

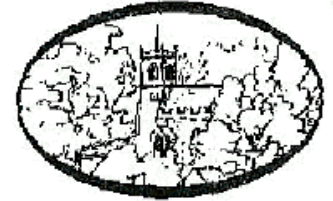


Parish Calendar 2015						
April			Event	Sidesmen & women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
2nd	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	Permaculture—Suzanne	
3rd	Good Friday	2.00 pm	United Service	Chatburn Methodist Church		
4th	Saturday	2.00 pm	Decorate Church			
5th	Easter Day	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Christ Church Chatburn	Mrs A. Moyle Mrs D. Wilkins	
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mr T. McLean		
6th	Monday	<i>Easter Monday Bank Holiday</i>				
9th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall	<i>Special in aid of Parkinson's</i>	
12th	Easter II	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs D. Wilkins		Hon Mrs R. Assheton Mrs C. Naylor
		11.00 am	Matins Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs B. Lewis		
13th	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	- Chatburn Methodist Church		
14th	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Village Hall AGM	Village Hall	<i>All welcome</i>	
16th	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall		
19th	Easter III	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Andrew Whitehead	Christ Church Chatburn		Mrs P McFall Mrs M. Roskell
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mrs P. McFall		
20th	Monday	6.00 pm	Drams Workshop 1	Village Hall	For young people 6 to 10	
		7.30 pm	History Group	Village Hall	Jean Asher The Quakers in Newton and Slaidburn.	
26th	Easter IV	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Andrew Whitehead	Mrs E. Parker		Lady Clitheroe Ms C. Raw
		11.00 am	Matins Revd Andrew Whitehead	Mr B. Lewis		
		noon	Annual Church Meetings			
27th	Monday	6.00 pm	Drams Workshop 2	Village Hall	For young people 6 to 10	
		7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	Chatburn Methodist Church		
May						
3rd	Easter V	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Andrew Whitehead	Christ Church Chatburn	Mrs Molly Roskell	Mrs S. Marlow Mrs E. Parker
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andrew Whitehead	Mr T. McLean		
4th	Monday	<i>Early May Bank Holiday</i>				
7th	Thursday	7.00 am	Polling Station	Village Hall	<i>General Election</i>	
		7.30 pm	Garden Club	Chatburn Village Hall	<i>Jason Addy—Colour</i>	
OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE – Revd Andy Froud—01200 423317 OUR CHURCH WARDENS The Hon Ralph Assheton – 441210 Mrs Philippa McFall—441484 Mrs Diana Wilkins – 445250 VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Chairman and Bookings Secretary Mr Shaun Roney—441667 Hon Secretary The Hon Mrs R. Assheton—441210						
 www.downhamvillage.org.uk 						

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON



newsletter

2015 Issue 4 April

From The Revd Andy Froud

Dear Friends

IN THE 2005 version of King Kong, as the ship approaches Skull Island, a message is received in Morse code, supposedly announcing a warrant for Jack Black's arrest. However, this isn't actually what the code translates to - what it actually says is, "Show me the monkey!"

This is just one of thousands of what is know as "Easter eggs" in films and video games: an "in" joke, added deliberately by the makers for those who perhaps pay too much attention to what is going on in the background.

We are perhaps so used to see the supermarket shelves filling up in January with chocolate eggs that we forget the older tradition that easter eggs were painted or dyed chicken eggs. And behind that tradition is both the symbolism of the stone rolled away from the empty tomb and the new life which springs from the egg. The outside of the egg looks dead but inside there is new life, which is going to break out. Above all the Easter egg is a reminder that Jesus will rise from His tomb and bring new life.

What the newest film easter egg should remind us of is, first of all the joy and surprise of the first disciples at discovering that Jesus was alive. The same Jesus they had left families, friends and livelihoods for, followed for three years and then seen die on a cross was raised from the dead. That was a life-changing experience for the disciples.

Secondly, the extraordinary reality of the resurrection is at the heart of the Christian life: this is hope not just for the next life for this one. The resurrection life is one which God calls us to live every day

A Happy and Blessed Easter to you

ALMIGHTY God, who through thine only begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: We humbly beseech thee, that as by thy special grace thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.
Amen

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	February	2015
COMMUNICANTS	49	698
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	120	189
VISITORS	10	10
DONATIONS	2,220	2,440
HOUSE BOXES	-	16
SPECIAL	25	25
TOTAL	2,505	2,934

SABATICAL PRIEST

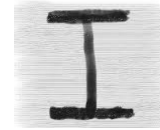
OUR new Vicar is taking a three month Sabbatical from June. It may be thought that we have worn him out in his first few weeks with us, but he hastens to explain, the entitlement is based on total service, which is something over twenty years in Andy's case. So well deserved. It is also contingent on there being sufficient staff to cover the absent priest's duties. It has been agreed that the Revd Andrew Whitehead provide this cover and that his departure from Clitheroe be delayed. So who knows when the opportunity may arise again? Very wise to take it now.

