

Mothers' Union **in the** **Diocese of Lichfield**



Trustees Annual Report **1st January to 31st December 2023**

Registered Charity No. 249942

Annual Report 2023

Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Lichfield Trustee Board as of 1st January 2023

Helen Palfrey	Diocesan President
Celia Richardson	Honorary Treasurer - Finance Trustee
Julia Collinson	General Trustee
Katherine May	General Trustee
Debra Tudor	General Trustee
Vacant	General Trustee
Vacant	General Trustee
Vacant	General Trustee

Diocesan Administrator

Adrian Palphreyman

Diocesan Treasurer

Celia Richardson

Diocesan Chaplain

Revd Kathy Trimby

Revd Jassica Castillo-Burley

Training Officer

Vacant

MU@Home Representative

Elizabeth Binsley

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Independent Examiner:

Mr John Alexander ACMA CGMA

Annual Report 2023

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Trustees report for the year ended 31st December 2023

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Diocesan President's Report 2023

The second year of the triennium continued to present challenges to the development and growth of Mothers' Union in this Diocese of Lichfield. The changes to the structure of membership, with the distinction between branch, deanery and diocesan members gone, mean that all are simply a 'Member of Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Lichfield'. This gives all members equal status when it comes to decision making and the election of new trustees and other roles. Previously a collegiate system operated with office bearers such as branch and deanery leaders representing the members in their groups.

The return of the new membership forms and individual subscriptions was, overall, conducted according to the requested procedure although, as in many previous years, there were some late returns. Membership numbers continue to cause concern, not just in the diocese, but in Mothers' Union in Great Britain and All Ireland as a whole. As a diocese we are holding our own at about 2% of the GB & I membership, as it was about 15 years ago when I first became a trustee. However, this is not necessarily a statistic to be complacent about. Overseas the organisation continues to flourish and more areas are becoming self-funding and developing their own programmes of work.

As a small board of trustees we met 6 times in person as well as regularly by Zoom whenever necessary. Illness and relocation have provided logistical difficulties and I am grateful to all trustees who have overcome personal challenges to be at meetings and to continue to contribute, remotely at times, to the ongoing smooth running of the organisation. The trustees are all members of Communities of Interest, interacting with staff from Mary Sumner House and other diocesan representatives from across the whole of Great Britain & Ireland and, on occasions, from across the world.

During the early part of the year I attended a training course called 'Metamorphosis', gaining ideas to pass on to branches and groups, with much of the material also being relevant to churches and parishes. Sessions were held fortnightly with smaller groups meeting in between. This was quite a commitment, but we have since used many of the ideas in the 'Making a Difference' sessions which the trustees have taken, by invitation, to several venues across the Diocese.

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The collaboration with the Farming Community Network continues to flourish with members contributing to the #WoolandWellness campaign by knitting woolly hats for farmers, sewing in the FCN helpline label. By the end of 2023, an estimation of the number of hats handed over since the start of our involvement was close to 200.

As in previous years we provided support in the Church Tent at Staffordshire County Show. These occasions are never without drama, usually regarding equipment malfunction and this year was no exception! However, those on duty coped, as Mothers' Union always does! My thanks go to those who volunteered to make the refreshments on the two days of the Show. I know our presence is much appreciated.

A meeting of the Diocesan Presidents and officials of Canterbury Province was held at High Leigh Conference Centre in Hertfordshire over 3 days in May. There was much discussion and dissemination of information from our CEO Bev Jullien and other staff members from Mary Sumner House as well as exchange of ideas amongst the Diocesan Presidents. There have also been several meetings on Zoom within the province as well as with the Midlands Cluster group and with representatives of all the dioceses in Britain and All Ireland

All trustees are members of Communities of Interest and attend meetings mostly via Zoom. These include prison work, faith, safeguarding and so on, but seem to lack the focus and direction of the old 'Units'. I have attended, amongst others, the database meetings. The central database has had many issues with one of the problems being that several paid-up members were not receiving publications but some, no longer members, still were. Our own diocesan database is as accurate as possible, given that the administrator relies on information being supplied to the office promptly early in the year and when there are any amendments to be made. A new database is planned for central Mothers' Union as part of a much-needed upgrade of the whole website. This is due to start towards the end of 2024.

On Mary Sumner Day, 9th August, about thirty members of Mothers' Union joined the congregation in the Midday Eucharist Service in Lichfield Cathedral, to celebrate the life and work of our founder. Canon Andrew Stead conducted the service with members of Mothers' Union taking part in readings and prayers. After the service we enjoyed fellowship in the Close by sharing packed lunches on 'The Beach', an event put on by the Cathedral during the summer, surrounded by children playing in the sand and paddling pools. A joyous occasion which I hope may continue.

