

# Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union

Northern Ireland · Charity number 100592

## Details

Status Received

Registered 2014-10-20

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

## Contact

Address The See House  
152A Ballagh Road  
Fivemiletown  
Bt75 0qp  
BT75 0QP

Phone 075 5750 7879

## Activities

**Purposes:** The Aim of the society is the advancement of the Christian religion in the sphere of marriage and family life. In order to carry out this Aim, its Objectives are: 1. To uphold Christ's teaching on the nature of marriage and 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 the protection of children. 5. To help those whose family life has met with adversity.

**What the charity does:** The advancement of religion

**How the charity works:** Community development, Education/training, Overseas aid/famine relief, Religious activities, Volunteer development, Welfare/benevolent

**Who the charity helps:** Children (5-13 year olds), Men, Older people, Overseas/developing countries, Parents, Preschool (0-5 year olds), Specific areas of deprivation, Victim support, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£38,374	£39,746	£0	0

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Geraldine Beattie		
Mrs Beulah Whittendale		
Mrs Caroline Watterson		
Mrs Diane Donaldson		
Mrs Eileen Cutler		
Mrs Heather Ellis		
Mrs Irene Boyd		
Mrs Joy Graham		
Mrs Lettie Coulter		
Mrs Liane Armstrong		
Mrs Linda Keating		
Mrs Myrtle Allen		
Mrs Noreen Little		
Mrs Vivien Clarke		
Rev Maureen Desborough		

**Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100592

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# Accounts

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Statement of Receipts and Payments  
and Assets and Liabilities  
for Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union  
for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024  
Charity Number: NI100592

**Mothers' Union Clogher Diocese**  
**Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

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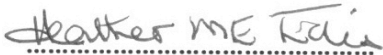
**Mothers' Union Clogher Diocese**  
**Receipts and Payments Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

		<b>Total Diocesan Funds 2024</b>	<b>Total Diocesan Funds 2023</b>
<b>Opening Bank and Cash Balances</b>		<b>£12,026.39</b>	<b>£13,266.97</b>
<b>Add: Receipts</b>			
Subscriptions and Donations	1	£16,444.00	£16,098.00
Receipts for MU Activities	2	£19,660.50	£15,556.72
Investment Receipts	3	£35.15	£28.94
Other Receipts	4	£2,234.44	£934.53
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>£38,374.09</b>	<b>£32,618.19</b>
<b>Less: Payments</b>			
Diocesan Expenses	5	£17,050.84	£16,343.65
Payments to MU Activities	6	£21,080.29	£16,819.92
Other Payments	7	£1,614.90	£695.20
		<b>£39,746.03</b>	<b>£33,858.77</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>		<b>(£1,371.94)</b>	<b>(£1,240.58)</b>
<b>Closing Bank and Cash Balances</b>		<b>£10,654.45</b>	<b>£12,026.39</b>

**Mothers' Union Clogher Diocese  
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

	<b>Diocesan Funds 2024</b>	<b>Diocesan Funds 2023</b>
<b>Bank &amp; Cash Balances</b>		
Current Account	£3,561.75	£2,348.49
Deposit Account	£2,457.40	£2,422.25
Worldwide Account	£4,466.29	£4,069.70
Enterprise Account	£169.01	£3,185.95
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>£10,654.45</b>	<b>£12,026.39</b>

Approved by the trustees on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

  
 Heather Ellis  
 Diocesan President

  
 Diane Donaldson  
 Treasurer

## Mothers' Union Clogher Diocese

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

	Diocesan Funds 2024 £	Diocesan Funds 2023 £
<b>1. Subscriptions and Donations</b>		
Members subscriptions	16,327.00	16,098.00
Donations	117.00	-
<b>2. Receipts for MU Activities</b>		
Prayer Breakfast	150.00	-
Mums in May	2,977.74	100.00
Offertory	1,042.76	438.50
Grant	1,180.00	1,840.00
Sale of Enterprise Goods	1,777.70	2,156.36
Collections for Worldwide Fund	12,532.30	12,361.00
<b>3. Investment Receipts</b>		
Bank Interest	35.15	28.94
<b>4. Other Receipts</b>		
Bring & Buy Sale	133.00	167.00
Fund Raising Event	1,685.00	-
Purchase Quiz Books	177.00	-
Grant on Enterprise Sales	239.44	318.53
All Ireland Conference	-	350.00
Receipts of Other MU Activities	-	99.00

