

Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Lichfield



Trustees Annual Report

1st January to 31st December 2024

Registered Charity No. 249942

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Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Lichfield Trustee Board as of 1st January 2024

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 (until Summer 2024)

Revd Jassica Castillo-Burley

Training Officer

Vacant

MU@Home Representative

Elizabeth Binsley

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Mothers' Union Office

The Parish Church of St Thomas and St Andrew

Doxey, Stafford, ST16 1EQ.

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Website: www.mothersunionlichfield.org.uk

Facebook group: Lichfield Mothers' Union

Bankers:

National Westminster

Greengate Street

Stafford

ST16 2JA

Independent Examiner:

Mr John Alexander ACMA CGMA

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Trustees report for the year ended 31st December 2024

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

Diocesan President's Report 2024

The third, and final, year of this triennium continued to present challenges in the development and growth of Mothers' Union in this Diocese of Lichfield.

Membership has fallen slightly from 2023. This is understandable considering the demographic of membership and outside factors like the continuing rising cost of living. However, the need for the work of Mothers' Union also continues to rise and we are grateful to all who have continued their membership, and who work hard to support those in our diocese, nation, and overseas, who need that little bit extra. Once again there was a good response from members in the return of membership forms and subscriptions before our diocesan-set deadline of the end of February, this is a busy time for Adrian, our administrator and we are all indebted to his hard work in keeping the office running smoothly.

Illness and relocation have continued to provide logistical difficulties when arranging trustee meetings but, with the aid of Zoom, the trustee board met for seven main meetings, with more informal meetings on several occasions when quick discussions and/or decisions were required. Once again, 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.

Three diocesan meetings were held during the year, Gatherings in May and November, as well as the AGM in July. The attendance at these meetings continued the trend shown in 2024 of increasing numbers. Speakers at all meetings were well received. At the Spring Gathering we welcomed Emily Brailsford, Head of programmes at Mary Sumner House, who updated us on the Rise Up! programme, raising awareness of domestic abuse. The speaker at the AGM was Steve Jackson of the Farming Community Network, the organisation we continue to support by knitting woolly hats labelled with the FCN helpline label. By the end of 2024 the total number of hats continued to grow and several branches have since asked a speaker from FCN to branch meetings. The Autumn gathering was blessed by the attendance of Bishop Matthew Parker who spoke on wellbeing.

As in previous years we provided support in the Churches' Tent at Staffordshire County Show. Heavy overnight rain made the second day interesting but, as ever, Mothers' Union members are resourceful and everyone coped! 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.

In the spring there were elections for the Diocesan President and trustee board members for the Triennium 2025-2027. As I had completed almost 5 years in the

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role of Diocesan President it was time to step down, in line with our Constitution. Deb Tudor was elected to the role, along with 5 new members of the board. This will be a challenging period of change for all.

There was a Provincial Conference held on Zoom in January. While Zoom very much has its benefits it is not the same as meeting in person which did happen in November. Deb and I met with other outgoing and new diocesan presidents from across Canterbury Province at High Leigh Conference Centre in Hertfordshire. It is always good to catch up with those who have become friends as well as colleagues over the years. I shall miss the camaraderie and shared experiences of the other DPs but not the journey on the M6, M1, M25 and the A10! The occasion encompassed many farewells, not only to other DPs but to Sheran Harper, the outgoing Worldwide President, Kathryn Anderson, Provincial President and Rev Emma Ham-Riche, Provincial Chaplain who were coming to the end of their terms of office. As well as this, the only 'in person' meeting, at High Leigh there were several other regular meetings, such as the Midlands Cluster group, DPs from Great Britain and All Ireland as well as meetings for Communities of Interest, all held on Zoom.

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'. My thanks go to Celia, Deb, Julia and Katherine who have all been involved in areas of work reflecting their special interests. Adrian has been involved with database meetings as MSH made great strides towards the installation of a new central database and website.

