The Newsletter of Mothers’ Union
in the Diocese of Salisbury
Registered Charity No. 249696

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Windows
Autumn 2017

Mothers’ Union has a vision of a world where God’s love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships.

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Dear Friends,

It seems a long time since I wrote to you all in the Spring edition. Where has the summer gone? I hope you all have had the opportunity to enjoy the good weather which did pop up occasionally over the last few months. Having seen the pictures of the catastrophic flooding in Texas and Louisiana with all those poor people driven from their homes – the terrible fatalities and many more in danger of their lives – I will never complain again about our wet summers here. Some of you may well have family and friends in that part of the world, as I have. Let us all pray that God will keep them safe and give them the strength to be able to re-build their lives.

Before I recap on events which have taken place since I last wrote to you, I need to draw your attention to some important matters. In a separate article in this edition, you will read that Mrs Laura Kachale is joining us in September as our new Community Development Co-ordinator. We are thrilled that Laura has agreed to take up this post and I’m sure you will give her a very warm welcome. Laura, we hope that you and your family settle back quickly into life in the UK. It’s wonderful to have you with us and we hope you will enjoy working with Mothers’ Union.

We all enjoy reading Windows and it is a wonderful publication which catches the eye and hopefully encourages non-members to learn more about Mothers’ Union. I am most grateful to our Editor of many years, Sheila Crone, for compiling such a professional and informative magazine. But Sheila has decided it is time for her to handover the baton to another. Friends, we need one of you to come forward and pick up the reins of this excellent publication. Sheila has kindly offered to guide and support her successor – so there is nothing to worry about. You will be in very good, expert hands. If you feel that this is something you would like to do then you can contact Sheila direct as her e-mail address is in Windows, or alternatively, contact MU Office. So, if you want to read Windows next year, then, please come forward and volunteer – it’s as simple as that.

Jan Seaman has spoken to you at Council in the past to let you know that she too will be finishing as Indoor Members’ representative and Emergency Prayer Chain organiser at the end of this year. So far, no one has come forward to take over. Jan, I know, has written separately about this in Windows. I do urge you to search your hearts and ask yourselves if you could do this wonderful work. Jan, thank you and bless you for doing this and I sincerely hope that someone will feel called to take this work forward.

As you know, every year Mothers’ Union supports the 16 Days of Activism Campaign Against Gender Based Violence. Once again, we are holding a special Service in Salisbury Cathedral on Tuesday 5 December at 12 noon to highlight the Campaign. Please come and support this Service and encourage your friends to come along as well. Let your parishes know about the Campaign and encourage your congregations to support it too. This particular Campaign is such a very important part of our overall mission in this country and worldwide. In showing our support we are also demonstrating our Faith in Action to everyone.
Windows is always a wonderful opportunity to remind you of some of the things that have been going on. You may have already read about the Blessing of our new holiday home at Rockley Park in the Diocesan bulletins but I thought you would like to see the photograph of everyone again. It was a very special day and it was wonderful to have Canon Ann Philp and Brendan Musgrave with us as well. Ann and Brendan represented the Tindall and Musgrave Trusts respectively – both Trusts, through their generous donations, having made the purchase of our new home possible. What a lovely day that was and above is a photograph to serve as a reminder.

The second phase of Maisie’s March (our fund-raising terrier who is taking her Mum, Sarah, and friends, Diesel and Patsy, on a Pilgrimage from Salisbury to Canterbury) began on Monday 24 April at Alton Railway station. Here we were greeted by Caroline Scull, Diocesan President for Winchester, together with her Chaplain, Margaret. Margaret led us in our Pilgrim Prayer and all together we set off in the direction of Farnham. The weather was dry and pleasant and the path clear. It was good to be joined by friends from Winchester and the day was full of love and fellowship. Maisie and Diesel, together with their Mums, continued on to Guildford that week. They are now busy planning the next phase which will be a little more tricky, as Maisie lives in Warminster and Diesel in Canterbury – I guess their Mums will just have to work it out! I ask all members to support this wonderful fund-raising initiative – if walking isn’t your thing – then please give, as your donations go to support our MU projects.

