

## PARISH CALENDAR 2011

September			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
1st	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Beetle Drive</i>	
4th	Trinity XI	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Chatburn Christ Church</b>	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs P. McFall Mrs M. Roskell
		11.00am	Holy Communion Revd Chich Hewitt	Mrs E. Wrigley		
6th	Tuesday	7.30 pm	PCC	Church		
8th	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
11th	Trinity XII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs E. Parker	Mr & Mrs R Swarbrick	Mrs G. Cragg Mrs K. Brown
		11.00am	Matins Revd Alan Reid	Mrs P. McFall		
14th	Wednesday	10.00	Coffee Morning	Ings End	<i>In aid of the Children's Society</i>	
15th	Thursday	<b>6.30 pm</b>	WI	Village Hall		
18th	Trinity XIII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	<b>Chatburn Christ Church</b>	Mrs D. Braithwaite	Lady Clitheroe Mrs C. Ashworth
		11.00am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs B. Lund		
23rd	Friday	7.30 pm	Concert	Christ Church	<i>Last Night of Chatburn Proms</i>	
25th	Trinity XIV	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs M. Roskell		Mrs C. McGrath Mrs E. Wrigley
		11.00am	Matins Revd Alan Reid	Mr T. McLean		

### October

2nd	Trinity XV	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	<b>Christ Church Chatburn</b>	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs S. Marlow Mrs J. Aspinall
		11.00am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mr B. Lewis		
6th	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Beautiful Gardens of Europe</i>	

**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

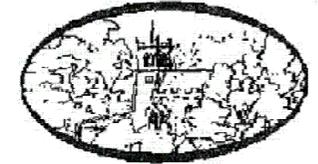


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*The Newsletter was sponsored this month by Downham Village Hall*

## PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

### DOWNHAM & TWISTON



# newsletter

2011 Issue 9 September

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

**From Canon Rodney Nicholson**

**Viewpoint**



SEEING on television the revolving sign outside New Scotland Yard has always made me wonder whether Old Scotland Yard ever existed. Apparently, it was the headquarters of the Metropolitan Police from 1829 to 1890, having its front in Whitehall Street and back in Scotland Yard - an old London yard which became synonymous with the police force itself. The gothic building of New Scotland Yard opened in 1890 on the Victoria Embankment, moving

to the present premises in Broadway in 1967. So the name "New Scotland Yard" is actually 121 years old.

Inns and streets called New are usually quite old: the new Inn in Clitheroe, for example, or Preston New Road in Blackburn. Forty years ago, in my theological college days, some students were linked to Harlow New Town in Essex. Built after the war, it was quite new then. Today the newness is less obvious. "Modern" too is a dated term. When "Hymns Ancient and Modern" was first produced in the 1800s, modern referred to hymns written in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Those hymns are no longer exactly modern. In other words, things do not stay new for long.

And yet, there is newness in plenty. We're getting a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel puppy next month. A family welcomes a new baby. We meet a new friend – or try out a new recipe. In church we see something new in a bible passage or prayer which we thought we knew well. The person of faith and open-mindedness will constantly find new delights in the everyday. We do not need to travel across the world to be intrigued and inspired. There is treasure in the ordinary places and the people whom we know well, particularly if viewed as gifts from God himself. As John Keble wrote: "Old friends, old scenes will lovelier be when more of heaven in each we see". Similarly, the book of Isaiah contains that wonderful promise: "Behold, I make all things new".

So whilst, in one sense, there's "nothing new under the sun", at the same time every day is charged with wonder. As we get older we need never become stale, because the world is intrinsically glorious, the journey through the present is fascinating, and "the best is yet to be". All this is true because, through Christ, God has entered and redeemed his creation, assuring us both of a glory to come and a glory to be glimpsed now.

With warmest greetings,

*Robyn N. N. N.*

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

ST. LEONARD—FACTS & FIGURES		
	July	2011
COMMUNICANTS	40	314
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	406	1,803
VISITORS	189	677
DONATIONS	218	6,695
HOUSE BOXES	13	118
TOTALS	826	9,293

## WELCOME

**Philip and Christine Naylor (ne Swarbrick), Amy and Emma** who have moved in at Chestnuts Cottage, Downham.

## FAREWELL

**Andrew and Kerry Wray, Hope and Madeline** who have moved from Brookside, Downham to Belthorne.

## CONGRATULATIONS

**Trudy and Simon Stell**, of Brookside the proud, new parents of **Abigail May**: born 25th August - 9lb 7oz!

**Anne and Eric Musson** of Clitheroe who celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on 26th August. Anne (ne Watson) has written about her childhood in *My Beloved Downham*.

