

Join Us. Join In.

Save the date

Grandparent Day: Saturday 6th September Fressingfield Baptist church, School Lane Suffolk IP21 5RU. Following the success our first 'Grandparent Day' in March in Ipswich, dates for the next Grandparent Day in the North Suffolk area have just been confirmed. The theme of the event is to affirm, support and encourage grandparents of faith.

To book your place email jeanetteappleton91@gmail.com.

A Feast of Music: Saturday 19th September, 7.30pm at Barham church. Come along and be entertained, and eat cake. Free entry with a retiring collection for Mothers' Union projects.

The Praise, Prayer and Healing Service: Saturday 18th October, 3pm at St Felix church Rendlesham. Refreshments after the service. There is plenty of parking nearby and level access.

November Council Meeting: This date has changed to Tuesday 28th October, the time and venue remain the same. Refreshments served from 10am, meeting to start 10.30 – 12.30pm at The Coddendam Centre Mary Day Close, Coddendam IP6 9SR.

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. **Fressingfield branch** have not only got their display of 'The Souls of our Shoes' into the nearby Metfield community café for August 2nd, but the café is donating their monthly raffle to the Women's refuge in Ipswich. More information about this event in the July Newsletter.

Mary Sumner Day

August is not the best month to hold a diocesan event to mark Mary Sumner Day, because so many members are on holiday. Instead, this year the idea is for MU members to invite just a couple of friends, who are not MU members, round for morning coffee or afternoon tea and tell them how the MU is making a difference. Then mention that they could join as a Member or as a Friend of Mothers' Union. Who would you invite?

Away From It All holidays (AFIA)

A new opportunity has arisen from our partnership with the Diocesan Director of Education, Jane Sheat and the sports charity 'KICK'. This is to offer pupils of Church of England schools, in Ipswich postcodes that fall within the High Index for deprivation, a week-long sports camp. The sports camp will be based in the school, using the school's facilities and led by KICK coaches. The head teacher will select the pupils, based on the AFIA criteria, and also the sports activities which they feel most appropriate for the children who will be attending. The AFIA fund will pay for the sports camp and packed lunches and possibly also a treat for the last day of the camp. Plans are underway for the first sports camp to take place in the 2025 October half-term. A budget of £2,000 has been allocated from the AFIA fund for the sports camp – which is £100 per child for a five-day sports camp.

Branch news.

The **Cathedral branch** is holding a garden party on 7th June 7, 2-4pm at 21, Downing Close. IP32 7HU. Please contact Jane Leung for tickets. As well as afternoon tea there will be a raffle, and a variety of stalls.

Woodbridge: Mothers Union is raising funds for the work of MU in the UK and overseas, with a Cream Tea on Thursday, 12th June, 3pm in St Mary's House. Tickets from Jean Cobb or on the door.

North Suffolk Area: A Service of Reflection with the theme, 'The World We are Passing On' will be held at St Peter and St Paul Fressingfieldon, Wednesday 25th June. Coffee before the service at 10 am in the Sancroft Hall. The service starts at 10.30am and is followed by lunch. Details from Christine Christian: cchriswiffy@gmail.com

On Saturday, 12th July join MU 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

These events are all opportunities to bring friends who have yet to join MU, whether as a member or a Friend. 'Join in, Join Us' is the theme for this year.

Sue Norrington sends this update on the Christmas Cards for Prisoners outreach.

"Thanks very much for all the used Christmas Cards that were given to me at the Council Meeting on 30th April. It filled the boot of my car! It is useful to have a good stock of pictures to use at the workshops we have planned this year.

Di Barker and I recently spent a very convivial morning making cards with members of the Cathedral Branch. Most participants were making these cards for the first time but Revd. Brian and Audreen Lillistone were with us and they have been helping with this project for the last 20 years.. We would like to thank Audreen and Brian for their loyal support."

Several other workshops are planned around the Diocese over the next few months.

Prayer points:

- Jeanette Appleton and Ruth Dennigan will be attending the MU Leadership Conference in Liverpool, June 27th – 29th.
- The planning of the new initiative of a AFIA funded sports camps for 20 pupils of a Church of England school in Ipswich during the 2025 October half-term.
- For more people to join the Mothers' Union, as a Member or a Friend.

News from your branch.

