

THE MOTHERS' UNION (DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS BRANCH)

England & Wales · Charity number 250180

Details

Other names MOTHERS UNION BATH & WELLS DIOCESE

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1966-11-30

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

Contact

Address Bath & Wells Diocesan Board Of Finance
Flourish House
2 Cathedral Avenue
Wells
Somerset
BA5 1FD

Phone 01749685131

Email mu@bathwells.anglican.org

Website www.mubathandwells.org

Activities

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

Activities: The Mothers' Union provides Christian care for families worldwide. In the Bath & Wells Diocese in 2018 we had 1141 members. We have three Child Contact Centres and a Passionate about Parenting project; we provide Away From It All Holidays for families in adversity; we provide knitted and sewn items for local special baby units and residential homes; and support the Mothers' Union work worldwide.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS.
- Somerset

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£37,248	£41,341	-	-
2023-12-31	£58,288	£52,702	-	-
2022-12-31	£34,591	£36,958	-	-
2021-12-31	£30,905	£32,199	-	-
2020-12-31	£20,501	£15,451	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Kathryn Louise Slader Tucker		2022-01-01
Madeline Hellier		2016-01-01
Sarah Grace Bult		2019-01-01

THE MOTHERS' UNION (DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS BRANCH)

England & Wales - Charity number 250180

Accounts

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Diocese of Bath & Wells



Annual Report 2024

Registered Charity No. 250180

<https://mubathandwells.org>

<https://www.mothersunion.org>

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Faith & Prayer News Contact us Shop
What we do Get involved Our story Book a Conference Room Resources Join us Donate

Become a Member or Supporter
Be part of something amazing >

<https://mubathandwells.org>

Mothers UNION
Christian care for families
Our 2023 Annual Report is now online, read it now...
Diocese of Bath & Wells
Charity Number 20388

Our Diocese | Projects | Faith & Policy | Marketing | Newsletters | Diary | Photos | Resources
Join Us | Branches | Diocesan Members | Annual Report | Our Team | Contacts

Our Diocese

Welcome to the Diocese of Bath & Wells Mothers Union.

Bath & Wells

DIocese of BATH & WELLS

The Diocese of Bath & Wells lies in the South West of England and consists of the Archdeacons of Taunton, Wells and Bath. Its border follows that of the ceremonial county of Somerset.

In Bath & Wells we have 750 Mothers Union members in 42 branches meeting and supporting a wide variety of projects both in and out of the diocese.

Mothers' Union

The Mothers Union is a worldwide Anglican-led organization whose purpose is to be specially concerned with all that strengthens and preserves marriage and Christian family life.

The essential heartbeat of the Mothers Union is its commitment to prayer. Members worldwide are united in a daily 24 hour Wave of Prayer.

Members bring a wide variety of practical help and support to the Church and the community.

It offers the fellowship of a regular branch meeting or a diocesan link.

Membership is open to all who have been baptised in the name of the Trinity and who support the aim and objects of the Society.

Our Diocese | Projects | Faith & Policy | Marketing | Newsletters | Diary | Photos | Resources
Join Us | Branches | Diocesan Members | Annual Report | Our Team | Contacts

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If you spot any errors, omissions, or problems then please email webmaster@mubathandwells.org

mu@bathwells.anglican.org

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Diocese of Bath & Wells

In 2024 We had

605 Members in the diocese

478 Branch members
found in **25** Branches

plus

11 IMPC members

and

116 Diocesan Members
either within one of the **5** Groups
or as isolated Members

Vision

Our Vision is of a world where

God's love is shown through

Loving, Respectful & Flourishing Relationships.

This is not a vague hope but a goal we actively pursue

by **Praying, Campaigning and Enabling.**

Mission

We aim to show our Christian faith by the transformation of communities worldwide.

We can do this through supporting strong relationships within the family and promoting reconciliation at all levels.

Our Aims and Objectives are:

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

**Maintaining a Worldwide Fellowship of
Christians United in Prayer, Worship & Service**
How we work towards achieving the following Objective

Branch/Group Prayers:

Branch prayers are now guided by the expansion of the Central Prayer Diary. Several Parishes, where there is no longer a Branch, the Diocesan Members regularly meet for a Coffee, Natter & Prayer.

To support individual members, an A5 card was created as a monthly calendar which identifies a specific Branch and a Diocesan personnel for each day in a month. The Card is designed to act as a bookmark in the Central Prayer Diary

Cathedral Prayers:

This ½ hour Service continues to be held in Wells Cathedral on the 3rd Thursday morning of each month. Each month the service is written and led by a different Branch. It includes the Daily Wave of Prayer, found in the central Prayer Diary, when every MU member prays for the work and members in 4/5 designated dioceses across the world, .

Wave of Prayer Service:

This service, was written by a former MU Chaplain and our Link Dioceses Project Officer. It was then forwarded to our Link Dioceses - Umuahia and Ijebu in Nigeria: Shinyanga, in Tanzania: False Bay in South Africa: and Vellore Church of South India. The Service is used by the branches in all the Dioceses celebrating our links together over 3 days. This year we again held 3 services in Wells Cathedral in The Mothers' Union (St Stephen's) Chapel. We were delighted to see on Social Media, that members from our Link Dioceses, in particular by South Africa & India, were using the form of service sent to them.

2024 Annual Report presented 2025

The MU Chapel - Cathedral Prayers - The Lady Chapel

Bath and Wells Mothers' Union Monthly Prayer Calendar			
1	Backwell	Mothers' Union members Worldwide	
2	Banwell	16	Nailsea, Christ Church Those who visit Our Website. Lead: Derek Mahony
3	Barton St David	17	Porlock Away From It All breaks. Lead: Marlene Philips
4	Bath & District	18	Portishead Child Contact Center & Lead:
5	Beckington	19	Somerton Cookbook
6	Bridgwater	20	South Petherton MU Literature Officer: Chris Mahoney
7	Chard, St Mary's	21	Taunton- Staplegrove Prayer Chain: Tina Stubbs
8	Cheddar	22	Taunton- West Monkton Worldwide Links & Lead: Gay Curtis
9	Cleeve & Claverham	23	Wraxall Craft Work & Lead:
10	Clevedon United Benefic	24	Wrington Your Personal Benefice Clergy
11	Crewkerne	25	Yatton, St Mary's Archbishop of Canterbury
12	Furnham Chard	26	Yeovil, Holy Trinity Bishop Michael & Bishop Ruth
13	Keynsham	27	Nailsea Holy Trinity Group Assistant Bishops
14	Kingsbury Episcopi	28	Taunton Minster Group Ordinands
15	Martock	29	Wells City Group Cathedral Staff
		30	Weston-super-Mare Group Flourish House Staff
		31	Wincanton Group Diocesan Link with Zambia



Wave of Prayer Cathedral Services

To be held in the Mothers Union
(St Stephens) Chapel

Friday 26th January

14:00 – 14:30

Saturday 27th January

11:00 – 11:30

Sunday 28th January

12:00 – 12:30



Wave of Prayer Service 2024



**"I will not forget you
See I have engraved you
on the Palm of my Hand" (Isaiah 49:16)**

Please receive the outline of a hand,
write your name in the space provided.
On the other side write

- the name of a person or
- a situation

 you particularly want to bring to God today.

Maintaining a Worldwide Fellowship of Christians United in Prayer, Worship & Service

How we work towards achieving the above Objective - cont.

Prayer Chain:

This is now being run by one of the members, with prayer needs being sent direct to her and then resent to all on the group (using BACS to preserve data information)

Special Services:

- † There was a Eucharist before the Annual Meeting. The Celebrant was Assistant Bishop Trevor. He was also able to Commission the new Diocesan Chaplain.
- † Some deaneries held Festival Services, one was combined with a Mary Sumner Day Service.
- † Two area business meetings started with a Eucharist.
- † Bishop Michael called for our 24hour Diocesan Wave of Prayer. As well as supporting their parishes, MU members held a half-hour service in the St Stephen's & MU chapel on Saturday afternoon.



www.facebook.com/MUBathWells/videos/1541416686779125



Quiet Days:

Some Branches held Quiet Days in their own parishes. A diocesan one was held in October led by our new Chaplain. Craft work aiding the silent reflections



Retreat:

Due to the poor attendance last year, it was decided to have a rest year and not organise one in 2024.

To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children

How we work towards achieving this Objective

Rise Up

16 Days of Activism:



The Mothers' Union members meeting in Taunton Minster, led the way in alerting the public to the danger which women and children can find themselves in: that of witnessing Domestic Abuse at first hand.

They received a Bronze Medal for their work.

The Souls of the Shoes Exhibition continues to circulate around the diocese, demonstrating the way those who suffer

Domestic Abuse often hide their situation for fear of further abuse or encountering unbelief.

SOULS OF OUR SHOES EXHIBITION



If someone discloses abuse to you, you should:

- R**espond Respond to a disclosure of abuse with compassion and calm
- I**nform Inform the person where they can get help. If a person is in immediate danger call **999**, otherwise direct them to their county domestic abuse helpline or the National Domestic Abuse Helpline on **0808 2000 247**
- S**upport Support in a safe manner, listen and believe
- E**mpower Empower them to grow and heal
- U**nite Unite the members of Mother's Union and churches to help end domestic abuse
- P**ray Pray for all affected by domestic abuse

IMPORTANT Do not tell a victim to leave.



Support for those using the Refuges:

Vouchers continue to be steadily donated. Refuges are asked what they need and this year several branches made wash bags and then filled them.



Modern Day Slavery and Prison Week:

These Projects continue to be held in prayer. The use of crafted Chain Links advertises the need for Prayer and Action



To help those whose family life has met with adversity:

How we work towards achieving this Objective

CRAFT:

Knitting is still popular with members. Items created are mostly hats for seafarers, for babies and for Retirement Homes.

Taunton Minster are knitting squares. Once 48 squares have been collected, they are joined together.



* FREE PATTERN * EASY TO MAKE *

TWIDDLEMUFFS
for dementia care



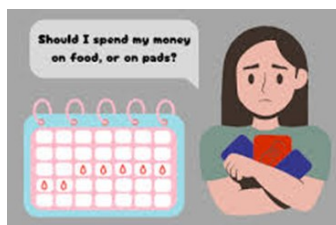
The name of the recipient is embroidered on. A button saying "Handmade with Love" is also sewn on. They are then given to a house-bound member of the congregation.

Sewing continues especially making wash bags for the Refuges and garments for babies

Period Poverty:

This continues to be offered to two schools in Bath. One school likes to receive supermarket vouchers, the other prefers to give the MU contact a Shopping List.

A MUriel Poster is available for other branches to expand this project into other local schools.



Ask for MURIEL

If you are in need of help with your Period, Please go to Reception and ask for a package That MUriel has left for you. You will be given a bag containing items to help you.

#God's Love in Action



#MotherUnion

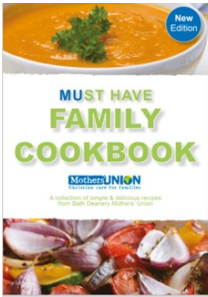
<https://mubathandwells.org>

To help those whose family life has met with adversity

How we work towards achieving this Objective *conc*

AFIA:

2024 was a quieter year. We arranged a holiday for 1 family; 1 child had 3 horse riding sessions by using our "Days Out" experiences; 1 lady was able to go on a church weekend; A local charity offering holidays, was only able to arrange 2 family holidays with our support.



