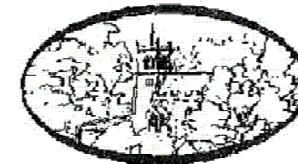


PARISH CALENDAR—2012						
October			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
1st	Monday	6.30 pm	Village Hall Management	Committee Meeting		
4th	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Mad Pam Rides Again</i>	
6th	Saturday	2.00 pm	Decorate Church			
7th	Trinity XVII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>ChristChurch Chatburn</b>	Harvest	Mrs S. Marlow Mrs E. Parker
		11.00 am	Harvest Family Service Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs B. Lewis Mrs A Greenhill		
11th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
14th	Trinity XVIII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D. Wilkins		Mrs S. Travis Mrs A. Chadwick
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mr B. Lewis		
15th	Monday	7.30 pm	History Group	Village Hall	<i>The NW Sound Archive</i>	
18th	Thursday	10.00am	WI	Village Hall	<i>AGM</i>	
21st	Trinity XIX	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Christ Church Chatburn</b>	Mrs M. Roskell	Mr & Mrs B Lewis
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs B. Lund		
28th	Trinity XX	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs E. Parker		Mrs A. Holden Mrs T. Stell
		11.00am	Matins Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs P McFall		
November						
1st	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Folk Lore and Wild Flowers</i>	
4th	Trinity XXI	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>ChristChurch Chatburn</b>	<i>Lord &amp; Lady Clitheroe</i>	Mr & Mrs J. Whitsey
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mr T. McLean		
<b>OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE</b> – Canon Rodney Nicholson – 458019 <b>OUR CHURCH WARDENS</b> The Hon Ralph Assheton – 441210 Mrs Philippa McFall—441484 Mrs Diana Wilkins – 445250 <b>VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</b> <b>Chairman and Bookings Secretary</b> Mr Shaun Roney—441667 <b>Hon Secretary</b> The Hon Mrs R. Assheton—441210						
		<a href="http://www.downhamvillage.org.uk">www.downhamvillage.org.uk</a>				

## PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

### DOWNHAM & TWISTON



# newsletter

2012 Issue 10 October

From Canon Rodney Nicholson

Viewpoint

WE DO not naturally acknowledge how rich we are. I think we should. Personally, I have no problem about declaring my wealth. I have more than enough food. I have clothes and a warm home. I own a car and a computer and much more. I have access to a free health service and receive a generous income. All this puts me in the top band of rich people when compared to most of the world, and indeed most members of the worldwide Anglican Church, let alone the Christian family as a whole. I think we should be much more positive and “up-front” about declaring how much we have. Even compared to many people in Downham and Twiston a century ago, we are rich beyond imagination.

Recognising our wealth must lead to three attitudes. First, we are thankful: to life and to God. Gratitude should underlie our relationship with God. “Count your blessings”, that wonderful chorus in an otherwise slightly old-fashioned hymn, expresses joyful Christian living. Those blessings include God’s incalculable love in giving his Son for our redemption.

Second, we have a proper humility. We don’t deserve the sheer volume of what we have. Many of us just happen to have been born in the right place at the right time, whereas a child in a Sudanese refugee camp does not enjoy such good fortune. But suddenly our lives can change. Something in our body may “snap”. Death can take us or take someone we love. We are wise to live gratefully and humbly, as “frail children of dust”.

Third, gratitude for our wealth leads to generosity. “Much is required of those to whom much is given”. Kathleen and I have always followed the practice of giving away one tenth of net income - roughly half to the church and half to (mainly Christian) charities. It’s as normal as breathing, in my view. It’s also the answer to churches’ financial problems. Being now better off as a pensioner still working, I aim to give away a second tenth. The strange thing is that as we give, so we receive. One path to health and joy is, I believe, generous giving. But it’s not so generous when we think how much we keep for ourselves.

Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all. Do, then, celebrate your wealth and blessings. And while we’re about it, do support the Bishop’s Harvest Appeal for Bangladesh and Tanzania.

