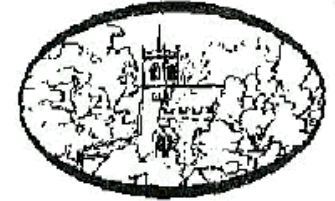


Parish Calendar 2015						
March		Event		Sidesmen & women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
1st	Lent II	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Christ Church Chatburn	No	Mrs S. Marlow Mrs E. Parker
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andrew Whitehead	Mr T. McLean		
2nd	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	Chatburn Methodist Church		
5th	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	AGM & Gordon and Anne Sharpe Film Show.	
6th	Friday	2.30 pm	Women's World Day of Prayer	Chatburn Methodist Church		
8th	Lent III	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Alex Baker	Mrs D. Wilkins	Flowers	Mrs S. Travis Mrs A. Chadwick
		11.00 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mrs B. Lewis		
9th	Monday	6.30 pm	Village Hall Management	Village Hall	Committee Meeting	
12th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
15th	Lent IV Mothering Sunday	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Andrew Whitehead	Christ Church Chatburn	in	Mr & Mrs B. Lewis
		11.00 am	Family Service Revd Alan Reid	Mrs A. Greenhill		
16th	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful noise	Chatburn Methodist Church		
19th	Thursday	6.00 pm	WI	Mytton Fold Hotel	95th Birthday Party	
22nd	Lent V	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Andrew Whitehead	Mrs E. Parker	-	Mr & Mrs J. Whitsey
		11.00 am	Matins Revd Anne Hardacre	Mr B. Lewis		
25th 28th	Wednesday to Saturday	7.30 pm	Stage 2 Downham	Village Hall	Neil Simon - Barefoot in the Park	
29th	Palm Sunday	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Christ Church Chatburn	Lent	Mrs D. Braithwaite Mrs F Eldridge
		11.00am	Holy Communion Revd Andrew Whitehead	Mrs P. McFall		
30th	Monday	7.30 pm	Joyful Noise	Chatburn Methodist Church		
April						
2nd	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	Permaculture—Suzanne	
3rd	Good Friday	2.00 pm	United Service	Chatburn Methodist Church		
4th	Saturday	2.00 pm	Decorate Church			
5th	Easter Day	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Christ Church Chatburn		Mrs A. Moyle Mrs D. Wilkins
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mr T. McLean		
<p>OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE – Revd Andy Froud—01200 423317</p> <p>OUR CHURCH WARDENS The Hon Ralph Assheton – 441210 Mrs Philippa McFall—441484 Mrs Diana Wilkins – 445250</p> <p>VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Chairman and Bookings Secretary Mr Shaun Roney—441667 Hon Secretary The Hon Mrs R. Assheton—441210</p>						
www.downhamvillage.org.uk						

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON




newsletter

2015 Issue 3 March

From The Revd Andy Froud

Dear Friends

 SOMEONE kindly posted this to me on Facebook - it is by someone called Útmutató a Léleknek. It made me think and I hope it will help you to as we prepare for Mothering Sunday.

"In a mother's womb were two babies. One asked the other: "Do you believe in life after delivery?" The other replied, "Of course. There must be something after delivery. Maybe we are here to prepare ourselves for what we will be later." "Nonsense" said the first. "There is no life after delivery. What kind of life would that be?"

The second said, "I don't know, but there will be more light than here. Maybe we will walk with our legs and eat from our mouths. We might have other senses that we can't understand now."

The first replied, "That is absurd. Walking is impossible. And eating with our mouths? Ridiculous! The umbilical cord supplies nutrition and everything we need. But the umbilical cord is so short. Life after delivery is to be logically excluded."

The second insisted, "Well I think there is something and maybe it's different than it is here. Maybe we won't need this physical cord anymore."

The first replied, "Nonsense. If there is life, then why has no one has ever come back? Delivery is the end of life, and in the after-delivery there is nothing but darkness and silence and oblivion."

"Well, I don't know," said the second, "but certainly we will meet Mother and she will take care of us."

The first replied "Mother? You actually believe in Mother? That's laughable. If Mother exists then where is She now?"

The second said, "She is all around us We are of Her. It is in Her that we live. Without Her this world would not and could not exist."

Said the first: "Well I don't see Her, so it is only logical that She doesn't exist."

To which the second replied, "Sometimes, when you're in silence and you focus and you really listen, you can perceive Her presence, and you can hear Her loving voice, calling down from above."