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In September around 20 members of this diocese attended the Annual Gathering in York. After a day of worship, the launch of the Rise Up! campaign, presentations from staff members and a rousing keynote speech from our Worldwide President, Sheran Harper, the day culminated with Evensong in York Minster. The only downside of the day was the torrential rain which fell on those walking between the meeting venue and the Minster. There is to be no Annual Gathering until 2026 when we shall be celebrating 150 years since Mary Sumner first invited the mothers of her husband's parish to the Rectory and sowed the first seeds of what is now a worldwide organisation.

As well as our collaborations with FCN there are many organisations our members work with and support. Members write Christmas cards for prisoners in the 9 prisons in the Diocese. Biscuits, Easter eggs and sweets have also been donated. Support for women's refuges is strong across the diocese and several members in the Stafford area and I attended a vigil in Stafford during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence. Refugees, the homeless and care leavers are also among groups supported in different ways by separate groups or branches.

The three Diocesan meetings have seen better attendances during 2023 as the legacy of covid declines a little and we all become more confident about being out and about. The minor changes to the timing of meetings have also contributed. My thanks first of all go to my fellow trustees for all their hard work during the year. We are few in number and many of us have faced personal difficulties and I am grateful for the support they have given me during what has been a challenging year. I also want to thank Adrian our Diocesan Administrator for his contribution to the smooth running of the office and his expertise especially regarding our own database and financial matters. But most of all, thank you to YOU, our members as you continue to faithfully support the work of Mothers' Union by your outreach projects, fundraising and your prayers. Let us keep up the momentum to take Mothers' Union on to a new level in the future.

Helen Palfrey
July 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

The Mothers' Union, Diocese of Lichfield is an association of Mothers' Union Worldwide and is formed with a constitution approved by Central Mothers' union. The Trustees named inside the front cover are elected every three years. Appointment of Trustees is governed by the diocesan constitution. The Trustees delegate the day to day running of the diocese to the administrator and if necessary, receive assistance from the Trustee Board. All of the charity's trustees are considered to be related parties. In their capacity as trustees and members of Mothers' Union they will receive various expenses. All Trustees receive information packs from the charity, the packs include details of their formal responsibilities as Trustees.

The Trustees actively review the major risks that the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining reserves at current levels combined with an annual review over key financial systems, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have also examined other operational and business risks faced by the charity and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

The operation of the work of the diocese is entirely dependent on the voluntary efforts provided by the individual officers and members.

Objectives

- To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children
- 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
- To promote and support married life

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General Trustees

The Trustees met most months in person and by Zoom, in fact Zoom has been a very useful tool when a situation presented which needed prompt attention. We discussed various matters from the Annual Report, Mothers' Union subscriptions, replacing the Beacon, the new membership form and the Data Base that Adrian and Helen have spent a lot of time working on.

As the trustee who has taken on the lead on Prisons Communities of Interest, I attended meetings on 11th January, the 18th May and on the 14th of September by Zoom. From listening to the other delegates, it became clear that Mothers' Union is very active within the prison system but often encounter difficulties due to the way different prisons work and by whom they are run. Some Dioceses provide bags for prisoners when they leave prison, others provide toiletries, birthing bags, Easter eggs and Durham Diocese continues to work in Low newton women's prison and have a Mothers' Union branch within that prison.

At the end of May I did a stint in the Church tent at the Staffordshire Show. It was a very interesting and challenging day, the kettles weren't working properly, the electricity kept going off and it was the coldest May Day I can remember, we were very tempted to wear the hats Mothers' Union members had knitted for farmers which Helen had brought to display. However, the company was excellent, and we met some lovely people.

At the September meeting of Prisons Communities of Interest, we discussed the various activities taking place in our respective Diocese and shared experiences of working with chaplains and how best we as Mothers' Union could help them. Nicole Ball from Derby Diocese asked if I would include Sudbury Prison to our list of Prisons as it is very close to our border and near to where I live. I have since been in touch with Rev Jo Honour, the lead chaplain at Sudbury Prison and although she feels that she doesn't need our assistance at the moment she is pleased to have contact with us.

The speaker at the zoom meeting was Rev Tony Lynett the part time chaplain of HMP Five Wells. The Rev. Tony has many years experience in this role having been chaplain in prisons in Gloucester and Durham. He said that prison work is not for everyone but if you have a calling it is difficult to get it out of your system. When asked if people who come to faith in prison were less likely to re-offend, he said that is the hope but to be realistic a conversion in prison is very fragile. They come out of prison with very little money often without family backup. It is very challenging for people to come out of an institution.

Along with other members of the Trustee Board I attended the Annual Gathering in York which was held at the Barbican. It was a wonderful day and our worldwide leader Sheran Harper spoke about the work of Mothers' Union all around the world and also of some of her stand-out visits, one of which was to a home for very young pregnant girls. The service at York minster following the meeting was inspirational but it was overshadowed for many because we were kept outside the minster during a torrential rain downpour.

