			Parish Calend	dar 2015			
December			Event	Sidesmen & women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners	
3rd	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	Chris	tmas Dinner	
6th	Advent II	11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs B. Lewis	NO FLOWERS	Mrs S. Travis Mrs A, Chadwick	
		6.30 pm	Village Hall Mgt Cttee	Mosting of Comm	ittaa naatnanad	from 16th Docomb	
7th	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	Meeting of Committee postponed from 16th Decemb			
9th	Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs P. McFall	latibum Omist O	Hulch	
		12.00 noon	Coffee Club	Village Hall	Chris	tmas Lunch	
10th	Thursday	12.,15 pm	Wedding	James I	Da Costa & Emma Cooper		
		7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall	Sp	pellbound	
13th	Advent III	11.00am	Matins Revd Anne Hardacre	Mr I. Walton	IN	Mr & Mrs B. Lewis	
20th	Advent IV	11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mt T. McLean	ADVENT	Mr & Mrs J. Whitsey	
21st	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	Chat	Chatburn Methodist Church		
23rd	Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mr T McLean		^	
2310		2.00 pm	Decorate Church				
0.4+h	Thursday Christmas Eve	3.00 pm	Christingle Revd Andy Froud	Mrs B Lewis			
24th		11.30 pm	Midnight Mass Canon David Mewis	Chatburn Christ Church			
25th	Friday Christmas Day	11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mr B Lewis			
	·		·	1			
27th	Christmas I	11.00 am	Carol Service Revd Andy Froud	Mrs E. Parker		Mrs D. Braithwaite Mrs F Eldridge	
	January, 20	016					
	1	- I		T	l		
3rd	Christmas II	11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs P. McFall	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs A. Moyle Mrs D. Wilkins	
6th	Wednesday	Epiphan					

# **OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE** – Revd Andy Froud

The Vicarage Church Street Clitheroe BB7 2DD 01200 423317 / 0796 957 6691

#### **OUR CHURCH WARDENS**

The Hon Ralph Assheton – 441210 Mrs Philippa McFall—441484

#### VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman and Bookings Secretary Mr Shaun Roney—441667 Hon Secretary The Hon Mrs R. C. Assheton—441210



# www.downhamvillage.org.uk



# parish of st. Leonard downham & twiston newsletter



2015 Issue 12 DECMBER

# From The Revd ANDY FROUD

Dear Friends



"Drill for oil? You mean drill into the ground to try and find oil? You're crazy." --Associates of Edwin L. Drake refusing his suggestion to drill for oil in 1859.

"Guitar groups are on their way out, Mr. Epstein," *Decca Records Dick Rowe to the manager of the Beatles 1962* 

History is littered with examples of people's failed predictions: it could almost be said that history is the record of people's failed predictions. As I write this in 2015 I wonder what 2016 will hold for us, our church and our world: sadly a fairly safe prediction is war, conflict,

injustice. Business, as they say, as usual.

Into this world God sent HIs Son. It was a birth predicted by the prophets of the Jewish Scriptures (what we call the Old Testament) Prophecy, though, is not the same as prediction, although it may contain some prediction in it. The prophet speaks the word of God. And the word of God is not just about the future but about how we respond now. One of the Old Testament's best known prophets is Jonah. Reluctantly, and after possibly the most bizarre detours in history (no, you don't have a sat nav fail story to match) he gave God's message of repentance to the people of Ninevah. When they did repent, God withdrew His threat of destruction, much to Jonah's annoyance.

We are still called to repent of the evil we have done and the good we have failed to do. And I believe that call is for everyone everyday. Maybe if we were all to fully heed that call to repentance that the prophets made and which Jesus repeated, we would live in a better world.

A final thought - maybe some predictions just take longer to come true:

"The ordinary "horseless carriage" is at present a luxury for the wealthy; and although its price will probably fall in the future, it will never, of course, come into as common use as the bicycle."

