

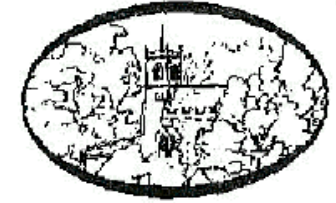


Parish Calendar 2013						
July			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
4th	Thursday	6.30 pm	Garden Club	Downham Bridge	<i>Garden Visit—Waddow Lodge</i>	
7th	Trinity VI	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	ChristChurch Chatburn	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mr & Mrs J. Whitsey
		11.00am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mr T. McLean		
11th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
14th	Trinity VII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs E. Parker		Mrs D. Braithwaite Mrs A. Richardson
		11.00 am	Matins Revd Alan Reid	Mrs B. Lund		
18th	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall	<i>Gordon Bartley Fish, Chips, Little Ships etc Spray</i>	
21st	Trinity VIII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn	Wedding	Mrs A. Moyle Mrs D. Wilkins
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs P. McFall		
27th	Saturday	2.00—	Garden Party	Downham Hall Gardens	<i>In Aid of Rosemere Cancer Foundation and Downham Village Hall</i>	
28th	Sunday	4.00 pm				
28th	Trinity IX	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D. Wilkins	Wedding	Hon Mrs R. Assheton Mrs C. Naylor
		11.00am	United Service Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn		
August						
3rd	Saturday	Entries 10.00 am to 12.00 noon Public 2.15 pm Prizes 3.00 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Annual Show</i>	
4th	Trinity X	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	ChristChurch Chatburn	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs P McFall Mrs M. Roskell
		11.00am	Holy Communion Revd Peter Shepherd	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						
		www.downhamvillage.org.uk				

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON



newsletter

2013 Issue 7 July

From Canon Rodney Nicholson

Viewpoint



NCE a group of people becomes everyone's enemy, I want to defend them. Strikers, drug addicts, asylum seekers and homosexuals have all had their share of unpopularity. Today bankers are the butt of criticism and "put-down" humour. It's a brave person who admits to being an investment banker.

Huge mistakes have been made and many wrong practices need sorting out, such as the non-payment of taxes. Christian Aid Week may well have raised nationally something approaching £20 million. This is excellent but when compared with the roughly £80 billion which are lost to developing countries, through multi-national and mining companies not paying the proper taxes, it looks less impressive.

Vilification, however, needs to be a weapon used with care. Are bankers alone to blame? What about the role of governments, shareholders and ordinary people who for ever want cheap food and free services? No one is an island, as John Donne said, for we are all influenced by one another. And are bankers uniformly bad? Many, like anyone else, will be decent people, working to make a living and, no doubt, good husbands and fathers. Like any other section of society, some will support charitable work and give generously.

Jesus saw people as individuals, whether they were rich or poor. He dealt firmly yet lovingly with a rich young man who ultimately would not be parted from his money. But his attitude was one of welcome, not condemnation. He talked to another well-heeled man, Nicodemus, about the need to be born again, or to be open to an inward change. Again Jesus did not try to destroy his reputation but talked to him about things that really mattered.

By contrast, Jesus accepted physical contact from a woman with a bad name, to the disgust of polite society around him. Like Diana, Princess of Wales nearly 2000 years later, he touched the lepers, and his touch made them well. Rich or poor, Jesus had time for people and always approached them in a spirit of welcome and concern for their true well-being.

On a different tack, I got talking a few days ago to a family who had just moved into a new house in Clitheroe. New building indeed arouses hostility, as well as justifiable concern. Yet the occupiers of these new homes are individuals to be welcomed. The young mother was keen to know what musical and other cultural events take place here.

Canon Rodney Nicholson

LET thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of thy humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord . Amen

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	May	2013
COMMUNICANTS	62	313
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	249	1,125
VISITORS	34	229
DONATIONS	1,240	3,347
HOUSE BOXES	55	116
TOTALS	1,578	4,817

OUR PRAYERS ARE SAID FOR

Bob Swarbrick who is making progress.

Eric Musson, Clitheroe Bellringer who helps out here at St Leonards and who is not well

Jill Cragg who is recovering well from her orthopaedic surgery.

VISITORS

ON June 5th a large group of people from the Stockport branch of the U3A visited St Leonard's. They were welcomed by Rodney, Ralph & Diana. We told them about the history of the Church, especially the Millennium & Centenary celebrations - and the Heritage Lottery bid for conserving the banner.

