



Diocese of Edinburgh

Mothers' Union Newsletter



October 2013

Letter from the Diocesan President: October 2013

Dear Friends

After a beautiful summer with a lot of sun, brightly coloured gardens and flowers we are now enjoying the vivid colours of Autumn. The year has flown by even quicker than usual and darkness comes ever earlier.

We have taken a bit of a “holiday” from some of our usual Mothers' Union events and Branch meetings, for those able to attend, will soon re-start. I know that it is difficult for several Branches to find even a few to take responsibility for the basic running of the Branch, but take heart, you are not the only ones. Just look at what suits you best.



Thank you to all of you for your commitment to the Mothers' Union and the work you do in your community.

Being a member of a World Wide Organization means we are just one person among 4 million – most of whom we will never meet or language we will never understand BUT we all have the same aims – to help those less fortunate than ourselves and to show God's love for all regardless of faith. To do this we need prayer and trust in God to help us as we do His work. We do not help only Christians, we show CHRISTIAN love to ALL

If we are too busy/frail to actively support our local projects - knitting, toilet bags, toddler groups and countless other volunteering rolls, we can pray for those who can and for our sisters and brothers overseas who have a tougher task in helping their communities to improve their standards of living, thus helping their children to more opportunities as they grow. NEVER under-estimate the power of prayer, we may never know if our particular prayer is answered but we have prayed in faith. (here ends the lesson!)

Soon we will be caught up in preparations for Christmas, but before then we have a Quiet Day on November 18th at St Ninians, 10.30 -3pm – some quiet time which we will all need. I hope to see you there.

When it comes, have a joyful and peaceful Christmas,
With love and all good wishes,,

Angela

STOP PRESS: Subscriptions from 2014 = £20 for both branch members and Diocesan Members.

This is made up of MSH £10.70 + Diocese £8.30 + Insurance £1

Reflection from Revd Frances Burberry Edinburgh MU Chaplain

While I was on holiday in Scotland recently I enjoyed beautiful weather, clear skies and the arrival of some of the thousands of geese currently migrating from Scandinavia, and further afield. My holiday reading included a number of books about Jerusalem and the kaleidoscopic culture of that city where the religious wars of today reflect those of the past – Arab versus Jew, orthodox versus secular, continuity versus change. The holy city is, of course, a sacred symbol of Judaism, Islam and Christianity.



John's Gospel teaches us that God is not an idol, nor ultimately located in any fixed building or place but rather is spirit. Our response to God, therefore, is not determined by geography but is rather an affair of the heart. God is spirit, and we worship in spirit and in truth – although this doesn't mean that we cannot use physical places to aid our worship. Jesus and the Holy Spirit are not confined to particular places. Jesus is a living reality, knowable throughout the world by his Spirit, so every place can be a holy place.

The Holy Spirit is also known by symbols and the most familiar is probably the biblical image of a bird, more particularly the dove. But to me, the symbol of the dove – although attractive and beautiful – is too comfortable, peaceful and unchallenging. Almost at odds with the picture of the dynamic, unpredictable and unsettling Holy Spirit of God in the New Testament.

Perhaps this is why Celtic Christians associate the Holy Spirit of God not with the dove, but with the wild goose – because – if you've ever fed, or stood alongside, or (like me recently) watched wild geese, you'll know they're not controllable. Far from it. They're loud; strong; challenging; insistent; strident; and unnerving – all of which makes them just a wee bit scary.

But most of all, you'll have noticed they're not loners. Wild geese may be wild, but they're also communal creatures, drawing life from the flock. When they fly in their familiar 'V' formation, they share a common direction; the task of leadership; a common sense of unity; and can travel much further together with the extra thrust they derive from one another.

As they fly, if a goose is sick, wounded or shot, others drop out of formation to help and protect it until it's able to fly again, or dies. These geese then launch out either to catch up with the flock, or to join another formation.

Compelling images and beautiful analogies for the Christian life – a life of trusting; helping; sharing; encouraging; and caring. A life where responsible, right living in and beyond communities emerges from the fruitful, spiritual inter-relationship of Creator and creatures.

Blessings,

Frances Burberry

THE MU PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT SCOTLAND

The new Provincial President is Mrs Jean Richardson.

So - what exactly do I do?

That is the question many people asked me after I had been elected as Head of the Mother's Union in Scotland. I am known as the Provincial President.

I thought perhaps it might be a good idea to explain a bit about it but as it involves quite a lot, perhaps I'll keep it brief and tell you some more at another time. So, here goes!