	<b>Diocesan Funds</b>	<b>Diocesan Funds</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
<b>5. Diocesan Expenses</b>		
Members Subscriptions	16,268.00	15,498.00
Officers' Expenses	356.23	211.76
Gifts	184.00	142.00
Sundry – quiz books/badges	177.00	59.90
Stationery	29.90	395.56
Bank Fees	35.71	36.43
<b>6. Payments to MU Activities</b>		
Indoor Members Fund	350.00	300.00
Centenary Fund	750.00	750.00
Mums in May	3,094.74	920.00
Grant	900.00	300.00
Purchase of Enterprise Goods	3,294.20	2,112.44
MU UK	70.00	-
Prayer Breakfast	-	75.59
MU Overseas Dept	12,621.35	12,361.89
<b>7. Other Payments</b>		
Outings	1,614.90	-
Conference, course, training day	-	645.20
Hire of Hall	-	50.00

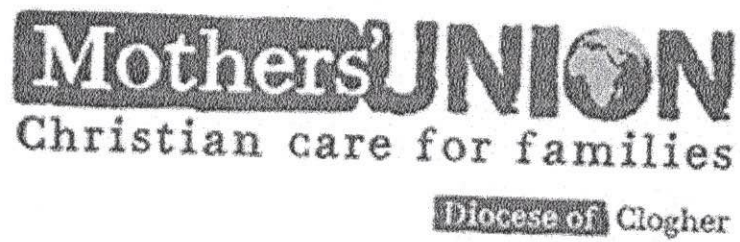
**Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100592

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# Accounts

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**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS  
AND  
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

**For The Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

**NI Charity No 100592**

**RoI Charity No 20007331**

Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union Accounts 1 January 2023 -- 31 December 2023

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Opening Balance	£ 4397.91	Replace cq MU Enterprise	£ 115.60
Mums in May Garrison Grant	£ 300.00	Mums in May Garrison Grant	£ 300.00
Members subs	£ 16,098.00	Members subs	£ 15,498.00
All Ireland Conference	£ 350.00	All Ireland Conference	£ 350.00
Mums in May Devenish/Boho	£ 100.00	Metamorphosis Course	£ 50.00
Bring & Buy Sale	£ 167.00	Training Day*	£ 245.20
Collection Area Service	£ 438.50	Badges	£ 59.90
MIM Grant*	£ 1,540.00	Gifts	£ 92.00
Sale of 9 brooches	£ 99.00	Indoor Members	£ 300.00
MU Enterprise grant 2022	£ 318.53	President expenses	£ 80.80
Reverse Cq MU Enterprise	£ 115.60	H Allen accountant	£ 50.00
		MU Centenary Fund	£ 750.00
		MU Merchandise(water bottles)	£ 115.00
		MU Enterprises **	£ 1,572.44
		MU Brooches 50 x £8.50	£ 425.00
		Note books & bids	£ 209.56
		Office repair centre booklets	£ 36.00
		Sallaghy MU Hire Hall Autumn Council	£ 50.00
		Secretary's Expenses	£ 80.96
		Treasurer's expenses	£ 50.00
		MU Enterprise Metamorphosis Booklets	£ 150.00
		MUM Grants given*	£ 920.00
		Prayer Breakfast ***	£ 75.59
		Balance in Bank	£2643.49
		less unrepresented cqs	£ 295.00
			£ 2,348.49 ✓

£23924.54

£23924.54

*H Owen*  
*21/11/24*

Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union Accounts 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023

BUSINESS RESERVE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

01.01.2023 Balance in Bank £2393.31  
Bank Interest £ 28.94

£2422.25 31.12.2023 Closing Balance £2422.25 H over 214124

**Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100592

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# Annual report

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Annual Report  
Mothers' Union  
Diocese of Clogher  
2023

NI Charity NO 100592  
RoI Charity No 20007331

## Main Office Bearers

<b>Diocesan President</b>	Mrs Heather Ellis
<b>Secretary</b>	Mrs Liane Armstrong
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mrs Diane Donaldson

## Financial Details

Annual Accounts 1 January 2023 - 31 December 2023

**Closing Balance £2348.49**

**Branch Subscriptions** for 2023 were £16098.

£ 600 for Clogher Diocesan Funds

£15498 sent to MUAI (£27 per member)

Branch Subscriptions for 2023 were € 1890 which was sent to MUAI

(€ 30 per member)

### **Bank**

Ulster Bank  
16 Darling street  
Enniskillen  
BT74 7ER

### **Membership**

Clogher Diocese Members - 650

The number of branches in Ireland at 31 December 2023 was 264  
(31 December 2022: 280)

The number of members in Ireland at 31 December 2023 was 4,940 (31 December  
2022: 5,016). (1930- 10,000 members)