SERVICE TIMES

THE Revd Andy Froud explained to a recent Parochial Church Council Meeting how his extensive consultations on this subject had been fruitful, though compromises were required, especially to satisfy organists and visiting clergy.

There will be an 8am Sunday Communion at Clitheroe St Mary's and none at Downham St Leonard nor at Chatburn Christ Church. St Mary's will move their main Sunday service to 9.30 am enabling St Leonard's and Christ Church to keep their main Sunday service at 11am. St Leonard's will experiment with a Wednesday service at 10am and Christ Church with a Tuesday service, possibly at 9am.

SPECTATOR.



I WAS determined not talk about myself or Parkies this month as I can imagine you all thinking, "not her again, change the record! although I was asked for my autograph at the last coffee morning! Which brings me nicely to why I mentioned it in the first place. I need to thank everyone who has had a role in making this months coffee morning an "Up Your Friendly for Parkinsons" session for this years Parkinsons UK awareness weeks at the end of April. A fun campaign to raise funds and awareness of how a smile of a friendly gesture can make all the difference to everyone, not only those who are affected by this awful disease. The idea followed last months spectator and I was very pleased and a bit overcome actually to hear about what was being organised by my friends and neighbours to raise understanding of a cause so close to my heart, and one which is rapidly taking over the rest of me! Thank you so much. Of course we in Downham are extremely friendly anyway so we won't have to do much 'upping' but we all have to bring a friend or two so that we can be sure others are 'upping' more than usual!

Meanwhile those church ladies with typewriters have been at it again:

Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at the Methodist church. Come and hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa!

Our youth basketball team is back in action Wednesday at 8pm in the recreation hall. Come out and watch us kill Christ the King!

Miss Charlene Mason sang " I will not pass this way again" giving obvious pleasure to the congregation

During the absence of our Pastor, we have enjoyed the rare privilege of hearing a good sermon when JF Stubbs supplied our pulpit

A bean supper will be held in the church hall. Music will follow

Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children

The church will host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment and gracious hostility

This evening at 7pm, there will be hymn singing in the park across from church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin

The eighth graders will be presenting Sheakspear's Hamlet in the church basement, Friday at 7pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and the deterioration of some older ones!

Our next song is "Angels we have heard get high"!

Keep smiling !

THE FIRST NIGHT OF THE CHATBURN PROMS

This opening event of the Ribble Valley Music Festival on 8th May celebrates the completion of the development of the church and the 70 years anniversary of VE Day with reflections from Stage Two Drama Group, a sing-along with vocalists Wrong Direction and big screen video plus guest vocalist accompanying Championship Section Milnrow Band who will include patriotic prom favourites. Plenty of flag waving and 40's attire is welcome. Tickets are £10 including refreshment and can be obtained from Roy Porter Butcher Chatburn or calling 01200 441624 or 01254 384893. All proceeds go to the Christ Church Development Fund.



NEXT COFFEE CLUB
Thursday 9th April

FOLLOWING the plea by Linda Whitsey in the newsletter "Spectator" column to support the Parkinson's Awareness campaign during April, we decided we would make our April 9th Coffee Morning a bit special and to this end we are asking everyone coming to the next Coffee Morning to bring at least one other person (not particularly from Downham) as a friend to really "up our friendly" which is the slogan for this year's Parkinson's appeal.

We are also planning to have a small Produce Stall with cakes, jam, marmalade, chutney, eggs and anything else you can think of. Also anything you can give for a Raffle. Hopefully, as well as "upping our friendly" big time, we will be able to send a donation to the Parkinson's Society.

We know it is a big ask but we would like to make it special for a very special lady and her family. It is immediately after Easter so please pin this up somewhere as a memo !

Cakes, produce, raffle prizes if possible brought the day before (Wednesday 8th April) either to : Carole Ashworth or Molly Roskell (please ring Molly on 01200-440450 if items need collecting)



A BIG THANK YOU in advance.

