CONTENTS

2-3 From the President
4 Chaplain’s Chat
5 Treasurer Notes
Women’s Refuge
6 Remembering Our 140th Festival
7 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence
9 Rounding off 2016
11 Holidays Ahoy!
Audio Windows News
12 News From The Branches
13 Emergency Prayer Chain & Indoor Members
14 In Memoriam
15 Board Of Trustees
16 Dates for your Diary

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

President: Mrs Rosie Stiven Secretary: Mrs Jenny Harrison
MU Office and Shop: Church House, Crane Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 2QB
Opening Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 9.30am – 3.30pm
Telephone: 01722 333402 Email: mothers.union@btconnect.com

www.salisburymu.org.uk
By the time you receive this edition of Windows your Branch programmes will be well underway and your thoughts will be turning to Easter and perhaps having that much longed for taste of chocolate after the Lenten fast.

As a child, I used to give up all manner of chocolates and sweet things for Lent. Instead of eating them, I would collect the goodies in a tin, which would be promptly raided on Easter Sunday! But over the years, I've become much more philosophical about ‘giving up’ things for Lent. Now, instead of ‘giving up’, I think of ‘what can I do more of’? By this, I definitely don’t mean eating more and more chocolates! NO! I like to try to do more of the things which I should really devote more time to day to day. Here, I’m thinking about studying the Bible, taking more time to pray and going out of my way for others. For instance, can I make that extra effort to help someone? Or, can I squeeze a little bit more time out of an already busy schedule, to do something useful for someone else? When thinking about what I can do more of, I am reminded of our Bishop’s vision for Renewing

Hope – To Pray, To Serve and To Grow. All of this fits very well with our own theme for the year, which is, as you know, FAITH IN ACTION. Spending more time with my Bible, really taking time out to pray and to do more of those little acts of kindness, all of this goes a very long way to help us grow in Faith and to translate our Faith into Action for others.

Over the last year, many people have come up to me and asked me about Mothers’ Union – what’s that all about, they say? Or, are you still going – I thought you closed years ago? Needless to say, I find these sorts of comments both alarming and distressing. Alarming because with 1500 of our members in this diocese alone, why do people think that we have died out? Distressing because the wonderful work we do through our projects is just not being noticed or, if it is noticed, not being associated with Mothers’ Union.

Of course, I can trot out a list of our aims and objectives, but it makes so much more of an impact when I tell them about our projects in this diocese; the Court Cafe, AFIA, Virtual Babies, Angel Tree, New Start and all the other projects we do. Windows is an excellent magazine and a wonderful PR tool. As you can see, it is full of stories and pictures of our activities. So please share it with those who don’t know about Mothers’ Union. There are always too many spare copies available in the MU Office. They serve no useful purpose sitting there when they could be distributed by yourselves.

Here’s a challenge with our theme, FAITH IN ACTION in mind. If each one of our 1500 members spoke to a non-member about Mothers’ Union this year, at the very least, we would have increased the awareness of Mothers’ Union in this Diocese and perhaps encouraged some new members in the process. So, as you collect your copies of Windows and distribute them amongst your members, please think about others who could see this magazine? Please ask yourselves, are there other groups in your area that could be encouraged to discover more about Mothers’ Union? What about that Mother and Toddler Group – I wonder if they know about us? What about those
who always make the teas and coffees but aren’t members – perhaps they would like to see the magazine? I would dearly love to go back to our printers to ask them to produce more copies of Windows because the Spring edition went like HOT CAKES! Please do use our magazine to really promote all the wonderful work we do.

This brings me to tell you about one person who has been fundamental over the last 7 years in enabling many of our projects to get going. I’m talking about our Community Development Co-ordinator (CDC), Joanne Triffitt, who, sadly, will be leaving us this summer at the end of her contract, to move on to pastures new.

