May 2016 Issue 33

# Dementia Awareness Week 15-21 May 2016

## Calling all our 'Knitters and Stitchers' into action

Does your church know that we make 'fiddle mitts/ cushions/ aprons'?

If you have a spare one of any of these please ask if you can take it to church on either the 15<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> May to show to the congregation.

For more details on patterns for these items please contact Adie at the office on <a href="mailto:office@mothersunionlichfield.org.uk">office@mothersunionlichfield.org.uk</a>

As the awareness of Dementia increases the need for more of these items will increase. If you usually knit Comfort Teddies, would you like a change, try knitting a fiddle mitt.



This cushion has a glove, zip, pocket, lace, buttons, tassels, fur. Please remember buttons and other items must be sewn on very securely.

You can add anything that has a texture i.e. leather, suede, braid, elastic etc. the choice is yours.
Elastic loops to put fingers through work just as good as a glove.

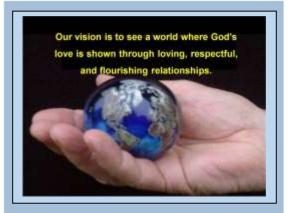
The same items can be sewn onto an apron [these don't slip off the persons knee as cushions sometimes do] please remember to make the 'strings' of the apron long enough to be tied comfortably around an older person's waist.

#### **Mothers' Union Office**

The Parish Church of St Thomas and St Andrew Doxey, Stafford. ST16 1EQ
Telephone 01785 227221

Email <u>office@mothersunionlichfield.org.uk</u> <u>www.mothersunionlichfield.org.uk</u>

May 2016 Issue 33





## **Wedding Prayers**

Couples who have asked for our prayers this month are;

AnneMarie & Richard who are getting married on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May in Wolverhampton and

Amy & Anthony who are getting married on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June at Gretna Green

### <u>'A Celebration of Faith'</u> at St Mary's Mothers' Union - Stafford

St Mary's Mothers' Union members had our first members meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April to mark the 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mothers' Union this year. It was 'A Celebration of Faith' which is the theme for this year. Members were encouraged to bring any object or item that reminded them of God's love and goodness to them and share their story of faith. It was followed by a time of worship and thanksgiving. Everybody enjoyed the fellowship and was encouraged by each other's experiences. Our next celebration will be a Celebratory Garden party at a one of our member's homes at 2pm on the 21st of July.

Monica Srinivasan



Remember to let us know at the office how you are celebrating 140 years of Mothers'
Union – so that we can share your ideas

### Rebecca Tamba – Spring Council

I'm sure we all enjoyed the love and enthusiasm for Mothers' Union that Rebecca Tamba shared with us at Spring Council.

If you would like a copy of the report of her talk, please email Adie at the office office@mothersunionlichfield.org.uk

May 2016 Issue 33

# We felt it was really important to share this thank you letter with you all

Dear Everyone in Lichfield Diocese,

Thank you so much for sending in the contribution of £22,148.48 towards the work of Mothers' Union. We are incredibly grateful for the dedicated generosity of all your members and want to thank you for the amazing support you provide as a Diocese. It is vital to keeping the work of Mothers' Union possible.

I am pleased to acknowledge the contributions as follows:

Subscriptions - £15,709.00

Overseas Fund - £2,390.87

Relief Fund - £1,585.00

GB & Ireland Fund - £965.00

General Fund - £523.00

Make a Mothers Day Appeal - £76.00

Wheels Appeal - £899.61

These donations will help us continue to support Mothers' Union members in the UK and Ireland as well as overseas. These donations mean we're one step closer to seeing the Provinces we are currently working with become self sufficient and being able to redirect funds to new areas, further extending our outreach and development work.

Once again, thank you for continuing to support the work we do centrally as it really does help us to achieve our mission of transforming communities worldwide through the promotion of stable marriage, family life and the protection of children.

Yours faithfully,

ElPerin

Evangeline Price

Head of Finance & Central Services

May 2016 Issue 33

## A request for Prayer Crosses

As many of you will know I attended Clergy Conference in April as part of my role as Diocesan President. I was overwhelmed at the support shown to Mothers' Union by those attending.

Along with the promotional literature I took the stitched 'cross in your pocket' that some members and friends had sewn to give away to the clergy. Many of them have asked if it would be possible for them to have a supply of these or the 'ribbon cross' to give away when they visit those who are poorly.

I would like to think that we can do this for them, by making these crosses we would be supporting the clergy not only where we have a Mothers' Union branch but also those who don't.

The crosses are made on plastic canvas and if several of you would like to start making the crosses we are prepared to buy the plastic canvas in bulk, for you to buy back from us, which will be cheaper than you buying from the shops.

I have lots of tapestry wool and cross stitch silks that I am happy to give away if anyone would like them for this project. The ribbon cross works

well with cross stitch silks.

Sue x



The stitched crosses do not have to come in the stitched 'envelope' they can be made just as crosses. If you need the pattern and or materials for either let us know at the office.



May 2016 Issue 33

### PELSALL BRANCH MOTHERS' UNION

We are blessed with a wealth of talented people here at St Michael's and All Angels. To begin our 140 Years Celebration some of our singing group entertained around 70 people at our February Musical Afternoon. Visitors from Streetly Branch and also members of our congregation joined us in a memorable afternoon of music and fellowship.

Two soloists, Sue and Andy, sang a variety of songs; monologues were performed by June and Tim. The afternoon was compered by our Curate, Revd. David Babbington, who surprised us all with his moving rendition of 'Bring Him Home' from the musical Les Miserables. Then the St Michaels Singers led us in a sing-along of old time songs. This was followed by light refreshments.

The Raffle raised £70 towards "Make A Mother's Day".

Our Deanery Lady Day Service on 7<sup>th</sup> March was also held at St Michael's. All four Branches in our Deanery were represented at a lovely and meaningful service, which was made more special by the enrolment of Revd. David Babbington to the Mothers' Union. It is always a pleasure when both our Deanery and Archdeaconry Leaders are present.

During the service there was a time of silent prayer when a representative from each branch placed a spray of blue and white flowers on the Altar, Val Hanna then read these words.

"We offer these flowers as symbols of our obedience and faith. May we be anointed with the fragrance of Christ, for a life lived in Service and Worship to God. Amen".

Our final hymn "Ye who own the faith of Jesus" was followed by the final blessing. Refreshments followed.

A retiring collection at the Mothering Sunday Service and Lady Day Service added to the February Raffle made a total of £230 for "Make a Mothers' Day".

Doreen Bethell - Pelsall Branch Leader



May 2016 Issue 33

### Request from Valerie Whittaker

Did anyone take a photo of Valerie's husband Philip at Spring Council when he was being enrolled, if so could you send a copy to the office so that it can be forwarded to Valerie?

She took one on her camera, but, as happens to us all, it seems to have disappeared.



Have you ordered your certificate for your 140<sup>th</sup> year celebration?

Don't forget if you are having more than one event you will get a certificate for each.

Email Adie office@mothersunionlichfield.org.uk



### Receiving the newsletter

If you do not wish to receive the newsletter in the future please email the office and you will be removed from the mailing list

If your friends, family or other members would like to receive the newsletter please email the office with their details and they will be added to the mailing list

office@mothersunionlichfield.org.uk



at Lichfield Mothers' Union

### **Mothers' Union Office**

The Parish Church of St Thomas and St Andrew Doxey, Stafford. ST16 1EQ Telephone 01785 227221

Email

office@mothersunionlichfield.org.uk

www.mothersunionlichfield.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 249942