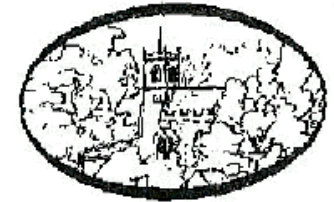


Parish Calendar 2014						
July			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
3rd	Thursday	6.50 pm	Garden Club	Meet Downham Bridge car share	Visit Varley Farm Bolton-by-Bowland	
6th	Trinity III	8.30 am	Holy Communion	Christ Church Chatburn	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs G.Cragg Mrs K Brown
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Rev'd Andy Froud	Mr T. McLean		
7th	Monday	6.00 pm	Village Hall Committee	Village Hall		
		7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	Quaker Meeting House Sawley		
9th	Wednesday	5.00 pm	Ribble Valley Mayor's Walk	Car Park	Downham to Rimington section	
10th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
12th 13th	Saturday Sunday	2.00 to 4.00 pm	Gardens Open	Downham Hall	In aid of Downham Village Hall and the Army Benevolent Fund	
13th	Trinity IV	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs E. Parker		Mrs C. McGrath Mrs J. Smith
		11.00 am	Family Baptism Service Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs B. Lewis		
17th	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall	FREE AND EASY—GAMES NIGHT	
20th	Trinity V	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn		Lady Clitheroe Mrs C. Ashworth
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Rev'd Alan Reid	Mr B. Lewis		
		3.30 pm	Choral Evensong	Clitheroe		
27th	Trinity VI	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D. Wilkins		Mrs S. Marlow Mrs E. Parker
		11.00 am	Matins Rev'd Anne Hardacre	Mrs B. Lewis		
28th	Monday	2.00 pm	History Group	Meet Downham Bridge to car share	2.30 pm Visit Blackburn Orphanage	
August						
2nd	Saturday	2.15 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	Annual Show	
3rd	Trinity VII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs S. Travis Mrs A. Chadwick
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Rev'd Andy Froud	Mr T. McLean		
<p>OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE – Canon Rodney Nicholson – 458019</p> <p>OUR CHURCH WARDENS</p> <p>The Hon Ralph Assheton – 441210 Mrs Philippa McFall—441484 Mrs Diana Wilkins – 445250</p> <p>VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</p> <p>Chairman and Bookings Secretary Mr Shaun Roney—441667 Hon Secretary The Hon Mrs R. Assheton—441210</p>						
		www.downhamvillage.org.uk				
		www.downhambanner.com				

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON



newsletter

2014 Issue 7 July

From Canon Rodney Nicholson

Viewpoint

WHEN we see the logo, “Lancashire – a place where everyone matters”, we might well admire the ideal but wonder what it means in practice. This is not to criticise the county council and its services, who are no doubt doing all they can to give as many people as possible a good quality of life. We are simply pointing out that it is easy to use high-sounding words, which cost nothing to say, without grappling with the details of what we actually mean by them.

I personally will not stand up and sing “Land of Hope and Glory” because I do not know what I am saying. If I am asking God to make Britain mightier, I am more concerned that we do something about the plight of Iraq and Syria by showing generosity in allowing its refugees into the UK which, we claim, is “mother of the free”. At the same time, we praise the efforts of the British security forces in anticipating terrorist attacks.

The Church can be guilty in encouraging people to say radical words which, without some thought, they may not mean. An obvious example is “thy kingdom come, thy will be done”. To repeat those words with integrity could involve an inner revolution - asking God to be central in our lives and relegating our own interests to second place. God’s kingdom and our priorities may be in line with each other, but equally there may have to be some adjustment. Otherwise we are mouthing empty phrases, which suits the devil no end!

When I plan a baptism with a young couple, I do some preparation with them. They will say in the service, “I turn to Christ”, which may just be so many words, or it may be the beginning of a faith which they want to begin to make their own. If we take God seriously, we should not use words dishonestly but explain what they mean. At the other end of life, we should not glibly talk about going to a better place but try to have some understanding about what the Christian faith promises about the life of the world to come.

Jesus alone matched his words with his life, and he was “full of grace and truth”. Although we may fail, we must still avoid cant and claptrap. We should challenge others, and be challenged ourselves over the truth and reality of what we say.

