



*Our
President's
Letter...*



Autumn 2014

I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

*For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.
2 Tim 1:5-7*

Dear friends,

Did you attend a different church over the Summer? How was your welcome? How do you welcome visitors to your church or branch meeting? It can be embarrassing if you introduce yourself and find they have been coming for the last six months and we hadn't noticed. I sometimes say, 'I don't think I've spoken to you before....' A couple of times I've received the reply, 'Yes you have!' but usually it is appreciated that I've made the effort! Feeling welcome and that we belong to a group is so important but building new relationships always takes time and effort.

Soon we shall be given information about our new overseas Links. I have been asked to submit information about the Diocese to be sent to our links, including a favourite verse from Scripture. I included the verses above because they not only emphasise the importance of Faith in the Family, Timothy's mother and grandmother both helped him in his faith, but they also remind us that the Holy Spirit does not want us to be timid but He gives us power, love and self-control.

A few of us recently returned from the General Meeting in Belfast. We were welcomed right from arrival with a welcome 'mat' on the airport walkway! There is a more detailed report elsewhere in this LinkUp. You have probably heard that we shall be hosting next year's meeting. Let's be

bold and make all our visitors feel really welcome to Nottingham. Start thinking of ideas of souvenirs we can commission to sell and book your coach for June 26th from your Deanery.



In the meantime, don't forget to spread the word about our Passionate about Parenting Day in Warsop on 1st November.

There will be workshops on lots of aspects of family life and Sheran Harper, Worldwide Parenting trainer, will be our guest speaker.

It is always good to work in partnership and we have been invited to knit poppies to support Radio Nottingham's Tribute to Nottinghamshire's 11,000 WW1 fallen men and women. If you would like a pattern, let me know.

Thank you to all those who attended and contributed to the Annual Meeting held in Trebeck on June 30th. It was good to see new faces and to share what we are doing in the Diocese and further afield. My dad was amused that some of you wanted to raffle him off!

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at events in the Autumn, but for now I think I'll call in for a cuppa with that new lady from church

With love and prayers, *Lucille Porter*

(Bishop Tony and I would like to thank you all for your many cards and greetings on the occasion of our recent Ruby Wedding)

Guest speaker: Sheran Harper from Guyana.

Date: 1st November 2014

Place: Tudor Barn, Warsop, Mansfield NG20 0SN

Time: 10am-3pm. Lunch included. The Mothers' Union

are partnering with the Diocesan Education Dept to present a 'Passionate about Parenting' Day. There will be workshops on current family issues - Digital Safety, Faith in the Family, Help I've got a teenager in the family! More details and booking forms from Alison or Lucille.

Book soon as the event with its range of workshops is already sparking quite a lot of interest in the diocese!

Unfortunately, our guest speaker for Passionate about Parenting, Sheran Harper, has to be at Central Trustees by 3.30pm at High Leigh, Hoddesdon Herts. Is there someone who would be prepared to drive her there and have expenses reimbursed?

Please contact Alison or Lucille if you can help.



Please pray for:-

- ✦ all Mothers' Union Members or their families who are ill at this time
- ✦ all those who are going through difficult times at the moment
- ✦ all Christians who are being persecuted for their faith
- ✦ all those who are caught up in conflict at this time



Knit Notts Poppies with BBC Radio Nottingham



Knit Notts Poppies with BBC Radio Nottingham. During the 100th anniversary of World War 1, BBC Radio Nottingham wants you to get knitting or crocheting poppies - 11000 poppies to mark each of the 11000 fallen men from Nottinghamshire during the Great War. Whether you knit one or one hundred poppies, you will be commemorating those who lost their lives in the WW1.

Look at www.facebook.com/BBCRadioNottingham for patterns and further details. You can also find lots of free poppy patterns online. The poppies will be donated to the Poppy Appeal and the deadline is 22nd October 2014.

You can post or bring your poppies to BBC Radio Nottingham, London Road, Nottingham NG2 4UU or ring 0115 9550500.

Thank you for being part of this project. *Sophie Shardlow*
(Asst Editor BBC Nottingham. Sophie.shardlow@bbc.co.uk . @sophieshardlow)
(patterns can also be obtained from Lucille or mulinkup@gmail.com)



Did you know?



We know that our flower of Remembrance is the humble poppy which grew so profusely in Flanders fields.