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

### INTERMENT OF ASHES Christine Mary Clark

**T**HE ASHES of Christine Clark (66) were interred at St Leonard's on 7th August, Christine's grandparents, George and Mary Sharp lived in Downham, George being the first chauffeur at Downham Hall. He came to Downham Hall in 1910 as the coachman, living initially at Worston – presumably driving for the family at Hall Foot. Then in about 1912 he was despatched to the Midlands to learn from the manufacturer how to drive the first car for the Assheton family, after which he drove the vehicle home. George and Mary lived at Ash Tree Cottage on Top Row, where he died in 1936 at the age of 63. Mary moved down the hill to Brookside where she lived for nearly thirty years, dying at 93 in 1965.

Their daughter, Mary, moved to Chatburn and married Fred Townson, who also predeceased his wife by a number of years. They became the parents of Christine who sadly died from cancer.

Christine's daughter, Jennifer, who lives and works in Manchester, arranged the interment, which was attended by a small family group, including the Christine's husband, Robert. It was a pleasure to welcome the family to Downham and Chatburn.

## Congratulations

to Thomas Chadwick for passing his ABRSM grade 4 piano examination

and to Alice Walmsley for passing her ABRSM grade 1 piano exam. (Sincere apologies to Alice from the Art Department who struggled to get a picture and failed).

We look forward to hearing you both in concert with the other musical talent within the parish.



## WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND 50TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION Elizabeth Wrigley

**I**T IS hard to believe that it is 50 years since *Whistle Down The Wind* was filmed in and around the Downham locality. Pam Dyson, Diane Poole and Lois Brunning, all of whom appeared in the film, organised a celebratory event at the village hall on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August that sparked many memories of that time in 1961 when film makers descended on the area. Film making was much simpler than the more recent 'Born and Bred' experience but none the less exciting, particularly for Downham and Chatburn schoolchildren who appeared in the film.

Good advertising attracted a large number of people to the event including many who had appeared in the film - the ambience was happy throughout, with people meeting old friends not seen for years. Memorabilia was well displayed in the hall and on the stage, with opportunities to buy copies of some of the pictures. The BBC spent the afternoon filming and interviewing for their programme 'Inside Out' – due to be shown in the autumn.

The film *Whistle Down The Wind* was shown twice during the afternoon in the newly refurbished 'green room' with most seats taken for both showings. As well as *Whistle Down The Wind* memorabilia there were other local information stalls – one with a collection of village scrapbooks, olds postcards and leaflets of local walks; another provided by Tourist Information featuring information about the local area. Refreshments of tea and cream scones were served in the downstairs rooms, with a team of Downham & Twiston helpers working tirelessly all afternoon.

Although there was no entrance charge, donations were encouraged and, along with proceeds from teas, the funds will be shared between Downham Village Hall & Help the Heroes. .

## Famine gets worse

THE EAST African famine gets worse, and fortunately is still in the news. So often these emergencies pass out of the headlines because something else takes their place, but the need is as real as ever. We have so far sent £520 from the three churches. £200 of this came from two people and £130 was raised by our monthly soup lunch at St Paul's. RN





DOWNHAM & TWISTON  
GARDEN CLUB

## BEETLE DRIVE

AT THE VILLAGE HALL

THURSDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER

at 7.30 pm

Admission £3.00 Children £1.50  
Including light refreshments

ALL WELCOME



Whalley Deanery Fundraising Committee

As part of the National Coffee Morning 2011  
in Aid of the Society

**You are invited to spend £2 on**

**Coffee and Cake**

at

Tom's - Ings End Barn Rimington BB7 4EH

on

Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> September

drop in at anytime between 10 am and 12 noon

**From the Revd Rodney Nicholson**

### THERE'S PLENTY OF COURTESY TODAY

**56 YEARS ago, during a family holiday at Eskdale in the Lake District, my parents called at the village post office to buy a postage stamp.** The hands of the clock were exactly on 5pm – closing time, and so the lady would not sell the stamp. Two years later we were spending the first of many annual holidays at a delightful cottage near Ullswater. The local procedure in 1957 for getting your milk was to leave a can in a hutch at the lane end with the money attached. The previous occupant of the cottage, thinking of us, left a note for 1 pint, but the milkman did not leave anything. Instead he left a note saying, "No money, no milk".

