
**Holy Trinity Mothers' Union Branch Leader's Report
(year ending 31 December 2018)**

**Annual General Meeting, Tuesday 19 March 2019
St Andrew's Church, Wishaw 6pm**

Committee Members:

Mrs J Katharine Kilgour (Branch Leader)
Mrs Hazel O'Hara (Secretary)
Mrs Olga Harding
Mrs May Saunders (MU enterprise Rep)
Treasurer: Vacant



In May 2018, after two years in abeyance our Mothers' Union branch, Holy Trinity, Motherwell was re-launched with four members who formed the committee, Mrs J K Kilgour (Branch Leader), Mrs Hazel O'Hara (Secretary) , Mrs Margaret Thompson (Treasurer) and Mrs Olga Harding (MU Advisor).

To celebrate our relaunch a special service was held on 13 May 2018 at Holy Trinity Church, Motherwell, conducted by Reverend Richard Kilgour. We were delighted to welcome our Diocesan Mothers' Union President, Mrs Jill Cameron and her mother to our re-launch service. Apologies were received from Reverend Lucy Ireland, MU Diocesan Chaplain, who, on being unable to attend, was invited to write a prayer for our service.

Reverend Lucy Ireland's Prayer at the reopening of Motherwell MU Branch.

'Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for the Mothers' Union and all that it works for around the world. We thank you for the people who have worked in the past to serve others through the MU in this charge/church. Today we thank you that the work can be renewed with fresh vision and energy as we reopen the branch and begin another chapter of service and fellowship.'

We ask your wisdom and vision for those who take particular responsibility within this group today. Bless those who reaffirm their membership and those who join for the first time, may they be a source of light and hope to all whose lives they touch.

We pray in the name of the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen'

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE:

1. A series of six branch meetings have been held on varied and interesting topics to year end 31 December 2018, since our Re-launch. (Ref: Re-launch programme July 2018-October 2018 followed by Winter programme November 2018- April 2019). The first of this series began on 15 May 2018, when we were delighted to welcome our Mothers' Union Diocesan President Mrs Jill Cameron as our speaker.

Branch meeting attendance has varied, the lowest attendance being below 10 and the highest being 45. Highest numbers of attendees at meetings has occurred when those who attended have received personal invitations to attend from the committee.

2. **Community Art Space: Holy Trinity Mothers' Union Exhibition at North Lanarkshire Heritage Centre, Motherwell was displayed from 7.7.18 until 5.11.18.** This was an unique opportunity given to us by NL Culture Ltd on our MU branch Re-launch, to create an exhibition for the Community Art Space at North Lanarkshire Heritage Centre, Motherwell, about our Mothers' Union story.

Work began on this project when Hazel O'Hara and Katharine Kilgour met with Dawn Crowe the Exhibition Officer for NL Culture Ltd, to consult and plan a schedule for submitting our exhibition material, on 22 May 2018. At this meeting, it was agreed our branch would take responsibility for producing a title for our exhibition, and a two hundred word introduction with logos (to be printed, mounted and framed by the exhibition centre) also to create and mount twelve boards of exhibition material to be delivered to the exhibition centre for framing by their technician, by 26 June 2018, including a banner.

'RE-launched!' was agreed as the title for our exhibition, the work involved for this exhibition challenged us to consider our identity, values and mission activity, and within approximately a four week period, we achieved the following:

a) **Agreed content of our mission statement and aims as a new branch, defined our work as branch members and decided on time, location and frequency of branch meetings.** In addition we set up our own email account using gmail (holytrinitymothersunion@gmail.com). We then agreed and published a branch programme, for our own use and for public circulation, at the art space. Thanks to all who helped us in making this publication possible, including our committee members who met to agree branch mission statement and plans for regular monthly meetings, organisation permissions for use of logos, and to Kathryn O'Hara, based in Australia, who advised on meeting professional standards for publication and advice and support from staff at Mary Sumner House on wording for MU mission statement.

