

**Mothers' Union - Coventry Diocese**

**Statement of Accounts  
For the year ended 31st December 2016**

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**For the year ended 31st December 2016**

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**Mothers' Union - Coventry Diocese**

**Income**

**For the year ended 31st December 2016**

	2016		2015	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts re MSH</b>				
MSH Subscriptions	8,890		8,814	
MU Enterprise	4,675		3,292	
Other MU Appeals	2,269		2,941	
		15,834		15,047
<b>Diocesan Subscriptions</b>		7,465		7,402
<b>Families First</b>		1,824		2,131
<b>Diocesan General Fund</b>		2,384		1,452
<b>Diocesan Reserve Fund</b>		3,668		260
<b>Mission Fund Receipts (page 5)</b>		11,492		9,518
<b>Interest on Deposits</b>		91		108
<b>Other Receipts</b>				
MU Enterprises Commission	420		-	
Income Tax Recovered	1,419		1,625	
Insurance etc	580		564	
Events	884		3,345	
Miscellaneous	322		607	
		3,625		6,141
<b>Total Receipts</b>		46,383		42,059
Deduct Payments (page 3)		(38,415)		(36,544)
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure</b>		7,968		5,515

**Mothers' Union - Coventry Diocese**

**Expenditure**

**For the year ended 31st December 2016**

	2016		2015	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Payments Direct</b>				
MSH Subscriptions	8,890		8,803	
MU Enterprises	3,839		3,673	
Insurance	613		591	
Other MU Appeals	-		2,434	
	-	13,342	2,434	15,501
<b>Families First</b>		1,866		1,973
<b>Mission Fund Payments (page 5)</b>		8,912		8,605
<b>Link-up</b>		1,155		345
<b>Office Costs</b>				
Rent	750		775	
Salaries	3,293		2,912	
Printing, Stationary & Telephone	1,364		1,397	
	1,364	5,407	1,397	5,084
<b>Travel Costs</b>				
Accommodation, Fares, Mileage and Parking		919		618
<b>Other Payments</b>				
Room Hire	181		230	
Conferences	750		378	
Events	990		2,728	
Website	35		-	
Miscellaneous	358		259	
Bank Charges	79		4	
Faith & Policy	753		819	
	753	3,146	819	4,418
Transfer to Reserve Account		3,668		-
<b>Total Payments</b>		38,415		36,544

**Mothers' Union - Coventry Diocese**

**Balance Sheet  
As at 31st December 2016**

		2016	2015
		£	£
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Bank Balances</b>			
CAF Deposit Account		17,000	17,000
CAF Bank Savings Account	Gold	11,682	10,244
CAF Bank Current Account	Cash	13,131	15,245
CAF AFIA Account		4,007	1,571
CAF Reserve Account		5,000	1,330
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		50,820	45,390
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Represented By</b>			
Mission Funds (pages 5)		11,166	8,586
General Funds (page 6)		39,654	36,804
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		50,820	45,390
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Approved by the Trustees:

Dated:

**Mothers' Union - Coventry Diocese**

**Mission Funds**

**For the year ended 31st December 2016**

	<b>Balances At 01.01.2016</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Payments</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Balances At 31.12.2016</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Diocesan Funds</b>					
A & O Diocese	2,969	793	(200)		3,562
A & O Parenting	2,981	1,823	(1,536)		3,268
A & O AFIA	2,178	3,365	(2,805)		2,738
	<u>8,128</u>	<u>5,981</u>	<u>(4,541)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,568</u>
<b>MSH Funds</b>					
A & O BID	174	612	-		786
A & O Overseas	(386)	3,378	(3,839)		(847)
A & O Emergency Fund	670	1,521	(532)		1,659
	<u>458</u>	<u>5,511</u>	<u>(4,371)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,598</u>
	<u>8,586</u>	<u>11,492</u>	<u>(8,912)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,166</u>

