

# Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway



**NEWSLINK**  
**Autumn 2015**

## **A LETTER FROM OUR DIOCESAN PRESIDENT**

September 2015

Dear Friends,

I hope this edition of Newslink finds you in good spirits.



I have had the privilege of serving the Scottish Episcopal Church as Diocesan President (DP) of Mothers' Union for two triennia. My first Newsletter as DP written on Maunday Thursday 2010 contained the following words: -

'So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you' (John 13:14-15).

I thank all members past and present for sharing their journey of faith with me over the last years as part of the community of Mothers' Union in Glasgow & Galloway. During these years we have all, in our own way tried to follow the example of Jesus by praying, enabling and campaigning. Central to any success we have shared has been the development of loving, respectful and flourishing relationships, within the diocese, with our Overseas Links and with all who share our values. Members have enjoyed much support from our Patron +Gregor and our Chaplains Rev Peter Douglas and Rev Lucy Ireland.

Changes of personnel are also taking place throughout the organisation. Having said farewell and thanks to Reg Bailey the organisation now welcomes Beverley Jullien as Chief Executive. More information about Beverley is found further on in this edition of Newslink as is a letter from Lynne Tembey our Worldwide President.

I have enjoyed many happy hours as Diocesan President during which I have been inspired by the commitment, faithfulness and Christian witness of members: the mission supporting families affected by domestic abuse, human trafficking, the variety of mission in prisons and all the wonderful knitting which supports families in the diocese and also in Uganda. The individual acts of mission are too numerous to mention, but are an essential part of a healthy community. Fundraising to support Mothers' Union Programmes Overseas has demonstrated much initiative, creativity and generosity.

The variety of work members undertake in the churches around the diocese is another source of inspiration. One such is that children are welcomed, treated with respect and given opportunities to deepen their relationship with God. Prayerful mission is a trademark of being a member of Mothers' Union. I along with all members who are taking a step back pass the baton on to others with many thanks, optimism and much love.

With love and my prayers  
Ann x

## **LOVING RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS**

Welcome to Katarina, Britta, Kristina!  
Members are looking forward with much anticipation to the arrival of our guests from the Church of Sweden. This relationship has been developing as part of Diocesan Porvoo link. The Women of the Church of Sweden have offered generous hospitality to members of Mothers' Union to attend their bi-annual conferences. This year it is now our turn to extend a welcoming hand to Katarina, Britta, and Kristina. Following Autumn Council our guests accompanied by members will be visiting Iona, described by George MacLeod, the founder of the Iona Community, as a thin place –only a tissue paper separating the material from the spiritual.

Far-seeing God,  
Enlarge our vision  
To fit your purposes  
And reflect your glory.  
(Wild Goose Publication 2006)

Ann x

## **DEVELOPING RESPECTFUL LOVING RELATIONSHIPS**

It was a delight for Mothers' Union to be part of the Scottish Episcopal Church's invitation to Moumita Biswas, Executive Secretary of the All India Council of Christian Women visit to the Province.  
The photographs below taken in the Glasgow & Gallo-



way's Diocesan Centre demonstrates that relationships are deepening between the Scottish Episcopal Church, the Church of India, Scottish Women's Aid and Mothers' Union.

The focus of the meeting was domestic abuse and gender justice. Moumita later visited Mary Sumner House.

Ann x



**New Mothers' Union Chief Executive**  
**Mrs Beverley Jullien**

*Photo Credit: Mothers' Union*

Mrs Beverley Jullien has been appointed as the new Chief Executive of Christian membership charity, Mothers' Union.

During her successful career in both the corporate and education sectors Beverley Jullien has been at the vanguard of women's representation at senior board level, including leading the merger of [international pharmaceutical companies] Astra and Zeneca in the UK in 2000 and a period serving as Vice-President [for AstraZeneca.]

Beverley Jullien said "I'm delighted to be joining Mothers' Union. This offers a wonderful opportunity to apply the skills and experience I've gained in my career to a new role in the not for profit sector. I'm

excited to be joining a worldwide organisation of over four million members, men and women working together to support families through fighting poverty and injustice and tackling family issues.” As well as her global experience in the pharmaceutical industry, Mrs Jullien’s previous roles have included a Pro-Vice Chancellorship at London South Bank University. Alongside her considerable experience at corporate board level, Mrs Jullien will bring to Mothers’ Union her extensive understanding and experience of the not for profit sector: she set up a unique service for the British Olympic Association for the 2012 London Games to help professionalise Sports Governing Bodies; she has served on the Open University International Advisory Board, and volunteers regularly in local community outreach and fundraising.

