

PARISH CALENDAR—2012

December			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners	
2nd	Advent Sunday	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	ChristChurch Chatburn	NO	Mrs P. McFall Mrs M. Roskell	
		11.00am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs P McFall			
		6.30 pm	Advent Carol Service	Blackburn Cathedral			
3rd	Monday	7.30 pm	History Group	Village Hall	June Weaver—Family History		
6th	Thursday	7.00 pm	Garden Club	Greendale	Christmas Dinner		
9th	Advent II	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D. Wilkins	FLOWERS	Mrs G. Cragg Mrs K. Brown	
		11.00 am	Matins	Mrs B. Lund			
13th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall			
		6.45 pm	WI	Calf's Head Worston	Christmas Party		
16th	Advent III	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn	IN ADVENT	Mrs C. McGrath Mrs G Smith	
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mr T. McLean			
		7.00 pm	Carols at Twiston By kind invitation of Mr and Mrs S. Wilkins	Lower Smithy Fold	Choir meet Downham PO 6.30 pm		
22nd	Saturday	3.00 pm	Decorate Church Make Christingles	Church	All Welcome		
23rd	Advent IV	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs E. Parker		Lady Clitheroe Mrs C. Ashworth	
		11.00am	Matins Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mr B. Lewis			
24th	Christmas Eve	3.00 pm	Christingle Family Service	Mrs B. Lewis Mrs A. Greenhill			
		11.30 pm	Midnight Eucharist Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn			
25th	Christmas Day	11.00	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mrs P McFall			
30th	Christmas I	11.00 am	Joint Carol Service Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mr & Mrs B. Lewis			
January, 2013							
6th		8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	ChristChurch Chatburn	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs S. Travis Mrs A. Chadwick	
		11.00am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mr T. McLean			

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

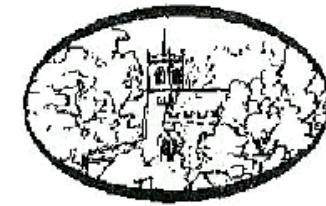


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PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON



newsletter

2012 Issue 12 December

From Canon Rodney Nicholson

Viewpoint



A SIGN in York village, above Langho, warns those driving long vehicles not to follow Satnav. If they do, and continue towards Painter Wood, they will get entangled in the hairpin bend. Motorists following their Satnav near Downham have had similar problems. Wonderful as it is, Satnav has its drawbacks. A church member once told me that he returned from Norfolk in half the time it took to get there, as a result of abandoning his Satnav. Usually, Satnav is helpful but it needs to be followed with caution.

The sign made me think of other information which it is wise to take with a "pinch of salt". Readers of a favourite newspaper, whether it is the Daily Mail or the Guardian, may be inclined to trust whatever the journalists say. The writers are doing a good job but we are all biased and need to avoid placing too much faith in them.

The other night's television news announced that the Church of England was in turmoil over the failure of the measure to allow women bishops. Some indeed are very disappointed, me included, while others are relieved. But the Church is not in turmoil. Life goes on. The word of God is preached, Christian projects are undertaken and God is worshipped, regardless of any General Synod vote. Like the Satnav, what we hear must be treated with caution.

Of course, if we take this questioning to extremes, we won't believe anyone – our doctor, Member of Parliament, car mechanic or tree surgeon. Practically speaking, we have to trust people but always with the awareness that any of us can get it wrong. And it is good to ask questions. When people tell us things, we are not seeking to disbelieve them, but so often the information we hear is one-sided or partly true or just plain inaccurate. The old game of Chinese Whispers is true to life. Unwittingly we put our own interpretation on things and pass on misleading information.

By contrast, a verse in the New Testament (1 Timothy 1: 15) says, "These words are true and can be trusted, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners". Here is no half-truth or prejudiced opinion but rock-solid assurance. We can have total confidence that God loves the world and gave his Son for our redemption. Advent looks forward to God's fulfilling his promises and coming to this earth in his Son Jesus Christ to give us eternal life.



Rodney N. nich

CANON RODNEY NICHOLSON, THE CLERGY, PAROCIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
CHOIR AND ORGANIST OF ST LEONARD'S PARISH CHURCH
WISH ALL OUR READERS
A VERY HAPPY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS



ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	October	2012
COMMUNICANTS	43	496
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	150	2,188
VISITORS	39	745
DONATIONS	225	10,451
HOUSE BOXES	33	184
TOTALS	447	13,568



OUR PRAYERS ARE SAID FOR

Karen Walker of Greendale who is undergoing treatment.
Bob Swarbrick who is making progress.

