



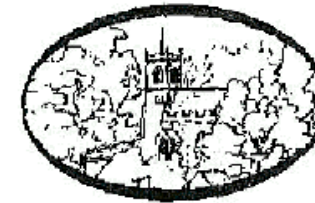
Parish Calendar 2013						
September		Event		Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
1st	Trinity X	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs S. Travis Mrs A. Chadwick
		11.00am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mr T. McLean		
3rd	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Pre School		
5th	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Yvonne Pinder Decorating Terracotta Pots</i>	
8th	Trinity XI	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mrs E. Parker	Mrs P. McFall	Mr & Mrs B. Lewis
		11.00 am	Matins Revd Anne Hardacre	Mrs B. Lewis		
9th	Monday	6.30 pm	Village Hall Management Cttee	Village Hall		
10th	Tuesday	9.30 am	Visit of Speaks Family Association USA	St Leonard's Church		
12th	Thursday	7.30 pm	Coffee Club	Village Hall		
15th	Trinity XII	8.30 am	Holy Communion	Christ Church Chatburn	Mrs K. Swarbrick	Mrs A Holden Mrs T. Stell
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Mr B. Lewis		
17th	Tuesday	3.00 pm	Downham Banner Group	Assheton Arms		
18th	Wednesday	7.30 pm	Evening Prayer and Talk	Cathedral	<i>Trudie Harrison of Mosamaria</i>	
19th	Thursday	7.30 pm	WI	Village Hall	<i>Winifred Dawson escort for children who appear in films.</i>	
22nd	Trinity XIII	8.30 am	Holy Communion Revd John Sutcliffe	Mrs D. Wilkins		Mr & Mrs J. Whitsey
		11.00 am	Matins Revd Alan Reid	Mrs B. Lund		
24th	Tuesday	10.00 am	Coffee Morning	Ings End Barn	For the Children's Society	
26th	Thursday	7.30 pm	History Group	Village Hall	<i>Calderstones Part II 1921 to 1995</i>	
29th	Trinity XIII	8.30 am	No Holy Communion Service		Mrs D. Braithwaite	Mrs D. Braithwaite Mrs
		11.00 am	Holy Communion Revd Alan Reid	Mr P. McFall		
October						
3rd	Thursday	7.30 pm	Garden Club	Village Hall	<i>Kevin Briggs Confessions of a Lunatic!</i>	
6th	Trinity XIV	8.30 am	Holy Communion Canon Rodney Nicholson	Christ Church Chatburn	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs A. Moyle Mrs D. Wilkins
		11.00 am	Harvest Festival and Baptism	Mrs B. Lewis		
		12.15 pm	Harvest Picnic	Village Hall		
<p>OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE – Canon Rodney Nicholson – 458019</p> <p>OUR CHURCH WARDENS</p> <p>The Hon Ralph Assheton – 441210 Mrs Philippa McFall—441484 Mrs Diana Wilkins – 445250</p> <p>VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</p> <p>Chairman and Bookings Secretary Mr Shaun Roney—441667</p> <p>Hon Secretary The Hon Mrs R. Assheton—441210</p>						
		www.downhamvillage.org.uk downhambanner.com				

PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

DOWNHAM & TWISTON

newsletter

2013 Issue 9 September



From Canon Rodney Nicholson

Viewpoint



NEVER stayed for school dinners, but I remember walking past the hall where meals were being served and hearing the infants' teacher saying (or praying): "For what we are about to receive may the Lord make us truly thankful". That particular Grace has the aura of talking down to children, but the practice of Grace before, at least, the main meal has become important to me, as to many other people, over the years.

In many cultures some offering of thanks before eating would be taken for granted. We British can be secular and inclined to accept God's gifts with hardly a thought. We like to be independent and sing "Britannia rules the waves", which is about as big a piece of arrogance as you get, for only God rules the waves. We pray "Give us this day our daily bread" knowing that we hardly need to pray for it at all, since supplies of food for most people are plentiful. We have our rights, our position and our security, so that we don't need to owe anyone very much.

And then we have a stroke or a heart attack and are reminded that "in the midst of life we are in death". The temperature goes up or down and we realise that we are so delicate that a few degrees either way can spell disaster. Far from being independent we are utterly dependent on the sustaining power of God every second of our lives. Yes, we have strength and ability and can celebrate mankind's wonderful achievements. We are also, as the hymn puts, "frail children of dust and feeble as frail".

The offering of grace before a meal acknowledges this, and in a world of hunger, expresses our gratitude for food and drink which are sacramental - signs of God's goodness - as well as being a necessity and a joy in life. The old Scottish grace puts it well:

Some hae meat but canna eat,
 some would eat, but want it.
 We hae meat and we can eat,
 so let the Lord be thankit.