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I attended the Quiet day at Shallowford on Monday the 2nd of October which was led by the Rev Kathy Trimby. A time for reflection and renewal. Rev. Kathy is one of the most sensitive and calming people anyone could wish to meet. The day was dedicated to "Transforming Generosity" and part of the worship included a litany of generosity. Helen kindly brought the written Christmas cards from Doxey to Shallowford, and I brought them home with me to be boxed up ready to go out to prisons. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the card appeal.

I have been able to visit Dovegate prison and have keep in touch with the chaplaincy team. Like many of the prisons they are short staffed and at times the prison is overcrowded. The chaplaincy staff are very keen for Mothers' Union to have a presence in the prison and would like us to be able to offer help with Tea/coffee/biscuits after Mass/Sunday services. Someone to help the prisoner's read scripture, official prison visitors if possible and Pen pals. Donations of chocolates, biscuits, cake for hospitality services and anyone to attend Christian study and prayer groups. If anyone feels they can help with any of these requests, please get in touch with me. Pen pals are urgently needed so please pray and think carefully if you could help in this way.

November and December are busy months collecting and checking the Christmas cards members kindly provide and write in readiness to despatch to the nine prisons in our Diocese. This year we delivered 2,800 cards on a very wet day, some of the boxes were very heavy containing about 500 cards and I was not always able to get the car close to the admission area. I also delivered biscuits and sweets to Dovegate prison again kindly donated by our members. A thank you to Deb for delivering cards to Stafford and Werrington Prisons.

It has been a privilege to serve as a Trustee to Lichfield Diocese but I feel it is now time to stand down and allow new people with new ideas to serve under a new President. I wish the new team every success and assure them of my continuing support.

Julia Collinson

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Prayer and praise cards for very young children

Early in 2023, some 130 Prayer and Praise card packs were dispatched to members. Sixty packs went to Bloxwich, 20 to Revd Jassica for Oswestry and another 4 posted. Three of our Prayer and Praise cards were reprinted in smaller quantities.

Flourishing Families

I continue to be our diocesan link to the Parenting Community of Interest (COI) coordinated by staff at Mary Sumner House. I received some information at the Parenting COI meeting in April 2023, a meeting held via Zoom. It was hoped that MSH will deliver some online familiarisation training to facilitators on the new 6 session course called Flourishing Families.

An outline of the sessions was presented to those who attended the Gathering in York on 22 September 2023. But since then, and at the time of writing, no dates have been made available to me for such training. This may be due to changing priorities at Mary Sumner House, staff changes and/or deployment there, or indeed that my contact details have fallen off a list.

Mary Sumner Day, 9 August

With other Trustees, I attended an encouraging and uplifting mid-week Eucharist service on Mary Sumner Day at Lichfield Cathedral. Members and Trustees took part in the service, Canon Andrew gave a homily about the extraordinary life of Mary Sumner. It was wonderful to catch-up with members following the service!

Branches contact

I attended the deanery festival service on Wednesday 3 May, as the speaker organised by Robbie Reynolds of Selattyn MU. It was a good gathering from across the deanery. Revd Jassica led the service in the absence of the vicar. Members from Gobowen, Oswestry and Kinnerley were present. I was asked to talk about Transformation Now! and progress to date. A generous tea was provided afterwards and some £131.00 was raised for the Relief Fund from donations and a table-top sale.

Trustees delivered a 'Making a Difference' session at Christchurch, Tettenhall Wood, on 15 June. It was well attended and engagement felt extremely positive.

A representative of *Shropshire Supports Refugees* spoke at the St Giles' branch meeting on 7 September. As part of their support of refugees, the charity gives used mobile phones to their clients. Following the meeting, members of a number of deanery churches donated unwanted mobile phones to Shropshire Supports Refugees. The collected handsets and chargers were given to the speaker at that September meeting.

Annually, St Giles, Shrewsbury branch members very successfully collect gifts that are included in Christmas hampers given to young adult care-leavers. Their ages are between 18-21 and they each have a personal adviser who gives support. In 2023 there were some 210+ young people who received gifts via their personal adviser, many of which are donated by St Giles MU.

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MU Christchurch, Tettenhall Wood members were most receptive on 16 November, during a session called *'How well do you know your bible - building bridges'* and was well received with plenty of audience participation.

Members Gathering in York

David (my husband and fellow MU member) and I attended the Members Gathering in York on 22 September. A separate editorial was shared with members via our diocesan e-newsletter.

Members Gathering in York and Rise Up! MU new campaign

At our Members Autumn Gathering at Doxey, I provided a short presentation on Rise Up!

