



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Ely Diocesan Mothers Union

On accounts for the year
ended

2025

Charity no
(if any)

251394

Set out on pages

1-7

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

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

Independent
examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

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

Signed:

Date:

10 April 2026

Name:

Piers Coutts

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

(if any):

Address:

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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ELY DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

Page1

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

RECEIPTS

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Totals</i>	
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
For Mary Sumner House				
Subscriptions	-	11,299	11,299	11374
World Wide Fund	-	1,401	1,401	959
Special Relief Fund	-	100	100	114
Britain & Ireland Fund	-	129	129	0
Gifts of Support	-	302	302	257
Make a Mothers' day	-	282	282	210
Summer of Hope Appeal	-	2,495	2,495	1789
Xmas Appeal	-	190	190	1000
	<u>-</u>	<u>16,198</u>	<u>16,198</u>	<u>15,703</u>
Diocesan General Funds				
Diocesan Fund contributions	160		160	242
Profit Related Grant	409		409	388
Conferences	-		-	5,035
Sundry Receipts	184		184	281
	<u>753</u>		<u>753</u>	<u>5,946</u>
Investment Income				
CBF Deposit Fund	502		502	514
CBF Investment Fund	925		925	903
	<u>1,427</u>		<u>1,427</u>	<u>1,417</u>
MUe Sales				
MUe 70072 - H Williams	1,513		1,513	1,644
Mue 96827 - L Elson	450		450	370
	<u>1,963</u>		<u>1,963</u>	<u>2,014</u>
Units (see page 3 for more detail)				
Faith in Action	-	7,180	7,180	5,796
Communications	-	-	-	530
Finance & Administration	1,180	-	1,180	2,141
Praying Our Faith	£ -	-	-	-
	<u>1,180</u>	<u>7,180</u>	<u>8,360</u>	<u>8,467</u>
Total receipts	5,323	23,378	28,701	33,546
Total payments (from page 2)	5,366	27,639	33,005	34,152
Deficit of receipts over payments	<u>-44</u>	<u>-4,260</u>	<u>-4,304</u>	<u>-606</u>
Reduction in value of Investments	-1,330	-	-1,330	745
Net movement on funds	<u><u>-1,374</u></u>	<u><u>-4,260</u></u>	<u><u>-5,634</u></u>	<u><u>139</u></u>

ELY DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

Page2

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

PAYMENTS

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Totals</i>	
	<i>2025 £</i>	<i>2025 £</i>	<i>2025 £</i>	<i>2024 £</i>
Mary Sumner House				
Subscriptions	-	11,323	11,323	11,349
World Wide Fund	-	1,401	1,401	1,038
Special Relief Fund	-	100	100	114
Britain & Ireland Dev. Fund	-	129	129	-
General Fund	-	190	190	1,000
Christmas Appeal	-	302	302	257
Make a Mothers' day	-	382	382	110
Summer of Hope Appeal	-	2,495	2,495	1,789
	<u>-</u>	<u>16,322</u>	<u>16,322</u>	<u>15,657</u>
Administration				
General Office Expenses	-	-	-	62
President's Expenses	-	-	-	105
VP & General Trustee Expenses	79	-	79	-
Finance Administrator	-	-	-	156
Training & Development	50	-	50	100
	<u>129</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>423</u>
Diocesan General Funds				
Conferences	856	-	856	5,271
Donations BWH/Cathedral/churches	400	-	400	400
Leaving Gifts	431	-	431	166
	<u>1,687</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,687</u>	<u>5,837</u>
MUe purchases				
MUe 70072	1,194	-	1,194	1,883
Mue 96827	428	-	428	197
	<u>1,622</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,622</u>	<u>2,079</u>
Faith in Action	543	9,416	9,959	7,683
Communications	477	-	477	1,779
Finance & Administration	847	-	847	570
Praying Our Faith	62	-	62	124
Grants	-	1,900	1,900	-
	<u>1,929</u>	<u>11,316</u>	<u>13,245</u>	<u>10,156</u>
Total payments	5,366	27,639	33,005	34,152