# **CLOGHER DIOCESAN MOTHERS 'UNION**

## **DIOCESAN TRUSTEES 2023**

PRESIDENT Mrs Heather Ellis

### **FINANCE AND CENTRAL SERVICES UNIT**

VICE-PRESIDENT Mrs Geraldine Beattie

UNIT CO-ORDINATOR Vacant

SECRETARY Mrs Liane Armstrong

TREASURER Mrs Diane Donaldson

### **FAITH AND POLICY UNIT**

VICE-PRESIDENT Vacant

UNIT CO-ORDINATOR Mrs Valerie McMorris

INDOOR MEMBERS Mrs Irene Boyd

SOCIAL POLICY (N) Mrs Joy Graham

SOCIAL POLICY (S) Mrs Linda Keating

### **ACTION AND OUTREACH UNIT**

VICE-PRESIDENT Mrs Lettie Coulter

UNIT CO-ORDINATOR Mrs Noreen Little

WORLDWIDE Mrs Doreen Earls

YOUNG MEMBERS Mrs Caroline Watterson

### **FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNICATION UNIT**

VICE-PRESIDENT Mrs Myrtle Allen

UNIT CO-ORDINATOR Mrs Ivy Edwards

MU ENTERPRISE Mrs Vivien Clarke

PRO Vacant

### **OTHER MEMBERS**

CHAPLAIN Rev Charles Eames

HOSPITAL VISITOR (N) Mrs Geraldine Beattie

HOSPITAL VISITOR (S) Mrs Myrtle Allen

ELECTED REP TO COUNCIL Mrs Beulah Whittendale

GFS REPRESENTATIVE Mrs Eileen Cutler

**Mothers' Union is an international Christian membership charity that aims to demonstrate the Christian faith in action through the transformation of communities worldwide.**

**Our aims and objects are:**

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

**Our 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.

**Our values**

Mothers' Union is a Christian mission organisation working with people of all faiths and none. Mothers' Union is firmly rooted in a voluntary ethos centered on mutual respect and collaboration. Our governance, leadership and programmes are undertaken and driven by members within their own communities worldwide.

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and love your neighbour as yourself.” Luke 10:27

**Our membership**

Our members are not all mothers, or even all women. They are single, married, parents, grandparents, or young adults just beginning to express their social conscience. Mothers' Union provides, for all four million members, a network through which they can serve Christ in their own community - through prayer, financial support and actively working at the grassroots level in programmes that meet local needs.

**PATRON** The Bishop of Clogher.

### **DIOCESAN CHAPLAIN**

The Diocesan Chaplain shall be appointed for a term of three years and may serve a further three years even if retired, but still living with the Diocese. The appointment shall be made by the Bishop in consultation with the Diocesan President. The Chaplain shall be entitled to participate in meetings of the Trustee Body and Diocesan Council. The Chaplain shall be invited to formally open Diocesan Council with prayers and/or a time of worship.

### **DIOCESAN PRESIDENT**

The Diocesan President, in accordance with the direction of All Ireland Council, shall be elected to commence the term of office on the first day of January in the year preceding the triennial elections. This appointment shall be agreed by the Bishop of Clogher. A term of office shall be three years with possible election for a further three years.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The Diocesan Trustee Body shall take office triennially on the 1st January and consist of the following: The Diocesan President, Diocesan Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Unit Co-ordinators and Representatives. The Trustee Body shall have power to invite members to attend for a specific purpose and for a specific period, in order to report, advise or represent Mothers' Union policy. Representation on other organisations shall be determined by the Trustee Body.

### **ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO TRUSTEE BODY**

All Diocesan Officials, excluding the Treasurer, shall serve for a term of three years and shall be eligible to serve for a further term. They shall be ineligible for re-election to the same office if they have already served in it six years either consecutively or at intervals. All voting must be completed by 31st July and subsequently at three-year intervals. Each name included in the voting paper must have received a minimum of three nominations. Only votes received by post will be accepted. The Diocesan Officials with the exception of the President shall commence their term of office on the first day of January in the year following their elections. Trustee Meetings The Trustee Body shall meet as required but not less than twice per year. Any additional meetings of the Trustee Body may be called at the discretion of the Diocesan President. Most of the meetings are on Zoom which leaves it convenient for most Trustees. Agenda for Trustee meetings If a member wishes a specific item to be discussed at a Trustee meeting, notice must be given to the Diocesan Secretary at least three weeks in advance of the meeting.

Diocesan Members Diocesan members are those who wish to remain in touch with the Mothers' Union in the Diocese and would like to become involved in Mothers' Union work in the local area without having to commit to regular meetings. Diocesan members pay a subscription each year which entitles them to attend Council meetings, receive invitations to all special services and events, and receive Diocesan and All Ireland magazines.

## **NOTICE OF MEETINGS**

Not less than fourteen days' notice shall be given of a meeting of the Diocesan Council.