Canon Rodney Nicholson

O LORD, who never failest to help and govern them whom thou doest bring up in thy steadfast fear and love; keep us we beseech thee, under the protection of thy providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	May	2014
COMMUNICANTS	48	266
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	290	1,172
VISITORS	71	252
DONATIONS	440	2,717
HOUSE BOXES	-	23
TOTAL	801	4,164

OUR PRAYERS ARE SAID FOR

Norman and the family and friends of the late Brenda Lund,

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Village wedding

AMY Naylor walked into church on Saturday 31st May, proudly accompanied by her father, Philip, and in joyful anticipation of being married to her beloved Daniel, to whom she felt deeply committed, as he was to her. There was a lovely atmosphere in church, and the guests were full of joy for the happy couple, surrounding them with their support, good wishes and prayers. Amy's elder sister, Emma, did a reading and the hymns were sung with gusto.

The family gathered for photos in the grounds of Downham Hall afterwards, then joined the other guests at the village hall for the reception, speeches and entertainment. It was a splendid evening. Amy and Dan did not then depart for a honeymoon but enjoyed a relaxed week at home before returning to their work: Dan as a banker in Warrington and Amy as a dairy technologist in Settle. We wish them a long and deeply happy married life. RN

Amy Naylor-Frizzell (as she now is) adds:

May we express our thanks to everyone for their kindness and generosity, and for making our day so wonderful!

SPECTATOR

Well, I haven't laughed so much in church since our beloved Len Cragg was in charge of the Nativity Play in 1997 and there was much suppressed giggling as he stuck assorted cotton wool beards on the surprised faces of the three wise men and made it up as he went along. Len encouraged adults and children alike to come to church and I attended regularly to please him and to find out what he had to say. Len was my first experience of a vicar as my family were not church goers and I was bowled over by his humility and ability to laugh at himself and his mistakes. This time it was our new priest-in-charge to be. Andy Froud (rhymes with loud!) who made me laugh out loud (rhymes with froud!) as he got most of the hymn numbers wrong and asked us to stand when we had only just sat, then realised his mistake so made us sit again! Every time he got something wrong he looked up and made us laugh more, with self deprecating words and a face that you could not be cross with, though I'm sure his wife would argue with that one!

It was both refreshing and endearing to hear someone admitting they don't always get things right, in the present age of blaming others and never taking responsibility for our actions.

It wasn't all laughs though. The sermon about procrastination rang bells for me. Jon is always putting off things he should be doing today and it drives me up the wall. I call him Mr tomorrow man!

We should be living every day as if it is our last and we don't have forever. Jon's lovely ex in-laws (now out-laws!) once told me something which changed my life really. I was telling them about a beautiful dinner service that Jon's mum had given me and which had been hand painted by Jon's maternal grandma. I never used it as I was frightened of breaking it. They asked what was the point of having something so lovely stuck in a cupboard when it should be used and admired and they were right, I have used the dinner service many times and although a plate was lost, the set has been much appreciated and everyone loves the story and history behind it.

Their advice has made my life richer in so many ways. I never keep clothes 'for best' I wear them whenever I want to feel good. I have twinkly lights up in the house all year round as they make me feel happy and I used to feel very sad every January taking them down. I tell the people I love, that I love them and thank them for brightening my life because I won't always be there to say it and they won't always be there to hear it.

So, thanks Andy, you made my day and I look forward to more services, sermons and laughs. I think Len would have approved...and you can't get better than that



ICE CREAM SHOP

CONGRATULATIONS to our own **Michelle & David Brown of the White House, Downham** who have **opened the Ice Cream shop on Hare Green.** "We are open daily" Michelle says, "from 10 am until 5pm later if the sun shines... the only days we are closed are Monday and Thursday."

"As well as ice cream, we also sell sandwiches, fresh milk, pies, confectionery, our home made cakes, assorted cards, post cards, and should any one in the village request a regular item, we are happy to stock." Good Luck in your enterprise Michelle.

RECYCLING

IT IS good that so many people use the recycling bins at the Village Hall. Please remember to put items in the correct bins. I have just spent 10 minutes at the bottom of one of the paper bins removing 40 cat food tins that should have been in the tin bin! Please ensure that empty cardboard boxes are flattened before putting them in as they otherwise fill the bin almost instantly with nothing but fresh air. Please do not put plastic bags in the bins or leave them by the bins. The recyclers do not take them, so it just means that someone from the Village Hall has to collect them and take them home which is an unnecessary chore for them.



DOG FOULING



THE LAW is changing on 1st August 2014 when it will become mandatory for dog walkers to remove dog messes from anywhere that the public have access to. This includes not only the mown areas in the village, but also roads, pavements and footpaths. Failure to do so will result in a fixed penalty notice from Ribbles Valley Borough Council and a **fine of £80**. New notices will remind residents and visitors of their responsibilities. **YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!**

Dog walkers will need to bag all waste and put it in a litter bin, or the red wheelie bin at home. Leaving bags of mess on the ground, hanging from fences, gates, twigs etc is not an option; you must take it with you and dispose of it properly.

