**St. Dunstan’s Mothers’ Union**

On behalf of the members of St. Dunstan’s MU committee, may I wish you all a very Happy New Year.

As you may remember, 2018 is a special year for St. Dunstan’s MU as this year we celebrate our centenary and the whole of this year will be one of celebration - but more about that later.

The committee would also like to thank those who kindly provided Christmas presents for the children of prisoners at Downsview and High Down. We were told the children were delighted with the presents and their parents very much appreciated your kindness and generosity.

Our first meeting of the year started with a mix of music and laughter – a wonderful combination. Sally Steele’s son-in-law, Tony kindly provided us with an excellent quiz, featuring questions on popular music and the singers from the 1920s, 1930s, 1940, 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. It was great fun and more than one table found it very difficult when tunes were being played, not to sing the actual song titles out loud – thereby giving the answer away to others.

Sally’s daughter Fiona did an excellent job as DJ; even managing to keep focused through the many periods of laughter. Thanks again to Tony, Fiona and Sally – it really brightened up a dark, damp, January afternoon and brought back I’m sure, many happy memories to us all.

Coming up in our programme - at our next meeting on the 6th February we will be holding our branch AGM, followed by a Bring and Buy sale. Do try and attend this important meeting as it’s a special year for St. Dunstan’s MU and there will lots for us to discuss.

We shall also be hosting one of the parish’s Lent Study Groups. The meetings will be held on Monday, 19th March, Monday, 26th February, Monday, 5th March, Monday, 12th March and Monday, 19th March in the church hall, starting at

2.00 pm. Everyone is welcome to come. Further details to follow.

As part of our centenary celebrations, on Monday, 4th June we are planning a coach trip to Mary Sumner’s house in Old Alresford in Hampshire. Depending on final numbers, we are hoping to keep the cost of the coach fare at around £15 a head.

It sounds like being a delightful day out. We board the coach in Cheam at about 10.30 am and travel to New Alresford where you can buy lunch. After lunch we continue by coach to Old Alresford where we can go into the church and see the plaque dedicated to Mary Sumner; this is followed by a guided tour of her house. We then have time for tea before setting off home again. We should arrive back in Cheam between 5.00 pm and 6.00 pm.

As we’ll need to book the coach quite soon, if you’d like to join us – please contact Sally Steele or any member of the committee. A deposit of £10 is required now – final details of times and coach fare will follow. Entry to both the church and Mary Sumner house is free. Do hope you can join us.

**Sue Wass**