

# THE MOTHERS' UNION - (DIOCESE OF ST EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH BRANCH)

England & Wales · Charity number 249726

## Details

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**Other names** MU

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1966-10-27

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

## Contact

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**Address** Field View  
Hadleigh Road  
Holton St. Mary  
Colchester  
CO7 6NP

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**Website** [musuffolk.org.uk](http://musuffolk.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** 1) TO UPHOLD CHRIST'S TEACHING ON THE NATURE OF MARRIAGE AND TO PROMOTE IT'S WIDER UNDERSTANDING. 2) TO ENCOURAGE PARENTS TO BRING UP THEIR CHILDREN IN THE FAITH AND LIFE OF THE CHURCH. 3) TO MAINTAIN A WORLDWIDE FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIANS, UNITED IN PRAYER, WORSHIP AND SERVICE. 4) TO PROMOTE CONDITIONS IN SOCIETY FAVOURABLE TO STABLE FAMILY LIFE AND FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN. 5) TO HELP THOSE WHOSE FAMILY LIFE HAS MET WITH ADVERSITY.

**Activities:** Mothers' Union is a Christian mission organization working through it's membership to support families and communities around the world. Our Vision is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships. The aim and purpose is to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by transformation of communities worldwide through the nurture of families.

## Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** (DIOCESE OF ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH)
- Suffolk

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£39,284	£49,844	-	-
2023-12-31	£45,651	£41,904	-	-
2022-12-31	£39,792	£36,692	-	-
2021-12-31	£44,121	£37,170	-	-
2020-12-31	£18,700	£17,910	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Clare Thomas		2024-11-04
Jeanette Appleton		2019-12-12
Rev Alan Forsdike		2025-01-01
Rev Alison Alder		2025-01-01

**THE MOTHERS' UNION - (DIOCESE OF ST EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH BRANCH)**

England & Wales - Charity number 249726

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# Accounts

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**Diocese of  
St Edmundsbury  
& Ipswich**

**Mothers' Union  
Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich  
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Year ended 31st December 2024

Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich (249726)

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Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

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# Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich (249726)

## CHARITY INFORMATION

Year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

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Charity Name: Mothers' Union - (Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich Branch)

Charity Registration Number: 249726

Governing Document: The charity is governed by a Royal Charter dated 15<sup>th</sup> June 1926, amended by a supplemental Charter dated 5<sup>th</sup> September 1974. Mothers' Union in the Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich is an autonomous body affiliated to Mothers' Union worldwide. It is bound by the central constitution of Mothers' Union, in so far as it relates to the activities of a Diocese. The charity has its own Diocesan constitution dated 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The affairs of the Mothers' Union in the Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich are managed by the Board of Trustees, appointed by the membership, for a period of 3 years.

Principal Business Address: The charity does not have a permanent place of business. All Trustees and Officers are volunteers and work from home.  
**Correspondence Address:** Jeanette Appleton, Diocesan President, "Field View", Hadleigh Road, Holton St Mary, Colchester, Suffolk, CO7 6NP

Trustees:	Linda Ginn MBE	Diocesan President
	Jeanette Appleton	Vice President
	Sandra Griffiths	Elected Trustee & Ipswich Area Rep
	Val Jeffreys	Elected Trustee & AFIA Rep
	Sue Norrington	Elected Trustee & Diocesan Members Rep

Officers:	Beryl Mee	Diocesan Secretary
	Clare Thomas	Membership Secretary, Safeguarding Officer, MU Enterprises Rep & Webmaster
	Amanda Langan	Diocesan Treasurer
	Rev Catherine Forsdike	Diocesan Chaplain
	Cathie McGregor	Social Policy & Crafts Rep
	Christine Ward	Clewer & Modern Day Slavery Rep
	Janice Brett	Worldwide Rep
	Monica Twaits	Indoor Members Rep
	Margaret Rollins	Over 90s Members Rep

Independent Examiner: Jonathan Beards, MAAT AATQB  
Licensed Accountant regulated by AAT  
7 Crawford Lane  
Kesgrave  
Ipswich  
Suffolk  
IP5 2GY

Bankers: CAF Bank Limited  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent  
ME19 4JQ

Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich (249726)  
TRUSTEES' REPORT  
Year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

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The Trustees present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

**Reference and Administrative Details**

These are set out on page one.

**Trustees**

The Trustees who served during the year are:

Linda Ginn MBE  
Jeanette Appleton  
Sandra Griffiths  
Val Jeffreys  
Sue Norrington

**Structure, Governance and Management**

This is set out on page one.

The work of the charity is overseen by the Board of Trustees with some day to day matters being delegated to the Diocesan Secretary, Diocesan Treasurer and other Officers. The Board of Trustees meet on a regular basis during the year, with the AGM and Council Meetings being open to all members to attend. They manage the affairs of the charity in accordance with the charity's constitution as set out on page one.

**Risk Management**

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, are reviewed regularly and actions are taken to mitigate such risks. The Charity has a number of published policies to address the risks including, Safeguarding, Food Safety, Health & Safety, Making Soft Toys, Retention of Records, Data Protection, Insurance, Charity Reporting & Accounting Requirements, Gift Aid and Reserves. A review of the policies is carried out every 3 years. Risk assessments, as required by our insurance policy, are carried out for each venue when it is used for MU activities. A pre-event checklist is also available.

**Aims and Objectives**

Mothers' Union is a Christian charity that seeks to support families worldwide. 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 the charity is to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by the transformation of communities worldwide through the nurture of family, in its many forms.

Our Aims and Objectives are:

- 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; and
- To help those whose family life has met with adversity.

We achieve this by:

- Developing prayer and spiritual growth in families;
- Supporting worldwide projects through fundraising and prayer support;
- Promoting national campaigns to address issues of domestic abuse and gender-based violence; and
- Resourcing our members to take practical action to improve conditions for families in the communities in which they live.

Mothers' Union is firmly rooted in a voluntary ethos. Its governance, leadership, and activities are driven by, and undertaken through, its members.

### **Funding**

The charity's funding comes from the following sources:

- Members' subscriptions - the Diocesan portion of which helps to cover our governance costs;
- Donations - throughout the year from individual members to support the work of the Mothers' Union;
- Legacies - bequests made by individuals to support the work of the Mothers' Union;
- Fundraising - by branches for local, diocesan and worldwide projects; and
- Mothers' Union Enterprise - a grant is received from the central charity based on the value of orders received from this charity.

### **Financial Review**

The results for the year are set out on pages 7 - 10.

### **Review of Achievements and Performance - Diocesan President's Report**

When planning our activities during the year, the Trustees have regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by The Charity Commission. The Trustees review the financial position of the charity regularly, including forecasts of cashflow, and have assured themselves that the charity is a going concern.

#### *Making a difference in 2024*

The theme for the 2022 to 2024 Triennium was **Transformation - Now!** Mothers' Union members continue to show amazing resilience, responsiveness and adaptability. The aim was to build on this experience to transform Mothers' Union to be relevant for 21st century life.

Over the past twelve months a review was undertaken of our structures. The roles of area reps were retired and they were replaced with cluster groups.

The role of Diocesan Treasurer was split into a job share of Diocesan Finance Officer and Diocesan Bookkeeper.