ELY DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION

Page3

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 Detailed Analysis of Task Groups

Receipts

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £
Faith in Action			
Projects	-	-	125
Away From It All			
Holidays	-	7,180	5,671
	<u>-</u>	<u>7,180</u>	<u>5,796</u>

Payments

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £
Faith in Action			
Projects	543	-	334
Away From It All			
Holidays	-	9,416	7,298
World Wide Links	-	-	-
Unit expenses	-	-	51
	<u>543</u>	<u>9,416</u>	<u>7,683</u>

Communications

Diocesan			
Members Events	-	-	530
Projects	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>530</u>

Diocesan			
Members Events	-	-	516
Diocesan			
Members Mailings	477	-	388
Banners	-	-	175
Banner Exhibition	-	-	659
Unit expenses	-	-	41
	<u>477</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,779</u>

Finance & Administration

Gift Aid	1,180	-	2,141
Closed Branches	-	-	-
	<u>1,180</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,141</u>

Insurance	480	-	450
Annual Reports &			
Accounts	211	-	120
Unit Expenses	156	-	-
	<u>847</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>570</u>

Praying our Faith

Projects& Quiet			
Days	-	-	-
Projects	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Projects & Quiet			
Days	60	-	60
Indoor Members	-	-	64
Unit Expenses	2	-	-
	<u>62</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>124</u>

Grants & Donations

Diocesan			
Development			
Fund	-	-	-
Susan Baker Fund	-	-	-
General Fund	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Diocesan			
Development			
Fund	-	-	-
Susan Baker Fund	-	1,900	-
General Fund	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,900</u>	<u>-</u>

ELY DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION
BALANCE SHEET at 31 DECEMBER 2025

Page 4

	2024		2025	
	£	£	£	£
Investments				
CBF Investment				
Fund shares	33,275		31,945	
		33,275		31,945
Cash at bank & in hand				
Lloyds BankCurrent				
Account	8,771		3,040	
CBF Deposit				
Account	10,919		12,346	
		19,690		15,386
		52,965		47,331

Represented by:

	Opening balance £	Receipts in Year £	Payments in Year £	Adjust ments £	Closing balance unrestricted £	Closing balance restricted £	Closing balance total £
Unrestricted Funds:							
Trustees general fund	32,668	5,323	5,366	-470	32,154	-	32,154
Restricted Funds:							
Mary Sumner House	125	16,198	16,322	0		0	
AFIA Holiday Scheme	10196	7,180	9,416			7960	
(Retained for 3 years)	860	-	-	-860		0	
Susan Baker Memorial Fund	9117	-	1,900			7217	
	20,297	23,378	27,639	-860		15177	15,177
	52,965	28,701	33,005	-1330		15177	47,331

ELY DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION
Deaneries & Branches Receipts and Payments Account
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Number of branches Jan 2025= 21 Number of branch returns = 19 % = 90%

Branch	Balance			Page 5
	bfwd	Receipts	Payments	Balance cfwd
Cambridge South Deanery				
Grantchester Prayer group	No Bank Account			
Trumpington	680.81	673.28	1010.23	343.86
Fordham & Quy Deanery				
Anglesey	312.57	1056.12	1037.00	331.69
Burwell	182.88	661.50	661.50	182.88
Granta Deanery				
Balsham	361.12	250.00	399.98	211.14
Linton	327.12	1136.40	1105.78	357.74
Sawston	356.35	732.08	814.50	273.93
Stapleford	324.62	729.24	887.50	166.36
Shingay Deanery				
Shingay Deanery	452.96	539.00	891.00	100.96
Ely Deanery				
Cathedral Branch	412.23	2777.35	2691.55	498.03
Ely St Mary's	885.52	1391.69	1468.50	808.71
Haddenham	261.43	314.50	438.97	136.96
Littleport	757.44	1427.34	1546.43	638.35
Huntingdon Deanery				
Brampton	678.22	3525.75	3333.07	870.90
St Ives All Saints	844.70	3210.15	3240.00	814.85
St Neots	781.75	1404.45	1598.90	587.30
March Deanery				
Chatteris	0.00			0.00
March St Peters	0.00			0.00
March Evening Group	161.96	557.89	574.38	145.47
Wisbech Deanery				
Wisbech	80.50	1093.10	1027.99	145.61
Yaxley Deanery				
Farcet & Stanground	376.65	1135.45	1183.55	328.55
Yaxley	84.33	1768.16	1735.68	116.81
Totals	8323.16	24383.45	25646.51	7060.10
less transactions to Diocese		18992.59	18992.59	
Net Receipts and payments	8323.16	5390.86	6653.92	7060.10

