

**PARISH CALENDAR—2011**

October			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
2nd	Trinity XV	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Chatburn Christ Church</b>	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs S. Marlow Mrs J. Aspinnall
		11.00am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mrs E. Wrigley		
6th	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Beautiful Gardens of Europe</i>	
8th	Saturday	2.30 pm	Decorate Church	<i>All Welcome</i>		
9th	Trinity XVI	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs E. Parker		Mrs S. Travis Mrs A Chadwick
		11.00am	Centenary Harvest Festival Family Service Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs B Lewis Mrs A. Greenhill		
13th	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Club	<i>Village Hall</i>		
16th	Trinity XVII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Chatburn Christ Church</b>	Mrs C. McGrath	Mr & Mrs B. Lewis
		11.00am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mr B. Lewis		
17th	Monday	7.30 pm	History Group	Church	<i>Centenary Talks and Exhibits</i>	
20th	Thursday	6.00 pm	Bezercus	Village Hall	<i>Entertainment</i>	
		7.30 pm	WI		<i>AGM</i>	
23rd	Trinity XVIII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D. Wilkins		Mrs E. Parker Mrs J. Whitsey
		11.00am	Matins Revd Anne Hardacre	Mr T. McLean		
30th	Trinity XIX	11.00am	<b>Centenary Celebration</b> The Rt Revd Nicholas Reed Bishop of Blackburn Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs B. Lund Mrs P. McFall		Mr & Mrs J Whitsey
<b>November</b>						
3rd	Thursday	7.30pm	Garden Club	<b>Village Hall</b>	<i>Christmas Floral Demonstration</i>	
6th	Trinity XX	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	<b>Christ Church Chatburn</b>	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs D Braithwaite Mrs A. Richardson
		11.00am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mr B. Lewis		

**OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE** – Canon Rodney Nicholson – 458019

**OUR CHURCH WARDENS**

The Hon Ralph Assheton – 440173      Mrs Diana Wilkins – 445250

**VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Chairman and Bookings Secretary** Mr Shaun Roney—441667

**Hon. Secretary** The Hon Mrs Ralph Assheton—440173

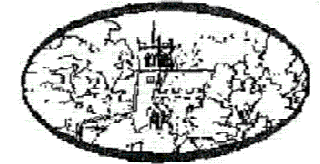


[www.downhamvillage.org.uk](http://www.downhamvillage.org.uk)

*The Newsletter was sponsored this month by  
Adams and Co, Accountants, Clitheroe*

**PARISH OF ST. LEONARD**

**DOWNHAM & TWISTON**



**newsletter**

2011 Issue 10 October

[www.downhamvillage.org.uk](http://www.downhamvillage.org.uk)

**From Canon Rodney Nicholson**

**Viewpoint**



I TRAVELLED to Cheltenham by public transport on the Friday of the August bank holiday weekend for the Greenbelt Christian arts festival. The bus from Clitheroe to Preston was late, and while I was waiting at the bus stop one of the funeral directors grabbed me about a funeral of which details had just come in. The train from Preston to Birmingham was crowded, as was the train on to Cheltenham. Indeed, I didn't get a seat on that train. Reaching my bed

and breakfast accommodation near Cheltenham racecourse, I discovered that guests had to help themselves at breakfast from the food placed on the table for them.

I now tell the story a little differently. Although the bus was a bit late, I had plenty of time to walk to Preston station, and got talking on the bus to a nice couple from Grindleton. The appearance of the funeral director gave me the opportunity to say that I was going away briefly, but that Anne Hardacre would help. The trains were crowded but, after all, it was a busy weekend and I had a seat as far as Birmingham. Yes, my accommodation was self-service but there were only two of us staying, so there was no problem in getting a bath or shower. And the hostess was very happy for guests to use her kitchen, which looked out onto a lawn, to prepare packed meals and flasks of coffee.

Both stories accurately describe the same journey and arrival. Both are true, but one concentrates on the positives while the other sees all the problems. You may like to record a day in your life about which you could list the complaints or be grateful for the good things. The "half empty, half full" saying is rather over-worn but it does make a valid point.

Years ago my mother was collecting for Christian Aid when she met a cantankerous woman who said, "I don't agree with it". Somewhat indignant, my mother replied, "What don't you agree with? People being hungry or Christian Aid collecting for them?" "Neither," she retorted. Well, you don't get far with someone like that.

