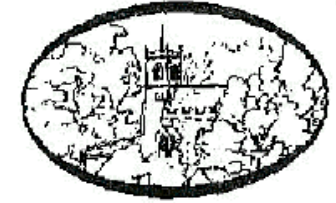


PARISH CALENDAR—2013						
February			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
3rd	Sexagesima 2nd before Lent	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs D. Braithwaite Mrs A Richardson
		11.00am	Holy Communion Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs B. Lewis		
8th	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
10th	Quinquagesima Sunday before Lent	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D. Wilkins		Mrs A. Moyle Mrs D. Wilkins
		11.00 am	United Service	Christ Church Chatburn		
11th	Monday	6.30 pm	Village Hall Mangmt Cttee	Village Hall		
13th	Ash Wednesday				NO	
17th	Lent I	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn	FLOWERS	Hon Mrs R Assheton Mrs C. Naylor
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mrs P. McFall		
19th	Tuesday	7.30 pm	PCC	Church		
21st	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall		<i>Meet the Infamous Author</i>
24th	Lent II	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs E. Parker	IN	Mrs P. McFall Mrs M. Roskell
		11.00am	Matins Revd Anne Hardacre	Mr B. Lewis		
25th	Monday	7.30 pm	History Group	Village Hall		<i>Dr Graham Cooper The Enclosures</i>
March						
3rd	Lent III	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn	LENT	Mrs G. Cragg Mrs K. Brown
		11.00am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs B. Lund		
7th	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall		
10th	Mothing Sunday		Family Service	Mrs B. Lewis Mrs A Greenhill		
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				
THIS MONTH THE NEWSLETTER HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY Downham Village Hall						

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON



newsletter

2013 Issue 2 February

From Canon Rodney Nicholson

Viewpoint

WHO would you choose as examples of courage? Talking to the children at assembly in Chatburn school last week, I selected four: a dog, a woman, a girl and a man.

The dog was Rosalie, the guide dog who led her master down 78 flights of steps at the World Trade Centre on 9/11 to escape from the burning Twin Towers. In spite of the fear which the Labrador must have had, she kept going and got her companion to safety.

The woman was Rosa Parks who refused to surrender her seat to a white man on a bus in Alabama in 1955 during the days when racial segregation besmirched some North American states. She was arrested and fined but her courage became a significant step in the Civil Rights Movement which, led by Martin Luther King, put an end to such discrimination. Today it seems unbelievable that a supposedly Christian country could treat men and women differently because of the colour of their skin. Yet before about 1990 the Church in Britain was by no means united in its opposition to apartheid in South Africa. It took the campaigning efforts of individuals to change that evil system.

The girl was Malala Yousafzai, the 14-year-old targeted by the Taliban for her championing of girls' education. A gunman, boarding her school bus in Pakistan's Swat Valley, initially caused some amusement by asking, "Which one is Malala?", because she was the only girl with her head uncovered. "I am," she replied. He responded by shooting her in the head. Malala had written three years earlier about the Taliban's efforts to keep girls out of school. Now convalescing after her time in Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital she has a strong volume of opinion proposing her for the Nobel Peace Prize.

The last example was St Stephen in the New Testament who was stoned to death for preaching the death and resurrection of Jesus, and whose holiness allowed him a glimpse into heaven where he actually saw Jesus at God's right hand. Courage shown on behalf of others or in the cause of justice inspires us. We would never have received the Bible or the Christian gospel without the perseverance and courage of men and women of God. For many of us, courage may involve saying unpopular things, such as defending gypsies or people on benefit, or disapproving of bad language, or even bringing God into the conversation.

Rodney N. Assheton

O LORD, who for our sake didst fast forty days and forty nights; Give us grace to use such abstinence, that our flesh being subdued in the Spirit, we may ever obey thy godly motions in righteousness, and true holiness, to thy honour and glory, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	December	2012
COMMUNICANTS	94	633
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	497	3,019
VISITORS	42	816
DONATIONS	275	11,050
HOUSE BOXES	30	214
TOTALS	844	15,099

OUR PRAYERS ARE SAID FOR

Karen Walker of Greendale who is undergoing treatment.

Bob Swarbrick who is making progress.

Freda Whipp good wishes and prayers for Freda Whipp who was in Blackburn Hospital and now at Clitheroe hospital but is recovering quite well.