But did you know that the French flower of Remembrance is the cornflower - le bleuet?



The Celtic way is to bless everything in life (except evil), however earthy or everyday, all round the clock:-

*May there always be work for your hands to do,
May your purse always hold a coin or two,
May the sun always shine upon your window pane,
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain,
May the hand of a friend be always near to you, and
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.*



PLEASE
NOTE

MU Diocesan Secretary: Mrs Alison Jacobson
email: musecretary@southwell.anglican.org

(This is the correct email address)



2015 General Meeting will be held in Nottingham

Services will be held on Thursday evening 25th June 2015 in Southwell Minster and St Mary's in the Lacemarket.

The **General Meeting** will be held in the Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham on Friday 26th June
Details about booking tickets will be announced later

Archdeaconry News

Newark Archdeaconry Day Our October 2nd speaker will be the Revd David Post. David has worked closely with Canon Andrew White, the Vicar of Baghdad, and visited him there. It is a fascinating talk giving a real insight into the Christian life there and particularly the strength of the Mothers' Union Branch. Looking toward to seeing everyone there. *Ann Hickman*

Nottingham Archdeaconry Day I hope you have all had a great summer with this lovely weather! Our Archdeaconry Day Speaker is no longer Peter Hill (Richard and I were privileged to be at his Consecration as Bishop of Barking in St Paul's Cathedral). Alison Cox, who went to Israel with Peter Hill, is going to talk on the same subject. I look forward to seeing her and you all on October 6th. *Janet Clothier*

Branch & Deanery News

Carlton-in-Lindrick Branch had a very interesting talk in June given by Mrs Desiree Noon from Etwell on Well Dressing. *Joan Owen*

Diocesan Members' had a happy gathering at a social and information evening at St Peter's Ravenshead on 12th June. We were pleased to welcome a number of members from other parts of the Diocese, and also a few people who are not yet members. Everyone was very friendly and pleased to meet members they did not already know. Julia Holloway opened with some prayers and then Olwen Kerswill brought her CCMP (Church and Community Mobilization Project) game which we enjoyed, and it gave us much to think about in the way we help other countries. Pat Atkins had another engagement that evening but emailed the power point presentation on North Queensland Australia which was most informative. *Hilary Newenham*



East Bingham Deanery Festival at Keyworth on 26th June was a joyful celebration with worship led by Richard Clothier and intercessions by Diana Lloyd. Our Archdeaconry Chaplain, the Revd. Robert Breckles, preached on the theme of finding delight in the Lord. The lesson readers were Jean Meredith and Val Jones.



Banners were carried by Doris Smith for Keyworth, Hilary Lee for East Bridgford, Derrick Gierth, for the Deanery and Jane Fountain carried the Diocesan banner.

We were very glad to welcome a new member Daphne Butler (*1st right*



in picture), enrolled by Janet Clothier our Vice President. Lucille, having very recently returned from Belfast, spoke about the presentations at the General Meeting there and brought the exciting news that the 2015 MU General Meeting is to be held in Nottingham.

Brenda Lord, Branch Leader and all her members made us very welcome and provided delicious refreshments after the Service. Thank you, Keyworth Branch. *Jen Gierth*

Mansfield Deanery held a social evening in the Stable Centre, Mansfield Woodhouse on Wednesday 25th June. We held a cake stall where we sold Mothers Union plates with cakes on along with other cakes. We also held a raffle and had a faith supper. During the evening a quiz was held about different cheeses and also a quiz about the British Coastline. We raised approx £120 for Mothers Union funds whilst having a great time sharing together. *Irene Garratt*



Newstead Deanery Festival / St. Mary Magdalene United Service took place at St. Mary Magdalene, Sutton-in-Ashfield on Tuesday 1st July. Approx 80 people were in attendance, including members from local groups. The service was Eucharist with incense, the choir were in attendance and the Church bells were rung. The Preacher was Fr. David Picken, and the service led by Fr. David James.

Long Service Certificates were presented:-

10 years Newstead - Marcia Burton, Margaret Callister, Audrey Godber, Janet Sowter and Irene Stokes

10 years Hucknall - Revd. Kathryn Herrod, Christine Chadwick, Carol Woodward and Maureen Furlong

25 years St. Michael's, Sutton-in-Ashfield - Suzanne Brunt

30 years St. Mary's, Sutton-in-Ashfield - Shirley Barnes

60 years St. Helen's, Selston - Shelagh Ingham

The collection was for The Wheels Appeal - *Anne Hensby Deanery / Branch Leader*

St Paul's Wilford Hill (West Bingham Deanery) held a coffee morning on Mary Sumner Day 10.00 to 11.30.

