

St. Paul's Church, Warton
Parish Magazine



*Serving Christ ~ Serving the
Community*
October 2026

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Link Parish – Timmerlah

in the Diocese of Braunschweig, Lower Saxony, German



Sunday	4th	Trinity 18
09.30		Parish Eucharist

Wednesday	7th	08.30	Morning Prayer
		09.30	Holy Communion
		12.00-15.00	Foodbank
Saturday	10th	10.00-12.00	St Paul's Little Café

Sunday	11th	Harvest Festival
09.30		All Aboard Service of the Word

Tuesday	13th	13.00	Women's Institute in the Village Hall
		20.00	Daniel Flemen's <i>DIY SOS</i> shown at the Coach & Horses and Freckleton Sports & Social Club
Wednesday	14th	08.30	Morning Prayer
		09.30	Holy Communion
		12.00-15.00	Foodbank
		19.00	St Paul's PCC Meeting
Thursday	15th	19.30	History Society in the Village Hall

Sunday	18th	Luke the Evangelist
09.30		Parish Eucharist

Wednesday	21st	08.30	Morning Prayer
		09.30	Holy Communion
		12.00-15.00	Foodbank

Saturday	24th	10.00-12.00	Holy Trinity Coffee & Toasties
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Sunday	25th	Last Sunday after Trinity
09.30		Parish Eucharist

Wednesday	28th	08.30	Morning Prayer
		09.30	Holy Communion
		12.00-15.00	Foodbank
		14.00	Mothers' Union
		19.00	All Souls Service Holy Trinity
Thursday	29th	19.00	All Souls Service St Paul's
		19.30	Gents' Pint Night

The **DEADLINE** for the **NOVEMBER** magazine
is **FRIDAY OCTOBER 16th**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ



By the time you read this, I shall be well into my sabbatical and, God willing, enjoying the adventure of travelling around the world. Part of my journey includes a cruise visiting Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Vietnam and Singapore. As many of you know, one aspect of travel that I particularly enjoy is discovering the local food, and I am looking forward to sampling the different cuisines and experiencing something of the culture of each place through its food.

October is, of course, the season when we celebrate Harvest Thanksgiving. Traditionally, we give thanks for the crops gathered from our fields and gardens, for the farmers who work the land, and for the abundance that sustains our lives. Yet Harvest is also an opportunity to remember that God's generosity extends far beyond our own communities and even beyond our own nation.

As I travel through different countries and cultures, I expect to encounter foods that are unfamiliar as well as some that are instantly recognisable. Rice fields in Asia, fishing communities along coastlines, bustling food markets and family-run restaurants all tell the same story: people everywhere depend upon the gifts of creation and the labour of many hands. Wherever we live in the world, we rely upon God's provision.

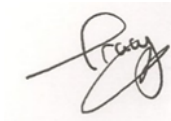
Harvest reminds us that gratitude should be our first response to God's goodness. It is easy to take our daily bread for granted. Supermarket shelves are usually full, and we rarely stop to think about the remarkable chain of people and processes that bring food to our tables. Yet every meal is a reminder of our dependence upon God and upon one another.

In the familiar words of the Harvest hymn, *"All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above."* Those words invite us not only to be thankful but also to be generous. As we count our blessings, we remember those for whom the harvest has been poor, those struggling with rising food costs, and those who rely on food banks and community support. Our gratitude should always lead us to share what we have with others.

One of the joys of travel is discovering both the differences and the similarities between people. While languages, customs and foods may vary greatly, the desire to gather around a table, to share food with family and friends, and to give thanks for life's blessings is something that unites us all.

So, wherever this Harvest season finds us, whether at home, at work, in school, or, in my case, somewhere on the other side of the world, may we take time to thank God for his abundant provision. May we receive his gifts with gratitude, use them wisely, and share them generously.

Yours, in Christ

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracy', on a light pink rectangular background.

