

NEWSLINE



**Having fun at the
DASH Deanery Summer Fair**

Hello from Gill, our President

If anyone had told me, two years ago, that I would be attending meetings sitting at home in front of my iPad with other people present, in their homes in front of laptops or iPads, I would not have believed them.

I've got used to it now and it often makes me chuckle. Different venues, backgrounds and, often, interruptions all add to the fun and variety. Our last Trustees meeting, held 14th September, was another first for me. I was in person at the Cathedral along with seven others. However, for various reasons, another seven Trustees were in their homes on Zoom. I think the meeting went well, though you ought to ask the rest of the attendees! Thank you to Steve, our secretary, for setting up all the Zoom meetings.

As part of the process to re-imagine Mothers' Union, we have been asked, from Trustees to Deaneries to Branches, to host a series of coffee mornings to share ideas and experiences

What a strange, but busy, Summer it has been, aside from lots of Zoom meetings. The DASH Deanery Summer Fayre, at the end of July, was a heart-warming event. Besides raising money for Mothers' Union, it was a wonderful time to meet and chat to people who I had not seen before or for a long time. This was followed by our Mary Sumner Day Service in the Cathedral. Because the numbers were limited, the service was live streamed so that many more members could see what was happening. I think it was made more special by the enrolment of Bishop Sophie and Archdeacon Javid.

As a family, we had several celebrations in August. Our youngest son had an outdoor party for his 20th Wedding Anniversary. This was followed, a week later, by Geoff and my Golden Wedding Anniversary. [This is the same date as Sarah and Dave Rogerson!]



Although we asked for no presents, we were very humbled to receive many gifts including roses, plants and garden ornaments. Geoff cleared a space in the garden and the photo is of our 'Golden space.' We had a fantastic time seeing friends and relatives. A week later we went to Stroud, in Gloucestershire, for a 'Fellows' get together to celebrate the birthday of Geoff's niece, who was over from Ireland. I know that I am so very lucky having family and friends and I do count my blessings.



As things are beginning to open up, Deaneries and Branches have started to hold Face-to-Face meetings whilst still being careful. I know that many branches were able to gather for the Wave of Prayer and the Cathedral Coffee

mornings have recommenced on the first Friday of each month.

Mothers' Union members often like getting together and having a chat, possibly over a cup of tea or coffee. As part of the process to re-imagine Mothers' Union, we have been asked, from Trustees to Deaneries to Branches, to host a series of coffee mornings to share ideas and experiences. So, look out for your invitation. **'Re-imagining Mothers' Union'**. Everyone's thoughts are important and, after the coffee morning, I hope that I will receive feedback which I will forward to June, our Provincial President. These will all be collated and used at a residential conference weekend in January to which Sheffield Diocese will send a delegate.

As I finish this letter, I am reminded of all the wonderful things that Mothers' Union members are involved in and support: AFIA, Refuges, Food banks, Toddler groups, Baptism Visiting and much more. It makes me feel SO PROUD.

I am smiling and wearing my badge. Are you?



Mary Sumner Day Service



A letter from Sheran Harper

Worldwide President

In Gratitude

Dearest Gill,
Warm and loving greetings from a hot and sunny Guyana! I hope you and your members have enjoyed a wonderful summertime and the reopening after a long lock down.

On August 6th I received a lovely package in the post and I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for this wonderful gift of "Thoughts and Words of Encouragement". This means so much to me because although you mailed it on May 4th, it arrived on August 6th and that was God's good timing.

Your book lifted my spirits that day. It was God's will that your book arrived that day!

I always complain about our snail mail in Guyana but I promise now that I will not be complaining ever again. Your gift arrived on the right day and at the right time. I am saying this because after sprinkling my Mum's ashes on August 1st in the river, my brothers stayed with me and left early on the morning of August 6th for their homes in the USA. I was alone that day, the house was so empty and I was feeling so sad.



Then the postman came and delivered your package, I opened it and to my surprise it said, "Thoughts and Words of Encouragement". I spent the rest of the day lying in bed reading it. It was truly a source of comfort to me and this is the reason what I cannot thank you and Sheffield MU enough. Your book lifted my spirits that day. It was God's will that your book arrived that day!

Thank you so much dear Gill!