WELCOME

Lily Serban who has been appointed the new housekeeper at Downham Hall. She will be living in the East Wing when the refurbishment programme is completed and will be joined by her three year old daughter Valerie at the end of February and her husband Laz in the Spring.

FAREWELL ADELE

ADELE Young, our organist for twenty years, takes up her new appointment from the beginning of February. She has written some lines for this Newsletter. We appreciate enormously her contribution to music at St Leonard's. Adele has given of her best, coping with rather a difficult instrument, and has always played with accomplishment, giving a good musical lead and thereby ensuring that good worship is offered.

As well as playing on Sundays, she has delighted many wedding couples by her playing and has been appreciated by those holding a funeral service here. We trust that she will be happy at another St Leonard's – Langho – and will always be glad to hear from her.

We do not yet have an organist to replace Adele but, for the present, the playing will be shared by Robert Tattersall, organist at St Paul's, and James Robinson, a young man who has links with St James but who plays at St Mary's, Clitheroe on occasions, as well as at other churches.

RN

THERE'S PLENTY OF MONEY AROUND

RODNEY NICHOLSON

SOME of the young people in our extended family are delightful and also really rather well off. In this apparent recession they have no problem in travelling to far-flung destinations and enjoying themselves when at home, which of course is most of the time. There is nothing wrong with their having money, so long as they are equally generous in their charitable giving, but I would not know about that.

Jesus never condemned people for being rich. Indeed some women of independent means supported his ministry, and Joseph of Arimathea had the finances to provide him with a first-class tomb. Nevertheless, I am sure that Jesus would approve of Oxfam's making public the startling fact, assuming it's true, that the richest 100 people in the world earn enough money in a year to end poverty four times over for the world's poorest. The richest 100 receive a net income of £150,000,000.000 year, whereas those in extreme poverty exist on 78p per day.

Some of the richest people, like Bill Gates, have given a marvellous example of generosity as, nearer home, has John Lancaster. Nevertheless, it is worth asking if both taxation and trading systems are weighted in favour of the wealthy, as Oxfam say they are.

What is nonsense, and frankly insulting, is the statement of Chancellor George Osborne, repeated by the Prime Minister that "we are all in it together". My comfortably-off young relatives are not "in it together" with a young couple I know who have just had £100 taken off their benefits. £10 is nothing to a comparatively well-off couple; it is a large amount to someone who is struggling. The Ribble Valley has plenty of rich people whom it is absurd to link with a young person desperate for a job, with the notion that "we're all in it together". The rich, myself included, do not know what it is to be spoken to harshly or patronisingly at the Job Centre.

So, yes, there's nothing wrong with money or wealth in themselves. Money never was "the root of all evil", as the song says. Money has a huge power for good. It's the love of money that brings the evil. Even so, the rich should gladly embrace a greater tax liability in the cause of the country of which they are so fond, accepting that taxation is a right and Christian activity. And most of us should openly declare that on a world-wide scale we are indeed rich. If we acknowledge that and accept what David Sheppard, a former Bishop of Liverpool called "God's bias to the Poor", then our thinking is at least on the right lines.

Soup lunches

ST PAUL'S hosts a soup lunch every month, with no charge but donations. The last one was a bit low on numbers, through the weather, but we still raised £90 for The Leprosy Mission. RN

DOWNHAM & TWISTON TIMEBANK

THE Timebank received £50 from the BBC after the filming of the *Secret of Crickley Hall*. As the running costs of the Timebank are minimal, the money was used to add to the Equipment Bank. So, we now have a travel cot suitable for babies from birth and a car booster seat for a small child. They can be used for visiting friends and relatives or borrowed to use yourself away from home.

The Timebank has been used several times for lifts to hospitals, so please remember the Timebank if you're wondering how to get to an appointment or to visit someone. We have several people offering lifts so there's a good chance someone will be available. It's customary in Timebanks to offer the person taking you the price of petrol and parking.

SH 01200 440912



**CHARITY
QUIZ
NIGHT**
FRIDAY
15th MARCH
7.30pm

West Bradford Village Hall
Quiz Master BILL HONEYWELL
Hot Buffet supper by Tim Slater

Admission by Ticket only £10
Telephone 01200 422 104
Or Ann and Trevor 01200 423689

Chatburn Concert

Christ Church Chatburn
Friday February 8th at 7.30 pm
Nigel Ogden
of "The Organist Entertains"
and the Haslingden Ladies' Choir
Another stunning evening
Tickets £8 from Roy Porter, butchers.