Page 6

ELY DIOCESAN MOTHERS UNION
Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2025
Consolidated Funds Balance Sheet

	2024			2025	
	£	£		£	£
Investments					
CBF Investment Fund shares	33,275			31,945	
	<hr/>	33,275		<hr/>	31,945
Cash at bank & in hand					
Lloyds Bank current a/c	8,771			3,040	
CBF Deposit Account	10,919			12,346	
Funds held by Deaneries & Branches	<hr/> 8,323			<hr/> 7,060	
		28,014	-		22,446
		<hr/> 61,289			<hr/> 54,391

Represented by:

	<i>Opening balance</i>	<i>Receipts in Year</i>	<i>Payments in Year</i>	<i>Adjust ments</i>	<i>Closing balance unrestric ted</i>	<i>Closing balance restricted</i>	<i>Closing balance total</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds:							
Trustees general fund	32,668	5,323	5,366	-470	32,154		32,154
Restricted Funds							
Mary Sumner House	125	16,198	16,322			0	
AFIA Holiday Scheme	10,196	7,180	9,416			7960	
Closed Branches (Retained for 3 years)	860	0	0	-860		0	
Susan Baker Memorial Fund	9,117	0	1,900			7217	
	<hr/> 20,297	<hr/> 23,378	<hr/> 27,639	<hr/> -860		<hr/> 15177	<hr/> 15,177
Deaneries & Branches ¹	8,323	5,391	6,654		7,060		7,060
	<hr/> 61,289						<hr/> 54,391

¹The Deaneries and Branches payments & receipts are net of transactions with the Diocese. See Page 7 Notes to the Accounts, point7.

ELY DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION

Notes to the Accounts

1. These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown at market value) in accordance with accounting standards and the Charities Act 2011

2. The accounting is on a Receipts and Payments basis.

3. Any funds remaining after a branch closure are retained for 3 years as restricted funds and then included in the Diocesan fund (Constitution 22). £859.98 was transferred this year.

5. 1439.06 CBF Investment Fund shares were held on 31st December 2025, (1439.06 at 31st December 2024), which are shown at market value at 31st December 2025. In accordance with the Trustees' policy, dividends were transferred to the CBF Deposit account.

The level of reserves and the Investment policy are reviewed annually by the Board of Trustees to ensure they cover the forward commitments of the Society. During the year Unrestricted Reserves decreased from £32668 to £32154. Trustees have budgeted in 2026 for £10,000 to be given in grants from unrestricted reserves, £3,000 in grants from The Susan Baker Memorial Fund, and are actively seeking applications for suitable projects from Churches within the Ely Diocese.

6. Mothers Union Enterprises Ltd stocks, are accounted for at the point of purchase and sale, (MUe receipts and payments), therefore no stock values are recorded in these accounts.

7. The accounts include a statement (page 5) relating to the 19 Deaneries and Branches who have completed and submitted a valid "Receipts and Payments" summary for the year ending 31st December 2025. It is noted that balances brought forward by 2 branches from 2024 differ by £125.50 to those declared as end of year balances for those branches in the 2024 accounts.

The Deaneries and Branches statement forms the basis of the consolidation of these figures into the main accounts, as shown on page 6. The Receipts and Payment figures shown in the statement on page 6 are net of transactions with the Diocese to avoid double counting.