The season of party conferences is upon us with all their arguments, planned adulation, passionate appeals and, hopefully, sharp humour. Problems will be listed, many of which are all too real for many people. Rather less emphasised, I guess, will be how well off many of us are in this country. Let's count our blessings, for we have many to keep us going.

With warmest greetings,

*Rodney N. Assheton*

**O** LORD we beseech thee, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour, preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	August	2011
COMMUNICANTS	46	360
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	230	2,034
VISITORS	193	870
DONATIONS	220	6,917
HOUSE BOXES	51	169
<b>TOTALS</b>	694	9,990

#### OUR PRAYERS ARE SAID FOR

**Billy** and the family of **Elsie Barker**.

#### BEST WISHES IN YOUR NEW HOME

**Craig & Alexandra Chapman and Lily Chapman** who have moved from Hollins Farm, Downham to Fernside, Twiston.

#### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

##### HOLY BAPTISM

28th August - **Emily Jane and Jack**, children of Neil and St Leonard's organist. Adele **Pridding** of Langho.

##### FUNERAL

21st September—**Elsie Barker** of The White House, Downham, at Chatburn Methodist Church, interment at Martin Top Chapel.

##### HOLY MATRIMONY

23rd September—**Helen Linley and Andrew Pendlebury**. of Clitheroe

THE WEDDING took place on Friday, 23rd September, of Helen Linley and Andrew Pendlebury.. Helen and Andrew do not claim to be a Downham couple but they have been attending services here, choosing St Leonard's because of a connection which Helen's family has with me. In spite of it being a Friday, all the choir except Kirsteen, who was teaching, were singing, and Ralph Assheton managed to arrange four bell ringers through Eric Musson. After the ceremony the reception was held at the Devonshire Arms, Bolton Abbey. RN

## BOOK GOLD TOP: THE JOHN LUND STORY

By Scott Reeves



IN 1987, John Lund's eleven year struggle behind the wheel finally came good – he won the stock car World Final. Little did he realise that over twenty years later he would still be part of the sport, having won the World Final more times than any other.

*Gold Top* tells the story behind the stock car career of Twiston born John Lund. Based on interviews with John and his family, it draws the rich anecdotes from a quiet and modest champion to conjure a colourful and compelling biography. From triumph to tragedy, this is the long journey that made John Lund one of the most experienced, popular and successful drivers in the history of motorsport.

Scott Reeves is a freelance writer and publisher who has been a keen stock car fan since his first trip to Odsal Stadium in 1987. This is his first book. A proportion of the price of this book will be donated to the British Stock Car Drivers Association Benevolent Fund.

"Everyone who is a fan knows the John Lund story, right? Think again – Scott Reeves has written a book remarkable for its attention to detail on one of stock car racing's all-time greats." Neil Randon, author of *The Sound and the Fury*

£14.99 - Published 1st September 2011 - ISBN 978-0-9569460-0-3 Paperback— 304 pages

DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL

STAGE 2—DOWNHAM

Present

**84 Charing Cross Road**

By

**Helene Hanff**

Directed by  
Fran Osborne

21st to 26th November

Tickets £6

From

Tourist information 425566

Fran Osborn 423301

Elizabeth Wrigley 423005

**From Canon Nicholson**

#### God's economics

**I** FIRMLY believe that God's economics differ, so often, from ours. Financial advice may be: "keep what you have and look after your investments". Jesus says, "Lay not up for yourselves treasure on earth.... but treasure in heaven." Those who live and give generously find again and again that, although they were not looking for reward, that is what they God. Evidence for this is found again and again.

#### Encouragement

**E**NCOURAGERS are lovely and valued people. We have a retired clergyman in St Paul's parish who is superb at encouraging people. Whether it's the organist, a sidesperson, even the preacher, and probably others he meets in ordinary life, they regularly receiving an encouraging word from him. That can mean so much. If we must criticise, let's always make sure we offer praise as well.

From the Revd Anne Hardacre

### Family Bat Walk

A FAMILY Bat Walk, led by Phil Dykes of the Wildlife Trust, will take place on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October. The party meets at Christ Church, Chatburn at 6.45 for a 7pm start. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please wear boots or wellingtons and bring a torch. Afterwards there will be food provided by Christ Church. The event is free but any donations will be divided between the Wildlife Trust and Christ Church.