As we did last year we celebrated Mary Sumner Day on 9th August, when about fifty members of Mothers' Union (an increase on 2023!) joined the congregation in the Midday Eucharist Service in Lichfield Cathedral, to celebrate the life and work of our founder. Canon Andrew Stead oversaw the service with members of Mothers' Union taking part in readings and prayers and our Diocesan Chaplain, Rev Jassica Castillo- Burley presiding at the Eucharist. 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. I am sad to say that during 2024 our other Diocesan Chaplain, Rev Kathy Trimby left to take up a post in the Diocese of Newcastle in New South Wales, Australia. We wish her every blessing in her new role and give thanks for her contribution in this diocese in her time as a chaplain.

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There was no national gathering in 2024 but a provincial meeting was arranged in Oxford in June. I was unable to attend as I was on holiday but there were several attendees from the Diocese who had enjoyed the day. Another provincial gathering is planned for 2025, with plans for worldwide celebrations being made for 2026 when the organisation will commemorate 150 years.

I was privileged to speak on the work of Mothers' Union at Diocesan Synod in March. It had been a few years since Synod had had an update on both diocesan work and that done more widely in the is country and overseas. I am pleased that the presentation was warmly received. I have enjoyed speaking at several branch meetings and attended both Quiet Days, which were well supported. The nature of the Quiet Days, including location, timetable and cost, is to be re-assessed by the new trustee board.

As stated already we continue to collaborate with FCN and support other projects by writing Christmas cards for prisoners in the 9 prisons in the Diocese, along with donating biscuits, Easter eggs and sweets. Children's books have been donated to a prison visitor centre and a request for toys is being considered. Support for women's refuges is strong across the diocese and several members in the Stafford area 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 diverse ways by separate groups or branches.

My thanks first 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 another 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, especially as Mothers' Union in Lichfield Diocese begins a new chapter.

Helen Palfrey
July 2025

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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

In January I contacted the Rev Sarah Morris who is the chaplain at HMP Drake Hall and who is also the managing chaplain in the Diocese because I had lost contact with the chaplain at Oakwood and Featherstone Prison. She told me that there is no Church of England chaplain at Oakwood at the moment and that a new chaplain had been appointed at Featherstone and his name is Richard Wallis. I had a lovely email from Chris Milton at Dovegate Prison thanking Mothers Union for the Christmas cards and also for the biscuits and sweets we sent.

Adrian forwarded me an email from a Lady called Nicola Gannon who is employed by PACT (Prison, Advice and Care Trust) at Swinfen prison as a family Liaison officer. PACT is a national charity which supports prisoners, people with convictions and their children and families. They provide life changing services at every stage of the criminal justice process, in court, in prison and on release in the community, so they very much fit in with Mothers Union values. Nicola needed books to set up a Library for the family visitor centre so that children could choose a book to read when visiting the centre and take home with them if they wished. Following the appeal for books I sent out the response was nothing less than magnificent. I delivered the books in May, and my car boot and seats were stacked high with books. Nicola wasn't available on the day I visited but a prison officer who is involved with family visits kindly helped me unload. He was very impressed with the number of books and by the quality and variety. Nicola sent a very grateful thanks to you all.

I attended the Mary Sumner Day service at the cathedral which was well attended by Mothers Union and enjoyed Rev Jessica's sermon and celebration was excellent, and she did very well not to trip up over her vestments which were certainly not meant for anyone as small as her.

I was approached by Emily Brailsford to be part of a steering group she is setting up to formulate a signposting document which shows what work other charities do in prison and collate contact details. It is hoped that this will allow members to get involved in projects they feel called to do e.g. letter writing to prisoners and carry it out in a safe way with charities who are already doing this particular type of work and have the correct safeguards and infrastructure in place we held our first meeting on 23rd of August by Zoom. The next meeting of the steering group was held on the 9th of October where we explored in more detail the feasibility of holding family fun days for prisoners and their families. I was not against these proposals, but I struggled to see how they could be arranged by Mothers' Union in some of our prisons.

Prison week began on Sunday 13th of October and we ordered a leaflet for every branch in the diocese which arrived late from the printers to MSH and therefore to us which in turn put pressure on Adrian to get them out to branches in time for the launch.

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Werrington Young Offenders Prison also requested toys and games for their, soon to be revamped, visitors centre but this has been put on hold so please keep hold of any items you may wish to donate at home as we have very little storage at Doxey.

As always Lichfield Diocese Mothers' Union have been very generous in providing cards for prisoners in our diocese and at the end of November, I delivered 2750 to prisons throughout the diocese for which I thank you.