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What is the Mothers' Union? We are a movement of four million Christians in 84 countries worldwide. We work as volunteers in local communities putting our faith into action, giving individuals in need a helping hand. We are open to men and women whose vision is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships. From its beginning in 1876, our aim is to support families and communities (of all faiths and none) in society.

Our branch members volunteer

To give community support for families in Motherwell and surrounding districts in many ways.

- Home, Hospital and police custody visiting,
- offering friendship,
- doing church work,
- Parenting and grand parenting activities.
- Networking with other charities'

What does our Mothers' Union branch do?

As a new start, our main aim is to:

- meet to learn together,
- have fun,
- share friendship and support others in need in our community,
- And in the wider network of Mothers' Union in Scotland, UK and around the world.

Thanks are due to Colin Weir from Befriending, Motherwell, for formatting our branch programme and staff at Dalziel St Andrews for printing our first programme.

Special thanks to all our speakers.

Our first and second branch programmes this year have been a great success to date, and have only been possible due to the time and commitment given by our speakers and those who have attended our meetings. All of our speakers give freely of their time and have shown dedication and commitment to their specialist subject, to inform and educate us at our meetings about their work in our community.

b) Agreed and created content of material suitable for the community art space at the North Lanarkshire Heritage Centre, including creating and making a 'Re-launch banner' using a child's drawing. This commitment involved many hours of committee work and additional dedicated hours given by Hazel O'Hara and Katharine Kilgour. Our exhibition supported by the Mothers Union Diocesan committee who provided some grant funding for this project. The exhibition was well received and remained on display for just over four months from 7 July 2018 to 5 November 2018.

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Photograph: Shows part of the Holy Trinity, Mothers' Union 'Re-launched!' exhibition at the Community Art Space NLHC, Motherwell.



3. Our first outing as a new branch was on 25th May 2018 to Glasgow Film Theatre to see the afternoon viewing of the film 'Edie.' Thanks to Rev Richard Kilgour for providing us with transportation and for accompanying us on our outgoing which finished with a visit to Govan Church

This film told a powerful story about an 80 + year old woman's journey to achieve the late realisation of thwarted ambition to climb Mount Suilven. The story gives a dynamic account of intellectual, emotional, caring and behavioural struggles in relationships which occur throughout a lifetime, associated with married life, parenting and intergenerational assumptions of adult children and others in their relationships with their elderly parents and other elderly adults.

The main character was acted by Sheila Hancock a woman in her 80s, her co-star was Kevin Guthrie who played Jonny. The Mothers' Union produced a booklet to encourage intergenerational discussion with reference to Edie's story.



4. On 19 June 2018, 34 participants, both men and women attended 'Open Book: Behind the Scenes at the Edinburgh International Book Festival' the talk given by Casi Dylan (EIBF Project Manager). This was our second branch meeting (pre-publication of Re-launch branch programme), held at Holy Trinity Church Hall. Casi began the evening by reading a poem entitled 'For the Gathering' by Rachel Crum, then talked about outreach work carried out by the organisation across Scotland throughout the year. The aim of the outreach is to bring access to literature to families and children in various locations including HMP Greenock, and communities such as Cumbernauld. Feedback from the meeting indicated clearly, Casi's talk was very well received.

Meeting participants were advised photographs were to be taken of the event which would be used to publicise the work of the new MU branch. In line with GDPR regulations data subject consent forms were circulated to all present at the meeting; these were forms provided to the branch by our MU Diocesan President Mrs Jill Cameron. Signed data subject forms grant the Mothers' Union the right to process personal data (Photograph, video, records of achievements, full name, geographical location, diocese name) for the purpose of promoting the visions and aims of the charity and/or to assist the Diocesan President Jill Cameron.