WELCOME

Helen and Jason Adey who have moved into Pendle View, Brookside, Downham.. Jason and Helen have moved in from Clitheroe, we wish them good luck in their new home.

Daniel Fazzell is taking up residence at Redsyke, Annel's Cross, Twiston, he is from Warwickshire and we hope he will be happy there.

Carole Ashworth who has moved from The Flat, Downham Hall to Back o' Thorn, Brookside, Downham. We all wish Carole a very happy retirement and good luck in her new home.



This Newsletter has been sponsored by Betty Mercer of Downham

Betty wishes all her friends and neighbours in Downham and Twiston
A Very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year 2013

No women bishops yet

Rodney Nicholson

MUMMY, what might I be when I grow up?" "Oh, my dear," her mother replies, "you may a doctor, head teacher, prime minister, judge, train driver, priest but not a bishop in the Church of England."

The proposal to end the bar on a woman becoming a bishop failed in General Synod a week ago, although most church members support the change. 329 members of General Synod voted in favour, with 122 against. Would not any prime minister be delighted with such a majority? Yet because the measure required a two-thirds majority in all three houses – a difficult target to reach – it failed through being six votes short (in the house of Laity).

David Cameron, in my view rightly, regrets the "No" vote but he would be wrong not to accept that the Church as a whole supports women bishops. Both archbishops and the newly-appointed Archbishop of Canterbury strongly believe in women bishops and call last week's vote a sad day for the Church. Rowan Williams had struggled to find a formula which would satisfy both points of view but in the end enough lay people defied him to defeat the motion. In spite of praising his holiness and wisdom they would not follow his judgement. Very sad.

The Church of England, however, is not in turmoil. Most members agree with women bishops. More would vote "Yes" if better provision, as they see it, were made for those who disagree. Rowan Williams believed he had offered such provision but a vocal minority disagree.

Two other factors are worth stating. First, as Archbishop Rowan, said, the Church has lost credibility, particular with younger people, over this decision. They simply cannot understand how today it can operate a single-sex policy over the choice of bishops. Second, as Frank Field, the Labour MP has pointed, the Church is flouting the Equality law. Legally, religious bodies are exempt from Equality legislation but, morally, the established Church should act in accordance with the law of the land.

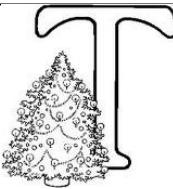
It is important that Christians, or anyone for that matter, disagrees with sensitivity and respect. The Bishops of Burnley and Lancaster, who strongly take opposite sides in the debate, have written a thoughtful joint letter appealing for reconciliation and a determination not to lose sight of the gospel in the wake of this one controversy.

The Church has always been an alliance of different views and attitudes with hopefully a common belief in the God whom we meet as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Like other families there will at times be disagreement, but we can disagree—with good humour and indeed love.



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**THE DOWNHAM
VILLAGE HALL
SEEKS
A PART-TIME
CLEANER**

Between 2 and 4 hours a week to fit in with Village Hall events.

Applicants must be flexible about this.
£7.50 an hour.

Any enquires or to apply please ring Committee member Tom McLean on 445471.



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2012

This year to be held at Trinity Methodist Church, Parson Lane Clitheroe

Friday 14th December (11am - 4.00pm),
Saturday 15th December (10.00am - 2.00pm)
Sunday 16th December (11.30am - 4.00pm).

The RIBBLE VALLEY Mayor will open the festival at 11am on Friday morning with musical items from pupils of Pendle Primary School

At least 30 trees on show decorated by local organisations

Saturday there will be craft stalls during the day

Joy to the World 2012' will be performed in the evening by The Clitheroe Christians in Partnership Choir and Orchestra

Refreshments will be available each day



Happy Christmas from the Editor

Material for publication may be emailed to the Editor
tom@ingsend.co.uk

or send by snail to
Downham Editor,
Ings End Barn,
Rimington,
Clitheroe, BB7 4EH

The Children's Society

Whalley Deanery Fund Raising Committee

Candlelight Supper

The Kings Centre

Millthorne Avenue off Henthorne Road Clitheroe BB7 2LE

on **Sunday 24th February, 2013**

7.00 for 7.30 p.m.