Yours in Christ,

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 to 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		
	January	2015
COMMUNICANTS	49	698
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	119	2,649
VISITORS	-	304
DONATIONS	285	17,686
HOUSE BOXES	16	70
TOTAL	440	20,709

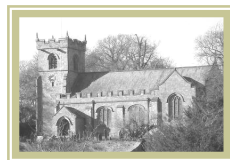
THANK YOU

Iwould like to send many thanks to all my friends for their cards, flowers, and for the many enquiries made of Barbara, she was beginning to think all her friends had deserted her as all the messages were asking if I was alright. My very special thanks must go to Barbara and Brian for looking after Mick (my dog). I thank you all, with love from Carole p.s. tummy quite well now.

FAREWELL AND WELCOME

THIS month we say farewell to Jill Cragg who moves from her home in Downham of 21 years. She and Len came to Downham in 1994 and we enjoyed four and a half years of Len's spiritual and pastoral leadership when he was one of a succession of interregnum priests in the years following the retirement of the last full-time vicar. Jill will be missed by all her friends and neighbours in Downham, where she has quietly and enthusiastically supported the Church, Village Groups and individuals. We wish you every happiness in your new home, Jill, closer to family, in Manchester.

ASSHETON Cousin, Caroline Assheton is welcomed by the Parish. Caroline is moving to Mearly Syke in Clitheroe. She is looking forward to living near her family roots. We wish Caroline good luck in her new home.



DOWNHAM HOSPITALITY ON THE INCREASE

ALTHOUGH it has taken much time, effort and negotiation, the prospects for Downham residents and visitors alike to enjoy more choice on where to eat and drink are fantastic. Since the public meeting last February a lot has moved forward.

The refurbished ice cream/tea shop on Hare Green has proved a great success and a popular meeting place since it reopened last summer, so the Browns are set to remain there and develop the business further. Favourable discussions have taken place with Royal Mail who hope to share the Ice cream shop for a few hours each week with an "outreach" facility. (This part of the jigsaw is still awaiting confirmation by Royal Mail).

The Assheton Arms has had some internal decorative tweaks together with a major overhaul of the toilet arrangements. (They now have disabled and baby changing facilities together with a very smart Ladies!) The Seafood Pub company has now officially taken leases of both The Post Office (as was) and Ash Tree Cottage. Work is busily underway to convert both to smart bed and breakfast accommodation, which should be open for business by Easter.

After the unforeseen departure of John Walker from Greendale, major renovation work is under way to upgrade the café facilities there. Trevor, Louise, son Ashley and daughter Kelley, Rutherford who have run the very successful "Puddle Ducks" at Dunsop Bridge for several years, will be opening as a full time café again, around Easter time.

Because of the success of the ice cream/tea shop and the imminent opening of Greendale, the Post Office will not now be operating a shop/café as had been envisaged a year ago. The Ash will however be using the downstairs dining room as a café/coffee shop type venue, both to provide breakfast facilities for their B & B guests and for passersby.

Plans are also underway to upgrade the Camping Barn which will include a wood burning stove to provide heat, rather than the existing gas system. This work will hopefully also be complete by Easter. All these changes will hopefully improve the quality of all our lives, without in any way spoiling what we all love about the area.
 RCA



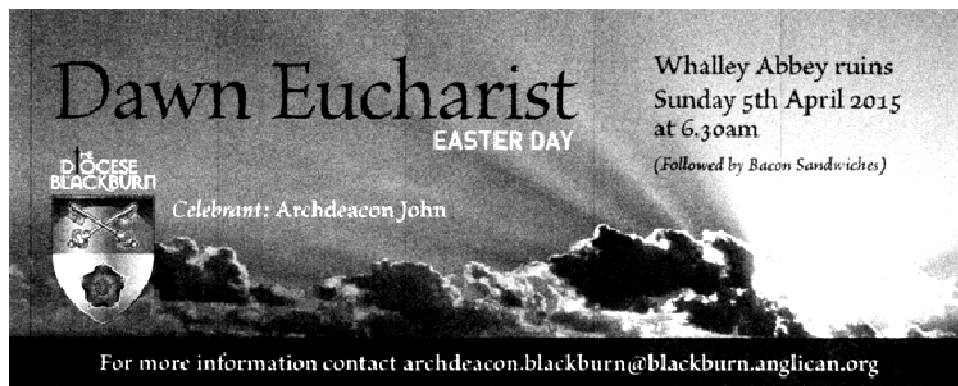
SPECTATOR.

NEXT month, from 20th - 26th April is Parkinson's Awareness Week and the campaign this year is to make the UK a friendlier place by asking everyone to up your friendly' Honestly!