**Mothers' Union - Coventry Diocese**

**Statement of Accumulated Funds  
For the year ended 31st December 2016**

	2016		2015	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Balances at 01.01.16</b>				
Mission Fund	8,586		7,673	
General Fund	36,804		32,214	
		45,390		39,887
 <b>Excess of receipts over payments</b>				
Mission Fund	2,580		913	
General Fund	2,896		4,890	
General Fund MSH	(46)		(300)	
		5,430		5,503
		50,820		45,390
 <b>Balances at 31.12.16</b>				
Mission Fund				8,586
General Fund		11,166		36,804
		39,654		45,390
		50,820		45,390

## **Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of The Mothers' Union (Coventry Diocese)**

I report on the accounts of The Mothers' Union (Coventry Diocese) for the year ended 31st December 2016 which are set out on pages 1-6.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

You consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 43 of the 1993 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accountancy records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.





# Mothers' Union

## Diocese of Coventry

### Annual Report 2016

Mothers' Union Office

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#### Trustee Board 2016

**Diocesan President**

Jane Hill

**Vice Presidents**

Lynda Howells

Karen Morris

**Trustees**

Vanessa Cooper

Barbara Fowkes

Margo Grant

Margaret Siggers

Rosemary Wiggins (co-opted)

**Diocesan Secretary**

Vivien Hopkins

**Diocesan Chaplain**

Revd Pam Gould

**Diocesan Treasurer**

Mike Watson

**Bankers**

CAF Bank Ltd  
25, Kings Hill Avenue  
West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

**Auditor**

A.J. Dodds A.A.T. 19  
Brooklyn Road  
Cheltenham, Glos GL51 8DT

## Aim, Purpose and Objects

The vision of Mothers' Union is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful, and flourishing relationships. The aim and purpose of Mothers' Union is to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by the transformation of communities worldwide through the nurture of the family in its many forms.

In furtherance of this aim and purpose Mothers' Union will carry out all or any of the following Objects:

- To promote and support married life;
- To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children;
- To maintain a world-wide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service;
- To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children; and
- To help those whose family life has met with adversity.

Mothers' Union is firmly rooted in a voluntary ethos. Its governance, leadership, and activities are driven by and undertaken through its members. In Coventry Diocese, it operates at Diocesan, Deanery and Branch levels.

Members of Mothers' Union believe in the value of each individual and their unique qualities; in the value of relationships; and in the value of family as a source of love and support for individuals and as the basis for a caring community. Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself."

## From the Diocesan President

The new Board of Trustees was commissioned for a period of 3 years by the Bishop of Coventry, at a service attended by around 150 members.

During 2016 we celebrated 140 years of Mothers' Union, with a variety of services, events and activities at Branch, Deanery and Diocesan levels. In addition, members from Coventry Diocese joined with 2000 members from around the world to celebrate at our General Meeting in Winchester, the birthplace of Mothers' Union.

The Worldwide President, Lynne Tembey made a 3 day visit to Coventry Diocese, where she attended a Deanery Festival service, visited Branches, to discuss the work of Mothers' Union at local community level, and participated in a lively discussion with members and relevant agencies on a new Parenting Programme "What Shall We Tell the Children about Relationships and Sex". Her visit culminated in a vibrant, very well attended Members' Day, which included many highlights of the action and outreach work undertaken by our members. Lynne spoke about the work of Mothers' Union around the world, then enrolled new members and presented long service certificates. The day concluded with an uplifting service of celebration.

A member of staff from Mothers' Union Head Office facilitated a well-received training session with members of clergy on "Loving for Life", a marriage preparation programme.

3 Trustees, including myself, attended a 3-day national leadership conference/ Worldwide Council. I also attended a residential Conference for Diocesan Presidents from Canterbury Province. I have responded to consultation documents on the worldwide constitution and membership.

As a new Diocesan President, I made visits to many parts of the Diocese during the year and have seen and heard about much of the excellent work being undertaken by members of Mothers' Union, in furtherance of our objects.

I wish to thank all members of the Trustee Board for their work and diligence during 2016 and look forward to continuing this throughout the next 2 years.

**Jane Hill**

## **Faith and Policy**

Prayers and worship continue to be foundational for Mothers' Union, both individually and when members gather together.

Lady Day and other Festival Services have been held in Deaneries, whilst the annual Diocesan Advent Carol Service was attended by more than 200 members. Such services are occasions of gathering together in larger numbers to worship God, meet friends and share refreshments.