Today I am sure the post office lady would have sold the stamp and the milkman left a pint of milk. So when I hear the present day criticised as a time when people are rude and selfish, my mind goes back to these and other people, like my grandmother's mobile greengrocer who was a right old misery! Of course, there are the good and bad in every age, but I suggest that there's as much helpfulness now as ever.

Not infrequently the Clitheroe Advertiser published a letter from someone grateful for the honesty of the stranger who, for example, handed in her purse. Honesty boxes in the country are perhaps more common today than fifty years ago. Bad news, remember, only hits the headlines because we take the good for granted.

### BEING NOTICED

**WE VISITED Whitby recently and, enjoying fish and chips in the open air beside the harbour, noticed an old lady in a wheel chair.** At first sight she looked sad, dependent as she was on her daughter pushing her around. After a time I spoke to her. Her face brightened as she explained she had hurt herself in a swimming pool in Spain. She was 80 years old and essentially a "full-of fun person", grateful for all that was done for her.

Just smiling and speaking to someone can make such a difference. Often a downcast or worried face is changed when a kind word is said. A kind of resurrection takes place when dullness gives way to lively interest, and sadness gives way to good cheer.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**H**AVING received really good news about the success of my treatment regime - which seemed to last for ever (between October and April) I write to thank all my neighbours and friends in Downham, Twiston and Martin Top who sent kind messages, prayers, offers of practical help, far more than I needed, but all most appreciated and gratefully received. It is amazing how good it feels to have that measure of friendship and support and I must echo what has been said before in this Newsletter, how lucky we are to live in this community of folk who care about each other. With my renewed thanks and kind regards Tom McLean. Ings End.

### LOCAL COMMUNITY RECOGNISES DEDICATION

**T**HE Stoops and Hargher Clough Community Association, Burnley have made the Lily Brown Award for 2011 to **Linda Whitsey** of Downham. Linda is retiring from her Burnley job with children and families at the end of August. The award is given "In recognition of her outstanding services to children and families in the South West Burnley area and shows the high esteem in which Linda is held locally.". The award is to be made at the Stoops and Hargher Clough Community Centre on Saturday 3rd September. Congratulations Linda from Downham and Twiston also with our best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

### LAST NIGHT OF THE CHATBURN PROMS

**S**UCCESSFUL first 12 month season of music events at Christ Church Chatburn is celebrated by The Last Night of the Chatburn Proms, performed by The 2nd Rossendale Scout Group Band at 7.30pm in the church on Friday 23rd September. The band will give their usual quality performance of many popular pieces, followed by the usual prom favourites, for a rousing farewell to this first season of great musical events.

Tickets for The Last Night of the Chatburn Proms at Christ Church Chatburn are only £7, including light refreshments and a flag to wave, and can be obtained by ringing either (01254) 384893 or (01200) 441624, or from Roy Porter Butcher Chatburn.



### BROKEN BRITAIN

**Rodney Nicholson**

**T**HE PRIME Minister is right to talk about brokenness and sickness in our land, so long as we remember that that condition began in the garden of Eden. The recent riots can produce a surfeit of self-righteousness which loudly condemns the law-breakers. Violence is inexcusable and the guilty are being severely punished but, as one vicar in a London inner city area warned, we need to avoid over-reacting.

The looters were wrong to do so. Stealing is always wrong, and that includes making an exaggerated insurance claim, or avoiding paying a car parking charge, or accepting more compensation than that to which one is strictly entitled. Jesus told a story of two men who went to pray: one proud of his virtues, the other humbled by his failures. The second found favour with God.

**THE PARISH CHURCH**

**VISIT BY LINKED-PARISH PRIEST**

WE ARE delighted to welcome to St. Leonard's, the Revd Chich Hewitt, priest-in-charge of Holy Rood, Swinton, Manchester on Sunday September 4<sup>th</sup> at 11.00 am. The people of Holy Rood are also celebrating their centenary this year, so we have established a link between the two parishes, with Rodney Nicholson preaching at Swinton that same morning.

**CENTENARY ART COMPETITION**

THE TWO entries in the Centenary Art Competition were of a high standard (did we choose the wrong week??).

12 yr-old Ralph Assheton's entry was entitled "100 years of our Church". Alice Walmsley's - also a collage - was called "Alleluia!"