Mrs Jullien and her family are active members of their local Anglican church and she is proud to be continuing a long tradition of membership of Mothers’ Union.

### **Lambeth Palace**

The Worldwide President, Lynne Tembey, and Mothers’ Union Chief Executive, Beverley Jullien, were honoured to meet the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Welby at Lambeth Palace on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> September.

During the meeting, the Archbishop was very appreciative of the work of Mothers’ Union members

worldwide, and we explored areas where we could work even more closely with the Church in the future.

The Archbishop was delighted that Mothers' Union members are keen to provide support to refugees in the current crisis, and encouraged us to work with dioceses and other agencies at local level to deliver effective relief.

He was pleased that Mothers' Union had taken a lead in addressing issues of commercialisation of childhood – and encouraged us to consider further how this work might be developed in other countries.

The meeting was preceded by Morning Prayer in Lambeth Chapel, a deeply spiritual and moving experience.

It was wonderful to receive such a warm welcome and to be invited to take part in Morning Prayer in Lambeth Chapel, a deeply spiritual and moving experience. We look forward to identifying further ways in which we can support the work of the Church going forward, particularly the Archbishop's priorities of Prayer, Reconciliation and Mission, which resonate so well with the Mothers' Union.

On the front cover is a photograph of Lynne Tembey, Beverley Jullien, the Archbishop of Canter-

bury and Mrs Welby. (*Produced with kind permission from Mary Sumner House.*)

## **Annual Scottish Provincial Retreat**

### **Tuesday 19th to Thursday 21st April 2016.**

Our annual silent retreat provides an opportunity to be quiet and feel God's presence. The retreat will be held at Conforti Institute in Coatbridge, Lanarkshire.

The Revd Paul Watson, Mothers' Union Chaplain for the Diocese of Aberdeen & Orkney has agreed to lead us.

The silence is maintained in the building from around 8pm on Tuesday to around 12 noon on Thursday, though there will be areas reserved for those who want to talk during these times.

Wednesday afternoon is free time to explore the area or use as you wish. There will also be an opportunity to talk to the leader on a one to one basis during this time.

The venue offers modern all en-suite accommodation and lift access to all areas, so is well suited to those with mobility difficulties. Public transport is available close by and the M8 motorway is less than a mile away. The cost of the retreat will be £165 (£155 if sharing a room) per person.

Spaces are limited so please book early especially if

are not wishing to share a room. The website has been updated with all the information available at present. <http://muscotland.org.uk/Retreat.htm> is the link to the page and there is also a link in the news box on the home page with facilities to make an on line application. If applying by post please send a stamped addressed envelope.

If you have any questions, please feel free to phone Pat Hindle on 0141 776 3237 or email her at [retreat@muscotland.org.uk](mailto:retreat@muscotland.org.uk)

### **United in Prayer**



I was asked to put together something focusing on this year's theme, 'United in Prayer', that could be used at a MU group meeting. The following idea comes from my husband, Les, and was used at the Lenzie Group earlier this year – I have to give credit where credit is due!

You will need: Bibles, pens and paper, plus copies of your regular hymn book.

Choose a selection of short Bible passages on prayer. They need to be quite short and to focus on one aspect of prayer. The following are some suggestions:

Matthew 6. 9-11

Matthew 6. 12-13

Philippians 4. 5-7

Romans 8. 26-27

James 5. 13-16

Psalms 67. 1-3

Psalms 103. 1-2

Psalms 37. 5-7

Ask the group to work in twos or threes and give each group one Bible reference to focus on. Ask each pair or small group to write a short prayer inspired by or based on the verses they have been given. Ask them to choose a hymn that goes with their prayer.

NB If you have no one to play for the hymns and don't feel up to singing unaccompanied just choose one verse to read as a poem

Allow around 25 minutes for this.

If people need help to get started it might help to point out the pattern used in a collect which 'reminds God what he has done then asks Him to do it again'

Or to suggest they begin by thanking God for some aspect of who He is or what he has done then move onto asking Him to do something for us – related to the Bible verses of course! This just gives a 'shape' to help in writing prayers to be read aloud.

Now turn the readings, prayers and hymns into a time of worship by asking each group to share their reading, prayer and hymn – move round the group without explanation or discussion, allowing quiet spaces where appropriate so that the whole becomes a time of prayer and worship for the group.

You could finish by saying the Grace or the Lord's Prayer together.

