

Mothers' Union – Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726

Trustee's Annual Report for the year ending 31 December 2021

As our newsletter reflects, during 2021 we have been living through "Peculiar Times": times of lockdown when branches have shown great resilience in caring for and supporting their local members. Members coming together again for socially distanced garden meetings. When social distancing allowed some MU groups gradually returned to a sense of normality and were meeting up again face to face.

We continued with our ABC strategy focusing on AFIA, Befriending and Clewer- Modern Day Slavery. The diocesan monthly newsletter "Peculiar Times" continued and has been appreciated by members, as have the 90+ Birthday cards, and the regular newsletters for Indoor and Diocesan Members and friends. The Emergency Prayer Chain continued, and our Wave of Prayer links - Jalingo, Byumba, Malawi and Lucknow - remain unchanged. Our MUE sales have increased over the year, and our outreach to such initiatives as the women's refuge, night shelter, prisons, hospitals, and care homes survived, with activities somewhat covid-curtailed.

While the theme for 2022 is Transformation Now! in many ways during 2021 we were already transforming. AFIA has successfully found new ways of working, updated publicity material and distributed several grant application forms.

Greater familiarity with Zoom, YouTube, and online and streamed services from MSH, along with Eventbrite webinars and training programmes have enabled us to continue to meet, learn and grow.

Branches were innovative and creative in supporting members through newsletters, telephone calls, visits (where possible), social media, Facebook and through the internet.

In 2021, our Constitution was revisited, revised and updated.

We saw the publication of "*For Better, For Worse*", in paperback and as an eBook. Supporting and promoting marriage is one of our core five objectives. We hope this publication will be used in marriage preparation groups across the diocese as well as being given as a gift to couples on the occasion of their wedding, or perhaps a wedding anniversary.

Like many charities Mary Sumner House also underwent many changes (financial, house-keeping, staff and administrative) which affected us all. The Reimagining MU conference was again postponed due to covid. The year also saw the publication of the first edition of the new magazine '*Connected*' sent directly to all members along with the prayer diary. There was the introduction of Direct Debits for subs in addition to usual payment methods, which will ease the work load of our treasurers at all levels in our organisation. Trustees across the province have had the opportunity for training in Microsoft Teams and Office 365 and now use WhatsApp to keep in touch.

Some branches have amalgamated with close-by neighbours. Where branches wish to continue to meet, but are unable to continue with the administrative aspect of running a branch, a new way of being has being trialled. MU members are offered the opportunity to transfer to Diocesan membership while continuing to meet as before but now as a Fellowship group instead of a branch. In this way we hope that MU members will continue to enjoy the faith, fun and fellowship that Mothers' Union gives. Our Diocesan membership continues to thrive.

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Sadly, we have also lost several members to Covid and other causes, particularly thinking of Joyce Starling, a former Diocesan President, and more recently, Jane Drew who was, in the 1990s, the DP at St Albans in Hertfordshire. Mothers' Union members contributed to her Service of Thanksgiving and she is remembered on our *Inspiring Members* webpage. We also said farewell to our long-standing treasurer Keith Foulds who retired after thirteen years.

We have much for which to be thankful – not least for our new treasurer Amanda Langan who joined the team of officers in August. We are especially grateful to those who have taken on roles of responsibility within their branches, deaneries, areas Community of Interest leads, diocesan officers, trustee board and Life Presidents. Our members, friends and supporters have given generously, both in terms of financial help and time, which has been much appreciated.

Other successful fund-raising events included the North Suffolk area I-Chameleon pop-up shop in Halesworth and the Ipswich Area Coffee Morning in Martlesham, and in spite of covid restrictions, branches continued to generate and support many imaginative and creative ideas.

Our thanks go to all the out-going trustees for all that they have contributed to the work of MU here in St Eds and Ips over these last three years. Our Chaplain has retired and we await Bishop Martin's decision on his successor. Our particular thanks go to our Beryl, our Diocesan Secretary and to Clare our Webmaster MUe rep and Safeguarding officer for their help, support and encouragement in maintaining our high profile within the diocese.

As we embark on a new triennium, we rejoice in all that God has accomplished through the MU during 2021 - in spite of all the obstacles and challenges which we have faced.

We have confidence that God is working His purposes out even though we cannot "see" the future - our theme for 2022 is "**Transformation – Now**", and as we stand on the threshold of a new era, we wait expectantly and excitedly as the way ahead unfolds.

Linda Ginn
Diocesan President
15th February 2022

Diocesan Receipts Account for year ending 31st December 2021

	Total Funds £	MSH Unrestricted Funds £	MSH Restricted / Designated Funds £	Diocesan Unrestricted Funds £	Diocesan Designated Funds £
For Mary Sumner House (MSH)					
Britain & Ireland Development (Restricted)	0		0		
Emergency Relief (Restricted)	97		97		
Congo Appeal (Restricted)	200		200		
Overseas (Restricted)	400		400		
Literacy & Financial Education (Designated)	200		200		
Britain & Ireland Development (Designated)	310		310		
Relief Work (Designated)	410		410		
Overseas (Designated)	570		570		
Mothers' Day Appeal	10	10			
Summer of Hope Appeal	706	706			
Christmas Appeal	340	340			
Subscriptions 2022	4,740	4,740			
Subscriptions 2021	6,760	6,760			
Subscriptions 2020	102	102			
General Funds	619	619			
Sub Total	15,463	13,277	2,187		