Rodney spoke about St Leonard's in its wider context - our outward giving, our links with other Churches, our place in the community. Much interest was shown in the materials from the Centenary exhibition and many of our guests expressed their appreciation of our beautiful surroundings. DW

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Downham weddings

ST LEONARD'S hosted two weddings in June. April Creighton, who has long connections with the village and the church, was married to Simon Harulow on June 8th. It was a very happy day for them and their families. The couple, who enjoyed a short honeymoon in Edinburgh, continue to live in Blacko.

Then on June 22nd Julian Wakeford and Rachael Hoyle, now living in Colne, were married here. Originally resident in Barrowford, they have been attending the early service at either Downham or Chatburn. Theirs too was a happy occasion, after which they left for a Cyprus honeymoon

Thanks to Downham Village Hall for sponsorship of this month's Newsletter

Imperfections

Kathleen Nicholson

A WEEK last Friday, Rodney and I went to a concert at New Longton Methodist Church, Preston, given by the "Find Your Voice" singers, with proceeds for Christian Aid. We went expecting some sort of community choir, but in fact the programme was entirely given by soloists, twenty four of them in all, mostly in their seventies, eighties and beyond.

These people had been trained by a rather special leader, Joyce Tindsley, who runs classes for them. In believing in them she had obviously given some of these elderly people a new lease of life. They weren't perfect, but part of the charm of the evening lay in the imperfections.

Imperfections, after all, can be very endearing. Think of the small child who sings out of tune, the shoes that are now rather shabby but oh so comfortable, the table that has served us well for many years, gained a few scratches along the way but is loaded with memories, the toy that has been loved so much that it has lost most of its fur, and in the process has been loved into life, (as in the story of the Velveteen Rabbit.) This led me to think about Nigella Lawson, so recently in the news through domestic abuse. On television we see her as the domestic goddess, always looking immaculate in a stunning kitchen, a working mum able to provide her happy children, plus the sudden influx of their friends, with exciting meals produced with seemingly little effort. Behind that image the story is very different as has been shown, when her troubles have been displayed in the media. I feel sorry for Nigella, but busy working mums should take heart. Perfection is not a requirement for happy family life.

Our churches are not perfect either. This again must bring feelings of relief because if they were, which one would you or I go to? Of course, we must all be the very best we can be, in our worship and in our daily life, but I do believe that God smiles at our imperfections and loves us, not in spite of them, but because of them.

I heard very recently of a well-known, strong church in the north of England which had a big congregation, everything well planned, lively music with a contemporary feel, excellent preaching, with a good mixture of ages present. What more could you want? And yet I am told that something almost indefinable was missing. Could it be that the worship was just too precise, and lacked any heart? Maybe it's the little things that go wrong that bring our Sunday services to life. Thank God for our own church's imperfections, because that's where we fit in best.

ooooOoooo

Conversation stopper

SITTING down in the dental hygienist's chair last week, the young practitioner asked me if I had had a busy day. Unusually I had had two funerals that morning, one after the other - the first at St Paul's church, with burial at the cemetery, followed by another at the crematorium. To my reply, "Yes, I've had two funerals", she fell silent. Perhaps not being as accustomed to death as I am, she didn't quite know what to say. RN

Syrian Christians

RARELY mentioned in the reports of the terrible events in Syria is the plight of the country's Christians. President Assad rightly receives world-wide criticism, Yet Syria's minority Christian church has more to fear from the opposition forces, whom the West speaks of arming. In the town of al Qusair, for example, when anti-government forces took control, they warned all Christians to get out within six days. Rebel forces, containing radical Muslim elements, destroy Christian homes and churches.



Downham Hall Garden Party

By Kind permission of Lord and Lady Clitheroe
In aid of Rosemere and Downham Village Hall

Enjoy the lovely garden and stunning views at a
Traditional garden party with sideshows and
entertainment for all the family:

tombola, raffle, bouncy castle, treasure hunt, cream teas, brass
band, face painting, plant stall, local foods,
WI cake stall and much more

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
27th & 28th JULY 2013
2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

£4.00 Adult - Children Free

Free car parking
For further information and tickets (or pay at the gate)
contact the Rosemere Cancer Foundation office
01772 522913



Pendle Forest History
Group
www.pendleforesthistorygroup.co.uk

The Pendle and
Trawden Vaccaries*
*Dairy farms

A talk and
presentation by local
conservationist
David Morris

7.30pm
Wednesday
17th July 2013

Barley Village Hall
Members £1
Visitors £2

VILLAGE HALL

DERRICK'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

DERRICK'S daughter Jeannette has written to us:

Dad was toasted enthusiastically by the 70 people who attended /the birthday party/ reunion of Downham Youth Group members on Saturday, 8th June.