## **BRANCH ELECTIONS**

The Branch Leader may be appointed by the Incumbent of the Parish or elected by the members of the Branch, with the appointment approved by the Incumbent. The Branch Secretaries, Treasurers, and Branch Unit Representatives shall be elected triennially by the Branch members and shall commence their term of office on the First day of January. Their term of office should be three years and they will be eligible to continue for a further three years.

## **WORSHIP**

All Mothers' Union meetings and events shall include a time of worship. The Mothers' Union Prayer and the Wave of Prayer should be included regularly. Branches are encouraged to have a service of corporate communion when appropriate during the year.

## **INVITATIONS TO THE WORLD-WIDE PRESIDENT**

Before any invitation is extended to the World-Wide President, the Chief Executive or any member of staff of Mary Sumner House, the advice and guidance of the Diocesan President should always be sought. The All Ireland President should then be informed before any invitation is sent out. This is not only courtesy but also good practice. According to guidelines issued by Mary Sumner House invitations should only be issued for a diocesan event.

## **INVITATIONS TO ALL IRELAND AND OTHER DIOCESAN PRESIDENTS**

The Diocesan President should always be informed before any invitation is issued to the All- Ireland President. Similarly, she should be informed of invitations to any other Diocesan President.

## **FINANCE**

It is in keeping with our ethos, and in line with Charity Commission legislation, that best practice shall be maintained in all areas. Any two of three signatories are required on all cheques and where possible one should be the Diocesan President. At Branch level, the annual accounts shall be audited by an independent person, presented annually at a Branch meeting and forwarded to the Diocesan Treasurer. At Diocesan level, all accounts shall be audited by a person approved by the Trustee Body and presented annually to the Trustees. Once in each triennial period, the expenses of the members of the Trustee Body shall be reviewed to make sure all expenses are covered.

## **CHARITABLE APPEALS**

The Mothers' Union is a charity and is not in a position to be used as a channel for appeals by other Charitable Organisations unless sanctioned by the Diocesan President (Reg. 12 MU Constitution 2002). A Branch may support the needs of its own parish but subject to the Aims, Purpose and Objects of the Society.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY**

A Health and Safety policy including child protection shall be in place and reviewed annually. All activities and initiatives shall be in accordance with the guidelines as specified in the Church of Ireland's Safeguarding Trust.

# **Mothers' Union Trustee Unit Reports**

## **Action and Outreach**

Many of our members knit, crochet, sew and contribute to the many items that are donated throughout the Diocese.

Teddies have gone to Fields of Life in Uganda via June Butler and Romania via Geraldine Beattie. It is sad to see as the hospital valued them and would still appreciate them. This does not affect any other items and many were busy knitting baby blankets, cardigans, hats, angel gowns etc. These are always welcome and are now handed over by a Volunteer Co-Ordinator Stacey Clarke who has assured me of the value to the hospital. Blankets and Fiddle-muffs have also gone this year to the hospital following a direct request for Fiddle-muffs etc from the Elderly Care wards.

Vouchers were handed over to Women's Aid and Tearmann following the successful breakfast in Maguiresbridge. Again, these charities are very grateful for Vouchers and toiletries given. We have come a long way in raising awareness of Gender-Based Violence in our communities and can now consider going further with the Rise-Up campaign coming to our Diocese.

A Worldwide sub-group was established in All Ireland last November to develop up to date resources ie PowerPoint for Diocesan Representatives to use when they speak at meetings. Your worldwide funds really make a difference and we all value hearing what it does. Articles in your Connected Magazine also have information on this.

Ireland contributed £50,000 plus €15,000 in the year ended 31 December 2023 to Worldwide charities in Mothers' Union.

## **Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union Worldwide Account 2023**

The Overseas Department of Mothers' Union Ireland Worldwide Fund benefitted from members contributions of £12,361.89.

Our branches continued their generosity this year by novel fundraising and members donations.

## **Fundraising and Communication**

**WEBSITE:** [www.mothersunion.ie](http://www.mothersunion.ie)

The website is updated regularly. No personal information should be put on the website ie personal email addresses, home addresses or personal phone numbers (house or mobile). Putting personal details on a website can leave a person very vulnerable to scam artists. Permission must be received for the uploading of photographs and written permission in the case of minors, a copy of which must be sent to Margaret.

**FACEBOOK:** The Facebook pages are updated regularly. Only posts pertinent to Mothers 'Union are posted on the Facebook page. Any other posts will be taken down.

An Instagram Account for MU has now also been set up. As Instagram is now more popular with the younger generation it is hoped this will increase our following.

**TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE:** The Conference was held at An Grianan Termonfeckin, Co Louth from Friday 24 to Sunday 26 March 2023. This took the form of an All-Ireland Triennial Training Weekend along with other members from Clogher Diocese. The theme for the Conference was 'Reimagining MU 'and included many and varied speakers and a number of workshops which were led by Stephanie Nunn from MSH. Also included were periods of worship and prayer. The Conference also gave the opportunity to meet with friends and colleagues from other Dioceses and to learn from their knowledge and experience. On the Sunday morning Unit Meetings were held.

**MUMS IN MAY 2023:** Fundraising plans included a Puzzle Book to be sold to members for £3/ €3. The A5 booklet would include different types of puzzles with an armchair quiz in the centre-fold.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

**FOCUS:** Focus is an All-Ireland publication

The magazine is now only produced once a year because of cost and the difficulty with distribution. The Spring 2023 edition featured reports and photographs.

**CONNECTED:** The Spring and Autumn 2023 editions of Connected were mailed directly to members from MSH. The Spring edition included stories demonstrating the spirit of giving within Mothers 'Union around the world, together with useful resources and reflections. In the Autumn edition it was discussed how love and faith drive us to help our communities, our families and our Mothers 'Union sisters and brothers around the world. This edition also shared details of the new domestic abuse campaign, RISE UP Against Domestic Abuse and celebrated the Literacy and Financial Education programme in Burundi as well as useful resources and reflections.

**PRAYER DIARY:** Members received the 2024 Prayer Diary in December 2023. Mothers 'Union members around the world join together and pray the same prayers using the Diary. It contains daily prayers, monthly reflections and creative prayer ideas.

**PRAYER CHAIN:** The prayer chain continues to be a great comfort to those who have need of prayer

**CHARITABLE APPEALS:** The Mothers Union is a charity and is not in a position to be used as a channel for appeals by other charitable organisations unless sanctioned by the Diocesan President (regulation, 12, MU Constitution, 2002). A branch may support the needs of its own parish, but subject to the aims, purpose, and objects of the Society.

**MEETINGS:** Meetings in person mostly returned (some were held by zoom) for fellowship, training and business became the norm members continued to use the new technology when necessary to suit their members needs and availed of the opportunity to communicate with others throughout the Diocese and All Ireland for Branch and Trustee meetings.

However, for some members, technology continues to not be available or manageable. The leadership in branches and on the Trustee Board, kept in touch using the telephone, newsletters and face to face meetings generally.

**BRANCH ACTIVITIES:** This year again some members saw restrictions on branch meetings while some others who had lost confidence last year are still fearful of meeting together.

Branches held meetings in their church buildings and their parish halls, where the attendance is growing.

## **MOTHERS' UNION DIOCESAN EVENTS DURING 2023**

Diary details

**Saturday 11 March 2023** – Training for Branch Leaders, Branch Secretaries and Branch Treasurers.

### **'Spring into New Life'**

The keynote speaker was Mrs Sonya Johnston, Deputy Director Fermanagh Trust. Sonya has 30 years of experience working and leading in community/family/voluntary sectors in England and Northern Ireland in a wide range of settings. She told those present of her experiences in establishing services and working across boundaries in challenging areas with the homeless, youth care leavers, women's groups and education projects for children and young people. She also advised us of how Fermanagh Trust could be a resource for Mothers' Union branches and of the training they offer for community groups. She added that there are many opportunities for volunteering in the community and she encouraged Mothers' Union members to sign up for the Trusts telephone helpline.

The Diocesan President reminded those present that this was International Womens' week and we then gave thanks for the inspiring women who work with us in Mothers' Union.

Branch Committee member role outlines were shared by Trustees and those present asked questions about their new roles and learnt more of where they could get help and advice.

### **Wednesday 29 March 2023** – Domestic Violence Awareness Training

This training was greatly valued by all.

### **Friday 19 May 2023** – Festival Service – St Patrick's Cathedral, Monaghan

Approximately 182 members from 28 branches in the Clogher Diocese attended the Festival Service in Monaghan. There were 27 banners.

### **Thursday 25 May 2023** – Spring Council Meeting – Lisbellaw Parish Church Hall

There were 66 in attendance and 27 apologies.

The President read from Matthew 14:22-33 and then discussed the Reimagining MU – Moving forward. Mothers' Union has a declining and aging membership. We were reminded that we need to act now to GROW and SUSTAIN Mothers' Union as a vibrant and relevant organisation.

**Wednesday 7 June 2023** - Indoor Members 'Tea Party – Donacavey Parish Hall

This Indoor Members' Event on Wednesday 7 June brought together over 60 members which included a good representation of Indoor members. It began with a Holy Communion service where Bishop Ian Ellis brought an encouraging message, Revd Charles Eames and Canon John Woods assisted the Bishop to distribute the Holy Communion.

