



Spring 2014



Our President's Letter

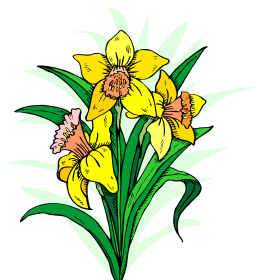
*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up;
do you not perceive it? I am making a way in
the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.
(Isaiah 3:19)*

Dear friends,

We are now well into the New Year and this is the first edition of the new style LinkUp. For many of you this is the first time you will have received a members' publication. As Diocesan President, I want all members to know what Mothers' Union is doing within the Diocese, the UK and worldwide. I hope it will be short enough to read at one sitting but interesting enough to keep handy until the next issue.

So get the kettle on, make a cuppa and read on.

I am privileged to have a bird's eye view of the Diocese as I visit lots of branches. Every one is different which makes it more exciting, so I'm hoping in future issues you will be able to read about some of the variety of things going on, from pamper evenings, strawberry teas to monthly meetings in pubs. Members can get together in whatever way suits their needs for fellowship and encouragement but all, prayerfully, lead into service in the community. At this time of year there is an opportunity to reach a wider network through Count Your Blessings and Make a Mother's Day.



Why not buy an ethical gift this year, either as a group or individual? It can be as a Mothering Sunday gift or in memory of your mother. For those of us who are involved in planning and leading worship, there are excellent Mothering Sunday resources on the website www.makeamothersday.org.

The running of the Diocesan Mothers' Union under the board of Trustees is shared between 4 Units; *Marketing (MUE)* [called Fundraising and Communication (F&C) by MSH], *Finance and Administration (F&A)*, *Action and Outreach (A&O)* and *Faith and Policy (F&P)*. There will be news from each Unit as well as from branches so do write in with either some news to share or a question you'd like answered.

This is YOUR newsletter.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Susan, Christine and Ashleigh for their sterling work in producing Linkup for the last 4 years and Julia, Sophia and all those involved in the editing and distribution of the new version. I am so grateful for all your hard work.

As Bishop Tony has said 'success is spelt T-E-A-M-W-O-R-K'.

Now I fancy trying a new recipe for dinner, let's have a think....

With my love and Prayers,

Lucille Porter

MU Diocesan AGM & Council Meeting

You are all invited our AGM on
Monday 30th June 2014 7.00pm - 9.00pm
Trebeck Hall (Main Room), Bishop's Drive, Southwell NG25 0JP
(This is much more interesting than it sounds)

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS - LENT 2014

This year the Count Your Blessings leaflet has been distributed thanks to the help of Deanery Leaders. Please ask your Branch Leader for a copy if you have not yet received one.

The Trustees have agreed that this year we will support the MU Wheels Appeal and diocesan funds. Leaflets about the Wheels Appeal project were included in the branch parcels. The money raised will be used to provide transport for MU workers in all parts of the world so that they can visit members and support them in so many ways.

We do hope that you will continue to support Count Your Blessings in this diocese. Please encourage your family, friends and members of your congregation to take part. The leaflet may be photocopied if necessary.

After Easter, please send a cheque covering the amount you have raised to our Diocesan Treasurer Mr. Graham Noon.

Thank you, *Sheila Allton*

The Celts liked to pray about anything and everything in a natural way. Prayers for frequent activities were learned by heart and handed down by word of mouth or later in writing. Some of their prayers are blessings.

Bless to me, O God
Each thing my eye sees,
Each sound my ear hears,
Each person I meet.



The Mothers' Union enewsletter is full of up-to-date information and articles which can be downloaded.

If you would like to subscribe to the Mothers' Union monthly enewsletter, type www.themothersunion.org/ into

your search engine and you will be able to subscribe at the bottom of the main page of the Mothers' Union web site.

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

**MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER**

Archdeaconry News

Newark Archdeaconry Day

Our next Archdeaconry Day is on *Thursday 8 March* at the Jubilee Hall, Wellow Road, Ollerton, NG22 9BB. The speaker will be The Revd. Tony Kerswill who does beautiful slides with meditations - I can recommend the talk. So please be there and bring friends with you.

Thank you for the support for the December meeting - we have had very good feedback from it. See you in March.

