

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway



NEWSLINK
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**A LETTER
FROM
OUR**

DIOCESAN PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I hope you have enjoyed the beautiful sunshine we have experienced this summer. For my family it has been a wonderful opportunity to enjoy our garden and visit the beach with our granddaughter, although when she lay down in the sea then the sand flat on her tummy it was quite a job to remove all the sand!

In August we were blessed as a diocese to experience a wonderful Festival Service in Helensburgh. The Church of St. Michael and All Angels hosted our service, celebrating the life of Mary Sumner. The sun shone and the water sparkled as we entered Helensburgh. Our MU there greeted us with tea, coffee and a hearty welcome! The service was written and conducted by The Reverend Lucy Ireland who, as usual, produced an uplifting

form of worship. Bishop Gregor honoured us by preaching on the life of Mary Sumner. We prayed for dioceses all over the world, using footsteps markers with information about who to pray for. Many thanks to Helen Stephen for the footsteps idea. The organ and singing of hymns resounded around the church. The organist, himself, commented on the amazing singing of our members. Afterwards we enjoyed our lunch with more tea, coffee and cake before making our way home. It was truly a memorable occasion.

Another very special service I attended was the funeral of Jane Allchin. Jane, with the encouragement of the Dean, The Very Reverend Ian Barcroft, had instigated a new branch of the Mothers Union in Hamilton. I met with Jane several times to discuss and organise this. She was a Christian lady, full of life and love for her family and church. She was enthusiastic and worked effortlessly for the Mothers Union and The Girl Guides. Not long after the Hamilton MU Branch opened Jane found out her cancer had returned and this time she was not able to conquer it. She had prepared her funeral service with the most uplifting hymns and music, and although it was a horrendously sad occasion, her enthusiasm and love of the

life she'd , shone through. May Jane rest in peace and rise in glory.

Our partnerships with other charities continue. In the past year we have, as a diocese , donated over 1,800 items of underwear to Smalls for All. Thanks to an amazing donation of baby knitting from Crosshouse Hospital we were able to send 14 boxes of new Baby Parcels to two hospitals in Malawi. We also delivered 5 boxes of toothbrushes and toothpaste to help the Smileawi team with their dental treatment. We may be small in numbers but we are blessed to be able to reach out to so many people through our MU projects.

As a province we are also approaching a changeover time. Jean Richardson , our provincial president, has served Scotland enthusiastically and faithfully over the past years. We are now seeking a new provincial president. Paul Hindle will be moving on to another role in the MU so we are also looking to appoint a provincial treasurer. Please let me know if you are interested and able to undertake either of these two roles.

I would also ask you to keep Bishop Gregor in your prayers as he retires in October. His

support of the Mothers Union over the years has been unstinting. Let us wish him a long, happy and peaceful retirement.

With love and prayers.

St John's Dumfries

Our branch's last meeting before the summer break was a very special and joyous occasion. The meeting was a Eucharist and enrolment service. It has been a number of years since our last enrolment and we were truly delighted to be able to welcome five new members to our branch. Our Eucharist was led by our Rector Rev Janice Aiton, trustee member Ann Wren read the gospel and preached and the three sharing branch leaders Chris, Linda and Margaret performed the enrolment service. Afterwards all members retired to the church hall for a afternoon tea of scones and cakes (the usual MU standard, good for our waistlines!). It was a really happy occasion and we would like to thank our Diocesan president Jill, for the help she gave us in how to organise the service and the confidence to carry it out (photo on back page).

Holy Trinity, Motherwell

The photograph (on the front cover) shows from left -right – Hazel O’Hara, Jean Bisset, May Sanders, Katharine Kilgour and George Swift.

Feast of St.James (Wednesday 25th July 2018) at our mid-week Eucharist; The Holy Trinity Branch of the Mothers’ Union enrolled 3 new members. The celebrant at the Eucharist was Fr.Andrew Duff retired Anglican priest, and The Rector took the enrollment when new members (*Jean Bisset, May Sanders and George Swift*) were presented by Branch leader Katharine Kilgour supported by existing members who together reaffirmed baptismal promises and committed to the membership aims and objects of the world wide organisation. Prayers were said for the Mothers Union membership on the worldwide calendar of prayer for today in dioceses in Kenya, Sudan, Australia and England. We were joined by visitors and guests from Hamilton and Wishaw.

Provincial President in Motherwell

Our Provincial President was invited by the Holy Trinity Branch to a special event in Motherwell on Tuesday

21st August 2018. Also invited was the Lord Lieutenant of Lanarkshire who was represented by Depute Mr John Brown DL. Coffee and lunch were provided for guests.

The main event was a visit to the Mothers’ Union Re-Launch Exhibition at the North Lanarkshire Heritage Centre, Motherwell. The occasion provided an opportunity to meet local MU members from Motherwell and Hamilton branches. Wider community contacts joined us who had supported the exhibition.



Jean addressed the group after lunch expressing thanks to the Holy Trinity Branch for their hospitality. She commended all their efforts in reviving the work of the Mothers’ Union in the locality. She praised the ‘outward looking’ approach to fulfilling the objects and aims of the worldwide movement. Jean was ac-

accompanied by Elizabeth Benton, Diocesan President for St. Andrew's Dunkeld and Dunblane.

