory that! It does, incidentally, demonstrate the huge range of services available from within our own community as well as some of the shortfalls for which we have to go further afield. There are some gaps; who do you get for electrical maintenance? Who knows a window cleaner who works here?

A draft copy is enclosed for the information of all. Would you please read it and let the editor know of any inaccuracies, additions or deletions which you would want or would find useful if you were coming here for the first time. Thanks for your help. Hon Secretary PCC. tom@ingsend.co.uk.

## CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COFFEE MORNING AT DOWNHAM MILL

**O**N A VERY pleasant Thursday morning in early September there was a general invitation to Downham Mill to a Coffee Morning in aid of the Children's Society.

This event was very well supported by Downham and Twiston and from Clitheroe and further afield. Coffee was served with a super selection of cakes, there was also a raffle and bring-and-buy. All this resulted in a healthy £160 being donated to the Children's Society. This is the second year in which a week has been designated by the Society for a giant coffee morning and Philippa volunteered to be one of the hosts for the Whalley Deanery response this year: she has sent the Newsletter a thank you to all who supported the morning and to the helpers.

## SILVERWOODS & CROSSROADS

**T**HANKS to everyone, including those from Downham and Twiston, who supported the charity valuation held in aid of Crossroads Care Ribble Valley on 20th September, the event raised £650.

Crossroads Care is still supporting about one hundred Ribble Valley families in a year so that carers may have short breaks or help with the care and support they give to family members with long term health needs or disabilities. This enables carers to have a well-earned rest or to have time to attend an appointment or pursue interest, do the shopping or visit friends. "We are extremely grateful for the help which our volunteers, Trustees and local businesses give us in providing this service to Carers", says Crossroads Care President, Lady Clitheroe.

## RIBBLE VALLEY CORE STRATEGY

**A** public meeting to discuss the above will be taking place in Gisburn Festival Hall at 7pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October. This concerns the number of houses to be built, and other developments, to be allowed over the next 15 years. This is your chance to have a say in the future of the Ribble Valley as a whole.

## From Rodney Nicholson

### Chance visitors

**Y**OU never know whom you might meet on a week day in St Leonard's church. One Thursday afternoon in August I called in briefly to check the registers and almost immediately was joined by young Helen Assheton and a friend. Always cheerful and friendly, Helen brought her friend into church, and we enjoyed a few minutes' chat. No sooner had they gone than I walked Nigel Evans and a young lady to whom he was showing the delights of the Ribble Valley. Regardless of one's political persuasion, most people would agree that Nigel is a good constituency MP and it was pleasurable to tell him and his guest a little about Downham's church.

The other Sunday at St Paul's, one of the older ladies asked, after the service, what was wrong with Nigel Evans. My wife Kathleen, who was next to her, said "Nothing, as far as I know". "But we prayed for him in the service," the lady insisted. The penny suddenly dropped with the lady's husband, who was listening to all this. "No," he corrected her, "Johanna (the person leading the prayers) said, 'We remember nine-eleven'". "9-11" had apparently sounded like "Nigel Evans".

### 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.

## DOWNHAM PARISH MEETING

**Diana Braithwaite**

**T**HIS WAS held on 21st September 2010 in the Village hall to avoid transporting "grown up" chairs to and from the Pre School.

The Hon R.C. Assheton was re elected as Chairman and Mrs. D.M. Braithwaite as clerk.

A dog waste bin provided by RVBC is to be installed on Hare Green, handy for both villagers and visitors.

Congratulations to 12 year old Ted for filming speeding cars on his mobile 'phone and taking the evidence to the police, the culprits have been spoken to by the police.

The street lights have been adjusted to dim from midnight.

Road culverts and ditches by Chestnuts and the cricket field have been adjusted to hopefully stop flooding issues.

Councillor Gary Scott informed the meeting the Clitheroe Hospital extension is likely to be postponed. Also for the Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in 2012, restrictions will be eased as part of the big society to allow street parties etc.

After the many local break-ins, night and early morning patrols are to be increased by the police.

**THE PARISH CHURCH**

**From Mexico to Downham**

**G**UESTS from Mexico and Spain joined others from various parts of the country, from the south of England to Twiston, for the marriage blessing of David and Laura Alejandro Medina last month. The couple were married at a Roman Catholic church in David's home country of Mexico in May but chose St Leonard's for the service of blessing, which most of their English friends could attend. Laura values her family associations with Downham, and the guests certainly enjoyed their visit to our beautiful village.