There was a Zoom meeting in November with those who attended the York Members Gathering. Out of that came one or two suggestions about action we, as members, can undertake across the diocese. These were,

- taking up the RISE-UP challenge in their churches or local community centres, and
- getting alongside our local clergy in a new, humble and supportive way, especially offering to pray for and or with them in their parish ministry.

Use of social media

Central Mothers' Union continues to have a strong presence online, especially Facebook. Daily midday prayers (noon GMT/BST) are presented 'live' to members across the world. I join that when possible and more often catch-up later in my day.

Throughout the year I, like Deb Tudor, posted regularly to our MU Lichfield Diocese Facebook page. Both Deb and I are 'administrators' for the page and periodically a few requests to 'follow' the page arrive. The attendance does seem to have grown slightly with followers from other diocese and regions of the world.

If you do engage with social media and Lichfield Diocese Mothers' Union in particular, do share news stories with your friends and invite them to 'like' and 'follow' our page. Other MU dioceses have adopted this approach and have succeeded in increasing the number of people aware of Mothers' Union and its work.

To conclude

It continues to be a privilege to serve Lichfield Diocese Mothers' Union as a general trustee. Doing so, has been interesting, at times challenging, demanding of time and energy. There is much to learn along the way. The meeting of members and hearing of the valuable practical work undertaken in different parts of our large diocese is humbling and utterly admirable.

Bless you as you continue to be our Lord's hands and feet in meeting local need.

Katherine May

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It's fair to say I generally expect January, February to be relatively quiet mainly due to weather conditions; but this year turned out to be very different. Many branches requested me to be a part of their annual general meetings, to speak and answer questions as we transitioned into individual membership. This went much smoother than expected and I of course enjoyed being able to meet with members.

The wave of prayer services have changed greatly since COVID as branches or individuals tend to make their own plans during our time; knowing this we do hold three zoom time slots to hold prayers and continuing this we hope more will join along with us.

Quiet days are now returning to numbers we previously saw and the early year one was well attended. Helen also bravely gave myself and Adie the chance to lead. Our focus being how to connect with our communities as well as our fellow members.

For the first time the diocese asked us to participate in the 24hrs of prayer, which happens twice a year and we also participated in other time slots of deaneries. Our inclusion will continue in 2024.

As happy as I am to be asked to be a speaker at branches and services it's also nice to be invited to branches events just as a member. The welcome is always warm and I'm grateful for the fellowship and prayer support. Thank you to members who also contribute to my visits by passing on knitting, Christmas cards etc. In return I will always deliver any post that's designated.

Our Facebook page has many followers, not only from the diocese but internationally as well. We try to post four or five times a week and read comments left, replying if appropriate. Members requests would be welcomed and we can be refreshed by new ideas trying to reach new visitors.

Other activities this year have included, Staffordshire County Show, Cathedral prayers, working on role descriptions and general trustee requirements.

Our making a difference sessions certainly gave us all some things for us to discuss and plan for the future. We see these sessions continuing annually enabling us all to participate in such future goals.

Deb Tudor

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Financial Review

Finance

During 2023 a couple of branches closed their bank accounts and we simplified the centrally held funds. At the end of the financial year we have one mid-risk holding investment, two deposit accounts and a business current account. The centrally held investment funds, performed well during the year producing dividends of £3,064. The remaining John Hayes Trust and Diocesan Association of Family Care holdings were sold generating £11,295 to support the general running costs of the office and our charitable activity. This figure includes a £745 increase in the value of the holdings when they were sold. The end of year revaluation of the remaining central fund holding resulted in a gain of £5,745.

Mid-risk investment held at branch level generated dividends of £2,740. During the year £10,000 worth of holdings were sold to fund branch local projects and activities. The end of year revaluation resulted in a sustained loss of £6,760

Centrally, £7,148 was spent on AFIA and grants totalling £3,000 were paid out of the Relief Fund.

At the end of the year there was an operating excess of expenditure of £3,571, adding the revaluation figures including the branch investment resulted in a consolidated sustained loss of £14,586.

After adding the current and deposit account balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the cash balance in the unrestricted funds at the 31st December 2023 equalled £52,460 including £2,853 held in the discretionary fund.

The value of the centrally held investments at the end of the financial year was £66,812. The value of the Welsh Frankton Branch Investment was £35,147. The total assets of the Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Lichfield at the 31st December 2023 were £155,058.

Away From It All Holidays, Discretionary Payments and the Relief Fund

To advance the aims and objects of the Lichfield Diocesan Mothers' Union holidays (AFIA) are provided for families in need, discretionary payments and grants are made to individuals and families.

Seven caravan holidays were arranged during the year at Hastings, a beach holiday at Blackpool and two Haven Holidays one at Prestatyn and the other at Blackpool.