Student Support/Cookbook:

In 2024 the postcards promoting the 'MU Family Cookbook' online were given free. Free hard copies of 'MU Family Cookbook' were given to families affected by rising living costs through various churches, refuges, other charities and food-pantries.

Child Contact Centres:

We started 2023 with 3 Centres: one centre in Clevedon and one in Nailsea, both operating since 2004: and one in Frome, a millennium project. Over the years, offers to volunteer are not as numerous as they initially were. Sadly, Frome could not find a co-ordinator when the current person retired and the centre was closed. Mothers' Union is now down to 2 centres. At the end of 2024, we were able to employ a new Coordinator for the North Somerset Centre.

A Service of Thanksgiving and Tea party for the past & present volunteers, were arranged to celebrate 20 years of this special work in helping families to stay in touch even when the

parents are no longer talking to each other.



To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children

In stor

By showing God's Love to their children, parents learn about God's Love via our actions.

Children in Church:

Many Branches have children's Play Bags with biblical story books, colouring and soft figures for use during services. Where branches have closed, these are maintained by Diocesan members.

"Messy" Church:

Knitted hand puppets are sometimes used to illustrate Bible Stories.

Baptisms:

Many Branches give something to the child or parents on the occasion of their Baptism: a Baptism Teddy, Card, Bible, or Prayer Book. In one branch, the teddies have a personal Sleeping Bag. Another branch gives the Godparents a set of tiny Booties. When branches close, DMs are continuing with this outreach .

Local Schools:

Several branches run or help with After-School Clubs.

Local Community:

Mother & pre-school children groups are supported by branches across the diocese; By regular contact parents get to know these MU members and trust them. Several branches are supporting Mary's Child, a charity which, among other activities, has a bank of equipment for babies and toddlers. Mostly donated. But some things eg nappies need to be bought. MU members are frequently part of teams offering the "Open The Book" and "Messy Church" (in its various forms). Branches regularly give gifts on Mothering Sunday, arrange the church Easter Hunt. Similarly the MU branches regularly create Christingles.

2024 Annual Report presented 2025



Church Mice
Toddler Group

Wednesdays
9.15 to 11.15

A toddler group for 0-4 years with tea, coffee, biscuits and fruit snacks, plenty of toys and activities. Term time only. All are welcome!
Holy Trinity Church, Lysander Road

£2 PER FAMILY

For more information contact the Church Office on

To promote and support married life

How we work towards achieving this Objective



Some branches work with the Priest by providing information booklets and refreshments during Marriage Preparation sessions. Several branches give Couples Mothers' Union Wedding Cards and when possible Anniversary Cards.

Plans are being made to once again, run Mothers' Union Stalls at Wedding Fares.



The Big South West Wedding Fair

Royal Bath and West Showground, Shepton Mallet

CONTACT ORGANISER GET TICKETS

TWO DAY WEDDING FAIR! Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th October 2025, 10.30am-3pm. The Royal Bath & West Showground, BA4 6QN. "Hands down, the best

[Read full description](#)

How We Work Towards Alerting Parishioners and Visitors to the Work of The Mothers Union

- † Most parishes have a Notice Board with a display of current MU activity.
- † Visitors to the Cathedral are invited to stop and join in our monthly Cathedral Prayers service.
- † Regular contact with the Diocesan Personnel continues with our Diocesan President and the Communications Lead attending Diocesan Synod sessions, and once this year, conducting the opening Worship.



How We Work Towards Alerting Parishioners and Visitors to the Work of The Mothers Union

- † We were delighted to see that the MU kneeler from the Mothers' Union (St Stephen's) Chapel is part of the Cathedral Crib Scene.
- † The MU banner and Cards Display Board are in a prominent position in the Diocesan Offices (on the way to the toilets) along with details for paying online.
- † Our Communication's Officer delivers extra display boards & leaflets when a parish has a special function.
- † Contact is made with the Ordinands and Deacons at the time of their Ordinations.
- † Our Facebook page continues although not as active as during Lockdowns; especially as the Controllers regularly change the systems!
- † Branches are encouraged to invite the Clergy and churchwardens to their meetings. Ensure they know that if they are busy, they are welcome to join just in time for a cup of tea and a piece of cake!
- † Branches are requested to have contact with their Benefice Website manager to ensure that their Mothers' Union Information :

- a) is included.
- b) is on the front line.
- c) includes contact details.
- d) includes when & where you meet
- e) includes a link to MU website.
- f) includes a short description of MU.
- g) is kept UpToDate.



Our Clergy	Services and events
Magazines ▾	News and notices
What's On ▾	About us
Services	Safeguarding
Diary	Bell Ringers and the Choir
How Do I?	Who's Who at St. John's?
Mission	Baptisms
Mother's Union	Funerals
Activities ▾	GDPR and Contact and Trace
Pictures	Mother's Union
	The Evergreen Group
	Weddings
	Youth Mission

<https://www.facebook.com/MUBathWells>

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Diocese of Bath & Wells

MU Bath&Wells
205 likes • 231 followers

Intro
We are part of the international Mothers' Union Christian organisation with over 4 million members

Featured

MU Bath&Wells
23 August 2021
24hour Diocesan Wave of Prayer from 7pm 6th September and into 7th September...

MU Bath&Wells
21 May 2021
View the album containing the photos of the "Souls of our Shoes" These are just a taster

<https://www.youtube.com/>

Bath&Wells Mothers Union
@bathwellsunion0803 • 11 subscribers • 22 videos
More about this channel ...more

Home Videos Live Playlists

For you

17th June 2021 Cathedral Prayers
19 views • 3 years ago

January 2021 Cathedral Prayers
20 views • 4 years ago

July Cathedral Prayers
13 views • 3 years ago

October Cathedral Prayers
12 views • 4 years ago

Videos

Bishop Michael Wave of Prayer 2024
17 views • 6 months ago

Anti-slavery Day Service
16 views • 3 years ago

July Cathedral Prayers
19 views • 3 years ago

17th June 2021 Cathedral Prayers
19 views • 3 years ago

May 2021 Cathedral Prayers
16 views • 4 years ago

April Cathedral Prayers
20 views • 4 years ago

<https://mubathandwells.org>

Mothers' Union – Bath & Wells - Financial Report for 2024

This year I presented the Annual Financial Report in a slightly different way, still using the 'washing line' approach but this time putting the income and expenditure figures, in each category, alongside each other.

Our income for the whole of 2024 totalled £37,248.00 but what we spent came to £41,341, which meant we had a 'shortfall' of £4,093 which had to come out of reserves.

Subscriptions were lower than in 2023, and after we had forwarded the central subscription amount to Mary Sumner House, only £3,324 was then available to use along with additional donations, bank interest and the MUE bonus to make up the £8,361 we had to meet the Operating Costs of £10,150. This sadly meant an additional £1,789 from other sources was needed to 'break even'. Those 'running costs' were made up of rent, secretarial administration, postage & printing, licences, insurance, auditing, meeting and Officer expenses.

Members were busy throughout the year raising funds for various MU projects, £1,519 for Diocesan Projects of which £750 was spent. £2,501 for AFIA & the Shirley Penn fund, of which £2,173 was spent. £5,689 was sent in for the Worldwide Fund, which enabled, when added to funds from 2023, for us to send £9,489 to Mary Sumner House for WWF.

Many of the branches sent their donations to the Make a Mother's Day and Summer of Hope Appeals directly, but £1,050 came into the diocesan account which was then passed on to MSH.

The Child Contact Centres cost us £2,646 to run and we donated a further £5,000 to the Somerset Child Contact Centres for them to take over the running of the Frome Centre, which we had sadly had to relinquish. Money received in from grants, donations and investment interest to cover these costs amounted to £3,172.

Our investments in the Hampshire Trust Bank at the end of 2024 are:

Unrestricted funds £7,000

Restricted funds £18,000 in the Rowena Merson Fund and £30,000 in the Child Contact Centres Fund.

The main accounts and branch consolidated accounts have now been audited by our accountants, Maxwells of Bridgwater, along with the MUE accounts prepared by Chris Mahoney.

Moving forward, I foresee that the 2025 accounts will be presented in much the same way as we are used to and from then on, with the birth of the South West Cluster group, we shall develop a new format with a Group Treasurer helping out and consolidating what come through from the diocesan treasurers.

THE MOTHERS' UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS

Registered Charity No: 250180



REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**12 MONTHS ENDED 31
DECEMBER 2024**

Address for correspondence: Flourish House
2 Cathedral Avenue
Wells BA5 1FD

Registered Charity No: 250180

Trustees 01/01/2024 - 31/12/2024

Trustees

Madeline Hellier

Sarah Bult

Kathryn Tucker

THE MOTHERS' UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS

FINANCIAL RESERVES POLICY

The income of the Mothers' Union Diocese of Bath and Wells is derived from member subscriptions and donations. The subscriptions cover the running costs of the Diocese and contribute to the Diocesan Projects, which are currently:

- **Child Contact Centres** in Nailsea and Clevedon;
- **Away From it All** project for those in need;
- **Craft** (Knitting and Sewing) projects;
- **Student Support** including Cookbook;
- **Appropriate Outreach**

The Diocesan Projects rely heavily on donations and our reserves need to be sufficient to cover any shortfall in donations to ensure the continuation of, and commitment to, our Diocesan Projects. They also need to be able to fund new projects. The level of reserves has therefore been set at £10,000. Information concerning its current level is given at each meeting of the Diocesan Committee as part of the budgetary process.

This policy will be included in the Diocesan Committee Annual Report and will be reviewed annually.

At the end of each year, any restricted fund surplus will be carried forward to the following year. Any unrestricted fund surplus, in excess of a sum considered by the Trustees to be required as a cash buffer or to help fund the next year's activities, will be transferred to the Mothers' Union at Mary Sumner House.