When I moved to Lichfield diocese, I was determined to be just a regular member and enjoy branch and deanery meetings. How wrong I was. It has been a privilege to serve you our members and the diocese and thank you all for giving me the opportunity to take the reins. I would like to thank Helen and the rest of the team for allowing me a share in the work of this diocese. My best wishes to Debra and the new team. I am not disappearing from the scene entirely as I will remain on the prison steering group for the time being.

Julia Collinson

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It has been a privilege to serve as a trustee for Mothers' Union in Lichfield Diocese over the last triennium, 2021-24. Having stepped back from the role, it is good to reflect on 2024, which was my ninth year in a trustee position.

As the year 2024 began, trustees were mindful of the approaching elections mid-year. I gave much thought to members known to me who have qualities and skills compatible with the trustee role. I approached those on my personal list to invite them to consider standing for election.

As the year progressed and our election process was completed, along with other outgoing trustees, it was gratifying to find Lichfield Diocese Mothers' Union refreshed with new trustees to work with Deb Tudor in her new role as our Diocesan President. I am delighted to see some of those whom I approached last year now elected to our trustee group.

Although I was in New Zealand at that time, I was able to join Deb and Helen (others perhaps) for a Zoom Wave of prayer meeting held 9am GMT and 10pm NZ time. It was lovely to be part of that prayer time using my mobile screen and seeing tiny pictures of them both. 😊

In 2024, Deb Tudor and I continued to post regularly to our MU Lichfield Diocese Facebook page. Mothers' Union being a worldwide has enabled me, at times, to connect with other members living many miles away.

One such connection in 2024 was with a member in New Zealand Aotearoa, who shared the location of a stain glass window commemorating Mary Sumner, found in the small church of All Saints, Eltham, Taranaki Region. So, when in NZ in February, we, David and I, made a little pilgrimage to Eltham where we received a warm welcome from Karen Christian (window expert), looked around the church and enjoyed the treasured Mary Sumner window.

Like other trustees, I joined meetings online when our DP was unavailable. This was the case in April where I represented LDMU at the Midlands Cluster of DPs.

The DPs of the Midland Cluster discussed the joint input at the Provincial Members Gathering that took place on 22 June in Oxford. I provided notes from the meeting for Helen and was able to send some photographs to Emily Brailsford (DP Derby Diocese) who prepared a power-point activity for that meeting. I was unable to attend the Provincial Members Gathering.

Two *Communities of Interest* (CoI) have been within my area of concern during the last triennium. The Rise Up! CoI met several times during 2024, chaired by Emily Brailsford. 'Rise Up!' is about domestic abuse and empowers our members to work locally within our churches to challenge violence within family relationships, particularly spouses and partners.

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There are regular Bystander Webinars now available in respect of RISE Up! This is important training input for members/groups wishing to work towards a RISE Up! Silver Award. The Zoom meetings are well attended across All Ireland and UK.

Our membership has embraced the 'Rise Up!' campaign throughout 2024. I am confident we shall together continue to campaign with 'Rise Up!' and the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence in November.

'Flourishing Families' is the reiteration of MU parenting programme, refreshed and updated to be applicable to current matters. It remains unclear who is leading this CoI at Mary Sumner House and whether any online meetings have yet taken place. I have continued to be our diocesan representative to 'Flourishing Families' CoI and hope to continue going forwards.

At the end of May, like other members, I joined the Churches Tent at the Staffordshire Show to serve refreshments to any comers. The day was very wet with the consequence that our tent was full. It was delightful to share the refreshment-giving with Megan Pittwood, one of your new trustees.

Once again in summer 2024, I wrote a short piece for the Shrewsbury Chronicle *Crosstalk* about Mothers' Union. It was printed around Mary Sumner Day, 9 August 2024. It is disappointing to report that the Shrewsbury Chronicle no longer exists. But while it was printed, it was a good way of putting Mothers' Union in front of the readership.

Like my fellow trustees, I was part of the Mary Sumner Day service at Lichfield Cathedral.

During 2024, trustees endeavoured to continue visiting branches and groups to lead sessions on 'Making a Difference'. Helen and I led a session *'Making a Difference'* at St Oswald's, Oswestry on Thursday, 11 April. The meeting was well attended by members from the deanery including Oswestry, Gobowen, Sellatyn and Kinnerley members. It was very enjoyable to meet those members again.