There is an all-Scotland committee made up of the Diocesan Presidents, a Treasurer, a Secretary and myself.

We are called the Provincial Trustees as a Province is a church "country", headed by an Archbishop or in the case of Scotland, a Primus. We meet twice a year.

Our first meeting was in March and it was held in Perth as it is the most accessible place for people as they travel from the dioceses of Moray, Aberdeen, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

This time the meeting was open to others who have roles and responsibilities within their diocese so there was a good number there altogether. This meeting had several purposes:-

- It was the AGM so we had to formally approve newly nominated OSCR people
- Hear the latest information from the world-wide headquarters in London
- Start to put into practice the ideas which came from our all-Scotland residential conference (The Gathering), last October

We drew up a Development Plan and people volunteered to pursue an area of it which interested them or which they felt was relevant to their area or situation. The underlying theme is to equip the Scottish MU for the 21st century - so - we are being bold and thinking big!! The next meeting will be in September.

As well as co-ordinating all the dioceses another role I have is to visit churches , MU branches and dioceses (when asked). So far I have been to Kirkaldy, Glasgow, Burntisland and Elgin. I was invited by the Provost of Perth Council to participate in the "Kirking of the Council" service and ceremony. This was held in June and I was accompanied by Rosemary Stirling from the St Andrew's Diocesan Trustees. We were thrilled to have been asked as it is the first time we have been included; it means we have been recognised as an organization which serves our community, which we do in so many ways.

Currently we are in discussion with the P&K Council, at their request, to see if we can be of help in their forthcoming plans to alleviate family difficulties which they anticipate may arise from new welfare reforms - this is such an exciting challenge!

Again - I'll keep you posted and another time I'll tell you about my role on the world-wide committee (called The General Trustees).

I hope this gives you an insight into some aspects of my new life as Provincial President and helps to clarify how the MU works and what we do.

Thank you for all your support and good wishes - it has been so encouraging.

Jean (McPherson-Richardson)

July 2013

See also next page for another article from Jean 'Why the MU?'



Above: Jean Richardson at 'The Gathering', Oct. 2012

Why the MU?

Have you ever wondered why people join the Mothers' Union?

Some join because previous generations of their family have belonged and they have grown up in the MU family; others are invited by a member to a meeting or event; some are impressed by the work and beliefs of the MU and feel that they would like to commit themselves too.

Each member has their own story to tell - a world-wide membership in fact. 4 million stories of why the MU is so special and so different that they want to belong.

So what do I think it is that makes the MU so special?

As a third generation MU member I was one of those who grew up surrounded by family involvement in the MU. I just assumed that it was a natural part of women's life in the church - baptism - confirmation and then eventually MU membership. In those days, membership was restricted to married women who were mothers. Today it welcomes all who are baptized in the trinity and who support the aims and objectives of the MU.

We have moved a long way from the days of being perceived as the church tea ladies who shunned divorce and refused membership to men and single people!

But that was in the past and is no more.

Today we are the front-line responders to social need in our society. We bring Christ's love and compassion to all our projects and ventures, helping those who need our help, regardless of their colour, creed and faith.

What makes the MU particularly special is that all this is underpinned by prayer. At meetings; for each other in times of stress (so we are never alone); in our daily lives with our prayer diaries and across the world at 12 o'clock in our world-wide wave of prayer. God is with us all the way

What sustains me is a quotation from a late, very dear friend of mine, Betty Campbell who declared that "The MU is the practical manifestation of my faith". I cannot think of a better reason for being a passionate and committed member of the MU. Can you?

With love and prayers

Jean McPherson-Richardson

Autumn 2013

Lady Day Service: Janet Hopkins took photos of the banners at the Lady Day Service which was held on March 20th 2013. Janet writes - I shall be a first, instead of last contributor for once. I did enjoy the day - it was a very good service, & Bishop John preached a meaningful sermon. I thought it was a pity about the weather as it kept many away I fear.



Contalmaison 2011 from Pat Gordon - Many who pass through the Haymarket junction and perhaps note the continued absence of the familiar old clock may not be aware that the famous landmark was not placed there simply to mark the time of day but to commemorate the sacrifice made by the brave men of Heart of Midlothian Football Club who served in the 16th Battalion of the Royal Scots in World War 1.

Under the charismatic leadership of Sir George McCrae the men of HMFC were joined by players and supporters of other teams to become what was known as the "Sporting Battalion". On the awful first day of the Somme offensive on 1st July 1916 they penetrated further into enemy lines than any other British Army unit and actually briefly held their objective – the tiny hamlet of Contalmaison.