Thursday 5th June 2014 from 7 - 9pm - evening meeting - St. Paulinus, Church Circle, Ollerton, NG22 9SZ (please note the different venue)

Ann Hickman - VP Newark Archdeaconry

Nottingham Archdeaconry Day

By the time you read this we will be well into Lent and Christmas will be far behind us.

The first Archdeaconry Day of 2014 is *Monday March 3rd* at St. Jude's Church Hall, 405 Woodborough Road, Mapperley, Nottingham, NG3 5HE, when The Revd. Lucy Cleland, the Bishop's Chaplain, will be talking about her "Journey to the Priesthood and life as a Bishop's Chaplain" I do hope you will be there. East Bingham Deanery will be responsible for serving Coffee setting up and helping on the Book Stall.

Monday June 2nd 7pm - 9pm evening meeting " A Good Yarn" bring a friend

Janet Clothier - VP Nottingham Archdeaconry

Branch & Deanery News

Mary Norris, Branch Leader writes that St Mary's Arnold celebrated its 125th anniversary in December with a special meeting during which we learned about the beginnings of the group in 1888, and some of what has happened since then, with talks from 3 ex-Branch Leaders. One of our present members made a stunning birthday cake which we all enjoyed.



Retford & Bawtry Area Deanery

10th July, Festival Service at Ranskill 7pm

22nd July, Everton Garden Fete 2pm

24th November, Advent Service, St. John's East Markham, tbc

Patricia Bee, Deanery Secretary

West Bingham Deanery

are holding their Lady Day service at 2 pm at Holy Rood Church, Edwalton, on Tuesday 25 March.

All are welcome. Refreshments will follow the service.

Sheila Christophers

News from East Leake

It is with great sadness that I write of the death of one of our members. *Janet Kinder* joined in the mid 1990's, when she and her husband, *Harry*, moved to East Leake. She will be fondly remembered by all of us for her lovely smile, great faith, love and support.

With joy, we welcome the Revd. Pat Edwards, who wears her badge with pride; she is pictured with the Revd. Tim Parker. Welcome also to Eileen Price who has transferred from Deanery membership to our branch.



As I write this we are looking forward to hosting the Big Promise at St Mary's East Leake and being part of the record breaking attempt. Full report in next Link-Up. Anyone else taking part?

Pauline Wainwright

My husband and I took 2 large bags of premature baby clothes and 10 teddies to the neo-natal unit at the Queens Medical Centre. I recently received a letter of grateful thanks from the staff and the parents who used the clothes.

Thanks again and keep on knitting!

Sheila Christophers.



Make a Mother's Day

This Mothering Sunday help change a life

By using <http://makeamothersday.org/> you will find more information about the Mothers' Union's Mothering Sunday Resources.

- ⊗ Download your free Make a Mother's Day Church resources.
- ⊗ Share this link with friends and help spread the word about Make a Mother's Day.
- ⊗ Offer to help your church to hold a Mothering Sunday service in aid of Mothers' Union or encourage your Sunday school to take part in some of the children's activities.

News from St. Martin's, Sherwood

Here at St Martin's in Sherwood we hold a coffee morning on the last Monday of the month (this was an offshoot of the holiday at home, which runs for four days in July).

The coffee morning is very well attended; people come from other churches to enjoy coffee, cakes, a quiz and most important fellowship. The last one was held on December 2nd. When it ended at midday, a coach came to the church and 30+ all went to Ramsdale Golf Club, where we enjoyed a lovely Christmas meal served by really nice staff. After a three course meal, plus coffee or mince pies, we had a short game of bingo, and then ended by singing carols. We were taken in the coach back to church, from where we made our way back to our own homes. It was a very happy occasion to begin our Christmas season and our journey to the stable.

Brenda Charles, a new member

Midday Prayers

Mothers' Union Members are encouraged to pray at midday (local time) as part of a Wave of Prayer. Use the following link to find the current prayers:-

www.mothersunion.org/get-involved/pray-worship/wave-prayer



Handbook Amendments

St Jude's Mapperley

Please send ALL contacts to Mrs Maureen Evans, Branch Leader (Please do not trouble Mrs Pat Duncombe.)

Hucknall Branch

Please send ALL correspondence to Sheila Hicklin, Branch Secretary (Please do not trouble Mrs Ann Hancock)

The *MU Diocesan Handbook* contains details about the work of our Mothers' Union and all contact details for Diocesan



Workers & Branch Officers.



Each Branch should have a copy.