Literary Digest, 1899

Every blessing for Christmas and the New Year

Yours in Christ,



**S** tir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES								
	September	October	2015					
COMMUNICANTS	54	50	1,213					
COLLECTIONS								
SERVICES	700		1,845					
VISITORS	140		539					
DONATIONS	444		12,314					
HOUSE BOXES	20		54					
SPECIAL	588		3,525					
TOTAL	1,8	18,277						

#### IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS

Bob Swarbrick, David Awbery, Olive Awbery, Carole Ashworth, Edith Hart Helen Addy

#### DAVID AWBERY HAS WRITTEN:

OLIVE and I would like to thank all those in Downham and Twiston who have given support over the past two months following my recent illness. We have been most touched by all the offers of help which we have received from friends and neighbours, and once again have been most impressed by the level of community spirit in the village. I am now making a good recovery, and look forward to getting back to normal activities.

Dave Awbery

# FROM THE CHOIR TO RESIDENTS OF TWISTON

CHOIR members are looking forward to singing in Twiston on Sunday 20th December from about 6.30 pm . They have not sung around this part of the parish for a few years Diana and Stephen having invited choir and neighbours to Lower Smithy Fold . Choir says it isn't much fun singing to empty houses so they ask that if you would like the choir to call on their way round please call Diana Braithwaite on 441277. KW

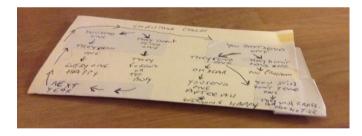


# **SPECTATOR**

HRISTMAS is upon us once again. In fact it's upon us earlier each year and with but one aim, to part us from our money! Although this could be a good thing as we were reminded in a sermon recently it is "easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven" I should be ok though, and Jon, because I follow this very wise old saying, "what's yours is mine and what's mine's me own!". So if I have no riches, Jon definitely doesn't—because I spend his first!

My very lovely friend Carmel sent me a funny drawing which highlighted some of the problems sending and receiving Christmas cards. I decided a few years ago to cut down on card sending and make a donation to charity which I feel is more in keeping with the spirit of the season. A card can be nice from people we rarely see, but not those with circulars detailing everyone's exciting lives. They always make me feel a bit boring (and pleasant!) when the only exciting thing here is we're both falling over a bit more!,

When I worked, I took mince pies in every Christmas. Much more enjoyable than having to write out tons of cards or getting tons of cards, mostly from colleagues who felt pressured into giving them. The first cards that arrive here get opened to "oohs" and "aahs" then they start pouring in and I run out of places to put them, but as 'r Elaine' cousin from Bradford pointed out, if I have cards pouring in, it means lots of people are thinking about me.. Aw..I never thought of that, and then she said, and I quote...."A tree said to me one day, if I am going to be anything please let it be a tree. But if I can't be a tree I would rather be a greetings card than a loo roll!" ( actually, now I think about it, we're not related at all!) So on that bewildering and somewhat disturbing note, and before 'r Elaine', whoever she is, has another comment on the subject, I would like to wish all my lovely friends and neighbours A Very, Very Happy Christmas. And to those friends and neighbours worrying about camels and needles, and now..talking trees,! please note that I can always find room for small or large expensive gifts! Hee hee, Keep smiling X



The drawing was quite amusing but not too clear so:

You send one, they send one ..everyone happy. You send one , they don't send one..they forgot / too busy. So next year You don't send one, they send one..oh dear..so You send one after all... Everyone happy..or You don't send one, they don't send one.. no problem or You don't send one, they send one, you still don't send one..they will be cross..or not notice.......

NIGHTMARE! (much clearer ....Ed).

		— 7
	Our thanks to The Parish Newsletter Sponsors	
	for the December issue	
	Bowland Bio Energy and Dr & Mrs David Awbery	
$\Box$		

#### STIR UP SUNDAY

RADITIONALLY, families gathered together in the kitchen to mix and steam Christmas pudding on Stir-up Sunday (the Sunday next before advent). The collect for this particular Sunday is at the top of page 2.

Parents teach their children how to mix ingredients for the pudding. Everyone takes a turn to stir the pudding mixture; each person involved is able to make a special wish for the year ahead. Practically, stirring the mixture is hard work, therefore as many as possible are involved.

By tradition the pudding mixture is stirred from East to West in honour of the three wise men who visited the baby Jesus.