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	AFIA	Rowena Merson Travel Bursaries	Child Contact Centres	Shirley Penn Bursary Fund	Other restricted funds Incl Diocesan Projects	Total 2024	Total 2023
Receipts								
Subscriptions	17,206						17,206	17,407
Gift Aid (1)								2,429
Muse Grant	929						929	950
CCC grant			2,600				2,600	3,990
Donations	2,975	2,286	60				5,321	7,963
Donations - MSH projects						1,050		
Donations - Diocesan projects						1,519		424
Donations - Shirley Penn Fund					215		215	
Donations - WWF						6,762		
Retreat								50
Interest	1,133			512			1,645	1,425
Investment Receipt								1,204
Total receipts	22,243	2,286	3,172	215	9,332	37,248	40,843	5,000
Payments								
Subscriptions to MSH	13,882						13,882	13,935
Finance & Administration Unit (2)	8,304						8,304	11,831
Meetings and training	589						589	50
Expenses of DP, chaplain & trustees, Provincial/Zc	865						865	664
CCC expenses (3)			7,647				7,647	1,806
Muse rep & communication unit expenses	391						391	306
Retreat								2,916
Grants to other charities for AFIA holidays		710					710	500
Bursary Payments - AFIA		1,180					1,180	1,573
Bursary Payments - Rowena Merson								476
Bursary Payments - MSH projects						1,050		
Bursary Payments - Diocesan projects						750		
Bursary Payments - Shirley Penn Fund					284		284	
Bursary Payments - WWF						5,689		
Total payments	24,032	1,890	7,647	284	7,469	41,941	33,507	50
Surplus/Deficit	1,789	396	4,475	69	1,863	4,063	7,335	
Opening current account & petty cash	11,051	2,913	7,189	425	1,584	26,692		
Closing current account & petty cash	9,263	3,310	7,189	356	3,427	29,994	34,027	
Unrestricted funds	7,000					7,000		
Hampshire Trust - One Year Bond (to Feb 25)								7,000
Rowena Merson AFIA Travel Bursaries Fund			18,000					18,000
Hampshire Trust - One Year Bond (to Nov 24)								
Child Contact Centres' Fund								
Hampshire Trust - One Year Bond (to Feb 25)			10,000					10,000
Hampshire Trust - One Year Bond (to Feb 25)			5,000					5,000
Hampshire Trust - One Year Bond (to Jan 25)			15,000					15,000
			30,000					55,000

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2024

Notes

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

FUND DESCRIPTIONS

Away from it All (AFIA)

This is a Mother's Union holiday scheme, primarily funded by our members, to give the opportunity of a break to those who may be experiencing stress or difficulties in their family life. Funds raised can be used to: help fund part of the cost of a holiday, cover a family's travel expenses, pay for a whole holiday or a day trip, organise family weeks for groups of families to have a break with activities and outings.

Rowena Merson Travel Fund

This is an invested legacy left to Bath & Wells following the untimely death of a serving Trustee. It was decided by her fellow Trustees at the time to use it for reimbursing travelling expenses for the families benefitting from the AFIA breaks. The original donation is invested in a 2 Year Bond which can be cashed in and reinvested as the Trustees deem necessary. Until now the interest received has exceeded expenditure.

Shirley Penn Bursary Fund

This was created in 2021 following a generous funeral collection from the MU in Bath & Wells of a former Trustee. It was designated for the use of members who wished to deepen their lives spiritually by attending either one day courses or the Annual Retreat. It contributes to their overall expenses according to their means. The funds are topped up from time to time by the widower and members are free to raise additional funds if they so wish.

Child Contact Centres

These are invested funds, originally given as grants or donations, towards the running, by the Mother's Union in Bath & Wells, of voluntarily organised Child Contact Centres in Nailsea, Clevedon and previously Frome. All are affiliated to the National Association of Child Contact Centres, strictly monitored, and examined by their staff. To date, no-one is paid for their help, but each Centre has a highly trained coordinator who reports back to the diocesan MU CCC Committee twice yearly, of which one Trustee is a committee member. At present the funds not needed are invested in several 2 year bonds. Members across the diocese also raise funds to support this valuable cause.

Diocesan Projects

This covers more locally inspired projects that members can be involved in such as knitting hats for use by the Seamen Mission, clothing for premature babies, trauma or christening teddies, sewing "angel pockets" for still births, children's activity bags for churches, "fiddle blankets" for those with dementia etc. Bath Deanery support an online Student Cookbook which is advertised to all new students at Freshers Week in the two Bath universities. These projects come and go according to the need of local communities, and unless members indicate the specific need, money raised goes into this fund for project expenses.

Specific points to note

- (1) Gift Aid in respect of 2023 for £1,503 was claimed in 2024 but received in January 2025
- (2) Expenses include secretary's remuneration, rent, insurance, postage & printing, accountant's fees, copyright and data protection licenses.
- (3) This includes £5,000 paid to Somerset CCC who took over the running of Frome CCC.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we approve the Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2024 as presented to a meeting of the Board on 26/6/2025

Trustees

Madeline Hellier - Diocesan President

Sarah Bolt - Treasurer & General Trustee

Kathryn Tucker - Trustee

Sarah Bolt,

Madeline Hellier.

Kathryn L.S. Tucker.

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Worldwide Fund Account for the year ending 31st December 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations for General Fund and various projects	1,450		7,374	
Bank Interest	27		44	
	<hr/>	1,477	<hr/>	7,418
Payments				
Transferred to Mother's Union, Mary Sumner House, for the various funds as donated		3,800		9,995
Transferred to General		2,575		
		<hr/>		
Surplus	-	4,898	-	2,577
Opening Balance		4,898		7,475
Closing Balance		<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>
		-		4,898

Notes:

This is a fund administered by the Central Council in Mary Sumner House and all funds raised in Bath & Wells go towards MU work all over the world. It had its own bank account which the MU Diocesan WWF Treasurer administrates. It has now been closed.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we approve the Worldwide Fund Account for the year ending 31st December 2024

Madeline Hellier - Diocesan President

Madeline Hellier

Sarah Bult - Treasurer & General Trustee

Sarah G Bult

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Mothers Union Diocese of Bath and Wells

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Mothers Union of Bath and Wells (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or**
- (2) The accounts do not accord with those records**

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



Adam Turrell

FCA ICAEW

Maxwells Chartered Accountants

4 King Square

Bridgwater

Somerset

TA6 3YF

Date: 22.9.25

THE MOTHERS' UNION (DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS BRANCH)

England & Wales - Charity number 250180

Accounts

Mothers' Union – Bath & Wells - Financial Report for 2023

The beginning of 2023 seems so very far away and a lot of water has passed under the MU bridge since then, however here is what the Income and Payouts were from our General Funding Account.

We started the year with £29,692 in the bank, made up of just under £11,500 restricted funds and £15,221 of operating funds from 2022.

During the year, the subscriptions from 640 branch and diocesan members brought in £17,407. Gift aid reclaimed on the 2022 subs and donations amounted to £2,429, the MUe grant paid in £950, additional donations towards running costs came to £2,692, which along with Retreat contributions of £1,425 and bank interest of £528 amounted to and unrestricted income of £25,431.72.

Our restricted income came from AFIA donations of £4,486.84, a cashed in Rowena Merson Fund policy of £5,000 and £64.87 interest on the other policy still invested. Diocesan Project donations of £424.31, a WWF donation that came in and went out to the correct account of £50, Child Contact Centre grants of £3,900, donations of £783.71 and interest on their investments of £611.26.

Overall £40,842.71 was paid into the account during 2023.

Our expenditure during those same 12 months was as follows:

From our unrestricted funds our Central subscriptions passed on to MSH amounted to £13,335. The day to day running costs of the Mothers' Union in this diocese amounted to £16,266.63, which includes administration costs, rent of desks and rooms in Flourish House, postage and photocopying/printing, our DP, Chaplain and MUe/Communication expenses, hire of halls for meetings, Retreat at Ammerdown, licenses, insurance and accountancy fees.

From our restricted funds we spent £2,549.75 on AFIA breaks and travel and £1,806.08 on running the 3 Child Contact Centres in Frome and North Somerset (although the one in Frome was only open for the first three months) The total expenditure for 2023 was therefore £33,507.46.

Our investments at the moment are:

Unrestricted funds £7,000

Restricted funds £18,000 in the Rowena Merson Fund and £30,000 in the Child Contact Centres Fund.

Interest on the policies, which are all on One Year Bonds, has increased through 2023 as the bank interest rate has risen.

We ended the year with £34,027.46 in the bank, which was better than in 2022, however with the falling number of members and rising costs generally, we did come out of 2023 spending just over £4,000 more on operational costs than we received in, which means we are eating in to our previous credits.

The accounts are with our accountants at present and are just awaiting the Annual Report and the completed branch accounts for consolidation. The audit is complete and ready for the Trustees to sign off, so I am very grateful to all those who have helped me compile it especially Trustee Margaret Willmott for her financial expertise.

This year the 2023 branch accounts have been much easier with far less needing to be corrected or sent back. I do hope branch treasurers are finding the experience easier as well.

Moving forward, I foresee that the 2024 accounts will be presented in much the same way as we are used to and from then on, with the birth of the South West Cluster group, we shall develop a new format with a Group Treasurer helping out and consolidating what come through from the diocesan treasurers.

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	AFIA	Rowena Merson Travel Bursaries	Child Contact Centres	Shirley Penn Bursary Fund	Other restricted funds incl Diocesan Projects	Total 2023	Total 2022
Receipts								
Subscriptions	17407						17407	16894
Gift Aid	2429						2429	2365
Mue Grant	950						950	863
CCC grant				3990			3990	700
Donations	2692	4487		784			7963	8102
Donations - MSH projects						0	0	1025
Donations - Diocesan projects						424	424	1097
Donations - Shirley Penn Fund					0		0	400
Donations - WWF						50	50	31
Retreat	1425						1425	2250
Interest	528		65	611			1204	864
Investment Receipt			5000				5000	0
Total receipts	25432	4487	5065	5385	0	474	40843	34581
Payments								
Subscriptions to MSH	13335						13335	13980
Finance & Administration Unit (1)	11831						11831	7908
Meetings and training	50						50	1514
Expenses of DP, chaplain & trustees	664						664	875
CCC expenses				1806			1806	2498
Mue rep & communication unit expenses	306						306	264
Retreat	2916						2916	2772
Grants to other charities for AFIA holidays	500						500	0
Transfer to Investment Bond			0				0	0
Bursary Payments - AFIA		1573					1573	3328
Bursary Payments - Rowena Merson			476				476	70
Bursary Payments - MSH projects						0	0	1025
Bursary Payments - Diocesan projects						0	0	2194
Bursary Payments - Shirley Penn Fund					0		0	500
Bursary Payments - WWF						50	50	30
Total payments	29602	1573	476	1806	0	50	33507	36958
Surplus/Deficit	-4,170	2,913	4,589	3,579	0	424	7,335	-2,367
Opening current account & petty cash	15221	0	2600	7285	425	1160	26692	29059
Closing current account & petty cash	11051	2913	7189	10865	425	1584	34027	26692
Unrestricted funds								
Hampshire Trust - One year bond (to Feb 24)	7000						7000	7049
Rowena Merson AFIA Travel Bursaries Fund								
Hampshire Trust - One year bond			18000				18000	18000
Hampshire Trust - Two year bond (to Jan 25)								5061
Child Contact Centres' Fund								
Hampshire Trust - Two year bond (to Feb 24)				10000			10000	10000
Hampshire Trust - One year bond (to Feb 24)				5000			5000	5035
Hampshire Trust - Two year bond (to Jan 24)				15000			15000	15000
	7000	0	18000	30000	0	0	58000	60145

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2023

Notes

Fund Descriptions

Away from it All (AFIA)

This is a Mother's Union holiday scheme, primarily funded by our members, to give opportunity of a break to those who may be experiencing stress or difficulties in their family life. Funds raised can be to:

Help fund part of the cost of a holiday

Cover a family's travel expenses

Pay for a whole holiday or a day trip

Organise family weeks for groups of families to have a break with activities and outings

Rowena Merson Travel Fund

This is an invested legacy left to Bath & Wells following the untimely death of a serving Trustee. It was decided by her fellow Trustees at the time to use it for reimbursing travelling expenses for the families benefitting from the AFIA breaks. The original donation is invested in a 2 Year Bond which can be cashed in and reinvested as the Trustees deem necessary. Until now the interest received has exceeded expenditure.