Following changes in Church of England Safeguarding Mothers' Union have set up their own Safeguarding training and have appointed a Safeguarding Officer at the central charity. This charity has its own Safeguarding Officer.

A new way of joining Mothers' Union was approved and Friend of Mothers' Union is now an option for people who are not able to commit to being a member, but who want to support our aims and objectives. A Friend of Mothers' Union pays the same subscription and receives the Connected magazine and prayer diary, but they are not able to vote in meetings or hold the role of an officer.

*Making a difference through new ways of meeting*

For our branches and Mothers' Union members 2024 has been as busy as ever as. In March 2024 we held our first Members' Day in Martlesham. Sixty people attended from across the diocese and enjoyed a day of fellowship, worship, Bible study and workshops. By the end of 2024 a Members' Day with the theme of 'supporting grandparents of faith' had been planned for March 2025, in coordination with the diocesan Growing Younger team.

A new approach of having the AGM and Spring council meetings on the same morning has proved popular and will be continued going forward.

Mary Sumner Day was celebrated outdoors at Southwold on 9<sup>th</sup> August, with a service accompanied by a brass band. The plaque that was placed on the pier in Southwold some years ago was found and everyone who attended enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of fellowship and worship.

Over the summer months there were many "Summer of Hope" fundraising afternoon teas and events, all supporting the work of Mothers' Union worldwide. This is an annual appeal by the central charity with a different project chosen to benefit each year.

*Making a difference by raising awareness*

The national RISE-UP campaign has been well supported in our diocese with East Bergholt and Brantham and Fressingfield branches achieving Bronze Awards for their work to raise awareness of the issue of domestic abuse.

Our Modern Day Slavery rep Christine Ward reports that Mothers' Union is appreciated as being an active member of the diocesan wide team, coordinated by Mark Shard, who holds this brief at the moment.

There is a new initiative, entitled *United in Solace and Grace*, to incorporate trauma informed practice in our worship that is being led by Rev Jenny Seggar, Rural Dean, Samford Deanery. There is a particular emphasis on survivors of abuse and the input of this charity has been welcomed through prayers, and by keeping our eyes and ears open in our communities.

*Making a difference through our projects and activities*

The Board of Trustees met 4 times during the year, with 3 being in person meetings and one via Zoom to approve the 2023 Diocesan Consolidated Accounts. A combined AGM and Council meeting took place in April, with the second Council meeting taking place in November. The AGM and Council meetings are open to all members to attend.

We gave 4 grants totalling £2,111.15 from our AFIA (**A**way **F**rom **I**t **A**ll) fund for holidays and other trips during 2024. These grants support families whose lives have met with adversity. Towards the end of the year we were able to book a few days away in a cottage in North Norfolk for a family whose Mum had recently died from cancer.

We gave a total of £450 in school uniform grants during 2024 to two different families to help those who struggle to afford the cost of school uniform branded items.

Our outreach programme activities include gifts that we give, items that we sew or knit, service that we perform through lunch clubs and food banks, nurturing of faith through involvement in Messy Church and Open the Book activities, and time that we spend teaching life skills to others.

In 2024 over 2,000 individual craft items were made by our members including Seafarers knitted hats (766), Knitted angels for Suffolk cancer charities (50), Mini prayer shawls (41), Gel pillow cases (37), Drain bags (34) and much more besides.

Ipswich Hospital approached the charity for help when they needed covers for the gel pillows that are used on the Neonatal Unit. Some of our members had experience of working on neonatal units and were able to create a sewing pattern for these covers. The Suffolk Infant Feeding lead at the Hospital also approached the charity asking for knitted breasts to help new mothers with breast feeding. The target of 120 knitted breasts was exceeded during the year, meaning this project is on hold for the time being.

Our long running project to make Christmas cards for prisoners at HMP Highpoint resulted in 1,085 cards being made for the 2024 season. This work has been noticed by other prisons in our Diocese and we have been asked to expand the project to include both HMP Warren Hill and HMP Hollesley Bay prisons from 2025 onwards.

### **Expenses**

Expenses are paid to Trustees and Officers for travel to meetings and costs involved with carrying out the work for the charity. No Trustee or Officer is paid for their time spent fulfilling their voluntary role.

Commissioned speakers, who travel to the charity's meetings, are paid travelling expenses.

### **Investment Powers and Policy**

The charity has the power to invest in any way the Trustees wish, currently some funds are invested in interest bearing bank accounts.

### **Bank Accounts**

There are two bank accounts held with CAF Bank, one current account and one instant access deposit account. There are also two accounts held with CCLA, both in the Church of England Central Board of Finance (CBF) portfolio. One is an investment account and the other is a deposit account. There is no specified notice period for withdrawals, however in the case of the investment account the actual value of monies received would depend on the state of the market at the point of instruction.

### **Interest**

Interest from the two CAF Bank accounts and the CBF Investment account are paid either monthly or quarterly into the CAF Bank current account. The interest on the CBF Deposit account is automatically reinvested each quarter and an adjustment is made in the accounts to allow for this. The Trustees plan to change this next year so that interest earned quarterly on the CBF Deposit account funds is also paid into the current account, rather than being reinvested.

### **Reserves**

At the end of the year the charity held £10,219 in the CBF Investment Fund and £5,051 in the CBF Deposit Fund, giving a nominal reserves amount totalling £15,270. The charity's operating / governance costs are low compared to many similar charities, particularly because it doesn't employ any staff and doesn't rent, or own, any property. The Trustees feel that this figure is more than adequate to cover ongoing costs and for any potential winding up costs, should that prove necessary in the future.

### **Central Charity**

The Mothers' Union (Registered Charity Number 240531) operates in 84 countries worldwide. It is headquartered at Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London SW1 3RB. Central subscriptions are collected by branches, and the Diocese, on behalf of Mothers' Union. The central charity portion of the full subscription rate is paid over regularly, together with any monies that have been fundraised specifically for centrally administered Designated Funds and projects.

### **Trustees' Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements**

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity, and of its surplus or deficit for that year. In preparing those Financial Statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the Financial Statements; and
- Prepare the Financial Statements on the ongoing concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, as amended by the Charities Act 2022. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

**Jeanette Appleton**  
**Diocesan President**

**Diocesan Receipts Account for year ending  
31st December 2024**

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>For Mary Sumner House (MSH)</b>		
Literacy & Financial Education (Designated)	951	1,522
Britain & Ireland Development (Designated)	552	794
Overseas Relief Work (Designated)	50	465
Overseas Development (Designated)	1,068	1,457
Provident (Designated)	202	495
Mothers' Day Appeal	108	153
Summer of Hope Appeal	1,180	1,940
Christmas Appeal	320	0
Subscriptions 2025	6,885	0
Subscriptions 2024	5,393	5,911
Subscriptions 2023	126	5,054
General Funds	0	16
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>16,835</b>	<b>17,807</b>