Derrick's daughter Jeannette says "We didn't play any of the games on stand by, like beetle drive as people chatted constantly for over four hours. It was only interrupted by supper. And Diane, Stella and I would like to thank everyone for helping us give a bit back to the cause, at the same time as making my dad's 80th celebrations this year go down a storm Apologises and best wishes were sent by Janet Cowgill, Margaret Walmsley and Brenda Lund and they were missed.

70s music was played and people reminisced about the memorable youth group days. In particular the camping trip to Appletreewick, where Linda Swarbrick was put off camping for life. Several others left messages saying they were some of the best years of their life and I can add that I agree with that."

Happy Birthday Derrick, your celebrations raised over £200 for the village hall funds.

Chatburn Concert

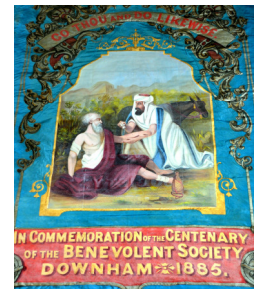
FOLLOWING an enjoyable concert by the Eagley Brass Band in June, the second in the series of Chatburn Summer Proms takes place at 2pm on Sunday 14th July at Christ Church, with a performance by the Farnworth and Walkden Brass Band. Tickets are £6 including light refreshments and can be obtained from Roy Porter Butchers in Chatburn or at the door. Hudsons ice cream will be on sale. The event is sponsored by Shackletons Home and Garden of Chatburn, and Roy Porter Butchers. RN

Congratulations John

EACH year The Wilkinson Sword is awarded to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to The International Sheep Dog Society, to Sheep Dog Trials or to the world of Shepherding in general. This year John Palmer of Twiston has been awarded this prestigious award. The presentation will take place at The International Sheep Dog Trials at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire in September.

DOWNHAM BANNER

THE banner group continues to work on a Heritage Lottery Grant application in order to fund conservation work so that the banner is secured for future generations. Part of the plan is the creation of website so that people who want more detail may log on to get the latest information. It is anticipated that the free-standing site will be up and running during July and there will also be a link to it from www.Downham Village.org.uk



SPECTATOR

Bette Davis is alleged to have said, "old age ain't no place for sissies," but I would replace old age with "life". It's just that when you get older, everything seems twice as hard. Opening a packet of biscuits for example, now takes two of us and a knife or pair of scissors as our faces turn red and the air turns blue. When did seat belts and jacket sleeves start to fight back and how come the walk up the village to visit mum at the top is nowadays like climbing Pendle? And you know things are bad when visitors just used to visit but they now come to do the jobs that we have written on a list and presented to them as they come through the door and before they have taken their coat off. Oh dear and yet we are brought up not to complain, not that people listen anyway. A great example of this was before I retired and Jon came to pick me up from work, he was suffering from Sciatica (and I do apologise profusely for the interruption, but I just can't

help it, that word always reminds me of the Morcambe and Wise sketch, the one where they are getting ready for bed and Wise says, "Shut the window or I'll have Sciatica in the morning". "No you won't" says Morecambe "You'll have shredded wheat like everyone else!!) Anyway, sorry, back to Jon who was waiting for me in reception and my colleague on her way home said, "You OK Jon?" She was halfway out of the door when she realised he had said "No actually I'm not" and she had to force herself to stop and ask him why not. I think we should practice meaning it when we ask people how they are and we should feel able to be honest if we want a reply. And don't forget a sense of humour is essential when life is a bit of a struggle. So I would like to thank the man with a stick who limped past Jon as he came out of Sainsbury's this morning and shouted, "They've run out." "What of?" replied Jon ... "Legs." said the man!!!

THE PARISH CHURCH

CHRISTIAN AID

THE total collected in the Parish during Christian Aid week, 2013, was £245. Thanks to all who donated and to Gill Cragg for organising and making the collections.

CLITHEROE FOOD BANK

DON'T forget you may make a contribution to the food bank by placing donated (non-perishable) items in the box in church. This is regularly passed on to the bank at Trinity Church, Clitheroe.

CALLING ALL SPEAK(E)s

THE Speak/e/s Family Association is a group from the United States--and scattered from California to New England Their common ancestor, Thomas Speake, emigrated to the Colony of Maryland around 1660. It is known that he was a Catholic. Researchers from many years ago concluded that our ancestor came from the Lancashire area and that his parents could have been Johannes Speake and Elizabeth Bieseley who lived in Downham. Thomas was born 1633/34. These dates/names came from Downham church records.

