



Mothers' Union Coventry Diocese

Annual Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31st December 2022



Mothers' Union Coventry Diocese

Annual Report and Accounts 2022

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Mothers' Union Coventry Diocese

Registered Charity Name	Mothers' Union Coventry Diocese
Charity address	Diocesan Office, 1 Hill Top Coventry, CV1 5AB
Registered Charity Number	250129
Trustees	Mrs Karen Morris – Diocesan President Mrs Ann Gibbons – Vice President Mr Paul Morris – Finance Trustee Mrs Lynette Askew – Trustee Mrs Jackie Gardiner – Trustee Mrs Annie Lane - Trustee Mrs Mary Leeson - Trustee
Diocesan Chaplain	Mrs Denise Burgess
Diocesan Secretary	Mrs Nicola Stevens
Diocesan Treasurer	Mrs Margaret Siggers
Patrons	Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II The Right Reverend Dr. Christopher Cocksworth, Bishop of Coventry
Bankers	CAF Bank Limited 25, Kings Hill Avenue West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ
Examiner	Steve Lee, Finance Director, Coventry Diocese Coventry CV1 5AB

Diocesan President Annual Report 2022

The Bishop of Warwick commissioned me in January at Berkswell Church with some 100 MU members from various branches in the Diocese in attendance. Bishop John also commissioned the new Board of Trustees for a period of three years. Revd. Denise Burgess was also commissioned as Mothers' Union Diocesan Chaplain taking over from Revd. Pam Gould, who we thank for all her prayerful support and guidance to Mothers' Union over these past six years.

Also, eight Office Holders were also appointed in recognition of the important work they do in supporting the work of the Trustee Board and Mothers' Union Coventry Diocesan projects. It was truly a joyous occasion and we were also pleased to welcome the Mayor of Coventry who was in attendance.

During the summer of 2022 we celebrated the Platinum Jubilee of our Patron, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with a variety of events and activities at Branch, Deanery and Diocesan levels. It was with great sadness, therefore, that we watched Her Majesty's funeral several months later where members joined in prayerful unison to give thanks for the Queen's life of servitude and faithful Christian witness.

I am pleased that 10 special services were held this year, a Quiet Day also and an extremely well attended Advent Service, where 10 new Mothers' Union members were enrolled.

Another exciting development was the launch of a new initiative, the President's Challenge, where branches and diocesan member groups were challenged to use £25 seed money, taken from Mothers' Union Diocesan funds, to bring about transformation – our triennium theme. We were thrilled in October that Kathryn Anderson, Provincial President for Canterbury joined us for our Eucharist service and celebratory lunch. Kathryn spoke about transformation and how as an International Christian movement, our 4 million members across 84 countries work together to help transform lives in the world's hardest-to-reach families and communities. Kathryn's visit culminated with a message from our Worldwide President Sheran Harper and a vibrant marketplace, which highlighted the variety of action and outreach initiatives that have sprung from the President's Challenge. For example, providing 100 Christmas shoeboxes for Carriers of Hope asylum seekers, refugee and migrant families, fundraising craft initiatives that enabled Christmas food hampers and gifts to support Coffee Tots families and a special afternoon tea was hosted by Mothers' Union to support a relatively new church initiative 'Trini-tea', where everyone is welcome to drop in for a drink, cake, chat, a chance to play games, knit or relax. Most of the 10 new members that were enrolled during the Advent service sprung from this. Another branch as a way of bringing the community together and offset loneliness organised a weekly 'knit and natter' group to knit poppies to be hung from the bell tower on Remembrance Sunday.

Our links with Coffee Tots, an outreach city centre café, continue to flourish with branches also providing a variety of baby blankets and clothes as well as knitted jumpers for children starting school. The Hug in a Mug initiative continued with 25 mums receiving a gift and a plant to celebrate Mothering Sunday. To ensure no child missed out members also donated Easter eggs at Easter and gifts at Christmas.

The 'Make Lunch' initiative enables and equips churches to bring hope to struggling children through holiday clubs. Mothers' Union members donated toiletries and plants for mums and carers to celebrate Mothering Sunday.

We were also thrilled that two families benefitted from an AFIA (Away From It All) holiday and feedback has shown that these holidays are life changing. I would like to express my thanks to the members for holding strawberry teas and many other fundraising initiatives in respect of AFIA and to Lynda Howells, AFIA representative, who not only co-ordinates the holidays but has written a book 'Reflections of a Pilgrim' with all proceeds to be donated to the AFIA project.