*Rodney Nicholson*

### Collect for Harvest Thanksgiving

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	July	2012
COMMUNICANTS	47	393
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	130	1,768
VISITORS	144	627
DONATIONS	385	9,856
HOUSE BOXES	-	151
TOTALS	639	12,402

### OUR PRAYERS ARE SAID FOR

**Karen Walker** of Greendale who is undergoing treatment.  
**Bob Swarbrick** who is making progress.

### GOOD LUCK IN YOUR NEW HOME

**Chris & Kella** and **Lucas & Martha Bowers** who have moved into Gerna Farm from Chatburn where they have lived for about seven years, they originally came from Wilpshire and Lammack. They plan to remain members of Christ Church where Chris is Church Warden but we expect to see them at other times in and around Downham.

### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

#### Holy Matrimony

**1st September: Andrew Di Francesco and Emma Rushton**  
**9th September: Simon Barker and Jennifer Gass**

ONE partner in both couples had a family connection with Downham. Emma, now a nurse at the Royal Blackburn Hospital, chose St Leonard's because her mother, Audrey Simpson was brought up at Lower Smithy Fold in the 1960s – the farm which Norman and Brenda Lund ran from 1953, when they were married, until 1958. Audrey married Ian Rushton at St Leonard's and Emma was baptised there, so Downham holds happy memories for her. Simon, grandson of Billy and the late Elsie Barker, has served with the Army in Afghanistan and now lives in Salford, near where he met Jennifer (Jen). With a little help, Billy was able to attend the wedding and seemed to be in good humour. Andrew's father is Italian and it was good to welcome members of the Italian family to our church. He and Emma honeymooned in Disneyland in Orlando but Simon and Jen have not been able to get away just yet.

### Appeal for Syria

**B**ECAUSE of their giving away being fully committed, the PCC did not feel able to respond to an appeal by the Bible Society for bibles for Syria. In this tragic and war-torn country, which itself is a bible-land, the scriptures can bring hope and comfort. If you would like to make even a small gift towards this appeal, please pass it to me at church, or drop off at Chatburn school.

### Praising the NHS

**M**ALCOLM Hillary, a well-known Clitheroe plumber, had some heart trouble recently. He had some pain while on holiday in Italy then, after returning home, decided to see his doctor.

On the day he went to the Health Centre he was clearly unwell and was taken straight through to the doctor, who gave him an ECG and rang for an ambulance, which took him to Blackpool Victoria hospital, where a doctor was waiting.

Malcolm was taken into theatre immediately, given an angioplasty then had stents fitted into an artery. From entering Clitheroe Health Centre at 2.30pm he was moved to a ward in Blackpool at 7.30pm, the procedure finished. The Duke of Edinburgh himself could hardly have had better treatment!

Speaking of the Duke, Malcolm was awarded the Duke of Edinburgh award in 1978, for which he trained through the Army Cadet Force. His mother, Connie, accompanied him to Buckingham Palace to receive his gold, making it her first visit to London and an occasion of which she was justifiably proud.

Others will have their own stories of how good our local hospitals are.

### Ribble Valley proposes “unjust” council tax charge

**C**LITHEROE church leaders are disturbed by Ribble Valley's proposal to impose a council tax charge on benefit recipients to make up a shortfall in government funding. Details are available on the Ribble Valley website, with examples of how different families would be affected.

The Government is cutting its council tax support by 10 per cent which means that Ribble Valley will from next year receive £228,000 less. The borough council proposes to recoup half of this amount from council tax on second homes in the Ribble Valley, which currently go to the Strategic Partnership. The other half will be passed on to working age householders who receive benefit. This includes both people whose entire income is received from benefit, for whatever reason, and those on low pay whose income is topped up by child tax credit.

The extra amount payable by these householders varies according to individual circumstances but is typically around £1.60 a week, or over £100 a year. This might not cause most of us great concern (though if everyone was *required* to put another £1.60 on the collection plate, there might be some complaints!). To someone already struggling, however, this amount could be a real problem. Food banks, which are now coming into the news, have increasing demands made upon them precisely because our country has more families suffering hardship than for many years.

