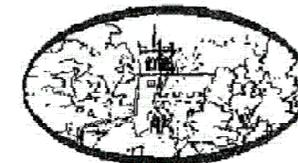


PARISH CALENDAR—2012						
August			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
1st	Wednesday	6.30 pm	Torchlight Float Meeting	Village Hall		
4th	Saturday	2.00—	Gardens Open	Downham Hall	<i>In Aid of Village Hall and Ribble Catchment Conservation</i>	
5th	Sunday	4.00 pm				
5th	Trinity IX	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd John Sutcliffe	Christ Church Chatburn	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs A. Holden Mrs T. Stell
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mrs P. McFall		
8th	Wednesday	6.30 pm	Torchlight Float Meeting	Village Hall		
9th	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
11th	Saturday	Entries 10 am Public 2.00 pm	Downham and Twiston Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Annual Show</i>	
12th	Trinity X	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D. Wilkins	Mr & Mrs J. Whitsey	
		11.00 am	Matins Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mr B. Lewis		
	Wednesday	6.30 pm	Torchlight Float Meeting	Village Hall		
	Thursday		WI	Village Hall	<i>Canal Trip from Skipton</i>	
19th	Trinity XI	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn	Mrs A. Chadwick	Mrs D. Braithwaite Mrs A. Richardson
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Alfred Graham	Mrs B. Lund		
	Saturday		Clitheroe Torchlight Procession			
26th	Trinity XII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd John Sutcliffe	Mrs E. Parker	Miss R. Hall	Mrs A. Moyle Mrs D. Wilkins
		11.00 am	Matins Revd John Sutcliffe	Mr T. McLean		
September						
2nd	Trinity XII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Hon Mrs R. Assheton Mrs C. Naylor
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs P. McFall		
OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE – Canon Rodney Nicholson – 458019 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

2012 Issue 8 August

From Canon Rodney Nicholson

Viewpoint



IF YOU are taking a holiday soon, make sure you get some spiritual refreshment as well as sunshine, good food and the rest. In saying that, I don't necessarily mean attending a church service, although that would be an excellent way of spending half a Sunday morning. To worship in another environment can bring a real boost to your well-being, adding direction to your week.

But there are other ways, of renewing yourself. You may, for example, visit a cathedral or ancient church and so be in a place where others have prayed for centuries. As well as admiring the architecture, look at some of the literature or pictures. They may describe a project in Africa, which that church supports, or invite prayer for Christians suffering persecution in China, or, as I once found in Peterborough Cathedral, support for Eastern European migrants experiencing poor living conditions while working in local agriculture. Cathedrals and fine churches, as well as being buildings of beauty, become signposts to God's compassion for human, and maybe also animal suffering. We are renewed, even in some small way, by having our awareness enlarged.

Some places of worship have prayer boards, or places to light a candle, and some of the messages are touching to read. "Please pray for my daughter and her husband who have just had a stillborn baby." Kathleen and I enjoy visiting the north east coast – Northumberland, Lindisfarne, Whitby etc – where the English saints like Cuthbert and Aidan prayed and laboured for the gospel in those early years. The cliffs and the rolling North Sea (once called the German Sea) can lift our spirits and stir the imagination.

Museums too can provide a spiritual experience when splendid displays both bring to life the terrible conditions endured by working people not too long ago, and also honour the efforts of individual campaigners to give them a decent life.

Seasonal refreshment to you all!

Rodney Nicholson

God of peace, who called your servant John Bunyan to be valiant for truth: grant that as strangers and pilgrims we may at last rejoice with all Christian people in your heavenly city; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	June	2012
COMMUNICANTS	31	298
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	107	1,546
VISITORS	85	361
DONATIONS	5,973	9,276
HOUSE BOXES		61
TOTALS	6,165	11,244

OUR PRAYERS ARE SAID FOR

Val Flanagan of Ings End, Twiston who is undergoing further treatment.
Karen Walker of Greendale who is undergoing treatment.
Bob Swarbrick who is making progress.
Marshall Peters, Surveyor, of Brokside Barn, Downham who is away from work unwell.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS - CONFIRMATION

11th July, at St Paul's Parish Church Low Moor **Alice Walmsley** aged 10.

GOOD LUCK IN YOUR NEW HOMES

Lord and Lady Clitheroe have moved into the Lidgett House, (440173) and
Ralph & Olivia Assheton, Ralph and Helen into Downham Hall (441210) .

