

## Join Us, Join In

**Bibles for HMP Highpoint:** Thank you for all the Bibles that have been donated to HMP Highpoint, they now have enough. A new request is for copies of "The Action Bible: God's redemptive story" by Sergio Cariello, as it is easier to read compared to traditional Bibles. You can order from Amazon, who are a trusted supplier to the prisons. Please make Rev Wendy Norris aware of your order: [wendy.norris@justice.gov.uk](mailto:wendy.norris@justice.gov.uk).

### News from our branches

**Fressingfield** branch has had a Souls of our Shoes display that has been placed in several locations in the benefice as well as the church. The Rector spoke of how she had been very impressed and moved by the "Souls of our Shoes" exhibit in the porch at Fressingfield Church. She presented Christine with the Bronze RISE-UP award certificate and read the commendation to the congregation. Several MU members were there and the congregation applauded.



The **Cathedral branch** had a most successful Garden Party last month with stalls, excellent refreshments and the rain that had come down that morning like cats and dogs held off, with the sun showing the occasional appearance. The branch raised £815 for Mothers' Union funds.

**Woodbridge Mothers' Union** had invited many guests to their cream tea on June 12th and raised £243. The MU e-Pop up shop did very well, and DP Jeanette was able to take this opportunity to present Jean Cobb with the branch's RISE -UP bronze award for raising awareness of domestic abuse.

On **Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> July** you can join Mothers Union members for 'Tea by the Sea', 2pm – 4.30pm in the URC hall, High Street, Southwold. £5 for drinks and cake or scones. Children's drinks are free. Contact Sue Norrington: [farthings@btinternet.com](mailto:farthings@btinternet.com).

**Summer of Hope:** The theme for the Summer of Hope Appeal this year is to bring gifts of peace to communities across the 84 countries where MU has a presence. Your Afternoon tea events are not only about raising funds but also opportunities to bring friends who have yet to join MU, whether as a Member or a Friend.

### 2026 is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Mothers' Union

Here is a list of National Celebrations which you can join, with more information on the central website [www.mothersunion.org.uk](http://www.mothersunion.org.uk):

- 150<sup>th</sup> celebratory service in St Paul's cathedral 7pm 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026.
- Annual Gathering at Emmanuel Centre (next door to Mary Sumner House), 11<sup>th</sup> June 2026. Tickets available to both the above events in September

- MU Sunday takeover
- A Big Picnic
- 150th MU Song and Prayer Book

So far, the following events have been planned in our diocese:

- Lady Day service and anniversary celebration in Ipswich Minster, 2pm Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March
- A fund-raising challenge from MSH to raise £1,500 from a start-up grant of £150 from MSH.

**Mary Sumner Day August 9<sup>th</sup>:** Have you thought who you, as a Mothers' Union member, could invite for morning coffee or afternoon tea, to tell them how the Mothers' Union is making a difference? Not forgetting to mention that they can join as a member or a friend. Membership in the UK has now reached a critical level. Just as in a relay race, we need to have people ready to hand over the baton to, so that the important work of Mothers' Union can continue.

### **Save the date:**

**Grandparent Day: Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> September at Fressingfield Baptist Church**, School Lane Suffolk IP21 5RU. The theme of the event is to affirm, support and encourage grandparents of faith. The day starts with refreshments and worship and includes a key note talk, panel discussion and a choice of workshops; featuring prayer-based art reflection, mindful activities to share with grandchildren and a new workshop for grandparents who have grandchildren with special needs. To book your place, email: [jeanetteappleton91@gmail.com](mailto:jeanetteappleton91@gmail.com).

**A Feast of Music: Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm at Barham Church.** Come along and be entertained, and eat cake. Free entry with a retiring collection for Mothers' Union projects.

**September is 'Bake and Make' month:** The aim is to take our cakes and items we make and go outside the church so as to raise funds and the profile of Mothers' Union with a new group of people. **Henley Branch** have already been doing this by having a cake stall when an orchestra meets in the village hall.

**Praise, Prayer and Healing Service: Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> October, 3pm at St Felix Church Rendlesham.** Refreshments after the service. There is plenty of parking nearby and level access.

**Autumn Council Meeting:** The date has changed to Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October but the time and venue remain the same. Refreshments will be served from 10am, with the meeting to start 10.30 – 12.30pm at The Coddendam Centre, Mary Day Close, Coddendam, IP6 9SR.

### **Prayer points:**

- For our link dioceses as we reach the crest of the Wave of Prayer on July 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>
- For our Indoor members, giving thanks for all that they have done in the name of Mothers' Union and their continued prayer support
- For the Summer of Hope appeal, that we may reach many communities with gifts of peace.