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

Autumn 2019

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

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www.salisbury.anglican.org/mission/mothers-union
see also: www.mothersunion.org
Dear Friends,

I normally write this piece for Autumn Windows when I’m down at Sidmouth on the AFIA holiday. But as we’re working to an earlier deadline in order to make sure you get your copies of Windows in time for Autumn Council, I’m writing this as I enjoy a beautiful, sunny July afternoon in my garden. And thinking about AFIA, our annual Families Reunion took place once again at the Laverstock Community Farm in April. As you would expect, lots of fun was had by all.

Enjoying the scents of the flowers and the songs of the birds, I can reflect upon the last few, very busy months. The planning and organising of our Triennium Festival Service on 1 June in Salisbury Cathedral took up a lot of time and effort. For those of you who were able to come, I’m sure you’ll agree that it was a very beautiful and inspiring Service.

Well, we have one very special person to thank for that, our Chaplain, Jacqui, who prepared the Service. Shortly, she will be joining forces again with Revd Jo Naish, as together they will plan our 16 Days of Activism Service Against Gender Based Violence in the Cathedral on Tuesday 3 December at 12 noon. That’s a date not to be missed – do please come. We are truly blessed to have Jacqui as our Chaplain – thank you, Jacqui, for all that you do.
Even as I write, I know that many of you are organising events for our Summer of Hope Appeal. Your Diocesan Treasurer has already had her Open Garden Party which raised nearly £200! Well done, Suzanne. That’s a terrific outcome and it’s not as if you’ve nothing else to do either! Also, I know that Dilton Marsh have their Garden Party planned for 1 August which I’m sure will be a wonderful event. Thinking of Dilton Marsh, I had the privilege of enrolling 7 new members there on the day after our Festival Service. That was a really wonderful occasion and thank you so much for inviting me. Above is a photograph recording the event.

I was very fortunate to be invited to a lovely Deanery Service at St. Peter’s, Parkstone, Poole in July and as you can see from all the banners in the photograph, this was a very special event for our members. As well as being an opportunity to worship together and enjoy our fellowship, members were also reminded of their very important role in raising awareness within their communities about modern day slavery and human trafficking. Along with all our members throughout the Diocese, Poole Deanery, I am sure, will take a very active role in this practical application of MULOA.

Taking our practical application of MULOA forward, you may be aware that Friday 18 October is Anti Slavery Day. Please take a moment to look at The Clewer Initiative website www.theclewerinitiative.org, and read about the many ways you can raise awareness of modern day slavery in your community, Church and branch. There are plenty of resources available on this website and here is one of the Prayers which you can use at any time but especially on the day.
For victims of trafficking
Lord of the lost, we pray today for all those who are victims of human trafficking: people lured from their homes and families; people deceived while trying to find a better life; people who are desperate to trust anyone. Help us to be more vigilant and watchful; to be aware of those who may need our help, and those who do not know where help may lie. Amen.

May God bless you all in the wonderful work you do. You will remember that Bishop Nicholas said he was proud of Mothers’ Union in this Diocese. For me, it is a wonderful privilege to serve the Lord through the work of the Mothers’ Union and to serve you all as your President. I am humbled by all the amazing things I see that you do and that you achieve in His name. Transforming lives is what we are about – let us never lose sight of that – and never lose sight of always being In Step With God.

Rosie

Meet our new Central Chaplain!
We are delighted to announce the appointment of Rt Revd Dr Emma Ineson, Bishop of Penrith, as our new Central Chaplain. This is the first time that the role, which serves our worldwide organisation, has been filled by a woman and we are pleased that Bishop Emma will be helping guide the spiritual lives of our members and staff as well as ensuring that Mothers’ Union continues to work effectively alongside clergy and the wider Anglican Communion.

Bishop Emma says: "I am honoured to have been asked to take on this role. I have long admired the work of the Mothers’ Union in its worldwide reach".

Treasurer’s Notes

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL TREASURERS
With immediate effect all cheques made out to Mothers’ Union (Salisbury Diocese) must be made out in the full name of our various accounts. They are as follows:

Membership subscriptions, General fund, etc. (really everything other than Holiday fund and Overseas). Now: Mothers’Union/Sals Dioc

Holiday Fund/AFIA Now: Sals Dioc Mothers’Union Holiday

From the Treasurer
I have now received all subscriptions from branches and Diocesan members and can report membership at present stands at 1,092, a drop of 153. I have not heard from Mary Sumner House what the contribution will be for 2020 but I am sure we will be notified of an increase.