Shirley Penn Bursary Fund

This was created in 2021 following a generous funeral collection from the MU in Bath & Wells of a former Trustee. It was designated for the use of members who wished to deepen their lives spiritually by attending either one day courses or the Annual Retreat. It contributes to their overall expenses according to their means. The funds are topped up from time to time by the widower and members are free to raise additional funds if they so wish.

Child Contact Centres

These are invested funds, originally given as grants or donations, towards the running, by the Mother's Union in Bath & Wells, of voluntarily

organised Child Contact Centres in Frome, Nailsea and Clevedon. All are affiliated to the National Association of Child Contact Centres, strictly

monitored, and examined by their staff. To date, no-one is paid for their help, but each Centre has a highly trained coordinator who reports back to the diocesan MU CCC Committee twice yearly, of which one Trustee is a committee member. At present the funds not needed are invested in several 2 year bonds. Members across the diocese also raise funds to support this valuable cause.

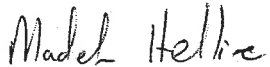
Diocesan Projects

This covers more locally inspired projects that members can be involved in such as knitting hats for use by the Seamen Mission, clothing for premature babies, trauma or Christening teddies, sewing "angel pockets" for still births, children's activity bags for churches, "fiddle blankets" for those dementia etc. Bath Deanery support an online Student Cookbook which is advertised to all new students at Freshers Week in the two Bath universities. These projects come and go according to the need of local communities, and unless members indicate the specific need, money raised goes into this fund for project expenses.

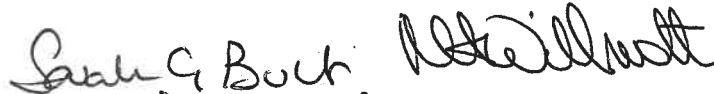
Specific points to note

(1) Expenses include secretary's remuneration, rent, insurance, accountant's fees, copyright and data protection licenses. Postage and printing costs include some costs for 2021/2 as well.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we approve the Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2023 as presented to a meeting of the Board on3/9/24



Madeline Hellier - Diocesan President



Sarah Bult - Treasurer & Gei Margaret Willmott - General Trustee

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Mothers Union Enterprises (MUE) Trading Account for the year ending 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Sales	10027	9426
Purchases	9200	10500
Surplus (Deficit) on Sales	827	-1074
Opening Bank Account	172	1246
Surplus (Deficit) on Sales	827	-1074
Closing Bank Account	999	172

Notes:

This is the trading account of the Mothers' Union our diocesan representative deals directly with MSH for stock, which is then sent out to branches, or displayed at meetings and events such as our AGM or Diocesan Synod, on a sale or return basis. It has its own bank account which the Diocesan Representative administers.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we approve the Mothers Union Enterprises (MUE) Trading Account for the year ending 31st December 2023

Madeline Hellier

Madeline Hellier - Diocesan President

Sarah G. Bult

Sarah Bult - Treasurer & General Trustee

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Worldwide Fund Account for the year ending 31st December 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations for General Fund and various projects	7374		8102	
Donations for Emergency Relief Fund				
Donations for Literacy & Development - S Sudan				
Donations not declared in previous year				
Bank Interest	44		7	
	<u>44</u>	7418	<u>7</u>	8109
Payments				
Transferred to Mother's Union, Mary Sumner House, for the various funds as donated		9995		9700
		<u>-2577</u>		<u>-1591</u>
Surplus		7475		9066
Opening Balance		<u>4898</u>		<u>7475</u>
Closing Balance				

Notes:

This is a fund administered by the Central Council in Mary Sumner House and all funds raised in Bath & Wells go towards MU work all over the world. It has its own bank account which the MU Diocesan WWF Treasurer administrates.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we approve the Worldwide Fund Account for the year ending 31st December 2023

Madeline Hellier

Madeline Hellier - Diocesan President

Sarah G. Bult

Sarah Bult - Treasurer & General Trustee

dated: 3.9.24

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Mothers Union Diocese of Bath and Wells

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Mothers Union of Bath and Wells (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) The accounts do not accord with those records

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



Adam Turrell
FCA ICAEW
Maxwells Chartered Accountants
4 King Square
Bridgwater
Somerset
TA6 3YF

Date: 3.9.24

Vision

Our Vision is of a world where
God's love is shown through

Loving, Respectful & Flourishing Relationships.

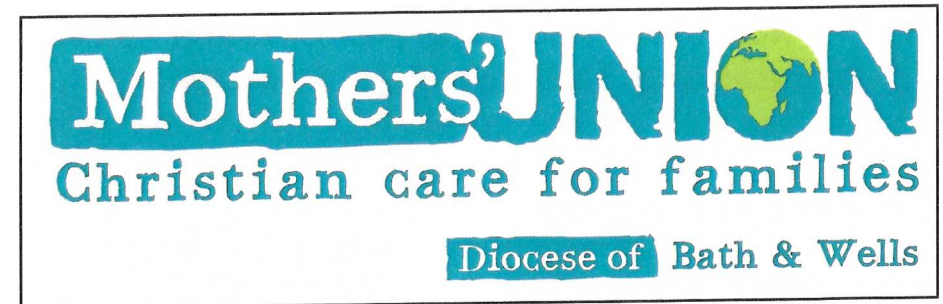
This is not a vague hope but a goal we actively pursue
by **Praying, Campaigning and Enabling.**

Mission

We aim to show our Christian faith by the transformation of communities worldwide. We can do this through supporting strong relationships within the family and promoting reconciliation at all levels.

Our Aims and Objectives are:

- 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:
- To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children:



In 2023 We had

639 Members in the diocese

496 Branch members

Found in **27** Branches

and

143 Diocesan Members

either as Lone Members

or part of **21** Groups

and

18 IMPC members

How we work towards achieving the following Objective
**Maintaining a Worldwide Fellowship of
Christians United in Prayer, Worship & Service**

Cathedral Prayers:

This is a ½ hour Service held in Wells Cathedral on the 3rd Thursday morning of each month. Each month the service is written and led by a different Branch/Deanery, following the guidelines written by the former Faith Trustee, to fit in with the Annual Theme produced by the Worldwide Trustee Board. It includes the Wave of Prayer, when every MU member prays for the members and work in 4 or 5 designated dioceses across the world, following the format found in the central Prayer Diary.

Wave of Prayer Service:

This service, written by a former MU Chaplain and our Link Dioceses Project Officer, who forwards the Service to our Link Dioceses - Umuahia and Ijebu in Nigeria; Shinyanga, in Tanzania; False Bay in South Africa; and Vellore Church of South India. The Service is used by the branches in all the Diocese celebrating our links together over 3 days. Again this year we were able to hold 3 services in Wells Cathedral in The Mothers' Union Chapel. We were delighted to see on Social Media, that members from our Link Diocese, in particular by South Africa & India, were using the form of service sent to them.

Branch/Group Prayers:

Due to the expansion of the Central Prayer Diary, our own leaflet is no longer required.

In several Parishes where there is no longer a Branch, many Diocesan Members often meet for a Coffee, Natter & Prayer.

The MU Chapel - Cathedral Prayers - The Lady Chapel



Wave of Prayer



**Wave of Prayer Service 2023
Transformation Now!**



As we unite in Prayer & Worship, in Love & Service,
we reach out as Your hands across the world and
Pray for our Link Dioceses



Child of God
receiving his Love



Spreading
God's Love

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How we work towards achieving the following Objective - cont

Maintaining a Worldwide Fellowship of Christians United in Prayer, Worship & Service

Prayer Chain:

This has been revived with a dedicated email address - prayerchain@mubathandwells.org - and uses Mailchimp. The aim is to have a Monthly Prayer letter, & short requests when needed.

Parish/Branch Eucharists/Prayers:
A range of these worship times occur in a variety of formats and venues across the diocese, from churches to garden centres.

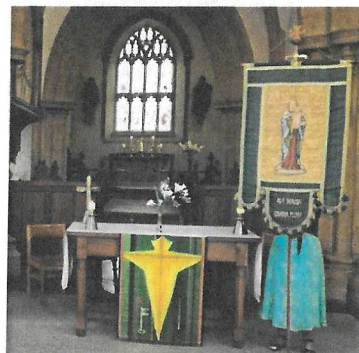
Retreat:

As usual this took place over 3 days in October, being held at Ammerdown Conference Centre lead by Rev Julie Simms on "Meeting God Where You Are".



Quiet Days:

These were held by Branches in their own parishes.



Special Services:

Some deaneries had Festival Services, one was combined with a Mary Sumner Day Service.

As usual there was a Eucharistic Service before the Annual Meeting, when the new Diocesan Bishop, Bishop Michael Beasley preached.



He was also able to Commission the 2 Trustees, who were unwell at last year's Commissioning Service



How we work towards achieving this Objective
To help those whose family life has met with adversity:

AFIA:

2023 was a busy year. 6 families had a holiday, 2 were able to unite with their wider family. 3 families benefited with special "Days-Out" experiences.



Period Poverty:

This continues to be offered to 2 schools in Bath.

CRAFT:

Members continue to knit, supplying all our regular places.



Sewing continues especially for the Refuges.

Student Support/Cookbook:

In 2023 new postcards promoting 'MU Family Cookbook' online were given free to 4,000 Bath University students & 250 to Bath Spa University in Freshers week. Free hard copies of MU Family Cookbook' were given to families affected by rising living costs ('eating or heating') through various churches, refuges, other charities and food-pantries.

Via Projects, we demonstrate God's Love to Families who have met with Adversity

- Support for Clergy and Parishes
- Knitting & Sewing
- Child Contact Centres
- Time Away From It All
- Period Poverty Family/Student Cookbook
- MU Worldwide Literacy Parenting Local Issues
- Modern Day Slavery
- Gender-based Violence & Refuges

<https://mubathandwells.org>

Child Contact Centres:

We started 2023 with 3 Centres: one centre in Clevedon and one in Nailsea, both operating since 2004: and one in Frome, a millennium project. Over the years, offers to volunteer are not as numerous as they initially were. Sadly, Frome could not find a co-ordinator when the current person retired and the centre was closed. Mothers' Union is now down to 2 centres. They too are advertising for coordinators. Families needing their service never seem to go away!



How we work towards achieving this Objective
To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children

16 Days of Activism:

As well as branches supporting the 16 Days with Prayer, we were able to host an exhibition in Wells Cathedral; our thanks to the Chapter and Acting Dean. The exhibition had earlier been opened to the public by 2 branches plus MU.



Support for those using the Refuges:

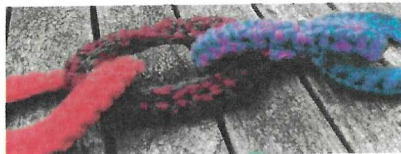
Vouchers continue to be steadily donated. All 3 Refuges are asked what they need and this year several branches made wash bags and then filled them.



Modern Day Slavery and Prison Week:

These Projects continue to be held in prayer.

