

# Transformation Now!

## **Thoughts from Diocesan President Linda on Mothers' Union in St Eds and Ips**

Across the whole of Suffolk there are small groups of women meeting together to grow deeper in their Christian faith, to pray and support local clergy and team ministries, to engage in practical help in the local community and to fund-raise. They organise local events and at the same time engage with and embrace national and world-wide projects and campaigns. Where else would you find across the diocese a group of like-minded people coming together for a Quiet Day to grow deeper in their faith, unite in fellowship, and strengthen friendships? Where else would you find a small group of Christian women coming together to talk about relevant, current issues and support one another?

On Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> June, the MU North Suffolk Area held a (10 am-3.00 pm) at St Peter's Church, Holton. Around 30 all MU members) came together to hear the Rev Margaret about Icons and Iconography. It was a fascinating, awe-beautiful and informative day with time to be still and quiet, a learning and reflection, a labyrinthine walk, and all in the Eucharist. Margaret did indeed show us a "door into heaven". Our thanks to Margaret and the NSA team for organising such a thought-provoking and truly memorable day.



Quiet Day people (not King talk inspiring, time for culminating

**I Chameleon** - North Suffolk Area will again be running a Pop -Up Shop in Halesworth, from 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> October, selling donated items to raise money for MU projects at home and abroad. If you are turning out and have any contributions of china, glass, household items, fabric, pictures, books, jewellery, bric -a -brac. etc, please contact Anna Vessey on 01379 588389.

**North Suffolk Area Morning** -This will be held at St. Peter and St. Paul Church Hoxne on Tuesday September 19<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 1.30pm. Revd. Enid Pow will speak about her ministry to the Inuit. Branches in the North Suffolk Area will be running several stalls for cakes, produce and gifts. There will be a Raffle and MUE cards will be available. Further details from Cathie McGregor 01379 668434.

## **Fundraising Events for the Summer of Hope Appeal**

For parents and children who need support or who simply need a break, your prayers, gifts and actions this Summer of Hope can make all the difference.

**On Thursday 3rd August - 2.30pm** - Fressingfield Branch will be having an Afternoon Tea to be held on the Sancroft Hall Green in Fressingfield. (in the hall if wet) There will be a Bring and Buy Stall and Refreshments.

**On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2.30pm until 5pm**-Yoxmere Benefice Branch are holding a Cream Tea in the garden of Farthings, Sibton Road, Peasenhall IP17 2JF.

**Ipswich Area** has two new lightweight Mothers Union Banners. If anyone has a Branch Coffee Morning or is promoting Mothers Union with in their church, you are very welcome to borrow them just let me know. I will have them at St Mary Stoke for the Mary Summer Day Service on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023. **Ipswich Area Coffee Morning** will be held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November at St Michaels Church Martlesham - 10am – 12noon. More details nearer the time. **Sandra Griffiths**

**St Margaret's - Ipswich** are sad to have lost one of their members

Lily Jakubowski had been an MU member "all her married life" according to her daughters, in London, Essex and Suffolk. She was 92 and had been a member of the choir and a regular church attender, until a week before she died. Lily always tried to respond to Jeanette's requests for prayers

**Re-Imagining Mothers' Union Discovery Day. Event on June 23<sup>rd</sup>** Thank you to everyone who came to our Re-Imagining Mothers' Union event on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at Shepherd's Drive Baptist church. Eighteen branches were represented by the 27 people who attended. The new Mothers' Union featherlite banners were on display, giving our event a new look. The new venue was also a success with everyone, especially those in the kitchen who commented on it being the best equipped kitchen they had seen. Something we need to consider for all our diocesan events is the possibility of car sharing, not just to reduce our carbon, but to enable members without cars, or who are not used to driving on the A14 or A12 to attend. Those attending commented on how relaxed and enjoyable the programme was, with many opportunities for discussion with people from across the diocese. The resources have provided branches with plenty of materials to use and explore to find their own way forward. More events along these lines were requested with possible opportunities to meet with overseas members to learn more about them. [Jeanette Appleton](#)

**Knitted Breasts for NHS.** This project to support the 'breast feeding care team' in the NHS in Suffolk has been in high demand and much appreciated. Currently almost 100 have been donated and distributed. There will be a training day for staff including those new to the team and we hope to be able to send another batch to the coordinator at the beginning of September. Thanks to all who have supported this initiative and please keep knitting. If you need a pattern or want to know how to send these on, please email me. [Cathie McGregor catherinemcgregor211@gmail.com](mailto:catherinemcgregor211@gmail.com) COI for Craft

### **St Edmundsbury Cathedral Branch - 2023 Summer Update**

Our Mothers Union members, led by Rosemary Dale, have been holding [craft mornings](#) at St Johns Church, every month, on a Tuesday. The purpose of these craft mornings is to make cushion covers to sell and toilet bags for the Women's Refuge Centre, over a cup of coffee and biscuit.

[A STRAWBERRY TEA](#) was held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2023 at 2pm, at Elizabeth Nunn's home. We welcomed our President Linda Ginn, who kindly made the journey to attend our event. There was a Grand Draw, Tombola, Jigsaws, Books, Plants and cake stalls. Everyone tucked into their bowl of strawberries, cream and heart shaped shortbread biscuits (made by Rosemary Dale). We raised £809.20 for Mothers Union charities.

We hold [Scrabble](#) meetings every fortnight, where our MU members get together and play Scrabble, chat and have a cup of coffee.

[A CORONATION LUNCH](#) was held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023. 12 noon till 4pm at Jane Leung's home. It was a Bring and Share lunch. Jane organized a Coronation Quiz and Raffle.

[Revd. Anita Rooney](#), Chaplain to St. Edmundsbury Cathedral Mothers Union, held her first Mass at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023. This followed her ordination which was held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July. Our Mothers Union members baked cakes for celebrations after the service, along with a glass of fizz. [Jane Leung -Branch Leader](#)

[www.musuffolk.org.uk](http://www.musuffolk.org.uk) Don't forget to look on our website. You will find a report about an MU Programme to support Literacy and Financial Education in [Burundi](#) which is one of the poorest countries in the world.

A Wave of Prayer Service can also be found on the website for members to use at home if they are unable to attend a Branch service.

**MU Annual Gathering 2023** – This will be held in York on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept. There will be a keynote address by Sheran Harper our Worldwide President. Further details can be obtained from Linda Ginn 01728 648772.

**Card from King Charles and Queen Camilla** – Our Diocesan President Linda Ginn sent greetings and assurance of our prayers at the time of the Coronation. She received a card of thanks recently.

**Prayers** We pray for all those who are in prison and their families. Strengthen and support all prison staff and chaplaincy teams. We pray for your guidance for all Mothers' Union work in Prisons. There are many areas where racial tension surfaces in our world. We pray for all those who seek harmony and justice in situations which can be unfair and dangerous. Amen