Along with other trustees, I attended and co-led a branch meeting at Pelsall on 1 July. It was a good meeting with positive feedback from the membership that were present.

I have twice attended as the leader / speaker at St Giles. In the summer, we had an informal session writing Christmas greetings cards for prison detainees and also for the many care-leavers supported by St Giles each Christmas time. The session at the start of September was called *'How well do you know your bible - building bridges'*. It was well received with plenty of audience participation. A few other branches have participated in that session.

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The Shrewsbury and Wrekin Deanery Synod of which I am currently a member met in July. At last, I took an agenda slot to raise awareness of MU locally, nationwide and internationally. Members were made familiar with MU RISE Up! campaign.

The September Quiet Day at Shallowford had a thoughtful programme. Revd Zoe Braven-Giles led us so very well and I enjoyed and benefited from the day. Throughout 2024, Adrian Palphreyman has been excellent as our Financial Administrator. I take this opportunity to thank him for his conscientious and tolerant approach to his role.

During the last three years one piece of work undertaken by the trustee stands out in my mind – the updating of our LDMU Constitution and Regulations. Although trustees were involved in the discussion and decisions, it has been to Helen Palfrey's credit that this piece of work was pushed to its over-due conclusion. This has been an important, indeed vital, piece of work, discussing and agreeing the fine detail after which Helen continued to move it all forward until finally LDMU constitution and regulations is correctly registered with the Charity Commission. That being done, LDMU can go forward confidently, enabled by working documents that will guide and enable the new trustees and Deb Tudor in her DP role.

Katherine May

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SPEAKER

I continued to cover any speaker requests from branches and enjoyed meeting members not only from around my archdeaconry but further afield. Subjects requested ranged from Mothers Union today, our diocesan projects, Mary Sumner and prayer. Jointly with Helen, we visited Waterfall our most northerly branch and presented several members with long service certificates and as usual celebrated with a shared tea.

MEMBERS DAYS

With other members of the trustee board, I visited the branches/deaneries who hosted our presentation around making a difference. Each of us took a different aspect we wanted to highlight and by getting feedback we could plan into the future. Each session began with a short service which was my responsibility, each event gave us all a view of that area's priorities.

COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

I represent the diocese on the faith community of interest which takes on a number of projects each year. This year we were asked to contribute a month's prayers for our prayer diary; thank you to all those who helped in writing these. A clergy pack was developed which will become available enabling us to pass on concise information. Blue Christmas, services held in advent which are for those who find this time of year incredibly difficult. Other service plans for Thy Kingdom Come, Lady Day, Mary Sumner Day, advent etc.

DIOCEAN INVOLVEMENT

Twice a year we are invited to take part in the 24hours of prayer, being offered two of the 30-minute sessions to host. We have tried to move these sessions around to enable members to join whenever they can. One session is usually early morning and can only be three of us but others who host may even have fewer participants. Prayers follow a plan, either encompassing our local or worldwide projects or each deanery, highlighting their work. During the 24hours anyone can join any of the sessions and I take this opportunity up. There is a programme on the diocesan website allowing you to choose what you'd find interesting. I encourage everyone to join if only during Mothers Union or your own deanery sessions.

Midday prayers on the 9th August includes input from us celebrating our Founder's Day. Rev. Jassica was included this year and trustees covered other aspects of the service. It's a great day to mark the 9th and enjoy a visit to Lichfield. We were also able to take some great photos as the service ended.

JOINT WORKING

After the election results in July Helen and myself worked closer together though we have been trustees now for over ten years. I am very appreciative of her help, advice and fellowship. We also attended a conference together in November where we covered a number of subjects whilst meeting and planning together with our counterparts from around the province.

Deb Tudor

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Financial Review

Finance

During 2024 three branches closed their accounts and there was a significant reduction in the total of funds held at the branch level of the charity at the end of the financial year. During 2024 branches chose to reduce the amount general funds held in their accounts and use them to further the objects and aims of the charity and to send funds to Mary Sumner House.

The centrally held mid-risk investment fund, performed well during the year generating dividends of £1,854, plus an end of year revaluation gain of £1,529.