Bingham Branch will be decorating a tree and helping with refreshments, etc during the Christmas Tree Festival at Bingham Parish Church from Thursday December 4th until Sunday December 7th. Our Christmas Tree Festival this year will involve up to 80 trees

provided by many businesses and organisations in the community. This is an ideal opportunity to further our outreach to the people of Bingham. Times of the event are Thurs 4th 10.30 – 19.00; Fri 5th 09.30 – 21.00; Sat 6th 09.30 17.30; Sun 7th 11.30 – 17.30 with a Carols of Praise to follow at 1830. *Marilyn Kirkbride, Branch Leader*

Mattersey & Clayworth Branch Long Service Certificate 70 years
Mary Simpson Everton

St Mary's Greasley held a cake and tea afternoon on June 16th and raised £220 for the Wheels Appeal. A very pleasant time was shared with members from three other branches and visitors. Branch members made an assortment of delicious cakes giving all an opportunity to put on those extra pounds!

Mary and Martha Day - Nottingham Archdeaconry will be on *Friday, November 7th 2014* in Keyworth Parochial Hall (Selby Lane, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5AH) Coffee at 10 am and end at 3 pm. Please bring your own lunch. Drinks will be available throughout the day. The cost for the day is £2. For more details contact Olwen Kerswill on 01777 862533 or o.kerswill@btinternet.com

St Thomas' Church, Kirkby-in-Ashfield were inspired by a craft group run at St Wilfrid's Church, and St Thomas' MU are starting a craft drop in on Monday mornings, providing tea and toast, and help and advice for people to bring along their craft projects.

We tried it out in the hall in the summer and intend to advertise it from September. We found we learnt new skills, laughed a lot, met new people and relaxed together.

Sue and John Banks are very grateful for all the prayers, cards and messages of support following Sue's operation, then John's fall and subsequent operation.

We're both making good progress and John is now home.


The current total for '***Count Your Blessings***' this Lent is £4,502. 
Please let Graham Noon have any outstanding money as soon as 
possible. Thank you to everyone who contributed this year. 


LinkUp This year is proving a learning time for us as Editors of LinkUp! As the four editions of LinkUp aim to come out in time for the Archdeaconry Days, next year's Summer Edition will include September and the new deadlines for 2015 copy will be *31st January, 30th April, 31st August, 31st October*.

We hope you are enjoying your new style LinkUp. *Sophia and Julia*

Reflection - Faithful in Prayer

When a believing person prays, great things happen. James 5:16

As Christians we know the importance of prayer - in our personal lives, as we support one another and as an essential foundation for our work as a charity.

But we sometimes need help to engage effectively in prayer. We value guidance in articulating our thoughts and forming our requests; we can benefit from ideas to find appropriate space for prayer and ways in which we can encourage each other.

It is good to be reminded of the truth of what prayer achieves and that God loves to hear our prayers and is ready to answer our requests, in his time and in his way.

Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance, but laying hold of His willingness - Martin Luther

- ✦ Prayer connects us to God and God's power. Changes take place when we pray. Sometimes the issue is transformed, at other times we are the ones changed. Either way, God's power is at work.
- ✦ Prayer is a way of sharing our burden. Some problems are difficult to share with another human being. The issue may involve deep guilt or shame, making it difficult to confide in a friend. In such cases, prayer can help ease the burden.
- ✦ Prayer reduces feelings of helplessness. Rather than feeling as though life is out of control, when we pray, we take the first step in reclaiming our lives and putting order into chaos.
- ✦ Prayer is a powerful reminder that we are not alone. Life's troubles often leave us feeling isolated, lonely, and vulnerable. Prayer reminds us that we are not facing difficulty alone.
- ✦ Prayer generates courage. We become strengthened, and more confident as a result of prayer.

Prayer provides us with a sense of direction. Rather than merely being tossed about on life's sea, we receive insight, guidance, and direction from prayer. *From the MU website*

Mid Day Prayers Every Monday to Friday prayers are said at Noon in the chapel of Mary Sumner House in Westminster, London. These are open to all, whether staff or visitors. Do join us when visiting the city. Use the following link to find the current prayers:-
www.mothersunion.org/get-involved/pray-worship/wave-prayer
Many members worldwide pray at noon in local time using these prayers.