Their story was in danger of being lost to us all until a young Edinburgh author, Jack Alexander, decided to commit it to print and I would strongly recommend his book "McCrae's battalion" to you all.

Jack did not stop at this but became a leading figure in the campaign to have the men's sacrifice properly commemorated in the fields where they fell and in 2006 on the 90th anniversary of the start of the Somme offensive a Scottish cairn with informative bronze plaques was unveiled in the shadow of the church in the re-built village of Contalmaison. Every year since then a coach has left Waterloo Place for a 5 day "pilgrimage" to the Somme for a Service of Remembrance on the 1st July in the village.

Anyone who knows my husband, Jim, will know of his affection for the Hearts and so it was that this year he showed me the itinerary provided by Jack Alexander and asked if I would be interested in joining the coach party. I was happy to agree to his proposal though I really wasn't sure what to expect and feared that I might be somewhat isolated amongst a bus load of football fans. This notion was quickly dispelled when we boarded the coach and I discovered that our party included a Colour Party and piper from the Royal Scots, four young soldiers recovering from injuries received in Afghanistan, four schoolgirls (with teachers) who were doing projects about WW1, several people of my own generation who had relatives that served in the Royal Scots, a past captain of Hearts, representatives from Falkirk F.C. and Raith Rovers F.C. and a number of Hearts fans (some of whom Jim knew).

After a pleasant crossing from Hull to Zeebrugge we headed south to our base in the beautiful city of Amiens stopping for refreshment at Arras. On the way south we also stopped in a small village and walked a few hundred yards down a farm track to a point where Jack graphically described the heroic rescue of a wounded British officer by Lance Corporal William Angus. The bravery displayed by Willie was awe inspiring and we were delighted to learn that he not only survived the incident but was awarded the Victoria Cross for his gallantry. The only disappointment is that the site of his deed is not marked in any way. Our hotel in Amiens was very comfortable and only a short distance from the very imposing Gothic Cathedrale Notre-Dame and the main shopping and eating quarter of the city.

An early rise saw us head for Contalmaison and the ceremony at the cairn. Under glorious skies Reverend David Sutherland, minister of the Scottish Kirk in Albert, led us in singing Psalm 46 and "The Lord's My Shepherd" followed by a short prayer and a reading from Matthew's Gospel.

This was followed by the laying of wreaths, the reading of some very moving lines of verse, the singing (by the composer) of a song about the Hearts lads who never came back to Tynecastle, the sounding of the last post and a final benediction. All in all a very emotional but by no means sombre ceremony.



Pat in front of the fully rebuilt church in Contalmaison

Below: The Colour Party and the schoolgirls in front of the adjoining memorial cairn.



Thereafter it was into the village hall for a superb buffet meal and a few speeches where the French attempted some English and some of our party aired their schoolboy French – with varying degrees of success. After a return to our hotel to freshen up we headed to a “Sound and Light” show in the village of Pozieres which saw a re-enactment of the raising of McCrae’s Battalion amongst other stories from WW1. This was a hugely impressive effort by the locals spoiled only by Baltic weather conditions.

The following day we visited a number of small Commonwealth

Grave sites as well as the hugely impressive Thiepval Memorial and the South African Memorial. Stiff upper lips were maintained throughout but at the last stop on our way back north one of our company, Antony (who had travelled from Canada to be with us), stood behind a grave and told the amusing but ultimately tragic story of Alex Cunningham. Just before laying his wreath Antony told us that Alex was his uncle. For some reason everyone caught their breath and our piper struggled to play his lament. I don’t know if it was just the release of pent up emotion resulting from what we had seen and heard over the previous days but there was not a dry eye amongst the company and not a word was spoken for a good few minutes.

Our last stop before the ferry was the beautiful town of Ypres where we visited the Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing (amongst them Jim’s great uncle Tom) and the very impressive WW1 museum in the old Cloth Hall.

Amongst all this history there was one thing that impressed me about the here and now – the spirit of the four young soldiers who shared our experiences. Of the four only one was going to return to active service but there was no bitterness in the other three. Despite one having had the left side of his face rebuilt after a bomb blast (minus an eye) and one spending much of the journey flat on the floor of the bus due to a broken back they were all positive about their futures and were a credit to themselves, their generation and their families.

I could say so much more about how I enjoyed the trip but perhaps the simplest way is to tell you that we returned the following year, intend to go again this year and have now become Members of the McCrae’s Battalion Trust.

