

SWANSEA AND BRECON MOTHERS UNION

England & Wales · Charity number 1067728

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1998-01-26

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 6 Lamb Road
Penderyn
Aberdare
CF44 9JU

Phone 07496847592

Email helensecmu@gmail.com

Website www.swanseaandbreconmu.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE ADVANCEMENT OF CHRISTIAN RELIGION IN THE SPHERE OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE.

Activities: Promotes the well-being of families by developing prayer and spiritual growth, studying family life, marriage and their place in society resourcing members to take practical action to improve conditions for families both nationally and in the communities in which they live.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- City Of Swansea
- Powys

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£23,709	£27,651	-	-
2023-12-31	£28,303	£29,813	-	-
2022-12-31	£33,621	£32,987	-	-
2021-12-31	£25,890	£24,723	-	-
2020-12-31	£31,928	£38,148	-	-

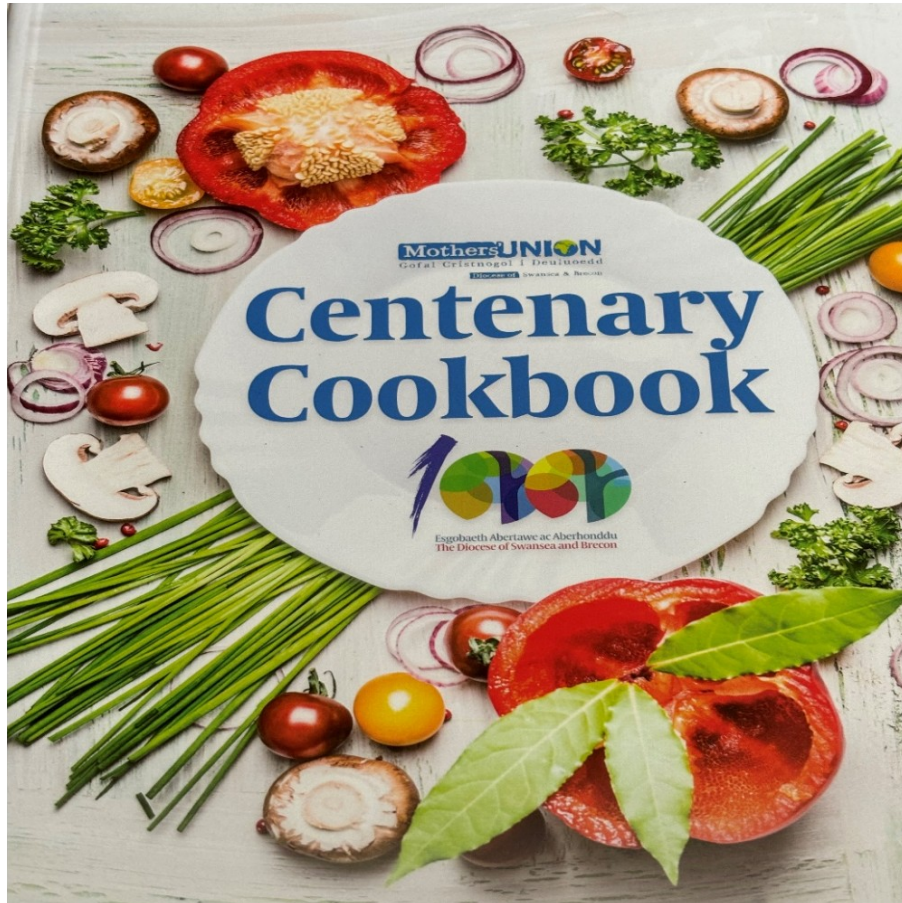
Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Gillian Brenda Knight	Chair	2025-01-01
Alison Cora Lawrence		2020-01-22
Dr Felicity May Padley		2025-01-01
Elizabeth Eleanor Lewis		2023-05-10
Heather Culliford		2025-01-01
Helen Moira Bibby		2019-01-01
JEANNE BARBARA HUGHES		2018-03-14
RACHEL WELLS		2018-03-14

SWANSEA AND BRECON MOTHERS UNION

England & Wales - Charity number 1067728

Accounts



Annual Report

1st January to 31st December 2023

Theme:

Transformation – Now!

Registered Charity Number 1067728

PATRON

The Right Revd John Lomas Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, Archbishop of Wales

HONORARY LIFE VICE PRESIDENTS

Mrs Ann Jackson
Mrs Monica Jones
Mrs Ruby Hayden
Revd Kay Warrington

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President	Mrs Ruth Roberts
Vice President Brecon	Mrs Ella Thomas
Vice President Gower	Mrs Jill McPherson
General Trustees	Mrs Moira Bibby Mrs Jeanne Hughes Mrs Rachel Wells
General Trustee / Archdeaconry Leaders	
Gower	Mrs Ailsa Howells
Brecon	Mrs Alison Lawrence
Co-opted Trustee	Miss Eleanor Lewis (From 1 January 2023)

CHAPLAIN (not Trustees)

Revd Tim Williams

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS (not Trustees)

Honorary Secretary	Mrs Helen Williams
Honorary Treasurer	Mrs Heather Price (to 31 December 2023)
Honorary Treasurer	Mrs Anne Jones (from 1 January 2024)

COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST TRUSTEES/OFFICERS

Social Policy	Mrs Jeanne Hughes / Alison Lawrence
Diocesan Member	Mrs Helen Williams
Indoor Members	Mrs Rachel Wells
AFIA	Mrs Jill McPherson
Wave of Prayer Rota	Mrs Helen Williams
Social Media	Mrs Helen Williams
Retreats South	Mrs Jill McPherson
Retreats North	Mrs Ella Thomas
Prayer Chain	Mrs Jill McPherson
MU Enterprises	Mrs Helen Williams
Safeguarding	Mrs Helen Williams

Not on Trustees

MU News	Revd Kay Warrington
Prayer Partners	Mrs Sally Freedman 31 st December 2023

Registered Office: The Rectory
Lamb Road
Penderyn
Abedare
CF44 9JU

Bankers: Lloyds
38 High Street
Brecon
LD3 7AR

Independent Examiner: Mrs Judith Davies
Grawen House
Grawen Lane
Cefn Coed
Merthyr Tydfil
CF48 2NN

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2023

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

The Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Mothers' Union is a registered charity which is governed by a constitution (revised 2015). The Charity is affiliated to the Mothers Union Worldwide which is incorporated by Royal Charter

OBJECTS

- to uphold Christ's teaching on the nature of marriage and to promote its wider understanding.
- to encourage parents to bring up their children in the faith and life of the church.
- to maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service.
- to promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children.
- to help those whose family life has met with adversity.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mothers' Union is a Christian organisation, which promotes the well-being of families worldwide.

This is achieved by:

- Developing prayer and spiritual growth of members
- Studying and reflecting on family life, marriage and its place in society
- Resourcing our members to take practical action to improve conditions for families, both nationally and in the communities in which they live.

MU Prayer

Loving Lord, we thank you for your love so freely given to us all.
We pray for families around the world. Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life. Empowered by your spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world. In Jesus name. Amen

The Organisation

The Diocese of Swansea and Brecon covers a large and diverse area of some 120 miles in length from North to South. It stretches from Beguildy in the North to the Gower Peninsula in the South. The northern part of the Diocese is predominantly rural with a number of attractive market towns, including Brecon. It includes most of the Brecon Beacons National Park and a rich variety of stunning landscapes. The southern part is a greater mix of urban and rural and includes both the City and County of Swansea and also the Gower Peninsula, a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The Diocese has a border with all five other Welsh Dioceses, as well as with the English Diocese of Hereford.

The Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon is organised into **2** Archdeaconries, and within those Archdeaconries there are **22** Branches. Branch members meet regularly, and events are also held at Archdeaconry and Diocesan level. There are three types of membership and in 2023 there were **506** members as follows:

Branch membership: 434 members.

Indoor membership: 20 members. These are those who no longer attend meetings because they are house bound through age, illness or because they are carers. These Members received Christmas and Easter Greetings, and Newsletters. They provide prayerful support for the ongoing work of the MU in the diocese.

Diocesan membership: 52 members. These are either recruited following branch closure and / or who do not wish to attend branch meetings but are keen to support the ethos of Mothers' Union.

Elections of new officers are held triennially and the elections for 2022-2024 were held at the end of 2021, when the President, Trustee Board, Archdeaconry Leaders, and Branch Officers were elected.