<b>For Diocesan MU</b>		
Easy Funding for AFIA (Designated)	195	223
AFIA (Designated)	705	520
Parenting (Designated)	100	728
Womens' Refuge (Designated)	300	300
Prisoners' Cards (Designated)	362	231
Indoor Members (Designated)	394	940
Diocesan Members (Designated)	430	580
Over 90s Members (Designated)	193	195
Ipswich Area (Designated)	643	519
North Suffolk Area (NSA) (Designated)	0	1,896
Gift Aid	0	0
Subscriptions 2025	984	0
Subscriptions 2024	939	1,028
Subscriptions 2023	21	843
Donations	28	149
General Fund	205	239
Hire of Hall	0	59
Church Services	186	152
Interest	697	579
Sundries	100	9
MUe Dividend	1,019	968
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>7,500</b>	<b>10,158</b>

<i>Sub Total MSH and Diocese</i>	<u>24,335</u>
Deduct receipts from Branches (page 5)	<u>15,834</u>
Sub Total	8,501
Branch Receipts (page 5)	20,638
MUe Receipts	<u>10,145</u>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b><u><u>39,284</u></u></b>

**Diocese Payments Account for year ending  
31st December 2024**

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>To Mary Sumner House (MSH)</b>		
Literacy & Financial Education (Designated)	1,560	592
Britain & Ireland Development (Designated)	829	389
Overseas Relief Work (Designated)	60	600
Overseas Development (Designated)	1,666	985
Provident Fund (Designated)	445	245
Mothers' Day Appeal	108	153
Summer of Hope Appeal	1,287	1,833
Christmas Appeal	140	90
Subscriptions 2025	4,141	0
Subscriptions 2024	7,003	897
Subscriptions 2023	305	8,487
Subscriptions 2022	0	40
General Funds	0	16
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>17,543</b>	<b>14,327</b>

<b>Diocesan Payments</b>		
Easy Funding for AFIA (Designated)	0	0
AFIA (Designated)	2,411	954
Parenting (Designated)	150	0
Womens' Refuge (Designated)	310	314
Prisoners' Cards (Designated)	428	150
Indoor Members (Designated)	564	738
Diocesan Members (Designated)	468	361
Over 90s Members (Designated)	0	38
Ipswich Area (Designated)	580	1,126
North Suffolk Area (NSA) (Designated)	82	1,840
Gift Aid	0	0
Reserves for Distribution	0	149
General Fund	7,500	19
Trustees / Officers Expenses	138	93
Conferences	234	134
Re-imagining / Discovery Day	0	279
Purchase of feather flags	0	288
Hire of Hall	392	231
DBS Checks	158	145
Insurance	450	450
Church Services	225	
Postage	6	15
Printing & Stationery	142	154
Purchase of Leaflets	5	0
Website	42	56
Zoom Subscription	156	144
Bank Charge	61	60
Sundries	420	210
MUe Dividend	0	0
Transfer to Designated Funds from General Fund	200	850
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>15,121</b>	<b>8,798</b>

*Sub Total* 32,664

Petty Cash Payments	22
Branch Payments (page 5)	7,119
MUe Payments	10,039
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>49,844</b>

Note: The branch payments exclude members' subscriptions and donations which are accounted for in the above analysis.

# Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726

## Branch & Deanery Summary to 31st December 2024

		£	
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
	Members' Subscriptions	7,698	
	Refreshments	1,886	
	Collections	1,338	
	Fundraising	4,903	
	Donations	892	
	MUe Materials	189	
	Outings	1,358	
	Other income	2,374	
	<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>20,638</b>	
<b>PAYMENTS</b>			
		<b>Payments to</b>	<b>Other</b>
		<b>Diocese</b>	<b>Payments</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Payments to Diocese Accounts</b>			
	Members' Subscriptions	8,650	
	Donations	7,184	
<b>Other Payments</b>			
	Mue Materials		649
	MSH (paid direct)		856
	Speaker Expenses		686
	Postage & Stationery		209
	Hall Hire		605
	Refreshments		95
	Outings		1,441
	Other expenses		2,578
	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>22,953</b>	<b>15,834</b>
	<b>Net Payments</b>	<b>2,315</b>	

### FUND MOVEMENT SUMMARY

Monetary Resources at 1 January 2024 (Held by 25 Branches & 1 Deanery)	8,997
 Net Payments	 2,315
 Monetary Resources at 31 December 2024 (Held by 22 Branches & 1 Deanery)	<b>6,682</b>

Note: Hadleigh, Walton St Mary and Ipswich St Margaret branches all closed their bank accounts. Ipswich St Margaret branch closed, Walton St Mary became a Fellowship Group and Hadleigh remained a branch, but without a bank account.

# Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2024

	£
Diocesan Fund Balances at 31 December 2024	41,884
Branch & Deanery Balances at 31 December 2024	6,682
MU Enterprises Assets at 31 December 2024	<u>5,806</u>
<b>Consolidated Balances</b>	<b><u>54,372</u></b>
<i>Represented by:</i>	
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	10,219
CBF Church of England Deposit Account	5,051
CAF Bank Current Account	11,056
CAF Bank Gold Saver Account	15,559
Held by Branches & Deanery	6,682
MU Enterprises Stock & Bank Account	<u>5,806</u>
<b>Consolidated Balances</b>	<b><u>54,372</u></b>
 <b>Liabilities owed to Mary Sumner House at 31st December 2024</b>	
Subscriptions	
For 2024	3,404
For 2025	<u>2,744</u>
	6,148
 <i>Donations</i>	
For MSH Designated Funds	955
For MSH Appeals	<u>180</u>
	1,135
 <b>Total</b>	 <b><u>7,283</u></b>
 <b>Literature Account (MU Enterprises)</b>	
Stock at 31 December 2024	5,150
Bank Balance	533
Credit on MUe account with MSH	123
Cash	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>5,806</u></b>

Mothers' Union Diocesan Consolidated Accounts prepared and presented by  
Amanda Langan, Diocesan Finance Officer  
On 7th August 2025

Approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on  
17th September 2025

Jeanette Appleton  
Diocesan President & Chair of Trustees

## **Report to the Trustees of the Mothers Union of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich**

**Charity no: 249726**

I report on the Accounts of the Mothers Union of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 7 - 10.

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

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of The 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.

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

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the 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 below.

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

I have completed my examination and confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity 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 my examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Jonathan Beards, MAAT AATQB, licensed Accountant regulated by AAT**  
**7 Crawford Lane**  
**Kesgrave**  
**Ipswich**  
**Suffolk IP5 2GY**

**26th September 2025**

**THE MOTHERS' UNION - (DIOCESE OF ST EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH BRANCH)**

England & Wales - Charity number 249726

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# Accounts

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Mothers' Union  
Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich  
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
Year ended 31st December 2023

Registered Charity No. 249726

Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich (249726)

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31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

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## Trustees' Annual Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

An overview of how the year unfolded, and the opportunities and challenges which arose during 2023. Changes at all levels in the organisation were inevitable, and with zoom well-established, new ways of working, and Mary Sumner House adapting, the pressures and volume of work increased substantially. The year started cautiously post-covid with a Trustees and Officers Tea Party at the Station House in Campsea Ashe – only the DP was late because the jam and cream had been left at home on the kitchen table. After a promotional Power-Point presentation, and the singing of Mary Sumner's prayer to the tune of Ode to Joy, the penultimate year of the triennium had begun. A few days later I represented the MU at the annual Plough Sunday service in the Cathedral and in the same week, a Trustees meeting via zoom. At the end of the month, I went to London for a Metamorphosis Conference at Mary Sumner House only to find it had been cancelled the night before due to lack of numbers attending. It was rescheduled for zoom three days later. Then another zoom meeting with Amanda to talk finance, a face-to-face meeting with Beryl re the Constitution, and then with Jeanette to organise a display at the Cathedral for the forthcoming Coronation and also an opportunity to go through the AGM report together. Diocesan Synod at Stowmarket and Lady Day celebrations happened in the same week, and two weeks later the MU AGM – it was a very busy first quarter of the year.