The use of crafted Chain Links advertises the need for Prayer and Action



How we work towards achieving this Objective
To promote and support married life

Some branches work with the Priest by providing refreshments during Marriage Preparation sessions. Several branches give Couples MU Wedding Cards



How we work towards achieving this Objective
To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children

By showing God's Love to their children, parents learn about God's Love via our actions.



Children in Church:

Many Branches have children's Play Bags with biblical story books, colouring and soft figures for use during services. Where branches have closed, these are maintained by Diocesan members. Some branches followed The Mothers Union Suggestion for a Lent Calendar.

Baptisms:

Many Branches give something to the child or parents on the occasion of their Baptism: a Baptism Teddy, Card, Bible, or Prayer Book. In one branch, the teddies have a personal Sleeping Bag. Another branch gives the Godparents a set of tiny Booties. Again, DMs are continuing with this outreach when branches close.

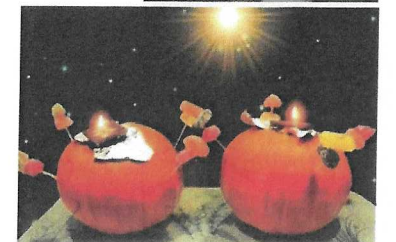


Local Schools:

Several branches run or help with After-School Clubs.

Local Community:

Mother & pre-school children groups are supported by branches across the diocese; By regular contact parents get to know these MU members and trust them. MU members are frequently part of teams offering the "Open The Book" and "Messy Church" (in its various forms). Branches regularly give gifts on Mothering Sunday, arrange the church Easter Hunt. Similarly the MU branches regularly create Christingles.



How We Work Towards Alerting Parishioners and Visitors to the Work of The Mothers Union

- † Branches keep their incumbent and PCC informed of the work that lay they do.
- † Most parishes have a Notice Board with a display of current MU activity.
- † Our Communication's Officer delivers extra display boards & leaflets when a parish has a special function.
- † Visitors to the Cathedral are invited to stop and join in our monthly Cathedral Prayers service.
- † We were delighted to see that the MU kneeler from the Mothers' Union Chapel became part of the Cathedral Crib Scene.
- † Our Facebook page continues although not as active as during Lockdowns; especially as the Controllers regularly change the systems!
- † Regular contact with the Diocesan Personnel continues with our Diocesan President speaking at the Autumn Diocesan Synod.
- † Our Diocesan President also spoke at a SOUP! Session in Wells, resulting in a £100 donation.
- † Contact is made with the Ordinands and Training Incumbents when possible.
- † The Diocesan President, the Communications Lead and the Treasurer attend Diocesan Synod and their local deanery Synods when possible.



www.youtube.com/channel/UCB-a2ek2KJ_j39BR-ackJbw
 Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/MUBathWells
 Instagram: Bath&Wells MU



WELCOME to MU Bath & Wells



Yeovil Branch



Just-a-Bite Group
Taunton Minster

Staplegrove Branch

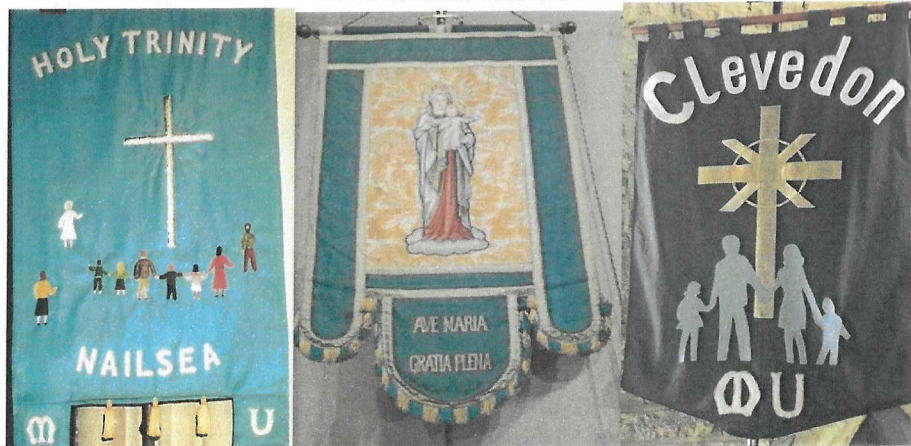
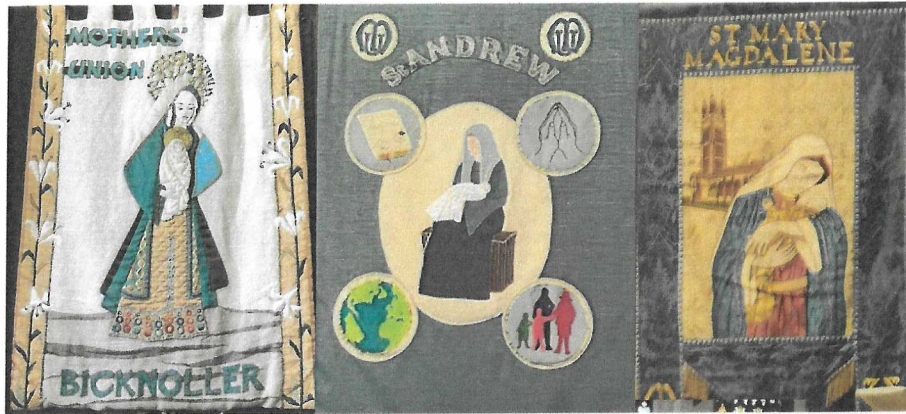
A warm Welcome to other new members



(name) _____
 has been admitted as a member of
 Mothers' Union
 on _____
 [date] _____
 at _____
 [place] _____
 Glory be to God
 [admitted by] _____

Being a member of Mothers' Union is an expression of my support for Christian family life. As a member of Mothers' Union I will strive to support families everywhere in prayer and worship, and in love and service.

2023 Annual Report presented 2024



mu@bathwells.anglican.org

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Diocese of Bath & Wells



Annual Report 2023

Registered Charity No. 250180

<https://mubathandwells.org>

THE MOTHERS' UNION (DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS BRANCH)

England & Wales - Charity number 250180

Accounts

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Diocese of Bath & Wells



Mothers' Union Chapel - Wells Cathedral

Annual Report 2022

Registered Charity No. 250180

Vision

Our vision is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships. This is not a vague hope, but a goal we actively pursue by praying, campaigning and enabling.

Mission

We aim to show our Christian faith by the transformation of communities worldwide. We can do this through supporting strong relationships within the family and promoting reconciliation at all levels.

Our Aims and Objectives are:

- 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:
- To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children:

Maintaining a Worldwide Fellowship of Christians United in Prayer, Worship & Service

How we work towards achieving the following Objective

Cathedral Prayers:

This is a ½ hour Service held in Wells Cathedral on the 3rd Thursday morning of each month. Each month the service is written and led by a different Branch/Deanery, following the guidelines written by the former Faith Trustee, to fit in with the Annual Theme produced by the Worldwide Trustee Board. It includes the Wave of Prayer, when every MU member prays for the members and work in 4 or 5 designated dioceses across the world, following the format found in the central Prayer Diary.

Wave of Prayer Service:

This service, written by our former Faith Trustee, our MU Chaplain and the Diocesan President, is used by branches. Our Link Dioceses Project Officer forwards the Service to our Link Dioceses - Umuahia and Ijebu in Nigeria: Shinyanga, in Tanzania: False Bay in South Africa: and Vellore Church of South India. This year, 2022, we were able to hold 3 services in Wells Cathedral in The Mothers' Union Chapel. We were delighted to see on Social Media, that members from our Link Diocese, in particular by South Africa & India, were using the form of service sent to them.

Branch/Group Prayers:

To aid planning the branch pre-meeting Prayer Times, the former Faith Trustee produces a booklet with suggested hymns and readings to fit the Annual Theme.

In several Parishes where there is no longer a Branch, Diocesan Members often meet for a Coffee, Natter & Prayer. Bath District have continued their weekly email which included a weekly prayer sheet, specific prayer requests and mid-day prayers

Maintaining a Worldwide Fellowship of Christians United in Prayer, Worship & Service

How we work towards achieving the following Objective - cont

Prayer Chain:

Former Faith Trustee was responsible for receiving information and forwarding it around the members.

Parish Eucharist:

These are held monthly in several Churches across the diocese.

Retreat:

This was arranged for 3 days in October as usual, and was held at Ammerdown Conference Centre lead by

Rev David Arnott on "Finding God in the Wilderness".



Quiet Days:

These were held by Branches in their own parishes.

Special Services:

Several Special services were held, although not as many as pre-covid years as many members are still nervous of big gatherings outside their own area.

There was the Service before the Annual Meeting, Two Mary Sumner Day Services, Advent Services and our very special tri-annual, Commissioning Service for the President and Trustees. (Unfortunately 2 Trustees were unwell).

Lambeth Conference:

Several MU members had the opportunity to meet up with visitors to the UK as part of the Lambeth Conference. One occasion in Bath and one, with the Diocese, in Wells. It was a privilege to meet with MU members from across the world.

To help those whose family life has met with adversity



Gifts for victims of GBV



e-Gift Card

Craft- Knitting



To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children

Baptism Gifts

Church Play-Bags

Christmas in the Community



To help those whose family life has met with adversity:

How we work towards achieving this Objective

AFIA:

It was good to be able to allocate 10
Holidays/Special Occasions



Period Poverty:

This Project is offered to 2 schools in Bath.

CRAFT: Knitting:

Members continue to knit, supplying regular places (Nursing Homes - Knee and Twiddle blankets, and The Seafarers Centre - Hats, mufflers and mitts) but now there's a greater diversity of items & outlets. Angel pockets, matinee jackets, Baby hats, small cot blankets and prem cardigans for newly born to RUH & MPH Baby Units: **Knitted** bed blankets for dementia sufferers aiding them to find their bed more easily, MPH Eliot Ward: Local charities (eg: Women's Refuges, tauntonopendoor.org.uk, forallhlc.org, RAFT, Refuge Aid From Taunton, baby-basics.org.uk) regularly request specific items:



Student Support/Cookbook:

The MU Student Cookbook was again brought to the attention of students at Freshers Fayres of both Universities in Bath. 6000 leaflets advertising the on-line Cookbook. Bath University also received hard copies. It was decided to extend this aid to *Help Those Whose Lives Had Met with Adversity* to assist families hit financially affected by the unprecedented rising cost of living (e.g. 'eating or heating'). In October a 1,000 hard copies were produced renamed the MU Family Cookbook with some content changes making it more relevant and appealing to Families as well as Students.



To help those whose family life has met with adversity:

How we work towards achieving this Objective - cont.



Diocese of Bath & Wells

Parenting shouldn't end when relationships do.

More than a million children have no contact whatsoever with one of their parents after separation. Unfortunately some children experience behavioural issues including antisocial behaviour, distress, unhappiness, and both physical & emotional problems.



To try and solve this problem The Mothers' Union works with NACCC - *The National Association of Child Contact Centres* - by providing safe spaces where children can meet the parents they don't live with.

NACCC oversees our 3 centres along with around 350 other contact centres across the UK, run by a network of nearly 3,000 volunteers including other Mothers' Union members.

Child Contact Centres are neutral places where children of separated families can enjoy contact with non-resident parents and sometimes other family members, in a comfortable and safe environment.

