

in touch

London Diocesan News



Summer 2019

Dear Friends,

My first letter to you as your Diocesan President and by the time you read it half of 2019 will have passed. If everything has gone as planned you're also reading your "In Touch" in its new format. Following in the steps of "Families First", trustees decided that we downsize too. You will find it easier to carry around and, more important, the cost of postage to our increasing numbers of Diocesan members will be less. Your comments would be appreciated.



My thanks to Margaret for having done such a fantastic job and I hope I can match up. I certainly wasn't prepared for the information overload but learning how to file into keep, share and bin.

I hope to get to visit as many branches as possible during my term in office – early days yet! My prayer is that our Diocese will grow & flourish.

I did accompany Margaret to meetings and conferences over the years but the last Canterbury Conference I was flying solo – quite a responsibility. It was wonderful to meet up with friends, Ruth and Sheila, who used to be London Diocese but are now in the South West – Truro and Exeter.

Contact has been made with Spurgeons, who run the visitors centre at Feltham Young Offenders Unit. They are very keen to work with us so we can assist on Family Days. It's encouraging to have new Diocesan projects happening alongside the well established ones. I will be making contact too with the charity that works in Pentonville prison.

It is an exciting time for Mothers' Union with our new World Wide President, whose commissioning service was an uplifting occasion. In our own Diocese we have 3 new Area Vice Presidents and new trustees.

Please pray for them and all our members as we Listen, Observe and Act – in Step with God.

Love and prayers
Sue

Dear Members,

Greetings and welcome to our Summer edition of In Touch magazine. I am grateful to our President, Sue Johnson for allowing me to pick up the challenge and run with the role as Editor.



I am truly honoured and privileged to have been newly elected as a Trustee on the Board of the London Diocese, for the term 2019 to 2021, with responsibility for the role of Worldwide Links Correspondent. I have been a member of my local branch at All Saints, Notting Hill for the last 10 years.

You will remember that the Links project was a direct result of the Wave of Prayer which was started in 1920 to unite all members of the Mothers' Union in prayer. Each diocese was prayed for in turn as the wave encircled the world. In 2014, the worldwide Trustees reorganised the Wave of Prayer to accommodate the growing membership of the Mothers' Union worldwide. It is reassuring and exciting to learn that there are approximately four million members in eighty three countries around the world.

Following this reorganisation, the London Diocese is currently linked with Mothers' Union members in El Obeid in Sudan, Butere in Kenya, Mbale in Uganda, Brisbane in Australia, Nnewi in Nigeria and the Province of United States of America.

I am pleased to report that to date, I have been in touch with members in Nigeria, America and Australia who are all engaged in many prolific projects in their dioceses. Some of these include caring for refugees, unwed teenagers and the homeless in America. In Nigeria, members assist schools and victims of natural disasters and terrorism and carry out physical hands on activities. In Brisbane members support hostels for women and children, visit the aged in nursing homes and provide assistance in periods of drought.

As my role develops, I will continue to establish communication with all our Links around the world and share the information I have gained with you.

As you are aware, prayer is at the heart of all that we do in the Mothers' Union. I would encourage you to continue to support all the activities of the Mothers' Union both locally and nationally. I hope you will enjoy the magazine and I wish you God's blessings for good health and happiness in the future.

Much love,

Allyson Williams MBE Editor

Commissioning of Dorothy Nnene as AVP of Edmonton Area Mothers' Union

Commissioning of Dorothy Nnene as the new AVP of Edmonton took place at the Lady Day Service held on 27th of March, 2019 at St. Peters Church in Edmonton. The Bishop of Edmonton, Rob Wickman, conducted the Service. Dorothy's interest and love of the mission of the Mothers' Union lead her to reintroduce it at St. Aldhelm's Parish in 2015 where she worships.