Chatburn Film

The next Chatburn film night is on
Wednesday February 13th at 7.30pm
"Mission Impossible Ghost Protocol"
starring Tom Cruise
There is no charge
just a plate for donations
Refreshments at the end.

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
John Garret and Pupils

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

Tragedy in Scotland

HAVING climbed the noble mountain, Bidean nam bian, which towers above Glencoe, a couple of times, though not in winter, I was interested and saddened to hear of the deaths of four climbers there last Saturday – one of them from Balderstone. Though experienced winter climbers, they came to grief through walking on a snow ledge which collapsed, sending them 1000 feet to their death. Exhilaration and fun were suddenly changed to death, injury and bereavement. "In the midst of life we are in death." We do well always to remember that.

We also do well to see the foolishness of that expression, "conquering a mountain". Everest was first climbed in 1953 but it was not conquered. Mountains are never conquered nor even tamed. A bit like God, really. Both need approaching with awe and reverence, but God also welcomes us with love, even running to meet us.

RN

THE FOREST OF BOWLAND ANNUAL EVENTS GUIDE

"Festival Bowland", is now available and has something for everyone!

EVENTS for 2013 include both old favourites and new suggestions, including strenuous hikes over the fells, to more moderate days discovering some of Bowland's beautiful rivers, valleys and woodlands. Fun children's activities, the opportunity to learn new skills and the chance to look out for some of Bowland's special wildlife, will also be on offer over the coming months.

To mark Bowland Hay Time, our partnership project with the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, we have lots of events to help you discover and enjoy one of the AONB's rarest habitats – upland hay meadows. These species-rich, traditionally managed meadows are a riot of colour in the summer months and provide food for a range of insects, so why not come along to one of our events and find out how the project is working to conserve and increase this wonderful part of Bowland's farming heritage.

Our "Discover Bowland..." series this year includes garden design history, medieval deer parks and archaeology. So if you've ever wanted to dig that bit deeper into the area's past, then these days could be just what you're after.

If you're looking for family-friendly events, then why not come along to Downham village hall during February half-term (during the period 18th to 22nd February) for our "Creatures of the Forest" mask making workshop, or pop up to Gisburn Forest in the Easter holidays for an Easter Earthwalk? We'll also be holding our very first Hay Time Family Day in June – just down the road at Gazegill Farm in Rimington – flowery fun for everyone!

For more information, you can pick up a Festival Bowland 2013 booklet from the Tourist Information Centres in Clitheroe or Barrowford, or download one from the AONB website at www.forestofbowland.com. Booking details are given with each event, but if you'd like to book onto the mask making or Earthwalk events, then contact Sandra Silk on 01200 448000 or email sandra.silk@lancashire.gov.uk SS

ADELE HAS WRITTEN TO US

On the 3rd of Febuary, I will be taking up a permanent position at St Leonard's Church in Langho. I am very sad to be leaving you all and have enjoyed the 20 years I have been with you. Thankyou for all your kind comments and helpful feedback over the years. I'm so glad you enjoyed my music. I especially loved working with Kirsty, Anne, Di, Cath and Alice, who are such a great choir that any church could be proud of! I appreciated their support and patience in my musical journey of learning a new style. (I was previously an electronic organist). Also, I enjoyed working alongside the great clergy that Downham has, especially Rodney, Alan and Anne. I appreciated their support also and loved listening to their inspirational sermons. I will miss you all!. All the best for the future.
Adele.

THE PARISH CHURCH

CAROLS ROUND DOWNHAM

THE St Leonard's Choir and friends sang Carols around Downham on Christmas Eve. Together with the collection from Twiston on 17th December, over £240 was raised for the Organ Fund.
DB

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

OUR Christmas Family Service, the Christingle was on Christmas Eve at 3.00 pm. Volunteers had manufactured the Christingles on Saturday and the Vicar Canon Nicholson distributed and lit them during the service, which was well attended and included some favourite Carols. The Church had been decorated also on Saturday and so the Tree looked lovely.

