

**DIARY DATES**

**Cathedral Prayers Winchester**

**5 Aug** 10.30 Cathedral Prayers – led by Leadership Team

**2 Sep** 10.30 Cathedral Prayers – led by Bournemouth Deanery

**Mary Sumner Day – Sunday 9th August**

**8:10am** Sunday morning service on Radio 4 will focus on Mary Sumner and Mothers' Union

**10:30am** The morning service at St Mary's Old Alresford will be a celebration of Mary Sumner Day

**2:30pm** Laying of flowers on Mary Sumner's grave

**3:30pm** Evensong at Winchester Cathedral to celebrate Mary Sumner Day, followed by light refreshments

**Looking Ahead**

**21 Oct** 10:30am to 2pm Information Day, St Lawrence's Parish Rooms, Colebrook Street, Winchester

**9 Dec** Use of Charity Chalet at Winchester Cathedral Christmas Market

**On July 1<sup>st</sup> our Cathedral Prayers** were led by Linda, Angela and Sue from Odiham Deanery. The Theme was St Thomas who is usually known as "Doubting Thomas", but as we looked at the readings about him, we discovered that he was both brave and loyal. We all have doubts sometimes, but perhaps it is braver to voice those doubts rather than try to ignore them.

**Ringwood MU Branch** will be hosting the Christchurch Deanery 150 year's celebration of MU with a Songs of Praise on Sunday 5th July at 6.00 pm at St John's Church, Linford Rd., Poulner, Ringwood. All welcome.

*Stella*

**News from Hyde branch**



On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June a Tea Party was hosted by Sheilah and William Collis at their house in Rockford. This is an annual event but this year it was a very special occasion to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Mothers' Union back in 1876 by Mary Sumner.

Despite a gloomy forecast earlier in the week the weather held and everyone enjoyed the tea with many delicious home-baked cakes, including a special celebration cake made by one of our MU members. Those attending also enjoyed a very interesting talk about Mary Sumner. As well as the Hyde branch, attendees included a group from the Mudeford Branch.



£169 was raised from a raffle and donations, which will go towards an MU appointed charity.

*Marrienne Tomkies Hyde branch*

**St John's Hedge End**



On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June I was delighted to join Branch members in St John's Hedge End as they "took over" the morning service to celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and spread the word about Mothers' Union to their congregation. It was a really joyful morning.

The Mothers' Union branch at St John's Hedge End was started in 1888 and has continued without a break until now –



which is a fantastic record! It is possible that their branch was visited by Mary Sumner herself – her husband, George Sumner, certainly visited the church when he was Archdeacon for the licencing of a new vicar not once, but twice. Well done, Hedge End, for a great celebration rounded off by sharing a special cake together.

*Sue Murphy, Diocesan President*

## Annual Gathering in London



Those of us who were able to attend the Annual Gathering in London in June were also able to visit an exhibition in Mary Sumner House. One of the highlights was the banner made up of panels from dioceses around the world who attended the World Wide council in 1998. We also heard reminiscences from 6 former World-Wide presidents and presentations about our current projects. At the end there was a presentation to Bev Jullien, our CEO, as she leaves for a well-earned retirement.

*Sue Murphy*

## The Winchester Panel



At the 1998 World Wide Council every attending Diocese was asked to contribute a sewn panel depicting their Diocese. This huge wall of fabric was also on display at the recent 150<sup>th</sup> Celebrations at Mary Sumner House. The **Winchester Panel** was created for the 1998 World Wide Council,

each Diocese producing an A4 size panel. "The panel was worked by members. It shows a tree growing from seed, pushing down roots and producing flowers. The Mothers' Union grew out of a parish within the Diocese and, from that small beginning, is now a world organisation. The round crown of the tree representing the globe.

Our Christian concern is shown by the cross, central to our work, whose arms reach all quarters of the world and our MU logo circles the crown of the tree. The leaves of the tree are green and the blossom, abundant; the trunk is sturdy and the roots, strong, all symbolising life and strength.

The more prominent logo is in the forefront of the design, as it is in the name of Mothers' Union that we endeavour to carry out the Aims and Objects of our Society."

*Christine Clode*

## Raising Funds for Literacy



We had another successful afternoon at Hartley Wintney Village Festival on June 13<sup>th</sup>, selling books to raise funds for Literacy projects. We had fewer books than last year (last year we were completely overwhelmed!) but still managed to raise £150. We were very lucky with the weather and as a bonus we saw a Lancaster flying past. A big thank you to everyone who donated books, or helped with setting up or packing away.

*Sue Murphy, Diocesan President*

## Thought for the day!

It's the time of year for Ordinations – on the 28<sup>th</sup> June in Winchester Cathedral 16 Deacons were Ordained to serve in parishes across the Diocese. Amongst them was the now Reverend Kerry Murphy. Kerry was a guest on one of the AFIA Holidays about 16 years ago and came to faith as a result of that Holiday. If you ever wonder whether what we, as the MU, are about think on this and Kerry's words "Please never underestimate what your loving kindness can do. It is because of generous people like yourselves, that people like me have been introduced to our Lord and Saviour and have had our lives immeasurably changed by the power of his Holy Spirit."

In Christ

*Terry*

**Christian Care for Families through praying, enabling and campaigning**

**Sue Murphy – Diocesan President, & Treasurer** [president@muwinchester.org.uk](mailto:president@muwinchester.org.uk)