I am immensely grateful to Joanne for her whirlwind energy and enthusiasm, for her inspiring work and for her loyal support and good humour throughout my first year as President. I would like to sincerely thank her on your behalf for all that she has done for Mothers’ Union in this Diocese during her time with us. “Joanne, we will miss you but give you our blessings for whatever lies ahead for you in the future.”

Often, pictures can speak louder than words. In paying tribute to Joanne and in recognition of all that she has done for us, here are some pictures, taken throughout 2016, which demonstrate Joanne’s involvement with MU and go some way to remind us all of the projects which she has enabled and what FAITH IN ACTION looks like.
We will be able give our thanks to Joanne and to say our fond farewells to her at our Autumn Council on Saturday 14 October in the Community Centre, Market Lavington.

And so, as we come through Lent and anticipate all the wonderful things which Easter promises, let us ask ourselves, has our Lent been a time of testing ourselves by giving up things, or has it been a time for growth - by doing more of all those good things I mentioned earlier? I pray that Easter and indeed, all of 2017 will be a time for each and every one of us to grow as Christians. Let us really take to heart FAITH IN ACTION, so that more and more people in our Diocese will really understand just what Mothers’ Union is all about. Let us show them what we do as members and how we make a difference.

With love and prayers to you all for an Easter full of happiness and joy – Rosie

---

**CHAPLAIN’S CHAT**

I have been licensed as your Diocesan Chaplain now for 9 months. I was inducted in Salisbury Cathedral, at the Service for 140 years of MU, by Bishop Nicholas along with the other Trustees and our President Rosie Stiven. However my first duties took place back in November 2015 when I met with the Trustees (outgoing and incoming) for the Triennial Retreat.

Before I was asked to become Chaplain I had little or no idea of what the Mother’s Union did. However it was to my huge and pleasant surprise that I began to realize that the Mother’s Union did an awful lot! So my introduction to the MU is now underway and this is just to introduce you to myself. I met many of you at the Autumn Council in 2016 and those I did not meet then I look forward to meeting at the Spring Council.

My own Church is in the Parish of St John’s with St Mary’s Devizes where I am an Associate Priest working alongside Canon Paul Richardson who is the Rector for that parish. I have now been there for 5 years. However I live in the Canalside Benefice with my husband, Ernie; my three children, who are all now in their 20’s, have flown the nest. The Canalside Benefice is where I was nurtured through my training and is a very loving and caring community; I served part of my curacy there and then moved to Devizes to finish my training.

In my current post I have experienced welcome and friendship too and this is what I hope to find working with you all in the Mother’s Union. Working with Rosie I know is going to be a great blessing for me and I look forward to the coming years in what is going to be achieved. Last summer I was privileged to have spent a few days down in Devon with the AFIA holiday, what a tremendous gift this is to the diocese, so much needed in these present times. Also the Angel Tree Project at Christmas is another wonderful blessing to the inmates of the diocesan prisons.

My first year as Chaplain has left me feeling humbled at the work that you all do. I am truly in awe of the time and energy that is given to making people’s lives better, both near and far. I have found the Salisbury Diocese MU to be an incredibly
dynamic group of people who have a heart that cares and the humility to cast
themselves aside to work for others. At the centre of all this, is Christ Jesus for whom
we are so very grateful for his life and example to follow. We of course do all we do
for the glory of God, and God has placed us all in the safe hands of your Diocesan
Trustees. If you ever feel a calling to become a Trustee I can assure you that you will
be greatly blessed in doing so, their commitment and friendship is first rate. I should
also commend your ongoing efforts at fundraising; this is such a vital part of
everything that happens because without the funding none of the projects would be
able to take place.

However, one thing I have to say is none of us are getting any younger, and so I will
end with a thought for you. Jesus said, “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are
few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest” This
is still the case. I thank God for all the time and energy of those who do labour for
and on behalf of the Salisbury Diocese Mothers Union!

God bless you all and everything you set out to achieve this coming year.