In some households, silver coins are added to the pudding mixture. It is believed that finding a coin brings good luck. Nowadays, sterilised (i.e. boiled) silver coins may be placed under each serving on Christmas Day to avoid emergency visits to the dentist - and family arguments.

In recent times, two-thirds of British children surveyed, revealed that they

had never experienced stirring Christmas pudding mixture. Maybe it comes with our preference for the ready made puddings available in our shops.



Material for publication may be emailed to the Editor tomingsend@talktalk.net or by snail to Downham Editor, Ings End Rimington, Clitheroe, BB7 4EH



POPULAR FUNDRAISING CANDLE LIT

# **CONCERT**

at
CHATBURN CHRIST CHURCH
on

FRIDAY 4th DECEMBER at 7.30 PM

**CLITHEROE POP CHOIR** 

St CHRISTOPHER'S SCHOOL SWING BAND

**Christmas Favourites and Carols** 

Lancashire's Largest Cracker Pull Mince Pies and Wine

Tickets £10 from Roy Porter's or call 01200 441624 or 01254 384893

In aid of Christ Church

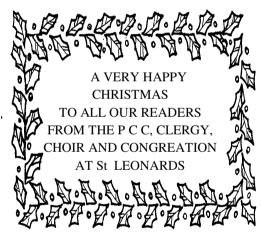


### **HISTORY GROUP**

The Group's November meeting will be a talk about the Calder Valley, a return visit by Roger Frost on Monday 30th at 7.30 pm in the Village hall. No meeting in December

# FROM ANNE HARDACRE

OPERATION Christmas child has resulted in a total of 76 Christmas shoe boxes for children in countries where there may not be any gifts this year. Revd Anne wishes to thank all those who have contributed to this large number. "It is an excellent result " she says.



# **CARDS**

CHURCH greeting cards suitable for Christmas cards but left blank inside for your own message or for use as notelets at any time. Available at back of church or Molly Roskell 01200-440450. £2.50 - Pack of 5



fantastic Display of fireworks delighting both young and old was thrown into the air on a warm but dry and clear evening. by Graeham Robinson and team, on Friday 6th November at the Village Hall car park. The display, which drew gasps of pleasure and appreciation and ending with hearty applause, was second only to the new year's eve show in our capital city.

After the display a supper was served in the hall to a hundred parishioners and visitors by Village Hall Committee members and helpers.

Our thanks are due to Barbara Lewis who made many of the arrangements for the display and supper before departing for the long awaited family visit to Australia in October and who returned in time to help with the delivery of the activities, for a really great evening.





# **ROUND AND ABOUT**

# **DOWNHAM & TWISTON**

# THE PARISH CHURCH

#### CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMNTS

**Y**E ARE approaching the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus in a well established and traditional way in Downham St Leonard, Our usual communion service on Christmas Day at 11.00 will be led by our Vicar and choir. Around this day will be a number of other activities. Starting with Carol singing led by the choir on Sunday evening 20th December at Twiston our arrangements continue with decorating the church after the austerity of Advent on Wednesday 23rd at 2.00 pm. We shall have the usual Christingle Service on Christmas Eve at 3.00pm. This will take the form of a DIY story where the congregation will make their own Christingle with materials supplied and learning the significance of the component parts as they go. Carol Singing around Downham will start at the Post Office at 6.30pm. A midnight mass starts at 11.30 pm at Christ Church, Chatburn. Our nine lessons and carol service will be at 11.00 am on Sunday, 27th December, at which we invite the congregations from our partner churches at Chatburn and Clitheroe St Marv. along with the members of the Blackburn branch of the Prayer Book Society.

#### CHURCH REPAIRS

THE long awaited repairs to the Church path have been carried out. The broken flagstones have been replaced and the worst of the wobbly ones made firm. The steps into Church have also been tidied up with new pointing between the stones.

#### ST LEONARD'S DAY

N view of the rain and gales on 7<sup>th</sup>
November, the Warden was thankful that he had not made arrangements for a Churchyard tidying party this year! There was just space between storms to ensure that our war graves were tidy and marked with a poppy.