Rev Tracy

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Churchwarden's Letter

"We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us"



Romans 12:6

Our church exhibition for the Diocesan Centenary and 140th birthday was amazing. We thank Sue Parkin and her team of helpers for producing, preparing and displaying the event in our church. The exhibition allowed the church to open its doors for a couple of days during the week, something our PCC has been considering doing for a while. Our group of helpers not only helped set up the exhibition, they also dismantled it in preparation for the Brass in the Pews concert to take place. Sue has done a tremendous amount of research to make the event informative and interesting. Richard repaired the old altar frontals in time for the exhibition (all four of them) which were on display and the workmanship was both beautiful and elaborate. (We are hoping to use them for special services such as Easter and Christmas.) Thanks to everyone who helped prepare this event for us to enjoy. It was particularly interesting to learn about a group of local women known as the "canary girls" performing the dangerous task of filling the ammunition casings in a factory at Lodge Lane near Warton Hall. The work caused their skin to permanently turn yellow, owing to the chemicals they came into contact with, hence their name. (No workplace health and safety rules in those days!) They were billeted in the houses between where the Aldi store and Saltcotes flats are built and possibly cycled daily to work.

The tickets for Our Brass in the Pews concert proved popular as all the tickets sold out. We thank Mike and Lynn Willetts and their group of helpers for organising such a wonderful evening of entertainment. Rev Tracy has been trying to get the band to play in our church for quite a while now but owing to their busy schedule of performances they have not been available. It seems that fate has played a part in making their availability coincide with our 140th birthday and Blackburn Diocesan Centenary. The concert promised to be too good to miss, with Rev Tracy and Richard promising to be there to enjoy the entertainment even though she is on her Sabbatical.

Remember that in the month of October we will be holding our usual Harvest Festival in church on the 11th, however this year no booking has been made at Rigby's Restaurant for our traditional harvest lunch. As we show our gratitude for the harvest we should try to remember to donate any extra food we may have to our local food bank to share it with those in our community less fortunate than ourselves. Later in the month (the evening of the 29th) we will be holding our All Souls Service to remember our loved ones and light a candle in their memory. I hope that many of you will come to both or one of these services, and hopefully newcomers who attended our exhibition or the brass band concert will also be there.

Blessing to you all

Jackie



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Brass in the Pews

In 2017, Freckleton Band entertained us with 'Proms in the Pews'; Sunday 13th September 2026 saw the Band returning for a sell-out concert. A lot has happened in the intervening years, not the least of which was the Band's recent promotion to the 'Championship Section' of the competitive banding world, which is like being in the Premier League for a football team. The quality and power of the Band's playing wowed a capacity audience in the Church, as a finale to our week of celebrations of the Church's 140th anniversary and the centenary of Blackburn Diocese.

Under the direction of their guest conductor, Russell Gray, the Band played a selection of pieces that varied from an opera overture to tunes from 'Mary Poppins'. It was wonderful to have the Church filled with superb music and the enthusiastic applause of the audience. The standing ovation at the evening finale was well deserved.

It wouldn't have been a true St Paul's event without food and drink, so the audience and Band enjoyed a light supper in 'picnic' boxes and, of course, a licensed bar was available.

The evening would not have been possible without the generous support of an anonymous sponsor – our grateful thanks go to them for a wonderful evening. Thanks are also due to the small band of volunteers who helped with setting up and running the concert and then turning the building back into a place of worship by Monday lunchtime!

Hopefully, it will not be another nine years before we can have another visit from our brilliant local Band.

Mike Willetts



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Centenary celebration: Acknowledgements and thanks

I started to think about a celebration exhibition back in February, and I am pleased that it has taken place safely and that people have enjoyed it.

There are too many people to thank individually, and any omissions are mine, and I apologise.

In particular, however, I do want to mention the following:

- Rev Tracy, Anne-Marie, and the PCC of St Paul's church, especially Mike, the Secretary, who organised the concurrent exhibition and video of the 140th anniversary of this church. Thanks also to Jackie the Churchwarden, as well as members of the congregation who have supported this event in any way. It could not have happened without you all.
- Sue from Blackburn Cathedral, patient Archivist and guardian of so many treasures, related to the new Diocese.
- Lancashire Archives for access to church registers.
- People's History Museum, Salford, Manchester for guidance and documents on the general strike.
- All local libraries and helpful librarians.
- Warton History Society and Lytham Heritage Centre, especially David and Ruth for 1926 newspapers.
- Warton WI and Ann for the minutes book for the 1920s.
- St Martin-in-the-Field London, and Henry, their archivist.
- "Canary Girls" group in Poulton, and Peta.
- Jennifer Clydesdale for initial research on Edward Snape.
- Isaac, Paul, & Tammy for IT support, and Sally Wright for expertise.
- The kind people with large cars and vans for the transport.
- Last but not least, my family, for their patience and artistic skills... we do now have our dining table back and clear of papers!