Thank you Tanis Cockerham for your precious writing! It is a real blessing!

Thank you MU Sheffield Diocese for your love, support and encouragement. You are always in my thoughts and prayers. May God continue to shower his blessings of joy and success on all your plans for the rest of the year and the new triennium.

May God continue to bless the work of your hands, Gill and fill you with wisdom and vision as you lead MU Sheffield.

**With my love and prayers as always,
Sheran x**

What is a grandmother?

A poignant description of grandmothers from a nine year old, taken with permission from the Miamia magazine from the Australian Mothers' Union.

"A grandmother is a lady who has no children of her own. She likes other people's little boys and girls. A grandfather is a man grandmother. Grandmothers don't have to do anything except be there. They're old, so they don't have to play hard or run. It is enough if they take us to the shops where the pretend horse is and have lots of coins ready. Or, if they take us for walks, they should slow down past things like pretty leaves or caterpillars. They should never say 'hurry up'.

Usually grandmothers are fat, but not too fat to tie your shoes. They wear glasses and funny

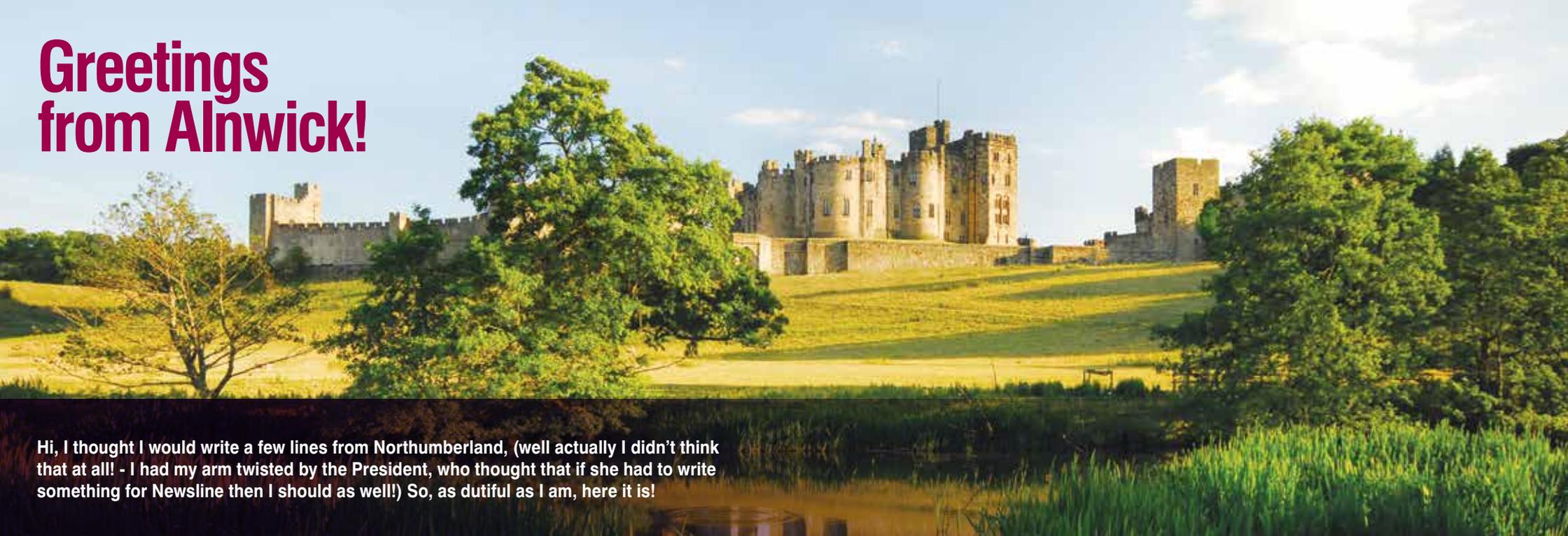
underwear. They can take their teeth out and gums off. Grandmothers don't have to be smart, only answer questions like "Why isn't God married?" and "How come dogs chase cats?" They don't talk baby-talk like visitors do, because it is hard to understand. When they read to us, they don't skip words, or mind if it is the same story over and over again.

Everyone should try to have a grandmother, especially if you don't have television, because they are the only grown ups who have time."