BRING A BOTTLE OF WINE
(and your glasses)
Soft Drinks available
Vegetarian Option available
Selection of Salads
Delicious Puddings

Entertainment after the meal

Why not come along and enjoy the evening
Support the Society
by making a donation at the Supper



Canon Galilee to preach the Assheton sermon

Welcome Canon David Galilee, formerly Canon Chancellor (now Canon Emeritus) of Blackburn Cathedral to preach the Assheton sermon on January 27th. A native of Norton-on-Tees, county Durham, Canon Galilee was ordained sixty years ago, serving as a curate, then vicar in Leicester. He then left parish ministry for a time to teach both at Westcott House theological college and Homerton teachers' training college in Cambridge, after which he stayed in East Anglia as a vicar in the isle of Ely. Parish ministry then took him to Croydon, where he served as incumbent of St Mildred's, Addiscombe, after which he moved to Blackburn in 1995, continuing in his Cathedral post until his retirement nine years later.

As Canon Chancellor, Canon Galilee was concerned with encouraging the clergy to keep up their theological reading. A highlight of his year was the Bishop's reading week for invited clergy in January at St Deiniol's Library, Hawarden, near Chester, which he enjoyed leading. He still enjoys his theological reading and is glad to help in the parishes of Blackburn diocese. Canon Galilee's wife, Isobel, sadly died in 2006. The mother of his three children, Isobel was "a very bright Scot", who distinguished herself in English studies at Aberdeen and Cambridge.

Blessed with a great sense of humour, Canon Galilee jokes that his main claim to fame lies in his teaching in a Hertfordshire prep school between school and university, where one of his pupils was Harry Philby, son of Kim Philby, the spy.

RN

Christmas Concert in Chatburn church

Some tickets are still available for this year's Christmas concert in Christ Church, Chatburn on Friday 7th December at 7.30pm, featuring over 30 songs of the world's most beautiful music. They will be performed by top regional singers, including John Garrett leading The Civic Nelson Ladies Choir and a new opera quartet, The Scholars, and a popular return by request of soprano Grace O Malley, who this year came first at the Eisteddfod Music Competition. All of this will be in the marvellous acoustics of the candlelit church, along with a selection of Christmas Carols for all to join in. Once again, there will be popular video support on the big screen.

Tickets are £8 including light refreshment, and can be obtained from Roy Porter Butcher Chatburn, or calling 441624 or (01254) 384893. Proceeds are to be split between The Church Army and the up keep of the church.

RN

DOWNHAM PARISH MEETING

7pm Wednesday 14th November

ISSUES discussed, included the thorny issue of dog waste! The RVBC dog waste bin has been removed for the present as it was not being used enough, though there was concern that it should be returned. Clarification is being sought from RVBC as to whether the normal litter bins can be used instead. There was general agreement that the practice of bagging dog muck and hanging it on fences and bushes, was even worse than leaving it to rot! More information will be forthcoming.

Speeding traffic through the Village and on Chatburn Road was again a source of worry. The Police have promised to step up their presence, particularly at rush hour.

The problem of traffic moving up and down Downham Road, Chatburn, with cars parked on both sides was raised. Chatburn Parish council and LCC are well aware of the problem, and are investigating possible solutions.

The Meeting re-elected Ralph Assheton as Chairman, & Di Braithwaite as Correspondent.

THE PARISH CHURCH REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

DOWNHAM hosted the district British Legion Remembrance Service this year at 10.50am, which had the added significance of falling on November 11th. Church was very full and started with the act of remembrance with banner and bugle. The collection for the work of the British Legion amounted to £230.

SHOE BOXES

102 Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes were collected from Anne and Derek's home a week ago, to benefit children in Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa, many of whom would not otherwise receive a Christmas present. Anne and Derek are grateful for the gifts from Downham, together with those from Chatburn and Low Moor. RN

ST LEONARD'S DAY

As has become the custom over the last few years we marked the day of our Patron Saint, with a gentle two hours tidy-ing jobs around the Church on Saturday 10th November. Particular attention was given to our three war graves, marking them in advance of the Sunday service with poppy crosses. Thanks to Molly who kept the workers going with coffee and biscuits.