They received their prizes at the Annual Flower Show and their work will be displayed in Church at the Centenary Services in October

DW

**CHILDREN'S SOCIETY  
COFFEE MORNING**

IN EARLY September the annual National Coffee morning for the Children's Society is organised by local groups. The Whalley Deanery Fund-raising Committee is organising a couple of events at that time. This year the Downham occasion is at Ings End on Wednesday 14th. All welcome, please come along any time between 10 and noon and enjoy Coffee & Cake and make a donation towards the important work of the Society.

There's also a soup lunch at St Paul's Church, Low Moor on Friday 9th September, from 12 to 1.30pm for the Society: homemade soup and cakes and raffle. No charge but donations.

**COFFEE CLUB**

WHAT an awful day weather-wise but did it keep our stalwart members away? No! A lively, chatty meeting and a special welcome back to Bob Swarbrick after his recent hospitalisation. Next month Barbara & Co. will take over while Dave and I have a holiday, so be sure to come on the 8<sup>th</sup> September for comforting coffee and cake.

**Whistle Down the Wind Reunion**

Thanks to everyone who gave donations and baked delicious scones, and those who helped to make coffee and teas in the kitchen at the Whistle Down the Wind Reunion. There was brisk trade and we managed to make the useful sum of £285.50p for the funds. We certainly appreciated the new facilities in the kitchen, particularly the dishwasher with the 90 second cycle which even the men could master! A tiring day, but worthwhile.

I am pleased to report that out of our small profits we have been able to donate £100 to Village Hall funds and also purchase a smart 'work station' to house the C.D. player for the new screen there. Without the proceeds of our Bring & Buy Stall and the continued support of our members this would not be possible. O.Awb.

**DOWNHAM PARISH MEETING**

AT THE Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday, 9th August in the pre School, the Hon Ralph Assheton was elected Chairman and Mrs D. Braithwaite Clerk to the Meeting.

Issues and concerns raised included dog waste, speeding, road repairs, flooding at Chestnuts, footpath maintenance, village policing, Ribble Valley Borough Parish Liaison meetings and the Ribble Valley Borough Core Strategy. The meeting was informed that the telephone box was to be left in situ but de-commissioned by BT.



**GARDEN CLUB  
ANNUAL SHOW**

A GOOD turnout, in spite of one or two regulars being on holiday, provided an impressive show at the Village Hall on Saturday 30th July. Shaun Roney, Garden Club Chairman, presented the prizes to Suzie Davis, Hey House Bungalow—best vegetables, Caroline Collinge, Twiston — best confectionary, Diana Wilkins, Twiston—best flowers, best photographs and best in show. Carol Ashworth, Downham, most points in show. A most enjoyable Village event.

Our 1st September meeting is the Beetle Drive. A family event; all are welcome. CA

**DOWNHAM AND TWISTON  
HISTORY GROUP**

Our group had an interesting evening at Clitheroe Library for the August meeting. Sue Holden, who is well known in the reference library, had prepared a Downham and Twiston theme which included many photographs, maps, scrap-books and newscuttings – all set out in the meeting room for us to peruse.

The evening opened with a short talk about some of the old and rare items that the library has in its collection and how they preserve these delicate relics. We wore cotton gloves to handle the old documents which included a rare 17<sup>th</sup> century book.

Sue had also set up the microfilm units with pieces about Downham from old copies of the Clitheroe Advertiser & Times and a computer switched on with access to the historians' website 'Ancestry'.

We concluded the evening with a look in the dungeons in the basement of the building. Sue went to great lengths to provide information relevant to our group – it was a top class meeting and also a reminder that our libraries are a treasure trove of free information & education. EW



**W.I.**

**August Meeting**

Downham members met in the Ribchester Arms car park, to embark on a walking Treasure Hunt around the village of Ribchester. They set off in pairs to search the village for clues, ending up back at the Ribchester Arms for supper. This was seen as a wonderful opportunity to explore the nooks and crannies and admire the ancient buildings, river and gardens of the village, as they tried to solve the many clues.

On return to the Ribchester Arms, everyone took part in a natural history quiz. The pairings of Marion Courtney and Val Eccles, and Judith Nixon and Eileen Parker, were declared joint winners of the Treasure Hunt, the booby prize being awarded to Pam Titterington and Margaret Nixon. After supper, Christine Newhouse was thanked for organising this enjoyable evening.

President Julie Parker congratulated everyone who had entered the W.I. Area Show, twenty members and six children having taken part, Elizabeth Wrigley, Molly Roskell and Abbie Lund all winning trophies.

**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 held on 15th September, when the Speaker will be our own member, textile artist Marsha Poole, the subject being "Lucy Lockett - a History of the Pocket and Clothes through the Ages". JN