Downham Village Hall

## Trivia Quiz Night

Friday 9th November

Tables of 4

£6 per person (incl. supper)

Proceeds for Downham Village Hall

for further information or to book a table  
ring

445293, Olivia or Shaun

## THE CHILDRENS SOCIETY

Whalley Deanery Fundraising Committee

## Coffee Morning

Part of the Society's national coffee morning  
2012

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September  
10 am to 12 noon

at  
**Downham Mill Rimington Lane  
Downham**

By kind invitation of Mrs Philippa McFall

## BISHOP NICHOLAS

**T**HIS month sadly sees the retirement of the Bishop of Blackburn, the Rt Revd Nicholas Reade. We wish him and his wife, Christine, all God's blessings as they move to a new life near Hastings, where they will be not far from their daughter and her family. A Farewell Eucharist for Bishop Nicholas will be held in the Cathedral on Saturday morning, 20th October, to which all are welcome. It's likely to be a pretty full house.

Bishop Nicholas has made a huge impact on the diocese over his eight years as our Bishop. His graciousness, his readiness to listen, his gift of encouragement and his transparent holiness, flowing from a life based on prayer and the worship of God, have endeared him to us. Right from the start he has been committed to the church's reaching out to those who do not see the need for corporate worship. He has always supported youth and children's work and the principle of there being a Christian presence within every community.

The Bishop has never been afraid to speak out on behalf of the poor, and some of his statements have challenged the policies of the present government. He has challenged church members to think not only of the effects of the recession on themselves but also on the poorest members of society. Equally, Bishop Nicholas has praised David Cameron for refusing to cut overseas aid in spite of the complaints of some in his party and some parts of the Conservative press. We have enjoyed Bishop Nicholas's visits for Confirmation, the Assheton Sermon in 2005, a united service, an Ash Wednesday communion and for last year's centenary service at Downham.

Christine Reade has similarly displayed the qualities of warmth, friendship, good humour and sharing in her husband's spiritual and social ministry. RN



### Stage Two Downham

From 21<sup>st</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> November

Stage Two will be presenting their next production at the Village Hall '**Strictly Murder**' by Brian Clemens (scriptwriter for 'The Avengers').

This is a murder mystery, full of twists, turns, lies and subterfuge. The peaceful life of an English couple, living in Provence just before World War Two, is shattered when secrets of the past are revealed!

This is a very well written play with a strong cast  
Bob Cleeve, Steve Cooke, Andrea Cawley,  
Kim Croyden and Jean Croft.

Tickets can be bought from Tourist Information  
or from Fran Osborne (01200 423301).



**Musical Extravaganza**  
A Cheese and Wine evening with local musician Paul Lee  
**Saturday 20th October**  
at 7.30pm in St Paul's church Low Moor  
A quality event tickets £10

### Thanks to Jean

AFTER serving St Leonard's faithfully as flower arranger for at least 17 years, Jean Whitsey has decided to step down. The PCC, however, wanting to show their appreciation, presented Jean with a basket of mixed flowers on an autumn theme and a card signed by every member. Many wedding couples and others will be grateful for Jean's help on their special day.

We are glad that Molly Roskell and Philippa McFall have kindly taken over the role jointly as flower arrangers. RN

### Jean adds

I WAS quite taken aback at the PCC's presentation but touched and delighted by their thoughtfulness. I have enjoyed my years as flower arranger and will give Molly and Philippa any support I can.



**THE PARISH CHURCH**

**United Service**

OUR United Service, for all three parishes at Low Moor St Paul, on Sunday 30th September, at **10am (please note time)** will be a celebration of the 350th anniversary of the Book of Common Prayer. with some brief input from the GAP team, based at The Grand, who visit schools and help with young people's work.

