

PARISH CALENDAR 2021

APRIL		EVENT	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
2nd	Good Friday				
3rd	Saturday	2.00 pm	Decorate Church	All welcome	
4th	Easter Day	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs P McFall	Hon Mrs R Assheton Mrs C Naylor
11th	Easter I	11.15 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mr T McLean	Mrs B. Lewis Mrs j Shepherd
18th	Easter II	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs E Parker	Mrs J Feibel Mrs A Wallace
25th	Easter III	11.15 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mr A Herron	Mr & Mrs P Mercer

MAY WHIT SUNDAY IS 23rd MAY

2nd	Easter IV	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrrd A Wallace	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs S Travis Mrs A Chadwick
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THE PARISH CHURCH OF St LEONARD IS MOST GRATEFUL TO THE
INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS
THAT SPONSOR THE PARISH NEWSLETTER
IN APRIL 2021 THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL

OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE — The Revd Andy Froud
The Vicarage, Church Street, Clitheroe BB7 2DD
01200 423317 —0796 957 6691 —andyfroud@gmail.com

OUR CHURCH WARDENS

The Hon Ralph Assheton —441210 = Mrs Philippa McFall - 44148 =Mr Ian Walton 445063

DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman Mr Neil Wallace —441196
Hon Secretary Mrs Clare Ashworth —445112
Village Hall Bookings —info@downhamvillagehall.org.uk

**Downham
Social Media Resources**
The public Facebook page -
"Downham Village"
The private Facebook page
"Downham & Twiston Residents"
Various Whatsapp groups including
"Downham WI Here to Help"

ONLINE CHURCH RESOURCES

Regular worship is streamed
by Rev Andy Froud
on **Youtube**
via
St. Mary Magdalene
website
www.stmarysclitheroe.co.uk

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON



newsletter

2021 Issue 4 APRIL

www.downhamvillage.org.uk

From The Revd Andy Froud

Dear Friends

On April 11, 1945, the American Third Army under General Patten liberated the Buchenwald concentration camp, near Weimar, Germany.

Rabbi Herschel Schachter was the first Jewish chaplain to enter the concentration camp, an hour after the first troops had arrived. There he found hundreds of starving men piled in bunks from floor to ceiling. Though they had been freed, they remained in their barracks. After years of torture, imprisonment and abuse they simply could not believe that the strange men in new uniforms were their liberators until Rabbi Schachter shouted: "Shalom Aleichem, Yidden, Ihr zint frei!"—"Peace be upon you, Jews, you are free!"

The words of freedom in a familiar language, from one of their own people, assured the prisoners of the truth as the word was passed from barrack to barrack "You are free, you are free, you are free."

Christians believe that through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ we are freed from sin, fear and even death itself. In Christ God became one of us, sharing in our human life, with all its problems and pains so that we can be free. God became human so that we could share in his eternal life.

But there are many who still cannot believe the good news. People who are still lying in their bunks in the darkness, oppressed by their experience and fear, not realising that something has already changed and that liberation has arrived. Or those who believe it only in part, not fully daring to believe that God really has called us from death to life and the clarion cry "You are free". As a church, our mission is to share the resurrection hope with the world that we and all God's children can be truly free

Yours in Christ,

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.

DOWNHAM St. LEONARD FACTS & FIGURES		
	JFebruary	2021
Communicants		
Collections	£	
Services	NA	244
Visitors	120	120
Donations	722	1044
House Boxes	-	-
Special	2470	2470
Total	3878	3878

IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS

All those continuing to shield due to the Covid restrictions
The family of the late Patricia Addy

Flower list

The list for altar flowers is now available again at the back of the Church
- another small sign of normality returning.
Please add your name at the appropriate date.
Any queries please ring 441484. PM

Patricia Addy 1938 – March 2021

Although not a resident of Downham, Pat was a frequent visitor to the village over the last decade to spend time with her grandson Joseph and to attend many family and village events. Thank you for the many kind messages regarding her recent passing.
Many thanks also to all at Ribble Valley Crossroads Care for their wonderful support to our family over recent years.