After all this walking, it was jolly good to take time out in May to visit our members in Bradford on Avon and Sherborne. After a delicious lunch, hosted by the Archdeaconry Chairman, Marlene Haffenden, I joined Jill Wright, Branch Leader for Holy Trinity, and members from both Holy Trinity and Christchurch, for an afternoon of news and reflections. It was really special to be with everyone in the newly refurbished Holy Trinity Church. If you have the opportunity to visit – do go along and see how beautifully the Church has been renovated.
The next day, it was on to Sherborne to join Archdeaconry Chairman of Sherborne, Daphne Furey, Branch Leader, Josephine Higgs, members and friends for a wonderful presentation by Sister Annemarie about a Retreat she had led for Mothers’ Union members in Scotland at the Retreat and Pastoral Centre at Saint Mary’s, Kinnoull, in Perth. Sister Annemarie also demonstrated to us how to pray a Celtic Christian Circle Prayer and also described what the colours and designs of the Mothers’ Union tartan, worn by our members in Scotland, symbolise.

As you know MU members join together to celebrate a monthly Eucharist in the Cathedral. So for the last Eucharist before the summer break, we were delighted to welcome members from Portsmouth Diocese who joined us for the Service.

The Revd Betty Port presided and Canon David Callard assisted in what was a really lovely Service. We hope to join with Portsmouth again for their corporate worship during the coming months hopefully in Portsmouth Cathedral.

At the beginning of August, our members at Dilton Marsh were busy preparing for their Annual Garden Party. Once again, Michael and Jane Brake kindly hosted the event at their family home, Dilton Court Farm and Jocelyn and Clive Short organised a wonderful afternoon of refreshments, raffle and games. We were also joined by friends from Westbury. The weather held and we were able to enjoy delicious cream teas in the lovely garden which overlooks the beautiful Wiltshire countryside. Altogether, the event raised circa £400 for MU – what a result – fantastic, and a huge thank you to all who supported the event.
Being mindful of this year’s theme, Faith in Action, leads me on to telling you about our recent AFIA Holiday. As you will appreciate, it’s very fresh in my mind, having only just returned from Sidmouth a few days ago. Our families arrived as usual on the Saturday afternoon and after a good night’s sleep, the plan was to go off to the beach on Sunday afternoon. The weather certainly wasn’t too promising when we woke up on the Sunday morning and saw the dark clouds. Should we really take to the beach that afternoon? Well, the Mums were keen and of course, the children were prepared for anything – so off we went. Yes, it was chilly and a bit blowy – not really swimming weather at all, but that didn’t matter. There was a bit of paddling and then the children set to with buckets and spades – the sand and the pebbles were re-arranged into a variety of shapes and creations and a lot of fun was had by all. With that, and the fact that the weather improved that evening, the holiday got off to a grand start from Day 1.

I think most of you know by now what we get up to down at Sidmouth. The highlights of the week included the visit to the Donkey Sanctuary, the Sidholme Snail Race, the launching of Sidholme Rockets (NASA has nothing on this) and of course, the Sidholme Talent Show. This year was no exception. With a team of 14 volunteers, and 66 guests (that’s 22 adults and 44 children) there was no holding us back. When we visited the Sanctuary, the donkeys were delighted to see us and made sure that they all came out to say ‘Hello’.

Once again, Enid and David were our host couple, and Esther also joined us this time for the week. Our mornings were spent doing a variety of craft activities. The theme for the week was ‘The Deep Blue Sea’ – and the children were divided into two teams – Puffins and Penguins – for some of the more competitive games! Morning activities included pom-pom making, spray painting, designing pirate masks and ships, making rockets, creating wonderful fish shapes and decorating the pebbles we had collected on the beach.

There was never a dull moment. If you didn’t want to swim in the sea – there was always that gorgeous, indoor heated swimming pool to use. As the week
progressed, the sun came out and stayed there. On the beach, there was fierce competition for the best sand castle. Indoors, the snails were a little slow but clearly we had some potential candidates for a marathon amongst them. When we weren’t playing ‘Mission Impossible’ party games in the evening, we were entertained by Professor Fumble – what a scream! It was great to see some really budding entertainers amongst the children as Professor Fumble encouraged audience participation.