Any event such as this is bound to reflect the interests and capabilities, as well as the opinions and prejudices, of the person putting things together. I acknowledge that the information which we had on display on 1926 is selective, and if I have missed anything you would like to have seen, please let me know.

Any omissions or errors are mine. A full bibliography is available.

Sue Parkin, September 2026

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St Paul's Mothers' Union

We continue to celebrate 150 years of Mother's Union, a Christian charity with over 4 million members across more than 80 countries.



On Tuesday 8th September, four members celebrated 150 years of Mother Union at St Annes Parish Church. Branch leader Christine Buckley spoke about the life and legacy of Mary Sumner, who founded Mothers Union. We were treated to a delicious afternoon tea and anniversary cake. We enjoyed conversation and a grand raffle and then sang *Auld Lang Syne*. Many thanks to St Annes, it was a lovely afternoon.

June.

On the 28th October we have Jennifer Ray coming to talk to us again, this time about “Fylde Women During World War 1”.

Then on the 25th November, Anne Horne is doing her talk “Reet Gradely Lancashire Stuff”.

You are welcome to any of our meetings, in the village hall at 2 pm.

**God Bless,
*Amanda***

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Happy Birthday to the Women's Institute, celebrating 111 years!

September 16th is WI Day, commemorating the anniversary of the very first British Women's Institute meeting, in Anglesey, back in 1915. To mark the occasion, the National Federation invited members up and down the country to focus their celebrations on the number 111 and the organisation's roots in the historic Suffragette Movement.



The Warton ladies certainly did their bit to contribute to the nationwide effort, answering the call to wear purple, which, along with green and white, was one of the Suffragette colours. All shades from deep plum through the violets and mauves to the palest lilacs and lavenders were represented at our September meeting. The theme was continued with the decoration of the President's table, and with bunches of lavender all around the village hall, and even popped up again in the icing on the delicious cupcakes made for the occasion by master baker Barbara. Photos were taken to mark the occasion, with ladies in groups of three ($1 + 1 + 1 = 111$), to represent friendship and strength, along with the 111-year legacy of community action and female empowerment.

Our visiting speaker was Peter Frankish, who entertained us with his talk on "New Love for Old Frames", presenting an attractive range of pictures and framed photos produced by his team of volunteers, working for the benefit of a hospice charity and using upcycled frames donated by the public. Several ladies purchased pictures and greetings cards, and a special raffle was held too, where lucky winner Lyn was given her choice of all the frames on display. The same theme was carried through to our competition, with a good range of lovely frames for Peter to judge. It must have been very hard to pick a winner, but finally, Peter decided to give the honours to Pauline, who brought along a stunning silver frame in the Art Deco style.

The atmosphere was very much that of a family party and, teacups were raised in birthday toasts to the WI; may it continue to inspire women for at least another 110 years.

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A Time for Sabbath Rest

From **24th August until 24th November**, I will be taking a three-month sabbatical. Sabbaticals are a valued part of ordained ministry, providing an opportunity for rest, renewal, reflection, and spiritual refreshment after years of continuous service.

One small practical note: there will be a dog sitter staying in the Vicarage while I am away. So, if you see someone you don't recognise coming and going, please don't panic, they're meant to be there!

Although this is a time for rest and renewal, please don't hesitate to email me if something significant happens in your life, for example, if you are admitted to hospital, if someone close to you dies, or if there is another major pastoral concern. Depending on where I am in the world, I may not be able to reply immediately, but I absolutely can, and will, pray for you and whatever you are facing.

Thank you for your understanding, your support, and your prayers. I look forward to returning in late November refreshed, renewed, and ready for the next chapter of our shared ministry together.

With every blessing, Rev Tracy



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Could You Be Our New Treasurer?

We are looking for a new Treasurer for our church. Firstly, we would like to express our sincere thanks to Robin, who has served as Treasurer with great dedication and skill. He has done a brilliant job but sadly is having to step down due to health issues. We are extremely grateful for all he has done and wish him a full and speedy recuperation.

In the meantime, Mike, Paul and Simon have kindly agreed to share the responsibilities of the role. We are very thankful to them for stepping in, but as they already undertake many other duties within the church, this arrangement cannot continue indefinitely. They will continue to support and assist a new Treasurer, and plenty of help will be available during the handover.