8. Trustees expenses: Trustees may claim out-of-pocket expenses although many do not. Trustees expenses where claimed for travel to meetings and subsistence are shown below:

President and Vice Presidents - £79 Trustees - £nil)

9. Adjustment to Trustees general fund of -£470, (£470.28), due to decrease of £1330, (£1330.26) in the valuation of CBF Investment at 31 December 2025, and transfer of £860 (£859.98) from the Closed Branches Fund.

10. There were 21 active branches in 2025, (2024 - 21). Subscriptions were received from 465 members (2024 - 494).



Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION

ANNUAL REVIEW 2025

Commissioning in March of Vice-Presidents and Chaplain, by Bishop Dagmar, Acting Bishop Of Ely



A damp windy day for the Silent Protest for 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence in November



Worldwide President Kathleen Snow visited Ely in April, seen here in the centre, with Julia Jamieson, Zonal trustee and Comfort Fearon, Canterbury Province President

REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS

ANNUAL REVIEW AND ACCOUNTS 2025

INTRODUCTION

Ely Diocesan Mothers' Union is a registered charity (Charity Registration No. 251394) and is an affiliated diocesan organisation of The Mothers' Union (Charity Registration No. 240531).

Vision

Our vision is a world where everyone prospers. We actively pursue this vision through prayer and action, helping to build confident people and resilient communities. Our movement seeks to bring about justice, challenge prejudice and advocate change.

Mission

We aim to show our Christian faith by helping the sustainable transformation of communities worldwide. We do this by helping to nurture strong relationships at all levels, promoting peace and reconciliation locally, nationally and globally.

We aim to:

- Encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children.
- Maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service.
- Promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children.
- Help those whose family life has met with adversity.
- Promote and support married life.

ORGANISATION

Ely Diocesan Mothers' Union is managed by the Board of Trustees, with three Diocesan Vice-Presidents; as there is a vacancy for a President. The Board of Trustees is serviced by a voluntary non-voting Minutes Secretary. The Trustees when complete consist of at least six and not more than fourteen individuals, the majority of whom must be members. The Diocesan President will be nominated by the Trustees and approved by the Diocesan Bishop or if there is a vacancy in See, by the Suffragan Bishop. The other trustees can be nominated by any member. All trustees including the Diocesan President are elected by an electoral college of members comprising of one vote per member. Elections are held triennially.

The work of the Charity is organised in Task Groups each headed by a Leader who is a Trustee. The task groups are Praying our Faith, Faith in Action, Finance & Administration and Fundraising & Communication.

As an affiliated diocesan organisation of The Mothers' Union, the work of the Charity follows the policies of the central organisation. There is close liaison between the central and diocesan units. The Central Mothers' Union organises a training day for trustees at the start of each triennial and the diocese provides new trustees with a welcome pack detailing their responsibilities. In the diocese the work of the Charity is carried out by volunteers in parish and deanery based branches and by diocesan members. All trustees work from home; we have the use of the Diocesan Office for meetings. There is a voluntary Diocesan Secretary. Branches work closely with the local parish or deanery of the Church of England.

TRUSTEES

2025

Diocesan Vice-President Faith In Action Task Group	Hazel Williams MBE	(4)
Diocesan Vice-President Communications Task Group	Debbie Tye	(4)
Diocesan Vice-President Finance & Admin Task Group	Jean Webb	(4)
Branch Liaison Officer	Helen Banyard	(4)
Branch Liaison Officer	Maureen Haigh	(4)
Praying Our Faith Task Group Leader	Christine Holt	(3)
Trustee	Christine Mitchell	(3)

The number of meetings attended in 2024 is shown in brackets after each name.

All trustees listed above, except Christine Holt, were serving as trustees on 5th March 2026.

Non-Voting members

The Revd Paula Spalding, Honorary Chaplain, attended 2 meetings at which she led the prayers.

Honorary Treasurer Derek Tye attended meetings to report on the financial affairs.

The Life Vice-Presidents, elected in June 2025, Jo Wibberley and Della Fletcher attended 1 meeting each.

The Diocesan Trustees met on four occasions to plan for, and review the work of the Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Ely, in meeting our stated aims.