For 2019 we sent £14.00 of the £26 you paid. Please can I ask all members who pay by Standing Order to check that they are paying £26? I still have at least 27 paying less.
Thank you to all branches and deaneries who have supported the Holiday fund this year and a special ‘Thank You’ to Sherbourne Churches for the very generous £3,250 raised from their Lent Lunches.

**Woodford Valley MU- Summer of Hope Appeal.**
Two members opened their gardens, serving tea and cakes. We were blessed with a lovely sunny afternoon and lots of visitors, we raised £198.

_Suzanne Waters_

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No longer the “best kept secret in the Anglican Communion”!

At the Church of England General Synod in York (5th-9th July) Mothers’ Union was out in force, supporting Worldwide President, Sheran Harper, who was attending as an Anglican Communion guest. Sheran was honoured with an invitation to give an Address in the Opening Session, during which she shared stories of the impact members were having in Britain and around the world, at the end of which she received a standing ovation. Said Susan Baker, Provincial President Elect for Canterbury, “It truly felt like a new beginning for Mothers’ Union in Britain and Ireland”

_Archbishop Justin Welby welcomes Sheran Harper the new MU worldwide President at Southwark Cathedral_

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Our Spring and Autumn Councils are a very special time and opportunity for ALL our members in this Diocese to come together in Prayer and Fellowship. The Councils inform everyone of what is going on in MU here and throughout our movement. Please support your Councils and I look forward to seeing you on the following dates:

**Spring Council** - Thursday 19 March 2020 at Durweston

**Autumn Council and AGM** - Saturday 17 October 2020 at St Francis, Salisbury
St. Peter’s Parkstone - Following the success of the Travelling Trends Fundraising Fashion Show held in St. Peter’s in autumn 2017 it was decided to have a second event this year. May was chosen to reflect Spring/Summer fashions. Ticket holders were greeted with wine, juice and nibbles preceding a fun evening with much laughter and cheers for our volunteer models who swirled with panache down the aisle - the catwalk for the occasion. The lovely clothes modelled were from favourite high street stores and sold at reduced prices, sometimes 50% of the asking price. This part of the evening was hosted by Travelling Trends who gave detailed accounts of the individual garments with clues as to which brands they were. They were also responsible for choosing the outfits and dressing the models. After the show everyone browsed through the rails of clothes at their leisure and the fitting rooms provided in various areas of the Church were busy; the prices encouraged much spending. We are thrilled to report that £450 was raised for Mothers’ Union in WAU, South Sudan and also £450 for St. Peter’s Church - a success financially as well as an enjoyable occasion.

The photo shows our courageous volunteer models.

Salisbury Women’s Refuge launches its Friends Scheme

We were delighted to welcome the Diocesan President, Rosie Stiven and Secretary, Jenny Harrison, to a reception hosted by the Bishop of Salisbury and Helen Holtam on behalf of the Salisbury Women’s Refuge. The reception on 19th July was attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Salisbury, John Glen MP and Mrs Nicky Alberry, Deputy Lieutenant for Wiltshire.

This year the Refuge celebrates 35 years of providing accommodation for women and their children fleeing domestic abuse. Since opening its doors in 1984, the refuge has helped over 1000 families rebuild their lives. The Refuge is launching its Friends Scheme in order to provide more structured support to the children for whom the Refuge is temporarily home. John Glen spoke of his visits to the Refuge since becoming an MP and his admiration for this well-established local charity. Ros Hepplewhite, the Chair of Trustees, thanked the people of Salisbury and the wider Wiltshire community for the exceptional support shown to the Refuge over many years. The Mother’s Union Branches have been both loyal and generous in their support.

Should MU members or branches wish to formalise their support for the Refuge by becoming a Friend, application forms are available from the Friends Secretary at the Refuge or from the MU Diocesan trustees, Val Jackson and myself or from Madeleine Tarrant who continues her work with the Refuge through its Fundraising Subcommittee.

Ros Hepplewhite
Into a silent void, our Creator God gently blew life into this beautiful planet of ours, he poured, life into the formless void. From his breath sprang words which brought forth the spark of life, we are his awoken creation. He placed a song in our hearts that would create in us a love of this earth and of the animals placed upon it.

