




Parish Calendar 2016						
February			Event	Sidesmen & women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
1st	Monday	7.30 pm.	Joyful Noise	Chatburn Methodist Church		
7th	Epiphany V	11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs B. Lewis	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mr & Mrs H. Brown
10th	Ash Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs P. McFall		
11th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
14th	Lent I	11.00am	Matins Revd Jim Duxbury	Mr I. Walton	NO	Mrs S. Travis Mrs A. Chadwick
15th	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	Chatburn Christ Church		
18th	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall		
21st	Lent II	11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Anne Hardacre	Mt T. McLean	FLOWERS	Mr & Mrs B. Lewis
22nd	Monday	7.30 pm	History Group	Village Hall	<i>The Coal Mines of Read: Brian Jeffries</i>	
24th	Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mr T McLean	IN	
		7.30 pm	PCC	Village Hall		
28th	Lent III	11.00 am	Matins Revd Anne Hardacre	Mr B Lewis	LENT	Mr & Mrs J. Whitsey
29th	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	Chatburn Methodist Church		
March						
6th	Mothering Sunday	11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs P. McFall		Mrs D. Braithwaite Mrs F Eldridge
<p>OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE – Revd Andy Froud The Vicarage Church Street Clitheroe BB7 2DD 01200 423317 / 0796 957 6691</p> <p>OUR CHURCH WARDENS The Hon Ralph Assheton – 441210 Mrs Philippa McFall—441484</p> <p>VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Chairman and Bookings Secretary Mr Shaun Roney—441667 Hon Secretary The Hon Mrs R. C. Assheton—441210</p>						
 www.downhamvillage.org.uk 						

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD
DOWNHAM & TWISTON



newsletter

2016 Issue 2 FEBRUARY

From The Revd ANDY FROUD

Dear Friends

It would take a heart of stone not to be stirred by one of our great cathedrals. The size, beauty and majesty of, for example, York Minster is meant to inspire worship. For me, though, the most amazing and awe-inspiring dimension to almost every cathedral is that they were built over hundreds of years, in many cases by people who would not live to see the fruition of their labours. In an age where people are seized by every passing fad and fancy, our cathedrals stand as monuments to, amongst other things, those who planned beyond their life-time. It's not true, of course, that what we might call having "a cathedral heart" has entirely died out in our culture, which sadly seems so often to be driven by the year-end results. Today those who work on deep space missions know that their machines will outlive them and their journeys will take them past their makers careers and lifetimes end.

However large or small our church may be, I believe that we need to have "cathedral hearts", or to put it in today's language, "to play the long game". There is no more corrosive phrase, in my opinion, than one which I have heard from older people since my childhood: "it'll see me out". I hereby authorise you to kick me repeatedly if you catch me saying this! It's corrosive because it starts from "me" which is the wrong place for a Christian to start, and in my experience things which see someone out rarely do anything else.

The Diocesan Vision 2026, which you will hear a lot more about, if you haven't already, is looking forward to the centenary of Blackburn Diocese. We have been challenged by Bishop Julian to plan ahead for the year 2026 and ask ourselves: if we aren't around, what will God's church be like?

Yours



Our thanks to The Parish Newsletter Sponsor
for the FEBRUARY 2016 issue
Mrs Sandra Houston of Greenville North Carolina

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	December	2015
COMMUNICANTS	101	1,358
COLLECTIONS	££	
SERVICES	120	2,002
VISITORS	45	609
DONATIONS	3,315	15,924
HOUSE BOXES	72	72
SPECIAL	1,043	4,468
TOTAL	4,585	23,075

IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS

Bob Swarbrick, Helen Addy, Jean Whitsey The Family of the late Joan Hoar.

WEDDING

SUNDAY 3rd January saw the marriage of Sharon Hugh and Stewart Curtis of Lower Gate Farm, Twiston, at Clitheroe Castle Atrium.

The bride, in a full length golden gown was given away by her son Michael, with her daughter Lorraine acting as maid of honour. Stewart, resplendent in top hat and tails, was ably and humorously supported by his best man and ex forces comrade Keith.

There was a strong soul music theme to the event and Sharon entered to the northern soul classic "I'm on my way" which was also the closing song of the evening. The wedding breakfast was provided by the Atrium, with Roy Porter supplying a hog roast for later in the evening. Guests were entertained by a DJ and later by the terrific singing voice of Ian Edwards, Stewart's company CEO and ex manager of Bryan Adams.