The week ended on a high note – not only did the Red Arrows come roaring over the hotel en route for their display over the Bay but everyone took part in a fantastic Talent Show. Yes, and Tele Tubbies and Spiderman came too! Come Saturday morning – we were all truly Puffined and Penguined Out!!

It was another wonderful week and our sincere thanks go to Ian and Wilma Bromilow, our Team leaders, and to all the volunteers who gave up their time to come and support the families. As for the families, having welcomed some extremely anxious, tired and nervous families on the first Saturday, we said tearful farewells to relaxed, calm and happy families at the end of the week. Some of the children got together and made the lovely ‘thank you’ card shown in the picture. If this isn’t Faith in Action – then, I don’t know what is! Thank you to all our members who give so generously to support this holiday. The teddies were amazing and soon found little friends to care for them.

All the families were given ‘A Cross in Your Pocket’ and were truly touched by the gift. It is an incredibly important and much-needed holiday for all of those families and it just wouldn’t happen without your help and support.

THANK YOU!

As many of you are already preparing your programmes for next year, I’m sure you will want to know what our theme is for 2018. Here it is ‘In Mary Sumner’s Footsteps’. Just reading that title, is an inspiration, in itself. I hope and pray that we will all walk in Mary Sumner’s Footsteps throughout 2018 and for many more years to come.

May God Bless you all in the work you do. May each and everyone one of you continue to show to others God’s love in all that you do. May you all know that you are enfolded in God’s love every second of every day and in everything you do.

With my love, thanks and prayers - Rosie
Welcome!

Laura Kachale will be joining the Salisbury Mothers’ Union from September as the Community Development Coordinator.

Laura is returning to Salisbury, where she grew up, after living in Malawi for the past 8 years with her husband John, an actuary by profession and their 2-year-old son Benjamin. They look forward to settling in the Salisbury area as a family and being a part of the community and a church. Laura has an MSc in Global Health and experience in program management and education which she is eager to use to help Mothers’ Union members to reach out across the Salisbury diocese with programs which build community and relationships. In her free time, Laura enjoys walking in the countryside with her family; she is pictured here on such a walk in Malawi. Laura is really looking forward to meeting people from across the diocese from September; she can be contacted on this e-mail address: pdo.mothersunion@yahoo.co.uk

A WORD FROM THE CHAPLAIN

‘I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ Matthew 25 vs. 36.

I hope by the time you read this that you have all had a lovely summer and hopefully managed to get out and about despite the rain that was with us throughout August.

For those who have not enjoyed this season so much, I have great sympathy with you, as this summer has seen me rather debilitated with a leg injury and told it would take a good 2-3 months to recover. I then developed an infection in the nerve of a tooth which covered my face in pain. However it did humble me greatly in realizing how it must be for those who are unable to get out and about by themselves and are armchair bound or in constant pain and discomfort. For me it is a short-term thing, but for others it is an ongoing issue.

It made me think, how we live in a world which sets its values by market forces; people’s worth is how much they are physically worth in the global market. That alone can make this world feel hostile and fearful to the weak and troubled in our society, those who unable to maybe even stand on their own two feet, or who are deluged by constant pain, exhausted by every little movement they make, or have a difficult start in life.

The haven that is the NHS and Social care is slowly being eroded by regimes of all colours with limited foresight, always looking for the current gain of popularity rather than the long term welfare of its nation. It leads people to fear getting lost and uncared for.
So it is balm to the soul to hear of Jesus who judges a person’s worth not by what he can physically achieve, who hears of our fears and who gives of his love unconditionally. His love can and does reverse fear and hardship and can transform the most humble of lives.

It has been my view for a long time that we in the Church will become more important in the care of our world; none more importantly than in the healing and care of the sick and injured. If it had not been for my loving family, my colleagues and friends in my congregation I would have felt quite lost. My healing depended upon the love of those around me.