The opening lines of the daily Morning Prayer in the Common Worship book says: "As we rejoice in the gift of this new day". That's it. Every new day should be seen as a gift and cherished as such.

With warmest greetings,

Canon Rodney Nicholson

O LORD we beseech thee, let thy exceptional 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		
	July	2013
COMMUNICANTS	43	415
COLLECTIONS	£	£
SERVICES	86	1,436
VISITORS	146	492
DONATIONS	265	5,827
HOUSE BOXES	-	116
TOTALS	497	7,871

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

Diana Wilkins our Twiston Warden is a grandmother. "Jacqueline had a little boy - Henri - on Friday 16th August. Steve and I visited yesterday & all three of them are doing well."

Church cleaners

THERE is a vacancy (there is always a vacancy) on the cleaning rota for St Leonard's Church. The present vacancy is to work with Di Briathwaite following the departure of Angela Richardson last month. Remember the more on the Rota the less frequently it comes round! At present that is just once every twelve weeks. Any volunteers should ring Lady Clitheroe on 440173.

downhambanner.com - saving a bit of Lancashire

THE application for a Heritage Lottery Grant has been sent off—we await the decision for the conservation and exhibition of this bit of our heritage. The website has been launched with two nice bits of publicity in the Clitheroe Advertiser and the Lancashire Evening Telegraph. All details on the website.

The Steering Group is extremely grateful to Hamish McFall who has done the form filling and paper work on behalf of the project. We have soon to get down to more work in connection with educational and display materials, to enhance the exhibition of the banner at the Museum of Lancashire in Preston. This will be after conservation, in about twelve months following securing the where-with-all to make it possible. The Steering Group meets again on 16th September, at 3.00 pm at the Assheton Arms.



SPECTATOR

I had a lovely day out to St Anne's with Mum this week. We had booked the trip with The Little Green Community Bus to St Annes and I had an unexpectedly good time as Mum shared her memories of childhood family holidays. We walked down to St Anne's Pier then along the front with Mum pointing out what used to be there and all the changes in the last *** years since she was a girl! We even had an ice cream whilst watching two Mums encouraging their children to dance on the bandstand and other children braving the paddling pool. The last time Mum was there she had saved up her clothing coupons and bought the material for her wedding dress. Aw. I hadn't realised that rationing did not end until the early fifties and I cannot imagine what it would be like to have such restrictions, when I am so used to popping to Boundary Mill to buy a pair of shoes or a dress whenever I feel rich enough!

We talked over lunch about lots of things and when we got onto the subject of Jon, who has recently had another setback, I told Mum that all I wanted was to have him around for a bit longer. She looked at me sternly and said that she wanted us **both** around a lot longer, in fact she was hoping to go first. I told her she'd better hurry up then! Eeh we did laugh!!

Then I got to thinking about when Jon first took me home to have tea with his mother and I'm sure she must have been slightly alarmed, although too much of a lady to let it show or affect her welcome, when she was introduced to a possible future daughter in law. Council house kid from Bradford (ey up) meets Bishops wife from Lancashire, although her life hasn't all been swanning around in ball gowns and tiaras. Jon's dad was, for a time, a vicar in Langley, an overspill estate from Manchester and as the vicars wife, Mum will have worked with lots of families experiencing the problems arising from poverty and deprivation. Not that I was suffering from poverty and deprivation at that time, although I have had my fair share of both in the past! No, it was just that Jon and I had recently finished a degree course at college which is where we met and I stood before her in 'studenty' bold patterned leggings and big dangly earrings, talk about loud and scary.

Now here we are, 18years later, and she has been like a mother to me. The best of friends, we have shared laughs and tears and she has taken me and my family into her life and her heart. If you are reading this Mum, I think you are amazing and I love you very much. My girls and grandchildren love their Nannie Whitsey, and she was very patient when the younger ones wanted to 'play' her piano too loudly and out of key. My cousin Elaine from Bradford (ey up) thinks she is wonderful and 'r' Debbie, my favourite sister (but don't tell 'r' Pat because she thinks she is!) said she loves Mrs Whitsey because, "she just accepts you for who you are". So Mum, me and Jon will try our best to stay around for a little longer.... if you promise to do the same!

**CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COFFEE
MORNING
At Tom's - Ings End Barn
BB7 4EH
10 am to 12 noon
Tuesday 24th September
£2 for a slice of cake and a coffee**

The Newsletter this month
is sponsored
in loving memory of
Florence Smithies

Warm hospitality at the Mosque

A WEEK last Sunday some 50 of us attended an open-event at the Mosque when our Muslim friends invited us to view their refurbished building at the corner of Lowergate/Highfield Road, which is still being restored.