Mothers Union Community All Age 1k and 5k Fun Event

Our Diocesan President, Jill Cameron and her daughter and granddaughter were at Holy Trinity Motherwell on Wednesday 19th September 2018 to join with the branch's Community partners (Active Schools, Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire, local councillor Paul Kelly and church community) to support the promotion of the new Mothers Union Community All Age 1k and 5k fun event to be held at Duchess of Hamilton Park, Motherwell on 20th October 2018.



The branch is seeking volunteers to help marshal this event. Anyone wishing to volunteer should register with in-

fo@vanl.co.uk before 11th October 2018. To take part in any of the events registration is required. On-line forms are available on the church web site holyltrinitymotherwell.org.uk/5k-event-information-and-registration/

These need to be completed and submitted as soon as possible. If you need a paper version of the registration form, it can be downloaded from the same webpage and posted to church address: 14. Crawford St Motherwell ML1 3AD.

Festival Service 2018

The Glasgow and Galloway Festival service on Saturday August 11th, focused on walking in Mary Summer's footprints. Rev. Dominic Ind of Helensburgh was only installed at St Michael and All Angels on the previous Saturday, so this was his first introduction to Mothers' Union members in this diocese.

We were blessed to have the Bishop, Right Reverend Dr Gregor Duncan, with us, prior to his retirement. He spoke about how inspiring Mary Sumner was in her day, that she had a mission and definitely worked out of her comfort zone.

General Meeting 2018

The seaside city of Swansea played host to Mothers' Union General Meeting this year, hosted by Mothers' Union Diocese of Swansea and Brecon.

The meeting, held in Brangwyn Hall on Tuesday 18 September, was preceded the day before by two church services at St Mary's Collegiate and Parish Church. The Archbishop of Wales the Right Revd John Davies preached at the first service and the Bishop of the Diocese of St David's the Right Revd Johanna Penberthy at the second where she spoke of the powerful impact that Mothers' Union has around the world. She stressed how important and relevant the name "Mothers' Union" is in this day and age, particularly when speaking out against injustice. Both services were attended by the The Lord Lieutenant of West Glamorgan Mr D. Byron Lewis who remarked how impressed he and his wife were at the full attendance of the services and was happy to be a part of them.

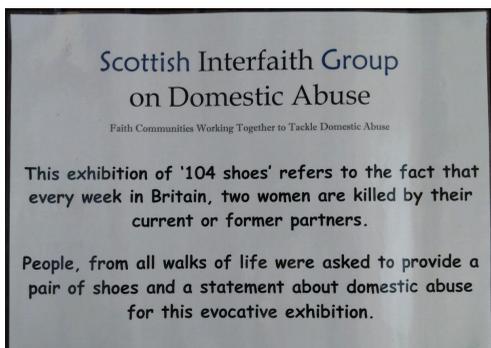
The following day at Brangwyn Hall, Lord Mayor of Swansea, David Phillips, welcomed more than 800 members who had travelled from both near and far. He spoke of how warm and welcoming the people of Swansea are and reminded

those present of Mothers' Union's important mission. MU Chief Executive Bev Jullien updated members on activities over the past year, which included a new website and membership engagement as well as how far MULO has progressed with more than 200,000 members having taken part in the process so far. Revd Rachael Carnegie, Deputy Director of the Anglican Alliance, gave the keynote address where she talked about the importance of Faith Hope and Love. She called on members to write down their hopes and dreams for the future of the movement on paper leaves which were collected in baskets and prayed over by herself and Bishop Andrew Proud, Mothers' Union's Central Chaplain. Worldwide President Lynne Tembey, who will be stepping down as Worldwide president later this year, was honoured with a special tribute - "This Is Your Life" with Head of Fundraising and Communications, Daniel McAllister, taking on the role of host. The day ended with a choral concert celebration of Welsh voices back at St Mary's church, where members were entertained by Morryston RFC Male Choir, Parti Llŵchwr and soloist Iona Jones.

“Making a Global Impact...”

(available on You tube)

The first half of this film was produced in Guyana and shows the impact of the Mothers’ Union Parenting programme. The second half of this film was produced at St Columba’s Episcopal church in Largs, showcasing the shoe exhibition put on to highlight domestic abuse in all its forms. Quite a day



having the film crew up from London, and they filmed so much, which was cut down to a few minutes. Local church and Mothers’ Union member Vicky is the highlight and very brave to do this.

MU Enterprises Limited Trading for Mothers’ Union.

100% of the profit made from the sale of these items is covenanted back to the charity to fund the work of Mothers’ Union—supporting families worldwide.

Christmas and Christian Greetings, birthday, sympathy, and get well cards for sale, books, gifts and jewellery.

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lesleylucas@ymail.com or via your branch, or shop online at www.mueshop.org

Tri-annual Elections

Will be held at the Autumn Council, for the Diocese.

Branches will be carrying out their elections locally, over the next few months. Information about new post-holders will be collected and circulated thereafter.

The Trustees thank Sylvia Elliot for the work she has done as Diocesan Correspondent over a number of years. With the introduction of new Data regulations this role will now cease.

That’s all folks!

Thanks for all your contributions, for this issue and all the issues over the past six years. It is time to hand over to a new editor. Please support the new editor.



To the left:
St John's Dumfries

To the Right:
Festival Service,
Helensburgh



Below:
Filming in
Largs.

