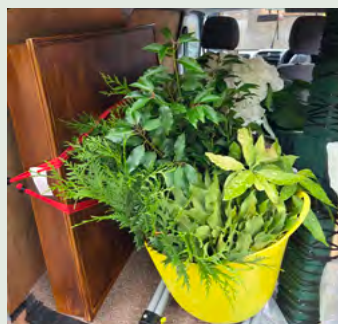


St Leonard's in Bloom at Blackburn Cathedral

Just a reminder that from Friday 21 to Monday 24 August, Blackburn Cathedral will be hosting the Parishes in Bloom Exhibition as part of the Diocese of Blackburn's centenary celebrations.

The exhibition brings together floral displays created by parishes from across the diocese, celebrating the life, worship and distinctive character of their churches and communities.



Thanks to the creativity and hard work of Margaret Dixon and her remarkable team of

helpers, St Leonard's is very well represented. The team worked tremendously hard at the Cathedral yesterday, carefully assembling and completing our display ready for the exhibition's opening. We are enormously grateful to everyone who contributed donations, ideas, materials, time and expertise. Pictured left, Peter Allen's van loaded with the display ready to drive to Blackburn.

The exhibition will be open at the following times:

Friday 21 August: 9.30am–4pm | Saturday 22 August: 9.30am–3.30pm | Sunday 23 August: 12.30pm–3.30pm | Monday 24 August: 9.30am–4pm.

Please do visit if you are able. It promises to be a beautiful and uplifting celebration of the many churches that make up our diocesan family—and an opportunity to show your support for Margaret and the St Leonard's team after all the care and effort they have put into creating our display.

We hope that plenty of familiar St Leonard's faces will be spotted among the flowers! More pics in next week's Newsletter.



Sunday 23 August 2026

Trinity 12

**The Weekly Newsletter
for St. Leonard's Church**

Marshall's Brow, Penwortham PR1 9JA



Summer Baptisms



St Leonard's has hosted a wonderful flurry of baptisms during the summer months. Most have taken place in smaller services following our 10am Sunday worship, as was the case with Oscar Cox, pictured here with his parents, Keiran and Lauren.

Oscar was baptised last Sunday, 16 August, during a small but deeply meaningful service in which the Vicar was delighted to remind everyone of a simple and wonderful truth: that we are all God's children, known and loved by him.

This Sunday, another baptism will take place at St Leonard's, although this one will form part of our main morning service as we witness and celebrate Phoebe Roberts taking an important step on her faith journey.

Phoebe, who until recently attended Broad Oak Primary School, has been adamant for quite some time that she wants



to be baptised. She will be joined on Sunday by family and friends who want to celebrate with her and promise their encouragement and support.

As the family of St Leonard's, we too have an important part to play. Please pray for Phoebe and for her mum, Nic: that they will know Jesus walking beside them, that their faith will continue to grow, and that they will become ever more confident in God's love for them. We look forward to sharing this very special moment with Phoebe and her family on Sunday.

Parkinson's, running the extra mile

On Sunday 13th September, Laura Stanton, daughter of Jenny, will be taking on the Yorkshire Off-Road Marathon to raise money in support of the Parkinson's charity.

The challenge will see Laura complete the full marathon, a distance of 26.2 miles across Yorkshire's demanding off-road terrain. Running a marathon is a tremendous achievement in itself; tackling one away from smooth roads and pavements adds a whole new dimension!

Laura would be very grateful for the encouragement and support of the St Leonard's family. You can sponsor her online through her JustGiving page (QR Code below) and donations can also benefit from Gift Aid.

Please also remember Laura in your prayers as she prepares for the challenge—and especially on 13 September as she faces those Yorkshire hills and all 26.2 miles.

Every donation, large or small, will help support the important work being done for people living with Parkinson's and their families. We wish Laura every success as she takes on this remarkable challenge.



To sponsor Laura, simply scan this QR Code on your mobile device and follow the link to her JustGiving page thank you.

Vicar's Swim Challenge

21 miles in 21 days

I write this on the eve of my final swim, which—assuming there are no last-minute mishaps—I will complete early tomorrow morning.