Spring heralded new beginnings, and it was a real privilege to attend the Licensing Services of three new clergy and welcome them to their parishes on behalf of the Mothers' Union assuring them of our support and prayers. We were invited, for the first time, to attend and have a stall at the Annual Vocation Fair in the Cloisters, and the following day I attended the Vocation Day service in the Cathedral. With cutbacks in staff at MSH and new ways of working, a DP all-day zoom conference was organised three days before the Coronation of King Charles III. Representing the MU again, I also attended the Licensing Service for our new Archdeacon (Archdeacon Rich) and immediately left for the DP Residential Conference at High Leigh in Hertfordshire.

Summertime brought its ups and downs. The Suffolk Show was difficult having been "squeezed" in and feeling superfluous to proceedings, but two days later it was a real joy to be able to speak at the MU Branch at Whitton. I flirted with a 3-minute "AI talk" to see how it would be received (and felt a certain amount of guilt!) – it went down well, but the remainder of the talk was properly prepared and carefully thought through. The week ended with a much-enjoyed Annual Strawberry Tea fundraiser run by the Cathedral branch. Also in June, together with Clare, we were invited to the Martlesham Branch to help them as they pondered their future. Trustees met at Westerfield, and a week later we held a really successful Discovery Day at the new venue in Shepherds Drive Baptist Church Ipswich. Diocesan Synod again followed the next day, and two days later the North Suffolk Area Quiet Day took place at Holton where we learned much about iconography. At the beginning of July, I attended the Bishops' Garden Party which had been reinstated post-covid and provided a useful opportunity for networking and raising the MU profile. As usual, Janice had prepared the Wave of Prayer for our linked dioceses of Byumba, Jalingo, Lake Malawi and Lucknow providing us with information for our branch services.

As the weather warmed up the Wickham Market Fellowship Group had a Strawberry Tea Party in Westleton for the Summer of Hope campaign, and then there was the local MU branch group meeting, more zoom sessions, the Fressingfield Garden Party, celebrations for Mary Sumner Day at St Mary Stoke, a Cream Tea at Farthings (Yoxford), and coffee with Amanda to talk about her health issues and seek a way forward. It was an exciting and fun time meeting members and their friends.

Over the summer nominations for the next DP had been received, and it was a pleasure to announce that Jeanette Appleton would be my successor. September started with another Trustee Meeting when the way forward was discussed. It was a joy to be invited to welcome two new members to the St Mary Stoke branch and give them their badges and certificates. Our Cluster group met on zoom, the following day it was the North Suffolk Area morning at Hoxne, and two days

later we were up in York for the Annual Gathering. St Eds and Ips was well represented with seven members attending and staying in two separate hotels. Sue and I, under Amanda's tuition, concentrated on perfecting the art of crocheting woollen hearts for the latest MU campaign. On returning home I was invited to attend the local Christians Against Poverty (CAP) course in order to understand better their aims and objectives should any of our members need help struggling with the cost of living crisis.

Autumn came all too quickly and October was a really busy month with MU activities and engagements happening nearly every day, beginning with the I-Chameleon Pop-Up shop in Halesworth, another Cluster meeting via zoom, the Healing Service in the Cathedral, Metamorphosis in our local branch, and the Retired Clergy Conference - again in the Cathedral. The admin from Mary Sumner House was increasing with new staff and new initiatives which in turn meant more emails and key messages, policies and documents, newsletters and reflections, MU Live data and stats - all of which needed to be read through carefully, and where appropriate circulated to members.

I attended two more Licensing Services in Ipswich, had a formal coffee session with the new Archdeacon to "re-introduce" him to Mothers' Union in our diocese, enjoyed a very happy occasion arranged by Sandra for the Ipswich Area Coffee Morning at Martlesham, the 16 Days of Activism campaign and the Autumn Council Meeting at Coddensham which afforded the pleasurable opportunity of announcing that Jeanette would be our next Diocesan President. The weather was atrocious - with snow and flooding - and numbers attending were somewhat down. Christmas arrangements began in earnest with many branches having been involved in making Christmas cards for the prisoners at Highpoint, in Yoxmere a new travelling crib was being taken around families with children in the benefice, and I learned of other Branches too who were decorating their churches, promoting the Blue Christmas service arranged by Rev Catherine, and purchasing MUE gifts, Christmas cards and calendars, etc. The year finished on a high with the Rushmere Branch Christmas Party where we were entertained by a Ukelele band and wonderful afternoon tea, and the last event of the year was the local Mothers' Union branch meeting in my home for a wonderful seasonal service and afternoon tea - our normal venue at the church was just too cold!

It's been a real privilege to serve the Mothers' Union in 2023 as we emerged from the covid pandemic and confidence in coming together once more enabled us to meet up face to face. Over the year, several new members joined Mothers' Union, but sadly the loss of members was greater. To all those who are grieving we send our condolences. Branches changed and amalgamated, Fellowship Groups started up and Diocesan Membership increased. Looking back we can see how much has changed; how in 2023 we tried to put into practice the pledges we made in 2022 to Mary Sumner House; how our ABC structures guided the programmes of AFIA, Befriending and support for the Clewer Initiative. We have an amazing team of Trustees, Officers, Community of Interest Leads and STARs - all with very different gifts and abilities - but each one playing a really important and significant role in helping the Mothers' Union to flourish and thrive. My sincere thanks to each one of you as we now embark on this final year of the triennium, confident in the knowledge that we have a Heavenly Father who knows, and sees and cares very much for us as we seek to serve Him in the places where He has called us to live. Again, we praise God, rejoice and give thanks for his faithfulness, goodness and provision for us, leading us forward according to His plan and purpose.

**Linda Ginn**  
**Diocesan President**  
**19<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Diocesan Receipts Account for year ending  
31st December 2023**

Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
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**For Mary Sumner House (MSH)**

Literacy & Financial Education (Designated)	1,522	925
Britain & Ireland Development (Designated)	794	630
Overseas Relief Work (Designated)	465	912
Overseas Development (Designated)	1,457	1,040
Provident (Designated)	495	495
Mothers' Day Appeal	153	0
Summer of Hope Appeal	1,940	1,049
Christmas Appeal	0	90
Subscriptions 2024	5,911	0
Subscriptions 2023	5,054	6,741
Subscriptions 2022	0	7,026
Subscriptions 2021	0	100
Subscriptions 2020	0	15
General Funds	16	407
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>17,807</b>	<b>19,430</b>