Usually grandmothers are fat, but not too fat to tie your shoes. They wear glasses and funny underwear.



Greetings from Alnwick!



Hi, I thought I would write a few lines from Northumberland, (well actually I didn't think that at all! - I had my arm twisted by the President, who thought that if she had to write something for Newsline then I should as well!) So, as dutiful as I am, here it is!

We have had several visitors from Sheffield Diocese over the summer, President Gill & Geoff came to stay, as did VP Moira & Tim – though unfortunately Tim spent much of the week in a hospital bed but that's Moira's story to tell. We have also had VP Liz & Richard Paver for coffee as they were holidaying in the area as were DL Tanis & Peter Cockerham! So, if you are in the area and fancy a good cup of coffee and one of Ken's scones then do get in touch!

We are now in the process of DIY as Ken is busy fitting a kitchen and I am supplying him with tea & biscuits and the odd sandwich to keep him going!

The dogs, Willow and Fern, are enjoying visits to the beach and chasing seagulls much to our despair! We have also joined a walking group- which is more about chatting than serious walking so quite up my street! and the Alnwick Newbies group, that meets for coffee and chat in a local pub! It's amazing how many people have recently moved here from all over the country!



The kitchen waiting to be fitted!!

I did contact Newcastle MU, to ask about a project that they were doing -providing backpacks for prisoners as they were released from prison. I thought it was a good idea seeing as we had links with the prison and something maybe Sheffield Diocese could get involved in! Well, since then I have had a

phone call and letter from Newcastle MU President, Barbara Packer, coffee with the new President Elect, coffee & cake with Alnwick Branch Coordinator and coffee and a scone with the Deanery Leader elect! "How will we recognise you?", they asked. "I will be wearing my badge!", I replied. We discussed all sorts, and the consensus was that members have missed 'Fun & Fellowship' throughout lockdown. They all wanted to know what role I would like to do in Newcastle Diocese!

My answer was – my heart is still with Sheffield Diocese. So consequently, I will be emailing all Sheffield MU Branch Co-ordinators with a list of lapsed and dropped members and asking if they would arrange for someone to contact these people and see if they would like to re-join now that 'Fun & Fellowship' is back!

So please keep in touch!

All good wishes from Alnwick

Elizabeth Dean



Boulmer Beach (10 mins away)

Lindisfarne (Holy Island)

During the pandemic I have made many references to this wonderful island, using many of David Adam's prayers and reflections, as words of comfort.

On our recent visit I lit a candle for Mothers' Union members worldwide. St Mary's church on Holy Island is almost the first place we go to thank God once again that we are able to visit this holy place.

St Mary's church (the parish church) stands on the site of a wooden church built by St Aidan in 635. From the 650s there have been 2 churches, St Mary's, and St Peter's which is where the ruined priory church stands today. Prayers and worship have been offered here for nearly 1,400 years.

In the twelfth century the priory was rebuilt by Benedictine monks from Durham, and it stands today as a magnificent ruin, a casualty of the English reformation in the sixteenth century.

The Right Reverend David Lunn, then the Bishop of Sheffield, led a service in the priory in the 1980s, when the Diocese had a pilgrimage to the island. Hundreds of us travelled by train and coach to follow the 'Pilgrims Way',

experiencing the faith, hope and love, created by our blessed Saints, Aidan and Cuthbert. We know so much about this early period from the writings of The Venerable Bede, 'A History of the English church and people', and he told us so much about the 'Northern Saints'. Bede died in 735.

If you have the opportunity to visit Lindisfarne, try to make it an overnight stay, to experience the island when all the daily visiting pilgrims will have left, you can and will then experience the most wonderful feeling of peace and tranquillity, knowing that you are blest with a loving God as you feel the island enveloping you with love. It is to me, the most heavenly place on earth.

I cannot end this piece without a prayer from St Aidan. I hope that you manage to visit this island once in your lifetime, and feel the connection with God which we have.

Tanis Cockerham



St Aidan's Prayer

*Lord this bare island
Make it thy place of peace.*

*Here be the peace
of men who do your will.*

*Here be the peace
of brothers serving men.*

*Here be the peace
of holy rules obeying.*

*Here be the peace
of praise by dark and day.*

*Be this thy Holy Island
Thy Holy Island*

*Lord, I thy servant Aidan
Speak this prayer*

Be it thy care.