We began as a little acorn and indeed very blessed to have her as our leader. Today we continue to be stronger under Dorothy's leadership. We are so proud of Dorothy's achievement and willingness to take on the responsibility of the new positions' requirement. As the new AVP, she has the full support of our members and we pray in Jesus Almighty Name, and by the Grace of God, that he gives her the strength to perform her duties. Amen!

Enrolment St. Aldhelm's Parish

What a blessing it is for Dorothy Nnene, AVP Edmonton Area. Her first enrolment of a new member is from her very own group at the Lady Day Service on 27th March, 2019. We are so proud to welcome Althea Challenger as a member of St. Aldhelm's Parish Mothers' Union. As God continues to move in our heart to spread his love and support for each other, we look forward to sharing the mission of the Mothers' Union.



Food delivery to local Food Bank serving Enfield-Edmonton

St. Adhelm's Parish Mothers' Union continued their yearly support to the local Food Bank as the families in need increased this year. We are thankful to the members who took the time to come out on 9th of April, 2019 to support this worthy cause. We had such a great time shopping. Give God the Glory! 1 Corinthians 13:13 - And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.



Beatles and Penguins

The Beatles have never appeared on any list that I have seen of recommended topics for MU meetings. However, as a community event in August, a presentation on “The Beatles, and why they are the Shakespeare of rock & roll “ by the Vicar of St John and St Luke, Clay Hill, Enfield, the Rev’d Peter Godden, was a great success, with 120 people present.

Two weeks later a presentation on “14 Months in the Freezer” (research in Antarctica) by Dr Malcom Foster was also very well received.

We deliberately timed these two meetings for Friday mornings in the summer holidays, when our community choir does not meet. Many choir members came, not only out of interest in the subjects, but also because their other clubs and societies were having a summer break.

The branch has gradually changed its policy on meetings. We used to have fairly small monthly meetings which were chosen to interest or entertain our members, and we advertised them to others in the church who might be interested. Gradually, without any great plan, we have widened the scope of the programme by arranging meetings of interest to the general public, and advertising them more widely. These meetings have all come as suggestions from the people presenting them, who bring their own projectors or know how to set up the parish equipment! Most of us thought we knew all about the Beatles, having grown up with them (unlike Fr Peter) but we were amazed at his depth of knowledge, and impressed with his explanation of their musical development over the years.

Likewise, we thought we knew about the Antarctic: it’s very cold, and there are penguins. We were fascinated by the description of the research Malcom had done and the details of living in such a dangerous environment. My abiding memory is the picture of the staff – electricians, carpenters, weather and other specialists – in hospital gowns and masks round an operating table, trained to assist during operations if the need arose!

The icing on the cake was the financial benefit to the parish. Our community choir spent last autumn term meeting in another church because some tiles had fallen from the ceiling of St Luke’s, and the choir members were very glad to return in January. They, and others, showed their appreciation when we had collections in aid of the ceiling fund after these two meetings, and the £500 raised completed the amount outstanding. This was a special appeal, not competing with MU funds.

Valerie Budd St Luke’s, Clay Hill, Enfield Branch

Feltham Young Offenders Unit

A few weeks ago I was invited to Feltham to meet with someone from the charity Spurgeons Children's charity. They are responsible for organising family fun days across the prison, delivered in an informal setting where fathers and their children or sibling groups can play, have fun and share quality time with each other. Family time is so important.

The importance of family is high in Mothers' Union scheme of things so I feel we have a great deal to offer and Spurgeons are keen to have us volunteer with them.

We have already begun by providing them with Easter eggs and Easter craft materials but we can do so much more.

Want to get on board and make a difference to these families? Please contact me for an application form. Details of family days for the rest of the year are printed in the magazine. please note you're unable to just turn up, as your application must be approved first.

I pray we can make this work

Sue DP



A Mothers' Union member giving Easter eggs to the children of the young offenders.