The Mothers' Union newsletter has up-to-date information and articles which can be downloaded from www.mothersunion.org/

Emergency Prayer Chain

Many of you will already know that for many, many years Southwell & Nottingham Mothers' Union has offered the support of an *emergency prayer chain* and many have personal experiences of its power. However, when things have been around for a long time, it's all too easy to assume everyone knows about it and how it works. That is, of course, not always the case and, remembering this, your Faith & Policy committee feel a reminder may be timely, especially for new members.

How often do we say, "*I suppose all we can do is pray*" and often mean by that that we feel so powerless to help we feel totally useless. But countless members who have been powerfully upheld by our diocesan Mothers' Union *Emergency Prayer Chain*, are all able to testify that more really IS wrought by prayer than this world dreamed of. "We know that," you say," but why do we need **another** prayer chain when we are so lovingly prayed for already by our friends and church families?" We all experience awful crises in our lives or have to go through such times with friends or family. To know we are supported, surrounded and upheld by an even greater surge of prayer then, may well be all that can get us through. These are exactly the times to turn to the Diocesan Mothers' Union Emergency Prayer Chain.

So, how does it work?

You phone your Deanery Faith & Policy rep, Deanery Leader or me and give us:

- ✦ the name of the person you wish us to pray for
- ✦ the Branch and Deanery she/he is associated with
- ✦ as much or as little information about their situation as you wish to share

*(we will keep everything in the strictest confidence within the Chain and **never** leave on answering machines or with call minders)*

Whoever receives the call will set the chain in motion and the message will be received by the 16 people on the Chain within a very short while, usually an hour or two. All 16 people will prayer for that person / situation daily for two weeks (or longer if you think that would be good.) If you would like to know more, please do phone me (01777 862533) and I'll be pleased to chat, *With love, Olwen Kerswill*

Expenses Claims Reminder to Diocesan Officers and also Deanery and Branch Committees - Please submit any expenses claims to the appropriate treasurer by November 30th at the latest so that their accounts can be finalised by December 31st. *Sheila Allton*

Mue

MUE
Marketing

We sold goods at the June Archdeaconry Days, and Sue attended some branch meetings and two Deanery Festivals during June and July with the cards. Everyone is so welcoming and helpful. Thank You. Our new cards are proving popular, as are the small Holding Crosses which sold very quickly. We have re-ordered these.

We now have the new catalogues (no. 18) and Sue has the initial supply of Year Planners at £2.80 each. The 2015 diaries, which are improved and priced at £3.80, have just arrived. They are a lovely teal colour. They will be on sale at both Archdeaconry Days in October. If you need them sooner please contact Sue or Olwen and we will see what can be arranged. There is also a Wedding Anniversary card for 'Our Anniversary' in the new catalogue, so hopefully our comments helped to bring this about.

If there is anything specific that you would like to see stocked, please contact one of us and we can pass the message on to Mary Sumner House.

The next immediate job is to order a selection of Christmas Cards. It would really help us, especially in the run up to Christmas, if you have orders over **£50.00**, you could send them direct to London. You will get **free postage** and the parcel could then be delivered to someone in your branch. Maybe two nearby branches could make up an order. Don't forget to quote 'Southwell & Nottingham Diocese' to enable Graham Noon, our Diocesan Treasurer, to reclaim the 10% commission. Orders usually take 2 to 3 weeks, but for a payment of £10 they can be delivered the next day, if urgent. *Please* do keep using MUE cards and goods, as they are a good way to support our outreach.

The reps are willing to post orders to you, but we must have our postage repaid. Cheques are to be made out to **Mothers' Union Southwell & Nottingham**. *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
NG16 3EZ Tel: 01773 713587 sue@hilltop38.wanadoo.co.uk

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

Burundi Trip

As many of you know I am going to Burundi in October to represent Mothers' Union on a Gedling Deanery and Borough visit. My remit is Women's issues and to look at the vital and important work Mothers' Union does in this very deprived country - Burundi is amongst the three poorest countries in the world!!!