How have we done? Us, stewards of this beautiful earth; how is our footprint upon this world? This world in which we live and move and have our being. Could we be forgiven if we said, we haven’t really done a very good job. I think most of us, if marked upon it would receive “could do better” some of us very much better.

As we look around us we see a fractured, and frayed world, torn apart in places like Syria, poisoned like Chernobyl, ravaged by war, our earth is scarred and worn, we have desecrated the beauties that we have, our beautiful wildlife is decreasing because of our vanity in our power over others. We have desecrated God’s creation.

Our beautiful blue planet is blighted by the actions and wills of Governments and our industrial revolution cannot escape blame. Our own personal greed has also played a major part in this devastated plight we now find ourselves in.

When exactly did we stop listening to the song God put in our hearts? Do you sometimes still sense a song? Sometimes, just sometimes, when we take time and we keep our ears open and our eyes closed, can you not hear the cry from the deep of God’s gentle song? The groan from the deep earth calling; the deep and powerful rhythm of the oceans, the gentle ebbing and flowing of the waves on the shore, do we not hear the nightingales sing, or see music amongst the stars? Do we not hear that song within our soul?

When we are still, at night, when the birds have paused in their song, when the wind has ceased in the trees, and the stars shine down through a crisp sky, and the world falls silent, God reaches out to us, with his hands no longer scarred from the nails, reaching for our hands to join with his to dance to the song in his heart. Calling us back to sing his song, we say we long for a simpler time, well now is our chance, our chance to step back from the chaos we are creating in this world to rein in our excesses.

How do we begin? By asking the Holy Spirit to come and challenge our hearts and minds, and inspire us to begin living the song deep in our hearts, the love song that God has given each of us for everything around us so that we can begin to make the choices that bring life, that save life, not only of the planet, but of all that lives upon it. Love is liberating, love of one another, love of our planet, love of the creatures that share this planet with us on land, in rivers, seas and oceans.

Let us pledge to touch this world of ours with holy hands, with hands that care for God’s creation until His Kingdom comes, “when all shall live in peace on His “Holy Mountain”. When the wolf shall live with the lamb and the leopard shall lie down with the kid and the calf and the lion and the fatling together and a little child shall lead them”. (Isaiah 11: 6). If we have courage and the heart, then maybe, we can save this world from losing the song at its core and join our own melodies with heaven and earth and become one great beautiful planet whose love song will be there for the generations to come.

Jacqui xx

What will you do for your planet?

How to begin.

Pick up 3 pieces of plastic every time you visit, the ocean, the beach, the countryside or, in fact, wherever you find yourself!

#creationthanks
St. Francis Prayer and Fellowship Group
Mrs Pat Person, who transferred to us from the Oxford Diocese last year, being presented with certificates from our Central President and Diocesan President for 71 years membership! Pat was enrolled on Lady Day in 1948 and was very active in the Burnham deanery. Her certificates were presented, at our May meeting, by Mrs Carrie Walsh, Lady Mayoress of Salisbury, who also transferred to us last year.

Gracewell Care Home, the home of one of our members, kindly hosted our July afternoon tea when members enjoyed socialising before our summer break. In September we will begin our autumn meetings with a ploughman’s lunch which will follow parish communion, usually attended after our meetings.

Dilton Marsh Mothers Union - was blessed with a glorious sunny afternoon for their annual cream tea on August 1st. This fundraising event courtesy of member Jane Brake saw crowds of people, not all local, pour through the gates. A successful raffle of generously donated prizes also helped to contribute to funds and everyone’s enjoyment.

Sermon at the Mothers’ Union Celebration, June 2019

The Bishop preached at the Mothers’ Union Celebration and Commissioning of the Diocesan President, Chaplain and Trustees, in Salisbury Cathedral on 1 June 2019.

Introduction
Welcome to this celebration in which we will give thanks for you and all your life and work, commission Rosie Stiven as President, Jacqui Clark as chaplain and the Board of Trustees for the coming three years.

Welcome to the Mayor of Salisbury John Walsh and Mrs Cari Walsh who was admitted to the Mother’s Union last year.

Welcome to Nicky, and John Sweatman. Nicky is the Provincial President and lives in Devizes.