Responsibilities

The Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon is governed by a Trustee Board, which meets 4 times a year. The Board of Trustees reports to the Diocesan Council meetings which have met twice this year. And information has been distributed by post. one of the meetings being the Annual General Meeting at which the Annual Report and Accounts are presented. Induction and Training is given to new trustees at the beginning of each triennial, all are provided with and made aware of the contents of Charity Commission publication CC3. Ongoing training is provided as required. The Trustees have identified the major risks which the charity faces, and these are addressed and reviewed on a regular basis. Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Mothers' Union during the year and the financial position at the end of the year.

TRUSTEES' REVIEW OF 2023

This year the Diocese celebrated its Centenary having previously being linked to the Diocese of St. David's. Our links with all Dioceses in the Province remain strong and

as the Mothers' Union we meet regularly and support each other as much as we can. To celebrate this significant event the MU were asked to produce a Celebratory Cookbook of 100 recipes from our members across the Diocese, intermingled with which were many "graces" from our clerics. The Cookbook has been sold far and wide – some reaching Tennessee, Vancouver and Dubai! Our two Archdeaconries of Gower and Brecon held special events to raise the profile of Mothers' Union, to celebrate and to fundraise. The Archdeaconry of Gower mounted a beautiful Flower Festival in St. Mary's Church, Swansea, when branches depicted in flowers and artefacts a particular decade in those 100 years. Both Archdeaconries held very thoughtful, joyful, and well attended Festivals and the MU attended the Centenary Celebration in Builth Wells, again promoting the MU and meeting and greeting friends old and new.

The Trustee Board have met on four occasions, and, by kind permission of the Dean, we have been able to use Chapter in the Diocesan Centre and we thank him for that, as we do all of the Cathedral clergy and staff for allowing us to enjoy the Diocesan Festival in the Cathedral again this year. The festival was a lovely service with our Patron, Bishop John, as our speaker and Celebrant at the Eucharist. It is such a joy to meet with our friends across the Diocese and to thank God for our wonderful organisation.



The monthly Archidiaconal Eucharist in Gower is well attended each month and we have also held quarterly services in the Cathedral for the Brecon Archdeaconry. We thank our Chaplain, Fr. Tim Williams for all his work in putting together these services taking into account each new church season in the liturgy. We also thank the many clerics who come to preside over these services, each bringing

their unique style and enriching our worship. There have been retreats in Llangasty and a shortened Lenten retreat in Penllergaer. The prayer chain is running very efficiently in the South, and it is hoped to get this running in the North within the coming year. The Mothers' Union is grounded in prayer, and it is good to constantly remember our members and their families in this way when they need it most.

This last year we have again met within each Archdeaconry for our twice-yearly Council meetings, and welcomed Cherrie Bija to talk on Faith in Families which is one of our on-going projects. We also heard from Catriona Charlesworth on her visit to South Africa as a delegate for G.F.S. We continue to support the Women's Refuge centres in the Diocese and fund 4 holidays for families in need in Llandaff's caravan in Trecco Bay as part of the A.F.I.A. scheme. All branches observed their designated time in the joined-up Wave of Prayer, a most important part of our prayer life, remembering and praying for our link branches across the world.

We are delighted to be a part of the hospitality in the R.W.A.S. Churches together (CYTUN) pavilion each year and thank that organisation for including us in their plans. We also attended the Wedding Fayre in The Brangwyn Hall and were a listening ear for questions and queries on marriage and church services. We continue to provide news from our branches in the twice-yearly publication, MU News, which is skilfully edited by Kay Warrington, so keeping all members in the Diocese in touch with all that is going on in the name of Mothers' Union.

We stood in solidarity with those suffering domestic abuse and gender violence during the 16 days of Activism in November and held two simultaneous services in Llandrindod and Swansea.

Officers from all Dioceses in the Province were invited to Llandaff to meet with our W.W.P. Sheran Harper after her successful visit to talk to the Clergy Synod. She is always such an inspiration to us all – and another Cookbook was passed to her to make its way to her home in Uganda! Sheran was with the Mothers' Union for the General meeting in York which several of our members attended having travelled with St. David's Diocese. It was a very informative and enthusing meeting followed by an invitation for us all to join a service of evensong at York Minster with The Archdeacon of York as our preacher. That was an unforgettable experience.



Photo: Ruth Roberts, Ann Jackson. Kay Warrington, Moira Bibby, Helen Williams. Thanks to Stephanie Hawkins for taking the photo.

Our membership drops year on year but that is a similar pattern throughout the Province and Country. Our wish must be to enrol new members to keep our Christian Global Organisation viable and vibrant for the years to come, so maybe

that should be a personal goal for each one of us along with remembering that we need to be “inclusive” and not “exclusive”.

My thanks to each and every one of you for all you do to support Mothers’ Union Worldwide and here in the Diocese of Swansea & Brecon. Ruth Roberts. Diocesan President.

“May we always see the world through the eyes of Christ, speak to those we meet with the words of Christ and take with us on our journey the peace of Christ” (taken from our Mid-Day prayers).

Financial Review

The Financial Statements are a consolidation of Branches, Archdeaconries and Diocesan Accounts, which demonstrates what has been achieved by the Mothers' Union movement in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon.

The total receipts for the year were £28,303, a decrease of £5,318 on the previous year. Due to a reduction in the number of members the income from the subscription fell.

Total payments were £29,813, which was £3,173 less than previous year. A total of £11,051 was given to Action and Outreach.

Total balance as at 31st December 2023 was £19,969

The Annual Report was approved by the Trustees on 5th April 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

R Roberts – President

**SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION
CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
	1	12,637.00	-	12,637.00	13,742.50
		7,438.00	-	7,438.00	8,924.58
			-	-	1,000.00
			-	-	-
		384.00	-	384.00	1,407.00
Activities for generating funds:					
		-	6,447.00	6,447.00	5,421.82
Income from activities in furtherance of charitable objectives:					
		353.00	-	353.00	1,323.19
		1,044.00	-	1,044.00	1,527.00
Investment Income					
		-	-	-	0.07
Other incoming resources					
		-	-	-	275.20
Total Incoming Resources		21,856.00	6,447.00	28,303.00	33,621.36
Resources Expended					
Cost of generating funds					
		-	-	-	15.20
Charitable Activities					
		10,563.00	-	10,563.00	10,840.00
		740.00	-	740.00	755.00
	2	1,066.00	9,985.00	11,051.00	8,870.26
		-	-	-	1,181.39
		1,234.00	-	1,234.00	1,901.90
	3	4,475.00	-	4,475.00	3,795.74
	4	1,366.00	-	1,366.00	4,462.33
		384.00	-	384.00	1,164.74
Other Resources Expended					
		-	-	-	-
Total Resources Expended		19,828.00	9,985.00	29,813.00	32,986.56
Net incoming/(outgoing resources)		2,028.00	(3,538.00)	(1,510.00)	634.80
Transfers between Funds					
				-	-
Net incoming/(outgoing resources) after transfers				-	634.80
Balance at Bank & Cash in Hand at 1 January		22,607.29		22,607.29	21,972.49
Balance at Bank & Cash in Hand at 31 December		19,969.43	-	19,969.43	22,607.29

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£
Monetary Assets			
Branch Bank Accounts		9,248.00	10,610.24
Deanery Bank Accounts		429.05	429.05
Diocesan Bank Accounts		9,867.00	11,376.82
Branch Cash in Hand		425.38	191.18
Total Monetary Assets		<u>19,969.43</u>	<u>22,607.29</u>
Accumulated Funds			
Unrestricted (General) Fund			
Balance at 1st January	22,607.29		
Net Movement in funds	<u>(2,637.86)</u>	19,969.43	22,607.29
Restricted Funds			
Balance at 1st January	-		
Net Movement in funds	<u>-</u>	-	(0.00)
Total Accumulated Funds		<u>19,969.43</u>	<u>22,607.29</u>

Fixed Assets

For the use of the Charity and belonging to the Unrestricted (General) Fund:

- Display boards (cost £213 in 2006)
- Powerpoint and accessories (cost £791 in 2008)
- President's laptop computer (cost £534 in 2013)
- Digital Copier (cost of half share £2,100 in 2013)
- Digital Copier (cost of half share £1,470 in 2015)

The Financial Statements were approved by the Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:

R Roberts - President

Date:

**SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

		2023	2022
		£	
Note 1	Subscriptions	10,563.00	13742.50
Note 2	Action and Outreach		
	<u>Mothers' Union (MSH) Projects:</u>		
	Make a Mother's Day	162.85	468.10
	Worldwide Projects	1,200.00	1,200.00
	Big Summer Appeal	2,879.50	952.00
			-
	<u>Diocesan Projects:</u>		
	Branch/Deanery Projects		595.74
	Away From It All Holidays	1,500.00	1,400.00
	Safe Houses	3,308.86	2,069.42
	Faith in Families	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Hospital Chaplaincy Crosses		185.00
		<u>11,051.21</u>	<u>8,870.26</u>
Note 3	Officers' and Trustees' Expenses		
	Branches		-
	Deaneries		-
	Diocesan	4,475.17	3,795.74
		<u>4,475.17</u>	<u>3,795.74</u>
Note 4	Administration and Meeting Expenses		
	Branches		3,753.35
	Deaneries		118.35
	Diocesan	1,365.55	590.63
		<u>1,365.55</u>	<u>4,462.33</u>

Swansea and Brecon

Mothers' Union

Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in any material respect

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act, or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date 21/2/24,

Name: JUDITH DAVIES

Address: GATWEN HOUSE.
GATWEN INC
CERN COED
NEATHYD TRDPLC



Worldwide President Sheran Harper meeting, the Provincial President, Diocesan Presidents and Officers.