A huge thank you to everyone who has sponsored me. Knowing that I had your support has helped to carry me through the seemingly endless lengths, the early mornings and the unmistakable aroma of chlorine that has followed me around for the past three weeks.

For the most part, I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge, and the benefits have not been solely financial. All that exercise has helped me to lose 10 pounds since the beginning of August. It

turns out that burning so many extra calories each day does have its advantages!

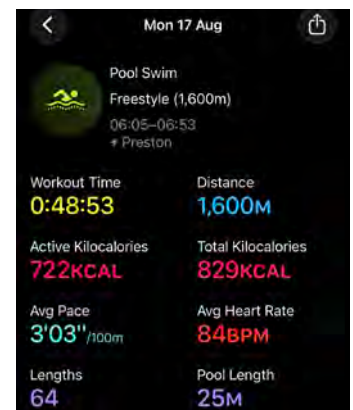
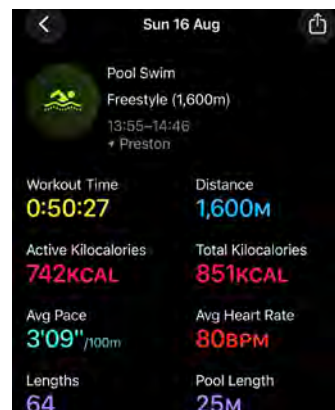
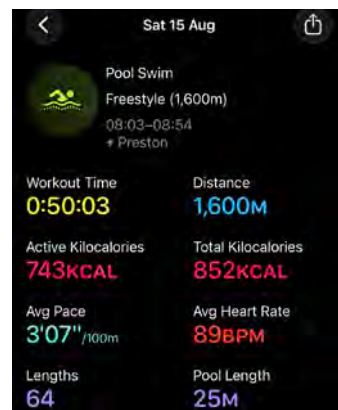
The only real difficulty came during the final week, when a particularly painful attack of gout in my left foot forced me to visit the doctor. The new medication initially left me feeling rather nauseous, which added an unexpected challenge to getting back into the pool each morning. Thankfully, I was able to continue.

I am very glad that I persevered. I would not have wanted to let down all those who sup-

ported me—and, perhaps most importantly, I did not want to let myself down.

Although the challenge finishes tomorrow, I hope the swimming will continue, albeit not necessarily every day! So, the next time you see me, please ask how it is going. Knowing that someone might ask could be exactly the encouragement I need to keep taking the plunge.

Thank you once again for your kindness, generosity and encouragement. Every sponsored length has been made possible by your wonderful support.