Gardens Open at Downham Hall

By kind permission of Lord and Lady Clitheroe

**Saturday and Sunday 4th and 5th August,
 2.00 to 4.00 pm**

in support of the Village Hall and The Ribble Catchment Conservation Trust

Clitheroe Town Band on Saturday—Barnoldswick Brass Band on Sunday.
 Stalls and Teas and Raffle

Admission £3 Children free of Charge

Raffle and Tombola prizes still needed—please ring Carole Ashworth on 440112

Invasive Plants

A NEW initiative is underway to remove invasive plants from streams around the Ribble Valley. Invasive species are one of the greatest threats to biodiversity, as well as impacting directly on society and the economy. The rivers of the Ribble catchment are ideal habitat for some of these invaders and many have been colonised by Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed and giant hogweed. These three species are the primary targets of the Lancashire Invasive Species Project.



Groups of volunteers, (including one in June, from Downham and Twiston which worked downstream from Wytha Road to Downham Mill), have been helping to pull up the Himalayan balsam, starting with the upstream populations to ensure that there is no re-colonisation. So far this year, over 10 km of stream have been cleared of Himalayan balsam by 'Balsam Bashing'. With more people to help, an even greater amount can be cleared. Specially trained volunteers are also treating Japanese knotweed and giant hogweed with herbicide.

The Ribble Rivers Trust is looking for more volunteers to help with this project. Anyone can get involved and help to look after their local river, from recording your sightings of invasive species to carrying out local surveys and helping us remove Himalayan balsam. Sightings of invasive species can be recorded at www.lancashireinvasives.org, where you can also find out more about identifying these species. If you would like to help protect the Ribble valley from alien invaders, please get in touch with Adam at the Ribble Rivers Trust on 01200 444452 or invasives@ribbletrust.org.

Walk diverted

Rodney Nicholson

THE MORECAMBE Bay Walk which Anne and Derek Hardacre and also Andrew Radcliffe and his fiancée, Lynda, undertook for The Leprosy Mission on Saturday June 30th, had to adapt to an unusual situation caused by the recent rains. The party were unable to make the full crossing of the River Kent but crossed one channel, then crossed back again, finishing the walk at Silverdale rather than Humphrey Head, near Grange-over-Sands as intended. Other cross bay walks had been cancelled.

Nevertheless the group raised £600 (including £250 from my celebration the following day) so that the walk was well worth doing. The group thanks all their sponsors.

Praising the diocese

I SAID during my sermon at my celebratory Songs of Praise that I had known nothing but kindness and support from Blackburn diocese throughout my forty years here. I have personally received every encouragement from bishops, archdeacons and other diocesan staff and been grateful for the help readily given to all my parishes.

I also said that these are the best times in which to be an Anglican vicar, citing such examples as the wide range of music available for today's worship, the respect for one another's traditions, the valuing of holy places – such as Lourdes and Walsingham, the prominence of Christian Aid and the imaginative mission activities being undertaken, such as the Street Pastors' scheme and, locally, the recent barbecue mission.

THE first thing that I have to report to you this month is that, sadly, this will be the last 'Rosie's Corner' for a few months. I would like to be able to say that the reason for this is that I'm much too busy doing other important things/ I'm touring the country giving paw print autographs/ I'm living a celebrity lifestyle, etc., but unfortunately the simple truth is that I'm suffering from writer's block. How VicR manages to write a sermon every week, as well as this magazine each month beats me.

However, I do have something exciting to report. Now that I'm just over one year old McK has applied to Pets as Therapy, and providing I pass the assessment, (she has to pass as well), I'm going to begin my career as a Therapy Dog. In case you are wondering what that is, P.A.T. dogs visit hospitals and hospices, residential and nursing homes, and work with special needs children in mainstream schools and many other establishments. They may also visit prisons, work with Occupational Therapists in the rehabilitation of stroke victims, and Clinical Psychologists working with dog phobic children.

The health benefits of stroking an animal are well documented, and you can find out much more about the P.A.T. scheme from their website, www.petsastherapy.org, where you can see a short video on which is featured, among other pets, a Cavalier which looks just like me. So even though I won't be writing my column for this magazine for a while, you will see that I shall not be idle.

If you have enjoyed reading about me during the last twelve months, we have put all my musings together in a little booklet, and for a 50p donation to the Pets as Therapy Charity you can have your own copy as a keepsake. Just ask VicR or McK, and they'll see that you get one.

So it's goodbye for now, but I'll be back later on in the year to tell you how I'm getting on. I'm just off now to get my photograph taken for the I.D. tag I have to wear. And McK's written a little verse about me. It goes *'Rosie is an Angel, though she hasn't any wings; just a wagging tail and four white paws, with these her love she brings.'* I send all you readers my love as well, your angel on a leash.

Rosie's Rules 11)

'When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them.'