Family days organised to date

15-17 year olds

28th June

12th July

13th Sept

15th Nov

13th Dec

18-21 year olds

Father Fridays

14th June

26th July

30th Aug

27th Sept

25th Oct

29th Nov

20th Dec

Family Days

23rd Aug

6th Dec

St. Aldhelm's MU Bazaar

We will be holding our 4th Annual fund-raising summer Bazaar on Saturday 13th July 2019 from 12 noon to 4 pm. The Venue is St. Aldhelm's Parish Hall at 4 Windmill Road, Edmonton N18 1PA.

Come and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon with us. Tell your family and friends, bring the kids along.

There will be raffle prizes, participate in the auction and browse around the tables with various items for sale. There is time to pause for a hot or cold drink with one or two slices of cakes at a minimal cost.

Come one and all, we will love to meet you. It's all for charity.

May the way of God direct you.

Ruth Robinson





Above: The commissioning of the World wide Trustees of the Mothers'Union at Southwark Cathedral in February 2019



Left: Nikki Sweatman, Provincial President of Canterbury and Zonal Trustee (rt.) with Sue Johnson, Diocesan President of London

Sheran Harper, Worldwide President at her commissioning service at Southwark Cathedral in February 2019



MOTHERS' UNION-LONDON DIOCESE

WAVE OF PRAYER 2019

9TH – 11TH JULY 2019

As the prayers are said a candle may be lit for the Link Diocese.

Leader: Our theme for 2019 is “Listen, Observe, Act... in step with God”

Gracious Lord, You gave us Your son who is our salvation: He is the Vine that enables us the branches to bear fruit so that we are complete in Chrst; Your Holy Spirit our Counsellor and comforter to guide us in all truth; and your Word which guides and corrects us so that we “may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. In You, Lord, we lack nothing. Thank you for giving so abundantly. Merciful Lord, help us to be open to every Grace from above and sensitive to every need around us. Train us in ways of loving that will bring justice and healing to others as we follow in the steps of our Lord Jesus Christ. Even as you have shown us the way, Lord, help us to walk in it for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Hymn: Thy Hand, O Lord has Guided...

All: MU Prayer: Loving Lord, we thank you for your love so freely given to us all. We pray for families around the world. Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love, through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life. Empowered by Your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship and in love and service reach out as Your Hands across the world. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Reader: Isaiah 40: 28-31

Leader: Oh that man would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness endures forever...He satisfies the longing soul. (Psalm10:8-9)

Reader 1: SUDAN: Diocese of El Obeid

Dear Lord, we pray for our fellow members here and throughout the Sudan. We pray for their invaluable work in areas of conflict. We pray for the success of the projects they manage, including working with other agencies through the current civil war and humanitarian crisis. We pray that the Mothers' Union never gives up or despairs of any challenges facing them in their work. This we ask in Jesus' Name, Amen.

Lord Hear us.....Lord graciously hear us

Leader: I will mention the loving kindness of the Lord and the praises of the Lord according to all that the Lord has bestowed on us.

Reader 2: KENYA: Diocese of Butere

Almighty God, we pray for the people of Butere and for the strength and determination of the Mothers' Union members as they work tirelessly to help disadvantaged children. We pray for the families whose lives have been shattered by violence and disease. We pray for the abandoned children and orphans in their care. We pray that you empower them with your love and strength as they undertake projects that make a difference in their communities. This we ask in Jesus' Name, Amen.

Lord Hear us.....Lord graciously hear us

Leader: His Divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness. (2 Peter: 1:3)

Reader 3: NIGERIA: Diocese of Nnewi

Thank you, Lord for the loving support you give to the members in Nnewi diocese. Bless them as they continue their activities in providing training opportunities for young girls and in other creative outreach initiatives. Bless the newly appointed Provincial President of the Mothers' Union. We give thanks for her ministry and devotion to the work of her members.

Lord Hear us.....Lord graciously hear us.