The mid-risk investment held by Welsh Frankton generated dividends of £2,100. During the year £5,000 worth of holdings were sold to fund the branches local projects and activities. The end of year revaluation of the remaining funds resulted in a gain of £1,058.

Centrally, £3,047 was spent on AFIA, grants totalling £2,400 were paid out of the Relief Fund and one Discretionary Fund grant of £500 was paid.

At the end of the year there was an operating excess of expenditure over income of £18,651, adding the revaluation figures and including the reduction in the value of the branch investment resulted in a consolidated sustained loss of £21,064. £15,809 of this sustained loss was the result of activity at branch level.

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 2024 equalled £33,809 including £2,574 held in the discretionary fund.

The value of the centrally held investments at the end of the financial year was £68,342. The value of the Welsh Frankton Branch Investment was £31,205. The total assets of the Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Lichfield at the 31st December 2024 equalled £134,016.

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.

Two caravan holidays were arranged during the year at Hastings, and one Forest Holiday was arranged in an oak cabin at Sherwood Forrest.

Seven successful applications were made to the Relief Fund, providing much needed funds for families with unexpected financial emergencies and families

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experiencing long term difficult financial circumstances. The value of grants made during the year varied from lump sums of £300 to £350 given for specific purposes.

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

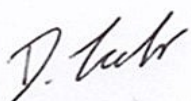
The constitution authorises the Trustees to invest any monies that are not immediately required by the Lichfield Diocesan Mothers' Union in or upon such investments as may be thought fit to be appropriate for the investment of charitable funds. It is the policy of the Lichfield Diocesan Mothers union 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 12 months normal expenditure, approximately £84,000. The present level of unrestricted funds is considered adequate for this purpose.

Approval

Deb Tudor
Diocesan President



Celia Richardson
Diocesan Treasurer



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024
FOR
LICHFIELD DIOCESE MOTHERS UNION

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LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

		<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Designated</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2024</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2023</u>
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT						
	<u>Note</u>					
<u>RECEIPTS</u>						
Donations and legacies	3a	4,896	1,071	3,520	9,487	12,342
Charitable Activities	3b	19,588	0	16,882	36,470	34,069
Other Trading Activities	3c	8441	0	0	8,441	6,575
Investments	3d	5,140	0	0	5,140	7,368
Other Incoming Resources	3e	1,175	0	0	1,175	1,222
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>		<u>39,239</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>20,402</u>	<u>60,712</u>	<u>61,576</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>						
Costs of Generating Funds	4a	86	0	0	86	12
Charitable Activities	4b	54,674	2,900	26,703	84,277	80,135
<u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>		<u>54,760</u>	<u>2,900</u>	<u>26,703</u>	<u>84,363</u>	<u>80,147</u>
<u>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS/ PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS</u>						
		(15,521)	(1,829)	(6,301)	(23,651)	(18,571)
<u>Transfers between funds</u>	6	(7,851)	1,550	6,301	0	0
<u>Cash from disposal of assets</u>		5,000	0	0	5,000	25,551
Cash at bank and in hand						
At 1st January 2024		49,607	2,853	0	52,460	45,480
At 31st December 2024		<u>31,235</u>	<u>2,574</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>33,809</u>	<u>52,460</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

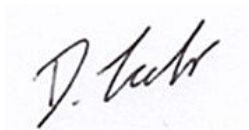
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
<u>ASSETS</u>					
<u>Cash at bank and in hand</u>					
CBF Deposit Account		13,715		13,715	19,231
Deposit Accounts		168		168	236
Current Accounts		17,585		17,585	30,346
Cash		2,341		2,341	2,647
		<u>33,809</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>33,809</u>	<u>52,460</u>
<u>Investments</u>					
CB30008681		68,342		68,342	66,812
M&G Charifund Units			31,205	31,205	35,147
<u>Stock</u>				660	638
<u>LIABILITIES</u>					
Amounts owed by Mothers Union					
Trustees		30			
Insurance					
Trade Creditors		14			170
MUEnterprises					


The notes on pages 18 to 21 form part of the financial statements

Approved by the Trustees on Monday 9th June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Mrs D Tudor
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 2024