We were made to feel very welcome by the Muslim men and women (and children!). Their new imam, Imam Ashraf, was introduced to us - a young man in his early twenties, brought up and educated locally, living in Blackburn with Maryam, his wife of just over 12 months. As the spiritual leader in Clitheroe, he is in the mosque at least five days a week from the third of the five daily prayers at around 4.15pm up to nearly 11pm. He teaches the children every evening from Monday to Friday, from 5.15 to 7pm, sometimes assisted by Maryam.

Everything seems to be going exactly as Farouk and Sheraz (the local Muslim leaders) said it would. The work is slow because funding is needed and no funding has come from outside the local Muslim community. Contrary to some reports, no money has come from other areas or from overseas. It is an open mosque with everybody welcome.

The prayer hall is lovely with its beautiful carpet and comfortable chairs. There is a separate prayer room for women (who will often have children and babies to feed) but they are not 'banned' from the main prayer hall.

There will eventually be a cafe on the top floor of the building. Efforts have been made to keep as many interesting aspects of the building as they were when it was first built as a Methodist chapel. It was a very enjoyable gathering, in contrast with a memorable meeting of Ribble Valley council in December 2006, when planning permission was finally granted in the face of some vociferous opposition. RN



Last Night of the Chatburn Proms

This popular annual music event takes place on Friday 13th September at 7.30 pm at Christ Church, and this year sees the return by request of the two most-in-demand artists from last year. The award winning Soprano Grace O Malley with the world famous Besses O'Th Barn Band, will perform a gala evening of music, including a commemoration of the church foundation stone which was laid 175 years ago on 18th September 1838. Tickets are £8, available from Roy Porters or the vicarage, inclusive of a glass of wine and refreshments. All proceeds go to the Church Development Fund. RN

LOST and FOUND TWO Cameras

ONE found in Church on 3rd August is being held by the Church Warden If anyone enquires please let them know.

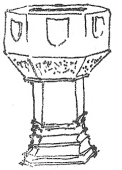
**ONE reported lost in Church or around the Village on 22nd August If anyone has any information this may be passed to the owner by the Church Warden.
Contact RCA 441210**

THE PARISH REGISTERS

Rodney Nicholson

Baptism has Japanese flavour

WITHIN a week I welcomed groups from Japan and Poland to services at St Leonard's. The small group of Japanese people had flown over from Tokyo to attend the baptism of the great grandchildren of the village's oldest resident, Mrs Betty **Mercer**. Her grandson **Chris** met his Japanese wife, **Michiko**, a beautician, while working in Tokyo as part of his career in civil engineering. They married in Tokyo six years ago and she made England her country. The couple now live in Culcheth, near Warrington with their children **Miou Nicole (4) and Luke (12 months)** who were baptised.



Michiko's mother died in her early fifties but her father and other members of the family made the flight to England for the occasion, staying for about a week. Although not understanding a great deal of the service, they smiled appreciatively and were clearly lovely people. I accepted the invitation to the carvery lunch at the Calf's Head afterwards, where it was nice to chat with some of the family.

Polish greetings at wedding

Six days later we welcomed a rather larger group from Poland - some 27 in all - attending the wedding of **Vicky (Victoria) Parker** formerly of Fairfield Drive, Clitheroe and her husband **Maciez** (pronounced Machay [Polish for Matthew]) **Olejniczak** (pronounced O - lay - ni - chek). Vicky's mother, Julie, is President of the Downham W.I.

Vicky and Maciez repeated their vows in Polish and I made a ham-fisted attempt at saying a few words in their language, which they seemed to appreciate. I admire Polish people because as a nation they have suffered grievously from the cruelties of Hitler and Stalin and others. When communist rule ended in 1990 and Lech Walesa, leader of the Solidarity (independent trades union) movement became president, the country's strong Catholicism came to the fore - a spiritual force which the communists could not sweep away.

Vicky and Maciez live in Nazeing, Essex, Maciez running his computer software company and Vicky working as an events manager.

Manchester couple tie the knot

WE ALSO hosted the wedding of a couple from Manchester, **Daniel Vaughan and Amelia Savage**, on Wednesday 31st July. The couple have attended services at either Downham or Chatburn to qualify for the wedding, having already chosen a Ribble Valley hotel for their reception. Daniel is an account manager and Amelia a primary school teacher. Amelia's aunt, who did a reading, had to leave the church during the closing prayers. I thought the reason was the heat but in fact she went on to suffer a heart attack. I believe she made a good recovery but still await further details. Theirs was the only wedding this year at which St Leonard's choir have not sung.

DIOCESEAN VISITOR

TRUDIE HARRISON, Overseer of the Mosamaria Aids Ministry of the Free State, South Africa is visiting Blackburn and will be speaking at Blackburn Cathedral following evening prayer, said, at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 18th September. Mosamaria means *Good Samaritan* and is a non governmental organisation that cares for orphans and vulnerable people through caring ministry, education, gardening projects and life opportunities,

THE PARISH CHURCH

CLITHEROE FOOD BANK

THANKS to everyone who contribute to the food bank. your support is appreciated, and hopefully we can continue to provide the help needed. It really makes a difference. BL

CALLING ALL SPEAK(E)s

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, emigrated to the Colony of Maryland around 1660. It is known that he was a Catholic and came from Downham.