The Annual General Meeting was held at St Peter's Church Hall, March in April and the Annual Report and accounts were circulated to members and accepted.



The Autumn Diocesan Day was held at Waterbeach Church Hall in October.

The on-going support of our acting Bishop, the Chapter of Ely Cathedral and other senior clergy has enabled us to maintain a high profile for the Mothers' Union in the Diocese and one of the Vice-Presidents is an ex officio member of the Diocesan Synod. We continue to enjoy good working relationships with Diocesan staff and have been holding our meetings in the Diocesan Offices at Etheldreda House, Lancaster Way, Ely.

Members have continued to support Mothers' Union initiatives in the diocese and worldwide.

The Trustees confirm that there were no serious incidents, or any other matter, which should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners. The Trustees have had regard to public benefit, as stated in the Charity Commissioners' guidance.

This Report, Review and Account were approved by the Trustees on 31st March 2026 and will be presented to the society's AGM on 15th April 2026.

Signed

Date

The work of our society is detailed in the four Task Groups:

PRAYING OUR FAITH

THURSDAY PRAYERS

Thursday Prayers are held monthly in Ely Cathedral and at All Saints Church, St. Ives. The cathedral service goes out on Zoom to members at home, and is recorded and made available on YouTube. The service is written and read by different members, and uses a common theme, prayers for special concerns and for Mothers' Union members and work around the world.

QUIET DAYS

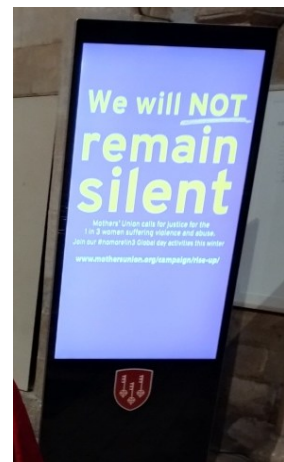
Mothers' Union Quiet Days of prayer and meditation are usually held twice a year in varied locations, throughout the Ely Diocese. These provide members and friends with a quiet place to pray where they can be spiritually nourished.

CAMPAIGNS

We have publicized, and taken part in the UN 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the MU Rise up Campaign against Domestic Abuse.

This annual UN international campaign starts on 25th November (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) until 10th December (International Day of Human Rights).

A display in the South Transept of Ely Cathedral for the duration of the Campaign was well received, with many people taking part in making a paper dove. It has been suggested that doves represent compassion and kindness to others during difficult transitions. The dove is therefore symbolic of our love and support for victims of domestic abuse.



On Saturday 29th November, a silent prayer Vigil was held in St Dunstan's Chapel, close by the display. Members were able to read about types of violence, and how some sufferers were affected, and to pray for them.

A Silent Protest followed at the West Front of the Cathedral, where members were joined by The Bishop of Huntingdon; the Rt Revd Dagmar Winter, (Acting Bishop Of Ely).

This action was part of a national campaign at 3 minutes past 1pm, to recognize the 1 in 3 women who experience gender-based abuse in their life time.

CLERGY LIAISON

Della Fletcher, Clergy Liaison Officer, used the Diocesan Mission and Ministry Team's weekly newsletter to circulate to all clergy information on MU Mothering Sunday resources; and details of Ely Mothers' Union involvement in November/December with the 16 days of Activism against Gender Violence.

MU notecards were sent, together with the MU leaflet "Who we are" to 13 priests and 6 deacons ordained at Petertide by the Bishop of Huntingdon, and one notecard and leaflet to a priest who was ordained separately by the Bishop of Ebbw Vale.

INDOOR MEMBERS (IMPC)

Joanna Sanders remains the contact between our Indoor Members and the Ely Diocese Mothers' Union throughout the year. In 2025 each of the 10 members received a birthday card on the relevant date and they all received Easter and Christmas cards with a small gift – this year it was a 150th anniversary bookmark. Each August she writes to them as otherwise it is a long gap between Easter and Christmas. Last Christmas two members sent Joanna cards, which was lovely, and no cards were returned, so she believes all 10 members are still alive.