I have been over whelmed by the generosity of so many of you who have sent donations to cover the cost of this trip. It is costing in the region of £1,500 and just over £1,000 has been raised so far. Thank you for supporting this venture and on my return I will be very happy to share with you my experiences and what I have learned - I already have bookings at some of your branches for next year.

Thank you all once more and I pray that the Lord will bless this trip and use it to further his kingdom. *Helen Catchpole*

Bishop tells of peace and poverty in Burundi

The Bishop of Bujumbura, Burundi, spoke to the Mothers' Union in Woodthorpe. Bishop Eraste Bigirimana said children wanted to go to school but there were often 100 in a class with only one teacher and two or three books. Some children could not go because of a shortage of equipment, or because they had nothing to eat. The Church pays for some children to go to school to give families a better future and a chance of breaking out of the cycle of poverty that many take for granted. Bishop Eraste was visiting Southwell and Nottingham Diocese after attending a meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council Standing Committee in London. He said he wanted to strengthen the existing partnership between the diocese and Burundi, adding that there was a longstanding link with St Mark's going back to the 1970s. Bujumbura is the capital of Burundi, though the diocese also includes a large rural area. The country was devastated by civil war for 12 years but now there is peace, and the Bishop thanked God for that and urged people to pray for the work of the Church. Rosemary Cottingham, who worked for the Province of Burundi from 2001 to 2013, also spoke at the meeting about how the Mothers' Union is involved in projects that empower women; one of them teaches them how to save, to take out small loans, and to start their own businesses. Rosemary went from St Mark's to Burundi

in 2001 to set up an office of communications in the province and to start to put together a history of the Anglican Church in the country. Also at the MU meeting were Lucille Porter (Diocesan President) and Maureen Rodgers (Gedling Deanery Leader). *Sheila Bancroft*

Southwell Ploughing Match Mothers' Union are offering facilities for baby feeding and changing at the *Ploughing Match*. It will be held on Saturday September 27th in *Bulcote* (Burton Joyce). If you would like to join the rota please contact *Lucille* or *Alison*.



It will be a great opportunity to offer a friendly service to young families as well as chatting about Mothers' Union.

Planning your 2015 Branch Programme The theme for 2015 is *United in Prayer* so please bear this in mind when planning next year's programme. This is a particularly poignant theme because in 2015 we shall have new Diocesan prayer links and will also have different dates when we are remembered in the MU Wave of Prayer, so we shall need to get to know new diocesan links in different parts of the world. The Diocesan Speakers will be planning talks and activities based on the theme so please look in your handbook and invite them to your branch. In addition, Helen Catchpole will be visiting Burundi in October as the MU Rep on Gedling Deanery and Borough visit to that country and she is looking forward to telling branches and deaneries about her trip. *Sheila Allton*

AFIA



A big thank you to all of you for supporting the Away From It All Holidays. 8 families enjoyed a week in a caravan at Mablethorpe in May. The weather was appalling but it was reported that all that went enjoyed themselves. We can book the caravans, but not the weather!!!! Also this year we have sent 3 youngsters on a church youth camp who otherwise would not have been able to go, an older lady on a coach holiday and paid for a bus to take a group of elderly on a day out - none of these people would have enjoyed a break if it had not been for AFIA - so again our thanks. All who have had a holiday with us this year will receive a festive Christmas hamper. Our visitors will purchase and make up the hampers to the value of £50 - so if you would like and are able to support this, please send your donations to the treasurer, Graham Noon marked AFIA Hampers.

Your generosity always amazes me. Without your support and prayers this important work would not happen. *Helen Catchpole*

Mothers' Union General Meeting 2014 was held at The Water Front, Belfast. As usual there was a great "buzz" as friends came together with greetings and good wishes. We started with a short service led by The Very Revd Raymond Ferguson, Dean of Kilmore and All Ireland Mothers' Union Chaplain, the theme being "The fruit of the Spirit is love."

Lynne Tembey, World Wide President said what a privilege it is to be part of the Mothers' Union and how proud she is of it. The unexpected acts of kindness we show to others, increases a sense of wellbeing. She is encouraged by the many success stories.

The Provincial Presidents: Phyllis Grothier (Ireland); Barbara Taylor (York); Felicity Hawke (Canterbury); Ann Gill (Wales); Jean McPherson Richardson (Scotland) spoke of work being done throughout the country. Projects included: "Tasty meals for Tots & Teens"; Active with Prison Work; Working with wedding couples; "Eat, Chat and Pray" meetings and many more ideas.