The Speake's Family Association is visiting the area in September and 30 members are due to be shown the church of St Leonard from 9.00 am to noon on Tuesday, 10th.

Anyone out there who is a Speak(e), we have none in the Parish at present—unless n'e Speak — is invited to join in the welcome to the association to St Leonards. If readers know anyone of that name or descent in the area who would be interested in meeting their USA cousins, please let them know that they will be welcome to join us also.

GARDEN CLUB

ON Thursday, 6th June, the Chairman's Annual walk started from the Calf's Head at Worston at 7.00pm, where members were to return for a very enjoyable sandwich and chips supper at 8.30pm, and to join up with the non-walker members.

The Chairman's pre-determined route had to be led by a deputy since Shaun was delayed by some last minute preparations for a family wedding.

The route out of Worston towards the quiet lane turned very soon to the left along Watery Lane, which was uncharacteristically dry, then bearing right along the path to curve behind Worsaw End Farm, following easily down the drive to the lane. The party then made its straggly way up Barkerfield drive, turning, after a brief chat with Mark Thornber, behind his house and along toward Mearley. Here all went awry and the group found itself in two parties on opposite sides of a fence. Some discussion as to who was right did not resolve that question and so the walk ended with two routes completing within five minutes of each other.

Our next meeting is the garden visit to Waddow Lodge, Wadlington on 4th July. We will meet at Downham Bridge at 6.30 pm to share transport.

Don't forget the Annual Show

Additional copies of the Schedule of entries. Previously sent out with the April Newsletter, including, those for Children, and entry forms, for the Annual Show, to be held on 3rd August, are available on the table in Church. CA

Gardens Open

The Garden Club is organising the raffle at this event 27/28 July and would appreciate donation of prizes. Please let Carole Ashworth know. 01200 440212





COFFEE CLUB

CAROLE, Brian and Barbara would like to thank everyone who came to our first coffee club, we really appreciate your support. Thanks also to June and Edith for manning the stalls. Olive and Dave are a hard act to follow but we'll do our best (must practise making meringues). Hope to see you all at the next coffee club on July 11th at 10 am. BL



Gardens Open—Scones

THE GARDENS OPEN THIS YEAR is in aid of Rosemere Cancer Foundation and Downham Village Hall. Organisers are seeking items for the Book and CD/DVD stall, plant stall and SCONES for the teas. All offers welcome and may be left at Downham Hall, with Anne and Ian (plants) and Carole (Raffle Prize).



HISTORY GROUP

OUR June 27th meeting was a visit to Browsholme Hall at Cow Ark, for a conducted tour by owner Mr Robert Parker, We shared transport, and arrived at 7pm.

Mr Robert Parker gave the group of 27 members and friends a personal tour of the house. The talk was enlivened by historical context, by Parker family history and by anecdotes of family life at Browsholme,

Mr Parker also gave interesting glimpses of his personal philosophy regarding houses, homes, possessions and change, arguing that each generation needs to change some things as well as restore, conserve and keep old artefacts and décor.

A fascinating tour and talk, after which

DOWNHAM W.I.'s June meeting at the Village Hall proved to be a very entertaining affair. The speaker for the evening was



a very smartly dressed older gentleman by the name of Cliff Astin. His subject was 'Don't You Wish You Hadn't Said That', or the bloomers young people make when answering questions in their G.C.S.E.'s. Do you remember writing or saying something and then wishing you hadn't? Chris gave many hilarious examples of some of the things young people had written in exams and public speakers had said in their talks. This is just one example: Milton wrote 'Paradise Lost' then his wife died and he wrote 'Paradise Regained'. His talk provoked much laughter!

Two of our members, Marion Courtney and Rosemary Norgrove, were featured in the latest edition of W.I. Magazine, 'Lancashire Hotpot', dressed as Lancashire weavers, at our birthday party in March, when there was a 'Lancashire' themed night.

The Elizabeth Wrigley Clock, in memory of Elizabeth, is now in place in the village hall. This setting is particularly fitting, as so many of the organisations that Elizabeth was associated with and contributed so much too, took place in the village hall.

Our next meeting will be on the 18th July at 7.30 in the Village Hall. The speaker will be Gordon Bartley talking about, 'Fish, Chips, Little Ships and North Sea Spray'. New members are always welcome. A.K.

members enjoyed tea, coffee and home made biscuits in the tithe barn, which was beautifully laid out for a wedding reception on the following day. A vote of thanks for the most enjoyable evening and for the presentation was given by Mr Derrick Smith.

Details of our next meeting will be notified to members as arrangements are not yet complete. TM