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 2024

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>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Donations					
Branch	2,276			2,276	2,691
Diocesan General Fund	44			44	1,288
AFIA			1,401	1,401	2,882
Relief Fund		850		850	774
Discretionary Fund		221		221	376
Great Britain & Ireland Fund			360	360	310
Mary Sumner House General					961
Overseas			1,759	1,759	492
Legacies					
Gift Aid/Tax Recovered	2,576			2,576	2,569
	<u>4,896</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>3,520</u>	<u>9,487</u>	<u>12,342</u>

3b. Charitable Activities

Diocesan Subscriptions	2024	9,537		9,537	6,350
Mary Sumner House Subscriptions	2024		16,882	16,882	16,485
Branch/Deanery Subscriptions		690		690	581
Fundraising Activities					
Recycling		126		126	185
Branch		7,628		7,628	7,536
Branch Activities and Outings		1,607		1,607	2,932
		<u>19,588</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,882</u>	<u>34,069</u>

3c. Other trading Activities

Muenterpises	3,650			3,650	4,111
Mue grant	795			795	742
Teas and Catering	3,996			3,996	1,723
	<u>8,441</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,441</u>	<u>6,576</u>

3d. Investments

Dividends	3,955			3,955	5,803
Interest	1,184			1,184	820
Gain at Disposal					745
	<u>5,140</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,140</u>	<u>7,368</u>

3e. Other income

Branch Closures	349			349	268
Diocesan Fund Administration	236			236	699
Quiet Day	397			397	
Local Projects	193			193	255
	<u>1,175</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,175</u>	<u>1,222</u>

Total

<u>39,239</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>20,402</u>	<u>60,712</u>	<u>61,576</u>
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Annual Report 2024

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
4. EXPENDITURE ON					
4a Raising Funds					
Fund Raising Events	86			86	11
	86	0	0	86	11
4b Charitable Activities					
Mothers Union Diocese of Lichfield Activities					
MSH Subscriptions			16,882	16,882	16,842
Relief Fund		2,400		2,400	3,000
GB & Ireland Fund			660	660	310
Mary Summer House Fund			4,355	4,355	1,624
Overseas			1,759	1,759	492
AFIA			3,047	3,047	7,148
Quiet Days	1,773			1,773	1,265
Local Projects	10,355			10,355	11,575
Branches Activities and Outings	3,597			3,597	4,089
Discretionary Fund		500		500	
	15,725	2,900	26,703	45,328	46,345
Expenses					
Board of Trustees	3,012			3,012	2,236
Speakers	965			965	958
Insurance	450			450	450
Committee Expenses	773			773	1,891
	5,200	0	0	5,200	5,535
Costs of Trading					
Muenterprises	4,117			4,117	3,889
Teas and Catering	4,305			4,305	935
AGM and November Meeting Buffet	850			850	425
	9,272	0	0	9,272	5,249
Management and Administration					
Independent examiner	475			475	885
Wages and Expenses	14,648			14,648	12,287
Telephone and Web	906			906	1,039
Printing and Stationary	75			75	27
Postage	201			201	248
Equipment	680			680	761
Hire of Office	3,200			3,200	3,200
Hire of Rooms/Halls	3,580			3,580	3,447
	23,766	0	0	23,766	21,894
Other					
General Administration	602			602	635
Consolidation Sundries	49			49	299
Bank Charges	62			62	179
	713	0	0	713	1,113
4b	54,674	2,900	26,703	84,277	80,136
Total	54,760	2,900	26,703	84,363	80,147

Annual Report 2024

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

5 Assets

5a Investments

At 1st January 2024	101,960
Additions	
<u>Disposals</u>	(5,000)
Revaluations	
LDMU	1,529
Welsh Frankton	1,058
Value at 31st December 2024	<u>99,547</u>