Amen.

A letter from our Chaplain

Autumn 2021

Nature and climate

The heavens are telling the glory of God;

And the firmament proclaims his handiwork. (Ps. 19:1)

This year we have continued to engage with the effects of the pandemic and the issues associated with climate change.

This year I planted sunflower seeds. There were around 40 seeds. Only 1 has flowered. It is only a couple of feet tall, hardly looking like a sunflower at all! Our plum tree was in blossom when a hard frost at a crucial time for the fruit to grow means we again have had no plums. We do have some control but it requires us to manage it, finding the right soil, light or shelter. I wonder how often you take things for granted or simply 'hope for the best'?

The beauty of a garden, indeed nature in general, is an ever-changing landscape and this has inspired poets and hymn writers over the years to compose words of praise for creation. In Genesis 1 & 2 we read the accounts of creation while Psalm 65 speaks of the praise and thanksgiving for the earth. We recognise in creation the immense variety and we give thanks for it. But we also know that we have a responsibility to look after and care for our world, not to exploit it.



Our natural world has seen major changes this year with forest fires, droughts or flooding. Across the world others live under oppression. These are not a new phenomenon but each disaster is a stark reminder of our responsibility to care for the whole of creation. The pandemic continues to be a cause of concern and has altered how people live their lives. This instability across the world creates insecurity. Health and nature have both affected many people and yet there continues to be hope.

As we value the various habitats around the world we are mindful of those who live where the land and people have been exploited. Let us pray that, across the world, all can flourish and co-exist. Lord, give us wisdom to use aright all that we have to bring peace, harmony and hope to the whole of God's creation.

**God bless
Hilda Isaacson**

A photograph of a young girl and a young boy hugging a tree trunk in a field of white flowers. The girl is on the left, wearing a colorful floral dress, and the boy is on the right, wearing a blue and white striped shirt. They are both smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a lush green field with many white flowers.

We recognise in creation the immense variety and we give thanks for it. But we also know that we have a responsibility to look after and care for our world, not to exploit it.

Trustees Meeting 14 September



This was a first – the first Trustees meeting in person since 2020 and via Zoom too !

Cathedral Coffee Morning

It was a joy to be back on Friday, September 3 for the first Mothers' Union Cathedral Coffee Morning since March 2020, which was hosted by the Trustees.

Everyone was pleased to see each other for a chat, refreshments and welcome potential members and visitors. Rev'd Canon Geoffrey Harbord, Acting Dean of the Cathedral was able to join to welcome us back. Fr. Harbord is also a member of the Mothers' Union.

A huge thank you to the Cathedral staff for putting out the tables in a new position down the side of the Cathedral, which gave more space and for getting out the urn, our heavy box and other items. It was so helpful. Thank you to Liz Paver for bringing all the fresh supplies and Trustees for baking scones and a fruit loaf. We had enough to sell with drinks and left over to sell afterwards. Moira had her usual stall of cakes and preserves, also in a new position, next to Margaret selling MUE items including cards, diaries, and planners. Many members were glad to stock up with stationery and Margaret plans to have the stall each month.



Please do come on the first Friday of each month any time between 10.15am - 12 noon, when Midday Prayers are said. It was so lovely to meet face to face in such a safe place.

Please look on the website for details of the rota for hosting the Coffee Mornings.

Susan Sayles

2022 subscription

Subscriptions for 2022 will remain at £23 and are payable to your Branch Treasurer on 1 January. Sheffield Diocesan members should send their subs to Maureen Moore and Sheffield IMPC members (that is those members not attached to a branch), should send their subs to the Treasurer Phill Jackson including their name and Deanery. Phill & Maureen's addresses are on the back of Newline.



What have you done over Lockdown?

Well, amongst other things, I was writing poetry, and this is one of my poems.

Thank God that this is over
That nightmare time we shared.
Such terrible, terrible consequences
And us so unprepared.
Everywhere is so quiet
No people, traffic, shops.
What's happened to everybody?
They're trapped behind doors and locks.

So many people suffered
So many people died
So many people separated
So many people cried.
We couldn't visit loved ones
Or have them visit us.
Our way of life to altered.
Curse Corona virus.