Jason, Helen and Joseph Addy

DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL

APPEAL FOR VILLAGE HALL RE-OPENING

DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL has launched an appeal for funds to help towards its post-covid future. The news that it needs a major refurbishment before it can re-open as a popular arts, entertainment and local events venue came as a shock to the small rural communities of Downham and Twiston in the Ribble Valley. The Hall needs to be completely rewired, a number of health and safety, fire and disabled access issues addressed and much of the roof replaced and, at an estimated cost of nearly £80,000.

The good news is that the refurbishment project has recently been offered significant grant aid, with the Lancashire Environment Partnership awarding a Main Grant of £30,000, the Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund committing £5,000 and Ribble Valley Borough Council has allocated £3,300 from its Recreation and Culture Grant scheme.

Explains the Village Hall's new Committee Chairman, Neil Wallace: "Last Summer, we met in small, distanced groups with experts to assess what was needed for the hopeful Autumn re-opening of the Hall. The investigations threw up serious, and unexpected problems that we've since been trying to address. Covid has complicated site visits and obtaining quotes for work from contractors - all necessary for applying for grant aid – and a very challenging financial picture has emerged.

"The Committee has also explored opportunities for a number of improvements to the Hall, particularly for better sustainable energy, disabled access, toilet facilities and putting in more environmentally-friendly external aspects. The future flexibility of use is included in the plans, which we've been working on with Stage 2 Downham and other regular user groups," he explained.

A pack of eight Greetings Cards featuring a beautiful image of Downham is available for people who love Downham to buy at £5.00 (+ p&p) to help with the fundraising effort. They have been produced by Caroline Assheton, a professional artist who lives in the village and will be on sale from Downham's Ice Cream and Greendale View Kitchen or via email: info@downhamvillage.org.uk. Anyone who would like to take a box of cards at wholesale to sell on please speak with Olivia. Assheton on 07973 748451.

More than 30 letters of support from organisations, groups and individuals have been received for the project which, as well as the structural and safety issues addressed, will make the Hall more environmentally friendly and economically viable in the future.

Additional funds will be raised through: https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/downhamvillagehall-downham-3?utm_term=g2dVmDRdV accessible via the [downhamvillage.org.uk](http://www.downhamvillage.org.uk) website. The Village Hall has committed £8,000 from its savings and decisions on further applications to charitable institutions and grant making bodies are awaited. <http://www.downhamvillage.org.uk/>

AONB ZOOM *Festival Bowland* PROGRAMME

Do you know your white-tailed from your buff-tailed or your early from your bilberry? If not, our online bumblebee ID session could be just the ticket!

Bumblebees are fascinating creatures – and play a key role in producing our food - but sadly, along with other pollinators, their numbers have seen a decline in recent decades. One way we can help in their conservation is by learning how to identify and record them.



Why not join the Forest of Bowland AONB and Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust to learn about the bumblebee lifecycle, why they are important and how to recognise the species we find here in Bowland?

Bumblebees for Beginners, Thursday 6th May, 12 noon – 1pm

The event is free but places need to be booked in advance by emailing caroldmondson@lancashire.gov.uk

PENDLE RADICALS www.pendleradicals.org.uk

IN A ZOOM talk on 23rd March 2021, called 'In the footsteps of ordinary people,' we were given an update on various projects and themed walks planned by the Pendle Radicals project. First came the story of George Fox who, in 1652, climbed up Pendle 'with great ado,' and went on to found the Quaker movement in Sedbergh. Stone plaques have been erected at the walkers' shelter on the summit and at Fox's well.

Then came a short history of Clarion House, built in 1902 in Jinny Lane, Newchurch, as part of a national initiative by the Independent Labour Party to encourage working people to escape the towns and breath in fresh country air. Mention was also made of the two Toms: Tom Stevenson from Whalley, who pioneered the Countryside Movement and created the Pennine Way in 1965, and Thomas Arthur Leonard, who lived in Colne, founded the Cooperative Holiday Association and the Holiday Fellowship and was first President of the Ramblers' Association.

This was followed by a short film about the Women's Peace Crusade, held in Nelson around the time of World War 1, when Selina Cooper was a prominent suffragette. Lockdown permitting, there will be a grand opening in June of the newly refurbished Unity Hall, at 62 Vernon St. Nelson, with teas and books on sale to accompany the exhibition.