**Friday 22 September 2023** – Annual Gathering in York Mothers' Union Annual Gathering 2023 at York Barbican and York Minster. The 13 strong contingent from Mothers' Union Ireland benefitted from the Conference greatly.

Sheran Harper Worldwide President spoke from the heart as she encouraged us to trust in God for our Transformation, 'a transformation that will take root and bear good for all seasons'.

**Friday 6 – Saturday 7 October 2023** – Women's Weekend – Kilmore Hotel, Cavan

The guest speaker was Melanie Douglas who gave an introductory talk about her life, which encouraged members to think what 'Living an Abundant Life' would mean.

**Thursday 26 October 2023** – Autumn Council Meeting - Sallaghy Parish

## **The theme for 2022 - 2024 remains 'Transformation – Now'**

The prayer of the Trustee Board is that the year ahead, 2024 will see improvement in the freedom to meet and the building of confidence in the membership.

This theme has guided Mothers' Union in its work to transform the churches and communities in which we live, reflecting Christ's kingdom and transforming Mothers' Union's relevance for 21<sup>st</sup> Century life.

It is hoped that many stages of transformation will occur in the lives of the membership and within the charity as a whole, as we move beyond the pandemic and continue to address the many issues resulting from its legacy.

**Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100592

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# Annual return

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## **Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union**

I have examined the accounts of Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union for the year 2023 against their books, records and explanations.

I am satisfied that the accounts agree with same and that the financial return is correct and have been properly prepared.

Heather Allen

B.A Hons. PGD. M.A. Hons. DipLCM PGCE(FE)

87 Edenmore Road

Derrin

Tempo

Co Fermanagh

BT94 3JA

**Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100592

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# Accounts

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**CLOGHER DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION STERLING ACCOUNT 31.12.2022**

**INCOME**

Balance @01.01.2022	£4303.80
Members Subs	£ 13131.00
CD/DVD Sales	£ 230.00
Cookery Book Sales	£ 425.00
WW Fund from members	£ 165.00
Unpaid Cheque	£ 25.00
Donations for gift	£ 267.80
Meal Saddlers /Spring Council	£ 645.00
Bring & Buy sale	£ 192.00
Area Services	£ 687.00
Mums in May Grant	£ 260.00
F&ODistrict Council Grant	£ 1500.00 *
Donation	£ 15.00
Income from MU Enterprise	£ 105.14
From members re meal in Seagoe	£ 216.00
Collection re Autumn Council	£294.50

**EXPENDITURE**

Conference 2022	£200.00
MUAI Members Subs	£12540.00
Office Repair Centre	£ 159.60
Badge	£ 16.18
Worldwide Fund	£ 165.00
WWF / Area Services	£ £ 490.75
Unpaid Cq	£ 25.00
Gift	£ 270.00
Meal Saddlers/Spring Council	£ 705.00
Irene expenses	£ 26.15
MUAI Centenary Fund	£ 750.00
Indoor Members Fund	£ 300.00
L.Armstrong stamps	£ 66.66
H. Allen accountant	£50.00
Secretary expenses	£72.59
Meal in Seagoe Parish Ch	£240.00
Borderline Coach Hire	£475.00

## CLOGHER DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION STERLING ACCOUNT 31.12.2022

Members meal in Cathedral Oct. £570.00	Members meal in Cathedral	£570.00
	Mums in May sale of cookery books	£930.00
	Mums in May Br donation (2021)	£ 35.00
	Expenses re 16 Days Activism	£547.40*
Balance in bank account @31.12.2022	£4542.51	
less unpresented cheques	£ 144.60	<u>£4397.91</u>
	<u>£23032.24</u>	<u>£23032.24</u>

\*£1500 Grant = £500 towards Diocesan MU Newsletters (Spring 2022)

£500 towards Bus to St. Anne's Cathedral Belfast ( September 2022)

£500 towards 16 Days Activism at Colebrooke (November 2022)

### \*Expenses 16 Days Activism

Le Graphics printing	£ 212.80
Aghalurcher Parish Church re use of hall	£50.00
Edfield Restaurant re soup	£100.00
CDMU Enterprise re cards/badges	£115.60
Gifts	<u>£ 69.00</u>
	£547.40

**CLOGHER DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION STERLING ACCOUNT 31.12.2022**

**BUSINESS RESERVE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

01.01.2022	Balance in Bank	£ 2388.10		
	Bank Interest	<u>£ 5.21</u>		
		<u>£2393.31</u>	31.12.2022 Closing Balance	<u>£2393.31</u>

**Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100592

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# Annual report

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## **CLOGHER DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

2022 marked a milestone for us with the launch of **Transformation – Now!**

Adopted by all our members. Through this year and beyond, members of the Mothers' Union worked to:

- Transform ourselves, personally and spiritually, to live out our faith.
- Transform the churches and communities we work with and of which we are a part, to reflect Christ's kingdom.
- Transform Mothers' Union to be relevant for 21<sup>st</sup> century life.