Rvd Jacqui Clark

TREASURER’S NOTES

As I write this I am in the process of closing 2016 Financial Accounts and beginning
2017. January bank statements have just arrived and I had a quick look. It was soon
very obvious that a lot of the standing orders have not been updated to reflect the
increase in the 2017 subscription. Please can I ask you all to check you are paying the
correct amount, £25 if you are a Branch member, £35 a Diocesan member. £13 of this
will be going to M.S.H., (It would cost me a lot in postage to write to you all!).

Our membership for 2016 was 1,451 compared with 2015 -1,622, a drop of 171.
Unfortunately our costs do not go down. The rent for our office has been increased this
year as has the rates.

Thank you very much for all your fund raising in 2016 and for being so generous.

Suzanne Waters

WOMEN’S REFUGE

In future please could any donations of CLOTHING be delivered to The Salvation
Army in Salt Lane, Salisbury (very handy near Salt Lane carpark). This will enable the
sorting and storage of clothing to be much more manageable, space at the Refuge
being limited. Any other donations.... toiletries, cleaning materials etc can be left in
the usual way. Many thanks for everyone’s kind co-operation. It will certainly ensure
that donations can be properly dealt with to prevent mountains accumulating in the
Refuge.

I hope to bring one of the girls down to the office within the next week to remove
the pile of household goods...thank you for your forbearance.

Madeleine Tarrant
One of our members, Beatrice Smith of Wareham, was so inspired by the festival day, that she wrote the following poem:

‘Winchester Cathedral awaited; bathed in golden light,  
Mothers’ Union members gathering for a day of sheer delight.  
Entertained, as we waited by ribbons and by dance,  
the music and the rhythm set to entrance.  
Inside awaited the wonderful Zambian choir –  
voices in such harmony filled by the Spirit’s fire.  
Banners and clergy processing up the aisle,  
to begin our Service, in reverence and style.  
Prayers and hymns then Neil stopped us in our tracks.  
Opening his heart, showing past cracks –  
before a MU holiday brought Christ to light –  
now telling others how the Christian path is right.  
The Archbishop took us back to our roots,  
showing how 140 years had produced so many shoots-  
Spreading worldwide, lovingly helping families grow,  
giving God the glory as Samuel to Israel did show.  
More Zambian singing praises to our Lord –  
remembrance at His table; all of one accord.  
Drawing ever closer to the mystery of our faith,  
bringing the Spirit closer – real not a wraith.  
Voices once more singing of the greatness of our God,  
leaving with the challenge to walk the path He trod’.

Thank you Beatrice for your lovely poem which beautifully captures the spirit of that very special day.  Rosie
MOTHERS’ UNION HOLDS SPECIAL SERVICE
AS PART OF THE 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM CAMPAIGN
AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

On the crisp and frosty morning of the 29th of November 2016, members and friends of Mothers’ Union from all over the Diocese gathered together in the Trinity Chapel, Salisbury Cathedral, to mark their support for the Global Campaign of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence. The 16 Day Campaign began on 25 November and concluded on 10 December.

Filling the Trinity Chapel, our members gathered for a special Service of Holy Communion. The Revd Joanna Naish presided at this special service which she had also lovingly prepared. Our Mothers’ Union Chaplain, the Revd Jacqui Clark, delivered a moving homily and members took part in the Scripture reading and intercessions. In her homily, Jacqui shared with us stories of violence and abuse which she had encountered at home and abroad during her professional life. Her reflections were graphic and at times, heartrending, and her words really did make you sit up and take note: ‘This is not a man’s world – it is a human world, to be shared safely by humans of any gender, age or race.’

Her homily concluded with the following charge:- ‘Girls, boys, women and men all bear God’s image, it’s about time we began cherishing each other as such and that begins with us.’ Her inspiring words led us into our prayers. As we held up our prayer beads with the three ribbons, we focused on the purple ribbon which symbolised the past. This brought to mind those who live with a history of abuse. Next, we held the gold ribbon. This symbolised the present. We reflected that we are all made in God’s image and gave thanks for his loving and transforming presence with us all. Finally, as we held the white ribbon, we asked for the light of Christ to be with us and to dawn on all who live in darkness. The purple, gold and white ribbons of our prayer beads were reflected in the 3 ribbons coming from the Cross on the central Altar.