SWANSEA AND BRECON MOTHERS UNION

England & Wales - Charity number 1067728

Accounts



Annual Report
1st January to 31st December 2022

Theme:
Transformation – Now!

Registered Charity Number 1067728

PATRON

The Rt Revd John Lomas Bishop of Swansea and Brecon

HONORARY LIFE VICE PRESIDENTS

Mrs Ann Jackson
Mrs Monica Jones
Mrs Ruby Hayden
Revd Kay Warrington

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President	Mrs Ruth Roberts
Vice President Brecon	Mrs Ella Thomas
Vice President Gower	Mrs Jill McPherson
General Trustees	Mrs Moira Bibby Mrs Ailsa Howells Mrs Jeanne Hughes Mrs Rachel Wells Mrs Alison Lawrence
Co-opted Trustee	

CHAPLAIN (not Trustees)

Revd Tim Williams

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS (not Trustees)

Honorary Secretary	Mrs Helen Williams
Honorary Treasurer	Mrs Heather Price

NOT REPRESENTED ON TRUSTEES

Social Policy	Mrs Jeanne Hughes / Alison Lawrence
Diocesan Member	Mrs Helen Williams
Prayer Partners	Mrs Sally Freedman
AFIA	Mrs Jill McPherson
Wave of Prayer Rota	Mrs Ella Thomas / Mrs Jill McPherson
Social Media	Mrs Helen Williams
Indoor Members	Mrs Rachel Wells
MU News	Revd Kay Warrington
Retreats South	Mrs Jill McPherson
Retreats North	Mrs Ella Thomas
Prayer Chain	Mrs Jill McPherson / Mrs Ella Thomas
MU Enterprises	Mrs Helen Williams
Registered Office:	The Rectory Lamb Road Penderyn Abedare CF44 9JU
Bankers:	Lloyds 38 High Street Brecon LD3 7AR
Independent Examiner:	Mr Martin Nosworthy Nethway Victoria Road Llandrindod Wells LD1 6AP

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2022

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

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MU Prayer

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The Organisation

The Diocese of Swansea and Brecon covers a large and diverse area of some 120 miles in length from North to South. It stretches from Beguildy in the North to the Gower Peninsula in the South. The northern part of the Diocese is predominantly rural with a number of attractive market towns, including Brecon. It includes most of the Brecon Beacons National Park and a rich variety of stunning landscapes. The southern part is a greater mix of urban and rural and includes both the City and County of Swansea and also the Gower Peninsula, a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The Diocese has a border with all five other Welsh Dioceses, as well as with the English Diocese of Hereford.

The Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon is organised into 4 Deaneries, and within those deaneries there are **22** Branches. Branch members meet regularly, and events are also held at deanery and diocesan level. There are three types of membership and in 2022 there were members as follows:

Branch membership: 471 members.

Indoor membership: 16 members. These are those who no longer attend meetings because they are house bound through age, illness or because they are carers. These Members received Christmas and Easter Greetings, and Newsletters. They provide prayerful support for the ongoing work of the MU in the diocese.

Diocesan membership: 56 members. These are either recruited following branch closure and / or who do not wish to attend branch meetings but are keen to support the ethos of Mothers' Union.

Elections of new officers are held triennially and the elections for 2022-2024 were held at the end of 2021, when the President, Trustee Board, Deanery Leaders, and Branch Officers were elected.

Responsibilities

The Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon is governed by a Trustee Board, which meets at least 4 times a year. The Board of Trustees reports to the Diocesan Council meetings which we haven't been able to hold this due year due to COVID, and information has been distributed by post. one of the meetings being the Annual General Meeting at which the Annual Report and Accounts are presented. Induction and Training is given to new trustees at the beginning of each triennial, all are provided with and made aware of the contents of Charity Commission publication CC3. Ongoing training is provided as required.

The Trustees have identified the major risks which the charity faces, and these are addressed and reviewed on a regular basis. Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Mothers' Union during the year and the financial position at the end of the year.

TRUSTEES' REVIEW OF 2022

Having been asked to take on the position of Diocesan President for the triennium beginning in 2022 I began to realise the task ahead was not going to be an easy one as we struggled to come out of the years of Covid and lockdown. Sally Freedman had been the previous D.P. and had to contend with running the MU in the Diocese during this difficult time and I thank her for that. Branches were just beginning to get back to face to face meetings and it was a trying time for us all.

As a Trustee Board we got together via Zoom for the initial meeting, but the further 3 meetings of last year were held in the South Transept of the Cathedral with the kind permission of the Cathedral staff, as the Diocesan centre was not functioning as a meeting place. There was a further problem with being able to meet for our twice-yearly Council as the Bishop Bevan Hall was also not open for us to meet there, and so it was decided to split the Council into 2 Archdeaconry areas and meet in Llandrindod and Penllergaer. This has worked well, and the attendance has been really encouraging. At the Autumn meetings we welcomed speakers from Llandaff who are the officials for the AFIA caravan holidays that we avail ourselves of when we give 4 families a holiday in the caravan in Trecco Bay. This continues to be a most worthwhile project and two Trustees went along to view the caravan on their open day in July which was a wonderful experience.



Our theme of Transformation Now has continued over these last few years and two trustees were delegates at the National Conference in Liverpool Hope University to look at ways in which our Diocese could adapt and move forward with this initiative.

(Photo: Moira Bibby, Sheran Harper WWP and Rachel Wells)

The Diocesan Festival and Commissioning service in May was well attended and it was a real pleasure for all members to meet with our new Bishop. John Lomas, and to hear his address. It was so lovely to meet up again with members across the Diocese, to place our banners in the Sanctuary and then to mingle over refreshments at the back of the Cathedral afterwards.

The monthly Archidiaconal Eucharist re-started in the South at the beginning of the Year and has been so well attended each time. We thank our chaplain, Revd. Tim Williams, for preparing such thoughtful services each month and the clerics from each church who come to celebrate the Eucharist. It is such a special time for us to meet and then to hear the differing homilies that are given. We have been able to start with a Eucharist in the Cathedral and hope that this too will become a more regular observance for the North of the Diocese this coming year - recognising that this Archdeaconry is much more spread out geographically which presents its own problems. However there have been 2 very well attended retreats at Llangasty, with one Quiet afternoon in the South. There was 1 Deanery Festival in Rhayader in September, and the D.P. and V.P. were asked to speak at a branch

meeting in Llyswen. The prayer chain is running efficiently throughout the Gower Archdeaconry with regular changes being added on a monthly basis.

There was a need for us to have a presence in the Church Pavilion at the RWAS at Llanelwedd again this year and so we helped to keep visitors hydrated on a very hot week in July.



(Photo: Alison Lawrence, Jill McPherson, Bishop John, Ruth Roberts and Ailsa Howells)

We had also planned to be back in the Wedding Fayre in the Brangwyn Hall in September, but this was cancelled owing to the death of our Monarch and Patron, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. However, we have just attended this February ('23) and how lovely to be there promoting MU and helping with wedding related queries. Two Trustees attended the general meeting of Mothers' Union in Belfast.

We have produced 2 copies of M.U. News with grateful thanks to Revd. Kay Warrington who edits and formats this for us in such a professional way.