The MU is the largest membership organisation in the diocese of Salisbury: 1300 members, 67 groups and 16 projects.

There is much to celebrate. Welcome to all of you.
Reading: Exodus 1.15-2.10
Sermon

What a fabulous Bible story. Two Hebrew midwives feared God more than they feared Pharaoh. So they played on Pharaoh’s fears of inadequacy, and on his lack of knowledge about women, and they told him that the Hebrew women were stronger than the Egyptians. Their babies were born before the midwives got to there so the Hebrew boys were preserved and the Hebrews in slavery continued to have families. By beautiful twist of fate, or divine Providence, the baby Moses was preserved in the basket in the bulrushes of the River Nile and Pharaoh’s own daughter arranged his care. The rest, as they say, is history.

There is a Biblical pattern of God working through good people who aren’t themselves signed up to the project, of using nations other than Israel and people who might otherwise be seen as outsiders. We also see that the biblical patterns of family life are diverse. Not mum, dad and 2.4 children in idyllic material comfort but strong, loving relationships in varied circumstances, often very testing and poor, in which the community has a part in the upbringing of youngsters. As Africans say, it takes a village to raise a child. Children are all our concerns not just the responsibility of their biological parents.

You are an amazing organisation. I am proud of the MU in this diocese. I know you sometimes worry you are more of a grandmother’s union and wonder how you will continue without new and younger people, but I think it was always so. Mary Sumner and the women she gathered in Old Arlesford in 1876 were mothers concerned for their daughters as they were having children. She founded what was really a grandmother’s union to support young mothers and their family life. The mothers meeting in Old Arlesford remained local until 1885 when Mary Sumner was invited to speak at a church congress in Portsmouth. The bishop who was supposed to preach didn’t think he had much to say to women and invited Mary Sumner to speak. She gave a passionate address about national morality and the importance of women’s vocation as mothers to change the nation for the better. A number of the women present went back to their parishes to found mothers’ meetings like that at Old Arlesford. The Bishop of Winchester made the Mothers’ Union a diocesan organisation which was the start of your becoming national and international.

Nicky Sweatman is going on from this service to Kigali in Rwanda for the worldwide Mother’s Union Conference.

We feel in some ways as though family life is under pressure as never before.

Almost half the children born in this country are to single parents or those who have not married.

For those who do marry, and of course some get married after having children, the divorce rate in this country, at 42%, is extraordinarily high. But it’s not very helpful to say that family life if broken. For most, family life remains strong and many different models of family are emerging. Remember the ways God uses diversity and the variety of patterns of family life in the Bible. Mary and Joseph were not exactly conventional. What matters most is stable, loving, lasting relationships.
It’s the poorest for whom life is toughest. It has always been so. 4.1 million children in the UK live in poverty as defined by government, 30% of our children. How extraordinary that in this country children are considerably more likely to live in poverty than adults. Growing up in poverty can blight children’s well-being and their future life chances. Children living in poverty are more likely to have poor physical and mental health and less likely to achieve their potential at school and in employment.

That is why the MU is so important in providing support to people who in other ways fall through safety nets. The holidays are a really good example of giving to people who gain much more than a break in the days they have away together; and knitting blankets for children born in the Salisbury District Hospital; and the mother and baby project in schools; and the Court café; and your adoption of the Clewer Initiative to tackle modern day slavery; and, and, and.

One of the images of Salisbury that I most like is from the series of paintings that John Constable did of this Cathedral. In 1816 he and Maria married in the church where I used to be the Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields. They came on honeymoon to Salisbury and stayed with the Archdeacon, John Fisher, in Leadenhall. Repeat visits and the patronage of the Archdeacon’s uncle, the Bishop, are the reasons why he produced so many great paintings of Salisbury which are now world famous. In one painted in the months after his wife’s death in 1830 the dark clouds above the Cathedral reflect his own grief and the difficulties that England was facing in the post Napoleonic war years of poverty and of political reform when there was as much uncertainty and anxiety as we now feel about Brexit. Light breaks through the clouds as sunshine falls on the west front of the Cathedral and the spire. Constable later added a rainbow, ending in what was the Archdeacon’s garden representing God’s covenant with all creation.

There are always dark clouds. Life in church and society has its difficulties. There are always difficult issues for us to deal with. The question is how we live with them and how we survive them. Constable’s painting suggests that Church, God, Christ, the Spirit are the deep resources that shine through give hope in an uncertain world. There is a faithfulness in God’s overarching rainbow covenant with all creation.

