



**DIOCESE OF LEEDS MOTHERS' UNION,**

*incorporating Episcopal Areas of Bradford, Huddersfield, Leeds, Ripon and Wakefield,*

linked in prayer with Lesotho (S.Africa), Kibungo (Rwanda), Etche, Ogbomoso (Nigeria), Hanuato'o (Solomon Islands),

**From the Diocesan President.**

Dear friends and fellow members,  
On 5th July, I watched online as Sheran Harper addressed the General Synod of the Church of England. This is the first time our MU Worldwide President has had the privilege of doing this and she did us proud. Her announcement that she is the first Worldwide President from outside the British Isles was greeted with much applause. Sheran said that she has taken up Archbishop Justin's challenge to ensure MU is visible throughout the Anglican Communion and beyond. We have a vast network like no other and we are placed in the heart of communities. As MU Worldwide Parenting Co-ordinator she had experienced first hand what it is like to "roll her sleeves up, kick off her shoes and work with Bishops and members alike". She gave examples of members working to bring about reconciliation in different parts of the world and then went on to talk about MU members in the UK providing



safe spaces and listening to people. "Tea, coffee and cake – with a mission. We are united despite our diversity, we can make changes to reach safety and peace and build relationships for the furtherance of God's Kingdom." Sheran gave the assurance that there is space for both older and younger women in MU but we must meet young women where they are, engage them with what excites and inspires them and what they see as important. MU is alive in the UK but working diligently in the background- we must all take up the challenge to make the work **VISIBLE!**

I leave you with that challenge in the Diocese of Leeds. Thank you for all that you contribute to our Mothers' Union worldwide family and I hope that you all make time for some rest and refreshment over the summer. The Episcopal Area Presidents and I want to get to know all our members.

Please remember to invite us to one of your events or meetings.

With love & prayers

*Jean*

**Wakefield Episcopal Area invites you to :-**  
**AUTUMN ADVENTURE MARK 11**  
**MU Past Present & Future**

Hear about the Forgotten Women of Wakefield and especially about Miss Mabel Norton, past Diocesan Secretary!  
Learn more about our project work!  
The work done in New Hall Prison  
Our AFIA project!

**ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH**  
**BELLE VUE WAKEFIELD**  
Tuesday 22nd October 2019  
10am to 2.30pm Tickets £3.

Look to the future, Mothers' Union Listening, Observing and Acting in step with God.



**WANTED - A STORAGE SOLUTION**  
**CAN YOU HELP?**

If anyone has storage space available for large items, it would be appreciated.  
Please contact Diocesan Secretary, Joanna Sarkar.

**musecretaryleeds@gmail.com**



**Provincial Meeting –**  
**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

We are very excited that Worldwide President, Sheran Harper, will be visiting the York Province later this year and there will be an opportunity to meet her and hear her speak at Leeds Minster. More details to follow!



**Summer of Hope Appeal** - You are invited to help hope reach all the corners of the world this summer! There are so many Mothers' Union events going on to support causes all over the world, why not join in your local one?

### Diocesan Council Meeting – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019

This will take place at **Christ Church, Skipton**. Our guest speaker will be **Caroline Collins**, Diocesan President of Liverpool, who set up a Mini MU Branch for younger members.

### Families Worldwide, Annual Review and Prayer Cards

You should all have received the latest copies of Families Worldwide, the Annual Review and the Prayer Card. If you need any further copies, please contact Jo Sarkar, the Diocesan Secretary on [musecretaryleeds@gmail.com](mailto:musecretaryleeds@gmail.com)

### Leading your Mothers' Union Branch into Growth!

Rev Canon Robin Gamble, the Bishop's Advisor for Church Growth, addressed members at the Council Meeting in June 2019 and gave us food for thought about how to encourage new members. We really can offer great FRIENDSHIP and HOSPITALITY to both men and women in our parishes! Firstly, we are encouraged to PRAY for new members. Secondly, we are encouraged to think about putting on an EVENT at our church – such as a Quiz Night, Film Night, Book Swap, Pizza & Prosecco Evening, Cook Your Favourite Dish & Bring It Along Evening. Make it personal and print invitations to give out. Why not have a go at this in the Autumn? Let us know how you get on!

### Forthcoming Dates 2019

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August - Mary Sumner Day

17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019 – Mothers' Union Service and General Meeting in Portsmouth



### MUe News

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who bought MUe goods last year. We have just heard that we have been granted £1,752.43 as our Turnover Related Grant (TRG). We are also the second highest in the Country! This grant will be spent to enhance the work of MU in the Diocese so is very valuable to us all. In 2018 and 2019, these are some of the initiatives which the TRG enables us to provide:

**Food on a Budget booklets** We plan to reprint with new recipes.

**Book about cancer in the family** for cancer wards, Macmillan nurses and local hospices in the Diocese. As each family must have their own copy, we will be able to purchase a supply.

**AFIA Caravan equipment.** After upgrading our two caravans at the coast, money was spent on the purchase of new bedding and electrical equipment which needed replacing.

**A day out for a group from a women's refuge** They had a wonderful time.

**Supporting a family after domestic abuse.** We funded a weekend trip for a family who had suffered a domestic abuse murder within the family group.

By now you should all have received the Diaries & Calendars you ordered. If not, please contact your MUe Rep or Area President. There are still items available for purchase, but now at the full recommended price.

Christmas cards will be arriving next week! Each Branch will have received a new Catalogue & will receive a selection pack of cards (£4.35) so please use these to collect orders from your members, friends, Church, family & anyone else you can hijack, so that our TRG next year might reach £2000 & we become top of the list! There are some beautiful cards & gifts just waiting for you to order-----. *God Bless, Margaret.*

### Prayer Team for August/September 2019

**ASAP**..... always say a prayer

#### PRAYERFUL POINTERS:-

It's holiday time!

**Pray for** all families that they enjoy a time away from the busyness of routines at work, school and home and return in September refreshed.

**Pray for** those who can't "get away" that they have time to relax and enjoy the summer weather.

**Pray for** all leaders and members as they gather for the General Meeting in Portsmouth in September.

**PARCEVALL HALL:** Members prayerfully and thoughtfully led by Rev Bryony Partridge enjoyed a special time for reflection in June. With time for fellowship, worship and food we were ready to return home refreshed again.

Time for Reflection next year will be in July.

**DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER edition is 14TH SEPTEMBER.**