I am so grateful to our members for the dedication and brilliant way that they action our vision of **Helping Families whose Life has met with adversity.**

The Accreditation reports have recorded positive remarks about our 3 centres, Clevedon, Frome and Nailsea.

- The volunteers are friendly, welcoming and have enough information to be able to do their job safely
- Health and safety standards are met
- Safeguarding policies are in place and well known.
- Pre-visit meeting is completed for all resident & non-resident parents.
- Each family has a risk assessment
- Children are invited to look around the centre to help prepare them for their first contact session.
- Recruitment and induction is robust and volunteers are supported in their role.
- Excellent supported centres, run by a lovely group of people experienced in the area of supporting families.

To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children

How we work towards achieving this Objective

Anti Slavery Day & 16 Days of Activism:

Both activities were actively supported by prayer

Modern Day Slavery:

Members were kept informed, via the monthly Newsletter, of MDS and how to spot potential victims and who to alert. Our MU member with a special interest in MDS was able to give a talk to several branches.

Support for those in the Refuges:

Gifts and vouchers continue to be steadily donated.



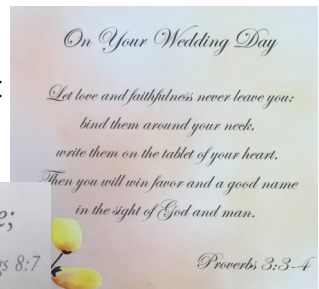
To promote and support married life

How we work towards achieving this Objective

Marriage Preparation:

1 Branch has supported Marriage Preparation sessions. In 2022 there were insufficient couples planning church weddings. The members involved commented that the meetings had been helpful to those thinking of getting married. Another benefice holds an annual Marriage Preparation Day with the MU providing refreshments.

A Mothers' Union card and a wedding prayer are given by several branches to welcome and support newly married couples



'Deep waters cannot quench love; nor floods take it away' Song of Songs 8:7

To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children

How we work towards achieving this Objective

By showing God's Love to their children, parents will learn about God's Love via our actions.

Birth:

Some branches begin their support at the birth of a baby, welcoming them into the Church family. At Christchurch in Nailsea, when a church member or a Tots mother gives birth they receive a baby bag containing a card, a gift for the child, a cardigan or shawl, Christian book for siblings, toiletries for mothers, a copy of the MU leaflet - *A Bit About Us*.

Baptisms:

Many Branches give something to the child or parents on the occasion of their Baptism: Card, Bible, Prayer Book or a Baptism Teddy. Again, DMs are continuing with this outreach, when branches close.

Children in Church: Many Branches have children's Play Bags with biblical story books, colouring and soft figures for use during services. Where branches have closed, these are maintained by Diocesan members.

Local Schools:

Several branches help with After-School Clubs, Bath United are supporting 2 schools combat Period Poverty.

Local Community:

Mother & pre-school children groups are supported by branches across the diocese; by regularly being there, parents get to know these MU members and trust them. MU members are frequently part of teams offering the "Open The Book" and "Messy Church" (in its various forms) Branches regularly give gifts on Mothering Sunday. Similarly the MU branches regularly create Christingles. Individual members reach out to neighbours using gardens, windows and a visiting Posada family to highlight the Christian faith.

Spreading The Word and Fund-raising to Support our WorldWide Mothers Union Friends

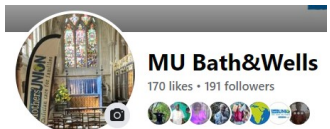


Lambeth Conference Visitors & our Links & Communication Lead



How We Work Towards Alerting Parishioners and Visitors to the Work of The Mothers Union

- † The Diocesan President, the Communications Lead and the Treasurer attend Diocesan Synod and their local deanery Synods when possible.
- † Our Communication's Officer delivers extra display boards & leaflets when a parish holds a special function.
- † Branches keep their incumbent and PCC informed of the work that they do.
- † Most parishes have a Notice Board with a display of current MU activity.
- † Cathedral Visitors are invited to join in our monthly Cathedral Prayers service.
- † We were delighted to see that the MU kneeler from the Mothers' Union Chapel became part of the Cathedral Crib Scene.
- † Regular contact with the Diocesan Personnel continues with MU being asked to provide Teas for a special service in the Cathedral.
- † Contact occurs with the Ordinands and Training Incumbents if possible.
- † Social Media. Our Facebook page continues although not as active as during Lockdowns; as do our Instagram and Twitter accounts but again not as much, especially as the Controllers regularly change the systems.



www.youtube.com/channel/UCB-a2ek2KJ_j39BR-ackJbw
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MUBathWells>
 Instagram: Bath&Wells MU Twitter: @BathWellsMU

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	AFIA	Rowena Merson Travel Bursaries	Child Contract Centres	Shirley Penn Bursary Fund	Other restricted funds incl Diocesan Projects	Total 2022	Total 2021
Receipts								
Subscriptions	16,894						16,894	19,230
Gift Aid	2,365						2,365	1,823
Mue Grant	863						863	863
CCC grant	700						700	700
Donations	5,137	2,906		60			8,102	3,390
Donations - MSH projects						1,025	1,025	418
Donations - Diocesan projects						1,097	1,097	944
Donations - Shirley Penn Fund					400		400	725
Donations - WWF						31	31	103
Donations - BID							0	14
Retreat	2,250						2,250	1,600
Interest	56		352	457			864	711
Unknown donation							0	384
Total receipts	28,264	2,906	352	517	400	2,153	34,591	30,905
Payments								
Subscriptions to MSH	13,980						13,980	16,237
Finance & Administration Unit (1)	7,908						7,908	9,426
Meetings and training	1,514						1,514	336
Expenses of DP, chaplain & trustees	875						875	394
CCC expenses				2,498			2,498	2,166
Mue rep & communication unit expenses	264						264	207
Retreat	2,772						2,772	1,125
Bursary Payments - AFIA (2)		3,328					3,328	1,394
Bursary Payments - Rowena Merson			70				70	129
Bursary Payments - MSH projects						1,025	1,025	418
Bursary Payments - Diocesan projects						2,194	2,194	50
Bursary Payments - Shirley Penn Fund					500		500	200
Bursary Payments - WWF						31	31	103
Bursary Payments - BID							0	14
Total payments	27,312	3,328	70	2,498	500	3,250	36,958	32,199
Surplus/Deficit	952	-422	282	-1,982	-100	-1,097	-2,367	-1,294
Opening current account & petty cash	14,269	422	2,318	9,268	525	2,257	29,059	30,353
Closing current account & petty cash	15,221	0	2,600	7,286	425	1,160	26,692	29,059

Unrestricted funds

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	AFIA	Rowena Merson Travel Bursaries	Child Contract Centres	Shirley Penn Bursary Fund	Other restricted funds incl Diocesan Projects	Total 2022	Total 2021
Hampshire Trust - Two Year Bond (to Feb 23)	7,049						7,049	7,000
<i>Rowena Merson AFIA Travel Bursaries Fund</i>								
Hampshire Trust - Easy Access								5,136
Hampshire Trust - Two Year Bond (to Nov 23)			18,000				18,000	18,000
Hampshire Trust - One Year Bond (to Jan 23)				5,061			5,061	
<i>Child Contact Centres' Fund</i>								
Hampshire Trust - Two Year Bond (to Jan 24)				10,000			10,000	10,000
Hampshire Trust - Two Year Bond (to Feb 23)				5,035			5,035	5,000
Hampshire Trust - Two Year Bond (to Jan 23)				15,000			15,000	15,272
	7,049	0	18,000	35,096	0	0	60,145	60,408

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2022

Notes

Fund Descriptions

Away from it All (AFIA)

This is a Mother's Union holiday scheme, primarily funded by our members, to give opportunity of a break to those who may be experiencing stress or difficulties in their family life. Funds raised can be to:

Help fund part of the cost of a holiday

Cover a family's travel expenses

Pay for a whole holiday or a day trip

Organise family weeks for groups of families to have a break with activities and outings

Rowena Merson Travel Fund

This is an invested legacy left to Bath & Wells following the untimely death of a serving Trustee. It was decided by her fellow Trustees at the time to use it for reimbursing travelling expenses for the families benefitting from the AFIA breaks. The original donation is invested in 2 yearly bonds which can be cashed in and reinvested as the Trustees deem necessary. Until now the interest received has exceeded expenditure.

Shirley Penn Bursary Fund

This was created in 2021 following a generous funeral collection from the MU in Bath & Wells of a former Trustee. It was designated for the use of members who wished to deepen their lives spiritually by attending either one day courses or the Annual Retreat. It contributes to their overall expenses according to their means. The funds are topped up from time to time by the widower and members are free to raise additional funds if they so wish.

Child Contact Centres

Contact Centres in Frome, Nailsea and Clevedon. All are affiliated to the National Association of Child Contact, strictly monitored, and examined by their staff. To date, no-one is paid for their help, but each Centre has a highly trained coordinator who reports back to the diocesan MU CCC Committee twice yearly, of which one Trustee is a committee member. At present the funds not needed are invested in several 2-year bonds. Members across the diocese also raise funds to support this valuable cause.

Diocesan Projects

This covers more locally inspired projects that members can be involved in such as knitting hats for use by the Seamen Mission, clothing for premature babies, trauma or Christening teddies, sewing "angel pockets" for still births, children's activity bags for churches, "fiddle blankets" for those with dementia etc, Bath Deanery support an online Student Cookbook which is advertised to all new students at Freshers Week in the two Bath universities. These projects come and go according to the need of local communities, and unless members indicate the specific need, money raised goes into this fund for project expenses.

Specific points to note

(1) Expenses include secretary's remuneration, rent, insurance, accountant's fees, copyright and data protection licenses. Normally postage and printing costs would be included, but late invoices were received, including some costs for 2021, which are being queried.