5b Stock

2024	2023
£	£
<u>660</u>	<u>638</u>

6. Summary of Fund Movements

	At 1st Jan 2024	Transfers	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	At 31st Dec 2024
<u>Restricted Funds</u>					
AFIA	0	1,646	1,401	(3,047)	0
Mary Sumner House Subscriptions	0	0	16,882	(16,882)	0
Mary Sumner House Funds	0	4,655	2,119	(6,774)	0
Welsh Frankton Legacy	35,147	(5,000)	1,058		31,205
	<u>35,147</u>	<u>1,301</u>	<u>21,460</u>	<u>(26,703)</u>	<u>31,205</u>
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>					
<u>Designated Funds</u>					
Discretionary Fund	2,853	0	221	(500)	2,574
Relief Fund	0	1,550	850	(2,400)	0
	<u>2,853</u>	<u>1,550</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>(2,900)</u>	<u>2,574</u>
<u>General Funds</u>	<u>117,058</u>	<u>(1,322)</u>	<u>39,261</u>	<u>(54,760)</u>	<u>100,237</u>

Annual Report 2024

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 2024
FOR
LICHFIELD DIOCESE MOTHERS UNION

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

		<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Designated</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2024</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2023</u>
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT						
	<u>Note</u>					
<u>RECEIPTS</u>						
Donations and legacies	3a	4,896	1,071	3,520	9,487	12,342
Charitable Activities	3b	19,588	0	16,882	36,470	34,069
Other Trading Activities	3c	8441	0	0	8,441	6,575
Investments	3d	5,140	0	0	5,140	7,368
Other Incoming Resources	3e	1,175	0	0	1,175	1,222
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>		<u>39,239</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>20,402</u>	<u>60,712</u>	<u>61,576</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>						
Costs of Generating Funds	4a	86	0	0	86	12
Charitable Activities	4b	54,674	2,900	26,703	84,277	80,135
<u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>		<u>54,760</u>	<u>2,900</u>	<u>26,703</u>	<u>84,363</u>	<u>80,147</u>
<u>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS/ PAYMENTS OVER RECIEPTS</u>						
		(15,521)	(1,829)	(6,301)	(23,651)	(18,571)
<u>Transfers between funds</u>	6	(7,851)	1,550	6,301	0	0
<u>Cash from disposal of assets</u>		5,000	0	0	5,000	25,551
Cash at bank and in hand						
At 1st January 2024		49,607	2,853	0	52,460	45,480
At 31st December 2024		<u>31,235</u>	<u>2,574</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>33,809</u>	<u>52,460</u>

The charity had no recognised gains or loses other that 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

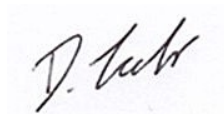
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024

			2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Note	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£	£
<u>ASSETS</u>				
<u>Cash at bank and in hand</u>				
CBF Deposit Account	13,715		13,715	19,231
Deposit Accounts	168		168	236
Current Accounts	17,585		17,585	30,346
Cash	2,341		2,341	2,647
	<u>33,809</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>33,809</u>	<u>52,460</u>
<u>Investments</u>				
CB30008681	68,342		68,342	66,812
M&G Charifund Units		31,205	31,205	35,147
<u>Stock</u>			660	638
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
Amounts owed by Mothers Union				
Trustees	30		30	
Insurance				
Trade Creditors	14		14	170
MUEnterprises				

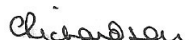
The notes on pages 3 to 6 form part of the financial statements

Approved by the Trustees on Monday 9th June 2025 and signed on their behalf on by:

Mrs D Tudor
Diocesan President



Mrs Celia Richardson
Diocesan Treasurer



LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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.

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Donations					
Branch	2,276			2,276	2,691
Diocesan General Fund	44			44	1,288
AFIA			1,401	1,401	2,882
Relief Fund		850		850	774
Discretionary Fund		221		221	376
Great Britain & Ireland Fund			360	360	310
Mary Sumner House General					961
Overseas			1,759	1,759	492
Legacies					
Gift Aid/Tax Recovered	2,576			2,576	2,569
	<u>4,896</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>3,520</u>	<u>9,487</u>	<u>12,342</u>

3b. Charitable Activities

Diocesan Subscriptions	2024	9,537		9,537	6,350
Mary Sumner House Subscriptions	2024		16,882	16,882	16,485
Branch/Deanery Subscriptions		690		690	581
Fundraising Activities					
Recycling		126		126	<u>185</u>
Branch		7628		7,628	7,536
Branch Activities and Outings		1,607		1,607	2,932
		<u>19,588</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,882</u>	<u>34,069</u>

