

**PARISH CALENDAR 2021**

JUNE			EVENT	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
6th	Trinity I	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs E Parker	Wedding	Mrs J Feibel Mrs A Wallace
13th	Trinity II	11.15 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mrs P McFall	Mrs Barbara Lewis	Mrs P McFall Mrs M. Roskell
20th	Trinity III	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs K Herron		Mr & Mrs P Mercer
27th	Trinity IV	11.15 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mr I Walton		Mrs S Travis Mrs A Chadwick
5						
<b>JULY</b>						
4th	Trinity V	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mr T McLean	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mr & Mrs C Ennis

THE PARISH CHURCH OF St LEONARD IS MOST GRATEFUL TO THE  
INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS  
THAT SPONSOR THE PARISH NEWSLETTER IN JUNE 2021  
THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY Adams & Co Accountants Clitheroe

**OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE** — The Revd Andy Froud  
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**OUR CHURCH WARDENS**  
The Hon Ralph Assheton —441210 = Mrs Philippa McFall - 44148 =Mr Ian Walton 445063

**DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Chairman Mr Neil Wallace —441196  
Hon Secretary Mrs Clare Ashworth —445112  
Village Hall Bookings —info@downhamvillagehall.org.uk

**Downham Social Media Resources**  
The public Facebook page -  
**"Downham Village"**  
The private Facebook page  
**"Downham & Twiston Residents"**  
Various Whatsapp groups including **"Downham  
WI Here to Help"**

**CHURCH RESOURCES**  
Regular worship is streamed  
by Rev Andy Froud  
on **Youtube** via  
St. Mary Magdalene website  
www.stmarysclitheroe.co.uk

**PARISH OF ST. LEONARD**

**DOWNHAM & TWISTON**



**newsletter**

2021 Issue 6 JUNE

www.downhamvillage.org.uk

**From The Revd Andy Froud**

Dear Friends

NO DENTIST'S waiting room would be complete without the Reader's Digest. But the Reader's Digest was so much more to me as a child: I avidly read the condensed books, consumed and retold the Laughter the Best Medicine jokes (in fact I am probably still using them) and waited for my mother, Mrs Froud, to be entered into the monthly prize draw. It was an obsession that only lasted for my childhood: when I went away to university I laughed with those who looked down on the Reader's Digest as a "poor man's literature". Over the years I forgot about the Reader's Digest although I found the Reader's Digest Bedside Library in my mother's belongings after her death and still have it on the bookshelf.

When, in 1922, DeWitt Wallace started the magazine he was recovering from shrapnel wounds received in World War I. Wallace had the idea to gather a sampling of favorite articles on many subjects from various monthly magazines, sometimes condensing and rewriting them, and to combine them into one magazine. DeWitt and his wife Lila Bell initially hoped the journal could provide \$5,000 of net income. They vastly underestimated demand. By 1929, the magazine had 290,000 subscribers and a gross income of \$900,000 a year.

However, wounded by my desertion, and I expect, the rather larger challenges of the twenty-first century, I assumed that the Reader's Digest had gone the way of all flesh. I recently discovered it did go bankrupt in 2013. But it is still there (the British Edition is now management owned and you can read it online as well as in paper format.)

Why do I mention this? Well, it mirrors my faith journey and those of many others who I meet: the church and God and faith all seem to be part of childhood and growing up and then adulthood comes along and it all seems very unimportant until...maybe something happens or maybe you just think I wonder what happened? and just like the Reader's Digest...we're still here.

Yours in Christ

Faithful Creator,

whose mercy never fails: deepen our faithfulness to you  
and to your living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord.

DOWNHAM St. LEONARD		
	April	2021
Communicants		52
Collections                      £		
Services	445	1348
Visitors	n/a	120
Donations	384	1,850
House Boxes	n/a	n/a
Special	450	2,945
<b>Total</b>	<b>1279</b>	<b>6263</b>

### IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS

All those continuing to shield due to the Covid restrictions

### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

*Correction with apologies*

13th April: **Funeral** Katherine Swarbrick

25th April: **Interment of Ashes** - Katherine Swarbrick long time resident of Downham

### New Marriage Legislation

YOU may already have heard through the media that new legislation has been introduced for weddings taking place after May 4th 2021. The main change is that marriages will no longer be registered in church.

A one-page Marriage Document will be prepared prior to the service which contains all the details required to complete a marriage registration and can also include the name of mother/step parent. Under the old system, only the father's details were required.