Diocesan Members' Report - Spring 2014



Please pray for Diocesan Members who, at the moment, are unwell and undergoing treatment.

We have 95 Diocesan members, including 5 couples who are Joint Members.

We are pleased to give a warm welcome our new Diocesan Members:- Mrs. Cathy Picken, Mrs. Esther Yabbacome and The Revd. David Yabbacome.

We also welcome Miss Christine Peet and Mrs Eileen Naylor who have transferred from Deanery and Branch Membership to Diocesan Membership.

I would like to say "Thank You" to everyone for their kind wishes and prayers over the last few months. Happily I'm back on my feet (so to speak).

Julia Holloway - Diocesan Members' Coordinator

BRING ME SUNSHINE

2014 TOUR

WWW.CAREFORTHEFAMILY.ORG.UK/SUNSHINE

029 2081 0800

Gloucester	11 March
Maidenhead	12 March
Tonbridge	19 March
Southampton	20 March
Wrexham	26 March
Stoke on Trent	27 March
Norwich	13 May
Nottingham	14 May
Colchester	15 May
Lurgan	19 Jun

WITH **ROB PARSONS**



PLUS SPECIAL GUEST **JOHN ARCHER**



This event will be held on May 14th at

The Albany Suite
Nottingham NG1 6BN

at 7.30pm.

Tickets £5

An Easter Blessing

The power of the Creator who brings life out of death,
be in this place.

The risen Christ be your constant companion.

The healing embrace of the Holy Spirit encircle you
so that you see resurrection ever about you.

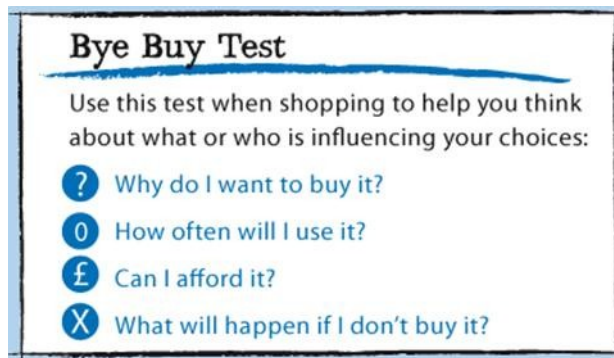


Chris Polhill

Social Policy Report

Social Policy

Bye buy childhood: new website was launched in September www.byebuychildhood.org The Social Policy Team is evaluating the campaign. All valuable contributions made by members and supporters to the aims of the campaign have been noted and the Team are stepping back to see how much impact our contributions and lobbying have had. It is expected this will be completed early this year and the Team are looking forward to the next stage.



'Labelled for Life - Managing the Commercial World as a Family' (a Bye Buy Childhood resource): 2000 extra copies are available from Brenda at Mary Sumner House £2.00 each with a discount for bulk orders. An updated version is to be produced later this year.

16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence 25.11-10.12.2013 Members across the world took part. Many used the resource pack Mothers' Union produced, and carried out activities such as silent vigils, prayer trees and social media activities - it's been great to see just how passionate members have been about getting involved. We will be participating again in 2014.

Shared Parental Leave will be operating from 2015. Parents will be able to decide on a pattern of shared leave and

propose it to their employers, and can change this proposed pattern up to three times. Employers will retain the ability to say no to Shared Parental leave for their employee.

Clare's Law: is to be extended to the whole of the UK after being piloted in four areas, giving partners of known perpetrators of domestic violence the 'right to ask' police for information, and also the 'right to know' allowing police to proactively contact someone who may be vulnerable to abuse by a known perpetrator. It is named after Clare Wood who was murdered by a former boyfriend in 2009.

Hand in Hand is a booklet to help families include faith as a normal part of their life together. The second edition is selling well with continued interest from many churches, including as a resource for Baptismal families.

There is to be a further consultation on the draft changes to the Video Recordings Act, Mothers' Union is responding to this.

We have a new Head of Faith and Policy at Mary Sumner House, Lucinda Hasell - previously with Childnet, an organisation that works to make the internet a safe place for children.

Margaret Lewis - Social Policy Contact

MUe Information

MUe's Marketing

It has been a time of change in the Literature Department, with Marion Morris' sudden death last February, and the literature and cards now being kept at the new Diocesan Office, Jubilee House. Thank you for bearing with us as we found our feet.

