

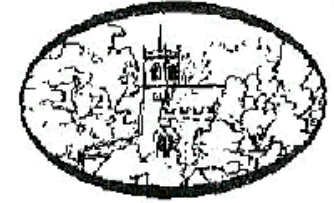


Parish Calendar 2013						
October			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
3rd	Thursday	7.30	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Kevin Briggs Confessions of a</i>	
5th	Saturday	2.00 pm	Decorate Church			
6th	Trinity XIX	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nichol-	Christ Church Chatburn	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs A. Moyle Mrs D. Wilkins
		11.00 am	Harvest Service & Bap- tism	Mrs B. Lewis		
		12.15 pm	Harvest Picnic	Village Hall		
10th	Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
13th	Trinity XX	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs E. Parker		Hon Mrs R. Assheton Mrs C. Naylor
		11.00 am	Matins Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs B. Lund		
17th	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall	AGM	
12th	Trinity XXI	8.30 am	Holy Communion	Christ Church Chatburn	Mrs E. Parker	Mrs P. McFall Mrs M. Roskell
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mrs P. McFall		
27th	Trinity XXII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs D. Wilkins		Mrs G. Cragg Mrs K. Brown
		11.00 am	Bible Sunday Family Service & Baptism Revd Anne Hardacre	Mr B. Lewis		
28th	Monday	6.30	VH Management Cttee	Village Hall		
November						
3rd	Trinity XXIII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nichol-	Christ Church Chatburn	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs C. McGrath Mrs J. Smith
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nichol-	Mr T. McLean		
6th	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall		
OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE – Canon Rodney Nicholson – 458019 OUR CHURCH WARDENS The Hon Ralph Assheton – 441210 Mrs Philippa McFall—441484 Mrs Diana Wilkins – 445250 VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Chairman and Bookings Secretary Mr Shaun Roney—441667						
 www.downhamvillage.org.uk downhambanner.com 						

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON



newsletter

2013 Issue 10 October

From Canon Rodney Nicholson

Viewpoint

IT'S easy to get a cheap laugh by sneering at Health and Safety. I wonder if the family of Ryan Acaster (17) are similarly amused. The Chorley teenager died five years ago after being thrown off his motorbike by a metal cable strung between two trees on a farm track. A Southport firm was fined £100,000 for breaching health and safety regulations. Had the rules been followed, the lad would not have died.

Those who would rather put the clock back on these regulations might remember the suffering caused by asbestos. Some 5000 people died in 2010, mainly through cancer attributable to the inhaling of asbestos fibres. We should rejoice in health and safety rules rather than moan at them because, as a church member has told me, every rule exists because of someone's death.

Christians and others believe in the massive importance of health, which is God's wish for all his people. Jesus came to bring "life in all its fullness", which includes living a healthy life. Anything which goes against good health, be it poverty, addiction or dangerous industrial practices, is an affront to the God of creation and wholeness. Those who employ others should never exploit them by a careless attitude to their safety. So the Leicestershire builder whose neglect caused a sub-contracted worker to fall through a thin roof and break his neck deserved to be prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive.

Would that the thoughtless and greedy mine owners of a previous age had had to comply with modern legislation. If only the chimney sweeps who sent little children up dangerous chimneys had been forced to regulate their trade, much human suffering would have been averted.

We cannot go back in time but we can and should respect all who work, and that includes the woefully underpaid workers in the Bangladeshi garments factories. Our cheap clothing may come at the cost of their slave-like conditions. God is not terribly interested in religious details but, according to the Old Testament prophets and the priorities of Jesus himself, he cares greatly about exploitation and the denial of proper rights. Health and safety rules are not new. Provision for people's well-being is spelled out clearly in the Bible.

Canon Rodney Nicholson

O ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, of thy bountiful goodness keep us, we beseech thee, from all things that may hurt us; that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that thou wouldst have done; through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	August	2013
COMMUNICANTS	59	474
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	435	1,871
VISITORS	165	657
DONATIONS	215	6,042
HOUSE BOXES	20	136
TOTALS	835	8,706

OUR PRAYERS ARE SAID FOR

Bob Swarbrick who is making progress.