Our projects remain to support Faith in Families and AFIA holidays, along with providing vital support for the Safe Houses in the North and the South with 3 "shops" a year. We have also provided prayer crosses to the Chaplaincy in Morriston Hospital.

Our Diocesan Branches observe the Worldwide Wave of Prayer each year, such an important part of our membership of this wonderful Global Christian Organisation that is the Mothers' Union, when we pray for our links around the world and they in their turn pray for us. We also prayerfully observe the 16 days of Activism against gender violence and domestic abuse and this year a service was held simultaneously in both Llandrindod and Swansea.

There has been much change within the Diocese, we have lost so many members and now, with only 22 branches remaining, this has prompted a move away from Deaneries to a more manageable system of 2 Archdeaconries, that of Brecon and Gower, in the hope that we can support each other more easily and therefore prevent more branch closures.

We look forward to this new year of 2023 when the Diocese celebrates its Centenary year and we as the MU hope to be a visible part of that. My thanks to each one of you for your support of the Global MU and our small part of it here in Swansea & Brecon.

Ruth Roberts. Diocesan President.

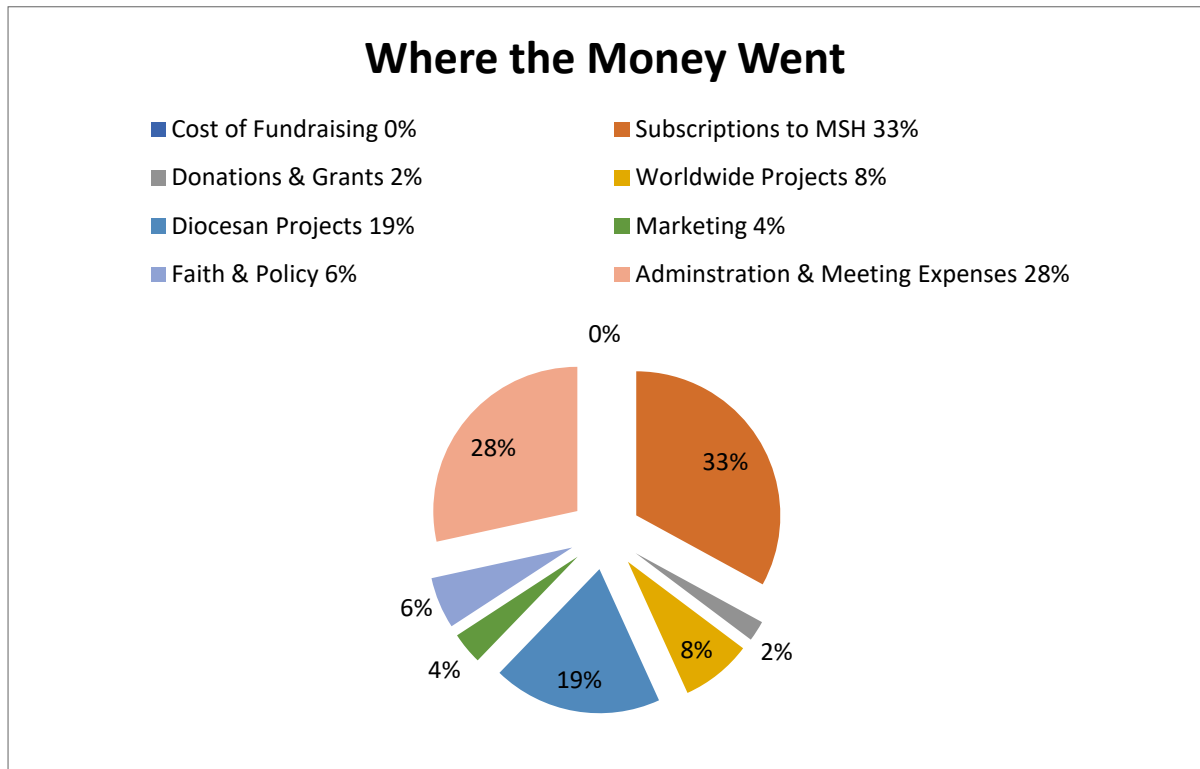
“All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for Thee. And every life I touch do Thou by thy Spirit quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe, or the life I lead. Amen.” (Mary Sumner)

Financial Review

The Financial Statements are a consolidation of the Branches, Deaneries and Diocesan Accounts, which demonstrates what has been achieved as the Mothers' Union movement in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon. This year we have seen branches being able to meet again and being more active than in the previous two years.

The total receipts for the year were £33,621, an increase of £7,731 on the previous year. Due to a reduction in the number of members subscription income fell. However, with renewed activity this year donations and fundraising increased significantly. One Branch received a legacy of £1,000.

Total payments were £32,987, an increase of £8,264 on the previous year. £8,870 was spent on projects, an increase of £3,356 on last year. After a break of 2 years, it was pleasing this year to be able to provide four Away from It All holidays. The spend on Action and Outreach of £8,870 equated to each member contributing an average of nearly £16.33, a figure to be proud of.



The financial outcome for the year showed a surplus of £635 (Branch surplus £2,241; Deanery deficit £122; Diocesan deficit £1,484) compared to a surplus of £1,167 in the previous year. The 2022 surplus has been added to reserves. The balance on reserves at 31 December was £22,607, which the Trustees consider to be reasonable.

The Annual Report was approved by the Trustees on 27 March 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

R Roberts – President

**SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION
CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Subscriptions	1	13,742.50	-	13,742.50	16,100.00
Donations		7,948.28	976.30	8,924.58	6,776.56
Legacy		1,000.00	-	1,000.00	-
Gift Aid Tax Claim				-	991.99
Outings/dinners/presentations		1,407.00	-	1,407.00	301.25
Activities for generating funds:					
Fundraising		-	5,421.82	5,421.82	785.46
Income from activities in furtherance of charitable objectives:					
Marketing (Mue)		1,323.19	-	1,323.19	934.40
Faith & Policy		1,527.00	-	1,527.00	-
Investment Income		0.07	-	0.07	-
Other incoming resources		275.20	-	275.20	-
Total Incoming Resources		27,223.24	6,398.12	33,621.36	25,889.66
Resources Expended					
Cost of generating funds					
Fundraising		15.20	-	15.20	-
Charitable Activities					
Subscriptions to The Mother's Union		10,840.00	-	10,840.00	12,640.00
Donations		755.00	-	755.00	718.00
Action & Outreach	2	-	8,870.26	8,870.26	5,513.93
Marketing (Mue)		1,181.39	-	1,181.39	547.33
Faith & Policy		1,901.90	-	1,901.90	(21.10)
Officers' & Trustees' Expenses	3	3,795.74	-	3,795.74	3,090.46
Administration and Meeting Expenses	4	4,462.33	-	4,462.33	1,713.30
Outings/dinners/presentations		1,164.74	-	1,164.74	460.00
Other Resources Expended		-	-	-	61.06
Total Resources Expended		24,116.30	8,870.26	32,986.56	24,722.98
Net incoming/(outgoing resources)		3,106.94	(2,472.14)	634.80	1,166.68
Transfers between Funds		(2,286.94)	2,286.94	-	-
Net incoming/(outgoing resources) after transfers		820.00	(185.20)	634.80	1,166.68
Balance at Bank & Cash in Hand at 1 January		21,787.29	185.20	21,972.49	20,805.81
Balance at Bank & Cash in Hand at 31 December		22,607.29	(0.00)	22,607.29	21,972.49

**SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	2022	2022	2021
	£	£	£
Monetary Assets			
Branch Bank Accounts		10,610.24	8,235.78
Deanery Bank Accounts		429.05	551.20
Diocesan Bank Accounts		11,376.82	12,861.07
Branch Cash in Hand		191.18	324.44
Total Monetary Assets		<u>22,607.29</u>	<u>21,972.49</u>
Accumulated Funds			
Unrestricted (General) Fund			
Balance at 1st January	21,787.29		
Net Movement in funds	<u>820.00</u>	22,607.29	21,787.29
Restricted Funds			
Balance at 1st January	185.20		
Net Movement in funds	<u>(185.20)</u>	(0.00)	185.20
Total Accumulated Funds		<u>22,607.29</u>	<u>21,972.49</u>

Fixed Assets

For the use of the Charity and belonging to the Unrestricted (General) Fund:

- Display boards (cost £213 in 2006)
- Powerpoint and accessories (cost £791 in 2008)
- President's laptop computer (cost £534 in 2013)
- Digital Copier (cost of half share £ 2,100 in 2013)
- Digital Copier (cost of half share £ 1,470 in 2015)