Leader: I know you can do everything and that no purpose of yours can be withheld from you, Lord. (Job 42:2)

Reader 4 : USA : Province of USA

Loving Lord and Creator of the Universe, we pray for our fellow members in America. We thank them for the work they undertake towards developing their membership base throughout the USA. We pray that you bless their work in supporting teenage mothers, inmates in prisons and the families of soldiers. Give them strength in supporting women's refugees. Bless the work of their development Coordinators as they provide help and support to

members in their work within the church and wider community. In God's name we pray, Amen.

Lord Hear us.....Lord graciously hear us

Leader: The Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself make intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. (Romans 8:26)

Reader 5: LONDON

Gracious Lord, God of love and hope, we thank you for the works of the Mothers' Union in the United Kingdom. Bless the various outreaches in our London diocese as we play our part in actualising the Gospel teachings on marriage and family life. Bless our noble Patron, the Queen. Grant her strength, courage and wisdom. Guide us as we embark on our 2019 MULOJA journey of self-discovery, to Listen, Observe and Act in step with God. Lord, we lift up the works of Mothers' Union, London diocese and pray that You perfect us to Your Glory. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Lord Hear us.....Lord graciously hear us

Leader: Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience...that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. (James 1:2-4)

Reader 6: UGANDA: Diocese of Mbale

We thank you Gracious Lord for the dedication and relentless work of the Mothers' Union in Mbale and especially for their 110th anniversary of active service in promoting and supporting family life across Uganda. We thank them for their work in hosting important national and international meetings and conferences about the work of the Mothers' Union. We ask God to bless your work against gender-based violence, and helping families and communities to take control of their lives with dignity. We ask that you give them strength and resilience in their work in improving marriage and family life within their communities. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Leader: Heaven and the highest heavens belong to the Lord, your God, also the earth with all that is in it. (Deut.10:14)

Reader 7: AUSTRALIA: Diocese of Brisbane

Heavenly Father, we pray for families around the world and especially for our fellow members in Brisbane. We commend them for the many projects they undertake across many branches. Support them in their work with families at risk. We thank them for their vision in establishing the large and successful domiciliary nursing service to meet the needs of women and children living in poverty. We ask that you bless them with strength and fortitude as they support emergency relief during natural disasters, support children at risk and support women's hostels. Guide them with their overseas and outreach programmes. This we ask in Jesus' name, Amen.

Lord Hear us.....Lord graciously hear us

Hymn: To God be the Glory, great things He hath done....

MULOA PRAYER: We pray that our God will make us fit for what He's called us to be, that He'll fill our good ideas and acts of faith with his own energy so that it all amounts to something. As our lives honour the name of Jesus, may he honour us by his Grace: our God giving Himself freely, the Master, Jesus Christ, giving Himself freely. Amen.

All: The Lord's Prayer: Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the Power and the Glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Grace: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.



Congratulations

Wedding anniversaries:

Eileen and Brian Stirk - June 2nd 60th anniversary

Iris and Gary Lisa - 19th July 50th anniversary

Eileen and Brian Galsworthy - 2nd November 50th anniversary

Long Service Award

Beryl Rickson for 50 years membership

In Memory

Jess Kearney

Jackie Franklin
5th April 1937-11th April 2019

I attended the funeral service for Jackie today and was pleased to see so many Mothers' Union members there from across the Diocese.

She recently celebrated her 82nd birthday.

She had been a member of St Peter and St Paul, Ordnance Road initially before worshipping at St George's having lived in the area all her life.

She served Mothers' Union as a Diocesan President, speaker across the Diocese, branch leader and most recently representative for the Diocesan members.

Having served our Lord so faithfully she can now rest with him forever.
RIP Jackie.