Ten successful applications were made to the Relief Fund, providing much needed funds for families with unexpected financial emergencies and families experiencing long term difficult financial circumstances. The value of grants made during the year varied from lump sums of £300 to £400 given for specific purposes and three smaller payments made at monthly intervals of £100 or £125 to supplement the family's regular income.

Statement of Trustees' Specific Financial Responsibilities

The Trustees are required under the Charities Act 2011 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a clear picture of the Charity's financial activities during the year and its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing the financial statements the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- a. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- b. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- c. State whether applicable accounting and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- d. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation. The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

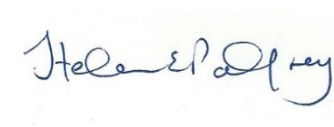
Investment Policy

The constitution authorises the Trustees to invest any monies that are not immediately required by the Lichfield Diocesan Mothers' Union in or upon such investments as may be thought fit to be appropriate for the investment of charitable funds. It is the policy of the Lichfield Diocesan Mothers union to invest our surplus central funds in the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund and the CBF Investment Fund income shares. Surplus branch funds are invested in M&G Charifund.

Reserves Policy

The policy of the trustees is to maintain the unrestricted reserves of the charity at a level that is equivalent to 18 months normal expenditure, approximately £120,000. The present level of unrestricted funds is considered adequate for this purpose.

Approval



Helen Palfrey
Diocesan President



Celia Richardson
Financial Trustee

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REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 249942

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023
FOR
LICHFIELD DIOCESE MOTHERS UNION

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LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT						
	Note					
<u>RECEIPTS</u>						
Donations and Legacies	3a	6,548	1,150	4,644	12,342	8,756
Charitable Activities	3b	17,584		16,485	34,069	32,080
Other Trading Activities	3c	6,575	0	0	6,575	8,596
Investments	3d	7,195	0	173	7,368	4,475
Other Incoming Resources	3e	1,222	0	0	1,222	1,336
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>		<u>39,124</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>21,303</u>	<u>61,576</u>	<u>55,243</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>						
Costs of Generating Funds	4a	11	0	0	11	40
Charitable Activities	4b	50,719	3,000	26,416	80,135	91,725
<u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>		<u>50,731</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>26,416</u>	<u>80,147</u>	<u>91,765</u>
<u>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS/ PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS</u>		(11,607)	(1,850)	(5,113)	(18,571)	(36,522)
<u>Transfers between funds</u>	6	(4,064)	2,226	1,838	0	0
<u>Cash from disposal of assets</u>		25,551	0	0	25,551	10,000
Cash at bank and in hand						
At 1st January 2023		39,727	2,477	3,276	45,480	72,007
At 31st December 2023		<u>49,607</u>	<u>2,853</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>52,460</u>	<u>45,480</u>

The charity had no recognised gains or losses other than its income and expenditure as stated above during the last two years.

All the charity's income and expenditure relates to its continuing activities.

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LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

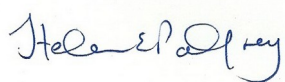
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

			2023	2022
	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
<u>ASSETS</u>				
<u>Cash at bank and in hand</u>				
CBF Deposit Accounts		19,231		19,231
Deposit Accounts		236		236
Current Accounts		30,346		30,346
Cash		2,647		2,647
		<u>52,460</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>52,460</u>
				<u>45,480</u>
<u>Investments</u>				
CB30008681		66,812		66,812
CO3071080		0		0
CB3008680		0		0
M&G Charifund Units			35,147	35,147
				<u>51,907</u>
<u>Stock</u>				
				638
				<u>471</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
Amounts owed by Mothers Union				
Trustees				
Insurance				430
Trade Creditors	Mue		170	
Auditor				410

The notes on pages 20 to 23 form part of the financial statements

Approved by the Trustees on 10th June 2024 and signed on their behalf on

Mrs Helen Palfrey - Diocesan President



Mrs Celia Richardson - Diocesan Treasurer



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LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting Policy

There has been no change in accounting policies of the charity during the year.

The financial statements of the Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Lichfield have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments Basis in line with the recommendations of the FS 102 SORP

Stock

Stock is shown at historical cost

2 Fund Accounting

The charity maintains a level of resources required to fulfil its objectives. The board of trustees monitors reserves at regular meetings

Unrestricted Funds

The unrestricted Fund represents funds arising from the charities activities in previous years. The funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees. On occasions the trustees may specify that amounts of these funds are to be designated to be used for a specific purpose.

Restricted Funds

These are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. The restrictions have either been specified by the donor or grantee.

Holidays and Discretionary Payments

In accordance with the objects of the charity and in order to further the purpose of the Lichfield Diocesan Mothers Union to advance Christian Care for Families, provision is made for holidays and discretionary payments to be provided for families in need.