Members have also been most generous in providing Christmas gifts to support Onley Prison Family Days as well as ensuring that every prisoner at Ryehill receives a Christmas card. Other forms of prison outreach consist of Mothers' Union members being on hand to support families that arrive at the prison, Christmas Family Days and to also help out with the crèche and one member also visits prisoners who would not receive any contact with the outside world otherwise.

Two members (one a Trustee) attended a national leadership residential conference in Liverpool with the theme of 'Reimagining' to discern the direction for Mothers' Union as it approaches its 150 years celebrations. I attended a residential conference for Diocesan Presidents from Canterbury Province with particular focus on fellowship and worship, as many were new to the role. We also listened to two Mothers' Union Speakers share their own personal stories on domestic abuse and both spoke with such courage and dignity, but also inspired hope. We continue to support the 16 Days of Activism Campaign and this year many churches within the Diocese engaged with the Red Chair Project as a way of shining a light on domestic abuse and also held silent prayer vigils.

The conference also provided an opportunity to receive feedback and discuss ways in which we can move forward with our Reimagining Conference pledges as well as familiarising ourselves with the Mothers' Union Metamorphosis course. The course was designed to help members and church communities to work together to build confidence and skills to engage with their local communities. There was also an opportunity to meet Bev Jullien, Mothers' Union Chief Executive and hear about her work and the new Provincial Chaplain Revd. Emma Ham-Riche who led our worship.

As a new Diocesan President, I made visits to many parts of the Diocese during the year and have seen and heard about much of the excellent work being undertaken by members of Mothers' Union in furtherance of our aim and objectives.

I wish to thank all members of the Trustee Board for their work and diligence during 2022 and look forward to continuing this throughout the next 2 years. A special mention of thanks to Revd. Denise Burgess, Mothers' Union Diocesan Chaplain who has been on hand to guide us in prayerful reflection and provide spiritual nourishment.

Grateful thanks also to our Diocesan Treasurer, Margaret Siggers who has supported the Trustee board, navigate all things finance during this first year in office. Margaret has expressed a wish to step down at the end of year with a view to finding someone to replace her come 1st of January 2023.

Where would we be without our faithful and committed membership, so it seems fitting to recognise all that they continue to do in the name of Mothers' Union and more.

Karen Morris - Diocesan President, Coventry Mothers Union

Annual Review of Diocesan Projects and Outreach Initiatives

Away from It All Holidays – AFIA 2022

The AFIA holiday scheme is a Mothers' Union initiative in the UK and Ireland, which is run by members in their local dioceses. AFIA provides holidays and day breaks for those whose family life has met with adversity, thus giving them an opportunity to consolidate and nurture relationships.



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Mothers' Union members are involved in AFIA in many ways, whether this be through prayers for the holidays and for the officers involved with the scheme, fundraising through lunches, coffee mornings or nominating a family to the local clergy in their branch. We also receive donations from Parochial Church Councils who support the scheme.



If the Diocese is in a position to offer a holiday, the family will be asked to complete an AFIA application form which will need to be supported by someone who knows them in a professional capacity, such as a social worker, member of the clergy, doctor or head teacher. Applicants do not have to be a member of a church or any organisation to apply.

Once the family has been away, the Diocese normally receives feedback from them regarding the holiday, which reflects how they just enjoy spending time together relaxing away from the everyday stress of life and often say what a difference the break has made to their lives. In 2022 Mothers' Union paid for two families to enjoy a holiday at Haven Holidays. The total spent during 2022 was £1,099.



AFIA feedback received this year:

Joeanna and Matthew said: "We wanted to say a massive thank you. We all had an amazing time and spent some lovely quality time together as a family. If there is anything we can do to help to gain funding for the charity please do let us know, as we would like to help if we can. Thank you for everything."



Kaisey said: *"I loved swimming in the pool and going to the park."*

Lucas said: *"I enjoyed playing football on the beach, swimming and family time, playing cards at the end of the day."*

Lynda Howells AFIA Coordinator

Passionate about Parenting Report

The Passionate about Parenting (PAP) Programme has continued to flourish with programmes delivered in schools and at Coffee Tots - an outreach café in Coventry city centre. We have seven active facilitators within the Diocese but due to the PAP review process, Mothers' Union facilitator training has paused but we have been able to access training via Care for the Family.