**For with God nothing shall be impossible** *Luke 1: 37*

For nearly 150 years Mothers' Union has worked with communities in the UK and around the world. We believe that faith and compassion have the power to transform lives. We work under three core pillars to help communities transform:

**Stopping Violence** – through Peace and Safety

**Stopping Injustice** – through Gender Justice

**Stopping Hunger and increasing Self-Reliance**

Our programme work and central support includes literacy and savings programmes, parenting and resilience training and crisis assistance, alongside the myriad of small acts undertaken by our loyal and committed members in their own communities every day. We are led by people's needs. We listen and respond practically and through faith to the requirements of individual communities, doing all we can to improve people's lives today and instigate lasting change for tomorrow. Additionally, and where appropriate, we partner with other organisations and governments to increase our impact.

Our evolving response to the effects of a global pandemic combined with the start of a new triennium presents an opportunity to look to the future with fresh vision and adapt and learn to thrive in these changing times.

In 2022, **750,670 lives** were directly impacted globally whilst we also supported over **2.7 million** indirectly through our grassroots initiatives such as working in prisons, building resilience against climate change, supporting families, and educating about health.

## **1. Worldwide and Relief Fund**

Each year members donate money towards the work of MU throughout the 80 countries where members are active. Projects supported include literacy and numeracy education, business skills, health and wellbeing, parenting skills and action to end gender-based violence and child exploitation. Funds are also sent to disaster and crisis situations from the relief fund as the need arises.

Although there were few meetings held throughout the year, members still forwarded their contribution towards these worthy causes.

## **2. Action and Outreach**

2022 saw a return to normality for many and branch meetings were planned again. Indeed, it continues to amaze us to see the generosity of so many who give up their time and money to produce quality items for use across the Diocese and further afield.

Approximately 240 teddies were handed over to A&E and the Ambulance Service. Following guidance some were packed without MU connections as we can no longer do this unless we have confirmation of the wool and stuffing used. As teddies are classed as toys, they must conform to British Safety Standards, and we must have evidence that the wool and stuffing are approved by British Standards also.

Blankets and fiddle muffs have been distributed to nursing homes and the local hospital elderly persons wards. We include a slip explaining how they are donations from Mothers' Union. Cardigans, hats, and blankets go to Maternity units and Incubator cozies go to Neo-Natal units. We have also received some angel pouches for still-born babies. Many were beautifully knit in fine wool and would have taken time to complete.

During our 16 Days Activism against Gender Violence and our walk in Colebrooke many offered vouchers and gifts for Women's Aid and Tearmann. Members generosity was unbelievable, and packs were made up to be distributed to vulnerable women and children in their time of need. The Agencies were overwhelmed by the generosity and awareness of Domestic violence has been raised.

## **3. Building Members' Faith**

We enjoyed a wonderful year of celebrations at All Ireland level and in our own Dioceses. Clogher Dioceses hosted three Area Services in May, St Laebhan's Parish Church, Killeevan, Christ Church Maguiresbridge and Kiltyclogher Church.

The theme of these services was **'Transformation Now'** inspiring us to shake things up and transform ourselves and our communities.

A wonderful afternoon was held at the Bishop's Indoor Members Jubilee Tea Party held at St. John's Parish Hall Fivemiletown (the venue moved due to inclement weather). Lovely company, fellowship and delicious tea was enjoyed by all present.

More than 50 Clogher Mothers' Union members and friends attended the Annual Gathering held on the 23 and 24 September in Belfast. The highlight was the two services of Celebration held in St Anne's Cathedral.

A special service was held in St Macartin's Cathedral Enniskillen on the 6 November to mark the visit of the Mothers' Union President, Mrs Sheran Harper and All Ireland President Mrs June Butler. The Very Revd Canon Kenneth Hall welcomed everyone to the commissioning of Mrs Heather Ellis as President of Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union and Mrs Debbie Davidson as All Ireland Trustee.

Clogher Diocese Mothers' Union marked the 16 Days of Activism Campaign by holding a 'Walk Together Against Domestic Violence'. Over 130 people from across the community joined together in the grounds of Colebrooke Estate. The event was attended by the PSNI, Garda Siochana, Fermanagh and Omagh Women's Aid, Tearmann Domestic Abuse Service and The Aisling Centre. This campaign will continue to highlight Domestic Violence.

### **Prayer Chain**

The prayer chain continues to be a great comfort to those who have needed prayer. Any Branch who does not have a Prayer Chain Representative please contact Valerie McMorris, Faith & Policy Coordinator to discuss the role.