Sue

MOTHERS' UNION CALENDAR - LONDON DIOCESE 2019

"Listen, observe, act - in step with God"



JUNE			
6th	Thursday	Prayer Hour (11 am)	St.Paul's Cathedral
8th	Saturday	Kensington Area Diocesan Open Meeting	St Hilda's Church Hall, Ashford
13th	Thursday	Festival Service (7pm)	St Paul 's Cathedral
19th	Wednesday	Trustees Board Meeting	Hall - LDH
JULY			
4th	Thursday	Prayer Hour (11 am)	St.Paul's Cathedral
9th-11th	Tues/Wed/Thurs	WAVE OF PRAYER	London Diocese
AUGUST			
9th	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Mary Sumner Day</i>	
SEPTEMBER			
7th	Saturday	Willesden Area Diocesan Open Meeting	Venue to be announced
11th	Wednesday	Finance & Office Committee 10-2pm	Room C- LDH
12th	Thursday	Prayer Hour (11 am)	St.Paul's Cathedral
17th-18th	Tues-Wed	GENERAL MEETING	Guildhall Portsmouth
26th	Thursday	Action & Outreach Committee 10-2pm	SPCK- LDH
27th-29th	Fri - Sun	RETREAT-	Bishop Woodford House Ely
OCTOBER			
8th	Tuesday	Prayer Hour (11 am)	St.Paul's Cathedral
10th	Thursday	Faith & Policy Committee 10-2pm(only)	Room A - LDH
NOVEMBER			
5th	Tuesday	Prayer Hour (11 am)	St.Paul's Cathedral
6th	Wednesday	Trustees Board Meeting 10-3pm	Room A-LDH
25th	Monday	AGM/Diocesan Open Meeting 10-3pm	Hall- LDH
25th	Monday	16 Day of Activism (25th Nov to 10th Dec)	
DECEMBER			
3rd	Tuesday	Prayer Hour (11 am)	St.Paul's Cathedral

**Articles & pictures for the next issue should be received by
Sunday 7th October to appear in the next issue.**

Willesden MU

On Thursday 28th March I had the honour of being commissioned, by Bishop Pete Broadbent, as the Area Vice President for the Mothers' Union in the Willesden Area. It was touching to receive the support and encouragement of Sue Johnson, the Diocesan President, members from several branches in the area, as well as parishioners and branch members from my own church Christ the Saviour.

Regards

Pauline McCalla

Area Vice President - Willesden

Trustee Board for 2019 - 2021

Diocesan President Sue Johnson

Treasurer – David Loftus MBE

Office Administrator – Fiona Yates

Area Vice Presidents

Edmonton – Dorothy Nnene

Stepney – Folake Roberts

Kensington – Sally Goulden

Willesden – Pauline McCalla

Unit Co-ordinators

Action and Outreach – Sue Laurie

Links – Allyson Williams MBE

Finance & Office – Margaret Blazey - not on Trustee Board

Faith & Policy – Gogo-Rose Ilo

Speakers/Training – Beryl Rickson

Trustees

Antonio Joseph, Sharon Fergus, Diane Willcocks

Area Chaplains

Edmonton Fr. Bruce Batstone

Stepney Revd. Tunde Roberts

Kensington The Rev.Canon David Reindorp

Willesden Revd Helen Askwith



Margaret Blazey, outgoing President looks on at the commissioning of the new President, Sue Johnson by The Rt. Rev. Bishop of London Sarah Mullaly.

Bishop Sarah Mullaly is congratulating Mrs. Maud Gardiner on her 50 years of service to the Mothers' Union



The Retreat will be held from 27-29 September 2019 and will be led by Fr. Stuart Owen. Please contact Sue Johnson for details

MULOA Moments



Willesden MULOA



Stepney MULOA

Christmas Angel

What you will need - Some wool (in any yarn or colour), Knitting needles (between size 10-8 (that's 3.25mm and 4mm)) Darning needle (like a big sewing needle), Small amount of stuffing

The angels have been designed to be as simple and as flexible as possible so everyone from a beginner to a more advanced knitter can have a go. Feel free to adapt the pattern if you want to by adding in different colours or making a larger angel, If you want a place to start we have used a size 9 needles with double yarn to knit some of ours.



You will need a basic knowledge of knit and purl to make these angels but don't let that stop you if you haven't done it before. Find someone who can teach you and ask them to help you learn a new skill. And most of all have fun.