PRAYING OUR FAITH cont'd

WORLDWIDE LINKS

Our Worldwide Officer is Irene Porter, Communications have been made to our worldwide links with Lusaka in Zambia, Shyogwe in Rwanda, Sokoto & Ikka in Nigeria and Karimnagar in India with forwarding our monthly Ely Mothers' Union newsletter, via email. News and photos from our links are included in the newsletters and very often Lusaka will respond to these.

Easter and Christmas cards are posted to our links. Facebook is a good source of photos and information about our links, this is accessed regularly.

We have prayed for our worldwide links throughout the year, at meetings, during our Thursday prayers and our Wave of Prayer in December included prayers, information about our links and a word puzzle based on our link Dioceses.

There has been a worldwide link display at our spring and autumn Diocesan meetings, and summer Garden Party.



ELY DIOCESAN PRAYER DIARY

The diary offers members a focus for prayer for local projects and responsibilities, of our diocesan Mothers' Union. This is revised annually, to keep all members aware of MU activities, and where prayer support is needed.

FAITH IN ACTION



During the year 2025 Members have continued to work towards supporting “those whose lives have met with Adversity” (our 4th MU objective), through our various projects.



Away From It All Holidays (AFIA) which started 65 years ago, continues to thrive in Ely Diocese. 10 family groups were able to have a holiday in a mobile home at Hunstanton. The children all receive pocket money and funds were provided for each family to help fund food or petrol. Many branches are very generous raising funds throughout the year. One mother wrote:

There really aren't enough words to say to you but we are so grateful for everything you have done for us. After having such a bad time, this break was really needed, just getting us away from the area was huge.

We made the best memories together. The children had the opportunity to just be children again without the worries of everyday life, for me seeing them laughing again really has made me feel complete again. Thank you so much for doing this for us, your kindness will be forever remembered.

PRISONS

There have been 3 successful Relationship Courses at Littlehey Prison this year and a waiting list for next year. More than 150 filled stockings were taken into the Visitors Centre at Whitemoor Prison for families of inmates at Christmas as well as a similar number of knitted chicks and chocolate eggs at Easter.

FAITH IN ACTION cont'd

LOCAL PROJECTS

We attended Gransden Show, with a baby tent which is always busy, providing a private space for parents to feed young children and change nappies or just have a short rest with a few toys for the children to enjoy. We received from them a donation of £325 towards our work.

We have sent a total of 2,339 items to hostels, refuges, baby banks, a women's night shelter, hospitals and Mary's Child Charity, in the north-west of our Diocese supporting families and the homeless. This isn't absolutely accurate as many things, like the welcome bags and washing up bowls contain multiple items. We receive many items to pass on including toiletries, many knitted goods, kitchen equipment, baby clothes and household cleaning products as well as chocolates and tins of biscuits.

Over the Christmas period all refuges and hostels for young people received shopping vouchers to be given to those living there so that they could choose what they bought over the festive period.



The Manager from one of the hostels wrote -

"The House has been most grateful for the welcome bags of toiletries, but the greater need now is for Home Starter kits. What the residents struggle with, and do not always prioritise, are cleaning products and home items that prevent their rooms becoming messy and unclean. This then leads to



issues with their terms and conditions here and will likely be an issue going forward in their tenancies when they move on".

Initially, 4 Home Starter Kits were put together, containing: a roll top bin, washing up bowl, dustpan and brush, 2 tea towels, washing up liquid, cream cleaner, all-purpose cloths, tie handle bin liners, microfibre cloths, sponge scourers and antibac spray.

This will now be an ongoing project.

We have continued to support Mission Aviation Fellowship with postcards and Marie Curie Cancer Care and St. John's Hospice with used postage stamps, to help their fundraising.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

This Group continues to ensure that the Charity complies with the requirements of the Charity Commission and associated legislation through providing administrative services and observing correct accounting procedures.

The Group prepared the Annual Review and Accounts. Derek Tye was appointed as treasurer in 2021 and has continued to do the administration of the finances. Derek prepares reports for each quarterly Trustee meeting, and has offered advice; and encouraged greater promotion of the under-used restricted funds.