**For Diocesan MU**

Easy Funding for AFIA (Designated)	223	166
AFIA (Designated)	520	209
Parenting (Designated)	728	0
Womens' Refuge (Designated)	300	40
Prisoners' Cards (Designated)	231	211
Indoor Members (Designated)	940	400
Diocesan Members (Designated)	580	220
Over 90s Members (Designated)	195	100
Ipswich Area (Designated)	519	590
North Suffolk Area (NSA) (Designated)	1,896	1,615
Gift Aid	0	0
Subscriptions 2024	1,028	0
Subscriptions 2023	843	1,124
Subscriptions 2022	0	1,055
Subscriptions 2021	0	16
Subscriptions 2020	0	7
Donations	149	0
General Fund	239	1,486
Hire of Hall	59	0
Church Services	152	239
Interest	579	333
Sundries	9	143
MUe Dividend	968	889
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>10,158</b>	<b>8,843</b>

<i>Sub Total MSH and Diocese</i>	<u>27,965</u>
Deduct receipts from Branches (page 5)	<u>16,476</u>
Sub Total	11,489

Petty Cash Receipts	0
Branch Receipts (page 5)	23,725
MUe Sales	10,437

<b>Grand Total</b>	<b><u><u>45,651</u></u></b>
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**Diocese Payments Account for year ending  
31st December 2023**

	<b>Total Funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022 £</b>
<b>To Mary Sumner House (MSH)</b>		
Literacy & Financial Education (Designated)	592	925
Britain & Ireland Development (Designated)	389	530
Overseas Relief Work (Designated)	600	767
Overseas Development (Designated)	985	710
Provident Fund (Designated)	245	300
Mothers' Day Appeal	153	0
Summer of Hope Appeal	1,833	1,049
Christmas Appeal	90	0
Subscriptions 2024	897	0
Subscriptions 2023	8,487	3,129
Subscriptions 2022	40	6,986
Subscriptions 2021	0	100
Subscriptions 2020	0	15
General Funds	16	407
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>14,327</b>	<b>14,918</b>

**Diocesan Payments**

Easy Funding for AFIA (Designated)	0	0
AFIA (Designated)	954	797
Parenting (Designated)	0	0
Womens' Refuge (Designated)	314	0
Prisoners' Cards (Designated)	150	204
Indoor Members (Designated)	738	592
Diocesan Members (Designated)	361	299
Over 90s Members (Designated)	38	66
Ipswich Area (Designated)	1,126	670
North Suffolk Area (NSA) (Designated)	1,840	1,517
Gift Aid	0	0
Keith Foulds Retirement Gift	0	61
Outings	0	0
Retreat & Quiet Day	0	0
Reserves for Distribution	149	0
General Fund	19	100
Trustees / Officers Expenses	93	253
Conferences	134	317
Re-imagining / Discovery Day	279	0
Purchase of feather flags	288	0
Hire of Hall	231	120
DBS Checks	145	206
Insurance	450	450
Postage	15	19
Printing & Stationery	154	182
Purchase of Leaflets	0	13
Website	56	42
Zoom Subscription	144	144
Bank Charge	60	96
Sundries	210	665
MUe Dividend	0	0
Transfer to Designated Funds from General Fund	850	500
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>8,798</b>	<b>7,313</b>

*Sub Total* 23,125

Petty Cash Payments 40  
 Branch Payments (page 5) 7,828  
 MUe Purchases 10,911

**Grand Total** **41,904**

Note: The branch payments exclude members' subscriptions and donations which are accounted for in the above analysis.

# Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726

## Branch & Deanery Summary to 31st December 2023

	£			
<b>Receipts</b>				
Members' Subscriptions	9,071			
Refreshments	2,012			
Collections	1,562			
Fundraising	4,665			
Donations	2,170			
MUe Materials	189			
Outings	2,495			
Other income	1,561			
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>23,725</b>			
		<b>Payments to</b>	<b>Other</b>	
<b>Payments</b>		<b>Diocese</b>	<b>Payments</b>	
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
<b>Payments to Diocese</b>				
Members' Subscriptions		9,340		
Donations		7,136		
<b>Other Payments</b>				
Mue Materials			565	
MSH (paid direct)			1,188	
Speaker Expenses			1,103	
Postage & Stationery			158	
Hall Hire			729	
Refreshments			57	
Outings			2,344	
Other expenses			1,684	
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>24,304</b>	<b>16,476</b>	<b>7,828</b>	
<b>Net Payments</b>	<b>579</b>			

### FUND MOVEMENT SUMMARY

Monetary Resources at 1 January 2023 (Held by 28 Branches & 1 Deanery)	9,576
Net Payments	579
Monetary Resources at 31 December 2023 (Held by 25 Branches & 1 Deanery)	<b>8,997</b>

Note: During 2023 Felixstowe St John's, Halesworth and Martlesham Branches became Fellowship Groups and closed their bank accounts.

# Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2023

	£
Diocesan Fund Balances at 31 December 2023	49,752
Branch & Deanery Balances at 31 December 2023	8,984
MU Enterprises Assets at 31 December 2023	<u>5,282</u>

**Consolidated Balances** **64,018**

*Represented by:*

CBF Church of England Investment Fund	9,990
CBF Church of England Deposit Account	4,796
CAF Bank Current Account	19,763
CAF Bank Gold Saver Account	15,181
Petty Cash	22
Held by Branches & Deanery	8,984
MU Enterprises Stock & Bank Account	<u>5,282</u>

**Consolidated Balances** **64,018**

### Liabilities owed to Mary Sumner House at 31 December 2023

Subscriptions		
For 2023	179	
For 2024	<u>5,014</u>	
		5,193

Donations		
For MSH Designated Funds	2,692	
For MSH Appeals	<u>107</u>	
		2,799

**Total** **7,992**

### Literature Account (MU Enterprises)

Stock at 31 December 2023	4,855
Bank Balance	427
Cash	<u>0</u>

**Total Assets** **5,282**

**Mothers' Union Diocesan Consolidated Accounts prepared and presented by  
Amanda Langan, Diocesan Treasurer  
On 10th October 2024**

**Approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on  
10th October 2024**

**Linda Ginn  
Diocesan President & Chair of Trustees**

## **Report to the Trustees of the Mothers Union of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich**

**Charity no: 249726**

I report on the Accounts of the Mothers Union of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 3 to 6.

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

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of The 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.

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

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the 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 below.

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

I have completed my examination and confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity 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 my examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Martin Favell, FCA**  
**Mayfields,**  
**Holton St Mary,**  
**Suffolk CO7 6NL**

**11 October 2024**

**THE MOTHERS' UNION - (DIOCESE OF ST EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH BRANCH)**

England & Wales - Charity number 249726

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# Accounts

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Mothers' Union  
Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich  
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 December 2022

Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich (249726)  
CONTENTS  
31 December 2022

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## **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ending 31 December 2022**

Mothers' Union in St Edmundsbury and Ipswich is alive and well, energetic and vibrant! Transforming Now so that we can meet the challenges of the future, while maintaining our core values. Last year saw many funerals, but with these also came thanksgiving to God for lives well-lived and much loved: friends and family members will be sorely missed.

**The Queen** After the joy of celebrating our Patron Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee in the summer, it was with sadness that, on behalf of our members, we acknowledged her passing.

**Transformation Now** The theme for this Triennium is "Transformation - Now!". Here, in our diocese, we began the process of transformation and with renewed enthusiasm and impetus started introducing new ways of doing / being Mothers' Union. Significant changes were happening.