Eric Musson, Clitheroe Bellringer who helps out here at St Leonards and who is not well.

Jon Whitsey who has had something of a setback and is recovering at home

BIRTH CONGRATULATIONS

HELEN AND JASON ADDY OF BROOKSIDE DOWNHAM WHO HAD A BABY BOY ON SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER, HE'S CALLED JOSEPH

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Weddings

WE welcomed a couple to their wedding service on 31st August prior to their reception in the village hall. **Rhiannon Killingbeck**, whose family live in Clayton-le-Moors, a former hospital doctor in Northern Ireland, married **Matthew Newman**, who manages accounts. The couple subsequently moved to St Neots, Cambridgeshire.

THEN the following Friday, 6th September we celebrated the wedding of **Michael Chew** and **Victoria Walker**, both of whom work in NHS-related environments in managerial capacities. Michael's parents, David and Jean, who live just beyond the parish boundary in the Blacko district, attend our services. The wet weather did not dampen their spirits as they moved off to the Inn at Whitewell for their reception, to be followed by a honeymoon in Hawaii. Victoria's three sisters and Michael's sister Katie were all bridesmaids.

ROSIE'S CORNER

WHAT a strange time I've had! Last month I told you about our holiday in Yorkshire. Well, I thought that was the end of going away for this year. How wrong I was.

We'd just got settled back into our normal routine here when a rather worrying thing happened. RJ started to pack a suitcase, and then I heard him go out of the house at 3am one Friday morning. Very odd, I thought, surely that's the time when we all of us should be fast asleep. Then something even worse happened the very next day. Mck disappeared! Now I'm quite used to her going out for a short time. She usually says to me 'Back soon, just going to the shops', or 'Just going to church', and I understand those words. They're in my vocabulary along with 'walk' and 'dinner time' and 'cheese' – you know, the usual things that are the stuff of life to a dog. Well this time, she didn't come back, and neither did RJ, and to add to all that, his girlfriend Kirsty wasn't around either.

With more than half my pack missing I was now left alone with VicR. Can you imagine that? Oh, I got fed and watered, (mostly on time), and we even had some really good walks together, but it was very strange being in the house on my own for much longer than I've ever been used to.

Now I know lots of you have seen how VicR runs rather than walks when he's out. Well he's the same indoors. Yes, really! He runs upstairs and clatters down, and that can make quite an alarming din. And I'll let you into another secret. Whilst my meals remained pretty regular, he eats at

some very strange hours when he's on his own in the house.

Of course, he's a working man, and that meant he had to fulfil his parish duties, so on a couple of days a very nice lady called Joan came to spend time with me. She played ball, and let me sit on her knee, but after a few days of being without most of my pack I was feeling too downhearted to go for a walk with her. I hope she didn't mind that too much.

Then, joy of joys, after almost a week, Mck returned home. She'd been away at a reunion, but oh, I felt such rapture at her reunion with me! And then a few more days and RJ and Kirsty were around again, so I'm happy to say my home life is back to normal. VicR says there's a story in the Bible about God being truly overjoyed when someone who has been away returns home. I, for one, can well understand just how He feels.

Key

Mck = my carer, Kathleen; VicR = Vicar Rodney; RJ = their son Richard

WELCOMING BISHOP JULIAN

ON THURSDAY 10th October in York Minster



Julian Henderson will be consecrated the 9th Bishop of Blackburn. Any wishing to come are welcome to come in the coach which St Mary's are running. Consecrations by the Archbishop of York are always an inspiring occasion. Then on Saturday 19th Bishop Julian is inaugurated Bishop of Blackburn (he prefers the word "inaugurated" to the more traditional "enthroned") in the Cathedral. He will be preaching at the Good Friday service in St Paul's next year.