A short story, and this is not anecdotal, I was once called by an elderly congregation member’s neighbour at 10 p.m. one January night to say she had been brought home in a taxi to a cold dark house and had it not been for the taxi driver being so concerned, knocking on her neighbour’s door, she would have been unable to climb stairs to switch on her heating or get a blanket or pillow to even lie down on her sofa to sleep. She had nothing in the way of food. Between her neighbour and myself we cared for her after her impromptu dismissal from hospital.

None of this is the fault of the doctors and nurses at the coal face, they are doing their best with limited numbers and resources but for these poor souls who have lived through world wars, this country must appear a grim place at times.

So this is where we as members of Christ’s body here on earth come in. We are God’s agents in our communities, we are his hands, his feet, his eyes and ears his heart of love, the responsibility of showing love and care does lie with us.

So dear ones, I ask you to take care of yourselves. We are needed desperately and if we are unable to care for ourselves, we will not have the integrity or the credibility to begin to heal others; we will be hypocritical to speak of healing others if we are unable to grapple with our own brokenness.

My summer of injury and sickness has taught me this. It is frightening when you yourself are weak, but it is love and care from others that is at the root of healing. Some things cannot be healed in this life, life threatening illnesses can lead the sick and dying to feel abandoned and alone, but we can bring healing into this situation, we can bring Christ’s love as balm to the soul of the dying, soothing words of love is what will see a poor soul through the end of this life and on to the next. (It is not uncommon for the dying to want to hear the 23rd Psalm on their death bed … Though I walk in the valley of death I shall fear no evil).

We, the body of Christ, are needed now more than ever; so it is important that the work of Mothers’ Union, in our branches, in our deaneries and diocese, in our province and across the world carries on. Who knows where you will be needed next? Mothers’ Union is a strong tower that many need.

So keep strong, keep safe, and keep well and may God bless you richly in all you do in His name. Amen.

Jacqui
The Lord truly blessed us in the Spring, answering our prayers for the full amount required to replace the mobile home at Rockley Park. It all happened so quickly and I have to say at times I was moved to tears. Thank you Musgrave Trust and the Tindall Trust, we are so grateful.

In August I received notification from M.S.H. that the portion of your subscription they will be asking us to pay next year will increase by 0.50p to £13.50. I will be submitting a proposal to the Trustees in September that the subscription for 2018 remains at £25 for Branch members and £35 for Diocesan members and that a decision be made regarding an increase for 2019.

There are still 23 Branch and 19 Diocesan standing orders that have not been updated to reflect the increase in the 2017 subscription. Please can I ask, if you pay by standing order, please check you are paying the correct amount, £25 if you are a Branch member, £35 a Diocesan member.

Our membership for 2017 is 1,346. 2016 = 1,451, 2015 = 1,622, a drop of 115 (in money terms that’s £2,625); unfortunately our costs do not go down.

Do you buy your cards, calendars, diaries, etc from Mue? If you don’t, I would encourage you to do so. For all the purchases members made in 2016 in the Salisbury Diocese, we received a turnover related payment of £572, so very worthwhile your looking though the booklet (if you haven’t seen it ask your branch leader) and placing an order. Don’t forget to fill in the part that asks for your diocese.

As always, Thank you very much for all your fund raising, especially for our AFIA fund and a special ‘thank you’ to one of our trustees, Sarah Condry - Maisie’s March has so far raised £2,151.

Suzanne Waters

MU Holiday Home at Rockley Park

All weeks in school holidays were booked up & several families now on waiting list for next year; we could have given many more families help but are not able to take school age children in term time!

A fairly good response from MU volunteers for cleaning but not all weeks have been covered (which means I have to do those) but many thanks to those who have responded & done it.

The home is a wonderful resource & all who have used it have been blessed. We thank God for the sponsors who have enabled it.

Sheila Soper
Of our 5 link Dioceses, we unfortunately only have regular news from Marsabit in Kenya, where Rev. Alice Mwangi is very faithful and corresponds whenever she has Internet access. As you will all know elections have recently been held in the country, and have now been contested, but are due to be held again. Alice and her members have been praying that these elections would pass over peacefully so there would not be a repeat of the violence seen last time. Mother’s Union has been involved in advocacy work, training and encouraging people to live at peace with each other.