The year was a series of ups and downs in respect of parenting programmes due to the effects of Covid, so no parenting programmes were run. However, we continue to build good links with statutory bodies and schools in Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire. We continue to be supported by branches with parenting opportunities, funding and prayerful support.

The PAP programme is currently undergoing a review and facilitators have been involved in the evaluation process, meeting up with facilitators from around the world on-line to pray, share ideas and exchange tips.

Coffee Tots link: within Coffee Tots there are three PAP facilitators who are best placed to engage with parents by running various courses such as cookery and financial management, to build trust and a mentoring environment which is very important, due to the complex issues that surround the majority of the families that visit there. Based on this success, Coffee Tots have been receiving more requests from statutory bodies to support the more vulnerable families around Coventry.

Tailor made parenting programmes are being delivered to support various degrees of need. The venue is also used to host Mothers' Union facilitator meetings.

Felicity Hawke and Karen Morris Joint PAP Coordinators

Action and Outreach 2022

The work of Action and Outreach has followed a similar pattern as before, but with a widening remit. Our most recent outreach initiative is the President's Challenge where branches were encouraged to use £25 seed money to nurture the membership or spread the good news story, develop a new initiative that re-connects their communities or hold a fundraising event to raise money for one of Mothers' Union's diocesan projects. This was a time where, post Covid restrictions meant anxiety levels were still high and confidence was low.

We continue to look for outreach opportunities to support refugee families and asylum seekers and are seeking to build up contact with organisations and charities working in this field e.g. Carriers of Hope and Coventry Clothing being two of our primary connections.

Both charities support refugee families and provide them with everything from beds to saucepans to baby buggies and clothes.

The Christmas Shoebox Appeal is an annual event, to ensure no child goes without at Christmas as well as various appeals for clothing, such as school uniform, hats, gloves and scarves. Mothers' Union continues to publicise the work around the diocese and members had the opportunity to meet Carriers of Hope's inspirational founder at one of their members' day events.

Another growing venture we continue to engage with is Coffee Tots, a Coventry city centre charity that provides a nurturing environment for parents and children of under-fives, hoping to meet some of their needs for support through loneliness and unsatisfactory housing conditions. Coffee Tots Mothers' Union accredited facilitators are part of the Mothers' Union Coventry Passionate About Parenting team and work together to support families, evaluate parenting programmes and resources.

Parenting groups continue, organised by Karen Morris and Felicity Hawke, and both are involved in re-viewing the Mothers' Union Passionate About Parenting Programme having now reached its 20th anniversary.

Our work for prisoners at Ryehill, and Onley continues. We provide gifts for prisoner's children at Onley and the Angel Tree initiative supports the provision of Christmas cards to Ryehill inmates. Our members also support Family Days and help families prepare for their visit by phoning to ensure they bring the correct paperwork and are on hand to answer any questions.

Doorway, a youth charity based in Nuneaton, has continued to receive support from members in Nuneaton deanery, in provision of bedding for the 20 houses that have some 65 residents aged between 16 to 25.

Our knitters are active as ever, and the goods produced go far and wide. Members knit baby blankets and items of clothing for Coffee Tots families, prayer shawls for our Indoor Members and miniature knitted angels presented to babies at baptism are also popular. Away from it all holidays (AFIA) under the care of Lynda Howells are active in achieving 'breaks' for families in need of a holiday, or a day out.

Mothers' Union's commitment to supporting healthy and flourishing relationships is ever present and one of the greatest threats to individuals and families and societies around the world, is violence and abuse, which is carried out against women and girls because of their gender.

As part of our on-going work to end gender-based violence, we are committed to supporting those who have been affected by domestic abuse by shining a light on domestic abuse in all its forms. This year as part of our support for the *16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence* and 'no more 1 in 3' campaign, we took part in a silent prayer vigil within our churches and displayed a red chair as part of the 'Red Chair' project (restored-uk.org) which highlights facts about domestic abuse.

Karen Morris – Diocesan President

Faith and Policy

Prayers and worship continue to be foundational for Mothers' Union both individually and when members gather together. Lady Day and other Festival Services have been held in Deaneries, whilst more than 100 members attended the annual Diocesan Advent Carol Service. Such services are occasions of gathering together in larger numbers to worship God, meet friends and share refreshments.

A Quiet Day entitled 'Our Identity in Christ' was led by Mother's Union members Revd. Mary Rai and Dr. Kal Rai. Those that attended were led into times of quiet reflection and prayer.