The 2016 trip will, of course, mark the centenary of the Somme offensive and we hope to be able to make that one too.

Members’ News: Sadly there have been several deaths since the last Newsletter.

Around the Branches:

St Ebba’s: Jennifer Edie writes that the Eyemouth branch is in the throes of closing down. Age and ill health, mental and physical, has taken its toll of our members and we are no longer viable so no reports from us. *Jennifer and Sheila Cox will be Dioc.Ms.*

Livingston Ecumenical: The most important news from the Livingston branch this year is that we are moving to new accommodation - Carmondean church in Livingston. We will meet in the worship area of the church and will have access to a kitchen and hall if required. Our branch's first meeting at our new venue will be 13th October and as we have also changed our meeting time - Sundays 1-3 instead of 7-9pm, so we will meet after the church service and we have agreed to share a pot luck lunch !

We always held a candlelit supper for our members and Ministers who served in the Ecumenical worship area in Livingston, in October each year, however this year will be slightly different - we will hold a buffet lunch in November. We are looking forward to having our meetings in a dry warm building instead of at St Pauls which was always very cold and damp in the winter. *Fay Edgar, Secretary*

Christ Church, Morningside: Sheila Anderson from CCMorningside MU has recently moved to Tunbridge Wells to be near to her family. We all wish her well. She will be missed by Christ Church in many ways as she was always a very willing helper at meetings at branch and Diocesan level. *Vera Jones*

Ninian's Nippers

One Sunday, a young dad made a passing comment asking if there was anything for pre-school children to do at St Ninian's during the week. So one MU member sought the views of other young parents and discovered an enthusiasm for starting a group for babies and toddlers open to everyone in the community.

Camille Baggs, one of the founder members reflects...

..." Ninian's Nippers Baby & Toddler Group, has proved a success both within St Ninian's congregation and the local area of Comely Bank. It has become a 'hub' for local mums, dads and carers of pre-school children to meet on a weekly basis. The children are encouraged to play in a safe but fun environment, whilst the adults can enjoy a chat along with tea/coffee and delicious home baking. The smooth running of the group is down to the hard work, kindness and enthusiasm of the MU Volunteers, who make this gathering possible each week. They are usually delighted to assist with the catering or storytelling, parachute/balls play, games and the song circle! The involvement of the MU has helped bridge a gap between (dare I say it) the generations. In today's society, families are not always involved in the upbringing of children. It is great that there is an experienced ear, to listen to a young mums concerns and that there is contact between a young child and older adult. I like to think that both the MU Volunteers and the group's members are getting as much out of the experience, as each other! "



And a comment from one of the regular MU volunteers ...

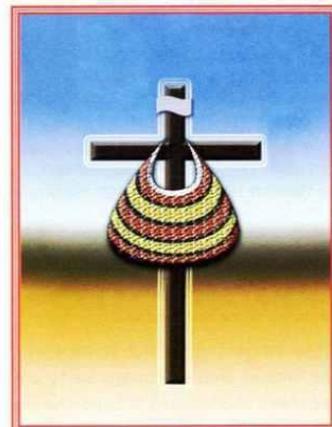
"I have to say Ninian's Nippers is one of the things I enjoy most – great to be doing something with young families, especially as it does seem well attended and much appreciated..... ...helping is a real pleasure"

You can contact Camille on 0131 315 3163 or find us on Facebook.

Betty Neil RIP. Those of you who used to attend the Advent Carol Service early in December at St Leonard's, will remember Betty Neil who died in July. She was a SMU member and also a Cursillista. Her funeral was held on Tuesday 16th July at 12:15pm in St Leonard's followed by committal at Mortonhall Pentland Chapel.

St James Branch, Penicuik:

We have had an interesting programme during the past year and supported the Diocesan events, Lady Day, Mary Sumner Day at the Church of the Good Shepherd. On 25th Sept, the branch was delighted to welcome our new Rector, Lynsay Downs and her husband, Simon to our opening meeting lunch which followed the midweek communion. On Oct 9th, we held an open meeting to enable Susan Tonin, a member of St James who has returned from working in Papua New Guinea, (PNG), to speak to us about her work and experiences. She taught people to grow vegetables, mend the broken sewing machines and so many other things we take for granted. The women and girls do the heavy work, even carrying water supplies on their heads, work from which the boys are excused! Women here in Britain, are very fortunate compared to women living in PNG. They are considered as chattels and in remote areas of PNG have little or no control over their lives and are frequently abused. Susan showed us the bilum, pictured on the right, (*from World Day of Prayer 2009*), which is used to carry many things including babies. She was much involved with the MU members there and visited the church in the area where our previous rector, John Farrant and his wife, Marjorie had lived before coming to Penicuik. She was able to give us news of the PNG Provincial MU President who together with another MU member had stayed with the Farrants in 1988 after attending the Residential MU Conference at Swanwick, along with the group of 18 Maories who accompanied their MU representatives to Swanwick and who stayed in our homes. So many members of these groups are no longer with us and it was particularly sad to learn that one of the ladies who stayed with the Farrants had died of septicaemia, at a young age for this country, (but old for PNG) after developing a dental abscess. This is because medical care, particularly in the remote areas, is not of the standard we accept as normal. HIV is also a big problem. MAF (*Mission Aviation Fellowship*) makes a difference to countless individuals and communities who live in the most remote regions of PNG. When roads become impassible and the terrain is treacherous and walking vast distances is the only option, a curable illness often becomes a deadly one and if it were not for MAF in Simbai community many lives would have been lost. There is great wealth in the country but, except for a few cash handouts, it is not shared round the less fortunate. Susan spoke of the different tribe levels. Until these ancient customs are modernized, it will be very difficult to move forward and develop a fairer society.



Susan is willing to speak to members in the diocese, preferably in larger groups. It would be better if we can arrange a central venue or if branches could ask their churches to invite Susan to speak to them. Slides and a Power point film form part of the talk. Since Susan is working, she is not free during the day.

Contact Angela Sibley or Jean Hindle for her further details.

Sri Lanka: Mothers' Union Sri Lanka started in 1908. There are currently 40 Mothers' Union groups including in the north and east of the island where communities have been badly affected by conflict and fighting.

Mothers' Union groups are involved within their local communities offering awareness and counselling programmes, and sewing projects particularly aimed at empowering widows with skills to be able to support themselves and their families.

One Mothers' Union group has started a medical clinic while others offer literacy classes and support for teacher training. MU Sri Lanka members also spend a great deal of time in fellowship and prayer which underpins all that is done practically for those around them.

Community outreach projects include distributing toiletries to women in prison, running children's crèches, supporting the Blind Elders Home at Ambalanthota and the Skills Development Centre for the Blind in Anuradhapura. A 'Pola Project' (Open Market) is also in progress to improve local living conditions and provide shelter to the less fortunate. Mothers' Union Sri Lanka members are also active in campaigning and advocacy with a particular focus on children's rights.

The Church of Ceylon Mothers' Union (CCMU) celebrates Founders Day each year in August, remembering Mary Sumner and recognising the work of Mothers' Union in Sri Lanka through times of peace as well as times of conflict. Family relationships have been restored and nurtured in fragmented and strained communities as a result of the activities and outreach of Mothers' Union Sri Lanka.

There are 1,300 Mothers' Union members. *Taken from the new central MU website.*

Report from DIOCESE OF BATH and WELLS

Gwen Harris, Hazel Davies, Joyce Black and Jean Hindle attended The Annual meeting, travelling by coach and staying in Weston-super-Mare. We attended the service on the evening before the meeting, held in The Forum in Bath.

Based on the MU Theme for the year, "The Seeds We Sow", the 3 Themes of the service were "Seeds that Flourish through Commitment", "Seeds that Flourish through Sacrifice" and "Seeds that Flourish through the Spirit". The address was given by The Rt Revd Peter Maurice (Bishop of Taunton). He said that since he was going to address the MU, he ought to have a look at Families First (May/June Edition) and he read the article 'Hell, gay marriage and the death of a dog' by Adrian Plass. The Bishop said it had made him think. We often are less than Christian in our attitudes to people and that we needed to let go and let God lead us. Often our ideas are 'us based' rather than what God wants of us. We need to ask ourselves "What would Jesus do?"

The MU General Meeting took place in The Forum, Bath on June 12th from 10am - 3.30pm. 1500 members were welcomed by the Deputy Mayor and the opening worship included a Reflection from The Rt Revd. Bishop of Reading, Andrew Proud.

Worldwide President, Lynne Tembey reminded us in her opening talk that our membership is a gift that must be shared. She spoke of her visit to Kenya. She encouraged us that we need to have faith, hope and love as we move Mothers' Union forward into the future.

Lynne then introduced the new trustee board via video and in real life. The Unit Coordinators took part in 'Question Time' by our own David Dimpleby – Reg Bailey, who was named in the Queen's Birthday Honours.