Rev. Lucy Ireland  
MU Chaplain, Glasgow & Galloway

## **Edinburgh Festival highlighting Human Trafficking**

Mothers' union member in Glasgow and Galloway diocese, saw an opportunity advertised in the Provincial newsletter to raise the profile of human trafficking. The Scottish Churches anti-human traffick-

Nareesh was offered a position in a reputable restaurant in the UK that offered attractive wages and working conditions. On arrival in England his employers asked him up and took him to North Yorkshire, where his passport, working visa and money were confiscated.

Over a four-year period Nareesh worked excessive hours, seven days a week. He was abused verbally and physically and lived in locked accommodation, where he and others were escorted to and from work.

Three of the staff managed to escape and contact the police. As a result, a mother, 53 and two sons (33 and 38) were convicted and jailed in 2010 for four years.

Nareesh, 38, India

Scan this QR Code to find out more.

In 2010, five girls and two boys were taken to a field in the area of Worcester, England every day, in all weather conditions and made to pick spring onions from 7.30am until dusk, without food or water and appropriate lavatory facilities.

Some children worked alongside people who appeared to be their parents; others seemed to be alone. The children were spotted by an officer working for the Gangmasters' Licensing Authority as she carried out investigations nearby. A raid was conducted 24 hours later and the children were immediately removed from the situation.

No arrests were made as individuals couldn't be identified as responsible. The investigation continues.

Five girls & two boys, 11-15, Romania

Scan this QR Code to find out more.

I was promised a life of great opportunity

ing group decided to hire two of the UN trafficking boxes for use during the Edinburgh Festival and they were looking for volunteers to work for 4 hours, engaging with the public and encouraging them to sign a petition.

Over 30 million people worldwide live in slavery today. It is not something that only happens in distant lands – it happens here and now in Scotland. People are forced to live in appalling conditions. They are deceived into working long hours in the fishing industry, or in the fields, in hotels and restaurants, in brothels and in private homes.

In Luke, chapter 4, we are told that Jesus said that he was here, among us, 'to set the oppressed free.' The Scottish Churches' Anti-Human Trafficking Group, made up of representatives from all the major denominations in Scotland, has been campaigning for years against the awful crime that is human trafficking.

I would like to encourage anyone to look for the opportunity to get people talking about this, write to their MSP's and pray for the oppressed.

## **Stamps for the Sudan**

Helen Donnellan sells mint stamps to raise funds for the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Sudan. Please buy your stamps from her, as she says "buying stamps from the SCA won't close your local Post Office".

Orders can be placed by email or by post, with a small amount to cover post and packing.

Buying single 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class will save you money when the price of stamps goes up.

The stamps, although back issues are used just as ordinary stamps are. Many people enjoy receiving post with interesting stamps on. This may involve 2 stamps to make up the value of either 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps.

I am one of those people who enjoy looking at the variety of stamps, I even have one I won't use, it is of a 'lucky boot', David, my husband used to carve miniature boots and shoes.

Some stamps need sticking on, but it is possible to buy single peel off 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps now.

I am already putting Christmas stamps away, religious ones may need 2 stamps, but that means more decoration for the envelope.

I hope that this has wetted your appetite to support the Sudan Church Association, by purchasing stamps from,

Helen and Barney Donnellan, 17, Ashleigh Drive, Teignmouth, Devon. TQ14 8QX.

Tel. 01626774142. Email [scastamps@gmail.com](mailto:scastamps@gmail.com)

Any queries please feel free to contact me Sue Brough, Tel 01419566814

PS. Postcards are a valuable resource for fund raising for the SCA, almost £200,000 in the last 20 years, a tenth of all money sent to the Sudan. Unfortunately the source is drying up, please do see if you have any lurking in your cupboards. Any age, the older the better, any subject, with their stamps

left on if they are used, but all are welcome. I have had some donations from MU members but more would be good. Not forgetting used stamps, again another dwindling source, if you have any of these items , please be in touch. Thank you, Sue.

### **Refugees**

Staff at Mary Sumner House advise members to play our part in whatever way we can by working alongside our local churches to bring physical and spiritual relief.

Rev John Riches has convened a group who are working to produce a coordinated response.

Information will be circulated when available. Ann x

The Diocesan Development Group for Imaginative Outreach is hosting a day on 25<sup>th</sup> November in St Margaret's Newlands.

Main topics will be Female Genital Mutilation and children affected by domestic abuse.

Bishop Gregor will lead an act of worship.

More information will be circulated in the next few weeks.