This document is then signed and witnessed and will be forwarded by the Priest, to the Registrar. After details have been entered into the data base, the Marriage Certificate will be available to the couple and may be ordered online. We have officially expressed dismay about these changes which have been planned for many years but have only now come to fruition. There are more changes planned but new legislation will take some time to prepare. There is information about the new proposals (not yet law) here (<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/project/weddings>) since the official period for consultation is now over it will be down to Parliament to decide what changes will be made in future. AF

### Festival Bowland in June

*From poetry workshop to virtual bat walk, this month's Festival Bowland programme is a chance to get creative – or sit back and discover some fascinating facts.*

#### Ribble Rivers Trust Virtual Bat Walk Tuesday 1st June, 6.30pm – 8pm

Online

#### National Meadows Day Poetry Walk Thursday 3rd June, 10am – 11.30am

Slaidburn

(Subject to any Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time.)

#### Nationals Meadows Day Poetry Workshop

Part 1 – Thursday 10th June, 7pm – 8.30pm

Part 2 – Tuesday 15th June, 7pm – 8.30pm

Online

#### Ribble Rivers Trust Virtual Fish Pass Tour

Tuesday 22nd June, 6.30pm – 7.30pm

Online

#### Clearbeck Open Garden

Sunday 27th June, 11am – 5pm

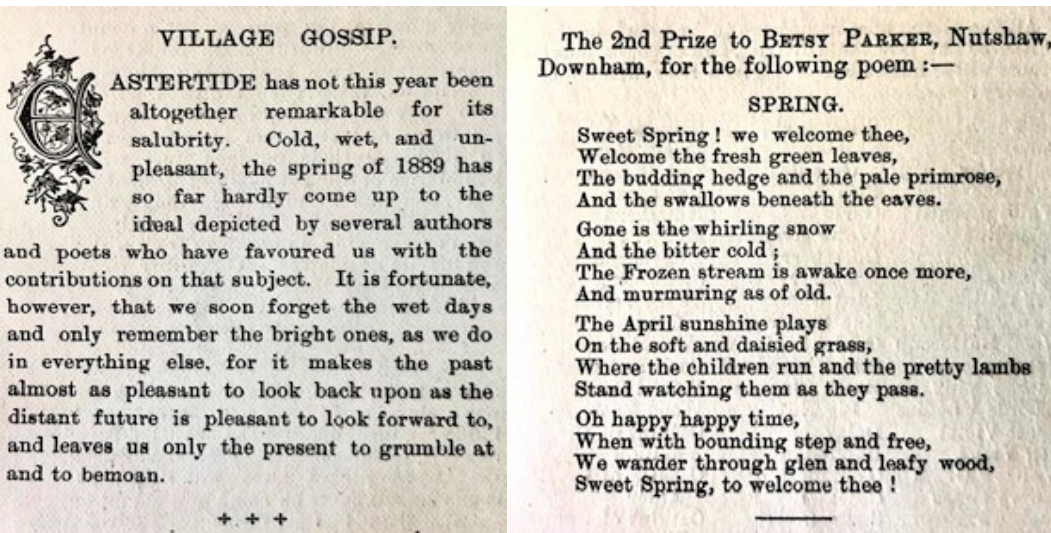
#### Higher Tatham

(Subject to any Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time.)

**For full details of all these events, and how to book your place, see the Forest of Bowland AONB events listings at**

**<https://www.forestofbowland.com/Festival-Bowland-Events>**

**SS**



## NATIONAL MEADOWS DAY POETRY WORKSHOP

See your creative side flourish with this online, tutor-led summer poetry workshop.

Thursday 10th June - part 1

Tuesday 15th June - part 2

7pm - 8.30pm (both sessions)

Does the sight of a summer meadow bright with wildflowers inspire you to put pen to paper? Celebrate Bowland's meadows with us by joining our poetry walk-and-workshop and your poem could be chosen to be shared on our website and social media for National Meadows Day in July.

Part 1: The first session will include writing activities (so have pen/pencil and paper to hand), with supporting information and visual material on the meadows and discussion of exemplar poems. It will conclude with a question-and-answer session with guest poet Philip Burton, based on a selection of poems from his new collection, Gaia Warnings.

Part 2: The second session – after a few days for you to draft your poem(s) – will be an opportunity to discuss your drafts, and to get peer feedback if you choose to read your poem to us. Following this session, you will have a few days to finalise your poem(s), for submission to the Forest of Bowland AONB by midnight on Sunday 20 June for possible use on our website and social media for National Meadows Day.