A Quiet Day, entitled "The Three Mary's" was led by our Diocesan Chaplain Revd Pam Gould. Those who attended were led into times of quiet reflection and prayer and a highlight was a visit to a stunning local garden to appreciate God's creation during the lunch break.

We have continued to develop our relationship as a partner in the Community of the Cross of Nails. A moving prayer event was held at Coventry Cathedral and members have attended some of the meetings and workshops arranged by CCN in Coventry. We continue to raise awareness of the ways in which the work of Mothers' Union in Coventry Diocese contributes to peace and reconciliation, both locally and further afield.

Linked to this was our ongoing involvement in the global campaign: 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence. An evening discussion was held, facilitated sensitively by one of our local agencies working with victims of rape and sexual assault. Additionally a day conference, open to all, was held in Coventry Cathedral, at which there were 2 keynote speakers to inform and guide us in our thinking about the issues of gender violence. Local agencies working with a range of victims were invited to display information, contacts for support etc. Members were also encouraged to engage in prayer and other advocacy activities locally, using resources provided by Mothers' Union.

**Jane Hill**

## **Finance and Central Services**

Annual subscriptions were increased by 1.50p to cover the increase levied by Mary Sumner House and. Our reserve account now stands at £3668

Our members remain loyal and continue to support Mothers' Union funds and projects. During 2016 £7148 was sent to Mary Sumner House for the overseas fund, the relief fund and other projects that are administered by them. Members also raised an amazing £4481 for the charitable works carried out within the Diocese of Coventry.

We continue to recruit new members but overall our membership continues to decline, this being mainly due to the increasing age of our members, despite this our final accounts continue to show a small surplus.

Vivien Hopkins Diocesan Secretary

## **Finance and Central Services Co-ordinator**

### **Action And Outreach Report for 2016**

The work of Action and Outreach has followed a similar pattern as before, but with a widening remit. Our most recent additional action and outreach is towards refugee families and asylum seekers. We are seeking to build up contact with organisations and charities working in this field, and the Coventry charity Carriers of Hope is our primary connection. Carriers of Hope serve around 100 recently arrived refugee families, and provide them with everything from beds to saucepans to baby buggies. An appeal for knitted or purchased items of school uniform, or donations towards that provision, is now an annual event, enabling children to settle into new schools equipped as

other pupils. Mothers' Union has publicised the work around the diocese, and invited their inspirational founder to join us at a Members' day. Mothers Together in Warwick have supported Syrian families settling in that area.

Another growing venture which we support is Coffee Tots, a Coventry charity which provides a setting in the city for parents and children under five, hoping to meet some of their needs for support through loneliness and unsatisfactory housing conditions. Added services now include parenting support, offered by Mothers' Union accredited facilitators.

Parenting groups continue, organised by Karen Morris and Felicity Hawke, and we expect to add a new strand during 2017.....

Our work for prisoners at Ryehill, and at Rainsbrook YOI continues. The Angel Tree scheme to provide gifts for prisoners' children continues, along with provision of Christmas cards to prisoners.

SARC has continued to receive support from members in Nuneaton deanery, in provision of welcome toiletries and underwear.

Our knitters are active as ever, and the goods produced go far and wide. A new venture is provision of knitted comfort blankets for children of parents in end-of-life care; by special request, these have been produced in a variety of football club colours, of the children's choice! Knitted teddies reach destinations here and abroad.

Twiddle muffs and twiddle aprons are newer projects, designed for dementia sufferers and care home residents. Miniature knitted angels presented to babies at baptism are popular; decorated wooden spoons are produced at one branch for couples on their marriage.

Away from it all holidays (AFIA) under the care of Lynda Howells is active in achieving 'breaks' for families in need of a holiday, or a day out.

Our connection with Coventry University has been interrupted, and is something we shall seek to resume.

Margo Grant  
A&O Coordinator

### **Passionate about Parenting 2016 Report**

The Passionate about Parenting (PAP) Programme has continued to flourish in 2016, with seven programmes delivered in schools and a cafe, and agreement finally being reached with Coventry City Council about transfer of the *What should we tell the children about relationships and sex* programme (WSWTTC). A presentation about PAP was given to members in October.