The Financial Statements were approved by the Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:

R Roberts - President

27 March 2023

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

		2022	2021
		£	
Note 1	Subscriptions		
	Branch members	12,467.50	14,850.00
	Diocesan Members	1,275.00	1,250.00
		<u>13,742.50</u>	<u>16,100.00</u>
Note 2	Action and Outreach		
	<u>Mothers' Union (MSH) Projects:</u>		
	MSH Emergency Appeal	-	60.00
	Make a Mother's Day	468.10	371.00
	Worldwide Projects	1,200.00	1,000.00
	Big Summer Appeal	952.00	931.00
	Sponsored Walk	-	-
	<u>Diocesan Projects:</u>		
	Branch/Deanery Projects	595.74	980.32
	Away From It All Holidays	1,400.00	-
	Safe Houses	2,069.42	2,171.61
	Faith in Families	2,000.00	-
	Hospital Chaplaincy Crosses	185.00	-
		<u>8,870.26</u>	<u>5,513.93</u>
Note 3	Officers' and Trustees' Expenses		
	Branches	-	28.06
	Deaneries	-	-
	Diocesan	3,795.74	3,062.40
		<u>3,795.74</u>	<u>3,090.46</u>
Note 4	Administration and Meeting Expenses		
	Branches	3,753.35	1,367.61
	Deaneries	118.35	42.15
	Diocesan	590.63	303.54
		<u>4,462.33</u>	<u>1,713.30</u>

**Swansea and Brecon
Mothers' Union
Gofal Cristnogol i Deuluoedd
Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2022
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees**

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in any material respect

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act, or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: *Martin Nosworthy*

Martin Nosworthy, Nethway, Victoria Road, Llandrindod Wells LD1 6AP

Dated: 28 April 2023

SWANSEA AND BRECON MOTHERS UNION

England & Wales - Charity number 1067728

Accounts



Annual Report
1st January to 31st December 2021

Theme:
Rebuilding hope and confidence

Registered Charity Number 1067728

PATRON

The Most Revd John Davies Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, Archbishop of Wales

HONORARY LIFE VICE PRESIDENTS

Mrs Ann Jackson
Mrs Monica Jones
Mrs Ruby Hayden
Revd Kay Warrington

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President	Mrs Sally Freedman (to 31 December 2021) Mrs Ruth Roberts (from 1 January 2022)
Vice President Brecon	Mrs Ella Thomas
Vice President Gower	Mrs Jill McPherson
General Trustees	Mrs Beryl Evans (to 31 December 2021) Mrs Moira Bibby Mrs Ailsa Howells Mrs Jeanne Hughes Mrs Rachel Wells Mrs Alison Lawrence (from 1 January 2022)
Co-opted Trustee	Mrs Alison Lawrence (to 31 December 2021)

CHAPLAIN (not Trustees)

Revd Julie Wagstaff (to 31 December 2021)
Revd Tim Williams (from 1 January 2022)

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS (not Trustees)

Honorary Secretary	Mrs Helen Williams
Honorary Treasurer	Mrs Heather Price

NOT REPRESENTED ON TRUSTEES

Social Policy	Mrs Jeanne Hughes
Diocesan Member	Mrs Helen Williams
Prayer Partners	Mrs Sally Freedman
AFIA	Mrs Jill Mcpherson
Wave of Prayer Rota	Mrs Ella Thomas / Mrs Jill McPherson
Website	Mrs Helen Williams
Indoor Members	Mrs Rachel Wells
MU News	Revd Kay Warrington
Retreats South	Mrs Jill McPherson
Retreats North	Mrs Ella Thomas
Prayer Chain	Mrs Ella Thomas / Mrs Jill McPherson
MU Enterprises	Mrs Helen Williams

Registered Office: The Rectory
Lamb Road
Penderyn
Abedare
CF44 9JU

Bankers: Lloyds
38 High Street
Brecon
LD3 7AR

Independent Examiner: Mr Martin Nosworthy
Nethway
Victoria Road
Llandrindod Wells
LD1 6AP

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2021

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

The Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Mothers' Union is a registered charity which is governed by a constitution (revised 2015). The Charity is affiliated to the Mothers Union Worldwide which is incorporated by Royal Charter

OBJECTS

- to uphold Christ's teaching on the nature of marriage and to promote its wider understanding.
- to encourage parents to bring up their children in the faith and life of the church.
- to maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service.
- to promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children.
- to help those whose family life has met with adversity.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mothers' Union is a Christian organisation, which promotes the well-being of families worldwide.

This is achieved by:

- Developing prayer and spiritual growth of members
- Studying and reflecting on family life, marriage and its place in society
- Resourcing our members to take practical action to improve conditions for families, both nationally and in the communities in which they live.

MU Prayer

Loving Lord, we thank you for your love so freely given to us all.
We pray for families around the world. Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life. Empowered by your spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world.
In Jesus name. Amen

The Organisation

The Diocese of Swansea and Brecon covers a large and diverse area of some 120 miles in length from North to South. It stretches from Beguildy in the North to the Gower Peninsula in the South. The northern part of the Diocese is predominantly rural with a number of attractive market towns, including Brecon. It includes most of the Brecon Beacons National Park and a rich variety of stunning landscapes. The southern part is a greater mix of urban and rural and includes both the City and County of Swansea and also the Gower Peninsula, a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The Diocese has a border with all five other Welsh Dioceses, as well as with the English Diocese of Hereford.

The Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon is organised into 4 Deaneries, and within those deaneries there are **29** Branches. Branch members meet regularly, and events are also held at deanery and diocesan level. There are three types of membership and in 2021 there were **645** members as follows:

Branch membership: 566 members.

Indoor membership: 20 members. These are those who no longer attend meetings because they are house bound through age, illness or because they are carers. These Members received Christmas and Easter Greetings, and Newsletters. They provide prayerful support for the ongoing work of the MU in the diocese.

Diocesan membership: 45 members. These are either recruited following branch closure and / or who do not wish to attend branch meetings but are keen to support the ethos of Mothers' Union.

Elections of new officers are held triennially and the elections for 2022-2024 were held at the end of 2021, when the President, Trustee Board, Deanery Leaders, and Branch Officers were elected.

Responsibilities

The Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon is governed by a Trustee Board, which meets at least 4 times a year. The Board of Trustees reports to the Diocesan Council meetings which we haven't been able to hold this year due to COVID, and information has been distributed by post. One of the meetings being the Annual General Meeting at which the Annual Report and Accounts are presented. Induction and Training is given to new trustees at the beginning of each triennial, all are provided with and made aware of the contents of Charity Commission publication CC3. Ongoing training is provided as required.

The Trustees have identified the major risks which the charity faces, and these are addressed and reviewed on a regular basis. Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Mothers' Union during the year and the financial position at the end of the year.

TRUSTEES' REVIEW OF 2021

2021 was a very strange year with very little personal contact possible for most of the year for anyone, but Mothers' Union managed to keep going with imagination and inventiveness! Many meetings were held on Zoom and other internet facilities. While this was not as good as meeting together it kept us in touch and enabled us to keep up our Wave of Prayer days well supported. Some branches were able to use zoom, and many worked out a system for their members to join in at home with the prayers and information about our Prayer Partners.

We spent most of the first six months doing what we could with contact by phone and local visits, etc where possible and were encouraged when it appeared by May that some small personal contacts could be made. Some of the churches were opening with limited numbers and by June it was possible to think about short meetings, (without the cups of tea!) and meet our fellow members. By September, most parishes and branches were trying to re-introduce meetings, and cautiously we began to see each other.

We were all delighted to join in the various programs run by Mary Sumner House – there was a lovely service in May for the 'Thy Kingdom Come' event and also the Annual Meeting on 25 September, which gave us all a chance to catchup nationally. Midday Prayers has been online since the beginning and has proved so inspiring to everyone. The great thing is that if you cannot get there by midday, it is still available online when you have time to watch! The fact that we pray with our fellow members around the world makes it even more helpful.

In October, the Provincial Council was held in Llanidloes for the first time for two years and it was very special to meet together and greet each other in person and say thank you to those who were retiring. We said goodbye and thanked you to Kay Warrington who was retiring as Provincial President and welcomed Jenny Lane, from Bangor who is taking over from her.

Sadly a few branches found that the constrictions on life made their life more difficult and they felt they would have to close their branch. Some branches joined with a nearby branch, but some closed and the members have become Diocesan Members which is good!