3c. Other trading Activities

Muenterpises	3650			3,650	4,111
Mue grant	795			795	742
Teas and Catering	3996			3,996	1,723
	<u>8441</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,441</u>	<u>6,576</u>

3d. Investments

Dividends	3,955			3,955	5,803
Interest	1,184			1,184	820
Gain at Disposal					745
	<u>5,140</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,140</u>	<u>7,368</u>

3e. Other income

Branch Closures	349			349	268
Diocesan Fund Administration	236			236	699
Quiet Day	397			397	
Local Projects	193			193	255
	<u>1,175</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,175</u>	<u>1,222</u>
Total	<u>39,239</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>20,402</u>	<u>60,712</u>	<u>61,576</u>

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	<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>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
4. EXPENDITURE ON					
4a Raising Funds					
Fund Raising Events	86			86	11
	<u>86</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>11</u>
4b Charitable Activities					
Mothers Union Diocese of Lichfield Activities					
MSH Subscriptions			16,882	16,882	16,842
Relief Fund		2,400		2,400	3,000
GB & Ireland Fund			660	660	310
Mary Summer House Fund			4,355	4,355	1,624
Overseas			1,759	1,759	492
AFIA			3,047	3,047	7,148
Quiet Days	1,773			1,773	1,265
Local Projects	10,355			10,355	11,575
Branches Activities and Outings	3,597			3,597	4,089
Discretionary Fund		500		500	
	<u>15,725</u>	<u>2,900</u>	<u>26,703</u>	<u>45,328</u>	<u>46,345</u>
Expenses					
Board of Trustees	3,012			3,012	2,236
Speakers	965			965	958
Insurance	450			450	450
Committee Expenses	773			773	1,891
	<u>5,200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,200</u>	<u>5,535</u>
Costs of Trading					
Muenterprises	4,117			4,117	3,889
Teas and Catering	4,305			4,305	935
AGM and November Meeting Buffet	850			850	425
	<u>9,272</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9,272</u>	<u>5,249</u>
Management and Administration					
Independent examiner	475			475	885
Wages and Expenses	14,648			14,648	12,287
Telephone and Web	906			906	1,039
Printing and Stationary	75			75	27
Postage	201			201	248
Equipment	680			680	761
Hire of Office	3,200			3,200	3,200
Hire of Rooms/Halls	3,580			3,580	3,447
	<u>23,766</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>23,766</u>	<u>21,894</u>
Other					
General Administration	602			602	635
Consolidation Sundries	49			49	299
Bank Charges	62			62	179
	<u>713</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>713</u>	<u>1,113</u>
4b	<u>54,674</u>	<u>2,900</u>	<u>26,703</u>	<u>84,277</u>	<u>80,136</u>
Total	<u>54,760</u>	<u>2,900</u>	<u>26,703</u>	<u>84,363</u>	<u>80,147</u>

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

5 Assets

5a Investment

At 1st January 2024	101,960
Additions	
<u>Disposals</u>	(5,000)
<u>Revaluations</u>	
LDMU	1,529
WELSH FRANTON	1,058
Value at 31st December 2024	<u>99,547</u>

5b Stock

2024 £	2023 £
<u>660</u>	<u>638</u>

6. Summary of Fund Movements

	At 1st Jan 2024	Transfers	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	At 31st Dec 2024
<u>Restricted Funds</u>					
AFIA	0	1,646	1,401	(3,047)	0
Mary Summer House Subscriptions	0	0	16,882	(16,882)	0
Mary Summer House Funds	0	4,655	2,119	(6,774)	0
Welsh Frankton Legacy	35,147	(5,000)	1,058		31,205
	<u>35,147</u>	<u>1,301</u>	<u>21,460</u>	<u>(26,703)</u>	<u>31,205</u>
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>					
<u>Designated Funds</u>					
Discretionary Fund	2,853	0	221	(500)	2,574
Relief Fund	0	1,550	850	(2,400)	0
	<u>2,853</u>	<u>1,550</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>(2,900)</u>	<u>2,574</u>
<u>General Funds</u>	<u>117,058</u>	<u>(1,322)</u>	<u>39,261</u>	<u>(54,760)</u>	<u>100,237</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 2024, 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: *J Alexander*

Name: John Alexander

Qualification: ACMA CGMA

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

Date: 23 June 2025