After reports that the vacuum cleaner in Church was broken, repairs have been carried out and it is back in action. Cleaners are asked to please report any future faults to a Warden or Sidesman so that repairs can be repeated. RCA

ASSHETON SERMON 2013

THIS will be preached by Canon David Galilee on Sunday, 27th January, 2013 at the 11.00 morning service.

VILLAGE HALL



JUNE Weaver will talk to the History Group on Monday, 3rd December at 7.30 pm. Her presentation is called 'Tales from my Family History' and is based on her 19th and 20th century ancestors the Chews, Pyes and Simpsons, who grew up around Gisburn & Grindleton.

Her book 'A Bakers Dozen' was published in 2009 and is in Clitheroe library. GC

TRIVIA QUIZ

THE quiz held on Friday evening 9th November raised £303 for Village Hall funds. Organiser and Quiz presenter Carol Palmer is still hoping it may be a bit more ; she still has some promised donations to come.

Everyone enjoyed the evening, several have asked when is the next one? Carol provided an excellent range of questions and Tim, from Country Kitchen, an excellent Pie and Pea supper. Thanks to John Palmer for staffing the box office and to Joshua Palmer who very expertly sold raffle tickets and acted as runner, collecting the scores from tables for the master score sheet.

The winning team collected a bottle of wine each. The rest of us had to be content that we had all done so well...
....



GARDEN CLUB

On Thursday, 1st November at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. The topic was supposed to be Folk Lore and Wild Flowers. Members were initially disappointed to hear that due to technical reasons to do with speaker, Cliff Astin's projector, the pictures were not available. It was soon revealed that Cliff was something of a stand-up comic. He treated the audience to an hour of funny stories about language, including malapropisms, school boy howlers, exam errors and daft notices, altogether an enjoyable substitute. We look forward to the postponed talk with some enthusiasm. Members enjoyed refreshments and the RAFFLE!

Our next meeting is the Christmas Party at Greendale on Thursday, 6th December at 7.30 pm. If anyone can help Carol with a raffle prize will they do so soon please. CA

COFFEE CLUB

THOUGH it may look like it, Olive and I are not taking turns at being ill when Coffee Club comes around! Thanks to everyone who helped me on the day and made my morning a lot simpler. It is just as well that Olive had not left the baking to me!

The next meeting will be 13th December when we hope you will all join us for a glass of sherry and the usual coffee and cakes.

DAwb

Spellbound with Polar Bears and more

DUE to the PCC elections, Downham WI had a change of venue for their November meeting, being very warmly welcomed at Greendale Restaurant. We thank them for stepping into the breach. President Julie Parker led a minute's silence in memory of Rose Lambert who had been a member since 1955.



A lovely lady, who will be much missed, Rose continued to attend and help at meetings well into her 90's.



Julie Parker was unanimously re-elected President at the AGM in October. Susan Whittaker as Vice President, Christine Newhouse, Secretary, with the following committee members: Marion Courtney, Andrea Kay, Frances Garner, Barbara Lewis, Margaret Nixon, Rosemary Norgrove, Daphne Porter, Margaret Smalley and Pam Titterington

There was a reminder to ask Barbara for the Christmas Party menu choice, also to let her know if not going.

Members and friends were then treated to films by 'Spellbound' from Downham member Anne Sharp and her husband Gordon. Their delightful films are now known throughout Lancashire and neighbouring Yorkshire and very much appreciated by the 'home' crowd. Mince pies and coffee was served to complete the enjoyable evening.

On Thursday 17th January 2013, 7.30pm, we return to Downham Village Hall when the speaker is Karen Corless with a 'Valentine cupcakes demonstration' Plus make one of your own for £1.

The competition is 'A favourite teacup' and the Sales Table: Christmas overhang. New friends are welcome to join us, ring 01200 446620 for more information.

The bingo night went so well that several guests asked when is the next one! Tim from Waddington had provided supper, soon running out of his popular cheese and onion pie. As the members had given the wonderful prizes, the proceeds from the evening, which are being used for the Downham WI Denman bursary, amounted to £321. Denman is the WI's own college near Oxford, anyone can attend a variety of courses there - even men, and you can also book B & B.

Many thanks to all who helped, not least those who bought tickets. CN