The Pattern - Angel-Body

Cast on 48 sts

1. Knit row
2. Purl row
3. K2TOG, K10*, repeat until end
4. Purl row
5. Knit row
6. P2TOG, P9*, repeat until end
7. Knit row
8. Purl row
9. K2TOG, K8*, repeat until end
10. Purl row
11. Knit row
12. P2TOG, P7*, repeat until end
13. Knit row
14. Purl row
15. K2TOG, K6*, repeat until end
16. Purl row
17. Knit row
18. P2TOG, P5*, repeat until end
19. Knit row
20. Purl row

21. K2TOG, K4*, repeat until end
- 20 sts

22. Purl row
23. Knit row
24. Purl row
25. Knit row
26. Purl row
27. Knit row

At this point, you can change your colour to create the face if you want.

28. Purl row
29. Knit row
30. Purl row
31. Knit row
32. Purl row
33. Knit row
34. Purl row
35. K2TOG, repeat until end
36. Purl row
37. Knit row
38. P2TOG, repeat until end

Using a darning needle, thread the end of the yarn through the stitches and tighten to create the top of the head. Turn the angel inside out and sew up the head and the body. Around the neck, take a small amount of stuffing and place at the top of the head, then thread some yarn between stitches and pull loosely together.

Angel - Wings

Option 1

Cast on 27 sts

1. Knit row
2. Knit row
3. Decrease at each end (Knit)
4. Knit
5. Knit 12 rows, decrease at each end cast off



This angel is knitted in sparkly cream, with sparkly mohair wings

Option 2 (more advanced)

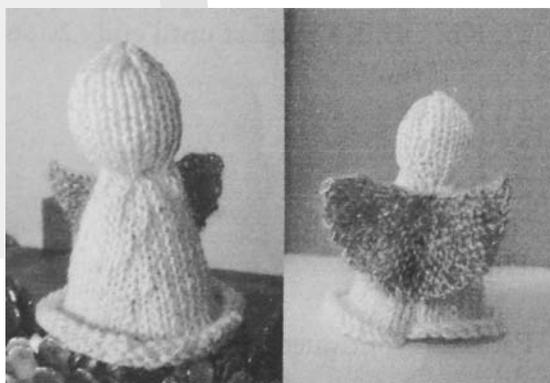
The wings are knitted in short rows, with the yarn wrapped around the last stitch in the middle of each ridge. To complete this you need to bring your yarn forward, slip the stitch over purlwise, take the yarn back again, replace the slipped stitch, bring the yarn forward again and turn the work.

W&T = wrap & turn

Cast on 9 sts

1. K8, w&t, K8
2. K6, w&t, K6
3. K4, w&t, K4
4. K2, w&t, K2
5. K4, w&t, K4
6. K6, w&t, K6

Repeat these 6 rows, 4-5 times as necessary. Sew wings to the body.



Wings as they should look using option 2

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Diocese of London

Vision: Our vision is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful, and flourishing relationships.

Aim and Purpose: To demonstrate the Christian faith in action by transformation of communities worldwide through the nurture of the family in its many forms.

Mission:

- To promote and support married life
- To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children
- To maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service
- To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children
- To help those whose family life has met with adversity



Emergency Prayer Network

London/Stepney & Edmonton
0208 804 7156

Kensington 01784-245015
Willesden 0208-908-5938

Patron: The Rt. Rev. Bishop of London
Diocesan President: Mrs Sue Johnson

Hon. Treasurer: David Loftus MBE
Contact via MU office

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Linked in prayer with Province USA,
Nnewi Nigeria, Butere Kenya, Obeid Sudan,
Brisbane Australia, Mbale, Uganda.

Area Chaplains
Edmonton:
The Rev'd Bruce Batstone.

Kensington:
The Revd. David Reindorp

Willesden:
Revd. Helen Askwith

Stepney:
Revd Preb Tunde Roberts

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