

Mothers' UNION

Diocese of Coventry

Mothers' Union Coventry News Bulletin

20th August 2026

JOIN US, JOIN IN!

Celebrating 150 Years of Mothers' – Lighting the Way for Generations to Come

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

John 13:34

Dear friends,

So much has happened since last writing as members continue to celebrate and give thanks for Mothers' Union in this 150th momentous anniversary year and below is a snapshot of more good news.

Coventry Diocese Hits New Heights in the 150th Challenges

How wonderful for Coventry Diocese to be included within the MSH News Bulletin. Please see item 4 'Coventry Diocese Hits New Heights in the 150th Challenges' for more information.

Annual Church of England Golf Day

Congratulations to Paul Morris who proudly represented Mothers' Union at the Annual Church of England Golf Day, and helped bring home one of the trophies, while raising the profile of the movement.

A Special Invitation

To mark Mothers' Union 150-year anniversary, members were thrilled to gather at Bishop's House where Bishop Sophie was on hand to welcome, pray and speak about her support of all things Mothers' Union. The delicious tea and cakes were only surpassed by the rich fellowship shared.

Fosse Deanery Lunch to mark Mary Sumner Day

Gathering at St Peter's Church Centre to mark Mary Sumner Day for the ever-popular Deanery Lunch was another joyful occasion where Revd. Canon Nitano Muller of Coventry Cathedral spoke very movingly about attending Mothers' Union meetings with his aunt as a child. He credited the members with inspiring him and helping him answer God's call to ministry.

Kenilworth Deanery Cream Tea Followed by a Mary Sumner Day Service

Kenilworth Deanery also raised the bar by organising a cream tea followed by a Mary Sumner Day Service at St John's Church, Kenilworth. Revd Mary Rai spoke about the importance of kindness whilst recognizing the many acts of faithful committed love and service by members over 150 years. It was also a delight to enrol two new Southam members and present two St Nicholas members with Long Service Certificates.

The Town Mayor of Kenilworth, Cllr Alison Insley also attended as a VIP guest and enjoyed hearing about Mothers' Union history and outreach locally and overseas. For those of you on Facebook, please do have a look at the Mayor of Kenilworth's Facebook page. It not only promotes what we do but also tells our story. It may even encourage more to Join Us, Join In!

Mary Sumner Afternoon Tea Party for Gateway Residence

How wonderful that some 50 residents turned out to enjoy tea, cake, scones and savoury treats whilst enjoying fellowship. The fun quiz got many heads scratching and the outside games still proved popular even with the tremendous heat. It was also encouraging to see former residents return having now settled well into their new homes to share news whilst catching up with old friends.

Mothers' Union Coventry 150th Fundraising Abseil Challenge

Well done to the team, consisting of Amy, Anne, Revd. Denise, Harrison, Jenny and Karen for completing the Coventry Cathedral Abseil Challenge and doubling the target with just over £3000 raised to support the Mothers' Union 150th fund. Thank you for the prayers, words of encouragement and generous donations.

It is not too late to donate if you would still like to contribute. Please click on the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/mu-coventry-abseiling-challenge>

Take Over Services and Strawberry Teas

Whilst we reflect on all this good news and look to the Lord with grateful thanks for all we are doing in His name to raise the profile of Mothers' Union and grow the membership. Recognition also to the branches/groups who have organised 'Take Over' services and/or Strawberry Teas in support of the Mothers' Union 150th fund.

Grateful Thanks

Events and services don't just happen and in fear of inadvertently leaving someone out, please know that your hard work and support means so much. Indeed, every single member is deeply valued and appreciated for all that they do.

Mothers' Union Coventry Overseas Representative

More good news! Melanie Dowden (Kineton Friendship Group Contact) has stepped out in faith to serve as our Overseas Representative. Please give thanks and pray for Melanie as she familiarises herself with the role.

Sharing Our Good News Stories via Link Up etc.

The next Link Up is sure to be a bumper edition with news and many photos to share.

To save disappointment, please ensure you send your contributions to Felicity, Link Up Editor, no later than Tuesday 1st September via felicity.hawke@btinternet.com

Our webmaster Sue, is always on the lookout for good news stories/photos too for the website so please forward to Sue via mu@susanmfoster.co.uk ASAP.

Please also remember to keep the staff at MSH informed of any 150th anniversary events etc. via communications@mothersunion.org so they can also share our good news stories.

Mothers' Union Coventry 150th Merchandise

There is still time to buy a special souvenir to mark this momentous 150th year. Please find attached a flyer which Chris Rutherford kindly produced which shows the various options.

For each mug, tea towel or apron sold a minimum of £1 will be directed to the MU 150th fund.

Please email me to place your order.

Prayerful Reflection

It seems apt to finish with a prayer taken from this month's Prayer Diary, lovingly prepared by Lynda Howells:

'We thank you for your Holy Bible, through which you speak to us today. You teach us, you encourage us, you speak words of comfort to us, you tell us you love us. Thank you dear Lord. Amen.'

And a reminder of the Mary Sumner Reflection contained within the MU central Prayer Diary (page 66) which encourages us to love – to put Christ at the centre of all we do and let that love lead us.

'Lord, awaken in us the same compassion and courage that Mary Sumner showed. Help us to love as You have loved us. Amen.'

Come and Join Us, Join In and Celebrate

- Monday 21st September: Fosse Deanery MU 150th Anniversary Service (2pm) St Andrew's Church, Shotton.
- Saturday 10th October: MU 150th Anniversary Service (time TBC) and Celebration Lunch St Barbara's Church, Earlsdon.
- Sunday 18th October: 'MU Take Over Service' (9.30am) Holy Trinity Church, Hartshill.
- Friday 13th November: MU Quiet Day (10am) St Peter's Church, Mancetter
- Monday 30th November: MU Advent Service (11am) St Andrew's Church, Shotton.

Please also note the MU virtual Business Meeting will take place on Monday 1st October at 6.30pm.

With love and abundant blessings,



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