**Social Media and Technology** We adapted and changed the way we used technology which enabled us to continue meeting together. Using Zoom, YouTube services, online streaming of services from MSH, Facebook, WhatsApp and other social media groups.

**Communication** between Mary Sumner House and the membership also changed with the introduction of a restructuring programme, updating technology, reorganising the administration and employing new staff. We too reviewed, updated and extended our database and contacts in order to reach more people and forge closer links within the diocese.

**Services around the diocese** We engaged with more diocesan events, attended Cathedral worship, the Vocations Fair, we served on the Diocesan Mission and Ministry team and as the Bishop's representative attended Diocesan Synod meetings.

**Listening** to members views through our Re-imagining coffee mornings enabled us to respond, and pledge our commitment to three specific areas in the Reimagining conversation. Our monthly newsletter name changed to reflect the new era from "Peculiar Times" to "Transformation - Now!" to represent a post-covid turning point.

**Annual subscription** Arrangements were updated, with the introduction of direct debit payments (as well as cheques) for annual subscriptions, thus reducing the workload of branch treasurers.

**Fellowship Groups** Some branches, who might otherwise have closed due to lack of people to manage the accounts and administration, have switched to become Fellowship Groups, a new format trialled this year which removes the need for branch officers and admin tasks but which allows members to continue to meet in Faith, Fun and fellowship.

**Communities of Interest** The previous units of Action and Outreach, Faith and Policy, Communication and Finance have been transformed in to a new concept of Communities of Interest (COI). Action and Outreach is transformed to Development COI, Faith and Policy transformed to two COIs, that of Faith COI and Policy COI, with Communication transformed to Media and PR COI.

Communities of Interest are not just about the people who take the roles of a COI Lead or officer within that COI. This new format enables all members to become part of whichever Community of Interest they wish. Whether their focus is prayer, craft work, campaigns or making Mothers' Union visible. We urgently need someone to help us with Publicity and Communication and Prison work.

**Strategy** We continued with our ABC strategy (AFIA, Befriending and Clewer, the partnership with Mothers' Union to address issues of modern day slavery.

**Mothers' Union events** With the lifting of covid restrictions, I had the opportunity to attend many happy and social events such a Fellowship Group Pancake Party, a Strawberry Tea and a Garden Party, along with several other occasions speaking at branch meetings, being interviewed on Mothering Sunday by Radio Suffolk, and twice being invited to talk about the work of Mothers' Union within the context of church services.

On two occasions I was delighted to support new young clergy at their licencing services. It was also a joy to be able to attend Area events like the North Suffolk Quiet Day, the I-Chameleon fund-raising shop in Halesworth, and Ipswich Area Coffee Mornings.

**Thank you** We thank God for all those who have contributed much to Mothers' Union in our diocese during 2022, and in particular are grateful to the members of our Trustee Board - for Jeanette, Sandra, Sue and Val who have continued into a second term of office; for our Officers and Community of Interest leads, website and MUE sales, and for Catherine's spiritual input in her first year as our Chaplain.

And we thank God for the support of our Bishops, senior staff in the diocese, clergy (local and otherwise), readers and lay elders.

We also thank those who are "unseen" such as Alan Forsdike in supporting Catherine, and Keith Foulds who so often plays the organ for us at our special services, the staff at the Salvation Army HQ and our printers. But special thanks as always must go to Beryl for everything she does on our behalf in her admin role, and for all those who work with her behind-the-scenes.

**Linda Ginn**  
**Diocesan President**  
**16<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726**

**Diocesan Receipts Account for year ending 31st December 2022**

	<b>Total Funds £</b>	<b>MSH Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>MSH Designated Funds £</b>	<b>Diocesan Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Diocesan Designated Funds £</b>
<b>For Mary Sumner House (MSH)</b>					
Literacy & Financial Education (Designated)	925		925		
Britain & Ireland Development (Designated)	630		630		
Overseas Relief Work (Designated)	912		912		
Overseas Development (Designated)	1,040		1,040		
Provident Fund (Designated)	495		495		
Mothers' Day Appeal	0	0			
Summer of Hope Appeal	1,049	1,049			
Christmas Appeal	90	90			
Subscriptions 2023	6,741	6,741			
Subscriptions 2022	7,026	7,026			
Subscriptions 2021	100	100			
Subscriptions 2020	15	15			
General Funds	407	407			
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>19,430</b>	<b>15,428</b>	<b>4,002</b>		

<b>For Diocesan MU</b>					
Easy Funding for AFIA	166				166
AFIA	209				209
Womens' Refuge	40				40
Prisoners' Cards	211				211
Indoor Members	400				400
Diocesan Members	220				220
Over 90 Members	100				100
Ipswich Area	590				590
North Suffolk Area (NSA)	1,615				1,615
Gift Aid	0			0	
Subscription 2023	1,124			1,124	
Subscriptions 2022	1,055			1,055	
Subscriptions 2021	16			16	
Subscriptions 2020	7			7	
Donations	0			0	
General Fund	1,486			1,486	
Church Services	239			239	
Interest	333			333	
Sundries	143			143	
MUe Dividend	889			889	
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>8,843</b>			<b>5,292</b>	<b>3,551</b>

<i>Sub Total MSH and Diocese</i>	<u>28,273</u>
Deduct receipts from Branches (page 5)	<u>18,013</u>
Sub Total	10,260
Petty Cash Receipts	0
Branch Receipts (page 5)	19,587
MUe Sales	9,945
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b><u><u>39,792</u></u></b>

## Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726

### Diocese Payments Account for year ending 31st December 2022

	Total Funds £	MSH Unrestricted Funds £	MSH Designated Funds £	Diocesan Unrestricted Funds £	Diocesan Designated Funds £
<b>To Mary Sumner House (MSH)</b>					
Literacy & Financial Education (Designated)	925		925		
Britain & Ireland Development (Designated)	530		530		
Overseas Relief Work (Designated)	767		767		
Overseas Development (Designated)	710		710		
Provident Fund (Designated)	300		300		
Mothers' Day Appeal	0	0			
Summer of Hope Appeal	1,049	1,049			
Christmas Appeal	0	0			
Subscriptions 2023	3,129	3,129			
Subscriptions 2022	6,986	6,986			
Subscriptions 2021	100	100			
Subscriptions 2020	15	15			
General Funds	407	407			
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>14,918</b>	<b>11,686</b>	<b>3,232</b>		

#### Diocesan Payments

Easy Funding for AFIA	0				0
AFIA	797				797
Womens' Refuge	0				0
Prisoners' Cards	204				204
Indoor Members	592				592
Diocesan Members	299				299
Over 90s Members	66				66
Ipswich Area	670				670
North Suffolk Area	1,517				1,517
Gift Aid	0			0	
Keith Foulds Retirement Gift	61			61	
General Fund	100			100	
Trustees / Officers Expenses	253			253	
Conferences	317			317	
Hire of Halls	120			120	
DBS Checks	206			206	
Insurance	450			450	
Postage	19			19	
Printing & Stationery	182			182	
Purchase of Leaflets	13			13	
Website	42			42	
Zoom Subscription	144			144	
Bank Charge	96			96	
Sundries	665			665	
MUe Dividend	0			0	
Transfer to Designated Funds from General Fund	500			500	
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>7,313</b>			<b>3,168</b>	<b>4,145</b>