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LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

3a Voluntary Income/Receipts

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations					
Branch	2,691			2,691	3,561
Diocesan General Fund	1,288			1,288	
AFIA			2,882	2,882	478
Relief Fund		774		774	1,904
Discretionary Fund		376		376	324
Great Britain & Ireland Fund			310	310	99
Mary Sumner House General			961	961	1,551
Overseas			492	492	
Legacies					
Gift Aid/Tax Recovered	2,569			2,569	839
	<u>6,548</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>4,644</u>	<u>12,342</u>	<u>8,756</u>

3b Charitable Activities

Diocesan Subscriptions	2023	6,350		6,350	4,948
Diocesan Subscriptions	2024				152
Mary Sumner House Subscriptions	2023		16,485	16,485	15,921
Mary Sumner House Subscriptions	2024				399
Branch/Deanery Subscriptions		581		581	396
Fundraising Activities					
Recycling		185		185	385
Branch		7,536		7,536	6,267
Branch Activities and Outings		2,932		2,932	3,612
		<u>17,584</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,485</u>	<u>34,069</u>
				<u>34,069</u>	<u>32,080</u>

3c Other trading Activities

Mueenterprises	4,111			4,111	3,966
Mue grant	741			741	765
Teas and Catering	1,723			1,723	3,865
	<u>6,575</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,575</u>	<u>8,596</u>

3d Investments

Dividends	5,803			5,803	4,198
Interest	646		173	820	277
Gain at Disposal	745			745	
	<u>7,195</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>7,368</u>	<u>4,475</u>

3e Other income

Branch Closure	268			268	576
Diocesan Fund Administration	699			699	
Local Projects	255			255	761
	<u>1,222</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,222</u>	<u>1,336</u>

Total	<u>39,124</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>21,303</u>	<u>61,576</u>	<u>55,243</u>
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Annual Report 2023

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
4 EXPENDITURE ON					
4a Raising Funds					
Fund Raising Events	11			11	40
	<u>11</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>40</u>
4b Charitable Activities					
Mothers Union Diocese of Lichfield Activities					
MSH Subscriptions			16,842	16,842	17,000
Relief Fund		3,000		3,000	7,990
MUvsMS					2,854
GB & Ireland Fubd			310	310	185
Mary Summer House Fund			1,624	1,624	1,317
Overseas			492	492	
AFIA			7,148	7,148	5,477
Quiet Days	1,265			1,265	12,309
Local Projects	11,575			11,575	4,775
Branches Activities and Outings	4,089			4,089	
Discretionary Fund					
	<u>16,929</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>26,416</u>	<u>46,345</u>	<u>51,907</u>
Expenses					
Board of Trustees	2,236			2,236	3,425
Speakers	958			958	775
Insurance	450			450	
Committee Expenses	1,891			1,891	1,245
Diocesan Newsletter					1,035
	<u>5,535</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,535</u>	<u>6,480</u>
Costs of Trading					
Muenterprises	3,889			3,889	9,557
Teas and Catering	935			935	1,696
AGM Buffet	425			425	478
	<u>5,249</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,249</u>	<u>11,731</u>
Management and Administration					
Independent examiner	885			885	
Wages and Expenses	12,287			12,287	9,142
Telephone and Web	1,039			1,039	1,127
Printing and Stationary	27			27	626
Postage	248			248	513
Equipment	761			761	2,427
Hire of Office	3,200			3,200	3,016
Hire of Rooms/Halls	3,447			3,447	2,548
	<u>21,894</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>21,894</u>	<u>19,399</u>
Other					
General Administration	635			635	1,958
Consolidation Sundries	299			299	28
Bank Charges	179			179	222
	<u>1,113</u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u>1,113</u>	<u>2,208</u>
Total	<u>50,731</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>26,416</u>	<u>80,147</u>	<u>91,765</u>

Annual Report 2023

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

5 Assets £

5a Investment

At 1st January 2023	123,525
Additions	
<u>Disposals</u>	(25,550)
<u>Revaluations</u>	
LDMU	5,745
WELSH FRANTON	(1,760)

Value at 31st December 2023

101,960

5b Stock

2023 £	2022 £
<u>638</u>	<u>471</u>

6 Summary of Fund Movements

	At 1st Jan 2023 £	Transfers £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	At 31st Dec 2023 £
<u>Restricted Funds</u>					
AFIA	0	4,093	3,055	(7,148)	0
Mary Summer House Subscriptions	3,127	(2,770)	16,485	(16,842)	0
Mary Summer House Funds	148	515	1,763	(2,426)	0
Welsh Frankton Legacy	51,907	(15,000)		(1,760)	35,147
	<u>55,182</u>	<u>(15,000)</u>	<u>21,303</u>	<u>(28,176)</u>	<u>35,147</u>
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>					
<u>Designated Funds</u>					
Discretionary Fund	2,477		376		2,853
Relief Fund		2,226	774	(3,000)	0
	<u>2,477</u>	<u>2,226</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>(3,000)</u>	<u>2,853</u>
<u>General Funds</u>	<u>111,817</u>	<u>12,774</u>	<u>43,198</u>	<u>(50,731)</u>	<u>117,058</u>

Annual Report 2023

Mothers' Union 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 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

Our vision is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful, and flourishing relationships.