A Prayer Diary is produced for every member, listing daily prayers under weekly topics. Each week, dioceses around the world are also remembered in prayer. The diary also features details of projects and activities in various countries, giving suitable prayer points. All of the details help members keep informed of the work Worldwide.

A twice yearly magazine 'Connected' provides uplifting and encouraging reading for members.

The use of social media has greatly helped the communication between members, between leadership and members, and helped to extend the messaging beyond the membership. Facebook, MU website and WhatsApp groups were all used.

## 4. Campaigning

### 16 Days of Activism 2022 Report

Across Ireland the 2022 *16 Days 365 Global Day of Action* saw the return to 'in person' activities. All dioceses liaised and supported domestic abuse services in their area.

**RTE 16 Days service:** The RTE 16 Days service broadcast on Sunday 4th December was very well received by the general public. Bishop Pat Storey, Canon Robert Deane and members led the service whilst Worldwide President, Sheran Harper, spoke and shared experiences from around the world and urged members to continue with the 16 Days 365 campaign.

In relation to 16 Days 365 feedback one concern was raised –

#### **How do we interact with our local domestic abuse service?**

The 16 Days 365 committee recommend personal engagement, engagement of the whole parish, and suggest MU Chaplain be involved.

With the PSNI answering a call in relation to Domestic Abuse every 16 minutes, it is a sore reminder that domestic abuse is very prevalent in every community. Wherever there is domestic abuse there are men, women and children – survivors, perpetrators, bystanders, domestic services personnel and volunteers together with our emergency services personnel – each deserving of prayer, God's love, our love and our compassion.

**'Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.'** Galatians 6:9

## 5. Meetings

- Meetings in person and by zoom for fellowship, training and business became the norm this year and many members continued to use the new technology to suit their members needs and availed of the opportunity to communicate with others throughout the Diocese and All Ireland for Branch and Trustee meetings.
- However for some members, the technology was not available or manageable. The leadership in branches and in the Trustee Board, kept in touch using the telephone, newsletters and when possible, doorstep visits.

- A remote 'Annual Gathering' was held, where reports from around the world were recorded and broadcast, including a message from Guyana, from the Worldwide President.

## **Diocesan & Branch Activities**

This year again some members saw restrictions on branch meetings while some members had lost confidence and were still fearful of meeting together.

Later in the year some branches held meetings in their church buildings and their parish halls, where the attendance was smaller than usual as some people were still not confident to meet.

Some examples of meetings include:

### **January**

Clogher Diocesan Trustee meeting in Cathedral Hall with Heather Ellis (President Elect)

### **February**

All Ireland Commissioning service in Armagh Cathedral with Archbishop McDowell

### **March**

World Day of Prayer in many churches

All Ireland Trustee by Zoom

### **April**

All Ireland Council, by Zoom

Clogher Diocesan Trustee Meeting

### **May**

All Ireland Trustees

Mums In May Committee meeting

Area Service in Killeevan Parish Church

Area Service in Kiltyclogher Parish Church (Garrison Group)

Clogher Diocesan Spring Council, preceded by a meal.

### **June**

Indoor Members Tea Party, Fivemiletown

Dedication of new banner at Derrybrusk MU, speaker - Bishop

### **August**

Evening of fellowship in Dromore Parish Hall with Bishop Masamango of Sudan

### **September**

Mothers' Union Gathering – St Anne's Belfast

## **October**

Autumn Council – Killadeas Parish Church  
Women’s Weekend in Springfield Hotel, Leixlip  
All Ireland Council Meeting, Leixlip

## **November**

Commissioning Service for Diocesan President in St Macartin’s Cathedral with World-wide President and All Ireland present.

### **6. Diocesan MU information**

The number of active branches in the diocese is 34 plus one in abeyance. The membership figures for 2022 are 638 which also includes 3 diocesan members. 45 new members joined the organisation, sadly 22 passed away and 23 lapsed their membership. 17 members have children under 16 and there are 60 Indoor members.

## **The theme for 2023: ‘Transformation – Now’**

The prayer of the Trustee Board is that the year ahead in 2022 will see improvement in the freedom to meet and the building of confidence in the membership. These plans are dependent on the state of the pandemic.

It is hoped that many stages of transformation will occur in the lives of the membership and within the charity, as they move out of the pandemic and address the many issues resulting from its legacy.

**Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100592

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# Annual return

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## **Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union**

I have examined the accounts of Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union for the year 2022 against their books, records and explanations. I am satisfied that the accounts agree with same and that the financial return is correct and have been properly prepared.

Heather Allen

B.A Hons. PGD. M.A. Hons. DipLCM PGCE(FE)

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