We wish them a long and happy future together.

BG

JOAN HOAR Ne WATSON

THE older residents of the village will remember the Watson family who lived at Chestnut Cottage. The second of the four daughters born to Edith and Tom Watson has died.

Joan spent her last forty years in Welwyn Garden City where she lived after her husband passed away, but her frequent visits to Pendle Hill and Downham village always fulfilled her yearning for 'home', when she visited her Mother during the last years of Edith's life. A country girl, never happier than walking the lanes and countryside around Downham, will I'm sure be remembered fondly by all who knew her. She died on January 12th 2016. AM

SPECTATOR

It's number 2 daughter Vicky's birthday this month and I feel truly blessed and slightly amazed to have 'produced' not just one, but 3 totally wonderful girls. A good friend of mine said being a mother is the toughest job you will ever have. True, and as difficult as it can be when children are young, it can border on nightmarish when they become teenagers! I read somewhere that parenting comes naturally, but, naturally as you yourself were parented. When it came to children, my own parents must have followed the Mark Twain school of thought, "**what are they in the world for? I don't know ..for they have no practical value as far as I can see**" and "**when boys (children) reach 12 they should be locked in a barrel and fed through a knot hole until they are 16then the knot hole should be blocked up**" It's a miracle I'm as normal as I am (Erm...I can hear sniggering!).

My own parenting skills developed slowly and Vicky, especially, tested them to the limit. Our arguments usually ended with me yelling, "I hope when you have children they will be just as horrible to you!" (I know I know) Vicky now has two lovely girls and often reminds me of **The Curse!**

Hands up if you remember your mum using the following sayings, or if you used them yourself...what goes round comes around!

What My Mother Taught Me about:

Religion"you'd better pray that comes out of the carpet"

Foresight ... "make sure you've got clean underwear on in case you're in an accident"

Irony.. "keep crying and I'll give you something to cry about"

Contortion "will you look at the dirt on the back of your neck"

Weather... This room of yours looks like a tornado has passed through it"

Envy... "there are many less fortunate children who don't have wonderful parents like you"

Anticipation.... "just wait until we get home"

Receiving..... "you are going to get it when we get home"

Humour... "when that lawnmower cuts off your toes don't come running to me"

Justice... "one day you will have kids and I hope they turn out just like you"

Actually, if Vicky's girls turn out exactly like her, then she will have done something right and should be as proud of them as I am of her. Happy Birthday Vicky X

Festival of Bowland Event in February

Family Star Gazing Friday 12th February 7.00pm – 9.00pm Gisburn Forest Hub. Come and experience an unforgettable night under the stars in the Forest of Bowland! We will be your guide, taking you on an incredible journey through the constellations and along the Milky Way, while also showing you how to find all sorts of heavenly objects for yourself. There will also be powerful telescopes for you to gaze through, all operated by experienced, amateur astronomers, who will attempt to answer your questions on life, the universe and everything! Keep your fingers crossed for clear skies! Children will also get the chance to make craters on a simulated moon surface. Suitable for children 8 years and over if accompanied by an adult. Family ticket available (£25 for 2 adults and 2 children). Booking essential. Please book via Eventbrite at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/family-stargazing-at-gisburn-dark-sky-discovery-site-hosted-by-robert-ince-tickets-19600761405. For more information contact Robert Ince at robert@theinces.freeseve.co.uk or phone 07511 403702 £10/£5, 2 hours, terrain guide 2.

For a full programme of Festival Bowland events visit <http://www.forestofbowland.com/festivalevents> SS

能く氏 編集者

WELL, Mr Editor, When you asked me to write something for the monthly Newsletter I thought how do I give a snapshot of my day to day life as a antiques dealer? I began to visualise my journey from a 21 year old lad buying a £180 house in Accrington, not the posh end of Accy, studying engineering, art and architecture, all the way to a 64 year old man living in the idyllic backwaters of Lancashire. This is a little bit of it-----

All dealers have their own unique way of creating a path through a maze of supply and demand within a never ending clutter of furniture, painting and knick knacks, I ended up in knick knacks—sounds a bit kinky !!!!! My path was fuelled by the love of art. For me , art must have solid artistic and technical content, some contemporary art only consists of high minded fanciful ideas with no consideration to old fashioned beauty and quality. This type of so called art I'm happy to leave to others to pontificate over, one day the King may discover he's naked.