Isn’t it also what this Cathedral, any church, any Christian organisation represents, not just to its own members but to the wider world. Hope is not optimism that the glass is half full but something more deeply founded. We meet in the season between Ascension and Pentecost when the disciples were sent back to the city to pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit. At Ascension God’s work on earth is done. Between Ascension and Pentecost we pray, “Your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven”. At Pentecost we receive the gift of God’s spirit to enable and empower us to live as citizens of heaven in the here and now.

That is the Christian hope, the certain basis of our faith. That is what drives, empowers, enlivens the work of the MU and all Christians to the glory of God our maker, redeemer, sustainer. Amen
News From Branches

**HARNHAM SUMMER LUNCH OUTING**

Nearly all our members and a few husbands and friends met for our summer lunch at the Bat and Ball. It was a joyous and friendly occasion with lots of good food and interesting conversations. A great opportunity for everyone to meet up.

Jean and Pam from Harnham MU ran the bric à brac on Saturday at a garden party in aid of NSPCC. We raised over £60 on the stall towards a grand total of over £1400.

**SUMMER FUN AT LAVERSTOCK**

Members enjoying a cream tea at Laverstock Community Farm.

**PEWSEY** - Eleanor Lansley aged 92 has been a Mothers’ Union member for 60 years. In July we celebrated in the garden with a special tea party and cake.

**MARNHULL NEW MEMBERS** - Marnhull branch celebrated the enrolment of four new members at a short ceremony within their Mothering Sunday service at St. Gregory’s Church.
Laverstock and Wilton - shared a wonderful summer outing to the American Museum near Bath. After enjoying the exhibition of Kaffe Fassett quilts, members had a look at the fascinating displays of American life inside the old mansion and then had plenty of time to wander round the beautiful themed gardens outside. Pic. two shows Pauline Mahony from Wilton admiring the American rose garden by the side of the museum.

WEDDING THINK CHURCH

Our 'Wedding Think Church' stand at the Wedding Fayre in the Bournemouth International Centre has been organised and run for many years by Margaret Morris. 2019 is Margaret's final year at the Fayre and on your behalf, I would like to thank her so much for all her loving devotion and work in this particular ministry. Margaret, thank you for all that you have done and may the years ahead be rich in blessings.

To date, we have no volunteers to take over this ministry. If you would like to come forward to do this, please contact the MU Office. Rosie

WILTON - In July at St Peter's church, Fugglestone held the MU Thanksgiving Service, at which we enrolled a lady in her 90s, Audrey Potter (centre) and welcomed Annie Hotton (l.), a member who has recently moved to Wilton. The service was led by Afternoon Meeting leader, Monica Gale (r.) and our Evening Meeting leader, Val Jackson, played the music for our hymns. Monica also hosted a Summer Supper Party in her garden. We were blessed with perfect weather and delicious food and wine supplied by our members. After the raffle, plus kind donations from our invited guests, the branch was able to send £200 towards the Sidmouth MU holiday this year.
WILTSHIRE ARCHDEACONRY REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 18

All 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 the relayed by emails and meetings.

BRADFORD DEANERY There were 113 paid up members in 2018. A Deanery meeting was held during the year to share information and ideas.

Holy Trinity Branch meet regularly every month and has a prayer Circle. Rosie Stiven was guest speaker at one meeting and a Quiet Day was held at Great Chalfield to which other branches were invited. Members have been involved in a weekly Mainly Music Young Families Group and monthly Messy Church. One hundred & fifty posies were made for Mothering Sunday and help was provided with the Christingle Service. Members also ran the Virtual Baby Project at Clarendon Academy. Cakes are made & help given at the monthly Trinity Cafe which is for the lonely and dementia sufferers.

St James, Trowbridge, is quite a large group and members are very active in all their church’s activities. They hold a well-attended tea-time service three times a month for young families at which the MU provides and serves the refreshments. They helped Holy Trinity with 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.

St John’s, Trowbridge, maintains its membership and regularly holds fund-raising events. They held a Lady Day Service in July for all the Deanery. They are involved in several outreach projects including providing baby bundles for Spurgeons & making fiddle muffs & blankets for dementia sufferers. They also made teddies & crosses in pockets for AFIA & those being baptised.

Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, has a small number of members. However, they meet regularly every month and raise funds as and when they are able.

CALNE DEANERY The three branches are flourishing & very active.

Derry Hill had a stall at the Village Fete selling cakes veg, jams, chutneys & aprons. They also took part in the opening procession representing Switzerland as the theme was the World Cup. The summer outing was on the Kennet & Avon Canal in Devizes. Meetings held in Christ Church include card making, floral displays, a quiz & talks on World War One & the local archaeology of Stonehenge & Avebury. The MU had a tree in the Christmas Tree Festival which was decorated in the colours of the MU. Christmas Afternoon Tea was held at Bowood House. A service was held for the Wave of Prayer. At the Derry Hill Scarecrow Trail, they had a display of ‘The Lady & The Tramp’. A Big Lunch was held to raise money for AFIA.

DEVIZES DEANERY The five branches in the Deanery continued to enjoy a range of activities with various opportunities for outreach, service & fellowship.

Monthly meetings included talks from members or speakers from various charities and organisations. These included an introduction to the Bartemeus...
course, Amnesty International, Age UK, Diocesan Safeguarding Policy, College of Matrons, Nestling Trust, Devizes Open Door, role of an Army Chaplain, Holy Land & Africa visits, housing project in Mexico, the work of an Anglican Bishop working as the first woman priest in Pakistan, praying with Icons, Mary Sumner, value of the Sidmouth Family Holiday, and why our Provincial President values the Mothers’ Union. (Not forgetting a lunchtime talk on Garden Gnomes!) Support has been given to Spurgeons Children’s Centre in Devizes, the Family Centre at Erlstoke Prison, MSH Make a Mothers’ Day & Summer Collections, AFIA, Salisbury Women’s Refuge and help in packing Angel Tree gifts. All members received the Reflections & Intercessions’ leaflets.

The Devizes Deanery Chairman - Carole Jones, says that she is extremely grateful & blessed for such a dedicated & committed group to lead activities in the branches, without whom it would be difficult to imagine Mothers’ Union continuing in the Devizes area. As with most branches, members are finding it increasingly difficult to travel far especially for Diocesan Council Meetings but the deaneries were represented at both council meetings. Bradford & Devizes Deaneries were represented at the Annual Meeting in Swansea. All deaneries are grateful for help from clergy and the care & leadership of our president, Rosie, & all Trustees as they ensure that the Mothers’ Union projects are relevant to the needs of the community.

Marlene

MUe Shop - Thank you for everyone who has bought either from the shop or by phone or online. This year our turnover related grant is £528 which is £100 more than 2018. This money will go towards our project work. The 2020 diaries are now available (£4.15) and we would advise you to get your orders in promptly. We also have calendars and a large selection of Christmas cards.

Stoles for Sudan - Stole packs are for sale in the shop priced at £3.50 (not £6 as published in the Spring edition of “Windows”). If you are not able to sew one yourself, we have a lovely lady who will make one for you, so why not “Sponsor a Stole”? These hand-made items are greatly valued by the ordinands at the Theological Colleges in South Sudan. If you are interested in this project please contact Jenny in the office (01722 333402).

BLANKETS - Laura and Rosie delivered 130 of your beautifully knitted blankets to the Maternity Unit at Salisbury District Hospital this morning. With on average 200 new arrivals every month, the blankets are disappearing fast. The staff at the Maternity Unit are so grateful for the blankets - the Mums just love them!

A huge thank you to all our knitters and please keep those blankets coming.
CHICHESTER MEETS WEYMOUTH - At the beginning of July, I was asked by Rosie who had been contacted by the DP Chichester asking if there was anyone in the Weymouth area she could meet with. My husband and I had a very enjoyable time with her and her husband showing them around the area.

Elizabeth and Neville Wood

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

Gwen Hitchings
My dear friend, Gwen Hitchings, died aged 89 in February this year. She was a strong, funny and loving woman and these characteristics were evident in all she did – particularly in the work she did for the Mothers’ Union. She helped her husband David in his business and brought up 6 children. She was a leading light in her local church in Broad Chalke and ran the local Young Wives Group from 1954 and became a flourishing Mothers’ Union group. Her stint as Diocesan President ended in 1982 but she remained interested in all that the MU did. She was also a General Synod Member. Gwen, was installed as a Lay Canon at Salisbury Cathedral (1987-93). Always well dressed she managed to find a dress for the occasion which was exactly the right colour for her cloak! She brought many women into the Mothers’ Union (including me) and was the most wonderful example for the God she loved and served so well. It is wonderful to think that she is still calling local people to the God and church she loved so well – her name is inscribed on one of the new bells installed for the millennium celebrations and I always think of her when they ring out on a Sunday morning.