SPECTATOR

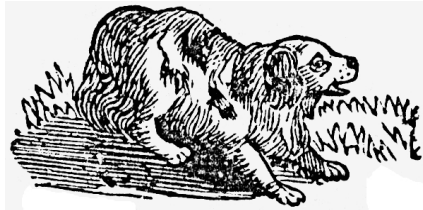
THREE things of note this month but first I would just like to say how wonderful our number 7 bus drivers are. Kind, friendly and helpful. They always ask how we are and drop us off right outside the house. This week I went shopping and in the queue for the bus back, couldn't find my bus pass...I thought I must have left it on the bus in and hoped it was a driver I knew so I could explain and I wouldn't have to pay...but no, it was a new driver and all I said was, "erm, I think I left my bus p.." "Oh yes, driver rang and told me and he will drop it off next time he goes past your house" sure enough, an hour later, the bus pulled up outside and the driver knocked on the door with my pass in his hand and a smile on his face. Ey, it warms your cockles doesn't it? ...restores ones faith in human nature. Thank you chaps. Aw.

My first born daughter Zoe will be 40 by the time you read this and I challenge anyone to find a daughter more wonderful. You'll never do it! Happy Birthday Zoe xx

We are fortunate indeed to be going to Jersey for the second time this year to stay with my lovely Brother and Sister in-law. We'll have lots of fun and TLC to help restore us after the not very good few weeks we have had and which brings me to the last item of news, that we have had to let our dog Teddy go to be re-homed as Jon and I could no longer look after him. It was one of the most difficult decisions we have ever made and we miss him very much but with the balance problems and ever increasing danger of either or both of us falling over, it was for the best. He was a character was Teddy. Jon

calls me 'last word Linda' and I call him 'last word Jon' When Lucy was here we both called her 'last word Lucy' and when Teddy joined our family, he was most definitely 'LAST WORD TEDDY' Like the time I bought him a nice warm blanket and put it in his cage, he dragged it out, obviously not his colour, so I put it back in, and he dragged it out, so I put it back in...and he ate it! LAST WORD TEDDY 1, last word Linda 0.

He was a greedy little thing, his favourite food was cheese, especially Brie, and Teddy was very, very clever. One evening, friends were staying over and we were in the kitchen preparing a meal when Teddy ran in with a half chewed toothbrush hanging out of his mouth. "Argh, the bathroom" I cried and we all ran upstairs....but the bathroom was tidy and it was clear that Teddy hadn't chewed anything else. Too late the penny dropped. "The cheese" I cried. and we all ran back to the kitchen. He had jumped up on a chair then the table and snaffled a whole Brie. I'm sure he was smiling as he



licked his lips and we felt stupid, not to mention brie-less .but we had been duped by a master. Teddy, we salute you...and we will miss you always.

To finish on a more cheery note, many thanks to all our friends and neighbours who offered to walk Teddy when they heard we were struggling. Once again, Jon and I feel so very lucky to be surrounded by such caring people and number 7 bus drivers!

Objecting to the arms trade

Rodney Nicholson

CHRISTIANS and people in general may have different views about going to war and taking military intervention in, for example, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Falkland Islands and Syria. I see no justification, however, in our country's hosting an arms' fair and in trading weapons of destruction - except that they make money. But at what cost?

Britain will not deal with certain regimes, like North Korea, knowing that weapons could be put in enemy hands, but who knows where British-manufactured armaments end up? Diana Princes of Wales did a wonderful job in campaigning against land mines and highlighting the suffering they had caused in Angola and elsewhere. If the full story were told, I wonder how many companies profited from the two world wars and which individuals "made a killing" out of others being literally killed. Arms manufacture is, I don't doubt, a murky world. And yet how many pension fund profits and church investments may have been boosted by arms trade profits?

At least 25 Christian demonstrators were arrested two weeks ago for "obstructing the highway and similar offences" when they protested outside the arms-fair in east London. One priest, the chaplain to Sunderland university, performed a "symbolic exorcism" to draw attention to the evil of these weapons. Another demonstrator, a Quaker, said, "I believe we have a moral duty to prayerfully and peacefully resist the evil transactions that take place at the London arms-fair."

SWEET HARVEST"

THE BISHOP'S Harvest appeal this year is entitled Sweet Harvest - see the brochure in church - supporting a Christian Aid project in Bolivia enabling families to make a living from cocoa. Two-thirds of the money will go here - the other third to a Traidcraft project in Chile enabling people to market their honey and blueberries at a fair price. Traidcraft helped them to buy a tractor.