We are pleased that Christine Baldwin has become the new Rep for MUe. She hopes to attend Nottingham Archdeaconry Days. She will be helped by Sue Pinkney from Greasley Branch. Sue hopes to attend Newark Archdeaconry Days and Deanery Festivals etc. in Newstead Deanery or near to Eastwood, and also take orders.

Olwen Kerswill will keep a few cards and will order for people in the North of the Diocese.

A couple of ladies offered to take orders in their own Deanery. Is anyone else willing to have a box of cards to sell to their branch, or order just for their Deanery? The reps are willing to post orders to individuals, but we must have our postage repaid. Please plan ahead and be prepared to wait until we have sufficient orders for a parcel, which now has to be to the value of **£50 or more to get free postage**. They take about 2 to 3 weeks. Urgent orders can be delivered the next day, but that is £10. However, if you would keep a box of £50 worth of basic cards for your branch you could have them delivered to your home free and then sell them as you are able. Cheques are to be made out to **Mothers' Union Southwell & Nottingham**. The Diocese gets 10% commission on all orders.

Please support us at MUE. The cards are excellent quality, often with a biblical or appropriate verse, have details of Mothers' Union on the back, and are often cheaper than the local shops. It is a really important part of our Outreach.

Sue and Janet Davies represented MU at the Clergy Conference at Swanwick in September and gave all the clergy some literature about Mothers' Union.

Sue Pinkney

CONTACT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING FOR YOUR MUE SUPPLIES

CHRISTINE BALDWIN, 60 Wimbledon Road, Sherwood,
Nottingham NG5 1GU Tel: 0115 962 2436
baldwinssherwood@ntlworld.com

SUE PINKNEY, 38 Dovecote Road, Hilltop, Eastwood,
Nottingham NG6 0GD Tel: 01773 713587
sue@hilltop38wanadoo.co.uk

OLWEN KERSWILL, Tenterflat Cottage, Tenterflat Lane, Retford,
Notts DN22 7PZ Tel: 01777 862533
o.kerswill@btinternet.com

*ZMUEg
Marketing*

*Congratulations to all who are celebrating
Special Birthdays*

90TH BIRTHDAYS

Dorothy Arnold on 2nd February 2014 - Bingham
Margery Sharp on 25th February 2014 - Ollerton



*Congratulations to all who have recently
married or who are celebrating
Special Wedding Anniversaries*

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mary and Rick Colley on 15th February 2014 - St. Thomas' Kirkby-in-Ashfield Branch

Anthony and Elizabeth Watts on March 30th 2014 - Bingham Branch

Pauline and John Hatton on 9th May 2014 - Pauline is Branch Leader at the Three Crosses Group

DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Lorna and Arthur Read on 10th April 2014 - Lorna is Secretary of Three Crosses Group

BLUE SAPPHIRE WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

The Revd. Frank and Mrs Joyce Crowther on 29th January 2014 - Joyce is an Indoor Member attached to St. Michael and All Angels Branch, Sutton-in-Ashfield

DID YOU KNOW THESE SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES?

45 years is Sapphire	75years is Diamond & Gold
55years is Emerald	80years is Oak
65years is Blue Sapphire	85years is Wine
70 years is Platinum	90 years is Stone

Long Service Certificates

Beeston Branch

40 years Chris Warren

25 years Christine Knight, Janet Toseland

From your Editors

It's always good to get articles and pictures from individuals, groups, branches or deaneries with reports of events or details of things coming up. 400 words max please.



This is a newsletter for **ALL** our members, please use it to let everyone know what's happening near you *Black and white or colour copies can be downloaded and printed from our Mothers' Union website at <http://muenterprises.org/southwellnottinghammu/>*

Items for the next issue should be sent to :

Sophia Popham
109 Diamond Ave,
Kirkby-in-Ashfield,
Notts
NG17 7LX

or

Julia Holloway
6 Aylesbury Way,
Forest Town,
Mansfield,
Notts NG19 0GJ

or emailed to

mulinkup@gmail.com

by: 30th April 2014

Diocesan Information

Diocesan Office: Jubilee House, Westgate
Southwell, Notts, NG25 0JL

Diocesan President: Mrs Lucille Porter

Diocesan Secretary: Mrs Alison Jacobson

email: musecretary@southwell.anglican.org

(This is the new email address)

Registered Charity No. 249878

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