IN Nelson, Lancashire, a team of volunteers has put together an ambitious project to commemorate the life of suffragist, Selina Cooper. A former child worker, and the first woman to represent the Independent Labour Party (ILO) in 1901 on the Board of Guardians, Cooper became a national figure in the suffragist movement. **JP**

ONLINE COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY FORUM

The Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership is running a series of online events for its Community Archaeology Forum this year. Four evening sessions will take place between Monday 26th April and Wednesday 12th May. With presentations covering the Lancashire Portable Antiquities Service; 300 years of lime burning around Chatburn & Downham; Roughlee's industrial heritage – and more – the Forum promises to offer a great insight into "Pendle Hill in the Past".

VILLAGE HALL

CONTRARY to the government's announcement on 22 February, village halls will not be able to reopen after Easter, except for a small number of permitted activities.

England's 10,000+ rural community buildings will instead have to wait until 17 May before they can be hired out for many functions including exercise classes, coffee mornings, performances and celebrations such as weddings and birthday parties. Information issued by the charity is informed by government guidance published 25 February which sits at odds with earlier ministerial statements.

POLLING DAY 6th MAY

RESIDENTS IN DOWNHAM AND TWISTON go to the polls on Thursday 6 May. Elections will take place in Ribble Valley's four county council divisions: Clitheroe, Longridge with Bowland, Ribble Valley North East and Ribble Valley South West. Downham and Twiston are in Ribble Valley North East. Elections will also be held for the Lancashire police and crime commissioner, who has responsibility for governing Lancashire Constabulary and holding its chief constable to account.

The polling station is Downham Village Hall - open from 7.00 am to 10.00 pm

If you choose to vote in person, you are asked to keep yourself and others safe by: Wearing a face covering; Bringing your own pen or pencil; Cleaning your hands when entering and leaving the polling station; Keeping a safe distance.

DOWNHAM PRESCHOOL

We have welcomed back all our children now and are full to bursting, I'm sure you have been hearing us having fun playing outside. We are hoping the weather is going to be kind to us in April then we can venture out to the Ice-cream shop, church, ducks, and lots of lovely walks around the village, say hello if you see us passing by. We are hoping to hatch some chicks this term is part of our growing theme. it is going to be very exciting for us all. **JC**

CLITHEROE YOUNG FARMERS

ANNUAL MUCK HAUL

Saturday 3rd April

Bag - £3
4 Bags - £10
10 Bags - £20
Trailer Load (TIPPED) - £60

All proceeds go to Mind Lancashire

To order please ring/text JACK COTTERILL on 07975 975591

THE PARISH CHURCH REOPENING

I really must, must, **must** stop trying to make predictions during Covid! No sooner had the March Newsletter been distributed, with details of how the Church would remain closed till Easter, when the Diocese announced that all Churches should reopen forthwith (with the necessary masks, social distancing, hand sanitiser etc). As a result a number of regulars have enjoyed services for the last few Sundays.

In the coming weeks (contagious infections permitting) services will take place each Sunday at 11.15. We are still following the recommendation to have a briefer than normal service. Booking in advance through the Hon Secretary is recommended as we still have a restriction on the numbers who can attend, but we are happy to see last minute worshippers, so long as you do not take offence at being turned away at the door should we have had a flurry of ticket sales!
RCA

ROPEWORK

Questions have been asked about the appearance of heavy duty ropework over the stump of the great Beech tree that stood in the Hall gardens overlooking the Church yard. Rather than being part of an assault course, the rope has been installed to provide a framework for rambling roses to climb up – not small boys and girls!