Alice’s work remains very demanding and increasingly difficult with the encroachment of Islam, and the enormous impact of climate change, causing their rains to become even more depleted. Islam in northern Kenya is growing, as the Moslems are very good evangelists, they offer relief and support to the poor, and since they now manage even more of the businesses in the area are able to offer sponsorships. They are buying up more of the land and so building their mosques, mainly along highways, where they are prominent and very visible. Interestingly, the African Traditional Religions feel they have more in common with Islam, so more of the young people are marrying Muslims.

Most of the husbands of the MU members are married to men who follow their old traditional religion, and even those men and some women who profess Our Lord Jesus are still influenced by the old stories and fears. Also many of the women are coerced into retaining their old traditions and beliefs. You will appreciate that for Alice, working under such conditions, with enormous hazardous journeys on dusty dirt roads to visit her branches it is onerous in the extreme, and she certainly appreciates all our prayers. She is holding a 4 day conference for women in December, when there will be members from numerous tribal groupings, and asks us to pray for God’s guidance for this venture.

Joanna Woodd

Salisbury Women’s Refuge

Dear Fellow M.U. Members,

The Refuge has had an eventful year thus far and your sterling support has been needed and appreciated more than ever. Having lost Sue Cox as manager just before last Christmas, we were in danger of being somewhat rudderless. Fortunately Penny Joyce stepped in and led the staff while we advertised and appointed a new manager who started just after Easter. Penny, an ordained priest and early retired Headmistress, filled the breach again when it turned out not to be the right job for the appointee. So we are enormously grateful to her. Sandra Horner has recently accepted the post of Refuge Manager, and started on 4th September. The Trustees are confident of her organisational and leadership skills which will be much needed in the months and years to come.

Wiltshire Council will cease to fund the Refuge directly in March 2018 when a new and uniform system of care for all matters related to Domestic Abuse will begin across the County. I will report on this again when the new regime emerges and
our role becomes clear. Thank you all for being so understanding about delivering donations of clothing to The Salvation Army in Salt Lane. This helps enormously as we have very limited storage at The Refuge and sometimes get completely snowed under. The residents get first option on all that you give and are most grateful for your continued kindness.

I know we can rely on your support and prayers during the times of uncertainty. One thing is sure, the asylum that we offer is very much needed as is the empathy and expertise of the staff. As we see women and their children move on to a better situation we know that we must strive to maintain the good service that Salisbury Refuge has become known for.

Yours in fellowship - Madeleine Tarrant - Trustee of The Refuge

SAFEGUARDING – RECENT MU MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

We all have a responsibility to keep those in our care, whether adults, children or team members, safe. We all have a responsibility to keep ourselves safe. The awareness of Safeguarding and the need to have documents (policies) to underpin our work and inform good practice has grown in priority over the last few years. The Diocese of Salisbury is committed to ensuring that Safeguarding and the issues surrounding it are understood and that Safeguarding practice is adhered to by all people representing and working for the Diocese in a paid or unpaid capacity.

As part of the Diocese, Mothers’ Union is committed to ensuring that Safeguarding practice is adhered to and practically incorporated into our work. For this reason, a substantial exercise to update our MU Diocese of Salisbury Safeguarding Policy, produce additional related polices and carry out four briefing sessions at different venues across the Diocese has taken place for those members/volunteers with particular leadership responsibilities within or on behalf of Mothers’ Union, such as trustees and team leaders.

Although it is envisaged that Mothers’ Union will run general Safeguarding training for all MU volunteers in the autumn, it was felt crucial that the content of the new policies and knowledge of how they relate to the areas of Mothers’ Union work with children and/or vulnerable adults should be communicated to these post holders as soon as possible. The new policies, introduced in the briefing sessions, are:

- Lone Working & Home Visiting
- Social Media & Private Messaging
- Mobile Phone, Camera and Image Storing

Also produced for the benefit of team leaders of a Mothers’ Union activity is a Handbook and Statement of Safeguarding Principles - a breakdown of the Safeguarding Policy - together with applicable forms that may need to be completed, e.g. parental consents.