This online workshop, delivered by writer and tutor Maureen Fenton over two evenings, will follow a Covid-compliant guided walk through the species-rich meadows at Bell Sykes Farm in Slaidburn on Thursday 3rd June or Tuesday 8th June. For more information about the walk please see our full Festival Bowland programme at <https://www.forestofbowland.com/Festival-Bowland-Events>

Please note: if you are unable to attend the guided walk you are still welcome to apply for a place on these online sessions.

**The event is free, but booking is essential. For further information and to book a place please email [sandra.silk@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:sandra.silk@lancashire.gov.uk) SS**

## CLITHEROE TOWN WELLS CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN

*Save our Ancient Town Wells*

*Heild Well Stock Well St Mary's Well Campaign update 2nd April 2021*

THE past two months have seen many developments in this Campaign to secure the future of all three of our ancient town wells. On 23rd February we launched an online Change.org petition [www.change.org/p/ribble-valley-borough-council-saveclitheroe-s-ancient-public-town-wells](http://www.change.org/p/ribble-valley-borough-council-saveclitheroe-s-ancient-public-town-wells) This is to enable formal registration of public support for Ribble Valley Borough Council to reconsider their position on the registration of Heild and St Mary's wells with the Land Registry. Without registered title there can be no significant grant aid obtained by anyone for the increasingly urgent repair works nor for the better understanding and promotion of the significance all three sites deserve. In eight weeks this petition has secured over 1,600 supporters - with over 600 of these residing within the Borough boundary. Under the Council's policy on community engagement, this should now enable us to have the future of Clitheroe's town's well reconsidered at a Full Council meeting in the near future.

**Please visit our Facebook page for more information,**

## PARISH MEETING

THE recent Annual Meeting differed from previous years in several ways. For one, we met in Church in order to follow Covid rules. For two, we had two Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) in attendance.

The meeting briefly touched on the old chestnuts of speeding traffic, dog fouling, litter and thoughtless behaviour in general. On a more positive note, it was agreed that the "Corona Highway" between Downham and Chatburn has been a great success and is well used.

Our District Councillor (Gary Scott) updated the Meeting on the snail-like progress in getting a litter/dog waste bin (courtesy of Chatburn Parish Council) agreed by RVBC. Fingers crossed that Gary has persuaded the Council to install the bin, despite their ongoing Borough wide review of bin provision.

The Chairman of the Meeting reported that he had recently had a useful meeting with the relatively new Police Sergeant in charge of Clitheroe and the surround area. Due to the increased number of Officers now based in Clitheroe, Sergeant Day is confident that the Constabulary will be in a better position to deal more proactively with issues of rural crime. As an early example of this increased involvement, he got the two PCSOs to attend the meeting, principally to engage with parishioners about "Lancashire Talking" (See below).

After the re-election of Ralph Assheton as Chairman of the Meeting and Jason Addy as Clerk, the Meeting concluded with the obligatory item of voting on the non-existent accounts. (The Meeting has had no financial transactions since the bank account was closed in 2000, but the Auditors insist on annual confirmation – on pain of a fine!)

### “Lancashire Talking”

Lancashire Constabulary (together with the Fire and Rescue Service and Lancashire County Council) have launched a web based app so that residents across the county can inform the police of what they think the issues in their area are. This information, combined with crimes reported and other intelligence gained by the Police is then used to allocate resources. While the Police cannot guarantee to sort out everything, they are in a better position to understand people's concerns if people join in.

The App has the added advantage of allowing the Police to notify individuals about matters of interest. To learn more and sign up go to: [stayintheknow.co.uk/LancashireTalking](http://stayintheknow.co.uk/LancashireTalking)

### Reporting crime

Reporting crimes on the Lancashire Constabulary web site or 101 phone number can be a time consuming and frustrating. The email address below can be used for non-time-critical reporting - [RibbleValley.NPT@lancashire.police.uk](mailto:RibbleValley.NPT@lancashire.police.uk) – feel free to share this with anyone who may have a use for it, but please remember that it is for non-emergency, non-time-critical reports and may not be seen for a couple of days once an email is sent. and also has the facility to allow residents to report non-time sensitive information. (999 remains the way to report urgent crimes and 101 (not to be confused with NHS 111) for less urgent, but still time sensitive matters.

### Speeding traffic

As a follow up from the two previous articles, the Police have already started monitoring vehicle speeds through the village.