PATRONAL FESTIVAL PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE CLITHEROE

WE are invited to a Choral Evensong at 3.30 pm on Sunday, 20th July at the Clitheroe Parish Church. The Choir of St Mary's is to be joined for the celebration by the choir of St John the Baptist, Knaresborough. Light Refreshments will be served after the service.

Brenda lived for her family and others

WE were saddened to hear of Brenda Lund's death on June 1st. She died peacefully at home, with Norman beside her, four days after her routine operation in Burnley General Hospital, having been in church as usual the previous Sunday.

With typical care and forethought Brenda (88) planned her funeral, which included being in church over night, prior to a service of thanksgiving. And thanksgiving it certainly was. The family returned from the crematorium to a packed church, in which we celebrated with her choice of hymns and music, listened to heartfelt, yet uncomplicated, tributes from her seven grandchildren, recalled Brenda's full life and her strong faith and heard Norman offer some touching words of thanks and reflection at the end.

She and Norman met through Young Farmers and following their marriage in Croft, near Warrington in 1953, the couple moved to Lower Smithy Fold then, for most of their working life, Wood Farm. Brenda juggled her work on the farm with bringing up three children, John, Christine and Claire, finding time to cook prodigious quantities of good food, to garden, decorate and paint. As well as pictures, she painted a whole dinner service. She was the farm book keeper until the age of 80.

Brenda joined the WI shortly after moving to Twiston, holding prominent offices in the organisation, including that of treasurer which she held for over thirty years. She held prominent offices in Downham WI, was on the Lancashire Federation of WI's Art sub-committee, and also treasurer for the Clitheroe Area WI Show for thirty years

She was hugely respected and was involved in practically every aspect of local life. A worshipper and PCC member at St Leonard's, she gave unstintingly to many aspects of Christian ministry. In Canon Eric Chard's time, she helped to run a summer school involving activities in church and trips elsewhere. She organised a flower festival and gave significant help to the Whalley Abbey mystery plays in 1996. Among her greatest achievements was her chairmanship of the deanery action group for the Church Urban Fund which raised around £100,000 towards the diocese's £1m target. Brenda keenly supported The Children's Society, only resigning from the local action group two years ago, but still producing desserts for the annual lasagne supper.

We are enriched by knowing Brenda Lund and shall never forget her kindness, generosity and work for others. We are confident that through the power of Christ she may rest in peace and rise in glory.

Wedding for London couple

Canon Nicholson

MY last wedding at St Leonard's was that of a couple living in London who chose Downham because the bridegroom had happy memories of the village through his early years in Blackburn. They attended church either here or at Chatburn to qualify for the ceremony to be held.

Richard Innes and Melanie Wells, a delightful couple, celebrated their wedding in the presence of guests from as far away as New York and Palestine, as well as from London and other parts of the UK. We say Palestine, not Israel, because the guest concerned lives in that region which the Palestinians would like to become independent, and she herself serves on a peace commission. She was also involved with the Pope's recent visit.

Poor weather did not dampen the joy of Richard and Melanie's great day which included a reception at Eaves Hall, followed by a honeymoon in Australia. With the wonders of modern communication, Richard checked this article while sunbathing on a beach in Australia, from where they will be returning home this next week. We wish Richard and Melanie, who work respectively in banking and human resources, every joy

THE PARISH CHURCH

The next family service is to be at 11.00 am on Sunday 13th July; it will be a baptism service.

HARES

Two hares have taken up semi permanent residence in the gardens at Downham Hall. They are yet to be implicated in the crime of digging holes in the lawn, and have a better understanding of family planning than rabbits, so are welcome to remain! They appear to be just as happy nibbling on the tightly mown lawn as in the adjoining fields. They do seem to enjoy eating and lying in the WW1 commemorative poppies, so I hope they are not developing a bad habit. They leap up and down the ha-ha at will and can, thankfully, outrun the dog. RCA



GARDENS OPEN

THIS year in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund, the Soldiers' charity, and of course the Village Hall, the Gardens will be open Saturday and Sunday 12th and 13th July between 2.00 pm and 4.00. Each day there will be a first class Band Concert, this alone is worth the admission ticket. On Saturday the Clitheroe Town Band and on Sunday the Barnoldswick Brass Band. There will be some singing in the Rose Garden on Saturday, a trio known as the Ardenettes and on Sunday, the Clitheroe Grand Choir. Teas will be available. The usual stalls will be augmented by some new ones and displays by the army cadets. The organisers would be grateful for raffle and tombola prizes. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help in any way, please let Olivia or any Village Hall Committee member know.