Sub Total 22,231

Petty Cash Payments 0  
 Branch Payments (page 5) 4,747  
 MUe Purchases 9,714

**Grand Total** 36,692

Note: The branch payments exclude members' subscriptions and donations which are accounted for in the above analysis

# Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726

## Branch & Deanery Summary to 31 December 2022

	£			
<b>Receipts</b>				
Members' Subscriptions	9,650			
Refreshments	1,798			
Collections	1,306			
Fundraising	3,864			
Donations	1,333			
MUe Materials	167			
Outings	445			
Other income	1,024			
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>19,587</b>			
		<b>Payments to Diocese</b>	<b>Payments by Branches</b>	
		£	£	
<b>Payments to Diocese Accounts</b>				
Members' Subscriptions		12,700		
Donations		5,313		
<b>Payments by Branch or Deanery</b>				
Mue Materials			394	
MSH (paid direct)			382	
Speaker Expenses			616	
Postage & Stationery			187	
Hall Hire			747	
Refreshments			296	
Outings			593	
Other expenses			1,532	
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>22,760</b>	<b>18,013</b>	<b>4,747</b>	
<b>Net Payments</b>	<b>3,173</b>			

### FUND MOVEMENT SUMMARY

Monetary Resources at 1 January 2022 (Held by 32 Branches & 1 Deanery)		12,736		
Net Payments			3,173	
Monetary Resources at 31 December 2022 (Held by 28 Branches & 1 Deanery)			<b>9,563</b>	

Note: During 2022 Ipswich St Augustines branch closed (some members transferred to Rushmere St Andrews branch) & Mildenhall branch closed. Clare & Hoxne branches became Fellowship Groups.

# Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2022

	£
Diocesan Fund Balances at 31 December 2022	43,937
Branch & Deanery Balances at 31 December 2022	9,563
MU Enterprises Assets at 31 December 2022	<u>5,296</u>

**Consolidated Balances** 58,796

*Represented by:*

CBF Church of England Investment Fund	9,124
CBF Church of England Deposit Account	4,647
CAF Bank Current Account	15,202
CAF Bank Gold Saver Account	14,902
Petty Cash	62
Held by Branches & Deanery	9,563
MU Enterprises Stock & Bank Balance	<u>5,296</u>

**Consolidated Balances** 58,796

### Liabilities to Mary Sumner House at 31 December 2022

Subscriptions	3,652
Donations	<u>861</u>

**Total** 4,513

### Literature Account (MU Enterprises)

Stock at 31 December 2022	4,187
Bank Balance	1,109
Cash	<u>0</u>

**Total Assets** 5,296

Approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on  
17th October 2023

Linda Ginn  
Diocesan President & Chair of Trustees

**MOTHERS' UNION – DIOCESE OF ST EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH  
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Mothers' Union – Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 3 to 6.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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.

**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 the 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 below.

**Independent examiner's statements**

I have completed my examination and confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity 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.

**DJ Franklin**  
**Chartered Accountant**

Burcott  
School Lane  
Forward Green  
Suffolk  
IP14 5EL

**18 October 2023**

**THE MOTHERS' UNION - (DIOCESE OF ST EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH BRANCH)**

England & Wales - Charity number 249726

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# Accounts

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**Mothers' Union**  
**Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich**

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Year ended 31 December 2021**

# Mothers' Union – Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich (249726)

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31 December 2021

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# Mothers' Union – Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726

## Trustee's Annual Report for the year ending 31 December 2021

As our newsletter reflects, during 2021 we have been living through "Peculiar Times": times of lockdown when branches have shown great resilience in caring for and supporting their local members. Members coming together again for socially distanced garden meetings. When social distancing allowed some MU groups gradually returned to a sense of normality and were meeting up again face to face.

We continued with our ABC strategy focusing on AFIA, Befriending and Clewer- Modern Day Slavery. The diocesan monthly newsletter "Peculiar Times" continued and has been appreciated by members, as have the 90+ Birthday cards, and the regular newsletters for Indoor and Diocesan Members and friends. The Emergency Prayer Chain continued, and our Wave of Prayer links - Jalingo, Byumba, Malawi and Lucknow - remain unchanged. Our MUE sales have increased over the year, and our outreach to such initiatives as the women's refuge, night shelter, prisons, hospitals, and care homes survived, with activities somewhat covid-curtailed.

While the theme for 2022 is Transformation Now! in many ways during 2021 we were already transforming. AFIA has successfully found new ways of working, updated publicity material and distributed several grant application forms.

Greater familiarity with Zoom, YouTube, and online and streamed services from MSH, along with Eventbrite webinars and training programmes have enabled us to continue to meet, learn and grow.

Branches were innovative and creative in supporting members through newsletters, telephone calls, visits (where possible), social media, Facebook and through the internet.

In 2021, our Constitution was revisited, revised and updated.

We saw the publication of "*For Better, For Worse*", in paperback and as an eBook. Supporting and promoting marriage is one of our core five objectives. We hope this publication will be used in marriage preparation groups across the diocese as well as being given as a gift to couples on the occasion of their wedding, or perhaps a wedding anniversary.

Like many charities Mary Sumner House also underwent many changes (financial, house-keeping, staff and administrative) which affected us all. The Reimagining MU conference was again postponed due to covid. The year also saw the publication of the first edition of the new magazine '*Connected*' sent directly to all members along with the prayer diary. There was the introduction of Direct Debits for subs in addition to usual payment methods, which will ease the work load of our treasurers at all levels in our organisation. Trustees across the province have had the opportunity for training in Microsoft Teams and Office 365 and now use WhatsApp to keep in touch.

Some branches have amalgamated with close-by neighbours. Where branches wish to continue to meet, but are unable to continue with the administrative aspect of running a branch, a new way of being has being trialled. MU members are offered the opportunity to transfer to Diocesan membership while continuing to meet as before but now as a Fellowship group instead of a branch. In this way we hope that MU members will continue to enjoy the faith, fun and fellowship that Mothers' Union gives. Our Diocesan membership continues to thrive.

## Mothers' Union – Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726

Sadly, we have also lost several members to Covid and other causes, particularly thinking of Joyce Starling, a former Diocesan President, and more recently, Jane Drew who was, in the 1990s, the DP at St Albans in Hertfordshire. Mothers' Union members contributed to her Service of Thanksgiving and she is remembered on our *Inspiring Members* webpage. We also said farewell to our long-standing treasurer Keith Foulds who retired after thirteen years.

We have much for which to be thankful – not least for our new treasurer Amanda Langan who joined the team of officers in August. We are especially grateful to those who have taken on roles of responsibility within their branches, deaneries, areas Community of Interest leads, diocesan officers, trustee board and Life Presidents. Our members, friends and supporters have given generously, both in terms of financial help and time, which has been much appreciated.

Other successful fund-raising events included the North Suffolk area I-Chameleon pop-up shop in Halesworth and the Ipswich Area Coffee Morning in Martlesham, and in spite of covid restrictions, branches continued to generate and support many imaginative and creative ideas.

Our thanks go to all the out-going trustees for all that they have contributed to the work of MU here in St Eds and Ips over these last three years. Our Chaplain has retired and we await Bishop Martin's decision on his successor. Our particular thanks go to our Beryl, our Diocesan Secretary and to Clare our Webmaster MUe rep and Safeguarding officer for their help, support and encouragement in maintaining our high profile within the diocese.