Next the speaker was the Revd Chris Bennett, Chaplain to the Titanic Quarter, Belfast; a lively, enthusiastic person with an amazing story of how a vision became a reality from what was rubble in Belfast in 2010. Starting with a deck chair and a coffee, and after continual prayer walks, they now have the Honesty Box Café. Operating with no charge, but an 'Honesty Box', hence the name and it works. In the two and a half years it has been open the books balance. What an amazing story.

After mid-day prayers and lunch we enjoyed a hilarious time with the comedian Andy Kind, sharing his faith, with tales of life experiences.

Next Reg Bailey gained knowledge of our own experiences of media pressure on children within families, and reminded us of work done by the government regarding parent control, and age rating music videos, etc. Then closing worship, and - in true tradition - before we left, the venue of the 2015 General Meeting was announced - It will be in Nottingham! The Service is on Thursday 25th June and the Meeting on Friday 26th June. *Jenny Hodson*





I can make a difference to childhood by:

-  Applying the Bye Buy Test to my purchases
-  Challenging retailers and advertisers who sell and advertise inappropriately to children
-  Lobbying my political representatives to prohibit the 'sex sells' approach aimed at children under 16
-  Lobbying my political representatives to ensure that children under 16 are not exposed to the marketing and display of sexualised products

Join us at www.byebuychildhood.org

Bye Buy Test

Use this test when shopping to help you think about what or who is influencing your choices:

-  Why do I want to buy it?
-  How often will I use it?
-  Can I afford it?
-  What will happen if I don't buy it?

Social Policy Update



Mothers' Union is taking part again in the '16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence' from 25th November to 10th December 2014. An updated set of resources and ideas is being created to help branches or Dioceses to take part in activities and events, small and large. Now is a great time to set aside a meeting to think about how you can take part, and to start praying.

Further research has been commissioned by Mothers' Union on the commercialisation of childhood to assess how much has changed since the launch of the Bye Buy Childhood Campaign in 2010 and the Bailey review of 2011. Please pray for its further development. Survey questions available shortly at www.byebuychildhood.org/get_involved.

On 10th -13th June the UK government hosted a Global Summit to end Sexual Violence in Conflict.

Forcing someone to marry against their will is now a criminal offence. In June, Mothers' Union met the recently appointed Minister for Women, Nicky Morgan MP. She took over the brief from Maria Miller in April and has overall responsibility for policy on women, reporting directly to the Prime Minister. Among the items discussed were:- *Bye Buy Childhood Campaign; Mothers' Union involvement in the UN Commission on the Status of Women and 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence.*

The Minister also voiced her concern about 'revenge porn' whereby sexually explicit media is distributed online, without the consent of the pictured individual, for the purpose of humiliation, which was debated in the House of Commons on 19th June. Nicky Morgan MP was appointed Secretary of State for Education in July, but retains her position as Minister for Women.

Please pray for Mothers' Union staff as they continue to represent the values of Mothers' Union to parliamentarians.

The Government has published its response to the Civil Partnership Review - "Given the lack of consensus on the way forward for civil partnerships, the Government will not be making any changes". Mothers' Union was quoted in the Government's response document. Full response at <http://tinyurl.com/psjq7v>. Margaret Lewis

Last time we had a blog by The Revd Keith Hebden so - *What is a Blog?* It is an abbreviated version of *weblog*, a term used to describe web sites that have an ongoing chronicle of information. 

A *blog* features diary-type commentary and links to articles on other Web sites, usually presented as a list of entries in reverse chronological order. *Blogs* range from the personal to the political, and can focus on one narrow subject or a whole range of subjects.