The St Leonard's choir turned out in force so that, except for there being no signing of registers and with a few words changed, the service was little different from a usual marriage service. RN

**FAMILY SERVICE Harvest Festival**

**W**E celebrate Harvest with a family service on October 10<sup>th</sup> at 11am. Money gifts will be received for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal which, this year, is for development work in Zimbabwe and Pakistan. In Zimbabe the appeal supports a Christian Aid partner in a project to conserve water. In Bangladesh the appeal helps a local agricultural project, constructing "floating gardens" for growing vegetables. Gifts can be gift-aided.

Gifts are also requested for the Blackburn Churches' Asylum Seeker project, who are grateful for: Tuna, sweetcorn, tinned tomatoes, oil, sugar, tea, coffee, pasta, Basmati rice, tins chick peas, tins fruit, condensed milk, evaporated milk, bread to freeze, UHT milk, noodles. Not wanted, please: tins of potatoes or carrots or peas or soup, or pot noodles. RN

**HISTORY GROUP**

**O**UR next meeting will be on Monday, 4th October at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. The topics are Mormon History and Church Centenary. All welcome. EW

**UNITED SERVICE**

**W**E JOIN the congregations of Chatburn and Low Moor at St Paul's on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 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. The £70,000 cost of the scheme has been mainly met by church members, making donations averaging nearly £1,000 each. The 10.00 am United Communion service will be followed by bacon rolls. RN

**GARDEN CLUB**

**S**EPTEMBER'S meeting took the form of a guided "Walk around Downham". Elizabeth Wrigley, recovered well from her recent hip operation, drew substantially on her book of that name (available from the post office at a reasonable charge). In the space of 90 minutes we heard about events from Roman times to the present. Always very careful to distinguish between proper History with verifiable evidence and anecdote, Elizabeth talked about roads, cottages, church, pub, Post Office, school and many more buildings and about the Cotton Weaving industry as well as population changes. She told us about villagers from stories she had heard at first hand from her Mother and others.



Members repaired to the Village Hall for supper provided by Carol and helpers and for a glass of wine very kindly provided by the Chairman of the club, Shaun.

The next meeting is our behind the scenes trip to Colne Hippodrome. We meet at Downham Bridge at 6.45 pm on 7th October to share transport. CA

**COOKERY CLUB**

**P**AUL SUTTON from the Black Bull in Rimington did an amazing and mouth watering demonstration for twenty members of the club and provided a delicious supper, some of which he had prepared earlier. Starting at 6.00 pm on Monday 13th September, members were shown how to make Rustic Bread and a sea-food risotto and pear desert. Club members had chance to sample as the demonstration went along and ample time to ask Paul questions about the meal shown and to glean other cookery tips.



We are fortunate to have a very good setting in that the Village Hall Kitchen has space for a good size class and a useful arrangement of table, sinks and cookers. The hatchway leads into the small meeting room which makes a very comfortable dining room. The next demonstration will be communicated by email if it is to take place before the December Newsletter is published. Anyone not on the mailing list please let Olivia know.

OA

**COFFEE CLUB**

**T**here was the usual jolly atmosphere at the September coffee club despite the absence of a few regulars. We enjoyed delicious cakes provided as usual by some of our members. Our thanks go to June who ran the bring and buy "solo" as Edith couldn't be there.



I really appreciate everyones support and i've thoroughly enjoyed myself. I know that Olive and Dave are very grateful too. Lets hope that it won't be long before Olive is fully recovered and she and Dave can take their usual place in "the kitchen" once again.

Next coffee club is on the 14th October at 10'clock.

**WI**

**P**AT Ascroft, International Cyclist, Tall Ships Sailor, Walking Guide, World Explorer, Farmer's Wife, mother of four, and WI member was the speaker at the September meeting attended by both members and visitors. In order to raise money for charity, Pat has taken part in many adventures, always ready for a new challenge and hardly ever at home. She described her holiday cottage in Argyll, the animals and birds that live nearby, and her love of Scotland. An inspirational speaker, she made many of us feel that we should live a fuller life than we do. Her adventures give Pat much personal enjoyment as well as helping other people with her charity donations, which have run to many thousands of pounds so far.

She congratulated Downham WI on its achieving ninety years as an Institute and reminded us that the last time she visited Downham, she went straight off to Delhi for yet another adventure, once again in assistance of others.

The next meeting will be held on 21st October, which will be the Annual General Meeting. JN

**CRIME**

**A**FTER the recent spate of theft and damage in Downham and the surrounding parishes, the Police are stepping up their patrols in the area. Please remember that in addition to locking doors and windows when you go out, you should secure such things as ladders and tools. A recent break-in in the village using a sledge hammer from the garden, was followed by another using the same hammer. For advice on crime prevention call Clitheroe Police on 443344.

**VEG**

**T**HE Village Entertainment Group has booked the traveling company "The Kosh" for a performance of their thriller "The Store-room" on 23rd October at 8.00 pm. See flyer

