

Join Us, Join In

History of MU

A pamphlet with the history of MU has come to light. In 1926 there were just three objectives:

1. To uphold the sanctity of marriage;
2. To awaken in all mothers a sense of their great responsibility in the training of boys and girls - the fathers and mothers of the future;
3. To organise in every place a band of mothers who will unite in prayer, and seek by their example to lead their families in purity and holiness.

As we approach the 150th anniversary of MU it would be wonderful if we could achieve the third object and have a band of MU members in every place in our diocese.

Thank you for the feedback you have sent in about using MU more when talking about and promoting our organisation.

New opportunities to find out more about MU

There is still time to sign up for one of these webinars. Here are details of the next two webinars. If you are interested in attending any of these sessions all you need to do is send your name, role (being an MU member is a very important role) and diocese to: membership@mothersunion.org.

- **Leading with purpose:** exploring leadership from a position of calling, the 'Why' in taking on a leadership role: 11.30am, Thursday, 9th October
- **Modern Slavery:** Highlighting the new Modern Day Slavery programme being launched in the New year and our work with Clewer. 6pm, Wednesday 19th November

If you have not attended a webinar before it is just like attending a MU meeting, face-to-face with a speaker, but virtually.

Membership Information

Please contact Clare Thomas our Membership Secretary with details of members moving out of the diocese, new members, changes of addresses or deaths. Her contact details are clare.thomas@mothersunion.org or tel. 01473 832808. This is very important as we need accurate information so that members receive the Prayer Diary and Connected magazine.

HMP Warren Hill Sewing room team send their thanks for the recent donation of cotton reels and material. MU members at Woodbridge branch are acting as a collecting point. Please keep these donations of thread and material coming in. The men in the Sewing room make beautiful book covers, aprons and shopping bags, all decorated with machine-embroidered lettering.

MU Healing Service at the Church of St Felix, Walnut Tree Ave, Rendlesham IP12 2GG on Saturday 18th October at 3pm. Rev'd Mandy Reynolds is leading the service. Refreshments will be served after the service. There is ample car parking nearby and the church has level access.

Branch news

North Suffolk Area Committee: would still value donations of scarves or items of jewellery for their Jewellery and Scarf Stall that we bring out at local events to raise awareness of MU and raise funds. If you have any that you would like to donate, please contact Anna Vessey 01379 588389 or Sue Norrington 07913 488670.

Henley MU held a Feast of Music on Friday 19 September in Barham Church. This was a wonderful evening with singing, both organ and flute soloists and a duo featuring the songs of Donald Flanders and Michael Swan. **Claydon & Barham MU** provided a delicious spread of cakes to enjoy during the interval. Over £300 was raised for AFIA.

Don't miss the Tea and Cake Afternoon on Saturday 11 October between 2 and 4pm at the Coddendam centre, Mary Day Close, Coddendam, IP6 9SR. There will also be a Grocery stall, Surprise Tombola, Raffle and the MUe Stall. All funds raised will purchase gift vouchers for the Ipswich Women's Refuge. There is ample parking at The Coddendam centre which has level access throughout.



Autumn Council meeting:

Tuesday 28 October - Doors open 10am, meeting 10.30am – 12.30pm

Council meetings are not just for branch leaders and diocesan officers. Every MU branch and diocesan member is invited to attend. It is held at the Coddendam Centre in Mary Day Close, Coddendam, IP6 9SR. The agenda will include planning for MU's 150th anniversary, with services and events across the diocese and ideas for branches to use in their parishes.

Doors open at 10am with refreshments and an opportunity to discover the new stock in our MUe Pop-Up shop, giving you time to bring all your donated gifts, whether for the Women's Refuge, or knitted items for the Seafarers' Mission and our prisons.

If you are unable to attend in person, you can join via the Zoom link which will be sent to all branch leaders and branch contacts, as well as the diocesan members' rep and Indoor members' rep.

Prayer points:

- Please pray for our new bishop Joanne Grenfell as she prepares to move to her new home.
- Pray for children and students at the beginning of a new academic year, especially those who have moved into new schools and further education.
- Pray for Anji and members of the diocesan team as they travel to Kagera, taking our best wishes to MU diocesan President Pensia Mathayo and her MU members.