New volunteers will benefit from a volunteer’s package containing all they need to know about the job they are intending to undertake. This will inform them as well of the safeguarding issues they may encounter when...
working with children or vulnerable adults, how to respond and whom to contact.

The intended autumn general Safeguarding training for all members will explicitly address Safeguarding within our own context. However, if you have attended C1 Safeguarding training organised by the Diocese in the last two years you need only let us know the date you attended so that we can cross reference the Diocesan records with our own records.

Sandra Gamble, Trustee - Joint A&O Unit Coordinator

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**WILTSHIRE ARCHDEACONRY REPORT 2016**

The highlights of 2016 were the Diocesan Festival Service in Salisbury Cathedral and the 140th Celebration Service in Winchester Cathedral followed the next day by the Annual Meeting in nearby Basingstoke. Many members who attended the Celebration Service stayed overnight in Winchester to attend both events and others travelled to and from their homes each of the days. Some members were only able to attend one of the days. However, Wiltshire Archdeaconry was well represented. Everyone was very inspired and encouraged by the speakers and activities.

Branches celebrated the Wave of Prayer in February, Lady Day in March and Mary Sumner Day in August. Nearly all branches were represented at the Spring & Autumn Councils and if they were not, the information was then relayed at Archdeaconry Meetings and then Deanery Meetings and then to branches.

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**News From Branches**

**Bradford Deanery** - Two deanery meetings were held during the year to share information and ideas. St James, Trowbridge, holds a well attended tea-time service three times a month for young families at which the MU provides and serves the refreshments. St James & Holy Trinity, Bradford on Avon were involved in the Virtual Babies Project for six weeks at Clarendon Academy, Trowbridge. Funds were raised by St James by having a Bring & Buy Sale, a Cream Tea and a text auction. The collection at the St James’ Advent Service was given to the Trowbridge Women’s Refuge which is supported by them throughout the year.

Holy Trinity members run a weekly morning of fun, rhyme & music for young families which is so well attended and has quite a lengthy waiting list. Holy Trinity members raised much money for our projects. St John’s, Trowbridge, maintains its membership and regularly holds fund-raising events. Christchurch Bradford on Avon, meets every month and raises funds as and when they are able.

**Calne Deanery** - Calne Branch had a full and interesting programme including a Pancake & Coffee Morning plus a Mothering Sunday Cake Sale. Monies raised were sent to the Overseas Fund and the Away From It All Holiday Fund.
was open for the Calne Bike Meet and members were available to talk about the work of the Mothers’ Union. Derry Hill Branch supported the Wedding Fayre held in Christ Church by providing refreshments and flowers. A Big Lunch was held in aid of the AFIA Holiday Fund. Many members from Calne Branch also supported this event. Several teddy bears were sent to the AFIA Holiday Fund for use at the Sidmouth Holiday Week. Derry Hill members also provided five floral displays at the Flower Festival celebrating the Queen’s birthday. New Start Coffee Mornings have grown in numbers and are now in their second year. Derry Hill have a baptism basket to illustrate baptism to children and for their incumbent to take when visiting families for the first time. A knitted nativity set has been provided by members.

Devizes Deanery - Devizes is a large deanery and Carole Jones, Chairman, gives many thanks to the branch leaders and all of the deanery team. Deanery meetings are held regularly throughout the year to share news of projects, ideas, problems and successes and are invaluable for exchange of information between Branches, Trustees and Mary Sumner House.

Deanery membership is greater than it was in 2013 and many members are actively involved in the day-to-day work of their parishes. Many activities take place in every branch and provide the opportunity to pray together, to support diocesan and local projects and to share resources and fellowship. In August, the deanery sponsored a family in our mobile home at Rockley Park, Hamworthy, Poole. A Deanery Advent Service was held in September. The theme for 2016 was ‘A Celebration of Faith’ and it was a year of celebrating God’s love through our faith, commitment, service, fellowship and encouraging the work of the Mothers’ Union.