WHALLEY ABBEY FELLOWSHIP

## GRAND COFFEE MORNING

IN THE CONFERENCE HOUSE AT WHALLEY ABBEY

ON TUESDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2011

10.00 AM TO 12 NOON

VARIOUS STALLS AND RAFFLE

£1.50 TICKET

TICKETS FROM THE ABBEY COFFEE SHOP  
OR  
01254 828400 OR 824620

From the Revd Rodney Nicholson

### Archbishop John Sentamu

SOME of us will be at the Cathedral on Thursday October 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm to hear our wonderful Archbishop of York, John Sentamu, at a Diocesan Eucharist. When he was appointed in 2005 as the 97<sup>th</sup> Archbishop of York (in its 1500 year history), the Guardian newspaper commented that just occasionally a traditional organisation, like the Church of England, can make an inspired choice. The Guardian was unfair in its implied criticism of the Church but right in its verdict that the “promotion” of John Tucker Mugabi Sentamu was inspirational.

John Sentamu has made a huge impact for good at York and in the northern province of the Church of England. Whether playing his African drums or preaching or meeting people, he exudes joy and conviction in the Lord. Blackburn Cathedral is open house that night, so do come along.

### Harvest appeal

THE BISHOP'S Harvest Appeal this year will be divided between a Christian Aid project in Guatemala and a Mothers' Union programme in Uganda - both countries of great need. Guatemala, in spite of being classed a “middle income country” has one of the highest malnutrition rates in the world. Half of all children under five are malnourished. Christian Aid works through a partner organisation, Bethania, running a community health centre and a specialist infant malnutrition clinic.

In Uganda the Mothers' Union programme tries to give people the opportunity to take charge of their own lives, in the belief that families and communities know best what will benefit their future.

Donations can be made at the Harvest Family Service on Sunday October 9<sup>th</sup> at 11am, or handed to a St Leonard's church member.

Those wishing to make a gift of food are invited to provide a tin/tins of ready made meals, which I can deliver to one or two local families who, I know, would appreciate this help. Gifts are also welcome for the Asylum Seeker project in Blackburn, but I am currently waiting to hear what food is most appreciated. Please ring me (458019) after October 1st if you wish to help in this way.

### Elsie Barker 1924—2011

**ELSIE** was born in Twiston and spent her entire life if Twiston, Rimington, Chatburn and Downham. Elsie had known Billy Barker since school days and they began courting in 1940. Separated by the war after Billy joined the RAF in 1942 they began a correspondence which amounted to over a thousand letters from Billy to Elsie and which she kept all her life. They married in 1943 and at first lived in with her employer Cockshutts, farmers in Chatburn and later, following the birth of their first child she moved in with her parents in Downham. After the war they moved into their own home on Downham Road Chatburn and after that in 1959 to Greendale, where they ran the café guest house until 1975 when they moved to the White House in Downham. At her funeral, at Chatburn Methodist Church on Wednesday, 21st September her Grandson told of her great baking skills, her interest in people and in helping others, (she and Billy delivered meals on wheels until late on in her life) and of joining in. She was a WI member for sixty years and president for three years in the nineteen nineties, and most importantly as beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She will be greatly missed as friend and neighbour in the Parish.

DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL  
Village Entertainment Group

PRESENTS

## Berzerkus

Komedy of Errors  
Suitable for 4years plus

THURSDAY 20th OCTOBER 6.00 pm

Tickets: £6 Adults / £3.50 Children / £17 Family Ticket

Ring Angie or Barbara  
440146 440925

When Gerald's juggling partner walks out on him, he asks the agency to find a suitable replacement. Enter Wallace the circus trainee and cue chaos. With Wallace around, Gerald will need all his years of show business experience to keep the show on track. Wallace – wildly over enthusiastic, Gerald - demanding order! Can they overcome their differences?

Packed with chaotic clowning, jaw-dropping juggling, unique uni-cycling, mind-boggling magic and audience participation all with a hint of danger.

**THE PARISH CHURCH**

**PULPIT EXCHANGE**

THE ST Leonard's congregation was delighted to welcome the Revd Chich Hewitt from Manchester on Sunday September 4<sup>th</sup>. His conduct of the Holy Communion and preaching were much appreciated, and Jean Whitsey kindly entertained him and his wife, Gill, to coffee afterwards. They appreciated a scenic drive back home.

I too had a lovely time at Holy Rood, Swinton, once I had found the right turning off the East Lancs Road! The 60-strong congregation was warm and welcoming, and I was delighted to meet Bijoux, a former asylum seeker from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, who has now been granted refugee status. The parish followed the pattern of admitting children to communion (after preparation) before Confirmation, but those who were not confirmed or among the children who had been prepared, were invited to receive a grape. What a marvellous practice, I thought, and have already introduced the grapes at St Paul's. The church has a woman deacon who, with her daughter, had run a children's bible club during the summer holidays.