30 people attended a light supper hosted by our Mothers' Union branch at the Rectory, prior to this branch meeting on 19.6.18. Thanks to all who helped make the evening such a success; all who helped prepare and clear the supper, especially Grace Craig, also Dorothy Kennedy who not only helped in the kitchen but also kindly agreed to bring her keyboard to the meeting to play for hymn singing during the meeting. This included the second verse of 'Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer' in welsh, in honour of our Welsh speaker, Casi Dylan.



5. Six Mothers' Union 'Listening and Learning Sessions' were held in July, over three weeks, facilitated by Katharine Kilgour (Holy Trinity MU Branch Leader). The purpose of these sessions was to create an opportunity for discussion and dialogue and information sharing about the work of the Mothers' Union worldwide, at Diocesan and branch level.

Three 'Listening and Learning' sessions were held in each church Holy Trinity, Motherwell and St Andrew's Wishaw. Lesley Lucas, our Diocesan MU enterprise representative supported this work by attending at least two of the Sunday morning sessions in Wishaw. These sessions formed an induction into the MU for new members prior to their enrolment to the branch.

HOLY TRINITY, MOTHERWELL 10.30 -11.00	ST ANDREW'S WISHAW 10.45-11.15
1. WEDNESDAY 11TH JULY 2018 MOTHERS' UNION ORGANISATION	1. SUNDAY 8TH JULY 2018 MOTHERS' UNION ORGANISATION
2. WEDNESDAY 18TH JULY 2018 BRANCH DEVELOPMENT	2. SUNDAY 15TH JULY 2018 BRANCH DEVELOPMENT
3. WEDNESDAY 25TH JULY 2018 PREPARING FOR ENROLMENT	3. SUNDAY 22ND JULY 2018 PREPARING FOR ENROLMENT
4. SUNDAY 29TH JULY 2018 FIFTH SUNDAY SERVICE - HOLY TRINITY - ENROLMENT 10.30	4. SUNDAY 29TH JULY 2018 FIFTH SUNDAY SERVICE - HOLY TRINITY - ENROLMENT 10.30

6. 25 July 2018 and 29 JULY 2018: Mothers' Union New Member Enrolment Services: Five new members have been welcomed to our branch since our re-launch.

Mrs Jean Bisset and Mr George Swift, were enrolled at the Holy Trinity Church Wednesday morning service on 25th July 2018 and Mrs Christine Crawford, Mrs Rennie Horton and Mrs May Saunders, were enrolled at fifth Sunday joint service at Holy Trinity in Motherwell on 29th July 2018.

7. Holy Trinity Mothers' Union mission work includes regular publication of Holy Trinity MU branch activities in the local newspaper (Motherwell Times) or online (digital mission) with thanks to :-

Mr Petko Marinov - our Diocesan Digital Missioner for his hard work, dedication and regular source of advice, support and encouragement for our church online publications. **Our Rector Rev Richard Kilgour** who submits weekly church news items to the Motherwell Times. These items often include Mothers' Union activities. For example, news of our new member Mothers' Union enrolments, reported on 1 August 2018, with a photograph later used on our second series branch meetings.

Holy Trinity Mothers' Union news is well documented digitally by on the Holy Trinity church website with thanks to our Rector (www.holytrinitymotherwell.org.uk) and to Mr Paul Hindle, (the webmaster for the Mothers Union, Scotland website <http://muscotland.org.uk/events.htm>) who receives and posts Holy Trinity MU branch news and programmes of branch events on the Mothers' Union Scotland webpage.

Since accepting a part-time role as Holy Trinity Church facebook administrator (6.6.18) Katharine Kilgour, branch leader also posts Holy Trinity church and MU branch news on the Holy Trinity Church Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityMotherwell> St Andrews' Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsWishaw>), and occasionally on the Mothers' Union central facebook page.



8. Several special events and meetings were held attended during the year, in addition to our regular series of branch meetings:

8.1. On Tuesday 21 August 2018, our Provincial Mothers' Union President, Mrs Jean Richardson made a visit to Motherwell to see our branch 'RE-launch exhibition' in the North Lanarkshire Heritage Centre, accompanied by her friend Mrs Elizabeth Benton, for the Mothers' Union in the United Diocese of St. Andrew's Dunkeld and Dunblane.