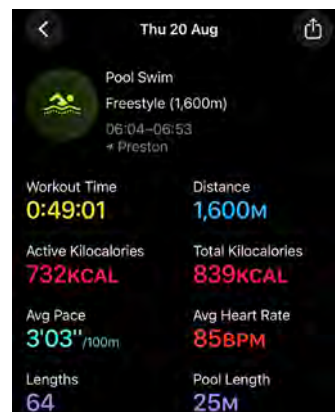
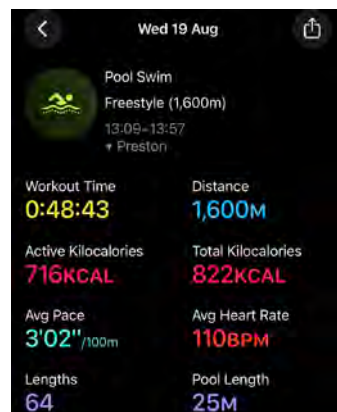
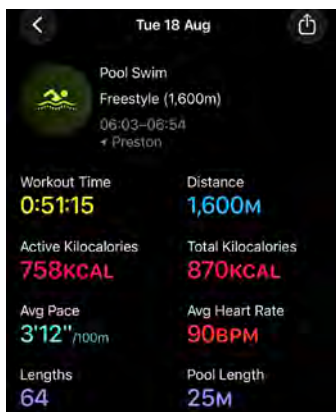
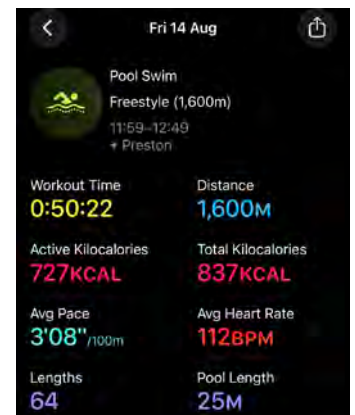
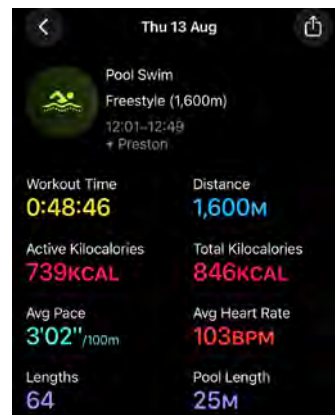
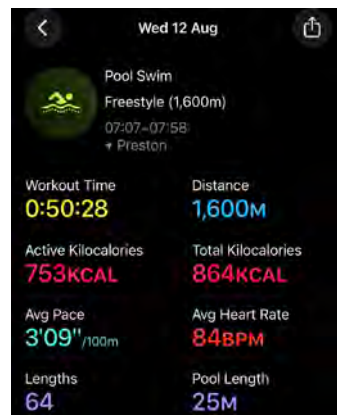
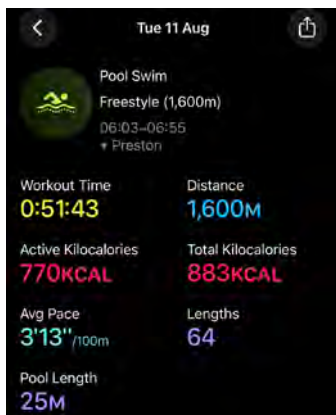
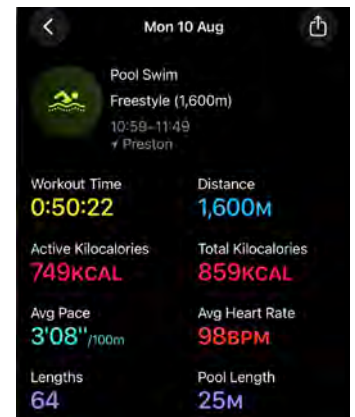
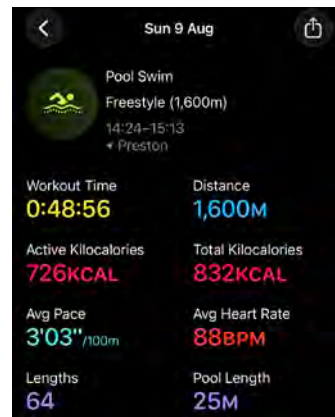
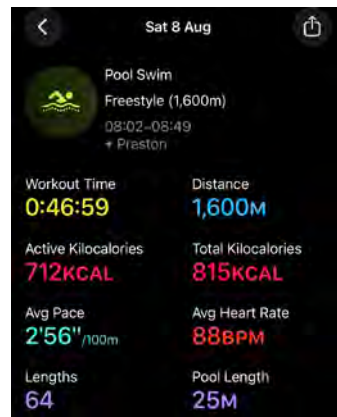
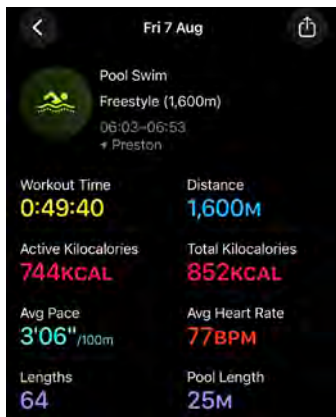


Diocesan Centenary Mission Weekend

11-13 September

Central to Bishop Philip's vision for the diocesan centenary is a special Mission Weekend, beginning on Friday 11 September. Every parish in the diocese has been invited to organise an activity through which local people can be welcomed,

"I'm going. It's going to be good... do you want to come too?"