★ **DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL TO HOLD YOUTH DRAMA WORKSHOPS** ★

★ In conjunction with leading local theatre company, Stage II, Downham Village Hall will
★ host a series of subsidised youth drama groups in April and May. Aimed at children
★ aged 6 – 10 years old, the sessions will cover Movement, Voice and Character, Mime
★ and Drama Improvisation.

★ Explained Stage II representative and Village Hall committee member, Kella Bowers:
★ "We are hoping to attract about 20 – 26 children to come to the workshops which we to
★ make really fun as well as educational. Children from all over the Ribble Valley are
★ welcome, but we would particularly like to see as many as possible from Downham,
★ Twiston, Worston, Chatburn, Grindleton and Gisburn."

★ Funded by Stage II, the Village Hall and the Downham Trust, the stage and main hall
★ lighting has recently been upgraded to a very high standard, enabling an even better
★ quality of stage productions at the Hall.

★ The sessions take place from 6.00 p.m and 7.30 on Mondays 20th April, 27th April, 11th
★ May and 18th May. A nominal fee for all four sessions of £12 will be charged. To find
★ out more—or to book etc please ask any Village Hall Committee Member .

LETTER TO THE PARISH

Jill Cragg has written from her new home in Manchester:

Dear Editor

Please convey to all in Downham and Twiston, through the Newsletter, my sincere thanks for the warmth and affection shown to me during my last weeks at Old Well Hall, and indeed for the friendship and support I have enjoyed in Downham since Len and I moved there twenty years ago .

It is hard to leave such a community. However, I plan to turn up from time to time and I will welcome visitors in Manchester—quite handy for the airport, specialist hospitals,

theatre and concerts

Emmanuel Church is just along the road from me and St James not far. They work very much together and i shall attend both.

Today was a straightforward communion at 9.00 am, other Sundays varied and lively—lots of people all ages, children galore! Just now the sermons are considering a Stanley Spencer series of paintings—interesting!

Best Wishes and love from Jill



Emmanuel Church, West Didsbury, home of Radio Four's The Daily Service

DOWNHAM HALL GARDENS OPEN 2015

Arrangements are in hand for a great Gardens Open in 2015. This year in aid of two local institutions. Here is a press release on preparations so far:

Downham Hall opens its gardens to the public on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th July this year in aid of Downham Village Hall and Downham St Leonard's church fabric fund. .

The weekend will feature music from Clitheroe Town Band and the Barnoldswick Brass Band as well as performances from local choirs and singing groups. There will be tours of Downham Hall's gardens, including the newly revitalised kitchen garden, which now supplies some of the area's leading gastropubs with a wide range of produce.

Plant stalls are run by Stanley Grange and Downham Hall's own gardener and there will be lots of garden-related goodies to buy. There will be a pop up art gallery from Studio@Bashall Barn and visitors will also be able to view sculptures by Clare Bigger from Trapp Forge. A tombola, raffles, a 'human fruit machine, ice creams and delicious cream teas are also on offer.

Members of Pilling Old Car Club will be bringing an eclectic selection of vehicles along for the weekend, including a 1938 Wolseley Police car which was used in the TV series 'A Perfect Hero' starring Nigel Havers and Joanna Lumley.

As well as the always-popular WI cakes, a selection of other local companies stalls add to the festive atmosphere, including Mouse Enterprises' pickles, cordials and jams, organic meat, dairy and other goodies from Gazegill Organics and Leagrams Organic Lancashire cheese.

Entry is £5.00 and children under 12 will be admitted free. Opening hours are 2.00 p.m – 4.00 p.m on each day.

OA

**THE PARISH CHURCH
PCC & ANNUAL MEETINGS**

The PCC meets on 24th March to prepare for the Annual Meetings which are to be held at noon, after the morning service on Sunday 26th April. This is when the Annual report of the work of the Church is presented, along with the audited accounts. The Wardens and PCC members are elected and the Church is set to move forward for another year. All welcome.