The Bishop always says that parishes should feel free to support any harvest appeal of their choosing, such as ones run directly by Christian Aid or Tear Fund. For some years, however, at St. Leonard's we have been glad to support the Bishop's appeal which normally goes to two causes

ROUND AND ABOUT

THE PARISH CHURCH

HARVEST

Our Harvest Family Service—
with baptism will be on Sunday
6th October at 11.00 am.

We will be decorating the church at
2.00 pm on Saturday 5th.

In addition to the token traditional
decorative harvest items, parishioners
may wish to consider making a gift of
non-perishable food to the Clitheroe
food bank.

SPEAK(E)s FIND THEIR ROOTS

THE Speak/e/s Family Association
is a group from the United States
and scattered from California to New
England. Their common ancestor,
Thomas Speake, came from
Downham in 1650. The group visited
Downham on 10th September.
Parishioners served coffee, made
people welcome and showed off the
Church and village.

After a welcome by Canon Nicholson,
Lord Clitheroe gave an historical
resume of the church, village and the
Assheton association. Our visitors
were booked in at the Assheton Arms
for lunch and went on to visit Whalley
in the afternoon. Leader of the
Speakes, Mrs Sandra Sills, has written
to us, see page six.

DOWNHAM AND TWISTON HISTORY GROUP

AT THE meeting on Thursday, 26th
September at 7.30 Tom McLean, gave a
show on the history of Calderstones and
learning disability care from 1921 to 1995.
See also page 6.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

Songs of Praise Service at Downham
St Leonard

FRIDAY 27th September at 7.30
pm Parishioners of St Leonard's
hosted members of the Royal
Agricultural Benevolent Institution at
their annual harvest Songs of Praise.

A special service was compiled by
Canon Nicholson and representatives
of the Institution, this was led by the
Revd Ann Hardacre and a largely
augmented choir with singers from
Chatburn churches.

The Hon Ralph Assheton read the
lesson

Coffee was served after the service
by Molly Roskell and helpers and the
organist was Robert Tattersall.

A collection was taken in support of
the Institution's work.

GARDEN CLUB

TWENTY FIVE members
enjoyed a superb
evening this month with
"Pinny's Pots". Yvonne
Pinder was our speaker and demonstra-
tor, she showed members how to paint
and decorate clay garden pots with de-
signs cut from paper napkins, She also
showed some pots she had painted with
various animals. A fair selection of her
pots were sold to members, Yvonne was
thanked for a wonderful evening.

Daphne won the Raffle.

Don't miss next month's meeting when
the presentation will be "Confessions of a
Lunatic". Please remember to bring any
spare seeds, in suitable containers, to
share with other members .
CA



HELP THE AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY CELEBRATE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Sandra Silk who works with the AONB has sent links to their golden
anniversary plans and suggests that we might be able to contribute to the
Golden Memories.

The AONB is celebrating its golden anniversary next year and we're trying to
capture people's Bowland memories from the past 50 years.

We'd like to include a selection of 50 memories (anonymous) in our special
anniversary guide and on the website so we need to gather them in by 21st
October in order to be able to collate everything for the printers. These can be:

- A favourite memory
- How things used to be (maybe in farming or living)
- Locally distinctive produce and what you like about it
- Snippets of information or words that are distinctly 'Bowland'
- A fact about the area that we may not know about!
- Or in the present day - Why is Bowland special to you?

Anything you can think of that will capture the imagination of visitors and local
people.

You don't need to write paragraphs - just a sentence, word or phrase. Please
submit the form as many times as you wish and share the link with friends and
family. Alternatively, people can contact Sandra directly if they prefer.

Tel: 01200 448000 Mob: 07973 923142

Email: sandra.silk@lancashire.gov.uk Thank you for your input!