Ann x

### **KNITTING PROJECTS**

I was thrilled to receive a set of the Mothers Union Postcards describing in a fun way some of the projects the MU are involved in. Needless to say the

one which delighted me most was the 'Knitting' postcard describing the way in which our knitting projects reach out to communities both locally and overseas.

This seemed to be an ideal time to launch a couple of new ideas on the knitting theme. These are proving to be extremely popular all over the country. The first is so easy yet can have amazing benefits to the recipient. It is called a Bonding Square. Two identical 7 x 7 inch squares are knitted in any pattern or wool as long as there are no holes in the pattern or embellishments. One is placed with a baby in a neonatal unit and the other is worn against the mother's skin. Every twelve hours or whenever the mum visits they are swapped over. Both mum and baby receive comfort from the smell of each other and research is showing that the mother is producing more breast milk than usual in the circumstances.

The second idea is Twiddlemuffs for dementia patients. These are handmuffs knitted and decorated for both care homes and hospitals. They are colourful, interesting and comforting to restless hands and minimise agitation. Buttons, beads, zips, ribbons, applique or other embellishments can be added. I also have a crochet pattern for these. Please see me for more information.

Finally we continue to send 'New Baby Parcels' to Malawi, knit hats for maternity units and angel pockets and baby gowns. In these small ways we are seen to be putting our faith into action.

Jill Cameron.

## **HOLY NAME, CUMBERNAULD**

In the past few months we here at Holy Name have lost two of our dearest friends and staunch Mothers Union members, Joan McKechnie and Margaret Kelbie. Both Joan and Margaret were here at the birth of our branch and have continued to support us ever since with great faith and true friendship. Joan was our Branch secretary, as well as being Diocesan correspondent. She kept in touch with our diocesan members as well as she was able, despite suffering for many years through ill health. She never complained and just steadfastly got on with the job. She had a great sense of humour and brought laughter to our meetings. We all enjoyed her meetings, when she served as Branch Leader and she gave us much to think and pray about. She was a hard act to follow! Latterly Joan could be seen serving at the altar in church. This was fulfilling a wish she had long cherished. A beautiful candle is lit in her place by the altar, in memory of her faithful service.

Margaret was a stalwart of the Holy Name Church and served it for over 50 years. Come rain or shine she would be there to open up the church and hall for services and lets. We often wondered how she kept going. Her faith was immense and obviously of great importance to her. She was a Guide Leader and set a wonderful example to all she led. She helped her husband in his work with the blind and worked and supported Christian Aid in Cumbernauld. Like Joan, she felt called to serve at the altar

and was an inspiring presence there. She faithfully attended Mothers Union meetings and introduced her sister Mary to us. As her health deteriorated three years ago, Mary would be our link with Margaret and our branch. We now have two candles lit next to the altar.

Christian faith shone from both Joan and Margaret and our church and MU will be poorer without them. We miss them dreadfully, but give thanks that we were honoured to have them as dear friends.

May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.  
Jill Cameron, Holy Name, Cumbernauld.

### **Safety Issues**

On Wednesday, 19 August 2015, 10:23, Communications <[Communications@mothersunion.org](mailto:Communications@mothersunion.org)> wrote:

Dear friends,

I write this simple email only to inform you of an issue I am sure will be of interest to you all.

Recently a diocese was, as many do, providing sick children at a local hospital with lovely self-made crafts; we know the children and the hospital appreciated them greatly. Regrettably one of these was found to be unsafe as a sharp tool used in the production of the craft was found inside. With swift action taken by the diocese all remaining crafts were collected and thoroughly checked over.

While the staff at Mary Sumner House research implications of further such incidents taking place (or the need to introduce new measures) may I ask that you do what you can to reinforce quality control measures in the production of any crafts which are to be handed out to members of the public.

With further news from the staff team I will update you as I am sure you would be anxious to know if Mothers' Union crafting would have to be in any way regulated in future.

God bless,

*Lynne Tembey*

*Worldwide President*

**Editorial: Contributions** should be sent to: Email: [petriecw@virginmedia.com](mailto:petriecw@virginmedia.com) or post to Mrs W Petrie, 120 Meadowburn, Bishopbriggs G64 3LX.

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 2016 to enable distribution at Lady Day or Diocesan Council in order to save on postage. News of branch activities, special birthdays, anniversaries etc. plus photos would be welcome.



Knitting projects



## **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 world-wide.

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

**Do not forget 2016 Mothers' Union diary, year planner and A4 calendars now available.**

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[lesleylucas@gmail.com](mailto:lesleylucas@gmail.com) or via your branch, or shop online at [www.mueshop.org](http://www.mueshop.org)