After quite few years of close contact with all types of art, the Japanese artistic sensitivity and exquisite craftsmanship captured me. I have always been ridiculously driven, constantly creative and wanting to deal in the best art of it's type. With luck and more luck we created a dedicated team of talented chaps to restore art from the Japanese Meiji period for collectors/ dealers and museums.

A day in the workshop: I arrive at about 9 30, six men all beavering away, one started at 6 this morning and

the last man will leave about 6 tonight, all on flexible hours. Eric, he arrived early and likes to be off by 2 30 to the love of his life, his vegetable patch and Dennis likes to start at 9 30, he is unmarried and has no one to kick him out of bed.

We often have parcels arriving from Japan, Hong Kong, Sweden, America and of course London. Some are antiques to be restored for collectors, dealers, museums and some are goods we have bought from just about any country.

Today we sold something quite wonderful to a new museum in Abu Dhabi, museums are usually staggeringly slow at paying. We find it easier selling into the trade but the most rewarding is helping to create private collections.

Also today I'm bidding on line for a vase in Spain and I have to make urgent call to my PA or as she is usually known, my Clare, to arrange another trip to London or abroad to view a silver elephant, then my day is over.

Tomorrow will have a different set of problems to wrestle with, hoping to find a long lost treasure in some small distant auction. This may sound fanciful but it happens more often than you would imagine within the large and varied family of antiques dealers.

Tony Ashworth



BUS AND MUSEUM

THOSE readers who live outside the County may have not heard that Lancashire

County Council is proposing harsh cuts in their expenditure. Of particular concern to Downham is the proposed removal of the bus service within weeks, although other areas of worry are the closure of all the County owned Museums (including the Museum of Lancashire (MOL), (where our Banner is meant to be going), many libraries and the Countryside Service that helps maintain all our footpaths.

There is an official “consultation” about the buses, but it is well hidden on the LCC web site (I searched there under consultations as nothing showed under buses). Sadly, as with their other consultations that I have searched, LCC appear keener to discover the age, gender, sexual preferences, race etc, rather than hear of any suggestions.

There is no consultation on the museums closures (though you can offer to run one or more of them!). There is an online petition at <https://www.change.org/p/lancashire-county-council-save-the-museum-of-lancashire> seeking to save the MOL.

The consultations close in the first week of February to allow the full Council to discuss the budget on the 12th. Please complete what you can on line as numbers of individual responses will count for as much, if not more than those from the Parish Meeting. Those without internet might consider writing to The Chief Executive, Lancashire County Council, County Hall, Fishergate, Preston PR1 8XJ



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I just wanted to say a heartfelt thank you to the Christmas Eve carol singers who brave the weather, who are always smiley and actually make my Christmas. This year some of the money raised is going to PARKINSONS so it doesn't get better than that. Thanks, Linda Whitsey x



Whalley Deanery Fund Raising Committee

Candlelight Supper

The Kings Centre

Millthorne Avenue off Henthorne Road Clitheroe
BB7 2LE

on

Sunday 7th February, 2016

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 SUPPER

Why not make up a table from your church?
Enquiries Hon Sec 445471

come along and enjoy the evening
Support the Society
by making a donation at the Supper

COLLECTION at BURNLEY FC

NINE intrepid volunteer collectors, from St Mary's, St James's & St Leonard's. armed with the collecting buckets of the Children's Society. braved the cold and waves of thousands of fans as they made their way to the match at Turf Moor on Saturday, 2nd January.. The volunteers stood at the ground with the collecting buckets for an hour and a half prior to kick off and collected over £300 pounds for the society's work with disabled and disadvantaged children. Thanks to Brian Lewis who carried out the protracted negotiations with Burnley football club.

THE PARISH CHURCH

CAROL SINGING

DOWNHAM Church Choir members and friends would like to thank Mr and Mrs Steve Wilkins, who over many years have welcomed us into their home to sing carols with the villagers of Twiston, their kind hospitality and welcome always a fitting start to the Christmas season .

This year, although having just moved into Twiston, Mr and Mrs Neil Wallace and family gave us an equally fitting and warm welcome on 20th December, with mulled wine, and refreshments including hot mince pies.

Thank you very much to them also.