CORONA HIGHWAY SAINTS

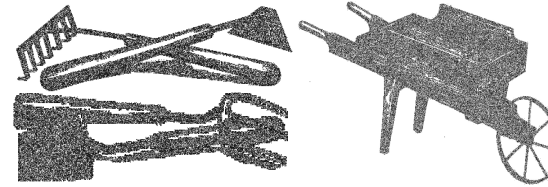
Many thanks to those residents of Downham, Chatburn and further afield who diligently pick up the litter, dogs mess and detritus that thoughtless souls endlessly scatter along the bridleway. A litter bin has generously been offered by Chatburn Parish Council, but finalising arrangements for RVBC to empty it seem to drag on interminably...
RCA

'Edgerow 'Arry

With the first full moon after the vernal equinox, Easter is upon us. The time of rebirth. The 7th Century writings of the Venerable Bede makes mention of the pagan goddess – *Eostre* – who was celebrated at the beginning of Spring. The word-root is shared with the estrogen hormone group that regulates reproduction. Perhaps it is no co-incidence that the fasting time of lent may be a way to purify the blood after the carbohydrate-fuelled excesses of winter "hibernation". Mother nature can provide a tonic in the way of a common "weed" - dandelion. Fresh dandelion greens have four times the vitamin C, seven times the vitamin A, and twice the potassium of romaine lettuce. The German government has approved the leaves for use as a diuretic and digestive tonic to treat bloating, indigestion, and poor appetite.

Our woodlands and hedges have also spring to life with wild garlic "*ransoms*" (*Allium ursinum*). A word of warning – be wary of *lords-and-ladies* "*Cuckoo Pint*" (*Arum maculatum*) lurking amongst wild garlic. The spring leaves are more shrivelled than the smooth ones of wild garlic but can cause an allergic reaction. The orange berries, seen in autumn, are very poisonous.

Once safely identified, springtime wild garlic has a heady aroma – the stalks make a lovely accompaniment chopped in a salad or added to a soup or pesto. Warm cheese scones made with a little wild garlic are a real treat with melted farmhouse butter.



The palette of spring colours around the village is a sight to behold. The fresh green and yellow hues of the many varieties of daffodils, blended with splashes of forsythia, euonymus and variegated holly lift the heart after a long, dark winter. This is complemented in our nearby woodlands by delicate primroses and hardy coltsfoot. The fresh yet subtle colours herald lighter evenings and welcome warmer days ahead.

Garden jobs for April

Now is the time to start deadheading spring bulbs – this way their energy is directed towards tuber growth for next year rather than setting seed. Sow early seeds – sweet peas and hardy annuals such as pot marigolds and nigella (love in a mist). If you have some poor, bare ground why don't you consider sowing some native wildflowers—just sprinkle the seeds and see what pops up! Have you got any spuds and onions on the go? How about growing some herbs such as dill, coriander and parsley in containers positioned in a sunny spot?

Garden Club revival

It looks as though there is interest in gently restarting the Garden Club with old and new members very welcome as the lockdown restrictions lift. Any ideas or suggestions would be appreciated. Please see the Downham Resident's Facebook page or telephone 445405. The first few events are pencilled-in for midsummer. Watch this space for more news.



JA

New members welcome, contact: Diane on 07904 111167 or by email



dianepoole1984@gmail.com

FOR almost a year, Susan and Yvonne, from Downham WI, have been hosting a quiz every Thursday via the Downham WI WhatsApp page.

Over recent weeks, Downham WI have been expanding their connectivity by introducing 'Tuesday Tips day', where members have shared their favourite recipes and Wednesday 'What to watch' recommendations of great television programmes to view on catch-up if you've missed them first time around. The recipes have been as varied as to include:- chocolate oaty squares; pease pudding; chilli-butter smashed radishes and lemon self-saucing pudding. Yum!

This week Marion has shared her photo of the beautiful daffodils in the village hall car park, so do take a stroll up there and admire them for yourself.

Subscriptions are due on 1st April, and remember it's **Half Price**, so only **£22.40**. Members who have previously left the WI can now re-join after 1 year with no additional charges, due to a change in the rules since the pandemic.

If you'd like to find out how to join in the fun of Downham WI contact Diane on 07904 111167 for more details.

ARCHDEACONS' VISITATIONS

THE annual Archdeacons' Visitations will take place in June this year and they will be held in accordance with any pandemic restrictions that may still be in place at that time. They have been put back from our normal month of May in line with the Church Representation Rules 2020, which mean that Annual Parochial Church meetings have to be completed by 31 May.