Diary Dates September - December 2014

September

Tuesday 2: 2pm St Wilfrid's Kirkby-in-Ashfield 100th Celebration

Monday 8: 10am-12noon Faith & Policy Meeting - Trebeck Hall, Conybeare Room

Monday 8: 12noon-2pm Marketing Meeting - Trebeck Hall, Conybeare Room

Saturday 13: 2.30pm Family Care Annual Offering Service - Southwell Minster

Monday 15: 10am Finance & Admin Committee - Jubilee House

Saturday 27: Ploughing Match - Bulcote

October

Thursday 2: 10am for 10.30am Newark Archdeaconry Day - Jubilee Hall, Ollerton

Monday 6: 10am for 10.30am Nottingham Archdeaconry Day - St Jude's Church Hall, Mapperley, Nottingham

Wednesday 8 - Friday 10: Diocesan Conference - Swanwick

Monday 13: 10am -1pm Trustees Meeting - Trebeck Hall, Conybeare Room

Monday 20: 10am-12noon Finance & Admin Meeting -Jubilee House, Conf Room 1

Monday 20: 10am-12noon AFIA - Jubilee House, Conf Room 2

November

Saturday 1: 10am-3pm Passionate About Parenting - Tudor Barn, Warsop

Monday 3: 10am-1pm Speakers Meeting - Jubilee House, Conf Room 1, 2, 3

Monday 17: 10am-1pm Trustees Meeting - Jubilee House, Conf Room 1, 2, 3

December

Monday 1: 10am for 10.30am Nottingham Archdeaconry Day - St Jude's Church Hall, Mapperley, Nottingham

Thursday 4: 10am for 10.30am Newark Archdeaconry Day - Jubilee Hall, Ollerton

Thank you for the cards and good wishes Michael and I received on the occasion of our Diamond Wedding Anniversary. They were very much appreciated. *Margaret Lewis*

About Long Service Certificates At the AGM in June we were asked to explain the purpose of Long Service Certificates. These are available from MUE but each diocese decides the length of membership for which they can be awarded. A *long service certificate says thank you!* In our diocese we now present them for 10 years, 25 years, 40 years, 50 years, 60 years and occasionally 70 or even 80 years membership. It is our way of saying thank you to members for their membership and loyalty over a specific number of years. We are aware that some people prefer not to receive one and if that is your decision, we respect that. But if you have been a member for any of the specified years, you first need to have a word with your Branch Leader (or if you are a Diocesan Member, the Diocesan Members Coordinator) who will then contact your Deanery Leader so that a certificate can be prepared. Certificates are normally presented at Deanery events. *Sheila Allton*

*Congratulations to all who are celebrating
Special Birthdays*

90TH BIRTHDAY

Mrs Gertie Thorp 25th May - Carleton-in-Lindrick

Mrs Dorothy Lawry 19th August - Wollaton, St. Leonard

Mary Pass 14th October - Newstead Branch

Miss Dorothy Danks 16th October - Retford MU

Grace Stretton 25th October - HLM Nottingham

Gaye Walker 27th October - Everton, Mathersey & Clayworth MU

100TH BIRTHDAY

Hilda Cooper 28th September - Bingham Branch.



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

RUBY WEDDING

Bp Tony and Mrs Lucille Porter 3rd August

GOLDEN WEDDING

Virginia (Ginny) and Alan Darby 8th August - Worksop Priory

Jane and Tony Duesbury 22nd August - St. John with St. Mary,
Mansfield

Irene and Michael Moore 3rd September - Worksop Priory

Lynette and Brian Taylor 12th September - IMPC Member

DIAMOND WEDDING

Moireen and John Gleadon 22nd September - Retford MU

Wedding Anniversaries

Margaret Lewis, 30 Sotheby Avenue, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts

NG17 5JX Tel: 01623 559769 is responsible for sending out Diamond and Golden Wedding Anniversaries Cards at the appropriate time to Members. Please let Margaret know about the dates in plenty of time so that she can also inform Mary Sumner House.



MOTHERS' UNION ROLL of HONOUR in our Diocese

Please send:- Member's name, age, date of death, Branch and Deanery to which she/he belonged

To:- *Mrs Mary Scott*, 25 Devonshire Crescent, Sherwood, Nottingham, NG5 2EU Tel: 0115 962 2244 email: maryscott1936@btinternet.com

If YOU hear that a member has died, please contact Mary as soon as possible; she would rather be told by 6 people than not hear at all.

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.



You can send your item as part of your email, as an MS Word or an MS Publisher document. ***Contributions should be no more than 400 words.*** We'd love you to include pictures as well.

This is a newsletter for **ALL** our members, please use it to let everyone know what's happening near you.

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: 31st October 2014

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Mothers' Union Diocesan Information

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

MU Diocesan President: Mrs Lucille Porter

MU Diocesan Secretary: Mrs Alison Jacobson

email: musecretary@southwell.anglican.org
(This is the new email address)

Registered Charity No. 249878

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