It's not too late to sponsor the Vicar, the sign up sheets are still at the back of church, or scan this QR Code to sponsor him online.

friendships strengthened and the good news of Jesus shared.

Here at St Leonard's, plans are already well underway for a full weekend of worship, hospitality and fun—and there will be something for everyone.

The weekend begins on Friday evening with a Quiz Night, including a bar and a free baked-potato supper. Gather a team, invite some friends and prepare to put your general knowledge to the test!

On Saturday, there will be a Family Fun Day, with games, guests, crafts and activities, as well as a free barbecue. It will be an opportunity for people of every age to enjoy themselves and experience the warm welcome of St Leonard's.

The weekend concludes on Sunday at 10am with a special celebration service in church, bringing everyone together in worship and thanksgiving.

At each event, the Vicar will

offer a brief and accessible talk about the Christian faith and the hope found in Jesus.

Everyone is invited to attend one, two or all three events—but the weekend is particularly intended as an opportunity to invite people who may not normally come to church. Think about a neighbour, friend or family member who might enjoy coming with you.

There will also be plenty to do behind the scenes, and volun-

teers will be needed to help with the different activities. If you could offer some time, practical help or hospitality, please speak to the Vicar or the Revd Janet.

Above all, remember our simple invitation: "I'm going. It's going to be good. Do you want to come too?"

Sometimes mission really can begin with something as straightforward as that.

FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

Quiz Night

WITH BAKED POTATO SUPPER

Bring your friends
and make up a team!

7pm — 10pm

SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

Family Fun Day

FOR ALL AGES • FREE BBQ

Come along and
bring the family!

10am — 2pm

SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

Celebration Service

A JOYFUL CELEBRATION
OF FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

All are welcome!

10am — 11am

BLACKBURN DIOCESE CENTENARY WEEKEND
St Leonard's Family Church, Marshall's Brow, Penwortham PR1 9JA

Sidespersons, readers and coffee rota

Sun 23 August - Trinity 12

Exodus 1.8-2.10 — Matt 16.13-20

8.30 — Franklin Bello and Peter Milner. *Reader:* Angela Milner

10.00 — Barbara Palmer
Reader: Ann Butterworth
Prayers: Rev Simon *Coffee:* Linda and Alistair

Sun 30 August - Trinity 13

Exodus 3.1-15 — Matt 16.21 - end

8.30 — Peter Milner. *Reader:* Andrea Waine

10.00 — Laraine Southwell and Jenny Stanton *Reader:* Ann Butterworth *Prayers:* Angela Milner *Coffee:* Barbara and Christine.

Sun 6 September - Trinity 14

Exodus 12.1-14 — Matt 18.15-20

8.30 — Franklin Bello and Peter Milner. *Reader:* Philip Walsh

10.00 — Brian Bamber *Reader:* Brian Bamber *Prayers:* Rev Simon *Coffee:* Laraine and Ann.

Sun 13 September - Trinity 15

Exodus 14.19-end — Matt 18.21-35

8.30 — Irene Farrimond and Elizabeth Bunyan. *Reader:* Rev. Simon

10.00 — Linda and Alistair Woollard *Reader:* Philip Walsh *Prayers:* Set Prayers *Coffee:* Laraine and Ann.

CHURCH AND HALL DIARY

Friday 21 August

08:00 Friday morning prayers

19:30 Gilbert & Sullivan Group

Saturday 22 August

08:45 A Purrfect Friend Jumble Sale

Sunday 23 August

08:30 Said Communion

10:00 Sung Communion

Monday 24 August

18:15 Yoga

Wednesday 26 August

10:00 Weds Morning Communion

Thursday 27 August

18:15 Ling Shi Tai Chi Club

18:45 Choir Practice

Friday 28 August

08:00 Friday morning prayers

19:30 Gilbert & Sullivan Group

Sunday 30 August

08:30 Holy Communion

10:00 Sung Communion

11:30 Baptism for Delilah Sumner

Monday 31 August

Summer Bank Holiday
(regional holiday)