RN

**Family Service**

THE next family service at St Leonard's is the Harvest Festival on Sunday, 7th October at 11.00 am. and will last just half an hour. We hope that this shorter time span will make it attractive to families who will come to celebrate the Harvest in our village church.

All are welcome to help with the decoration of the Church on Saturday at 2.00 pm.

**Ducks and Muck – the Bishop's Harvest Appeal**

THIS YEAR'S Bishop's appeal supports a Christian project to buy ducks for Bangladesh and a CMS (Church Mission Society) project to support a vegetable-growing project in Tanzania. The Downham ducks are not for sale! but duck-rearing in waterlogged Bangladesh can help people to cope. Rearing Campbell ducks, which are resistant to sea water, can give people meat and eggs to sell. Two-thirds of the money raised is for this project, with the rest for Tanzania, where better farming techniques, or "conservation agriculture" is generating a valuable income. RN

**Operation Christmas Child**

THE POWER of a simple gift: once again Anne and Derek are collecting shoeboxes filled with simple gifts for children in need. Pick up a leaflet from church or ring 429341.

They also have a DVD to lend, or see [www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk](http://www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk) for more information. Last date for filled boxes; Sunday 18th November. RN

**VILLAGE HALL**



AN Open Meeting of the History Group held at the Village Hall Monday 10th September at 7.30 pm was a full-house event. A presentation by Dorothy Bradbury, an old friend of Edwin and Joyce Jackson, was based on information and pictures from the collection of Edwin Jackson.

Starting with a view of the East window at Whalley Parish Church showing the coats of arms of local families, she wove her knowledge of heraldry and facts about the locality into the ancestry of the Preston family and their lineage up to the twentieth century. Dorothy's clarity and interesting exposition held the audience for over an hour, after which the group members served refreshments. Gill Cragg thanked Dorothy, and her son David, who assisted with the technology, and Lady Clitheroe presented Dorothy with flowers on behalf of the group and the Jackson family. Edwin Jackson thanked everyone for attending.

The next meeting of the History Group is at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 15th October when the subject is the NW Sound Archive. New members will be warmly welcomed.

**GARDEN CLUB**

THE ANNUAL Chairman's Walk was on Thursday, 6th September. Starting at the slightly earlier time 7.00 pm at Downham bridge, the stoics followed their leader for an hour or so round the footpaths near Hey House and New Close Farms arriving back in the village via Brookside. The last leg, some walking and some driving, led to an excellent supper at Greendale meeting up with the non-walking members of the club. Also the quite excellent Raffle must be mentioned.



Our next meeting is with speaker Mad Pam who "rides again" on Thursday, 4th October at the Village Hall at the usual time of 7.30 pm

**VILLAGE HALL MANGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Meets again on 1st October, as previously reported they are keeping up with the maintenance programme and awaiting the decision about the latest grant application to deal with the damp problems in the oldest walls.

Arrangements for the quiz are in hand and looks like a jolly evening is in prospect and also an opportunity for us to judge the new heating system, as it will surly be Autumnal by then (9th November).

**This month the Newsletter has been sponsored in loving memory of Florence Smithies**

**W.I.**



HOLIDAYS and an early publication date mean two reports next month.

WI arrangements for October are:

Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lancashire Federation WI Autumn Council meeting at the Charter Theatre Preston, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Downham branch at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall.

Material for publication may be emailed to the Editor [tom@ingsend.co.uk](mailto:tom@ingsend.co.uk) or by snail to Downham Editor, Ings End Barn, Rimington, Clitheroe, BB7 4EH

**COFFEE CLUB**

COFFEE Club was well attended on Thursday, the 13th of September, and we all enjoyed extra treats, courtesy of Eileen Parker, who very kindly sent along cake and sweets for every one to share. Thanks Eileen and we hope that you had a lovely birthday.



June and Edith were kept busy as usual, thank you ladies. I always appreciate everyone's support and enjoy "standing in" for Dave and Olive, who will be back on duty next month on the 11th. BL