

## PARISH CALENDAR 2020

September			Event	Sidesmen/ women	Altar Flowers	Church Cleaners
6th	Trinity XIV	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs K Herron	Lord & Lady Clitheroe	Mrs D Braithwaite Mrs J Shepherd
13th	Trinity XV	11.15 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mr I Walton		Mr & Mrs P Mercer
20th	Trinity XVI	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mr T McLean	Mrs P McFall	Mrs S Travis Mrs A Chadwick
27th	Trinity XVII	11.15 am	Matins Revd Andy Froud	Mr A Herron	Mrs D Braithwaite	Mr & Mrs C Ennis
<b>October</b>						
4th	Trinity XVIII	11.15 am	Holy Communion Revd Andy Froud	Mrs P McFall	Mrs E Parker	Mr & Mrs P Eldridge

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LEONARD IS VERY GRATEFUL TO THOSE BUSINESSES,  
ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS THAT SPONSOR THE NEWSLETTER.  
IN SEPTEMBER THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL

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**OUR CHURCH WARDENS**  
The Hon Ralph Assheton - 441210 Mrs Philippa McFall - 441484 Mr Ian Walton—445063

**VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**  
**Chairman** Mr Neil Wallace 441196  
**Hon. Secretary** Mrs Clare Ashworth—445112  
**Village Hall Bookings email** [info@downhamvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:info@downhamvillagehall.org.uk)  
**or phone** 0784546 796818

## PARISH OF ST. LEONARD

## DOWNHAM & TWISTON

# newsletter

2020 Issue 9 September

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



### From The Revd Andy Froud

Dear Friends

GOT PLANS? Well, a friend of mine had a poster on her wall saying “Failing to Plan is Planning to Fail” and it’s hard to argue with that sentiment. On the other hand the letter of James, in a seldom quoted passage, reminds us that planning is nothing to boast about: *“Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.” Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow!”* (James 4:13). Although it was written in the second half of the first century it is certainly topical for 2020, a year that nobody seems to have planned for. James goes on to tell us: *“You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes”* We always think that whatever is happening is what will always happen and we put in a lot of effort to make sure that is what happens. But human pride is what leads us to place mistaken faith in our plans when we ought to be placing our faith in God’s.

The root of all sin is pride, the human pride that we can exist independently from God, who holds all our souls in life. Human pride is a slippery slope: what could be wrong in boasting about my child’s achievements and exam results? If it is meant to make us look better, then it is boasting. What we should say is; how great is the God who has given these gifts and created these amazing human beings! Ultimately in this life all our plans are in God’s hands or as James writes, we ought to say, *“I fit is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.”* Or as Woody Allen remarked: *“If you want to make God laugh - tell him your plans”*

Yours in Christ

## SPECTATOR

Almighty God,  
You search us and know us: may we rely on you in strength  
and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

St Leonard - Facts and Figures		
	July	2020
Communicants	11	145
Collections - £		
Services.	644	1,170
Visitors	22	98
Donations	2,970	7,633
House Boxes	-	30
Special	625	2,986
<b>Total</b>	4,261	11,917

### IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS

Harry and Kath Brown and Jon Whitsey

All who have or will be affected by the Coronavirus.  
In particular the most vulnerable -  
those subject to ongoing medical treatments and official "shielding".

### EXAM RESULTS

We send our warmest greetings to those receiving their examination results in this most difficult of years including Alice Walmsley who is off to Cambridge, Helen Assheton who is going to Newcastle and Enya Robinson heading to Lancaster

AS IF IT'S not bad enough living through 2020 year of the virus, we had to have a biblical like storm with thunderbolts and lightning that melted power lines and shook the whole place by putting out the TV, telephones and biggest horror of all, it took the internet. Oh woe was me. My iPad sat there quietly, unable to raise even a flicker. Email gone, YouTube gone, Messenger gone, BBC News gone, oh how I missed it. I sat with my first cuppa of the day watching the empty screen.

Then telephone, gone, which meant you had to leave the village if you wanted to make a call on your mobile. The TV. At first we couldn't get anything But then realised we could watch DVDs. what a relief when we could sit and stare at a film instead of having to talk to each other!

It does make you realise though that firstly we are so dependent on technology, I couldn't do my banking or shopping, and secondly how quiet we are and how miserable we look when we have our gadgets taken off us. Can't wait for the plague of locusts!