For more information please contact:

Mothers' Union Office

The Parish Church of St Thomas and St Andrew,

Doxey

Stafford

ST16 1EQ

Tel: 01785 227221

Email: office@mothersunionlichfield.org.uk

Website: www.mothersunionlichfield.org.uk



Lichfield Mothers' Union



@ MULichfield

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 249942

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023
FOR
LICHFIELD DIOCESE MOTHERS UNION

LICHFILED DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

		<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Designated</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2023</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2022</u>
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT						
	<u>Note</u>					
<u>RECEIPTS</u>						
Donations and legacies	3a	6,548	1,150	4,644	12,342	8,756
Charitable Activities	3b	17,584		16,485	34,069	32,080
Other Trading Activities	3c	6,575	0	0	6,575	8,596
Investments	3d	7,195	0	173	7,368	4,475
Other Incoming Resources	3e	1,222	0	0	1,222	1,336
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>		<u>39,124</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>21,303</u>	<u>61,576</u>	<u>55,243</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>						
Costs of Generating Funds	4a	11	0	0	11	40
Charitable Activities	4b	50,720	3,000	26,416	80,136	
						91,725
<u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>		<u>50,731</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>26,416</u>	<u>80,147</u>	<u>91,765</u>
<u>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS/ PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS</u>		(11,607)	(1,850)	(5,113)	(18,571)	(36,522)
<u>Transfers between funds</u>	6	(4,064)	2,226	1,838	0	0
<u>Cash from disposal of assets</u>		25,551	0	0	25,551	10,000
Cash at bank and in hand						
At 1st January 2023		39,727	2,477	3,276	45,480	72,007
At 31st December 2023		<u>49,607</u>	<u>2,853</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>52,460</u>	<u>45,480</u>

The charity had no recognised gains or losses other than its income and expenditure as stated above during the last two years.

All the charity's income and expenditure relates to its continuing activities.

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

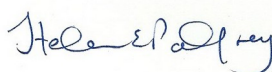
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

			2023	2022
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Note	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£	£
<u>ASSETS</u>				
<u>Cash at bank and in hand</u>				
CBF Deposit Accounts	19,231		19,231	18,936
Deposit Accounts	236		236	290
Current Accounts	30,346		30,346	24,237
Cash	2,647		2,647	2,018
	<u>52,460</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>52,460</u>	<u>45,480</u>
<u>Investments</u>				
CB30008681	66,812		66,812	61,067
CO3071080	0		0	3,817
CB3008680	0		0	6,734
M&G Charifund Units		35,147	35,147	51,907
<u>Stock</u>			638	471
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
Amounts owed by Mothers Union				
Trustees				
Insurance				430
Trade Creditors	Mue		170	
Auditor				410

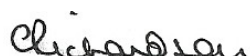
The notes on pages 3 to 6 form part of the financial statements

Approved by the Trustees on 10th June 2024 and signed on their behalf on

Mrs Helen Paltrey - Diocesan President



Mrs Celia Richardson - Diocesan Treasurer



LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

1. Accounting Policy

There has been no change in accounting policies of the charity during the year.

The financial statements of the Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Lichfield have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments Basis in line with the recommendations of the FS 102 SORP

Stock

Stock is shown at historical cost

2. Fund Accounting

The charity maintains a level of resources required to fulfil its objectives. The board of trustees monitors reserves at regular meetings

Unrestricted Funds

The unrestricted Fund represents funds arising from the charity's activities in previous years. The funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees. On occasions the trustees may specify that amounts of these funds are to be designated to be used for a specific purpose.

Restricted Funds

These are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. The restrictions have either been specified by the donor or grantee.

Holidays and Discretionary Payments

In accordance with the objects of the charity and in order to further the purpose of the Lichfield Diocesan Mothers Union to advance Christian Care for Families, provision is made for holidays and discretionary payments to be provided for families in need.