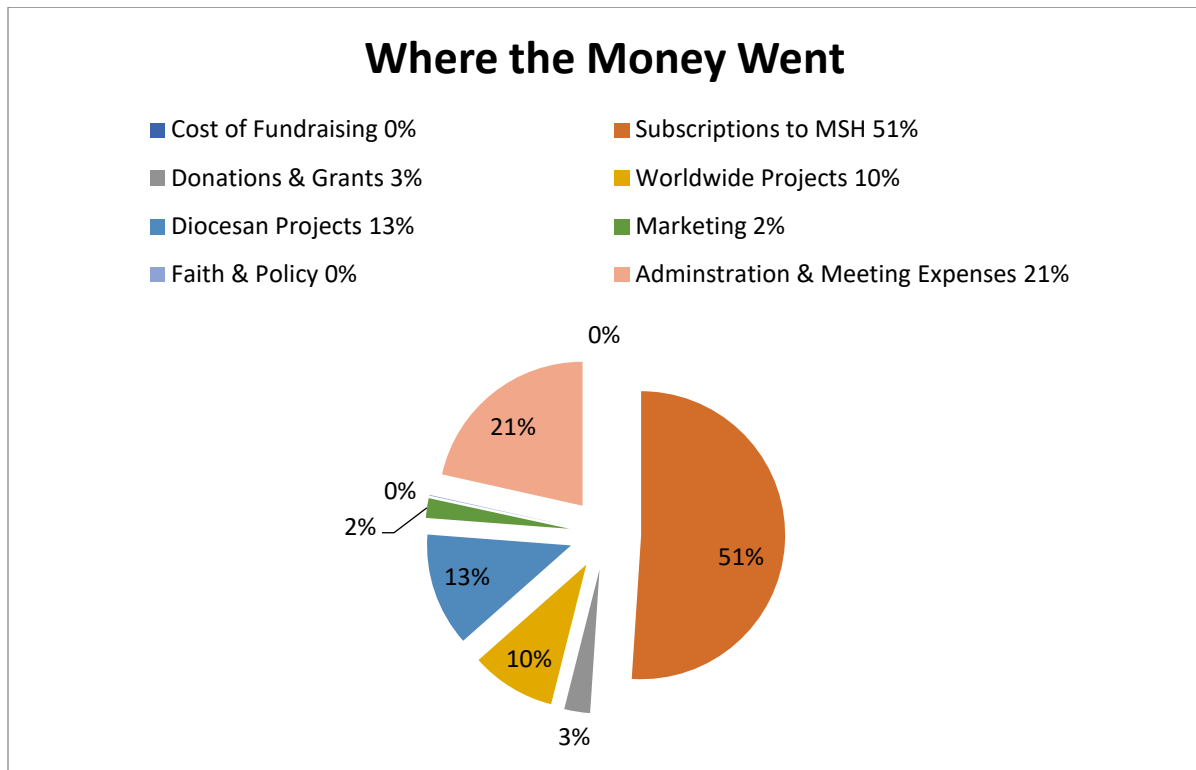
The last act for the Trustees in Swansea & Brecon was that we closed the circle of our three years by having our final meeting at Llangasty Retreat House, where we had started our time in January 2019. We had a delicious lunch and were glad to celebrate the Eucharist together for the first time in months and praying for the future of Mothers Union both here in Swansea & Brecon and worldwide.

As I stand down as President, I would like to thank everyone for their support and encouragement over the last three years and I wish Ruth Roberts every success in the next three years. I shall continue to pray for and with Mothers' Union.

Financial Review

The Financial Statements are a consolidation of the Branches, Deaneries and Diocesan Accounts, which demonstrates what has been achieved as the Mothers' Union movement in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon. For a second year the Coronavirus pandemic has had a marked effect on the operation of the charity, with the majority Branches being closed until September and some Branches took the decision to close.

The total receipts for the year were £25,890, a decrease of £6,038 on the previous year. Total payments were £24,723, a decrease of £13,425 on the previous year. The majority of members are elderly and do not use technology as the younger generation might do, and this has had a severe effect on the ability for members to fundraise and make personal contributions. Receipts from fundraising and donations has decreased by £1,454. In 2021 a total of £5,514 was spent on Action and Outreach, a decrease of £1,353 on the previous year. This equated to each member contributing an average of nearly £6.45, well below pre-covid levels.



The financial outcome for the year showed a surplus of £1,167 (Branch deficit £634; Deanery deficit £718; Diocesan surplus £2,519) compared to a deficit of £6,220 in the previous year. The 2020 surplus has been added to reserves. The balance on reserves at 31 December was £21,972, which the Trustees consider to be reasonable. As Covid restrictions reduce it is hoped we will see renewed activity and increased support of our Charitable Activities in the coming year.

The Annual Report was approved by the Trustees on 12 May 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Ruth Roberts – President

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION
CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

		2021	2021	2021	2020
	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Subscriptions	1	16,100.00	-	16,100.00	18,496.00
Donations		2,793.62	3,982.94	6,776.56	7,318.67
Legacy		-	-	-	-
Gift Aid Tax Claim		991.99		991.99	1,608.60
Outings/dinners/presentations		301.25	-	301.25	517.00
Activities for generating funds:					
Fundraising		-	785.46	785.46	1,697.15
Income from activities in furtherance of charitable objectives:					
Marketing (Mue)		934.40	-	934.40	1,222.84
Faith & Policy		-	-	-	1,050.00
Investment Income		-	-	-	0.29
Other incoming resources		-	-	-	17.00
Total Incoming Resources		21,121.26	4,768.40	25,889.66	31,927.55
Resources Expended					
Cost of generating funds					
Fundraising		-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities					
Subscriptions to The Mother's Union		12,640.00	-	12,640.00	10,846.00
Donations		718.00	-	718.00	12,095.00
Action & Outreach	2	-	5,513.93	5,513.93	6,867.40
Marketing (Mue)		547.33	-	547.33	939.72
Faith & Policy		(21.10)	-	(21.10)	1,181.06
Officers' & Trustees' Expenses	3	3,090.46	-	3,090.46	2,700.85
Administration and Meeting Expenses	4	1,713.30	-	1,713.30	2,776.31
Outings/dinners/presentations		460.00	-	460.00	691.20
Other Resources Expended		61.06	-	61.06	50.00
Total Resources Expended		19,209.05	5,513.93	24,722.98	38,147.54
Net incoming/(outgoing resources)		1,912.21	(745.53)	1,166.68	(6,219.99)
Transfers between Funds		(226.46)	226.46	-	-
Net incoming/(outgoing resources) after transfers		1,685.75	(519.07)	1,166.68	(6,219.99)
Balance at Bank & Cash in Hand at 1 January		20,101.54	704.27	20,805.81	27,025.80
Balance at Bank & Cash in Hand at 31 December		21,787.29	185.20	21,972.49	20,805.81

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£
Monetary Assets			
Branch Bank Accounts		8,235.78	9,108.87
Deanery Bank Accounts		551.20	1,269.78
Diocesan Bank Accounts		12,861.07	10,342.10
Branch Cash in Hand		324.44	85.06
Total Monetary Assets		<u>21,972.49</u>	<u>20,805.81</u>
Accumulated Funds			
Unrestricted (General) Fund			
Balance at 1st January	20,101.54		
Net Movement in funds	<u>1,685.75</u>	21,787.29	20,101.54
Restricted Funds			
Balance at 1st January	704.27		
Net Movement in funds	<u>(519.07)</u>	185.20	704.27
Total Accumulated Funds		<u>21,972.49</u>	<u>20,805.81</u>
Fixed Assets			
For the use of the Charity and belonging to the Unrestricted (General) Fund:			
Display boards (cost £213 in 2006)			
Powerpoint and accessories (cost £791 in 2008)			
President's laptop computer (cost £534 in 2013)			
Digital Copier (cost of half share £2,100 in 2013)			
Digital Copier (cost of half share £1,470 in 2015)			
The Financial Statements were approved by the Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:			
<i>Ruth Roberts</i>			
Ruth Roberts - President			
Date 12 May 2022			