### From the Downham Magazine of September 1889:

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THE HAY HARVEST.—At last the hay-harvest is finished. A few scattered loads have been seen passing through the village during the last week of July, and tucked into some already well-filled corner of the barn, and that, we believe, completed the work.

And what a glorious harvest it has been! No one here can tell us when such a one occurred before. The waggons literally groaned beneath the wealth of hay! And all gathered in so grandly! Are we thankful for it? How do we show it? In *words*? Nothing but words? Well, words are something, for "by thy words thou shalt be justified, &c." Yes, "We thank the Lord, oh! thank the Lord, for all His love."

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## FESTIVAL BOWLAND – September 2020

FROM Black Grouse to Roman roads and hedgerow vinegar – join us for a busy month of online Festival Bowland events:

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>, 6.30pm.** Black grouse were abundant in the Bowland Fells between the 1950s and 1970s, but subsequently declined and were absent by the beginning of this century. Dr Philip Warren, senior scientist at the Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, explains how habitat improvements, and recovering populations further north, may allow this species to be re-established in Bowland.



**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>, 6.30pm.** Retired civil engineer, David Ratledge, shows how the increased availability of Lidar data has helped to reveal the course of Roman roads in Lancashire, often where features can't be identified on the ground through traditional fieldwork.

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>, 10am.** Find out about some of the edible and medicinal plants growing in the local area with medical herbalist, Danielle Kay, then learn how to make elderberry syrup and hedgerow vinegar with Danielle's virtual demonstration.



**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8pm.** Discover local wild foods with forager, Adrian Rose, and enjoy an online treat as talented chef, Dominique Ashford (of Dalehouse Barn B&B above Slaidburn) cooks up a 3-course seasonal feast.

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2pm.** What is rewilding? Where can it happen? How can you be involved? This presentation by Professor Ian Rotherham introduces the concepts, approaches, and indeed, the potential pitfalls, but above all, the opportunities.

These online Zoom events are free but places need to be booked in advance. Find all the details at <https://www.forestofbowland.com/online-events-learning>

## THE ASSHETON ARMS

Statement from Downham Estate

Visitors to Downham Village should be aware that the Assheton Arms is currently closed. This is because the tenant – The Seafood Pub Company - was last month placed into Administration. We hope that a new tenant/operator for the business will be found in due course. Anyone owed money by 'The Assheton Arms' should contact the Seafood Pub Company's administrators, Ryan Grant and Kerry Bailey from BDO LLP – email: [BRCMT@bdo.co.uk](mailto:BRCMT@bdo.co.uk).

Pre-booked meals and accommodation are available at Greendale View Kitchen just ¼ mile outside the village:  
<http://www.greendaleviewbandb.co.uk/>

and

on sunny days you can enjoy ice creams, teas and light refreshments from Downham's little Ice Cream parlour on Hare Green at the bottom of the village.



A GREAT deal of work, detailed here a couple of months ago continues whilst the Hall remains closed. This includes electrical testing and work, repairs and redecorating, reconditioning the access ramp to the front door and repairs to the lower hall and toilet. The committee has been successful in obtaining some grant income to assist with the costs of the work. Stage 2 Downham has contributed a large share of the cost of the new chairs for the main hall. So far so good but without any sign of re-opening yet.



**Downham  
Social  
Media  
Resources**



The public Facebook page -  
**"Downham Village"**

The private Facebook page  
**"Downham & Twiston Residents"**

Various Whatsapp groups including  
**"Downham WI Here to Help"**

## ONLINE CHURCH RESOURCES

Regular worship is streamed by  
Rev Andy Froud on Youtube

via the St. Mary Magdalene's  
website:

[www.stmarysclitheroe.co.uk](http://www.stmarysclitheroe.co.uk)

## THE PARISH CHURCH

### COVID-19

#### Church seat reservations

ST LEONARD'S re-opened for Sunday worship in mid July. Would-be worshippers were asked to book their seat, or risk turning up on a first come, first served basis. We only have space for 24 individuals (apart from a few additional seats for groups of up to 5 from the same household). On a number of occasions, we have almost been full! Please continue to book in with the Hon Secretary on 441352 or email to [philip\\_m\\_naylor@msn.com](mailto:philip_m_naylor@msn.com).