The Treasurer plays an important role in the life of the church. We are looking for someone who:

- Has reasonable financial competence and can maintain a basic accounts book.
- Is willing to attend PCC meetings, not only to deal with financial matters but also to be aware of the PCC's plans and priorities.
- Can explain financial issues clearly, both within the PCC and to the wider church membership.
- Is able to maintain confidentiality, particularly regarding matters relating to individual church members, such as personal giving.
- Meets the requirements for charity trustees, including not being disqualified through bankruptcy or convictions for financial wrongdoing.

Please prayerfully consider whether God may be calling you to serve in this important ministry. You do not need to be a financial expert, and support will be available from Mike, Paul, Simon and others. If you would like a no-obligation chat to find out more about the role, please do get in touch. We would be delighted to answer any questions you may have.

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WARTON HISTORY SOCIETY

36 Members of the Warton History Society had the pleasure of listening to author and historian Gareth Winrow, who came from Oxford to see us.

An interesting talk about his relations from Freckleton who, for many years, ran the watermill.

We learnt that the Fylde had 40 windmills and only three watermills. The Freckleton watermill dates back to 1199 and was sold to the Clifton Family by the Earl of Derby in 1850.

The speaker's family history in and around Freckleton was interesting, and many names we know today were mentioned, including Butlers and Bridges, also Sharples and Bonney.

The watermill made flour and was in use until the 1920s, but then laid in ruins until it was demolished in 1968. All that is now left of the mill is a lump of stone on Preston Old Road and Lower Lane.

Next month, on October 20th, is Tom Morton, *The memory man* – if he remembers to turn up.

FRECKLETON & WREA GREEN FLOWER CLUB

57th Annual general meeting, followed by

Demonstrator: Sue Coyne

Title: 'What to do with a supermarket bunch of flowers'

Tuesday 20 October, 14:00

Freckleton Village Hall, 17 School Lane, Freckleton, PR4 1PJ

Come along to listen and enjoy the demonstration.

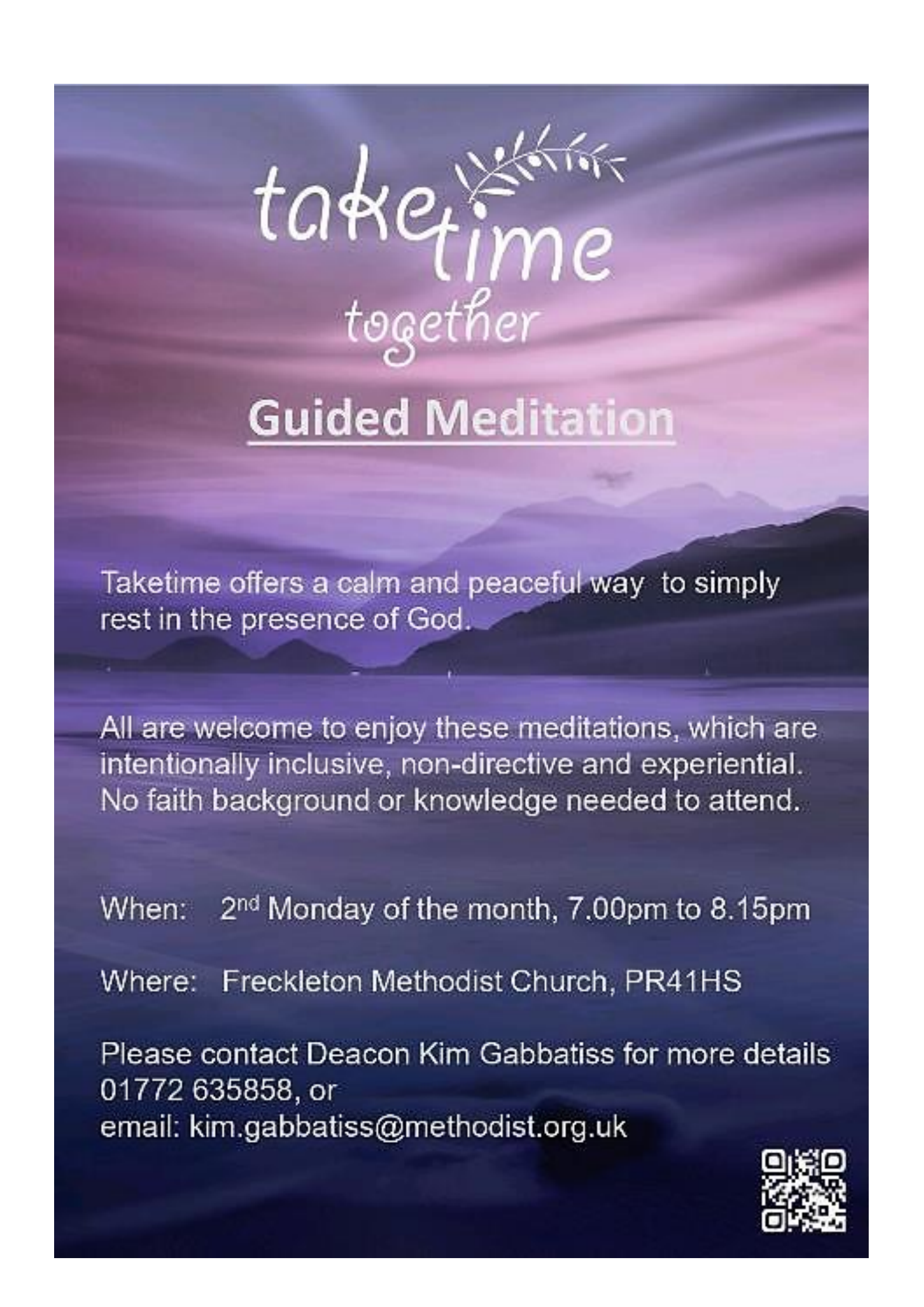
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St Paul's Little Café