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION				
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS				
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021				
			2021	2020
			£	
Note 1	Subscriptions			
	Branch members		14,850.00	17,721.00
	Diocesan Members		1,250.00	775.00
			16,100.00	18,496.00
Note 2	Action and Outreach			
	<u>Mothers' Union (MSH) Projects:</u>			
	Christmas Appeal		-	-
	MSH Emergency Appeal		60.00	-
	Relief Fund		-	-
	Make a Mother's Day		371.00	131.50
	Worldwide Projects		1,000.00	1,040.00
	Big Summer Appeal/Harvest Appeal		931.00	-
	Sponsored Walk		-	190.58
	<u>Diocesan Projects:</u>			
	Branch/Deanery Projects		980.32	679.32
	Away From It All Holidays		-	-
	Safe Houses		2,171.61	2,326.00
	Faith in Families		-	2,500.00
	Foodbanks		-	-
	Hospital Chaplaincy Crosses		-	-
			5,513.93	6,867.40
Note 3	Officers' and Trustees' Expenses			
	Branches		28.06	156.85
	Deaneries		-	-
	Diocesan		3,062.40	2,544.00
			3,090.46	2,700.85
Note 4	Administration and Meeting Expenses			
	Branches		1,367.61	2,034.51
	Deaneries		42.15	-
	Diocesan		303.54	741.80
			1,713.30	2,776.31

Swansea and Brecon
Mothers' Union
Gofal Cristnogol i Deuluoedd
Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2021
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in any material respect

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act, or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: *Martin Nosworthy*

Martin Nosworthy, Nethway, Victoria Road, Llandrindod Wells LD1 6AP

Dated: *03 May 2022*

SWANSEA AND BRECON MOTHERS UNION

England & Wales - Charity number 1067728

Accounts

Mothers' UNION

Gofal Cristnogol i Deuluoedd

Diocese of Swansea & Brecon



Annual Report

1st January to 31st December 2020

Theme:

Building hope and confidence:

Registered Charity Number 1067728

PATRON

The Most Revd John Davies Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, Archbishop of Wales

HONORARY LIFE VICE PRESIDENTS

Mrs Ann Jackson

Mrs Monica Jones

Mrs Ruby Hayden

Rev Kay Warrington

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President

Mrs Sally Freedman

Vice President Brecon

Mrs Ella Thomas

Vice President Gower

Vacant

General Trustees

Mrs Beryl Evans

Mrs Moira Bibby

Mrs Ailsa Howells

Mrs Helen Jones (resigned 3rd February 2020)

Mrs Jeanne Hughes

Mrs Rachel Wells

Co-opted Trustees

Mrs Alison Lawrence 22nd January 2020

CHAPLAIN (not Trustees)

Revd Julie Wagstaff

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS (not Trustees)

Honorary Secretary

Mrs Helen Williams

Honorary Treasurer

Mrs Heather Price

NOT REPRESENTED ON TRUSTEES

Social Policy

Diocesan Member

Mrs Helen Williams

Overseas Links

Mrs Gwyneth Phillips

AFIA

Mrs Ruby Hayden

Wave of Prayer Rota

Mrs Ella Thomas

Website

Mrs Helen Williams

Indoor Members

Mrs Rachel Wells

MU News

Revd Kay Warrington

Retreats South

Mrs Helen Jones

Retreats North

Mrs Ella Thomas

Prayer Chain

Mrs Moira Bibby

MU Enterprises

Mrs Helen Williams

Registered Office:

The Rectory

Lamb Road

Penderyn

Abedare

CF44 9JU

Bankers:

Lloyds

38 High Street

Brecon

LD3 7AR

Independent Examiner:

Mr Martin Nosworthy

Nethway

Victoria Road

Llandrindod Wells

LD1 6AP

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2020

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

The Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Mothers' Union is a registered charity which is governed by a Constitution (revised 2015). The Charity is affiliated to the Mothers Union Worldwide which is incorporated by Royal Charter

OBJECTS

- to uphold Christ's teaching on the nature of marriage and to promote its wider understanding;
- to encourage parents to bring up their children in the faith and life of the church;
- to maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service;
- to promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children;
- to help those whose family life has met with adversity.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mothers' Union is a Christian organisation, which promotes the well-being of families worldwide.

This is achieved by:

- Developing prayer and spiritual growth of members
- Studying and reflecting on family life, marriage and its place in society
- Resourcing our members to take practical action to improve conditions for families, both nationally and in the communities in which they live.

MU Prayer

Loving Lord, we thank you for your love so freely given to us all.
We pray for families around the world. Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life. Empowered by your spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world.

In Jesus name. Amen

The Organisation

The Diocese of Swansea and Brecon covers a large and diverse area of some 120 miles in length from North to South. It stretches from Beguildy in the North to the Gower Peninsula in the South. The northern part of the Diocese is predominantly rural with a number of attractive market towns, including Brecon. It includes most of the Brecon Beacons National Park and a rich variety of stunning landscapes. The southern part is a greater mix of urban and rural and includes both the City and County of Swansea and also the Gower Peninsula, a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The Diocese has a border with all five other Welsh Dioceses, as well as with the English Diocese of Hereford.

The Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon is organised into 4 Deaneries, and within those deaneries there are 32 Branches. Branch members meet regularly, and events are also held at deanery and diocesan level. There are three types of membership and in 2020 there were **748** members as follows:

Branch membership: 690 members.

Indoor membership: 28 members. These are those who no longer attend meetings because they are house bound through age, illness or because they are carers. These Members received Christmas and Easter Greetings, and Newsletters. They provide prayerful support for the ongoing work of the MU in the diocese.

Diocesan membership: 30 members. These are either recruited following branch closure and / or who do not wish to attend branch meetings but are keen to support the ethos of Mothers' Union.

Elections of new officers are held triennially and the elections for 2019-2021 were held at the end of 2018, when the President, Trustee Board, Deanery Leaders and Branch Officers were elected.

Responsibilities

The Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon is governed by a Trustee Board, which meets at least 4 times a year. The Board of Trustees reports to the Diocesan Council meetings which we haven't been able to hold this year due to COVID, and information has been distributed by post. One of the meetings being the Annual General Meeting at which the Annual Report and Accounts are presented.

Induction and Training is given to new trustees at the beginning of each triennial, all are provided with and made aware of the contents of Charity Commission publication CC3. Ongoing training is provided as required.

The Trustees have identified the major risks which the charity faces and these are addressed and reviewed on a regular basis. Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of

the financial activities of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Mothers' Union during the year and the financial position at the end of the year.

TRUSTEES' REVIEW OF 2020

The last year has been such a peculiar one that I hardly know where to begin! In January we started the year full of expectation for a year of joining together and celebrating the centenary of the Church in Wales and doing our bit to promote ourselves as Mothers' Union within the Diocese of Swansea & Brecon and also within Wales. Instead, after a quiet January and February, with our monthly Archidiaconal Eucharists in St Mary's Swansea and our three days for the Wave of Prayer in February then just after Mothering Sunday we were all locked down!

People responded in all sorts of ways – we learned how to Zoom, how to attend church online, how to hold meetings and all sorts of new methods of keeping in touch with our families and friends and reaching out to those who were more constrained. Some branches were more enterprising and were able to meet online, and we all welcomed the introduction of MU Midday Prayers on Facebook and Youtube on weekdays. It is amazingly comforting and inspiring to be sitting in one's own home and praying with members from around the world – Australia, Solomon Islands, USA, Canada, African and Caribbean to name just a few! We have been so grateful to the members who have agreed to lead these daily prayers.

One of our first cries for help came from Mary Sumner House, who had discovered that the lockdown would drastically affect their ability to stay in action. There was an appeal to all Diocese and all members to help raise funds to keep the Worldwide charity going and we, as a Diocese, were glad to donate to them. I know that many members also contributed personally as well. Thank you all. Since then, MSH has had to lose about one third of it's staff and is manging to keep going

As we have all been constrained and unable to meet, the Trustees, at one of their Zoom meetings, agreed that we must continue the work of AFIA as best we could. Obviously actual holidays were no more, but we asked Faith in Families whether they could help us out. We donated the money put aside to pay for the holidays to Faith in Families and it has helped them to increase the Activity packs sent to local families and other things of this sort. They were so glad to join with us in this way.

We have also succeeded in supporting the four Safe Houses in our Diocese – two in Swansea, one in Brecon and one in Llandrindod. They have been very busy during these lockdown periods, and we have been glad to help them cope with the pressures. We were able to fulfil our Wave of Prayer days during February but sadly all gatherings were cancelled for the year so we could not meet for our customary Diocesan Festival, nor for the Deanery Festivals nor meet in our local groups. Sadly this has carried on into 2021 but we pray that there might be an easing by autumn.