Our next family service will be mid-lent, Mothering Sunday, 10th March at 11.00 am.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF CAROLS AND NINE LESSONS

ST. LEONARD'S congregation, was joined at 11.00 am on Sunday 30th December, by congregations from Chatburn and Low Moor for this annual event.

ASSHETON SERMON 2013

THIS will be preached by Canon David Galilee on Sunday, 27th January, 2013 at the 11.00 service of Morning Prayer



BUSY YEAR FOR WEDDINGS

2013 IS a busy year for weddings at St Leonard's, with eight currently booked. This compares with five at Low Moor and three at Chatburn.

RN

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

CAROL Palmer's sterling efforts in organising what was a very popular Quiz Night proved a great success, raising a much needed £300 for Village Hall Funds – and quite a bit of jealousy and not much cheating. Really. Another will be planned for the coming year.

Gardens Open will take place on the weekend of 27th/28th July in aid of the Village Hall and Rosemere Cancer Foundation. More details to follow, but any offers of help at this early stage would be very welcome.

Due to a booking clash, the 2nd May coffee club will take place at Downham Hall.

Yvonne Snowden has accepted the position of part time cleaner at the Village Hall – many thanks to Pat for all her work in the past.

The committee, under the direction of Dave Awbery, will be undertaking practical work to the areas of the hall where salts have leached through the plaster, to bring these back to a good standard in time for some very good bookings for weddings and parties in the coming year.

A review is being undertaken of the terms and conditions of hire and hire prices to bring them in line with other local village halls.

Watch out for the beautiful new planting in the spring – thanks to Dave and Olive Awbery and Frances and Peter Eldridge for the bulbs and planting and to the WI for weeding the car park.

Costs of running the hall are rising and the committee members are researching a number of new fundraising ideas and events. Please support them as they are advertised – or suggest an event of your own.

OA

GARDEN CLUB

THE Garden club reopens on 7th March



COFFEE CLUB



IT WAS 'Happy New Year' all round at our first meeting of the year, on such a very misty day it was good to see a bit of cheer. We are always glad to

welcome new visitors from the village and hope they feel that they can pop in any time in the future. A chance to pick up a good book or a bargain from the Bring and Buy Stall.

The spring bulbs are already poking through in the car park, but we were sorry to see that the small animals (squirrels, mice etc.?) had been digging them up!!

Our next Coffee Club will be 14th February, look forward to seeing you then. OAw



AT THE next meeting of the History Group on Monday, 25th February, at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Dr Graham Cooper will be giving a presentation on "Enclosure of the Commons and Wastes"

The hedges and walls in the countryside are testament to the enclosure of open field arable, commons and wastes (open, uncultivated and unoccupied land). The enclosure in many cases led to the extinguishing of common rights and the transfer of ownership to individual proprietors. Improvement of the newly-enclosed land was encouraged – drainage, soil improvement, access roads etc. The well-illustrated talk will show how this was achieved locally from late medieval times to the 19th century, particularly with regard to the commons and wastes.

GC

ON a cold and icy January evening last week, Downham WI enjoyed a very well attended meeting. Members were looking forward to the talk by Karen Corless, who gave a 'Valentine Cupcake' demonstration. Karen showed us many imaginative ways to decorate cupcakes, and gave us a range of useful tips on how to go about it. Everybody enjoyed the demonstration and the opportunity to decorate two cupcakes of their own and take them home to eat! It was a very enjoyable talk.



Members gave reports on pre-Christmas visits to the 'Christmas Market at Chatsworth' and a course on 'Wreath Making' at W.I. House, both of which were very much enjoyed by participants.

We would like to thank those members and their husbands who did such a good job of weeding the daffodil beds by the village hall before Christmas.

Up and coming events to look forward to include the Federation Quiz on the 28th January at West Bradford Village Hall and the Spring Council Meeting on the 19th March in Southport, when the speaker will be Jenny Bond.

Our next Meeting is on Thursday, 21st February at 7.30 in Downham Village Hall. The speaker will be Linda Sawley who will give a talk on 'Meet the Infamous Author'.

A.K.

RAIN, RAIN, RAIN

IN December 8.28 inches of rain was recorded in the Barleyfield. This brings our total for 2012 to 67.32 inches. This beat the previous record set in 2000 of 65.00 inches, and is 17.5 inches more than the 44 inch average over the last 160 years



Hopefully 2013 will be less damp!

RCA