For Diocesan MU					
Easy Funding for AFIA	72				72
AFIA	400				400
Womens' Refuge	469				469
Prisoners' Cards	117				117
Indoor Members	436				436
Ipswich Area	663				663
North Suffolk Area (NSA)	339				339
Gift Aid	2,919			2,919	
Keith Foulds Retirement Gift	361			361	
Subscriptions 2022	711			711	
Subscriptions 2021	1,014			1,014	
Subscriptions 2020	46			46	
Donations	6			6	
General Fund	2,803			2,803	
Church Services	542			542	
Interest	313			313	
Sundries	100			100	
MUe Dividend	760			760	
Sub Total	12,072			9,575	2,496

Sub Total MSH and Diocese	27,535
Deduct receipts from Branches (page 5)	15,266
Sub Total	12,269

Petty Cash Receipts	162
Branch Receipts (page 5)	23,019
MUe Sales	8,671

Grand Total	44,121
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Diocese Payments Account for year ending 31st December 2021

	Total Funds £	MSH Unrestricted Funds £	MSH Restricted / Designated Funds £	Diocesan Unrestricted Funds £	Diocesan Designated Funds £
To Mary Sumner House (MSH)					
Britain & Ireland Development (Restricted)	0		0		
Emergency Relief (Restricted)	97		97		
Congo Appeal (Restricted)	200		200		
Overseas (Restricted)	400		400		
Literacy & Financial Education (Designated)	200		200		
Britain & Ireland Development (Designated)	310		310		
Relief Work (Designated)	410		410		
Overseas (Designated)	570		570		
Mothers' Day Appeal	10	10			
Summer of Hope Appeal	706	706			
Christmas Appeal	340	340			
Subscriptions 2022	4,740	4,740			
Subscriptions 2021	6,760	6,760			
Subscriptions 2020	102	102			
General Funds	619	619			
Sub Total	15,463	13,277	2,187		

Diocesan Payments

Easy Funding for AFIA	108				108
AFIA	850				850
Womens' Refuge	150				150
Prisoners' Cards	104				104
Indoor Members	360				360
Ipswich Area	205				205
North Suffolk Area (NSA)	336				336
Gift Aid	2,919			2,919	
Keith Foulds Retirement Gift	300			300	
Trustees / Officers Expenses	85			85	
Conferences	500			500	
Over 90s Members	18			18	
Diocesan Members	319			319	
Postage	66			66	
Printing & Stationery	142			142	
Website	42			42	
Zoom Subscription	144			144	
Bank Charge	110			110	
Sundries	125			125	
MUe Dividend	760			760	
Transfer to Designated Funds from General Fund	603				603
Sub Total	8,246			5,530	2,716

Sub Total 23,709

Petty Cash Payments 100
Branch Payments (page 5) 3,938
MUe Purchases 9,423

Grand Total 37,170

Note: The branch payments exclude members' subscriptions and donations which are accounted for in the above analysis

Branch & Deanery Summary to 31 December 2021

		£		
Receipts				
Members' Subscriptions	13,294			
Refreshments	513			
Collections	1,138			
Fundraising	1,952			
Donations	3,647			
MUe Materials	269			
Outings	929			
Other income	1,277			
Total Receipts	23,019			
		Payments to	Payments by	
		Diocese	Branches	
		£	£	
Payments to Diocese Accounts				
Members' Subscriptions		11,792		
Donations		3,474		
Payments by Branch or Deanery				
Mue Materials				906
MSH (paid direct)				166
Speaker Expenses				116
Postage & Stationery				215
Hall Hire				384
Outings				912
Other expenses				1,239
Total Payments	19,204	15,266		3,938
Net Receipts	3,815			

FUND MOVEMENT SUMMARY

Monetary Resources at 1 January 2021 (Held by 34 Branches & 1 Deanery)	8,921
Net Receipts	3,815
Monetary Resources at 31 December 2021 (Held by 32 Branches & 1 Deanery)	<u>12,736</u>

Note: Rattlesden branch closed during 2021 & Thurston merged with Gt Barton

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Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2021

	£
Diocesan Fund Balances at 31 December 2021	39,045
Branch & Deanery Balances at 31 December 2021	12,736
MU Enterprises Assets at 31 December 2021	<u>4,855</u>

Consolidated Balances 56,636

Represented by:

Shawbrook Bank 12 Month Fixed Rate Saver	10,000
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	10,336
CBF Church of England Deposit Account	4,587
CAF Bank Current Account	9,203
CAF Bank Gold Saver Account	4,858
Petty Cash	62
Held by Branches & Deanery	12,736
MU Enterprises Stock & Bank Balance	<u>4,855</u>

Consolidated Balances 56,636

Liabilities to Mary Sumner House at 31 December 2021

Subscriptions	0
Donations	<u>0</u>

Total 0

Literature Account (MU Enterprises)

Stock at 31 December 2021	4,174
Bank Balance	681
Cash	<u>0</u>

Total Assets 4,855

**Approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on
[Date]**

Signature: _____

**Linda Ginn
Diocesan President & Chair of Trustees**