Saturday 10th October 2026
10.00 – 12.00
All Welcome



take time
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Taketime offers a calm and peaceful way to simply rest in the presence of God.

All are welcome to enjoy these meditations, which are intentionally inclusive, non-directive and experiential. No faith background or knowledge needed to attend.

When: 2nd Monday of the month, 7.00pm to 8.15pm

Where: Freckleton Methodist Church, PR41HS

Please contact Deacon Kim Gabbatiss for more details
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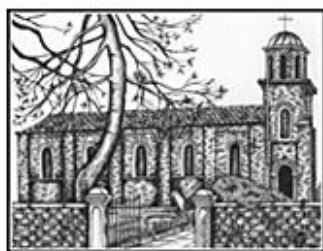
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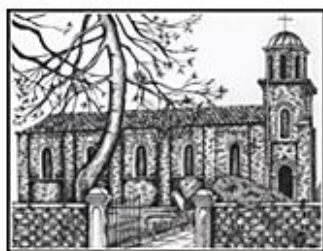
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**The Joint Benefice of
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Memorial service

**Wednesday 28 October, 19:00
at Holy Trinity, Freckleton**

**Thursday 29 October, 19:00
at St Paul's, Warton**

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Please protect them, bless them and keep them firm in their faith.

We pray for those who would like to find out more about you.

Please provide ways for them to do that, and help us all to play our part.

We pray for those who know little or nothing about Christian faith.

Please stir up curiosity in them to find out more and in your mercy give them encounters with you that transform their lives.

In the name of Jesus Christ,
Amen.



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OCTOBER SUNDAY ROTAS

Date	Readers
October 4 th	Colin Charnley Margaret Jacob
October 11 th	<i>Harvest Festival</i> <i>All Aboard</i>
October 18 th	Alison Eccleston Simon Eccleston
October 25 th	Margaret Jacob Sue Parkin

Date	Coffee
October 4 th	Joan Liptrot Sally Lockhart
October 11 th	Chris Denham Ann-Marie Marsden
October 18 th	Deborah Cherry Lorraine Higginson
October 25 th	Barbara Fenton Stewart Newell



Date	Churchwarden Duties
October 4 th	Mike Willetts
October 11 th	Paddy Quinn
October 18 th	Kate Parker
October 25 th	Lin Willetts

Organisations

Day	Section Leader	Contact Number
<u>Monday</u> Squirrels (4-6yrs) Guides (10-14yrs) 6.30-8.30pm	Chloe Miller Bridget Davison	07388 554048 01772 671740
<u>Tuesday</u> Cubs (8-10½yrs) 6-7.30pm	Kate Parker	01772 635514 07788 551100
<u>Wednesday</u> Rainbows (5-7yrs) 5.45-6.45pm Brownies (7-10yrs) 6.30-8pm	Catherine Potter	01772 493475
<u>Thursday</u> Beavers (6-8yrs) 5.45-7pm Scouts (10½-14yrs) 7.15-8.45pm	Amber Chauhan Chloe Miller	07468 616692 07388 554048
Group Lead Volunteer	Chloe Miller	07388 554048