Don't forget any Lancashire Speakes are most welcome to join their American cousins on their short visit to Downham, starting at St Leonard's at 9.30 am on Tuesday 10th September.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

Songs of Praise Service at Downham St Leonard

FRIDAY 27th September at 7.30 pm Parishioners are welcome to join the members at this annual service,

GARDEN CLUB

AT THE ANNUAL show on Saturday 3rd August at the Village Hall a large number of entries showed the skill and imagination of gardeners who had suffered a very late Spring and really cold first half to the year. Photographic entries bristled with humour and imagination. A nice rural village event.



The speaker for the next garden club on the 5th of September, will be Yvonne Pinder (Pinny's Pots) demonstrating how to decorate terracotta plant pots. Not Cliff Astin as previously advertised. CA

COFFEE CLUB

THANKS to everyone who attended our August Coffee Club. Our next meeting is on the 12th September from 10 a.m. Hope you can all make it. BL



HARVEST LUNCH

THE Village Hall Management Committee suggests that we meet up with our picnics and drinks (whether this is a single cheese sandwich or a full Glyndebourne basket and candelabra) at the Village Hall on Sunday lunch-time 6th October for a Village get together at the end of Summer. We plan to start at about 12.15 pm. OA

WE'VE won a trophy at the area Show. Congratulations to all the Downham members who entered the Clitheroe Area WI Show, what a tremendous effort on such a busy weekend.



1531 points gained us the Small Institute Points Trophy and a total of 6 x 1st, 9 x 2nd and 12 x 3rd prize cards were awarded to our members. Truly Well Done W.I. members and friends of Downham Open Gardens made a huge contribution, yet again, to the W.I. cake stall. There was a wonderful range of cakes on sale, some of which has been entered in the Clitheroe Area Show at Eddisford.

Over the two days we made just over £200, towards the village hall and the named charities, which was a fantastic achievement. On behalf of Downham WI, thank you to all those who gave up time and contributed to the stall, it was very much appreciated. CN

MANY W.I. members enjoyed our W.I. outing to Holden Clough Nursery, at Sawley on Thursday evening. Members enjoyed a really delicious tea, incorporating a range of freshly made sandwiches and cakes, in the new 'Garden Kitchen Tea Room'. For someone who is quite obsessed with good bread, I can say the sandwiches were excellent. Most of the food is sourced locally and is of excellent quality. The tea room and lecture room are decorated with old wooden farm implements and there is also an excellent farm shop.

After tea, members enjoyed a talk by John Foley, who was the 'BBC Young Gardener of the Year'. John had just rushed back from Southport Flower Show, where he had been exhibiting for the previous three days. He had deservedly won a gold medal and two other awards at Southport. John had an extensive range of plants ready to show us and talk about. Our members range from very experienced and skilled gardeners, to some, who are less knowledgeable.

John was a wealth of information and we all picked up lots of useful tips, and for some of us, much needed knowledge. At the end of the talk there was a very useful question and answer session and we could also purchase some of the wonderful plants John had shown us. The lecture room is an excellent facility because on a wet night you could still get the benefit of what the nursery had to offer. An excellent evening out!

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 19th September at 7.30 in Downham Village Hall. The speaker will be Winifred Dawson who is an escort for children who appear in films. If you have never been to the W.I. why not come along give us a try.

AK

DOWNHAM HALL GARDENS OPEN

The Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee has written

I WOULD like to say many thanks, to anybody who helped in any way with Gardens open weekend at Downham Hall. We had a great weekend, and raised loads of money for Charity. Just over £4,600 was raised and will be divided between Rosemere Cancer Foundation and the Village Hall. So, once again many thanks to everybody. Shaun.

DOWNHAM AND TWISTON HISTORY GROUP

THE next meeting will be on Thursday 26th September at 7.30 and the presenter, Tom McLean, will show the history of Calderstones and learning disability care from 1921 to 1995.

Rosemere Area Fundraising Coordinator for East Lancashire has also written:

ON BEHALF of Rosemere I thank the Hon Ralph and Olivia Assheton along with the residents of Downham village and the surrounding area involved in the garden party. We would like to thank you most sincerely for the generous donation of £2,387. As you are aware Rosemere supports the Cancer Centre at the Royal Preston Hospital as well as local units around the region by raising additional sums for research, patient welfare, equipment and training. Your donation will be put to good use for the benefit of cancer patients throughout Lancashire and South Cumbria. Yours sincerely, Daniel Hill.