Note: your responses will be anonymous

Landscapes
for life
.org.uk

FOREST OF
BOWLAND
One of the
AONB Family

IT IS widely seen as good news that President Obama is unlikely to launch a missile attack on targets in Syria, but his decision in no way lessens the plight of Syrian Christians. They themselves may not want such a strike but they remain at the mercy of the rebel forces, infiltrated by extremist Muslims, who take out their anger and frustration on Christians in the country. Two mission societies, US (formerly USPG) and Embrace (formerly Biblelands), as well as Barnabas Fund, have launched appeals for Syrian Christians. In Maloula, north of Damascus, where inhabitants speak Jesus's language, Aramaic, Christians have been forced to flee their homes. Many become refugees.

ABUSE IN HOTELS/GUEST HOUSES

ASSUMING that the jury made the right decision, it is good that Michael Le Vell, the Coronation Street actor, was acquitted of the charges of sexual abuse of which he was accused. The girl making those charges must be presumed to be wrong but many other girls - and boys - have been molested or raped and need to be encouraged to speak out against their abusers. A Children's Society-backed project in Keighley got two men put behind bars for fifteen years, by supporting all through their trial the girl making the accusations. The Society believed she was right and encouraged her to stick to her story and not be intimidated, so that the Prosecution could get a conviction. They were satisfied with the result.

In partnership with another charity, The Children's Society has now produced an information pack to help hotel staff spot signs of children on their premises being exploited, groomed and trafficked. The pack, entitled "Say Something if You See Something" was launched two weeks ago at an event in Parliament attended by the Home Office Minister Damien Green.

The chief executive of The Children's Society, Matthew Reed said, "Preventing child exploitation is everybody's business, not just the police or social workers."

Evidence suggests that at least 16,500 children were at risk of sexual exploitation in one year. 2077 people are thought to have been trafficked in 2011, of which 24 per cent were children.

WHALLEY DEANERY FUND-RAISING FOR CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

THE Fundraising Committee, which has representatives from several Parishes in the Deanery, arranges several fund-raising events a year and raises around two thousand pounds in each year. The highlight of the year is the lasagne supper usually at the end of January. Last year there was a quiz as well as supermarket collections, staffed by volunteers from the congregations. On 24th September, as part of the Children's Society National Coffee Morning event, just over a hundred pounds was raised at a Coffee Morning at Ings End. Thanks to all who came and to those who gave cake and raffle prizes and absent friends who sent donations., TM

COFFEE CLUB



WE had a good turnout at September's coffee club despite a few of the regulars being unable to attend for various reasons. We served our usual selection of cakes but "Carole's custard tart" is proving a winner and was snapped up within minutes. I think Mary Berry has a worthy opponent!

Our next meeting is on Thursday October 10th from 10 o'clock as usual. On that note, I must apologise for the mistake in last month's magazine, when the time, on the back page, was given as 7.30 in the evening. I do hope that no one turned up and ended up being given a part in STAGE TWO'S next production! Looking forward to seeing you all next month B L

Apologies for the error Ed.

HARVEST LUNCH

DON'T FORGET: come to the Village Hall from 12.15 pm on Sunday 6th October with your picnic (teas and coffee available) and join with neighbours and friends in an end of Summer social get together.



September Meeting



Downham W.I. members enjoyed a talk about, 'A Little Bit Extra' at their September meeting. This could be a talk about many things but was actually about retired teacher, Winifred Dawson's, time as a tutor teaching young actors on sets and acting as a chaperone. She was recommended as a tutor/ chaperone for one month and ended up doing it for many years. Interestingly the first programme she worked on was 'Sloggers' which was about a young cricket team in Lancashire and some of the filming took place in the Clitheroe area.

Her job entailed going away, up and down the country, sometimes on film sets, sometimes theatre productions and on one occasion going to South Africa. Her work sometimes required her to stay in beautiful hotels with her young actors. As they say 'nice work if you can get it.' Winifred had the pleasure of seeing some of her charges go on to be successful adult actors. 'A Little Bit Extra' was the money she was paid for her work. It was an enjoyable and entertaining talk.

Christine Newhouse is collecting unwanted medical equipment for Romania and a truck is going out at the end of October. If you have anything that you feel will be suitable get in touch with Christine after the 9th October. We are also collecting food for the Food Bank at W.I. meetings.