There were Midday Prayers before the lunch break and the opportunity to buy souvenirs of Bath & Wells, Cheddar Cheese, mugs, apple juice, CDs.

After lunch, Adrian Plass, pictured below, said that we should use the 3 Ls, Laughter, Listening and Love and cited ways in which this had made a difference in the lives of people, particularly those who are bereaved. Joy is not an automatic response for people who are hurting and that feeling angry at God was a normal reaction.



He listed the ridiculous things people say to those who are bereaved and those who even cross the road to avoid speaking. He added his own responses to the long list of things people say. In one case Adrian didn't say anything - just hugged the very angry person, managed to make her laugh by saying something outrageous and that started her healing process.

Fedis Nyagah then spoke. She is the Church and Community Mobilisation Process Facilitator for CAPA and a Mothers' Union member. She spoke passionately about this new process which is being adopted by Mothers' Union and the church across Africa. This exciting new process will change the way we think about development and church growth in the future.

Then, Emily Petty, Head of Fundraising & Communications spoke about the Help Us Grow campaign. Felicity Randall from Fakenham talked about how her branch has grown since taking up the Help Us Grow challenge. A new DVD has been produced to help members promote the work of Mothers' Union.

It was a wet journey home most of the way, but it eased off at Carnforth, where we stopped for a 2 course Carvery tea at the County Hotel, where the photo was taken.



"Sowing the future together" will be the theme for 2014.

CALENDAR

Quiet Day: 18 Nov – 10am for 10.30am start until 3pm at St Ninian's.

Wave of Prayer: 26 – 30 Nov. Please fill in the calendar.

The Lady Day Service will be held on March 25th Venue to be arranged.

The 2014 Provincial Retreat: Tuesday 25th – Thursday 27 March 2014.

Pat Hindle needs applications in by Monday 13th January 2014. The Retreat will be led by the Revd. Celia Matthews, who is a member of the team at Perth Cathedral.

Her theme is **“Praying Through the Senses”** which offers a number of ways of praying using our whole bodies. It sounds very interesting and inspiring.

Paul Hindle has updated the website and the online application form is now available. Please apply via the website if at all possible. As some of you did last year, this can be used by friends to apply on behalf of those who are not on email provided they are prepared to act as the email contact. Again, as last year. Pat is asking those who do not apply via the website to send me a stamped self-addressed envelope for her to use to send the final joining instructions.

there is a link below to the MU Retreat Web page, where reports and photos from the last three retreats are posted. Pat will also send emails to the people who attended the retreat last year as word of mouth advertising by those who have enjoyed it is the best kind. Any remaining questions can be dealt with by phoning Pat at 0141 776 3237 or emailing her at retreat@muscotland.org.uk. Paul and Pat are very much looking forward to going to the retreat again this coming year.

Pat Hindle MU Provincial Retreat Organiser

Web page link: <http://www.muscotland.org.uk/retreat.htm>

MU GENERAL MEETING 21st June 2014 in Belfast

After the very successful visit to last year's meeting in BATH and WELLS, it is hoped to arrange a similar coach trip to Belfast, from Thurs 19th to Mon 22nd June. If there is enough support, a rough costing to include, single rooms, bus and ferry tickets is £360 or £290 if sharing a room – 40 beds available. Doreen Esnol is prepared to organize the trip, but needs to know how many people would be interested.

MUe: Greetings Cards For Sale: Easter, Sympathy, Get Well, Welcome

Apply to Mrs Angela Sibley a.s.a.p. Tel 01968 674211

17 Rullion Road Penicuik EH26 9HS - Email: angelasibley@talktalk.net

Editorial

Contributions should be sent to: Email: jean@jrhindle.co.uk

or post to Mrs J Hindle 24 Mauricewood Park, Penicuik EH26 0BP - Tel 01968 674591

I have had a much better response to the request for items of interest from the branches this year. Thank you to all who have contributed. Since this Newsletter goes to every member as well as past members who have left the Diocese, it is a golden opportunity to show what activities members are taking part in. Items for the **next Newsletter** should be with me by February 2014 to enable distribution at Lady Day or the Spring Diocesan Council in order to save on postage. News of branch activities, special birthdays, anniversaries etc. plus photos would be welcome.

If you can receive Newsletters, Intercession Leaflets by email please let me know since this would save on postage for Edinburgh MU. Those of you with access to the web can view this Newsletter in colour and read a fuller report of the General Meeting, at:

www.muscotland.org.uk

Jean Hindle