Two *Time Out for Parents SEN* (Special Educational Needs) Programmes have been delivered at Brooke School, Rugby. This programme from Care for the Family requires additional training, which two facilitators attended. The parents benefitted from valuable discussion and sharing good ideas. Families that attended have expressed interest in participating in a further 3 sessions, specifically for children on the Autistic Spectrum, and this will be held in January

Following agreement with Coventry City Council that they did not now own WSWTTC, and were happy for Coventry Mothers' Union to develop and publish it, an extensive revision and update has been completed. A grant of £1,500 was obtained from central Mothers' Union funds, to cover the initial cost of printing and promotion, and the resources have now been printed. The Coordinators have met with staff to agree on a charging structure, training and promotional aspects, and it is hoped that the programme will run in Coventry in 2017, and will also be taken up by facilitators in other Dioceses around the UK soon.

One of our Coordinators attended a Teenage Parenting Summit on the 24<sup>th</sup> November to promote the WSWTTC parenting programme and learn about the situation in Nuneaton & Bedworth, and North Warwickshire Districts, which have some of the highest teenage pregnancy rates in the UK. She introduced the WSWTTC parenting programme via a parenting display within the market place. Members also took part in a discussion initiated by the central MU about the role of sex and relationships education in schools.

The partnership with Coffeetots in Coventry continues. Their three volunteers who trained as PAP facilitators have been running a continuing programme of parenting courses with great success, alongside their other activities for young parents. MU holds meetings there too, and recently the facilitators have been supporting in prayer a family which attends Coffeetots, and which was affected by the severe illness of their young child. In addition, many MU members support Coffeetots with prayer and donations of clothes, toys and baby equipment.

One facilitator has moved away, one has left due to pressure of work, and one is unwell, leaving four active facilitators alongside the three at Coffee tots. There is one candidate for the forthcoming training course in March 2017, and we hope to find others soon. In the meantime, we are building up many good links with statutory bodies and schools in Coventry and Warwickshire. We have been approached to participate in a project with National Childbirth Trust called *Parents in Mind*, supporting new parents with mental health issues.

Karen Morris and Felicity Hawke  
Joint PAP Coordinators

### **Away from It All Holidays - AFIA**

The AFIA holiday scheme is a Mothers' Union initiative in the UK and Ireland, which is run by members in their local dioceses. AFIA provides holidays and day breaks for those whose family life has met with adversity, thus giving them an opportunity to consolidate and nurture relationships.

Mothers' Union members are involved in AFIA in many ways, whether this be through Prayers for the holidays and the Officers involved with the scheme, fundraising through lunches, coffee mornings or nominating a family to the local clergy in their branch. We also receive donations from Parochial Church Councils who support the scheme.

If the Diocese is in a position to offer a holiday, the family will be asked to complete an application form which will need to be supported by someone who knows them in a professional capacity, such as a social worker, member of the clergy, doctor or head teacher. Applicants do not have to be a member of a church or any organisation to apply.

Once the family has been away the Diocese normally receive feedback from them regarding the holiday, which reflects how they just enjoy spending time together relaxing away from the every day stress of life and often say what a difference the break has made to their lives.

In 2016 Mothers Union paid for a group of youngsters who had never seen the sea or been to a pleasure park, to go to Blackpool for one night and two

days. We paid for the total of the trip which was organized by WAYC, the total cost of the trip was £719.99. The feedback was good and the group had a really lovely time.

This was the only money spent by AFIA in 2016. We are in the process of looking at requests for holidays in 2017.

**Lynda Howells**

**AFIA Co-ordinator**

### **Indoor Members Prayer Circle**

At the end of 2016 we have 40 Members.

I continue the usual contacts with these ladies, through Birthday cards and greetings at Easter and Christmas. New members receive a prayer shawl, knitted by our members. They also receive our Diocesan magazine "Link Up", which keeps them in touch with what is going on locally. I have had some good feedback from family members who have appreciated the prayer shawls sent to their loved ones.

Pauline Wilkes  
Indoor Members Correspondent