To provide a welcome for our honoured guests, our branch committee offered invitations for coffee at Holy Trinity Church hall, followed by a visit to our Mothers' Union exhibition at the Heritage Centre on 21st August 2018 then a light buffet lunch to be served at the Rectory 14 Crawford Street ML1 3AD to members of the church and local community. Guests were invited to choose to attend the whole or part of the visit. We were delighted to welcome Lord Lieutenant Depute Mr John Brown, Rev Lucy Ireland, Rev Derek Walter Hughes amongst the guests. This event was comprehensively reported by Rev Richard Kilgour on our Holy Trinity Church website as follows.

Provincial President of MU visits Motherwell

22nd August 2018



Pictured above - Deputy Lord Lieutenant John Brown (centre with insignia) and Jean McPherson Richardson to his right - front row.

Tuesday 21st August Jean McPherson Richardson - Provincial President of the Mothers' Union for Scotland visited Motherwell at the invitation of the Holy Trinity Branch of Mothers' Union. The Lord Lieutenant of Lanarkshire was represented by Depute Mr John Brown DL. Coffee and lunch were provided for guests.

The main event (pictured) 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.

President Jean Richardson addressed the group after lunch expressing thanks to the Holy Trinity Branch for their hospitality. Jean 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 accompanied by Elizabeth Benton - the Diocesan President for the Mothers' Union in the United Diocese of St. Andrew's Dunkeld and Dunblane.

8.2. On Saturday 11 August 2018: Katharine Kilgour, Hazel O'Hara, George Swift, May Saunders, Olga Harding and Rev Richard Kilgour all attended the Diocesan Festival at St Michaels and All Angels Episcopal Church in Helensburgh. Hazel O'Hara carried our MU banner in the procession on behalf of the branch during the service.

8.3. Bookbug Session Leader Training Day August 14th 2018 held at Summerlee Museum of Scottish Industrial Life - Conference Room, Heritage Way, Coatbridge ML5 1QD was attended by Mrs Agnes Moon from St Andrew's Wishaw and Katharine Kilgour (Branch Leader). Bookbug materials were received on the day, for use by our branch if Bookbug sessions are to be delivered.

8.4 Diocesan Autumn Council Meeting was held on Saturday 6th October 2018 at St Margaret's Episcopal Church, 353-355 Kilmarnock Rd, Newlands, Glasgow G43 2DS. This meeting was attended by Katharine Kilgour, Hazel O'Hara, Olga Harding and May Saunders.

The day started at 12 noon with tea/coffee and packed lunches. The council meeting commenced at 12.45pm and a shortened Eucharist took place at 2pm. MU branches were asked to share one example of a branch meeting/activity in the past year that worked well; to help provide ideas to other branches in planning their meetings. Our branch described the meeting success of 19.6.18 as an example.

8.5. On Saturday morning 20 October 2018 our branch worked with partners in Motherwell community, to host an All Age Community 1k & 5 k event at Duchess of Hamilton Park. Thanks are due to so many people for the success of this event, our local NL Council Parks and Recreation Department, local Councillors, partners Active Schools, VANL, Friends of Duchess Part, Staff at Dalziel High, staff at St Andrew's Association, Holy Trinity church members including Phyllis Hands who gave her time along with Colette Martin (Jo Wilson Table Tennis) to meet with Katharine Kilgour and Hazel O'Hara at the Rectory to discuss initial plans in the early stages of preparation for this event, our Rector Rev Richard Kilgour for his constant support, encouragement and active involvement in committee work, website promotion work and publicity and Mothers' Union central office, Mary Sumner House, London. John Brown DL; CEO of Lifeskills Centres who kindly sponsored the water for participants.