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

3a Voluntary Income/Receipts

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Donations					
Branch	2,691			2,691	3,561
Diocesan General Fund	1,288			1,288	
AFIA			2,882	2,882	478
Relief Fund		774		774	1,904
Discretionary Fund		376		376	324
Great Britain & Ireland Fund			310	310	99
Mary Sumner House General			961	961	1,551
Overseas			492	492	
Legacies					
Gift Aid/Tax Recovered	2,569			2,569	839
	<u>6,548</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>4,644</u>	<u>12,342</u>	<u>8,756</u>

3b. Charitable Activities

Diocesan Subscriptions	2023	6,350		6,350	4,948
Diocesan Subscriptions	2024				152
Mary Sumner House Subscriptions	2023		16,485	16,485	15,921
Mary Sumner House Subscriptions	2024				399
Branch/Deanery Subscriptions		581		581	396
Fundraising Activities					
Recycling		185		185	385
Branch		7,536		7,536	6,267
Branch Activities and Outings		2,932		2,932	3,612
		<u>17,584</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,485</u>	<u>32,080</u>

3c. Other trading Activities

Muenterprises	4111			4,111	3,966
Mue grant	741			741	765
Teas and Catering	1723			1,723	3,865
	<u>6575</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,575</u>	<u>8,596</u>

3d. Investments

Dividends	5,803			5,803	4,198
Interest	646		173	820	277
Gain at Disposal	745			745	
	<u>7,195</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>7,368</u>	<u>4,475</u>

3e. Other income

Branch Closure	268			268	576
Diocesan Fund Administration	699			699	
Local Projects	255			255	761
	<u>1,222</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,222</u>	<u>1,336</u>
Total	<u>39,124</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>21,303</u>	<u>61,576</u>	<u>55,243</u>

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
4. EXPENDITURE ON					
4a Raising Funds					
Fund Raising Events	11			11	40
	11	0	0	11	40
4b Charitable Activities					
Mothers Union Diocese of Lichfield Activities					
MSH Subscriptions			16,842	16,842	17,000
Relief Fund		3,000		3,000	7,990
MUVsMS					2,854
GB & Ireland Fubd			310	310	185
Mary Summer House Fund			1,624	1,624	1,317
Overseas			492	492	
AFIA			7,148	7,148	5,477
Quiet Days	1,265			1,265	12,309
Local Projects	11,575			11,575	4,775
Branches Activities and Outings	4,089			4,089	
Discretionary Fund					
	16,929	3,000	26,416	46,345	51,907
Expenses					
Board of Trustees	2,236			2,236	3,425
Speakers	958			958	775
Insurance	450			450	
Committee Expenses	1,891			1,891	1,245
Diocesan Newsletter					1,035
	5,535	0	0	5,535	6,480
Costs of Trading					
Muenterprises	3,889			3,889	9,557
Teas and Catering	935			935	1,696
AGM Buffet	425			425	478
	5,249	0	0	5,249	11,731
Management and Administration					
Independent examiner	885			885	
Wages and Expenses	12,287			12,287	9,142
Telephone and Web	1,039			1,039	1,127
Printing and Stationary	27			27	626
Postage	248			248	513
Equipment	761			761	2,427
Hire of Office	3,200			3,200	3,016
Hire of Rooms/Halls	3,447			3,447	2,548
	21,894	0	0	21,894	19,399
Other					
General Administration	635			635	1,958
Conolidation Sundries	299			299	28
Bank Charges	179			179	222
	1,113			1,113	2,208
Total	50,731	3,000	26,416	80,147	91,765

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

5 Assets

5a Investment

At 1st January 2023	123,525
Additions	
<u>Disposals</u>	(25,550)
<u>Revaluations</u>	
LDMU	5,745
WELSH FRANTON	(1,760)
Value at 31st December 2023	<u>101,960</u>

5b Stock

2023 £	2022 £
<u>638</u>	<u>471</u>

6. Summary of Fund Movements

	At 1st Jan 2023	Transfers	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	At 31st Dec 2023
<u>Restricted Funds</u>					
AFIA	0	4,093	3,055	(7,148)	0
Mary Summer House Subscriptions	3,127	(2,770)	16,485	(16,842)	0
Mary Summer House Funds	148	515	1,763	(2,426)	0
Welsh Frankton Legacy	51,907	(15,000)		(1,760)	35,147
	<u>55,182</u>	<u>(15,000)</u>	<u>21,303</u>	<u>(28,176)</u>	<u>35,147</u>
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>					
<u>Designated Funds</u>					
Discretionary Fund	2,477		376		2,853
Relief Fund		2,226	774	(3,000)	0
	<u>2,477</u>	<u>2,226</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>(3,000)</u>	<u>2,853</u>
<u>General Funds</u>	<u>111,817</u>	<u>12,774</u>	<u>43,198</u>	<u>(50,731)</u>	<u>117,058</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of the Mothers Union Diocese of Lichfield Charity Number 249942

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 1 to 6.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met.
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name:

John Alexander

Qualification: ACMA CGMA

Address:

12 Cosby Drive, East Leake, Loughborough, LE12 6AD

Date:

23 July 2024