DORSET ARCHDEACONRY REPORT 2016

MU Members in the Dorset Archdeaconry have raised money for AFIA, Maisie’s walk and for the new Community Development Coordinator. They have catered for marriage preparation courses, served the refreshments at Parent & Toddlers group each week, and read stories, including a Bible story, to the children. Members have knitted Twiddle muffs & hats for seamen and some branches give a Christmas Party for older people.

Many branches took part in the Wave of Prayer while others met in their churches for the Thy Kingdom Come service. Some branches have held Quiet Days & others celebrated Branch anniversaries, while some members attend the MU Tuesday Holy Communion services in Salisbury when they can.

Some branches have a table in the local markets & fetes and many have donated to the Women's Refuge, Make a Mothers' Day and Summer of Hope appeals, and also to Bishop Nicholas' Sudan appeal. They save pennies for Overseas relief while one branch has refilled the toy bags for children to use in the pews. Blandford branch organised a week in the holiday home paid for by Blandford Rotary, and another week was paid for by church funds. Several branches have cleaned the Rockley holiday home.

Sheila Soper
This year we welcomed Blackmore Vale deanery into the Archdeaconry. It was good to meet some of their members at Spring Council and I look forward to meeting more of them. Blackmore Vale has been involved with Guys Marsh Prison for some years. This is continuing and they have bought and wrapped presents for the Angel Tree Project. Two members attended the prison carol service.

Dorchester deanery branches are both Prayer and Fellowship groups and continue to meet regularly. Lyme Bay deanery branches and prayer and fellowship groups meet regularly. It is good to see some of their members at council meetings as it is often a long journey for them.

Sherborne deanery continues with 2 branches. Wriggle Valley branch held a short service and family day for Mary Sumner Day. Weymouth has one branch and one Prayer and Fellowship Group which continue to meet.

Daphne Furey

**Sudan Garden Party**

On a very hot day, probably much enjoyed by the two camels in attendance, Rosemary Allen, assisted by Sheila Crone, sat at the Mothers Union stall in the Bishop’s garden to explain the making of stoles and other aspects of MU projects.

**INDOOR MEMBERS AND EMERGENCY PRAYER CHAIN**

At Spring Council I did not receive a response when I asked if one of you would become the next Indoor Members’ Project Leader. Surely there is someone who would enjoy the contact with these lovely members? Many have given their time to our wonderful organization and deserve to be looked after. I have enjoyed writing and phoning them on their birthdays during the last 8 years, and nearly as long contacting the very sick. So I have decided to step down. This will be my last year to write Christmas letters and cards. Now it is up to you to come forward and enjoy such a happy experience as I have had. It will be sad if the members cannot receive their Easter and Christmas letters and cards. Please members, do not think about it for too long, come forward, it is not a difficult activity. I have all the relevant information for you.

‘Lord, you have taught us your word that we are members of the Body of Christ, each with a place to fill and a function to perform; in this task you guide us by your grace to make our varying contributions humbly and unselfishly. May we work in love with one another and serve you through the joy we bring to others.’

Jan Seaman
NEWS OF MEMBERS - Congratulations to:
Marjorie Beer, St Mark’s, Talbot Village
who celebrated her 102nd Birthday this year!

IN MEMORIAM - We give thanks for the lives and dedication of the following members, all remembered with love.

Heather Aldous Calne Deanery
Gloria June Allen Urchfont
Jean Bennett Sturminster Newton
Evelyn Body Bradford on Avon - aged 105
David Brick Laverstock
Dorothy Collins Bradpole
Ruth Dain Marlborough – Diocesan Member
Rosemary de Pass Pewsey Deanery
Elsie Foxwell Wareham
Sylvia Franklin Swindon (nursing home)
Betty Gillott Urchfont
Gladys Goddard Wroughton - member over 50 years
Ethel Lewis Blackmore Vale Deanery
Rosemary Milburn Broadstone
Margaret Saunders Harnham
June Spenser Derry Hill
Pam Steppings Parkstone
Kath Tupper Wareham – member 53 years
Pam Waller Harnham
Eileen Whitton Bradpole
Nora Windridge Wriggle Valley
Betty Witt Trowbridge
Sheila House Chisledon
Anne Page East Knoyle - Aged 106