“O Lord Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts you” Psalm 84v12

Janet Roe

Elisabeth Broadbent. 1936 - 2019
Before Elisabeth became MU Diocesan President in 1983, she had started a Young Wives Group in Shrewton which grew into a thriving Mothers Union branch in 1973. During her term of office, 1983-1988, she strived to welcome closer links outside the Diocese, supporting Bishop John Baker’s work fostering the Diocesan Link with the Southern Sudan, and a subsequent visit of Sit Sara Melling, a Mothers Union worker from Juba. Also, she developed MU links with Manchester and Llandaff Dioceses. She fostered close links with the clergy and Bishop John Baker who was a Mothers Union member. As a sequel to Gwen Hitchings' excellent prayer book, "A Time to Pray", Liz created "More Time to Pray" with nationwide contributions and from Overseas branches.

Janet Hill
Gwen Hitchings
Elisabeth Broadbent
Lilian Chapman
Jean Heywood
Wyn Smith
Georgina Smith
Norma Herd
Felicity House
Iris Forshaw
Vicki Kane

Bothenhampton & Walditch P&F Group.
Diocesan President 1977–82 and Diocesan Member in Chalke Deanery
Diocesan President 1983 - 1988
Diocesan Member in Whiteparish
Winterslow P&F Group
A Branch Member for over 70 years in the Lyme Bay Deanery and a Diocesan Member
St John’s and St Mary’s Devizes (103 years old)
Preston
Preston
Diocesan Member in Dorchester Deanery.
St Peter’s Parkstone
**DATES FOR YOUR 2019 DIARY**

- Anti-Slavery Day: Friday 18 October 2019
- Spring Council: Thursday 19 March 2020 at Durweston
- Autumn Council and AGM: Saturday 17 October 2020 at St Francis, Salisbury
- 16 Days of Activism Service Against Gender Based Violence in the Cathedral on Tuesday 3 December at 12 noon.

**Salisbury Cathedral MU Communion Services**

12 noon on the 4th Tuesday of each month except August and December

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<th>Celebrant</th>
<th>Deanery</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 22  Revd Jeffrey Hall</td>
<td>Blackmore Vale</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 26  Revd Becky Roberts</td>
<td>Salisbury with Alderbury</td>
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<td>January 28 (2020)  Revd Carole Peters-King</td>
<td>Salisbury with Alderbury</td>
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<td>February 25  The Very Revd Paul Mellor</td>
<td>Salisbury with Alderbury</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 24  Revd Jennifer Haynes</td>
<td>Devizes</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 25  Revd Canon Jeremy Oakes</td>
<td>Purbeck</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**– BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2019–2021**

- **Diocesan President**: Rosie Stiven
- **Chaplain**: Revd Jacqui Clark
- **Secretary**: Jenny Harrison
- **Treasurer**: Suzanne Waters
- **Archdeaconry Chairs**: Jo Higgs
- **Sherborne**: Sheila Soper
- **Dorset**: Marlene Haffenden
- **Wiltshire**: Vacant
- **Sarum**: Sandra Gamble
- **Unit Co-ordinators**: Action and Outreach (A&O)
  - **Action and Outreach (A&O)**: Sandra Gamble

- **Finance and Central Services**: Mike & Liz Bowler
  - **Finance and Central Services**: Elizabeth Wood (vacant)
- **Faith**: Rosemary Allen
- **Fund Raising, Communications Training**: Daphne Furey
- **Diocesan Members’ Contact**: 5 vacancies
- **Elected Trustees**: Alison Oakes (Gift Aid)
- **Co-opted Trustee**: Carole Jones (Speakers)
- **Community Development Co-ordinator**: Laura Kachale

**Trustee Meetings: all at 10am**

- Thursday 14 November
- Thursday 21 May
- Thursday 23 January
- Thursday 24 September
- Thursday 27 February
- Thursday 19 November

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

By 1 February 2020