On the day, the event was very well supported on the day with over fifty participants. Our MU Diocesan President Mrs Jill Cameron, our Rector, Rev Richard Kilgour and three local councillors, Councillor Paul Kelly, Councillor Meghan Gallacher and Councillor Agnes MacGowan and representatives from our community partners Voluntary Action North Lanrkshire, Active Schools and St Andrew's First Aid all took part in making this

event a great success, along with many local families, neighbours, Holy Trinity church and Mothers' Union branch members.



Councillor Paul Kelly provided encouragement and support for this community event at first meeting and was instrumental in arranging a 'photo shoot' to publicise this event in the local press. Graeme Shaw and Ian Russell from Active Schools NL provided invaluable help, support, professional advice and guidance in the preparation for the event and on the day. Active Schools also arranged for loan of school equipment and access to toilets at Dalziel High school during the event. Katharine Kilgour made an application to NL Council on behalf of the committee for grant support to cover costs. Grant funding was awarded by NL councillors, this funding covered costs of medals, equipment used and for the presence of two staff from St Andrew's Association first aid, on the day.

Kirsty Struthers (VANL) provided advice and guidance in preparation for the event and also on the day. Volunteers from VANL provided essential support as marshalls on the day. Without this level of support from the community and volunteers, it would have been impossible to host such an event. Holy Trinity Mothers Union with the help of church volunteers were able to offer and serve lunch at Holy Trinity Church Hall after the event. Thanks to all who contributed to the success of this event. Everyone who completed the course received a medal and a gift Mothers Union pedometer.



This All Age event is thought to be the first event of its kind in this locality and utilised the path network in the Duchess Park. All ages from 6 to 80 did take part and since this event Katharine and Rev Richard Kilgour have both accepted an invitation from Ian

Russell, the convenor of the Community Sports Hub (CSH) committee to join the CSH committee meetings held at Dalziel High School.

8.6 A special branch Advent meeting was held on Tuesday 18 December 2018 at 7.30pm till 9pm at Holy Trinity Church with our Special Guest Speaker, Mr John Brown, Depute Lord Lieutenant. The event was by invitation only. Apologies were received from Mrs Jill Cameron, Diocesan President and Active Schools colleagues .We were delighted to welcome Mr Paul Hindle and his wife among the 45 guests who attended this special branch meeting. Mr John Brown DL gave an excellent talk about his work as Queens's representative in North Lanarkshire. Advent carols were sung at the beginning and end of the meeting, mince pies and mulled wine reception were offered on arrival and tea and coffee was served at the end of the evening.

9. Mothers' Union Enterprise (MUe) is a trading arm of the Mothers' Union.

A significant piece of work and development for us as a new branch has been to establish our own MUe account at Mary Sumner House, MU headquarters, London, as separate from the Glasgow and Galloway Mothers' Union Diocesan Account. This means we have some autonomy over how and when we make purchases from MUe.

Our MUe purchases provide income to the Mothers' Union at Diocesan level as well as at central/ global level. As Mary Sumner House provides a small percentage return to our MU Diocese on income received from our orders. Purchases we make as a church and as branch members through the Mothers' Union Enterprise organisation support the community development work of the Mothers' Union worldwide.

Profit on the income generated by MUe contributes funds needed for Mothers' Union work. Last year MUe centrally generated £320,000 income, 12% of the total income needed to sustain the Mothers' Union project work worldwide. Last year, Mothers' Union worldwide spent £800,000 on community development projects in some of the most under-privileged countries of the world.

Since our Re-launch our branch has already made payments of £304.25 to Mothers' Union Enterprise through purchasing MUe goods. We also contributed £100, in addition, through sales of MU raffle tickets at Christmas. As a small branch which started with 4 MU members in May 2018 we have grown to 9 members and contributed £404.25 to Mothers' Union work centrally. (Note: our sales had already begun and were almost completed before we received correspondence from our President Jill Cameron with concerns about request from MSH to conduct raffle sales within branches last year).