Marlene Jackson, All Saints, Wath-upon-Dearne Branch

We'll never forget the key workers,
The care and courage they showed
The love and support they gave us
In spite of their heavy workload.
We'll remember their acts of kindness
Which day after day occurred,
Everyone helping each other
With a smile and a loving word.

Who could forget the fund raisers?
And their efforts to do great things.
What inspiration they gave us
Plus the community spirit it brings.
So we will work together, to keep
That community spirit alive,
And with God's help that spirit
Will prosper and surely survive

Prayer chain

Sheffield Diocese MU has two prayer chains. One covers Sheffield and the other Doncaster and Rotherham. Please make use of these. So many people find it helpful to share their concerns and to know that others will support them in prayer. This is a confidential prayer chain system and we do not pass on information outside the chain.

To request prayer please contact

- Margaret Vivian:
0114 286 2395 for Sheffield
- Anne Eastwood:
01226 270697 for Doncaster/Rotherham

**Thank you
Margaret Vivian Faith
and Policy Coordinator**



Can your Branch help?

This year we are going to include a **small Christmas Tree Decoration** with the Christmas cards that we send to the inmates at HMP Moorland. We will need about **1000 decorations** so are looking for help from branches. We know some branches are bigger than others but if you can get people involved then that would be good!

We obviously had to ask for permission and the decorations can be knitted/crocheted

or sewn and can be decorated with sequins or embroidery **BUT MUST NOT INCLUDE ANY PADDING**, for obvious reasons.

A small ribbon or loop can be incorporated in the top so it can be hung on a tree. The idea is that the inmates can give them to their families as a Christmas gift.

Any contributions should be given or sent to **Issy Mears**, 2 Woodview, Sprotborough Doncaster DN5 7QS by **1st December**.

Some ideas, but remember – no stuffing or padding



Doncaster, Adwick, Snaithe and Hatfield Deanery (DASH)

DASH Summer Fayre 31st July 2021 at Doncaster Minster.

What an exciting day for DASH Deanery when they could all meet together again for the first time in 17 months!!! They had planned a three day Festival in the Minster for 2020 but this was cancelled, so they re-arranged it for 12th June 2021, again it had to be cancelled.

So they planned an outside event on the lawns of the Minster for July 31st and the only thing that could spoil it would be the weather!!!

But prayers were answered and it was a lovely day. Stalls were full of goodies, members were there in great numbers and a wonderful day was had by all. People were leaving with arms full of cakes, tombola prizes for adults and children, Bric a Brac they didn't know they needed, MUE cards and books, beautiful crafts, lovely raffle prizes and, the best thing of all, smiles on their faces.



Archdeacon Javid, Liz Paver, Canon David Stevens, Vicar of Doncaster Minster

The whole day was full of people smiling and saying, "How lovely to see you again", "Isn't this great", over coffee, tea and cakes on the lawns. There was chattering and laughter all day and what a fantastic amount of money was raised for MU Projects, £2,600!!!!

Well done to everyone in DASH Deanery for their brilliant efforts to bring sunshine and smiles to MU members and friends again and for the help their fund raising will give to lots of people less fortunate than us.



Doncaster, Adwick, Snaithe and Hatfield Deanery (DASH)

Knitting for CART by DASH Deanery

A great big 'Thank you' to members of DASH Deanery who have been knitting during the Covid pandemic to send items to Africa via CART.



They have knitted blankets for adults and babies by the dozens and children's jumpers by the hundreds!!! All in bright colours and beautifully made. These will be taken to Huddersfield for transportation to Africa and will thrill the people who receive them. Thank you so much to all of you who have worked so lovingly for African people and children.



During lockdown St Francis member, Kay, who had to shield, kept herself very busy thinking of others and making 18 wonderful blankets for CART. Thank you Kay.

Kay says "it has been a real assignment". Each one has been named and prayed over. e.g 'The Joshua Blanket'... May the receiver be bold and courageous. 'The Gideon Blanket'... May the receiver 'Rise up Mighty Warrior'... The Peace Blanket'... May the person wrapped in this blanket know the Peace of Jesus and be a Peacemaker in their community and so on.



One blanket I was planning to call Joyful because of its bright colours - but my sensing was that its name should be Genesis. It has been a joy to do!"