We have not been able to fulfil our Outreach commitments such as attending the Royal Welsh Agricultural Show, Wedding Fayres etc, and we have had to carry out our

support for MU Projects such as 16 Days of Activism against Domestic Violence in a very limited way. We hope to return to our usual support as life eases.

Our Diocesan magazine, MU News, which has been produced and distributed twice a year has gone online this year and we have to thank Kay Warrington for her skill and hard work in doing this. We have been able to produce a copy almost every month, which is emailed to Branch Leaders, who are, hopefully, emailing it to their members. The Trustees have met regularly on either Zoom or Teams, and Provincial meetings, too, have been held this way. It has made life interesting and we have all learnt new skills!

We enter 2021 still under lockdown, but with the hope, from the vaccine, that we may be able to meet in a small way before too long. We can but pray that the Lord will give us strength to cope with our strange life and that He will bring us through to meet the challenges united in prayer and worship.

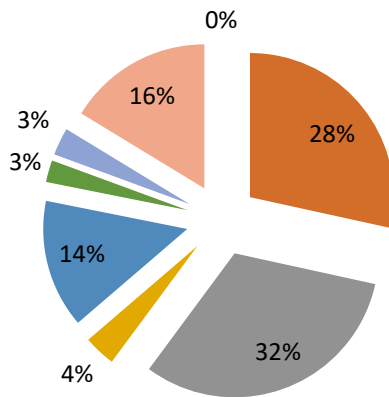
Financial Review

The Financial Statements are a consolidation of the Branches, Deaneries and Diocesan Accounts, which demonstrates what has been achieved as the Mothers' Union movement in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon. The Coronavirus pandemic has had a marked effect on the operation of the charity due to the nationwide lockdown resulting in branches having to close in March 2020, and are yet to reopen.

The total receipts for the year were £31,927, a decrease of £16,845 on the previous year. Total payments were £38,148, a decrease of £13,975 on the previous year. The majority of members are elderly and do not use technology as the younger generation might do, and this has had a severe effect on the ability for members to fundraise and make personal contributions. Receipts from fundraising and donations has decreased by £14,288. In 2020 a total of £6,867 was spent on Action and Outreach, a decrease of £7,258 on the previous year. This equated to each member contributing an average of nearly £10. The Mothers Union Worldwide, known to members as Mary Sumner House (MSH), found its income severely curtailed due to the pandemic, and so in April 2020 launched an emergency appeal to help fund the ongoing support for projects worldwide and administration costs. Branches quickly responded by contributing £1,325 and together with £10,000 drawn from diocesan reserves, a donation of £11,325 was contributed to the appeal.

Where the Money Went

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| ■ Cost of Fundraising 0% | ■ Subscriptions to MSH 28% |
| ■ Donations & Grants 32% | ■ Worldwide Projects 4% |
| ■ Diocesan Projects 15% | ■ Marketing 2% |
| ■ Faith & Policy 3% | ■ Administration & Meeting Expenses 16% |



The financial outcome for the year showed a deficit of £6,220 (Branch deficit 1,701; Deanery surplus £600; Diocesan deficit £5,119) compared to a deficit of £3,350 in the previous year. The 2020 deficit has been met from reserves. The balance on reserves at 31 December was £20,806 which equated to 6 months running costs. The Trustees considered that the current level of reserves was reasonable.

The Annual Report was approved by the Trustees on _____ and signed on their behalf by:

S Freedman - President

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION
CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

		2020	2020	2020	2019
	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Subscriptions	1	18,496.00	-	18,496.00	14,520.00
Donations		5,141.50	2,177.17	7,318.67	14,791.03
Legacy		-	-	-	-
Gift Aid Tax Claim		1,430.41	178.19	1,608.60	1,791.96
Outings/dinners/presentations		517.00	-	517.00	4,614.45
Activities for generating funds:					
Fundraising		-	1,697.15	1,697.15	8,512.50
Income from activities in furtherance of charitable objectives:					
Marketing (Mue)		1,222.84	-	1,222.84	2,534.67
Faith & Policy		1,050.00	-	1,050.00	2,005.00
Investment Income		0.29	-	0.29	2.87
Other incoming resources		17.00		17.00	(0.00)
Total Incoming Resources		27,875.04	4,052.51	31,927.55	48,772.48
Resources Expended					
Cost of generating funds					
Fundraising		-	-	-	233.64
Charitable Activities					
Subscriptions to The Mother's Union		10,846.00	-	10,846.00	11,424.00
Donations		12,095.00	-	12,095.00	821.00
Action & Outreach	2	-	6,867.40	6,867.40	14,124.81
Marketing (Mue)		939.72	-	939.72	4,525.10
Faith & Policy		1,181.06	-	1,181.06	1,896.24
Officers' & Trustees' Expenses	3	2,700.85	-	2,700.85	5,608.28
Administration and Meeting Expenses	4	2,776.31	-	2,776.31	8,596.81
Outings/dinners/presentations		691.20	-	691.20	4,893.08
Other Resources Expended		50.00	-	50.00	-
Total Resources Expended		31,280.14	6,867.40	38,147.54	52,122.96
Net incoming/(outgoing resources)		(3,405.10)	(2,814.89)	(6,219.99)	(3,350.48)
Balance at Bank & Cash in Hand at 1 January		23,506.64	3,519.16	27,025.80	30,376.28
Balance at Bank & Cash in Hand at 31 December		20,101.54	704.27	20,805.81	27,025.80

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	2020	2020	2019
	£	£	£
Monetary Assets			
Branch Bank Accounts		9,108.87	10,894.46
Deanery Bank Accounts		1,269.78	669.78
Diocesan Bank Accounts		10,342.10	15,461.56
Branch Cash in Hand		85.06	-
Total Monetary Assets		<u>20,805.81</u>	<u>27,025.80</u>
Accumulated Funds			
Unrestricted (General) Fund			
Balance at 1st January	23,506.64		
Net Movement in funds	<u>(3,405.10)</u>	20,101.54	23,506.64
Restricted Funds			
Balance at 1st January	3,519.16		
Net Movement in funds	<u>(2,814.89)</u>	704.27	3,519.16
Total Accumulated Funds		<u>20,805.81</u>	<u>27,025.80</u>
Fixed Assets			
For the use of the Charity and belonging to the Unrestricted (General) Fund:			
Display boards (cost £213 in 2006)			
Powerpoint and accessories (cost £791 in 2008)			
Secretary's laptop Computer (cost £535 in 2013)			
President's laptop computer (cost £534 in 2013)			
Digital Copier (cost of half share £2,100 in 2013)			
Digital Copier (cost of half share £1,470 in 2015)			
The Financial Statements were approved by the Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:			
S Freedman - President			
Date:			

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION					
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS					
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020					
				2020	2019
				£	
Note 1	Subscriptions				
		Branch members	17,721.00	13,865.00	
		Diocesan Members	775.00	655.00	
			18,496.00	14,520.00	
Note 2	Action and Outreach				
		<u>Mothers' Union (MSH) Projects:</u>			
		Christmas Appeal	-	71.50	
		MSH Emergency Appeal	-		
		Relief Fund	-	2,300.00	
		Make a Mother's Day	131.50	410.80	
		Worldwide Projects	1,040.00	1,275.05	
		Big Summer Appeal/Harvest Appeal	-	784.35	
		Sponsored Walk	190.58	931.82	
		<u>Diocesan Projects:</u>			
		Branch/Deanery Projects	679.32	783.22	
		Away From It All Holidays	-	1,580.00	
		Safe Houses	2,326.00	2,016.07	
		Faith in Families	2,500.00	3,800.00	
		Foodbanks	-	41.00	
		Hospital Chaplaincy Crosses	-	149.00	
			6,867.40	14,142.81	
Note 3	Officers' and Trustees' Expenses				
		Branches	156.85	319.89	
		Deaneries	-	38.50	
		Diocesan	2,544.00	5,249.89	
			2,700.85	5,608.28	
Note 4	Administration and Meeting Expenses				
		Branches	2,034.51	6,549.20	
		Deaneries	-	222.50	
		Diocesan	741.80	1,825.11	
			2,776.31	8,596.81	

Swansea and Brecon
Mothers' Union
Gofal Cristnogol i Deuluoedd
Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2020
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in any material respect

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act, or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: *Martin Nosworthy*

Martin Nosworthy, Nethway, Victoria Road, Llandrindod Wells LD1 6AP

Dated: *15 June 2021*