**THE PARISH CHURCH**

**ARCHDEACON'S VISITATION**  
 THE annual Archdeacons' Visitations will take place in June this year and they will be held in accordance with any pandemic restrictions that may still be in place at that time. They have been put back from our normal month of May in line with the Church Representation Rules 2020, which mean that Annual Parochial Church meetings have to be completed by 31 May.  
 There will be 11 Visitation Services taking place in churches across the Diocese and a full list of dates and venues is now available here on the [Diocesan website](#). A letter about the Visitations will also be sent to all Area Deans, Incumbents and PCC Secretaries/Administrators very shortly. Also on the website page you will find other information and forms relating to the Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs) and election of Churchwardens. PN

**Downham memories**

Those of you who walk the Corona Highway might have spotted what appears to be a rusting steel box about 4 foot square, just inside the gate into the old "Wood Yard" at the Downham end of the bridleway. Said box is not an old water tank (as I had always assumed), but a purpose built box that used to sit behind the cab of the small lorry that the Estate men used in the 1950s. It held their tools etc. Sadly after 75 years it has nearly rusted through completely. Not quite as interesting as the Saxon Long-ship at Sutton Hoo and unlikely to ever star in a Hollywood movie!

**Welcome**

Welcome to Chris Moss and Kathryn Miller, who have moved to Springs Farm from Devon.

**Pendle Hill Landscape Project (PHLP) volunteers**

As part of their first session of volunteering since the most recent lockdown ended, a small team made a start at retrieving disused tree guards from Searchlight Wood. Some of the guards had to be cut off growing trees having done their job and will have to go for recycling. Those from trees that died as saplings were lifted off and will be re-used for protecting trees being planted elsewhere.

**Ticks**

Thankfully Downham is not a well known area for Ticks, but Public Health England (PHE) is keen that everyone should "Be tick aware" as they can transmit Lyme Disease which can be extremely debilitating. Ticks can be as small as a tiny freckle to that of a baked bean. They mainly live in longer grass, moorland and heaths. They climb on board any passing animal, whether mouse, deer or human.

While sucking blood they can transmit Lyme Disease, which can feel like flu, with or without muscle and joint pain. Many (but not all) cases have a red target shaped rash. If you suspect that you have been bitten by a Tick (perhaps while "staycationing") get advice from your GP.

For more advice see the PHE website and search "ticks".

**'Edgerow 'Arry**

We welcome the new verdant leaves on most of the deciduous trees again but note the ash trees have still to fully awaken.

"Oak before ash, you're in for a splash" says the old country couplet. Of course such a prediction is outwith the wit of modern science, but let's see if we have a drier summer this year rather than the "soak" that is foretold if ash leaves come out before the oak.

The cow parsley is in full flourish, much to 'Arriet's delight. Please be careful when identifying this hedgerow beauty – as there is a similarity with the highly toxic hemlock, whose poisonous alkaloids are associated with witchcraft and also the forced demise of Socrates for asking too many awkward questions regarding and democracy and ethics.

**In the Garden**

The welcome sun of Whitsuntide has warmed the moist soil. Our gardens will explode with life by midsummer. This includes weeds, but rather than reaching for the Roundup, try spraying vinegar directly onto the odd weed. It may do the trick whilst embracing your nostrils with the subtle acidic overtones associated with chips. But before you are tempted to subconsciously succumb to the fried tuber please remember "a moment on the lips, a lifetime on the hips".

Plans for a resurrected Garden Club walk are on hold whilst there is uncertainty regarding the Covid variants that appear to be raging in the locality.

Please keep safe and enjoy your gardens. JA

Sadly due to the annual meeting of the National Federations



The annual AGM is to be a virtual meeting, held on 8 June 2021, guests speakers are Sophie, Countess of Wessex, Dame Cressida Dick, Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis and LADY Hale. A fantastic opportunity to hear speakers of this quality.

Members are invited to apply for an observer ticket, which enables them to watch the whole of proceedings via a zoom facility. A delegate will be reporting back to their WIs following the meeting.

On Monday 5 July, members are invited to a garden party to support the NHS Charities Together and Carers Association, on the national day to celebrate the formation of the NHS, a day to celebrate and come together at long last. A few surprises and definitely a lot of fun and laughter guaranteed, as well as recognising the amazing work the NHS does.

The weekly quiz still proving to be brain teasers and keeping members on their toes, the prize is always an incentive!

A programme of events and zoom speakers organised by Lancashire Federation already sent to members in the Hotpot newsletter.

New members always welcome...contact Diane Poole 07904111167 or [diane-poole1984@gmail.com](mailto:diane-poole1984@gmail.com)