WI SHOW

BE inspired – be impressed. Exquisite creations in sugarcraft, papercraft and fabric; artistic talent shown in paintings, sketches and photographs; flowers in abundance, a wonderful variety of crafts, confectionery and, of course, jams and preserves.

The standard is high and there is much to see at the Clitheroe Area Women's Institute Show which takes place at the *Edisford Primary School* on Edisford Road, Clitheroe, between 10 am and 4.30 pm. on **28th July 2012**.

Members from 12 institutes enter the show and also supply a WI Home Produce Stall selling confectionery, preserves, crafts and horticultural items to members of the public.

For an entrance charge of only £2 and with Refreshments and Demonstration available the Show represents a value for money trip out. We look forward to seeing you. CN

CONGRATULATIONS

GILLIAN (Gilly) Hanson, of Ings End, has achieved a first class honours degree in Law, following a three year course at Cardiff University. Together with her family she attended the Graduation Ceremony in St David's Hall, Cardiff on Friday 20th July. Starting this September she will attend a one year Legal Practice Course in Manchester.



ANGELA Moyle of Pendle House, Twiston who has qualified as a teacher, and is looking forward to taking up a Primary teaching post at Stonyhurst next academic year.

oOoOo



Clitheroe Torchlight Procession

THE first Torchlight Procession was in 1887 for the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Coun. Tom Garnett, of Low Moor Mill, and Mr William Self Weeks (an eminent local historian and Town Clerk) headed the organisation. Clitheroe Bicycle Club, the horse-drawn steam fire engine, the Jubilee Christy minstrels were among some 400 people and 60 horse riders to take part. The most recent Torchlight Procession was 10 years ago in honour of the Queens Golden Jubilee

The 2012 Torchlight will celebrate two major national events taking place this year – the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and London Olympic Games. It is part of a two-day extravaganza which will take place over the August Bank Holiday weekend, and which Clitheroe Town Council and Ribble Valley Borough Council are helping to fund.

The procession will form up in Chatburn Road, then process along Well Terrace, Railway View Road, Station Road, Bawdlands, Corporation Street, Eshton Terrace, Woone Lane, Moor Lane, Castle Street, York Street and back to Chatburn Road. The procession starts at 20:00 and will finish around 22:30 covering a distance of 2.5 Kilometres.

Preceding the Torchlight Procession will be a mass cycle ride around the streets of Clitheroe. All ages and abilities are encouraged to dust off their bike, get a free bike check, grab some free bike lights and join us all as we cycle around a traffic-free route of Clitheroe! The cycle event will commence at 7.15pm.

All riders are encouraged to decorate their bike for the event! All riders must have a helmet and have lights on their bike.

For further information about the cycle event contact tom.bamber@ribblevalley.gov.uk / 01200414553.

VALERIE HALL

BRIAN and I went to visit Val on Sunday at Threshfield Court and found her in good spirits. She seemed to recognise us but didn't know our names. It was difficult to have any conversation with her but occasionally that twinkle in her eye appeared, especially when Brian held her hand. She always had a soft spot for him. We stayed about half an hour as it was teatime and she had started to wander off.. I'm glad that we went and although it's very sad to see how much she has declined, I don't think she's unhappy and the staff are very good with her. BL

THE PARISH CHURCH

Confirmation

ALICE Walmsley (10) was confirmed by the Bishop of Burnley at St Paul's on Wednesday evening 11th July at a warm-hearted and lively service, which included the confirmation of a mother and son from Chatburn and a father and two sons from Low Moor, along with a boy and girl also from St Paul's. There was, additionally, a young woman from Leyland Parish Church, whose husband is seeking ordination. The candidates renewed their baptism vows by each, in turn, dipping their hand in the font and making the sign of the cross on the forehead. The confirmation itself was followed by an applause and The Peace which led into the Eucharist. At the end the candidates received a lighted candle in a holder and a confirmation card and gift – a "holding cross", made with wood from the Holy Land. RN

Celebrating 40 years

WE had a lovely celebration on Sunday July 1st of the 40th anniversary of my ordination. Members of St Leonard's joined with others from Chatburn, St Paul's and my previous parishes to give thanks, with me, for good health, support from the Christian family and for God's call many years ago. Over 130 attended the Songs of Praise service at which Bishop Geoff, the Bishop of Lancaster, managed to fit in a brief visit on his way back from Clayton-le-Moors where he had ordained three priests. Bishop Geoff said a few words and gave the blessing.

After the buffet tea there was singing by Grace O'Malley (14) who went on to win the Vocal Solo under 15 competition at the Llangollen Eisteddfod the following Wednesday. Grace took a break in the middle of her singing to allow Mr Brian Lead, an English teacher at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn (formerly on the St Wilfrid's staff) to perform some magic tricks. He delighted the adults as well as the children.