The Susan Baker Fund paid out 4 grants, and the scope of the possible award has been raised, to be match funded for larger projects. The AFIA Fund (Away From It All) supported 10 families, to have a restorative seaside break, away from everyday stresses.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION cont'd

Hazel Williams, Safeguarding Officer reports - The Safeguarding Policy which had been completely revised by central Mothers' Union was adopted by the trustees. As an independent charity we are in the process of carrying out our own DBS checks rather than accepting those that have been obtained through the Church of England. Safeguarding training can now be accessed on line through the Mothers' Union.

A data officer, Stuart Mitchell, was appointed, to coordinate our membership details with the central Mothers' Union new Portal system. Discrepancies have been identified and investigated. Stuart reported to the December Trustee meeting.

During the year the Trustees started reviewing and revising the (2017) Constitution. This when completed, with the accompanying addendum/bye-laws will be presented to a Members meeting in the Autumn 2026

Planning for the Mothers' Union 150th Anniversary in 2026 has taken place, with celebrations for members and a recruitment drive, alongside the routine work for this group.

The task group continues to underpin the charitable purposes of the Society through offering guidance and support in finance, training and general administration to Trustees, Deanery and Branch officers.

FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNICATION

There are several ways in which our Mothers' Union group communicates, supports, and engages with members, as well as through promotion and by informing others on a local, national and worldwide level.

Our monthly Diocesan Newsletter is produced by Hazel Williams which contains lots of interesting news and articles about MU Projects and Events. The monthly "Family:Faith:Fun" Activity Sheets (produced by Ros Wright) have been a great resource for members, and available to be shared with families and parishes. Our MU page on the Ely Diocesan website is regularly updated with the Newsletters, "Family:Faith:Fun" Activity Sheets, Prayer Resources, and events, and relevant items are posted on our Facebook page.

The MU Noticeboard in Ely Cathedral has displays looked after by Penny Hall, covering various seasonal and thematic topics, and MU events and information. For the 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence and the MU Rise Up Campaign, there was a Silent Vigil and Banner Witness at the Cathedral in November.



Monthly Thursday Prayer in Ely Cathedral meets in the Presbytery, which continues to be streamed live via Zoom as well. These videos are posted on our YouTube Channel, to enable those members who could not come along or join in at a set time to be able see the videos. We are able join in with the Live Recordings of Mothers' Union Midday Prayers held daily on Facebook, thoughtfully led by staff from Mary Sumner House, and other MU members from around the country and worldwide.

FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNICATION cont'd

Regular Zoom Meetings for the Communities of Interest Groups have been held during the year by Mary Sumner House staff which included Communications and Membership.

The Garden Party took place on Saturday 14th June in the Bishop of Ely's Garden, and we enjoyed lovely sunny weather. There was an MU Stall selling cards, a Worldwide Display, and Raffle, and a Summer-themed wordsearch. Funds raised from the raffle and donations realised £144.



MU Trustees and Members have served refreshments at the three Ely Diocesan Synod Meetings; promoting the work of MU with displays and leaflets available.

DIOCESAN MEMBERS

Diocesan Members were written to or emailed each month with the Newsletter, "Family:Faith:Fun" Activity Sheets, Prayer Resources, and other relevant documents and leaflets, with membership totaling 50 at the end of the year. Shingay Deanery Branch closed and several of the members joined as Diocesan Members.

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Throughout the year, notice was taken of, and the Charity Commissioners' Guidance for Charity Trustees to show public benefit was followed, in the advancement of the Society's Charitable Purposes, namely: the advancement of religion, the prevention or relief of poverty, the relief of those in need by reason of financial hardship and the advancement of community development.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Ely Diocesan Mothers Union

On accounts for the year
ended

2025

Charity no
(if any)

251394

Set out on pages

1-7

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

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

Independent
examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

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

Signed:

Date:

10 April 2026

Name:

Piers Coutts

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

(if any):

Address:

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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