PARKINSONS UK are aiming to encourage friendliness, whether you are affected by Parkinsons or not and hope to engage the general public, in a fun campaign to raise awareness of how important it is to be friendly and helpful, especially to us Parkies. Even the little things like showing more patience if you are stood in a queue can make all the difference. I remember when I was first diagnosed and thought everyone was looking at me. I used to dread going into shops, which would make my shaking worse. The one exception was a certain clothes shop on the high street where a very kind sales assistant always went out of her way to say hello and to make me feel special. What a difference this made to my confidence and I'm pleased to say that we have become best friends and "ladies wot lunch!" I also remember the first time a cashier at 'a certain supermarket (well we don't want to give free advertising do we!) kindly asked if I would like help with putting the heavy bags into the trolley. I looked behind me expecting to see a dodderly old lady, then realised she meant me. Hmm cheek! It wasn't long though, before I came to appreciate and be very grateful for these kindnesses. It doesn't have to be on the scale of The Good Samaritan, but a smile and a kind word can make all the difference to someone's day. I read somewhere that, "a stranger is only a friend that we haven't met"

One friendly face that I am going to miss, especially when I am waiting for the bus into Clitheroe, is Jill Cragg's, as she would often 'dash' across the road to chat and make the waiting pass more quickly. I have missed Len so very much and now Jill....BUT...I am sure she will come and visit and I wish her all the very best in this new stage of her life. The friends and neighbours where she is moving will very quickly, I am sure, realise what a wonderful person they are getting and our loss is their gain. So goodbye Jill, you will be missed and I for one am so glad to be your friend.

Now don't forget, the campaign next month, "I've upped my friendly for PARKINSONS UK so please....etc..etc...thank you!



Dawn Eucharist
EASTER DAY

Whalley Abbey ruins
Sunday 5th April 2015
at 6.30am
(Followed by Bacon Sandwiches)

Diocese of Blackburn
Celebrant: Archdeacon John

For more information contact archdeacon.blackburn@blackburn.anglican.org

DOWNHAM & TWISTON HISTORY GROUP

THE group's January meeting was held at the Village Hall on Monday, 26th, when the speaker was Peter del Strother on his new book, History of Clitheroe. Peter, a former general manager of the Cement works has written extensively on his subject including the history of the Clitheroe Cement Works. On this occasion he was introducing us to his History of Clitheroe, published late last year. In order to present this massive topic he divided his story into six chapters and spoke for a few minutes on each period—all illustrated by interesting slides. His periods were: Normans—The Castle and the early layout of the town, Elizabeth I—Pudsay's Shillings, Quicklime - from Roman times to the 21st Century, Early 19th Century—Clitheroe 2—Manchester Nil (refers to the number of MPs returned to Parliament), 1850—Public Health Report, 1891—Emily Jackson, the Abduction and, finally, Cotton. A very interesting evening.

On 23rd February the subject was Limekilns and Lime burning by Helen Wallbank, who has written a book on this topic with Frances Margison. Helen told of the origins of her project which was Heritage Lottery Grant funded, the object of which was to find and record all the Lime Kilns in the Slaidburn area. She went on to show illustrations of the different types and the history of lime burning and its purpose, differentiating between local kilns for use on the farms where they were situated and larger examples where the lime was burned for sale. Helen finished with some extra examples nearer home for us at Worston on and near Worsaw Hill. Members ended the evening with special tea and cake as a goodbye to founder member and Treasurer Jill Cragg.

There will be no meeting in March. The next will be on 20th April at 7.30 pm when Jean Asher will talk about The Quakers in Newton and Slaidburn and Jenny Palmer will add some words on The Twiston Quakers.

Stage Two Downham at Downham Village Hall

Stage Two will be presenting Neil Simon's romantic comedy



'Barefoot in the Park'

March 25th -28th at 7.30pm

You may well remember the film with Jane Fonda and Robert Redford - a delightful duo

**There will be a meal deal at The Assheton Arms
a delicious two course meal and a ticket for just £20!**

To book a table phone 01200 441227.

Food Service starts at 5.30 pm

Our ticket hotline is 07833203495

or tickets can be purchased from Tourist Information telephone no. 01200 425566

Come and enjoy an evening of gentle humour and good fun!

la télé

A news story on Downham was broadcast on the 3rd February by channel TF1, France's largest commercial broadcaster and one of Europe's largest television channels. It was headlined En Angleterre, un village comme tout droit sorti du 19e siècle ! (In England, a village like straight out of the 19th century!).

You can see it on TF1's website here: <http://videos.tf1.fr/jt-we/2015/en-angleterre-un-village-comme-tout-droit-sorti-du-19e-siecle-8541634.html>

THE PARISH CHURCH

ASSHETON SERMON

DIOCESAN Bishop of Blackburn, Bishop Julian, was the preacher at the Annual Assheton Sermon on Sunday, 1st February. Unusually he spoke on both the texts provided in the will of Sir Ralph Assheton, from the Old Testament book of Job "I know that my redeemer liveth" and from St Paul's letter to the Colossians, "When Christ who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory". We are accustomed to the preacher choosing one or the other.