Plenty of food was left, but Brenda Wise, one of the Salvation Army officers, was able to deliver it to several families and single young men in Clitheroe who accepted it gratefully. £540 was received in lieu of presents, which was divided between The Leprosy Mission and St Paul's re-ordering appeal.

Family service

THE next family service will be held in September.

VILLAGE HALL

Clitheroe Torchlight Procession – Village Float



AS A result of a number of keen volunteers, we are pleased to announce that we will be entering a float in the Clitheroe Torchlight Procession 2012.

The theme for the float will be based on the popular TV programme Downton Abbey. Work is now progressing to decide on all the characters, source costumes and plan and prepare the float for the event. We still need as many volunteers as possible. If you feel you could assist, either as a participant or as a helper getting the float prepared, please either call in to the village Hall on any Wednesday evening or call 01200 441352 and let us know you want to help. PN

WATER DAMAGE

THE water damage to the front wall of the old chapel part of the Village Hall, which we hoped had been eradicated with the last treatment, is back. This affects the downstairs hall and WC, staircase wall and the front wall of the green room upstairs, the damp has bubbled up the painted surface. A new phase of grant applications, survey and repair work has been initiated by the committee.

GARDEN CLUB

OUR much anticipated trip to the Montford Cottage Gardens at Fence was on the night when the torrents were accompanied by forked lightning. The Twiston convoy made it and the Downham contingent decided to call it off, it being too dark at the prearranged departure time to see the road ahead.



Those members who arrived saw about half the garden in relatively dry conditions and then during a down pour enjoyed refreshments, followed by a second half under brollies and in a break in the rain with bright blue sky for a few moments. The gardens are mature and have many interesting plants and features, including a totally convincing roman mosaic made of plastic floor tile. Like many others the garden is the story of many years of labour and love and is truly worth a visit; lets hope it can be repeated at some-time in future.

ANNUAL SHOW

OUR August event is of course the annual Vegetable and Flower Show. Arrangements are: entries to the Village Hall between 10.00 am and Noon then hall closed for judging. Public entry at 2.00 pm. Full details are in the schedule enclosed with the April Newsletter: spare copies of which are available on the table at the back of the parish church. CA

DOWNHAM AND TWISTON HISTORY GROUP

The group's next meeting, on 10th September, is an open invitation to all interested parties to an event organised by Mr Edwin Jackson, owner of an extensive collection of knowledge, written and pictorial information, about Downham and surrounding area. Edwin has arranged for Mrs Dorothy Bradbury, of Rishton, to present the material. Light refreshments will be served after the presentation.

W.I.

MEMBERS enjoyed a lively and interesting evening on Thursday, 17th July.



Firstly we had a really enjoyable report from County Chairwoman, Mary Gibson, about her visit to one of the Royal Jubilee Garden Parties hosted by HM the Queen. Mary described the process, from being chosen from a ballot of W.I. Chairwomen, to choosing the outfit, including the difficulty of choosing a hat, and attendance at the Garden Party itself. Mary described a wonderful day, which included beautiful weather and being lucky enough to be presented to Royalty.

Thursday's meeting was an informative talk by Isobel Stirk on the Bronte Sisters. We are all familiar the Bronte Sisters, lives and many of us have visited the Parsonage at Howarth. Isobel filled in the details of their lives, and made them real people, with their achievements, disappointments and tragedies. What we were left with were an impression of clever, spikey, strong women who overcame the formidable challenges of the times.

Arrangements are well in hand for Downham Hall Open Gardens Day on the 4th and 5th of August when the W.I. will run a stall selling homemade cakes and produce.

Downham W.I. is looking forward to its annual outing on August 16th, which is a canal trip from Skipton, supper included, at a cost of £12.50. If you would like to join us on this outing, contact Chris Newhouse, on 446620. AK

COFFEE CLUB

IT'S always really nice to see new faces at Coffee Club and this would seem a good opportunity to remind everyone that we are an 'any age' club to which no membership is required, except to be a resident (or ex resident) of Downham and Twiston. Our prices are consistently reasonable at £1 for coffee (or tea) and a cake. Our cakes are home made and we are not profit making, but any money we do have left at the end of the year goes into Village Hall Funds.

Coffee Club is very informal, the Bring & Buy and Book & Jigsaw Stalls are interesting and it is a lovely way to meet friends and neighbours. Any of our newer residents would be made very welcome if they would like to drop in. Our next meeting will be Thursday, 9th August, see you there? OAwb

