



Dear Friend, Member of IMPC or Member who hasn't been able to attend meetings recently,

Our Lent Talk about William Tyndale was very interesting and was made by Rev David Dewey on Wednesday 25th March and was attended by 15 people. We started EMU again on Tuesday 14th April when we had a Quiz on Wildflowers when 9 came. Then on Wednesday 22nd April, Stuart Gay and David Johnson showed slides and talked about Coastal Watch when 19 attended. On Tuesday 12th May, 13 came to the meeting and had a great time sharing photos about family weddings and memorabilia.

As I said at the AGM, the MU Diocese of Blackburn is suggesting that we be part of the 150th Anniversary Appeal. This is for Central Mothers' Union and for the MU Blackburn Diocese Caravan. It is hoped to replace the caravan for Away From It All in time for the 2027 season. It is suggested that each branch try to raise £150 during the year and the trustees have offered matched funding. One suggestion to raise money was that at our next afternoon meeting we pay our £2 but add a donation of whatever amount.

We are planning an Open Celebration on Wednesday 22nd July for our 150 years of MU. We hope this will be a time of fun and information.

We continue to collect items for the Fylde, Wyre and Blackpool Women's Refuges and a Men's Refuge. They are very grateful for all we collect.

How much do you know about the MU and Mary Sumner?

1. Who persuaded Mary Sumner to speak at a Conference in Portsmouth in 1885?
Bishop of Winchester / Bishop of Newcastle / Bishop of London / Revd George Sumner / Archbishop of Canterbury
2. Who was the first patron of MU?
King George V / Queen Victoria / Queen Alexandra / Queen Mary/Queen Elizabeth II
3. Where was Mary's first meeting of mothers held?
Winchester / Old Arlesford / Portsmouth / Salford / Ledbury / Hereford
4. By 1900 how many Mothers Union members were there?
12,000 / 60,000 / 169,000 / 285,000 / 400,000 / 4 million
5. The first overseas Mothers Union branch was in
Canada / South Africa / New Zealand / India / Nigeria / Australia ?
6. When was the Mary Sumner House opened? *1900 / 1920 / 1925 / 1940 / 1950*
7. Where is Mary Sumner buried?
Winchester Cathedral / Old Arlesford / Swinton, Salford / Colwall, Ledbury
8. When was AFIA (Away From It All) launched? *1890 / 1965 / 1990 / 2005 / 2025*

Theme –Join in and celebrate

*Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!
Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!
Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!
Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!
Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!* *Psalms 150*

Praise the Lord! Thank you that everything that has breath can praise You, Lord! Thank you that we can come before You in awe and wonder and praise You our Creator and Saviour. Amen

Some light humour

How do we know the Apostles drove a Honda?

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one accord."

Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible? *Samson. He brought the house down.*

Who was the smartest man in the Bible? *Abraham. He knew a Lot.*

How do we know Peter was a rich fisherman? *By his net income.*

Preston Deanery held a service at St Michael's Grimsargh on Tuesday 28th April for the handover of the MU prayer capsule, which is travelling around Mothers' Union Dioceses for the 150th Anniversary. The Isle of Man Diocesan MU presented it to Blackburn Diocese. Delia, Barbara, Doreen and I were there and held the capsule which contains prayers from each diocese.



MU equipping women leaders through faith, skills and digital learning.

This is a new project in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), supported by a grant from Trinity Church Wall Street. In March, a 'training of trainers' session was led by Naomi Foxwood, Leadership Programmes Manager at Mothers' Union, and Marthe Vira, Provincial Community Development Coordinator. Drawing inspiration from figures such as Mary Sumner and Queen Esther, Naomi commented 'the pilot with DRC is an exciting programme to equip and empower women to make a difference in their lives, their families, communities and churches.'

Marthe also stressed the importance of the digital leadership programme, saying 'today a woman without a telephone is like a battery without power.'



Through access to devices and connectivity, women are gaining new opportunities to learn, lead, and connect.

Mothers Union in Lilongwe in Malawi celebrating 150 years as the Anglican Church of the Province of Central Africa.



Answers To MU Quiz

- 1 Ernest Wilberforce, Bishop of Newcastle
- 2 HM Queen Elizabeth II -1952
- 3 Old Arlesford Vicarage
- 4 In 1900 -169,000 members
- 5 New Zealand in 1893
- 6 21st July 1925
- 7 In the grounds of Winchester Cathedral
- 8 1965



MU in Papua New Guinea in March this year

I hope you enjoy seeing the Mothers' Union members across the world in their uniforms. Having been involved with several MU Dioceses in Kenya, it is lovely to see the different dresses and uniforms!

In the UK we even have our own scarves, T-shirts and fleeces these days. Sadly they aren't as colourful as the ones across the world! Hope you are enjoying the summer sunshine even if it hasn't been too warm lately.

Best wishes

June