#### **HALLOWEEN**

WHAT a night it was! All Hallows Eve and they were all there! Witches, a vampire, a ghoul and a couple of pumpkins, all that was needed was Elvis for a full house. The ice cream shop was buzzing, lots of games and prizes for the young ones and a superb supper of homemade potato pie and peas (lovely thick crust). It was a reasonably warm night for the end of October and the tables were full of chattering people, no not teeth - voices. A wonderful evening which ended with the prize for the Best Dressed Witch going to Morticia (personally I thought the vampire was quite good).

Our thanks go to Dave and Michelle for hosting this lovely evening. We must not forget though what the evening was for - to raise money for Macmillan Care  $\, f \,$  or the cancer sufferers of this country, So thanks to Michelle, David and all who donated, the sum of £132-26p has been sent to Macmillan Care . Thank you everyone. CA

#### COFFEE CLUB

T T was back to normal at the L coffee club this month. almost! Brian & Barbara were back from Aussieland full of news about their wonderful holiday (skiving I call it ). But the big news of the day is that Edith has retired from the bring & buy stall. Edith and June ran the stall from the beginning, until June moved away a couple of months since. and now Edith has decided to retire. I am sure everyone joins us in saying a big thank you for all the work you have put in for us. Of course we now needed someone else, so yours truly has volunteered, for now. Anyway Edith we all hope you enjoy yourself on the other side.

We had a very busy morning, almost sold out of cakes, it was wonderful to hear all the chatter going on. I think I can safely say a good time was had by all ..........

### **GARDENING CLUB**

ber the garden club met . What a nasty night it was! However quite a few members came and enjoyed a lovely demonstration by Gill of Sylvan Wreaths . Gill showed us how to make the base for the wreath using chicken wire and moss, then she produced all these wonderful leaves, all brought from her own garden. Marrying the two together was just using vour own imagination and trial and error even adding false flowers for porch wreaths. Gill showed us other wreaths made from such as clematis stems and other plant material. A very enjoyable evening finished of with a very amusing raffle (you had to be there) and of course supper. The next meeting is the Christmas Dinner on Thursday 3rd at 6.30 for 7.00 pm at the Village Hall and I would like to remind everyone to please take your own drink and a present, all wrapped up with a pretty bow on top. See you all there. CA

## **TARMAC**

RVBC were as good as their word in carrying out the repairs to the entrance to the village car park. Discussions are under way between RVBC and the Estate over the future management of the car park as the current arrangement is not line with what goes on elsewhere in the borough. The re-surfacing work on the track next to Ash Tree Cottage has been hampered by the endless recent rain. Thankfully the drainage repairs appear to have been reasonably successful. Now all we need is a few days of fine weather so that the contractors can lay the new tarmac. RCA



Coffee Club cont.....Oh! I nearly forgot, (par for the course). Welcome back Andy, you were missed .The next meeting will be the Christmas lunch, which will be served hopefully, around 12 noon. on Thursday, 10th December See you there! CA

PRESIDENT Frances Garner, welcomed members and guests to Downham W.I.'s Christmas outing. After a rousing singing



Christmas outing. INSPIKING WUMEN
After a rousing singing
of 'Jerusalem', members enjoyed a
delicious three course meal at Greendale
View Kitchen. Crackers were pulled and
hats were worn in the snug and cosy
restaurant.

Entertainment was provided by 'Betsy the Scullery Maid'. 'Betsy' came in, supposedly, to look for some servants for'the Big House'. She then regaled us with tales of the 'Big House' and explained what sorts of skills were needed to work there. In doing so, 'Betsy', uses the old fashioned expressions of the time and has rather a 'knowing' manner about her. It is fair to say, Betsy is hilarious, and when she found out a bit more about members of the audience, and their suitability for work in the 'Big House', it only added to the fun.

Barbara Lewis was thanked by the President, Frances Garner, for the organization and planning of the Christmas outing.

Mrs Garner also thanked Rosemary Norgrove for all the work she put into the Bingo Evening and presented her with some flowers. A substantial amount of money was raised, from the Bingo in November, towards the Denman Bursary which will be drawn at the December meeting.

The December meeting will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> at the Village Hall at 7.30. A film will be shown by Anne & Gordon Sharp. New members are always welcome.