Doncaster, Adwick, Snaithe and Hatfield Deanery (DASH)



Golden Wedding Anniversary Congratulations to **Dawn and John Stones** and **Sarah and David Rogerson**

St Francis, West Bessacarr

Last September, 2020, the branch of St Francis celebrated 40 years of MU involvement. Unfortunately, it was a non-event due to Covid but all members have managed to stay in contact throughout lockdown. Thank you God for technology! All the meetings were held on Zoom every month from April 2020 to July 2021. In July the first face to face social meeting was in the paddock outside the church. Newsline Editor, Sarah, gave out the latest edition of Newsline, again the first since the pandemic started!!! Members were delighted to receive it. The sun shone and it was a lovely social evening with singing of worship songs, led by Christine and Cath, and refreshments.

In August a Wave of prayer service was also held in the paddock. In Sept 2021, it was a first when both a face to face and a Zoom meeting were held together. This was very successful. The new curate, Rev Stella McHugh was welcomed as the speaker, a first for her too! The branch has achieved a lot in its forty years and membership has always been in the 30s, (numbers not ages!!!).



Doncaster, Adwick, Snaithe and Hatfield Deanery (DASH)

Mothering Sunday 1980 saw a mass enrolment in the morning service of 19 new members, along with the 10 already enrolled who were welcomed from other branches. Amongst these was Sheila Osgerby, Sheffield Diocesan Vice President and the wife of the vicar, Rev John Osgerby. Sheila was the driving force behind starting a branch at St Francis and introduced everyone to all the brilliant aspects of our wonderful Mothers' Union organization. In the last 40 years 118 more people have been enrolled, including 15 men. Many of these members have taken on Diocesan and Deanery roles too.

In the branch there have been:

- 2 Diocesan Presidents
- 4 Vice Presidents
- 1 Action and Outreach Coordinator
- 1 Finance and Central Service Coordinator
- 3 Deanery Leaders
- 2 Newsline Editors
- 1 MU Enterprise Rep
- 1 Diocesan Webmaster
- 1 Diocesan Treasurer
- 1 Diocesan Assistant Treasurer
- 1 Deanery Faith and Policy Rep
- 2 Deanery Secretaries
- 1 Deanery Treasurer

The Committee is very keen that members are kept up to date with everything going on in the Diocese and encourages members to attend meetings and services in Sheffield and the DASH Deanery.

Many events, to raise money for MU projects, have been organised by St Francis MU including a monthly Soup Lunch, an annual Beetle Drive for families, an annual and very popular Quiz night.

At Christmas, three Messy Nativity boxes travel around the Parish for families to enjoy and hear the message of the first Christmas. Members regularly give to Mary's Meals, in the form of filled back packs for children going to school in Africa, aid for the Women's Refuge, in the form of toiletries, knitting for CART.(Christian African Relief Trust) as well as regularly giving funds to AFIA and other MU projects. Now in its 41st year, St Francis is a hard working, lively branch and looks forward to the next forty years of Mothers' Union membership and involvement in this brilliant World Wide Organisation.

Pat Simpson



Members preparing for Soup Lunch quite a few years ago!

Doncaster, Adwick, Snaithe and Hatfield Deanery (DASH)

St Wilfrid's, Cantley

Saturday 31st July saw members of St Wilfrid's Mothers' Union manning a stall full of wild animals, generously donated by Ikea where adults and children alike bought a tombola ticket to win a new family pet!

A young man (pictured below) desperately wanted to win a dinosaur and luckily pulled the winning ticket out on his third dip – he then rode the dinosaur round the Minster grounds, beautifully advertising our stall to all!

One stuffed snake found its way to coil around the back of the tent and was deliriously won by a little blonde girl who immediately wound it round her neck, loving it to bits. It was a lovely day and the weather stayed kind to us until after the event.



Our Annual Summer Outing on August 18 this year, in view of the pandemic, was held in the Churchyard. It was decided to have an Afternoon Tea, rather than travel at this time, where everyone brought or bought their own food. A couple of the Church tents were erected, just in case of inclement weather and members enjoyed an outdoor service followed by a Picnic Afternoon Tea with copious quantities of tea.

It was a safe environment which everyone enjoyed and even the weather was good to us!