Our next meeting will be on 17th October and will be the Annual General Meeting. A.K.



The Annual Downham Parish Meeting

THE Annual Downham Parish Meeting was held in the pre-school on 3rd September 2013 at 7.30 pm..

Apologies were read and accepted as were the minutes of the last meeting. Matters arising were, as usual, dog fouling, speeding, inappropriate noise and parking in the village.

The Hon. R. C. Assheton reported that he had attended meetings at R.V.B.C. and L.C.C. and has received maps and a c.d. explaining the core strategy, these were available to borrow; he gave a short resume of a very long and intricate document.

Mr. Philip Naylor proposed and Mr. Jason Addy seconded that the Hon Ralph Assheton continue as chairman, Mr. Assheton proposed and Mrs. Philippa McFall seconded that Mrs. Diana Braithwaite continues as clerk.

Items discussed included the incinerator and gas tanks at the Assheton Arms, potholes, the telephone box and making black and white signs more obvious for walkers.

The Chairman thanked all who attended and closed the meeting. DB

SPEAKES OF AMERICA

Following their visit the leader of the Speake Family Association has written:

Dear Lord Clitheroe and Canon Nicholson and all of the wonderful parishioners of St Leonard's.

Thank you so very much for your fantastic reception of the Speake Family in Downham, the most picturesque village in all the world! We had a most wonderful morning in your church, your village, and a delightful meal at the Assheton Arms. Thank you also for sharing the Register with us a telling us about Twiston. Several of us took a Taxi to that area in the late afternoon. The Downham time was my absolute favourite of the entire trip! You have real treasure in your 16th, 17th, and 18th century cottages and buildings and such history in your Church.

Thank you for sharing it all with us! Sincerely, Susan Speake Sills

DOWNHAM & TWISTON HISTORY GROUP

CONSIDERABLE interest was shown at the presentation about Calderstones and the history of care of people with Learning Difficulties at the meeting on 26th September. The Group has decided to give a try to meeting on a regular day of the month—the fourth Monday at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall. The group also received an update on the grant application for conservation of the banner and agreed to a visit to the conservation department of the People's Museum in Manchester in November—details to be announced,

POST OFFICE

THE observant of you will have noticed that Downham Post Office and shop are closed at the moment. Keith and Margaret would appear to have moved out, but as they have given no notice to quit to the Estate they are still legally the tenants. Once the situation is properly clarified with them or their solicitor we can move forward. For the moment it is unclear how long this will take. If anyone has particular queries please contact Tom Manson at Ingham and Yorke on 01200 423655.



ST LEONARD AND ST MARY

AS MANY of you will know there has been long discussion and debate within the Diocese and the five Clitheroe Churches as to how parishes might be reorganised over time. The Downham PCC have decided that the long term future of St Leonard's is best catered for by joining with St Mary's. This is not intended as any snub to St Paul's or Christ Church, nor is it any reflection on Rodney and his team. We have had a happy and peaceful few years with them.

We are all aware that arrangements around Clitheroe will have to change when Rodney retires and believe that this is a sensible and timely small first step.

The Wardens have discussed matters with Rodney and the Archdeacon who support the move. We are now in the hands of Bishop John and the Archdeacon as to the exact timing and logistic arrangements, but understand that we are probably talking of weeks and months, rather than months and years. RCA

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

THE WORLD'S largest Christmas project run by Samaritan's Purse is appealing for Christmas parcels for children who would not otherwise receive a present this year. We are invited to fill a medium sized shoe box with gifts for a child. A leaflet is available in church which lists age groups, what is wanted and what items should not be included. Our three parishes have supported this appeal for a number of years now; we sent, collectively, over a hundred boxes last year. Boxes are wanted by local organisers before 17th November. The steps are easy 1. decorate a box, 2. decide on gender and age group 2 to 4, 5 to 9 and 10 to 14. 3. Fill box—no perishables, no sharps, no glass. 4. attach label. 5. Enclose donation of £2.50 to cover costs of shipping. 6. leave box in church. Details are in the leaflet and at www.samaritans-purse.org.uk.