EASTER

OUR arrangements are these:
Decorate Church 2.00 pm on 4th April , 11.00 am Holy Communion Easter Day. Plus a United service at 2.00 pm at St Mary's on Good Friday;

BOILER

As regular church goers will know, the boiler has been playing up again! One service had to be held at Downham Hall and the following week at The Village Hall. Frustratingly the problem is intermittent, so neither the second nor third engineers could definitely identify the problem. A possibly faulty part with a possibly loose electrical connection will be replaced. Meanwhile, in case of future failures, keep an eye on the church gate for last minute instructions as to the mystery location of services! RCA

VILLAGE HALL AGM

ANNUAL meeting of the Village Hall will take place on Tuesday, 14th April at 6.30 pm. This is the meeting at which the Annual review of the past year is discussed and Committee Elected. OA

 **WEEK is 10 to 16 May**

CHURCH PATH REPAIRS

IT IS planned to undertake some repair work on the Church path and steps in the coming weeks. Some of the flags need replacing and others re-bedding. It may be necessary to close the Churchyard for a day or so to allow the workmen to dig in peace, avoid the risk of visitors falling over and let the cement dry. Hopefully the minor inconvenience will be offset by the smoothness of the finished thoroughfare!
RCA

CHURCH WHEELY BINS

IN case any cleaners worry, the bins have not been stolen, but moved to behind the church tower. They are easier to wheel to the gate from there (no steps) and next to the compost bins. Please be sure to put dead flowers and foliage in the compost bins, plastic, glass and metal in the blue bin and all else in the red.

**DOWNHAM & TWISTON
HISTORY GROUP**

THERE was no meeting in March. Our April meeting will be at the Village Hall on Monday, 20th at 7.30pm when the speaker will be Jean Asher and her subject, The Quakers in Newton and Slaidburn. Our very own Jenny Palmer will add a few words on the Twiston Quakers. TM

GARDEN CLUB

The Garden Club AGM went very smoothly once again .All Committee members staying in place ,subs paid , programmes for the year handed out . A very good AGM over with in 5 minutes !



Then we had a wonderful film show on Yorkshire, followed by a superb film showing the fly past of the last two Lancaster Bombers and then we went to a weird and wonderful kite flying exhibition. Anne and Gordon , thank you once again for a very interesting evening . Next month will be Suzanne, talking about Permaculture which should be very informative. I hope to see you there.
CA

COFFEE CLUB

What a lovely morning we had at the Coffee Club this month. As usual there was a wonderful selection of home made cakes, making choosing which to have very difficult . Edith and June did extremely well with the bric a brac,books, jigsaws and DVD's. Our grateful thanks go to all bakers and all who give time and energy especially, this month, to Di Braithwaite who filled in admirably for Barbara who was off skiving again.



At the meeting we passed around leaflets announcing that the next one would be an " Up our friendly " meeting which is the slogan for this years Parkinson's appeal. We are also hoping for donations of cake, eggs, jams, chutney or anything you can think of for a produce stall ,also bric a brac. If you can help with these items Carole or Molly would be happy to receive them on Wednesday the 8th if possible. MANY, MANY THANKS

CAROLE

Downham W.I. enjoyed a special celebration on Thursday evening. In the year the Women's Institute celebrates its Centenary, Downham W.I. celebrated its 95th Birthday. Downham W.I. was begun in 1920 by The Honourable Mrs. Assheton. Members enjoyed a meal and entertainment at the Mytton Fold Hotel, where the President, Mrs Frances Garner, welcomed special guests, The Mayoress of the Ribble Valley, Janette Ranson , and the Vice Chair of L.F.W.I., Mrs Ann Phythian.



Mrs Phythian presented a certificate celebrating Downham W.I.'s 95 years, to the President Mrs Frances Garner and Mrs Margaret Smith was also presented with a certificate for 25 yrs membership.

A special cake was made to celebrate the occasion by Mrs Marion Courtney, which was cut by one of Downham W.I.'s long standing members, Mrs Edna Jackson. After a delicious three course meal, entertainment was provided by Mr Brian Wroe, who had come out of retirement to talk about his post working life as a Toastmaster. Mr Wroe had served for 32 years in the police force and on retirement became a toastmaster as well as serving on many important boards and committees. He regaled the members with many humorous stories of the events he had presided over and was the perfect entertainment for the evening. Many thanks go to Mrs Barbara Lewis for organising the evening.

In a change to what had previously been booked, Downham W.I.'s speaker next month will be Susan Tinker, who will demonstrate decorated polystyrene eggs. The competition will be an unusual decorated egg cup. This is an open evening when members can bring a friend or neighbour, although people are always welcome to try the W.I. by attending a meeting. The event will be on the 16th April at 7.30 pm at Downham Village Hall.

AK

Our thanks to The Newsletter Sponsors for the April issue
Adams and Co, Accountants, York Street, Clitheroe and The Coffee Club