Doncaster, Adwick, Snaithe and Hatfield Deanery (DASH)

St Wilfrid's, Cantley

Marjorie Pell is a member of St Wilfrid's Mothers' Union and she spent lockdown tirelessly knitting 105 children's jumpers which have gone to CART to be sent to Africa. The jumpers are beautifully knitted and I know that they will be gratefully received by the kiddies who are lucky enough to be given one for the cooler weather.

Marjorie also knitted many Miffy rabbits for the Deanery Summer Fair handicrafts stall and not to mention a huge bag of 'Church Mice' which were very gratefully received as a memento of the day by every one of the stall holders. She also knits for the prem babies in the DRI... I don't know how she finds time to make meals!!

We at St Wilfrid's, are extremely proud of all her fantastic efforts to support Mothers' Union causes with her incredible knitting skill. Thank you, Marjorie.

Jane Nadin



St Jude's Hexthorpe

Birthday Celebrations to **Enid Punter**, born on 5th September 1926

Elizabeth Coyne, Branch co-ordinator of Hexthorpe, sadly passed away on the 2nd of March 2021. Elizabeth was a faithful MU member and she is greatly missed.

The Branch is now rebuilding with hope and confidence in our new Mothers' Union Branch Co-ordinator, **Mary Bates**.

Sylvia Barthorpe

Doncaster, Adwick, Snaithe and Hatfield Deanery (DASH)

St Mary's, Tickhill

Here in Tickhill, we have worked hard to keep everyone up to date with our activities during this difficult time, by sending a weekly news sheet, which has included Tanis's wonderful 'Letters of Encouragement'.

In August we had a Tea Party held in a member's garden, where we were able to invite friends and include people who had supported our work during the year. This was very successful. The weather was good and members and friends all expressed appreciation for the opportunity to meet safely.

Proceeds from the afternoon were donated to the Summer of Hope appeal. We have been able to send £255.



Our support for The Doncaster Women's Refuge and Given Freely, Freely Given (GFFG) based at St Johns' Church Balby, has continued. We have had fantastic support from the wider community and donations of cash and goods have poured in! 'Fresh Start' baskets containing basics for women moving into independent living after leaving the refuge have been sent every few weeks along with toiletries, bedding, children's toys and baby essentials.

Recently we sent 2 cots, a high chair and a baby bouncing chair.

Items sent to GFFG include men's clothing, food, TVs, microwave ovens, bedding, towels and toiletries.



We have now restarted our monthly meetings in church and hope that nothing will happen to prevent these in the future

Helen Curtis

Ecclesall Deanery

Christchurch, Dore

The Summer Fayre was on Monday 28th June, 2 til 4pm in the Dore Old School and on the adjacent village green. It started fine and then about 3 pm the drizzle came! We still made £640 for AFIA, with lots of enthusiastic support from MU members and the wider community. The photo of people having their cream teas looks very sparse because everyone had to be spaced out! (geographically speaking!)



Best wishes to **Mary Whitaker**, who had her 90th Birthday on 21st September.

St Oswald's, Millhouses

This is our 3rd meeting, with just six of us this time, on Tuesday 21st September. Our Wave of Prayer service in August was lovely.

We all took our own picnic lunch and ate together, and even had a visitor who is new to our church. So watch this space.

Sally Wood





Tankersley Deanery

Four of the Branch Co-ordinators of Tankersley Deanery's branches met to discuss representatives for the diocesan committees and a new Deanery Leader after January when the current leader retires. Five of the six branches have already had their first meeting and are putting a programme together for the next twelve months. Safeguarding was discussed and the way forward for branches. It was felt that all groups were aware of safety issues and those surrounding working with children and vulnerable adults. Dates were set for the usual autumn activities as a way forward to renew friendships and fellowship across the Deanery.

Autumn Social - Thursday 4th November 3.00pm
Tankersley Welfare Hall, Pilley. Cards, calendars etc will be available.

Advent Worship - Tuesday 7th December 6.30pm
Thurlstone St. Saviour Parish Church.
Anne Balme



Wath Deanery

Wath All Saints' Branch

As the Brampton Branch of Mothers' Union has now joined Wath Branch, it was decided for Members of Wath Branch Mothers' Union to meet at Brampton church for the Wave of

Prayer. They attended the Morning Prayer service at 10am, had coffee and then joined for the Wave of Prayer.