At the conclusion of our Service we gathered up the very large collection of household articles and cleaning materials which had been generously
donated by our members for Salisbury Women’s Refuge. Our thanks go to Jo and Jacqui for providing us with an inspiring and truly memorable Service.

I mentioned earlier that the 16 Days Activism Campaign began on 25 November. Well, the start of the Campaign was marked by Mothers’ Union members marching on Downing Street in support of survivors of Domestic Abuse. The march started from the Chapel in Mary Sumner House after a ‘Global Moment’ of Prayer for all those who have suffered and who continue to suffer from violence and abuse. It continued along Millbank and then on to Downing Street. The purpose of the march was to hand in a petition, signed by over 4,500 of our members, which we hope will force the government to reconsider the rules for survivors of domestic abuse.

‘The petition highlights problems with the current child maintenance payment system which could force survivors of domestic abuse to engage with a former partner, the very perpetrator who carried out the abuse against them.’

(From www.mothesunion.org/mothers-union-members-march-downing)

The petition was handed in to No 10 Downing Street by our Chief Executive Bev Jullien and our Worldwide President, Lynne Tembey. On our march we were applauded and questioned by many curious and supportive passers by.

For me, it was a huge privilege to be able to take part in the march and to represent our members from Mothers’ Union Salisbury Diocese.

Rosie Stiven

The Mothers’ Union has zero tolerance for all forms of violence and abuse.
Although the 16 Days of Activism Campaign Against Gender Based Violence rightly focuses our minds in November, there was time, however, earlier in the month, to have a ‘Thank you lunch’ for our team who have looked after the MU holiday home at Rockley Park. We gathered for lunch at the Members’ Club, Rockley Park and as you can see, a jolly time was had by all.

Our holiday home is closed for the winter but will reopen in the Spring. Bookings are welcome and please contact Sheila Soper on 07981743627 or e-mail her at: murockleyholidayhome@gmail.com for further information.

I was also delighted to visit the Church Group for toddlers and their parents, grandparents and helpers at All Saints in Whiteparish. It was a delight to be amongst such a friendly and happy group and I really enjoyed those action songs. I would like to thank Jane Lax and Revd Jane Dunlop for inviting me and I look forward to seeing you again soon.

Into December and we are really getting into the mood for Christmas. Going along to a beautiful Advent Carol Service in the Lady Chapel of Sherborne Abbey has to be a real highlight of the season. Especially as it was followed by tea and mince pies and wait for it – Christingle making! Yes, I think Nick and I went to bed that night dreaming of oranges! But we had lots of fun and it was such a joy to be with the Sherborne group and thank you to Josephine Higgs for organising such a wonderful day!

Next, over to St. John’s, Winterslow, and another very special Advent Carol Service – this time for the whole community and my thanks go to Ruth Banks (shown holding banner) for organising this truly whole community event. The atmosphere was really special. This was an inspiring Service and I am most grateful for the very generous donations to our MU Holiday Fund.
The final event of the year for Wilton Branch was the Eucharist with Carols followed by tea and decorating the Christmas tree with 5 pence pieces which are donated to the MU Holiday Fund. The aim is to completely cover the Christmas tree in silver. Well done Wilton, that’s a beautiful Christmas tree!