As we embark on a new triennium, we rejoice in all that God has accomplished through the MU during 2021 - in spite of all the obstacles and challenges which we have faced.

We have confidence that God is working His purposes out even though we cannot "see" the future - our theme for 2022 is "**Transformation – Now**", and as we stand on the threshold of a new era, we wait expectantly and excitedly as the way ahead unfolds.

**Linda Ginn**  
**Diocesan President**  
**15<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

Diocesan Receipts Account for year ending 31st December 2021

	Total Funds £	MSH Unrestricted Funds £	MSH Restricted / Designated Funds £	Diocesan Unrestricted Funds £	Diocesan Designated Funds £
<b>For Mary Sumner House (MSH)</b>					
Britain & Ireland Development (Restricted)	0		0		
Emergency Relief (Restricted)	97		97		
Congo Appeal (Restricted)	200		200		
Overseas (Restricted)	400		400		
Literacy & Financial Education (Designated)	200		200		
Britain & Ireland Development (Designated)	310		310		
Relief Work (Designated)	410		410		
Overseas (Designated)	570		570		
Mothers' Day Appeal	10	10			
Summer of Hope Appeal	706	706			
Christmas Appeal	340	340			
Subscriptions 2022	4,740	4,740			
Subscriptions 2021	6,760	6,760			
Subscriptions 2020	102	102			
General Funds	619	619			
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>15,463</b>	<b>13,277</b>	<b>2,187</b>		

**For Diocesan MU**

Easy Funding for AFIA	72				72
AFIA	400				400
Womens' Refuge	469				469
Prisoners' Cards	117				117
Indoor Members	436				436
Ipswich Area	663				663
North Suffolk Area (NSA)	339				339
Gift Aid	2,919			2,919	
Keith Foulds Retirement Gift	361			361	
Subscriptions 2022	711			711	
Subscriptions 2021	1,014			1,014	
Subscriptions 2020	46			46	
Donations	6			6	
General Fund	2,803			2,803	
Church Services	542			542	
Interest	313			313	
Sundries	100			100	
MUe Dividend	760			760	
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>12,072</b>			<b>9,575</b>	<b>2,496</b>

Sub Total MSH and Diocese	27,535
Deduct receipts from Branches (page 5)	15,266
Sub Total	12,269

Petty Cash Receipts	162
Branch Receipts (page 5)	23,019
MUe Sales	8,671

<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>44,121</b>
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Diocese Payments Account for year ending 31st December 2021

	Total Funds £	MSH Unrestricted Funds £	MSH Restricted / Designated Funds £	Diocesan Unrestricted Funds £	Diocesan Designated Funds £
<b>To Mary Sumner House (MSH)</b>					
Britain & Ireland Development (Restricted)	0		0		
Emergency Relief (Restricted)	97		97		
Congo Appeal (Restricted)	200		200		
Overseas (Restricted)	400		400		
Literacy & Financial Education (Designated)	200		200		
Britain & Ireland Development (Designated)	310		310		
Relief Work (Designated)	410		410		
Overseas (Designated)	570		570		
Mothers' Day Appeal	10	10			
Summer of Hope Appeal	706	706			
Christmas Appeal	340	340			
Subscriptions 2022	4,740	4,740			
Subscriptions 2021	6,760	6,760			
Subscriptions 2020	102	102			
General Funds	619	619			
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>15,463</b>	<b>13,277</b>	<b>2,187</b>		

**Diocesan Payments**

Easy Funding for AFIA	108				108
AFIA	850				850
Womens' Refuge	150				150
Prisoners' Cards	104				104
Indoor Members	360				360
Ipswich Area	205				205
North Suffolk Area (NSA)	336				336
Gift Aid	2,919			2,919	
Keith Foulds Retirement Gift	300			300	
Trustees / Officers Expenses	85			85	
Conferences	500			500	
Over 90s Members	18			18	
Diocesan Members	319			319	
Postage	66			66	
Printing & Stationery	142			142	
Website	42			42	
Zoom Subscription	144			144	
Bank Charge	110			110	
Sundries	125			125	
MUe Dividend	760			760	
Transfer to Designated Funds from General Fund	603				603
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>8,246</b>			<b>5,530</b>	<b>2,716</b>

Sub Total 23,709

Petty Cash Payments 100

Branch Payments (page 5) 3,938

MUe Purchases 9,423

**Grand Total** 37,170

Note: The branch payments exclude members' subscriptions and donations which are accounted for in the above analysis

# Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726

## Branch & Deanery Summary to 31 December 2021

	£		
<b>Receipts</b>			
Members' Subscriptions	13,294		
Refreshments	513		
Collections	1,138		
Fundraising	1,952		
Donations	3,647		
MUe Materials	269		
Outings	929		
Other income	1,277		
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>23,019</b>		
		<b>Payments to Diocese</b>	<b>Payments by Branches</b>
		£	£
<b>Payments to Diocese Accounts</b>			
Members' Subscriptions		11,792	
Donations		3,474	
<b>Payments by Branch or Deanery</b>			
Mue Materials			906
MSH (paid direct)			166
Speaker Expenses			116
Postage & Stationery			215
Hall Hire			384
Outings			912
Other expenses			1,239
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>19,204</b>	<b>15,266</b>	<b>3,938</b>
<b>Net Receipts</b>	<b>3,815</b>		

### FUND MOVEMENT SUMMARY

Monetary Resources at 1 January 2021 (Held by 34 Branches & 1 Deanery)	8,921
 Net Receipts	 3,815
 Monetary Resources at 31 December 2021 (Held by 32 Branches & 1 Deanery)	 12,736

Note: Rattlesden branch closed during 2021 & Thurston merged with Gt Barton

# Mothers' Union - Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 249726

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2021

	£
Diocesan Fund Balances at 31 December 2021	39,045
Branch & Deanery Balances at 31 December 2021	12,736
MU Enterprises Assets at 31 December 2021	<u>4,855</u>

**Consolidated Balances** 56,636

*Represented by:*

Shawbrook Bank 12 Month Fixed Rate Saver	10,000
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	10,336
CBF Church of England Deposit Account	4,587
CAF Bank Current Account	9,203
CAF Bank Gold Saver Account	4,858
Petty Cash	62
Held by Branches & Deanery	12,736
MU Enterprises Stock & Bank Balance	<u>4,855</u>

**Consolidated Balances** 56,636

### Liabilities to Mary Sumner House at 31 December 2021

Subscriptions	0
Donations	<u>0</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>0</u></u>

### Literature Account (MU Enterprises)

Stock at 31 December 2021	4,174
Bank Balance	681
Cash	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u><u>4,855</u></u>

Approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on  
21 June 2022

Linda Ginn  
Diocesan President & Chair of Trustees

**MOTHERS' UNION – DIOCESE OF ST EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH  
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Mothers' Union – Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 3 to 6.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

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**Basis of independent examiner's report**

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**Independent examiner's statements**

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- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity 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.

**DJ Franklin**

**Chartered Accountant**

Burcott  
School Lane  
Forward Green  
Suffolk  
IP14 5EL

**21 June 2022**