We are thankful to Revd. Denise Burgess, our Diocesan Chaplain, who led a Eucharist service for the two Board of Trustee Away Days and also led a Eucharist service (a first) for our Celebratory Lunch, where over 50 members were in attendance.

We have continued to develop our relationship as a partner in the Community of the Cross of Nails. A moving service was held at Coventry Cathedral as part of CCN Sunday and in October our Mothers' Union CCN representative attended the CCN pilgrimage.

We also continue to raise awareness of the ways in which the work of Mothers' Union in Coventry Diocese contributes to peace and reconciliation, both locally and further afield and many are involved in knitting poppies for Remembrance Sunday.

This year (another first) I laid a wreath on behalf of Mothers' Union at the Remembrance Service led by Bishop Christopher at the War Memorial Park on Remembrance Sunday.

Linked to this but with a different theme, is our on-going involvement in the global campaign: 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence. Members were encouraged to participate in a silent prayer vigil and display a red chair as part of the 'Red Chair' project within their churches to highlight details about domestic abuse. Mothers' Union resources are also available to encourage advocacy activities locally and direct prayers.

Karen Morris – Diocesan President

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statement

The Trustees present their Annual Report and the Financial Statement of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Aim, Purpose & Objectives

The vision of Mothers' Union is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful, and flourishing relationships. The aim and purpose of Mothers' Union is to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by the transformation of communities worldwide through the nurture of the family in its many forms.

In furtherance of this aim and purpose, Mothers' Union will carry out all or any of the following objectives:

1. To promote and support married life;
2. To encourage parents in their role to develop the Christian faith of their children;
3. To maintain a world-wide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service;
4. To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children; and
5. To help those whose family life has met with adversity.

Mothers' Union is firmly rooted in a voluntary ethos. Its governance, leadership, and activities are driven by and undertaken through its members. In Coventry Diocese, it operates at Diocesan, Deanery and Branch levels.

Members of Mothers' Union believe in the value of each individual and their unique qualities; in the value of relationships; and in the value of family as a source of love and support for individuals and as the basis for a caring community. Jesus said, *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself."*

Furthermore, our Mission is to demonstrate Christian faith in action by the transformation of communities worldwide through the nurture of the family in its many forms. Promoting peace and reconciliation locally, nationally and globally.

Organisational Structure

Mothers' Union Coventry Diocese is affiliated to Mothers' Union, a charity incorporated by Royal Charter (charity no: 240531) through its shared aim and objectives and by virtue of its acceptance as an affiliate by the central charity. The charity operates within the Anglican Diocese of Coventry. The Bishop of Coventry is Patron of Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Coventry. Governance, policies and procedures of Mothers' Union Coventry Diocese are in line with suggested policies from the central charity based at Mary Sumner House. Trustees consider the major risks of our operation are safeguarding and health and safety with procedures in place to manage them.

Performance and Financial Review

For 2022 total income was £26,506 (2021 £23,985) with expenditure of £17,057 (2021 £25,476) with a surplus of £9,450 (2021 loss £1,491). Total cash held in all accounts for 2022 was some £63,712 (2021 £54,263). Post year end events were a payment of £5,355 for donations (£1,595) and additional MSH subscriptions allocations (£3,760) carried over from 2022, that should have been paid prior to the year-end. There has been a recovery in membership during 2022 post Covid and costs have been controlled in 2022 to maintain a surplus of £9,449.

Finance and Central Services

Annual subscriptions were increased by £2 to cover the increase levied by Mary Sumner House, our central charity.

Our members remain loyal and continue to support Mothers' Union funds and projects. During 2022 £1,721 was raised for the overseas funds and other projects that are administered by Mary Sumner House. Members also raised an amazing £3,756 for the charitable works carried out within Diocese of Coventry.

We continue to recruit new members and we all need to enrol a friend but overall our membership continues to decline, this being mainly due to the increasing age of our members. At the year end we had 451 members.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees maintain financial reserves in line with suggested policies from the central charity based at Mary Sumner House.

