***St. Dunstan’s Mothers’ Union***

We enjoyed an excellent buffet lunch at the Prince of Wales pub in Malden Road on Monday, 26th January. Staff at the pub were most friendly and efficient and it was good to have our own

dining room. We enjoyed welcoming guests and meeting up with old friends. Please see our pictures in this magazine.

Sally Steele provided an excellent quiz and organized the raffle, proceeds from which will go to Head Office and will be put towards ongoing MU projects, of which there are many.

On Monday 6th  February we held our Branch AGM followed by a Bring and Buy sale. It was a busy meeting with lots to discuss. Towards the end of the meeting, Chris Chambers reminded members that on Sunday, 9th December 2018 St. Dunstan’s MU will be 100 years old and the whole year will be one of celebration.

Lots of thought and planning will need to be done during this coming year to ensure our centenary year is filled with happy and memorable events which will culminate in a service at

St. Dunstan’s on the 9th December 2018, the anniversary of our inauguration.

100 years is a long time. Our MU started when the First World War had just ended – it must have been a very different world from the one we enjoy today. St. Dunstan’s church was there of course, but from that date in December, the St. Dunstan’s branch of Mothers’ Union began and I’m pleased to say, is still very much alive and active today.

Chris confirmed that the committee would very much welcome members’ ideas on the forthcoming celebrations. Some suggestions we’ve had so far: a coach trip with a visit to Mary Sumner’s home at Old Alresford in Hampshire, a barbeque held locally where members can invite friends and family, a trip to the theatre and a delicious meal in a restaurant.

I do hope both MU members and non-members will all join us in our celebrations – it’s a while off yet but I’ll let you know what’s happening and when nearer the time.

Coming up on our programme - on the 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th March and 3rd April we will be hosting a Lent Study Group in the church hall. More information and all the sign-up sheets are available at the back of the church.

On Saturday, 25th March we are hosting the annual Deanery Lady Day service. The service starts at 11.00 am and there is a sandwich lunch afterwards in the church hall. All are invited and we do hope you can come as it’s a beautiful service.

I’ve probably mentioned this before but the name ‘Mothers’ Union’ may be a little confusing to some – please let me reassure you that membership of the MU is not just limited to matronly women with hoards of kids but is very much open and indeed welcoming to women and men of all ages and situations. If you get a minute, have a look on the MU website – I think you’ll be surprised to read about all the many projects MU is working on both in this country and around the world.

**Sue Wass**