A good local turnout was augmented, as ever, by the Lancashire Branch of the Prayer Book Society. The service was led by the Vicar Revd Andy Froud and the Organist was Janet Ismail.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

THIS year's Women's World Day of Prayer service is to be held on Friday, 6th March at Chatburn Methodist Church at 2.00 pm. The Country of focus this year is the Bahamas.

THE PCC

AT their last meeting, the PCC was asked by the Vicar to consider changes to the timings of services and, whilst there was no decision there was general agreement in principle that within the resources available there would have to be a reduction in the Sunday services, with a replacement on a weekday. At least one church will have to re-time their main Sunday service.

The PCC also agreed to the replacement of the organ with a modern instrument. Much careful work is necessary before we see the final result of that decision.

GUIDE BOOK

THE latest edition of the Church Guide Book for visitors to St Leonard's is on sale at the back of the Church. It now boasts some colour illustrations and is offered at £1.50.

CANDLE LIGHT SUPPER

THE Children's Society is the beneficiary of the Annual Lasagne Candlelight Supper in the sum of £610.

The event was a jolly get together, for supporters of the Children's Society and a way of contributing to the Society's excellent work. The evening was rounded off by the performance of an amusing anthology of Lancashire Dialect Poetry, most written by the performer —Christine Thistlethwaite with a medley or two of good songs, some of them from the first world war, from accordionist Peter Moorhouse,

The Whalley Deanery fundraising committee has been well supported by Downham for many years at fund-raising events at different times and places. The Committee is grateful for this support and knows that many Children are supported.



WEEK

THE departure of Jill Cragg from our con-

gregation and village means that there is a need to recruit a volunteer for Christian Aid collection at the lower half of the Village

As we all know Di Braithwaite collects from the top half and Jill did the bottom houses. The duties are to deliver envelopes for the annual collection and then collect the donations in their sealed envelopes.

If the envelopes come early enough it should be possible to enclose them with the May newsletter then the collectors' work will be eased. The envelopes need to be collected in the week 10th to 16th May.

If you can spare the time to help with this please speak to Di Braithwaite who will be pleased to let you know what is entailed.

GARDEN CLUB

THE Garden Club begins again on March 5th with the AGM and a film show by Gordon and Ann Sharpe. Everyone welcome. We have interesting talks, walks and visits to gardens. Something for all, including fun. I hope to see you there.



CA

COFFEE CLUB

IT was a grey morning outside but inside all was well with the world. It was our monthly coffee club. All was as normal with jigsaws, books and bric-a-brac stalls all doing well. Beautiful cakes were all being chosen with great seriousness.



There was an air of expectation! This was to be Jill's last coffee morning with us before she went to live nearer to her family in Manchester. Then Jill arrived, a card was produced along with a lovely bouquet of flowers. A jolly time (mixed with an odd teardrop) was had by all. Please come back to see us Jill you will be sorely missed.

Another coffee morning greatly enjoyed! Our next is 12th March.

CA

THE VILLAGE HALL

OUR Committee is grappling with the usual maintenance problems of an older building, including the need for a new fire escape for safe evacuation of the hall.

The new lighting is very effective and makes a huge difference to the appearance of the main room.

The committee is considering also a programme of events for the hall and its many users. Watch this space.

Stage 2 Downham are there in March see page 3.

Our thanks to The Newsletter Sponsors for the March issue
Downham Village Hall and Downham WI



DOWNHAM WI President, Mrs Frances Garner, welcomed Yvonne Pinder of 'Pinny's Pots', to the February meeting. Many people wonder what they

would do with early retirement. Yvonne, after a career working for a bank and being a member of Blackburn Territorial Army, decided to decorate terracotta pots. Yvonne had a wonderful display of pots, of various sizes, that she had decorated with paint and appliquéd decorations from napkins. She modelled the painstaking process, step by step. Many of the pots were decorated with flowers or birds and even pet dogs, some of Yvonne's special commissions. Yvonne's display of pots were quickly sold after her talk.

Marion Courtney reported on a talk at LFWI House, 'L.G.B.T.', 'Lettuce, Gherkin, Bacon and Tomato?', that six members from Downham WI attended. The talk was about the difficulties faced by people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender. There were two extremely interesting presentations, one from an LGBT Charity based in Preston and from the designated LGBT police officer based in Blackpool. Marion reported how informative, thought provoking and well attended this event had been.

Downham WI did extremely well at the Federation Quiz in January, entering three teams and one team coming second!

The next meeting on Thursday the 19th March will be the occasion of Downham W.I.'s 95th Birthday. The celebrations will begin at 6.30 at the Mytton Fold Hotel, Langho.

A.K.