#### Choir

ALTHOUGH congregational singing is still not permitted in St Leonard's, it is hoped that the Choir will resume in September. They will almost certainly only perform a couple of short hymns at each service as the underlying requirement to keep services as short as possible still remains, so that none of us are in the building for longer than necessary.

#### Masks and social distancing

EVERYONE attending services must (for now) wear a face mask throughout (except communicants at the Altar rail and the choir when singing). Everyone should maintain 2m (6 foot) space between each other (apart from those from the same household).

It is hard to chat with a mask on, so it is strongly recommended that all conversations and exchanges of news be reserved for the Churchyard before or after the service as masks can be removed outdoors. The Wardens' staves may have to be employed to disperse crowds! RCA

## THE DOWNHAM BANNER SERMON

ON SUNDAY 16th August we were very pleased to welcome the Revd Catherine Hale Heighway to St. Leonard's to conduct our Service and preach the Banner Sermon for 2020.

This was both inspirational and pertinent to our present troubled times and was well received by a congregation of about 20. Well spaced apart and sanitised, of course.

The banner sermon is an annual event that links to the Heritage Lottery Fund Downham Banner Conservation project. A facsimile banner was exhibited in church for the occasion and the congregation was reminded that the original, conserved banner may be seen at Clitheroe Castle now that the museum has re-opened. PM



## HISTORY GROUP

THE Skelron Mine talk and walk previously arranged to take place on 3rd September is, like so many other events just now, cancelled.

## THUNDERSTORM

THE storm that hit the village on 11<sup>th</sup> August did considerable damage to all manner of electrical devices. Most of the village cable TV network was fried and required well over £5,000 of repairs. (Typically the destroyed parts were not stock items, so there was some delay whilst they were obtained. Villagers should contact Ingham and Yorke if they still have problems). A number of telephones, answer machines, Sky boxes and TVs were also damaged. Thankfully no buildings or trees appear to have been struck and no one was injured. It is almost 30 years since the last incident occurred, when a cow was struck and killed on the Barley Field (near the old cricket pitch). RCA

## DRIVE-IN PARISH MEETING

SADLY the Secretary of State's letter informing the world that Parish Meetings could now take place on Zoom (or similar) did not arrive until the morning of the meeting and with the absence of many internet and phone connections, the physical meeting went ahead as planned. Thankfully the weather was fine, so attendees were in fact able to leave their cars and form a socially spaced fairy ring for the proceedings.

The minutes of last year's meeting were agreed, the Chairman (Ralph Assheton) and Clerk (Jason Addy) were re-elected. Apart from the vital business of formally agreeing that for the umpteenth year we have no accounts, the principal concerns once again centred on antisocial behaviour (dog fouling, littering, unusual night-time car activity and speeding). It is hoped that the new Police Inspector in Clitheroe might be persuaded to be more proactive. RCA

## Downham from the newspapers of Yester-year Clitheroe Advertiser November 1899

### DOWNHAM.

**RENT AUDIT.**—The half-yearly rent audit of the Downham Hall estate was held on Tuesday. A substantial dinner was provided for the farmers at the George and Dragon Inn.

**THE NEW VICAR.**—The Rev. Harold Moore, the newly-appointed vicar of St. Leonard's, Downham, took up his new duties on Sunday last, when he preached two eloquent extempore sermons.

**GUY PAWKES.**—On Saturday there was a splendid display of fireworks on the village green, which were let off by Mr. A. R. Gradwell, of Blackburn, a summer resident at Downham. Each scholar of the day school also received a packet of sweets from Mrs. Gradwell. The display was highly enjoyed by a large number of people.

**SUPPER AND DANCE.**—The annual supper and dance in connection with the village reading room and library was held at Greendale View last Friday evening, and passed off most successfully. A splendid knife and fork supper was provided by Mrs. Tattersall, consisting of chickens, beef, ham and otherainties, of which 43 persons partook. The tables being removed dancing commenced, being indulged in until two o'clock in the morning, to the excellent music provided by Mr. Edward Gudgeon, of Clitheroe. Songs were also capitally contributed by Mr. Thos. Robinson and Mr. Gudgeon. The duties of M.C.'s were well attended to by Messrs. A. W. Hartley, R. Winstanley, and J. Driver.

## STAGE 2 DOWNHAM

SADLY, Stage Two have no plans to put on plays in the immediate future due to covid but as soon as we have a plan we will be letting our loyal band of followers know. I hope that you are all well and look forward to seeing you before too long FO