(2) AFIA holidays - the balance brought forward (£422) and AFIA donations (£2,906) did not meet the total expenditure of holidays (£5,491) so £2,163 from the Diocesan Projects fund was used to make up the shortfall.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we approve the Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2022 as presented to a meeting of the Board on

Madeline Hellier - Diocesan President

Sarah Bult - Treasurer & General Trustee

Margaret Willmott - General Trustee

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Mothers Union Enterprises (MUe) Trading Account for the year ending 31st December 2022

	2022		2021
	£		£
Sales	9426		9700
Purchases	10500		8538
Surplus (Deficit) on Sales	-1074		1162
Opening Bank Account	1246		84
Surplus (Deficit) on Sales	-1074		1162
Closing Bank Account	172		1246

Notes:

This is the trading account of the Mothers' Union our diocesan representative deals directly with MSH for stock, which is then sent out to branches, or displayed at meetings and events such as our AGM or Diocesan Synod, on a sale or return basis. It has its own bank account which the Diocesan Representative administers.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we approve the Mothers Union Enterprises (MUe) Trading Account for the year ending 31st December 2022

Madeline Hellier - Diocesan President

Sarah Bult - Treasurer & General Trustee

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Worldwide Fund Account for the year ending 31st December 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations for General Fund and various projects	8102		5690	
Donations for Emergency Relief Fund				
Donations for Literacy & Development - S Sudan				
Donations not declared in previous year			1001	
Bank Interest	<u>7</u>		<u>2</u>	
		8109		6693
Payments				
Transferred to Mother's Union, Mary Sumner House, for the various funds as donated		9700		
Surplus		<u>-1591</u>		<u>6693</u>
Opening Balance		9066		2373
Closing Balance		<u><u>7475</u></u>		<u><u>9066</u></u>

Notes:

This is a fund administered by the Central Council in Mary Sumner House and all funds raised in Bath & Wells go towards MU work all over the world. It has its own bank account which the MU Diocesan WWF Treasurer administrates.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we approve the Worldwide Fund Account for the year ending 31st December 2022

Madeline Hellier - Diocesan President

Sarah Bult - Treasurer & General Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Mothers Union Diocese of Bath and Wells

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Mothers Union of Bath and Wells (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) The accounts do not accord with those records

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

Adam Turrell
FCA ICAEW
Maxwells Chartered Accountants
4 King Square
Bridgwater
Somerset
TA6 3YF

Date:

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Mothers Union Diocese of Bath and Wells

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Mothers Union of Bath and Wells (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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2. (2) The accounts do not accord with those records

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

Adam Turrell
FCA ICAEW
Maxwells Chartered Accountants 4 King Square
Bridgwater
Somerset
TA6 3YF

Date:

THE MOTHERS' UNION (DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS BRANCH)

England & Wales - Charity number 250180

Accounts

Appendix A -

Monthly Meeting Thoughts - 2021

Appendix B -

Example of Bath District Weekly email

Appendix C -

Example of Prayer Chain

Appendix D -

Example of Quiet Days email:



Mothers' Union Chapel - Wells Cathedral

Annual Report & Accounts 2021

Registered Charity No. 250180

Vision

Our vision is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships. This is not a vague hope, but a goal we actively pursue by praying, campaigning and enabling.

Mission

We aim to show our Christian faith by the transformation of communities worldwide. We can do this through supporting strong relationships within the family and promoting reconciliation at all levels.

Our Aims and Objectives are:

- 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:
- To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children:



Cathedral Prayers in Lady Chapel, Wells Cathedral



How We Work Towards Alerting Parishioners and Visitors to the Work of The Mothers Union

- † Branches keep their incumbent and PCC informed of the work that lay they do.
- † Most parishes have a Notice Board with a display of current MU activity.
- † Our Communication's Officer regularly delivers extra display boards and leaflets when a parish is having a special function.
- † Visitors wandering around the Cathedral are invited to stop and join in our monthly Cathedral Prayers service.
- † We were delighted to see that the MU kneeler from the Mothers' Union Chapel became part of the Cathedral Crib Scene
- † During COVID restrictions we have learnt to embrace Social Media. Our Facebook page was developed in 2020 - MU Bath&Wells @MUBathWells. During 2021 confidence grew, with this form of Outreach gradually developing into 2 or 3 daily posts with photos (mostly taken by family) illustrating prayers from our Annual Prayer Diary. Next came Instagram - @bath_wells_mothers.union. This was slower to develop into regular daily posts but eventually this was reached. Lastly came Twitter, not yet fluent! Bath&Wells Mothers Union @BathWellsMU.

eg: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCB-a2ek2KJ_j39BR-ackJbw

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MUBathWells>

Instagram: [Bath&Wells MU](https://www.instagram.com/bath_wells_mothers.union)

Twitter: [@BathWellsMU](https://twitter.com/BathWellsMU)



We Have

771 Members in the diocese

621 Branch members
Found in 31 Branches

151 Diocesan Members
either as Lone Members
or part of 6 Groups

Maintaining a Worldwide Fellowship of Christians United in Prayer, Worship & Service

How we work towards achieving the following Objective

Cathedral Prayers:

This is a ½ hour Service held in Wells Cathedral on the 3rd Thursday morning of each month. It includes praying for the members in 4 or 5 dioceses across the world, following the format found in the central Prayer Diary. Each month's service is written and led by a different Branch/ Deanery, following the guidelines written by The Faith Trustee, to fit in with the Annual Theme produced by the Worldwide Trustee Board. During Lockdown, this was held on-line.

eg: YouTube Link - <https://youtu.be/LeFIu8KD17Q>

Wave of Prayer Service:

This service is written by our Faith Trustee, our MU Chaplain and the Diocesan President. It is used by branches both in Bath&Wells Diocese and our Link Dioceses - Umuahia and Ijebu in Nigeria: Shinyanga, in Tanzania: False Bay in South Africa: and Vellore Church of South India, sent by our Link Dioceses Project Officer.

In 2021, we were unable to use The Mothers' Union Chapel in Wells Cathedral, therefore the service was held on-line each day. We were delighted to be joined by members from our Link Diocese, in particular by South Africa & India.

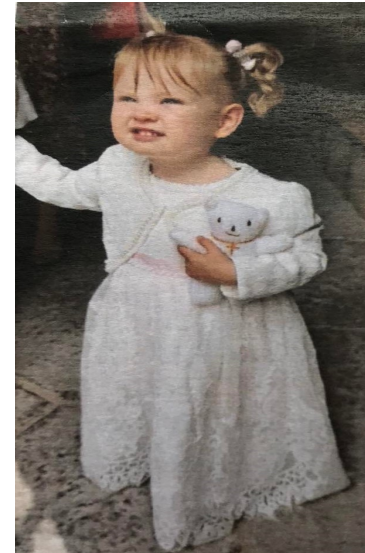
YouTube Links - <https://youtu.be/2hIcq-u1ht8>

<https://youtu.be/HW3d5KdEmJc> <https://youtu.be/zUY3X5SYsZc>

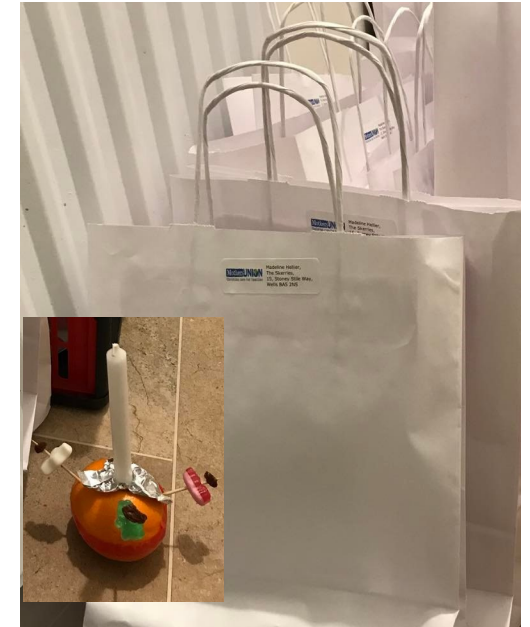
Branch/Group Prayers:

To aid planning the branch pre-meeting Prayer Times, the Faith Trustee produces a booklet with suggested hymns and readings to fit the Annual Theme.

Appendix A



Poppy at her baptism
in All Saints' with her MU teddy



To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children
How we work towards achieving this Objective

By showing God's Love to their children, Parents will learn about God's Love by our actions.

Baptisms:

Many Branches give something to the child or parents on the occasion of their Baptism: Card, Bible, Prayer Book or a Baptism Teddy.
We Hope and Trust that Baptism Anniversary Parties will be resumed soon.

Local Schools:

There are several branches that have, when possible, helped with After-School Clubs, although COVID has lessened these opportunities.
Bath United are supporting 2 schools combat Period Poverty.

Local Community:

Mother & pre-school children groups are supported by branches across the diocese; by regularly being there, parents get to know these MU members and trust them.
Branches regularly give gifts on Mothering Sunday. Similarly the MU branch are often the creators of the Christingles.

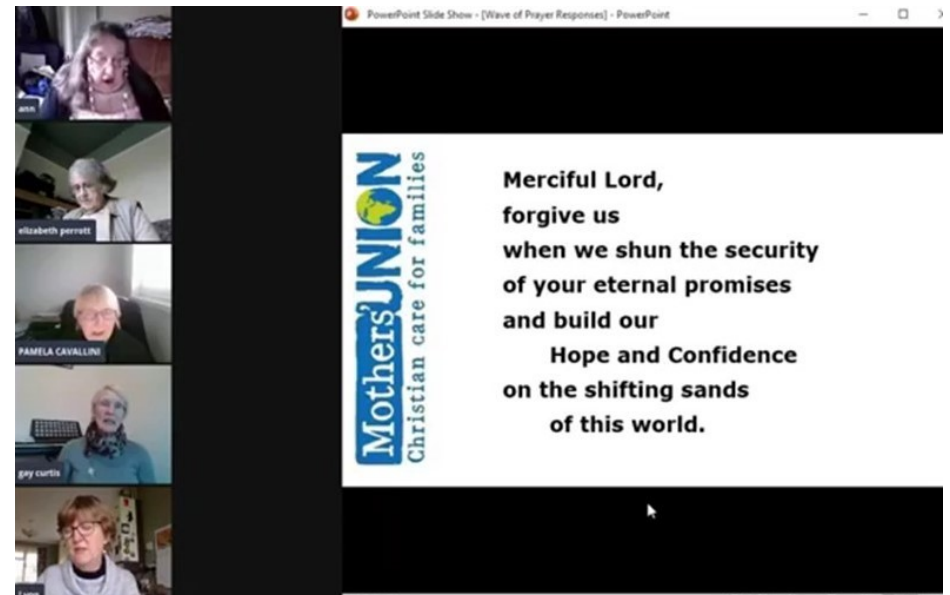
Individual members have reached out to neighbouring families using front gardens & windows to highlight the Christian faith.



Cathedral Prayers On-line 2021



Wave of Prayer on-line 2021



Mothers' Union Autumn Retreat 2021

Theme: Celtic Saints

Venue: The Ammerdown Centre,

Date: Wednesday 13th – Friday 15th October

Conductor: Rev Wendy Mitchell

Price: £300 including deposit –

The **Shirley Penn Memorial Retreat Fund** is now available for Bursaries. Due to COVID uncertainty a deposit is not currently being collected. Price for non-resident attendees tbc.

Open to: MU members, Diocesan Readers and friends. The Retreat will include extended periods of silence.

To Show Interest Please Contact:

Ann Cattermole, 53 High Lane, Shapwick, Bridgwater. TA7 9NB or **email:** ann@cattermoles.com
or MU Office, Flourish House, 2, Cathedral Park, Wells BA5 1FD or **email:** mu@bathwells.anglican.org

Registering an Interest in MU Retreat 2021



Thursday 22nd April

Zoom Meeting

Starting @ 9.45am

Service @ 10am

Looking to the Future

Speakers:

Sheran Harper

&

Bishop Ruth

&

Kathryn Anderson

**Mothers' Union
Diocese of Bath & Wells**



on Monday 20th Sept

Liquid Refreshment from 10.15

**Bagley Baptist Church
Coldnose Lane, BS28 4TG**

Have you sent Veronica details of the person to be remembered?

Are they **MU member** or **Friend** or **Family**



To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children

How we work towards achieving this Objective

Modern Day Slavery:

Our Project Officer completed On-Line training. She also tried to plan a Workshop which was postponed yet again.