But it hasn’t been all Carol Services either. For Mothers’ Union, December is the month for our Angel Tree Project when, in collaboration with Prison Fellowship, the Mothers’ Union organises and wraps Christmas presents for the children of Dads in Erlestoke and Guys Marsh Prisons. Brenda Birt, Joanne Triffitt and team all got together for the Guys Marsh wrapping day during the first week and Liz Goater, Sandra Gamble, Jocelyn Short and MU members of West Lavington Branch gathered on 12 December to wrap the presents for Erlestoke. I would like to thank Janet Hodges, Leader of West Lavington for arranging a lovely gathering for the present wrapping. We came together for Eucharist and this was followed by delicious sandwiches and cakes which were available throughout the afternoon as we worked.

My sincere thanks go to both teams who have worked so hard to make the Angel Tree Project work and to all members and friends who have been so generous with their donations of money and wrapping paper for this project. Your generosity really does count as this year 79 children from 38 families will receive individually wrapped presents on Christmas Day – God Bless them all.

Rosie

Jacqui Clark, MU Chaplain, and Liz Goater are shown present wrapping and the group with the presents.
Would you like a relaxing break or a chance to get away from it all to unwind? What about the Mothers’ Union Holiday Home?

The six-berth holiday home is situated at Rockley Park Hamworthy near Poole in Dorset. From the site, there are views over Poole Harbour and there is a small beach and nature trail within walking distance. There are good public transport links to Poole where there is a bus and railway station. Many places of interest are nearby including Brownsea Island and clean, safe beaches at Sandbanks and Bournemouth.

There is a reception area with very helpful staff. Facilities include a well-stocked shop which sells a wide range of food and other items, ample safe indoor and outdoor play areas, swimming pools, bars and a selection of eating places including take away. There is a variety of entertainments. A privilege card and passes are issued for use during your stay which entitle you to free use of many facilities as well as discounts in the shop and some other outlets on site.

The holiday home is modern and well appointed. It is connected to all mains services and has gas central heating and gas cooker. There are electric lights and power points in all areas. There is no extra charge for these services. There is a fridge with freezer compartment, microwave, toaster, electric kettle, TV with DVD player. There is a launderette on site. The holiday home is fully equipped including linen except for towels and cot linen which families are asked to bring themselves. The holiday home sleeps a maximum of 6 people (which includes babies). There are two twin beds, a double bedroom, and a pull-out double bed in the lounge area. The area around the holiday home is grass and you can park on the grass next to the caravan.

Everyone is welcome to apply!

Costs are from £200 for referred families & other prices available on enquiry from Sheila Soper on 07981743627 or e-mail: murockleyholidayhome@gmail.com

**AUDIO WINDOWS** - It is with great regret that we have to announce that we will no longer be able to produce an audio version of “Windows”. We have known for some time that this was inevitable as cassettes have now been replaced by digital recordings. Sonia Woolley from Salisbury Journal’s “Talking Newspaper” has been reproducing our tapes. We are most grateful to her for this service and wish her well as she masters the new technology.

It transpired that we only had six recipients left and they have all been notified, as have their local branches who will now send someone round to read “Windows” to each one. Should you have blind or partially sighted members in your branch it would be good if you could do the same. Our most sincere thanks go Liz Bunting and her team at Laverstock Mothers’ Union who have produced the recordings for us. It has not been an easy task and they have carried it out with great diligence over many years.

*Rosemary Allen - Former Marketing Co-ordinator*
Bradpole Mothers’ Union -

had a lovely Holy Communion Service with Archdeacon Paul Taylor at St Michael's, Shipton Gorge, Dorset.

During the service Mrs Win Smith received a certificate for Membership of the Mothers Union for 70 years from Worldwide President Lynne Tembey and another from Salisbury Diocesan President Rosemary Stiven.

And Win’s daughter, Reverend Janis Moore, was enrolled as the newest member of the Bride Valley Mothers' Union group.

Win and Janis are pictured with Archdeacon Taylor

Wilton Mothers' Union -

held a service, ‘Celebrating Faithful Membership’, where we not only celebrated 140 years of Mothers’ Union, but a combined 150 years of membership of three of our members, Bertha Hewlett, Nancy Morland and Anne Lort.