Public Benefit

The Trustees believe that the objectives and activities set out above fulfil this requirement of the Charity Commission's public benefit disclosure.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Karen Morris

Diocesan President

Date: 11.10.2023

Mothers Union - Coventry Diocese

Income

For year to 31st December 2022

Main CAF Cash Account

	£	£
<u>Coventry General Fund</u>		
Subscriptions 2022	8,681	
Subscriptions 2023	100	
Subscriptions collected by MSH	4,837	
Gift Aid (Paid into CAF Gold Account)	0	
Donations into the General Fund	1,830	
MUe Commission (TRG)	399	
Administration - Insurance, Mailing, Printing	340	
Refreshments	52	
Bank Interest CAF Cash Account	20	
Bank Deposit Interest - CCLA	113	
Legacies	500	
Branch Closures	378	
Miscellaneous Income	61	
		17,312
<u>Coventry Mission Funds</u>		
AFIA - Donations (ringfenced)	2,706	
Flourishing Families (Parenting)	505	
Kapsabet Donations (ringfenced)	400	
Hug in a Mug (HIAM)	145	
		3,756
<u>Events</u>		
Commissioning Service collection	509	
		509
<u>Receipts collected on behalf of MSH</u>		
Overseas/Literacy	315	
Relief	330	
Summer of Hope	856	
Other Income collected for MSH	220	
		1,721
<u>Sales</u>		
MUe - Income from Sales	1,869	
		1,869
Total Income		25,166

Mothers Union - Coventry Diocese

Expenditure

For year to 31st December 2022

Main CAF Cash Account

	£	£
<u>Coventry General Fund</u>		
Salary	4,576	
Bank charges - CAF Cash Account	82	
Link up	676	
Postage, Telephone, and Stationery	195	
Travel	723	
Conferences	80	
Room/Hall Hire	296	
Website	970	
Laptop Security	65	
ZOOM - Admin	144	
Flowers & Vouchers	110	
Safeguarding Costs	190	
Miscellaneous costs	0	
		8,106
<u>Coventry Mission Fund</u>		
AFIA - Costs (ringfenced)	1,099	
Hug in a Mug (HIAM) Expenses	26	
Presidents Challenge	375	
Pilgrimage	175	
Finance for Provincial Diocese	100	
		1,775
<u>Events</u>		
Members Meetings/Evenings	77	
Commissioning Service Expenses	120	
		197
<u>Payments to MSH</u>		
Subs 2022 (MSH allocation £20.00 per member)	5,260	
Overseas/Literacy	280	
Relief	180	
Summer of Hope	0	
Other Payments owing to MSH	0	
		5,720
<u>Sales</u>		
MUe - Purchase Stock Items	1,258	
		1,258
Total Expenditure		17,057

Mothers Union - Coventry Diocese

Other Accounts and Restricted Funds

For year to 31st December 2022

Income			Expenditure		
CAF Gold Account					
Interest	67		Interest	0	
HMRC Gift Aid	1,254		HMRC Gift Aid	0	
Total	1,321		Total	0	
CAF Gold Reserves Account					
Interest	19		Interest	0	
Total	19		Total	0	
Income from main Cash Account	25,166		Expenditure from main Cash Account	17,057	
Total Income for 2022	26,506		Total for 2022	17,057	
<i>For Information Purposes only</i>					
Income			Expenditure		
AFIA (Protected Fund)					
Donations	2,705		LH Book Expenses	37	
Total	2,705			37	
			Total at 31st December 2022	2,668	
Kapsabet (Protected Fund)					
Donation - Advent Carol Service					
	400		Expenses	0	
Total		400			0
			Total at 31st December 2022		400

Mothers Union - Coventry Diocese

Statement of Funds 2022

Year to 31st December 2022

Opening Balance from statements on 1/1/22		
CAF Cash Account	14,733	
CAF Gold Account	17,512	
CAF Gold Reserves Account	5,018	
CCLA	17,000	
		54,263
Total Funds		
Opening Balance at 1/1/22	54,263	
Add: Income for 2022	26,506	
Less: Expenses for 2022	17,057	
		63,712
Closing Balance from statements on 31/12/22		
CAF Cash Account	22,842	
CAF Gold Account	18,833	
CAF Gold Reserves Account	5,037	
CCLA	17,000	
		63,712
Movement in the year - all accounts		
Income per statements for 2022	26,506	
Expenditure per statements for 2022	17,057	
Surplus for year 2022		9,449

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Mothers' Union Coventry Diocese
Charity Number 250129

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on pages 1-15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: 

Name: ~~25/1/23~~ STEPHEN LEE

Qualification: ACMA

Address: 1 HILTON, COVENTRY CV15 9AB

Date: 25/1/23.