Anti Slavery Day and 16 Days of Activism

Both activities were actively supported by prayer rather than demonstrations. Many branches created lengths of chains, knitted, crochet & paper.

Support for those using the Refuges:

Many branches, even when not meeting in person, raised funds to donate vouchers. This allows the recipients to choose their own gift.

Parenting:

Our Parenting Project Leader remains in touch with the National Organisation. We hold this Project in our prayers.

To promote and support married life

How we work towards achieving this Objective

Marriage Preparation:

West Monkton Branch have, in the past, been supporting Marriage Preparation in their Benefice. Unfortunately COVID has upset this format of preparation.

Marriage Fairs:

MU attendance at these tends to occur on an Ad Hoc basis. Unfortunately, there hasn't been any opportunity to support these lately.

We Hope and Trust that with normality returning, these activities will be relaunched.

During lockdown Taunton Deanery held a monthly prayer meeting via zoom. Bath District received a weekly email which included a weekly prayer sheet, specific prayer requests and mid-day prayers

Appendix B

Prayer Chain:

Faith Trustee was responsible for receiving information and forwarding it around the members.

Appendix C

Parish Eucharist:

These are held monthly in some Parish Churches across the diocese.

Quiet Days:

It had been arranged that the Quiet Days planned for Lent 2020, but cancelled due to COVID, would be used for Lent 2021. As this was still not possible, our MU Chaplain wrote a Lent course on Pilgrimage which was emailed out weekly. Members were invited to ring her for further discussion.

Appendix D

Retreat:

This was arranged (in Faith) for 3 days in October as usual, and was held at Ammerdown Conference Centre with our Chaplain leading a small group. The faith of the Celtic Saints were explored.

Special Services:

These were arranged when possible, following COVID restrictions and some members needing to maintain isolation. They included the Service before the Annual Meeting via Zoom, A Thanksgiving/Memorial Service, Mary Sumner Day Service, Advent Services, Anti-Slavery Service (YouTube).

YouTube Links - https://youtu.be/2zZ83M_DiIs

To help those whose family life has met with adversity:

How we work towards achieving this Objective

AFIA:

A family of 4 were given a Haven holiday. We enabled a lady, with her daughter to visit her elderly mother.



CRAFT: Knitting:

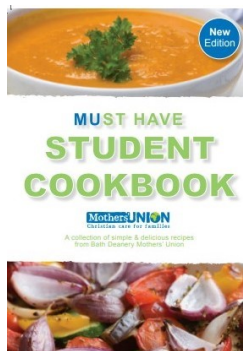
Members have continued to knit, but as have many others due to Lockdowns, so many of our usual recipients - Neonatal departments, Nursing Homes, have been overwhelmed with knitting. Some baby items were donated to a prison with a Mother & Baby Unit. Items destined for Gaza, had been waiting for travel restrictions to be lifted, but were able to go before the end of 2021.

Period Poverty:

Due to members not meeting to discuss plans, this Project has not yet expanded beyond 2 schools in Bath.

Student Support / Cookbook:

Members were unable to attend Freshers Week when the students are usually offered a copy of the book. Instead of printing copies, the Cookbook became an On-line book accessed via the MU bath website. A leaflet giving details about this version of the Student Cookbook was added to the student bags. The website records how often the cookbook is accessed.



Parenting:

Our Parenting Project Leader remains in touch with the National Organisation. We hold this Project in our prayers.



Knitting for Gaza



Knitting for the Seafarers



THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2021

	Rowena				Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
	Unrestricted Funds £	AFIA £	Merson AFIA Travel Bursaries £	Child Contact Centres' Fund £		
Receipts						
Subscriptions	19230				19230	7951
Gift Aid	1823				1823	3080
MUe Grant	863				863	1069
CCC Grant				700	700	1691
Donations	1594	1676		120	3390	3718
Donations - Mary Summer House Projects					418	-
Donations - Diocesan Projects					944	1502
Donations - S Penn Fund					725	-
Donations - WWF					103	515
Donations - BID					14	63
Retreat	1600				1600	-
Bank Interest	124		326	261	711	912
Unknown Donations not included last year	384				384	-
Total Receipts	25618	1676	326	1081	30905	20501
Payments						
Subscriptions to Mary Summer House	16237				16237	-
Finance and Administration Unit Expenses (1)	9426				9426	9670
Meetings and Training	336				336	-
Expenses of Diocesan President, Archdeaconry Leaders and Chaplain (inc conferences)	394				394	890
Child Contact Centre Expenses				2166	2166	-
MUe Representative's Expenses and Communication Unit expenses	207				207	298

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	AFIA	Rowena Merson AFIA Travel Bursaries	Child Contact Centres' Fund	Other Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
Retreat	1125					1125	-
Bursary Payments		1394	129			1523	2870
Bursary Payments - Mary Sumner House Projects					418	418	1000
Bursary Payments - Diocesan Projects					50	50	144
Bursary Payments - S Penn Fund					200	200	-
Bursary Payments - WWF					103	103	515
Bursary Payments - BID					14	14	63
Total Payments	27725	1394	129	2166	785	32199	15450
Surplus / (Deficit)	(2107)	282	197	(1085)	1419	(1294)	5051
Opening Current Account & Petty Cash	16376	140	2121	10353	1363	30353	25302
Closing Current Account & Petty Cash	14269	422	2318	9268	2782	29059	30353
Other Investments							
<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>							
Hampshire Trust - Two Year Bond (to Feb 23)	7000					7000	7000
<i>Rowena Merson AFIA Travel Bursaries Fund</i>							
Hampshire Trust - One Year Bond (to Nov 21)							5085
Hampshire Trust - Two Year Bond (to Nov 21)							18000
Hampshire Trust - Easy Access			5136			5136	
Hampshire Trust - Two Year Bond (to Nov 23)			18000			18000	

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2021

	Rowena Merson AFIA				Total 2020
	Unrestricted Funds	AFIA	Child Contact Centres' Fund	Other Restricted Funds	
<i>Child Contract Centres' Fund</i>					
Hampshire Trust - One Year Bond (to Feb 21)					5000
Hampshire Trust - Two Year Bond (to Dec 21)					15000
Hampshire Trust - Two Year Bond (to Feb 22)			10000		10000
Hampshire Trust - Two Year Bond (to Feb 23)			5000		5000
Hampshire Trust - Easy Access			15272		15272
	7000	0	30272	0	60408
					60085

Notes:

Fund Descriptions

Away from it All (AFIA)

This is a Mothers' Union holiday scheme, primarily funded by our members, to give the opportunity of a break to those who may be experiencing stress or difficulties in their family life. Funds raised can be used to:-

- Help fund part of the cost of a holiday
- Cover a family's travel expenses
- Pay for a whole holiday or day trip
- Organise family weeks for groups of families to have a break with activities and outings.

Rowena Merson Travel Fund

This is an invested legacy left to Bath & Wells following the untimely death of a serving Trustee. It was decided by her fellow Trustees at the time to use it for reimbursing travelling expenses for the families benefiting from the AFIA breaks. The original donation is invested in 2 yearly bonds which can be cashed in and reinvested as the Trustees deem necessary.

Shirley Penn Bursary Fund

This was created in 2021 following a generous funeral collection from the MU in Bath & Wells of a former Trustee who had also been on the national Central

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2021

Council. It was designated for the use of members who wish to deepen their lives spiritually by attending either one day courses or the Annual Diocesan Retreat. It contributes to their overall expenses according to their means. The funds are topped up from time to time by the widower of the Trustee and members are free to raise additional funds if they so wish.

Child Contact Centres

These are invested funds, originally given as grants or donations, towards the running, by the Mothers' Union in Bath & Wells, of voluntarily organised Child Contact Centres. We have three centres in Frome, Nailsea and Clevedon. All are affiliated to the National Association of Child Contact Centres, strictly monitored, and examined by their staff. To date no one is paid for their help, but each Centre has a highly trained coordinator who reports back to the diocesan MU CCC Committee twice yearly, of which one Trustee is a committee member. At present the funds not needed are invested in several 2 yearly bonds. Members across the diocese also raise funds to support this valuable cause.

Diocesan Projects

This covers more locally inspired projects that members can become involved in such as knitting hats for use by the Seamen Mission, clothing for premature babies, trauma teddies or Christening Teddies, sewing 'angel pockets' for still births, children's activity bags for churches, 'fiddle blankets' for those suffering from dementia etc. Bath Deanery support a Student Cookbook which is distributed to all new students at Freshers Week in the two Bath universities. These projects come and go according to the need of local communities, an unless members indicate the specific need, money raised goes into a general 'pot' for project expenses and donations.

1. The expenses include the following: secretary's remuneration, rent, rates and insurance, accountants fees, stationery and office consumables, postage and photocopying, copyright and data protection licences, meetings and events, less contributions to cost of events / meetings.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we approve the Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2021 as presented to a meeting of the Board on 25th October 2022 .

Madeline Hellier - Diocesan President

Madeline Hellier

25th October 2022

Sarah Bult - Treasurer & General Trustee

Sarah Bult

25/10/22

Margaret Willmott - General Trustee

Margaret Willmott

25/10/22

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Mothers Union Enterprises (MUE) Trading Account for the year ending 31st December 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Sales	9700	7393
Purchases	8538	8122
Surplus (Deficit) on Sales	1162	(729)
Opening Bank Account	84	813
Surplus (Deficit) on Sales	1162	(729)
Closing Bank Account	1246	84

Notes:

This is the trading account of the Mothers' Union our diocesan representative deals directly with MSH for stock, which is then sent out to branches, or displayed at meetings and events such as our AGM or Diocesan Synod, on a sale or return basis. It has its own bank account which the Diocesan Representative administers.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we approve the Mothers Union Enterprises (MUE) Trading Account for the year ending 31st December 2021

Madeline Hellier - Diocesan President

Madeline Hellier
 25th October 2022

Sarah Bult - Treasurer & General Trustee

Sarah G. Bult
 25/10/22

THE MOTHERS UNION DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS
Worldwide Fund Account for the year ending 31st December 2021

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations for General Fund and various projects	5690		3395	
Donations for Emergency Relief Fund	-		90	
Donations for Literacy & Development - S Sudan	-		50	
Donations not declared in previous year	1001		-	
Bank Interest	2		-	
	2		-	
		6693		3535
Payments				
Transferred to Mother's Union, Mary Sumner House, for the various funds as donated				1200
				1200
Surplus		6693		2335
Opening Balance		2373		38
Closing Balance		9066		2373

Notes:

This is a fund administered by the Central Council in Mary Sumner House and all funds raised in Bath & Wells go towards MU work all over the world. It has its own bank account which the MU Diocesan WWF Treasurer administrates.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we approve the Worldwide Fund Account for the year ending 31st December 2021

Madeline Hellier - Diocesan President

Sarah Bult - Treasurer & General Trustee

Madeline Hellier
25th October 2022

Sarah G. Bult
25/10/22

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Mothers Union Diocese of Bath and Wells

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Mothers Union of Bath and Wells (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) The accounts do not accord with those records

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



Adam Turrell
FCA ICAEW
Maxwells Chartered Accountants
4 King Square
Bridgwater
Somerset
TA6 3YF

Date: 25/10/22 .