The choir also sang round Downham on Christmas Eve and were welcomed by all who invited us, making a goodly sum for the charity of choice this year . the Parkinson's Society. DB

CHRISTINGLE

A LARGE congregation enjoyed this annual event in aid of the Children's Society. This time the congregation were invited to make their own Christingles on a production line with the oranges, other elements needed and the tools all laid out to enable this. As the congregation followed the directions of the Vicar, he also made clear the symbolism of the Christingle . The Carol which followed the completion and lighting the of the candles, was sung in the darkened building to beautiful effect.

ORGAN

THE plan to install a digital organ in St Leonard's has taken another step forward , after the 18 page submission to the Diocesan Advisory Council. A further meeting is required with the organ advisor and consultations must be made.

RCA

CAROL SERVICE

THE Revd Andy Froud conducted the annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday morning 27th December at St Leonard's . Mr James Robinson was the organist. The readers were: Mrs Carole Ashworth, Mr Jason Addy, Eleanor Tarling, Alice Walmsley, Mrs Anya Wallace, Mr Philip Naylor, Mr Brian Lewis, Mr Ian Walton, and the Vicar.

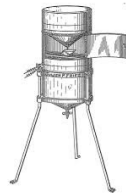
Everyone enjoyed singing the popular carols in the beautifully decorated church . DB

RAIN

Much has been written about how wet December has been. The rain gauge in the Barley Field recorded 14.80 inches (forgive the mix of metric and Imperial, but it has been done like this since 1865). The next wettest month in that time was December 1993 when we had 12.02 inches. In November we had 10.64 inches, thus giving two of only 17 months when we have had over 10 inches and the first time that two months with over 10 inches have occurred in the same year.

Despite this last minute deluge the total for the calendar year was "only" 60.25 inches, making it the Bronze medal winner for "Wettest year since 1865", after the silver medal went to 2000 with 65.00 inches and the Gold to 2012 for 67.32 inches.lhy.

Congratulations to all the Estate team for helping to alleviate the worst of the problems and making repairs as soon as possible. RCA



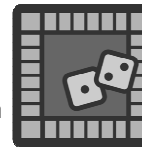
COFFEE CLUB

WE had a good turn out at our January meeting ,despite a few regulars not making it for various reasons. Proud Great Granny Philippa brought gorgeous five month old Olivia along ,with her equally proud Mum Christa. It's always lovely to see new faces, especially ones that don't qualify for a bus pass! Young Joseph brought a few pals along too, does anyone recognise their names....James,Edward and Percy, plus a rather rotund gentleman.....got it yet? Of course, they're all friends of Thomas the Tank Engine and according to Jason, Joseph plays with them constantly. There were lots of new bits and bobs on the stall too and Carole (newly promoted from the kitchen) did a good job of encouraging members to part with their money.

Our cakes were appreciated, as always and thanks to Molly for her delicious contribution.At the risk of being accused of nepotism,i'd also like to say thank you to Brian, who does a stirling job in the kitchen, allowing me to do what I enjoy having a natter and making you feel welcome. It's your coffee club and whilst we're fit and active, long may it continue. Our next meeting is on February 11th at 10 am ,hope you can all make it. BL

GAMES AFTERNOON

SO very enjoyable was our Games Afternoon held at the Village Hall on Sunday, 24th January between 2.00 and 5.00 pm. that it was decided then and there to have another, A great selection of games was brought and enjoyed; friendly rivalry and downright determination to win were in evidence as games got under way. Tea and delicious cakes and sweets completed the fun event. Our next one will be on March 13th at 2.00 pm. Stir yourselves and venture out for couple of hours you will enjoy it.



HISTORY GROUP

AT OUR meeting on Monday, 25th January at the Village Hall the authors of a new book The Forest of Bowland, Dr. Andrew V. Stachulski a senior research fellow at University of Liverpool, together with award-winning photographer Helen Shaw, who lives and works in the Forest of Bowland. gave a nice presentation about the Forest and their Book, revealing many secret landscape gems and walks.

Andrew talked about the wilder northern parts of the Landscape including reference to the Roman Road and the ancient cross base at Greet Helen's pictures, shown on a large screen, sparked great interest in the Coronation Meadows at Slaidburn recommending a trip to see them in May, June and July..

Our February meeting at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 22nd promises to be very interesting it is about the coal-fields of Read. and is by Brian Jeffries.

The upstairs room in the Village Hall is a cosy venue for small group meetings and the chat and refreshments after the main speaker is always very friendly.



THE DOWNHAM WI report is delayed until next month;s Newsletter. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 18th February.