DOWNHAM AND TWISTON HISTORY GROUP

IN MAY the History Group was the setting for the launch of the Jennifer Palmer book about her family and reported last month.

The group's June meeting is on 30th at 6.30 pm at Ribchester Museum/Riverside, where Colin Cunliffe will conduct a walk round Ribchester, ending at the pub. Indoor talk arranged if too wet. This will be reported on next month.

In July the meeting is another visit; this time on the 28th to the Blackburn Orphanage for a tour, with inspection of some of the documents and artefacts that have been saved at the orphanage building. This visit ties in with the talk given last winter by Harriet Roberts, the fund raising manager for the trust. We are leaving Downham bridge at 2.00 pm, having arranged car sharing, to arrive before 2.30pm.

COFFE CLUB

OUR next coffee morning is on Thursday the 10th of July from 10.0.am. We hope to see you at the Village Hall



PUB WALL

THE new roadside wall is almost complete. All that remains to do is to point it with traditional Lime mortar, after which the footpath can be finished off with tarmac and the oak seat installed in the bus shelter/smokers hideout. The flagged seating area is being enjoyed by pub users who benefit from level tables, and so far almost all the comments have been positive. Hopefully even those who do not appreciate the change will agree that it has tidied up the area and will soon blend in.

GARDEN CLUB

A Really enjoyable chairman's walk 2014, was undertaken by twenty members; we were guided around the Gerna area. of the Downham Estate, on Thursday 6th June, mostly off-path (by kind permission) . Really commanding views and many lovely specimen, mature trees made the uphill portions well worthwhile and most appreciated by the walkers. Crossing the road at the foot of Gerna Driveway, we entered the fields on the other side of the road and were steered to the Village Hall.



It was a beautiful evening with jolly company and a good meal at the Village Hall to look forward to in the form of a great pie, with the mushy peas. Walkers were joined by at least another ten members for the supper. The six-prize RAFFLE was ably organised by Karen.

Our next meeting is the garden visit, this year to Varley Farm, Bolton by Bowland . We plan to leave the bridge at 6.50pm to car share starting our visit soon after 7.00 pm.

Don't forget the Annual Show, this year on Saturday 2nd August, competitors must take entries to the Village Hall between 10.00 am and noon. Show will open to the public view at 2.15, tea and biscuits will be available and presentation of prizes will start at 3.00 pm..

A copy of the show schedule was enclosed with the May Newsletter and spare copies are still available from the Newsletter rack in church.

Garden Club is running the raffle at the Gardens Open and Carole Ashworth is appealing to us all for some prizes she would like them ahead of time, say by the 5th CA



DOWNHAM WI's June meeting got off to a rather sad start with remembrance of Mrs Brenda Lund, a long standing member, who died suddenly in June.

Downham WI President, Mrs Frances Garner, began the meeting by talking about Mrs Lund's long membership of Downham WI, which was then followed by a minutes silence. Mrs Lund Joined Downham WI in the 1950's and contributed so much, in many different ways over the years, including being Downham WI President. Mrs Lund was very modest, but was an extremely talented and skilled craftswoman and was on the LFWI Show Committee for many years. She will be very sadly missed.

The entertainment at the June meeting was a variety show 'GO on Tour' – the GO standing for Golden Oldies. They included in their show familiar songs from musicals of the 1960's and 70's, a dancing troupe and many age related jokes by the compere Keith! It was enjoyed by all.

A newsletter was circulated at the meeting with details of future WI trips, walks and courses. Mrs Olive Awbery asked if members would contribute cakes for the WI cake stall at Downham Open Gardens in July. The cake stall is quite an attraction and the cakes usually sell out over the two days.

The next meeting will be on Thursday the 17th of July at 7.30 and will be a games night. New members are always welcome. AK

BOROUGH BOUNDARY WALK

THE Mayor of Ribble Valley, Councillor Michael Ranson, will be walking the boundary of Ribble Valley during his Mayoral year in aid of his chosen charities - Crossroads Care Ribble Valley and Ribble Valley Homestart. The total boundary is 85 miles and the Mayor intends to cover this in approximately 5 mile chunks.

OF SPECIAL interest to us is the bit completed by 20 or so walkers on the 25th June; Sabden to Downham and 9th July, which is the Downham to Rimington section. This section will start at the Downham Car Park at 5.00 pm. A poster with details of the other walks is displayed at the Post Office.