Pictured are Rosie Stiven, Diocesan President, with Nancy and Anne shortly after being presented with their 50 year long service certificates and the group with flowers outside George Herbert’s old parish church at Fugglestone - Christine
TROWBRIDGE MEMBERS
WITH FAITHFUL LONG SERVICE

Elizabeth Holland – over 50 years
Jeanette Worth – 50 years
Ann Hawke – 50 years
Pat Ashborne – 60 years
Brenda Truelove – 60 years
Margaret Turner – 60 years

EMERGENCY PRAYER CHAIN -
Although we prefer everyone to be healthy unfortunately it does not happen that way. I am pleased to say that we were asked for prayer regularly during 2016. Some ask for our prayers for a short time while others prefer to stay on the list for much longer. We do not take people off the list until they are ready to do so. You will be pleased to know that I have a very prayerful team who will drop what they are doing to pass it down the line. God is close through all our troubles and can bring us safely through them.

INDOOR MEMBERS -
It has become expensive to send cards to members only to find they have moved or are now living with our Lord. I now phone them just before their ninetieth birthday just as a check and have found it very worthwhile. I do realise that it is difficult to keep check of these dear ladies now that branches have closed. I have often been asked if Indoor members pay a subscription and yes, they should.

“Creator God, you know what we need without our words. Hear our prayers and hear also our silence. Give us strength and grant us those things we cannot or dare not voice. We make all our prayers through our brother, Jesus.”

Oxford Women’s Liturgy

Jan Seaman
IN MEMORIAM
We give thanks for the lives and dedication of the following members, all remembered with love:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revd Gillie Baker</td>
<td>Urchfont</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Davies</td>
<td>Sherborne</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christine Holbrooke – Jones</td>
<td>Archdeaconry Chair 2007 – 2012</td>
<td>St John the Baptist, Bradstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dulcie Hulbert</td>
<td>Derry Hill</td>
<td>A member for over 50 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eileen Jevons</td>
<td>St Thomas, Ensbury Park, Poole &amp; North Bournemouth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peggy Lucksford</td>
<td>Chiseldon (closed) Marlborough</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane McDonald</td>
<td>Trowbridge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irene White</td>
<td>St Peter, Dorchester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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
Administration      Liz Goater (until end 2016)
Faith              (Vacant)
Fund Raising & Communications Sarah Condry
Training           (Vacant)
Diocesan Members’ Contact Rosemary Allen
Elected Trustees    Mike Bowler (Membership)
                    Liz Bowler
                    (Prayer & Fellowship Groups)
                    Elizabeth Wood
                    Alison Oakes (Gift Aid)

Co-opted Trustee
**SALISBURY CATHEDRAL MU COMMUNION SERVICES**  
**APRIL – NOVEMBER 2017**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>April 25</th>
<th>Revd Jeffrey Hall</th>
<th>Blackmore Vale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>May 23</td>
<td>Revd Vanessa Herrick</td>
<td>Wimborne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>June 27</td>
<td>(to be confirmed)</td>
<td>Weymouth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>July 25</td>
<td>Revd Betty Port</td>
<td>Purbeck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>September 26</td>
<td>Revd Canon Jeremy Oakes</td>
<td>Heytesbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>(to be confirmed)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>November 28</td>
<td>Revd Carole Owen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AGM/AUTUMN COUNCIL**

Saturday 14th October  
Market Lavington Community Hall, St Mary’s Road,  
Market Lavington, Devizes SN10

**TRUSTEE MEETINGS 2017:** (all at 10.00 am)  
- January 26  
- March 7  
- June 29  
- September 21  
- November 16

---

Please send news for the Autumn edition of ‘Windows’ to:  
Mrs Sheila Crone, 1 Stroud Place, Salisbury SP1 1JQ  
Tel: 01722 323632 or email: s.crone87@btinternet.com  
by 1 SEPTEMBER 2017  
Thanks once again to our splendid printer, Alan