Mrs Nora Windridge - started as a member of Mothers’ Union in 1954 when she was a young mother, and remained staunchly throughout 54 years, finally becoming an Indoor Member supported by Jan Seaman. During that time, she spent 4 years at St. Martins’ MU, Ottawa, Canada. Later at Charlecombe, Bath, Nora was Enrolling Member for 13 years. In 1980, she came to the Dorset village of Yetminster. Her husband tells me that she liked to visit the Indoor Members, as well as make cards to sell for charity. Although Nora had been unable to attend meetings for many years, until quite recently she remained interested in all that the local group was doing. When we held a Marriage Event in the Church, Nora contributed her wedding dress (circa 1950’s) and other interesting things.

As we talked about Nora, her husband, Michael, told me that his family had been closely involved with Mary Sumner, as his grandparents lived near her in the 1880’s. All the senior Mrs Windridges in past years had become members of the Mothers’ Union. Nora passed peacefully away at home, on May 24, with her husband by her side. We will miss her and will always remember a thoughtful kindly lady who showed us the very essence of a long service contribution.
DATES FOR YOUR 2018 DIARY

SPRING COUNCIL: Tuesday March 13 at St Francis Church, (Junction of Castle Road/Beatrice Road, Salisbury SP1 3PN)

AUTUMN COUNCIL: Saturday October 13 at Durweston Village Hall (Church Road, Durweston, Blandford Forum DT11 0QA)

Other dates:
Open Day at Mary Sumner House: 8-9 August
AFIA holiday: 18-25 August
General Meeting of Mothers’ Union September: 20-21 in Wales
Each year: 1 February – Items due for Spring ‘Windows’
1 September – Items due for Autumn ‘Windows’

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL MU COMMUNION SERVICES
12 noon on 4th Tuesday of each month except August and December

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Celebrant</th>
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<td>October 24</td>
<td>Revd Canon Jeremy Oakes</td>
<td>Purbeck</td>
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<td>November 28</td>
<td>Revd Carole Owen</td>
<td>Heytesbury</td>
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January to June 2018

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Celebrant</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 23</td>
<td>to be confirmed</td>
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<td>February 27</td>
<td>Revd Canon Ian Woodward</td>
<td>Salisbury</td>
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<td>March 27</td>
<td>Revd Canon Ann Philp</td>
<td>Salisbury</td>
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<td>April 24</td>
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<td>Chalke</td>
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<td>May 22</td>
<td>Revd Tina Fox</td>
<td>Devizes</td>
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<td>June 26</td>
<td>Rev. John Sweatman</td>
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– BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2016–2018

Diocesan President: Rosie Stiven
Chaplain: Revd Jacqui Clark
Secretary: Jenny Harrison
Treasurer: Suzanne Waters
Archdeaconry Chairmen:
Sherborne: Daphne Furey
Dorset: Sheila Soper
Wilts: Marlene Haffenden
Sarum: (Vacant)
Unit Co-ordinators:
Action & Outreach (A&O): Joanna Woodd, Sandra Gamble

Faith: (Vacant)
Fund Raising/Communications: Sarah Condry (Vacant)
Training: Rosemary Allen
Diocesan Members’ Contact: Mike Bowler (Membership)
Elected Trustees: Liz Bowler (Prayer & Fellowship Groups)
                Elizabeth Wood (Three vacancies)
                Alison Oakes (Gift Aid)

Co-opted Trustee:

Trustee Meetings: all at 10am

Thursday 18 January
Thursday 22 February
Tuesday 22 May

Tuesday 25 September
Thursday 22 November

Please send news for the Spring edition of ‘Windows’ to: Mrs Elizabeth Goater, 17 Chiselbury Grove, Salisbury SP2 8EP Tel: 01722 331899 Email: lizgoater@hotmail.com

by 1st February 2018