Before I went, I looked at Holy Rood's website and was interested, and pleased, to see that it stated that everyone was welcome at the church, including the words "regardless of sexual orientation". RN

**FAMILY SERVICE**

THE AUGUST family service on 28th at 11.00 was conducted by Revd Anne Hardacre and included the Christening of our organist Adele's children Emily Jane and Jack. A very enjoyable occasion, it was enhanced by the participation of these two slightly older than usual children.

Our next family service will be the Centenary Harvest Festival on 9th October, at 11.00 am.

**ST LEONARD CENTENARY**

OUR NEXT events to celebrate the centenary of the re-opening of our Parish Church will be the Harvest Festival on 9th October at 11 am and the Centenary Service on 30th October (exactly one hundred years to the day) when the preacher will be the Bishop of Blackburn. To this service we have invited all couples married at Downham.

The Exhibition of the last hundred years at St Leonards will be mounted again and run from the 9th until the 30th with a special viewing and talks on Monday 17th October at 7.30 pm. The congregation, Wardens and Clergy look forward to seeing you at these events.

**CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COFFEE MORNING**



INGS END was host to this year's St Leonard's Downham effort toward the National Coffee Morning for the Children's Society. The National coffee morning, now in its third year, is a nice quick get-together for fundraising and this year the two-hour event made £185 for the society.

The newly appointed Northern regional officer for the Society, Vikki Savery, attended and gave a short resume of what the Society does for Runaway children, Children in trouble with the Law, Asylum Seeker Children and other projects which our charitable fundraising supports.

Thank you to all who attended, gave a donation, raffle prizes and/or cakes and help at the sink. TM



**COFFEE CLUB** DESPITE a very wet and blustery morning, quite a few of our stalwart members turned up. We had the usual catch up on village news, along with delicious cakes kindly provided by Carol and Molly. Edith ran the bring and buy on her own, thank you Edith. I really appreciate the support everyone gives when I'm "ON DUTY". Its back to normal on the 13th of October with Dave and Olive, so looking forward to seeing you all then. BL

**GARDEN CLUB**

OUR September Meeting was a Beetle Drive held in the Village Hall. Members and Guests had an enjoyable evening's play and some delicious refreshments. Overall winners were There were several raffle prizes; the evening was organised by Carol Ashworth,



The next meeting will be on Thursday, 6th October at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, when the topic is Beautiful European Gardens, an illustrated talk by Stuart and Anita Kennington.

**DOWNHAM AND TWISTON HISTORY GROUP**

AT THEIR September meeting members were privileged to be shown Downham Hall by Lord and Lady Clitheroe. After an introductory talk about the building and the Asshetons by Lord Clitheroe, the party split into two groups for a tour of the principal rooms with explanations of the main contents and decoration. Pictures and photographs displayed in the hall told the story of the main events in the history of the family and house.

The next meeting is an open meeting in church on Monday, 17th October at 7.30 pm. Using the Centenary Exhibition as background there will be short discussions about the building, monuments, bells and some of the events in its history with and emphasis on the hundred years since the rebuilding of 1910-11.

NB A couple of years ago, or so, our historian Elizabeth Wrigley wrote a short history of Billy and Elsie Barker called "The Family at the White House".

**W.I.**

**September Meeting**



IT WAS a sad start to the September Meeting when members held one minute's silence in memory of Mrs Elsie Barker, former Downham W.I. President and W.I. member for sixty one years. Elsie last attended our W.I. meeting in August, and was a stalwart member in every sense.

*"Lucy Lockett lost her pocket, Kitty Fisher found it. Not a penny was there in it, But a ribbon round it".*

Marsha Poole, our own member, reminded us all of this old rhyme and went on to tell us, with interesting illustrations, the history of the pocket. Kitty Fisher was a Royal courtesan, and Marsha described Kitty's interesting lifestyle, from her lead-based (and therefore poison-filled) makeup, her clothing and aristocratic friends. Pockets were not an integral part of the garment but were tied around the waist and originally were modelled on pouches worn by farmers to hold seeds. Some of the first embroidered pockets are to be seen in Gawthorpe Hall. Marsha showed us some interesting examples of pockets and samples of costume that she herself had made.

**Trash and Treasure Fair**

There will be a Trash and Treasure Fair on 12th November at Downham Village Hall, an opportunity perhaps for you to buy unusual Christmas gifts.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting, to be held on 20th October when nominations for committee membership will be considered. JN