St Peter's, Barnburgh

At their first Branch meeting for over a year Barnburgh members tried their hands at greetings card making and had a very enjoyable afternoon.

Wath Deanery

Golden Wedding Anniversary Congratulations to: **Gill and Geoff Fellows.**

Special Birthday celebrations	
Rita Beedon	Joanne Levesley
Barbara Lord	Marlene Jackson
Deidre Heald	Jean Dilkes

Long Service Certificates for 20 years membership awarded to:

Jean Lax	Dorothy Matthewman
Ann Vernon	Barbara Doyle

St Nicholas, Rycroft

The members of St Nicholas Rycroft Mothers' Union were very sad to hear of the death of **Lynn Wilkinson**. She has been a member for only a short while but for a long time had bravely battled with a number of personal health issues. She will be greatly missed by us all.

and then losing her devoted husband, son-in-law, brother and sister-in-law, all in a very short space of time. This was a family devastated by grief but united in supporting each other. Now may the happy memories they all shared bring lasting and soothing comfort.

The past 18 months had been a quite traumatic time for Lynn and her family: totally supporting

Jean Goodall.



Fondest Birthday Wishes

Francis Pepper
DASH Deanery
94 years 26/06/27

Kathleen Bell
Ecclesfield Deanery
90 years 29/06/31

Teresa Cooper
Ecclesall Deanery
95 years 20/07/26

Dorothy Pilling
Ecclesall Deanery
96 years 03/08/25

Mildred Venables
Wath Deanery
98 years 19/09/23



Dates for your diaries

Regrets and Blessings

Elaine Goodlad, a past Branch Leader of St Saviour's, Mortomley and Diocesan Literature representative, sadly died on September 21, after a long, very brave battle with cancer. Her deep faith shone through this difficult time.



Indoor Members Prayer Circle

Welcome to our Indoor Member Prayer Circle to Mrs. Joyce Durdy from DASH Deanery.



November	
Thursday 4th	Tankersley Deanery Autumn Social, Tankersley Welfare Hall, at Pilley at 3pm.
Friday 5th	Cathedral Coffee Morning from 10.15am to 12 noon.
Saturday 6th	The End of Triennium Service at Liverpool Cathedral at 3pm.
Tuesday 23rd	Trustees Training on Zoom from 10am to 12 noon and 1pm to 3pm.
Saturday 27th	Vigil at Doncaster Minster, Rotherham Minster and Sheffield Cathedral from 12.45 to 1.15 as part of the Global Day during the 16 Days of Activism to raise awareness of Gender Based Violence.
Tuesday 30th	Safeguarding Training from 9.30am to 12 noon.
December	
Friday 3rd	Cathedral Coffee Morning from 10.15am to 12 noon.
Monday 6th	DASH Deanery Advent Service at St Mary's, Sprotbrough at 2pm. There will be enrolment of new members from the Deanery. Everyone welcome.
Tuesday 7th	Tankersley Deanery Advent Worship at Thurlstone, St. Saviour's Parish Church, at 6.30pm.

Please note that all these dates are subject to change

Sheffield Diocese Mothers' Union

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Our new link Dioceses in the Wave of Prayer: Diocese of Central Zimbabwe, Lango in Uganda, Kebbi in Nigeria, Tamale in Ghana, and Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands.

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Gill Fellows, Moira Leach, Sarah Rogerson and Pat Simpson

Editor's Note: Please can all photos be in 'jpg' and would you send them as attachments. Scanned hard copies do not reproduce as well as 'jpg' copies.

Please submit contributions for Spring Newsline by February 26, 2022 to Sarah Rogerson, newsline@sheffieldmu.co.uk (Please make sure photos are in focus)

Please also send dates, items and photos for website to Pat Simpson webmaster@sheffieldmu.co.uk



Useful Websites

- Sheffield Mothers' Union** - Our own website
- Mothers' Union** - Everything about Mothers' Union
- MUeShop** - Fundraising for MU via
- Sheffield Diocese** - Find out what is happening locally

- www.sheffieldmu.co.uk
- www.mothersunion.org
- www.mueshop.org
- www.sheffield.anglican.org

Editor's note:

The opinion expressed in each article is the opinion of its author and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of Sheffield Diocese MU.