

Mothers' Union Down & Dromore

Northern Ireland · Charity number 105094

Details

Status Received

Registered 2016-05-23

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

Contact

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Dublin 7
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Phone +353 (0)1 873 5075

Email allireland.mothersunion@gmail.com

Website www.mothersunion.org

Activities

Purposes: The Purpose of the Mothers' Union is to be specially concerned with all that strengthens and preserves marriage and Christian family life. 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 Objects 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 education, The advancement of religion, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

How the charity works: Education/training, Overseas aid/famine relief, Relief of poverty, Religious activities

Who the charity helps: Adult training, Ex-offenders and prisoners, General public, Overseas/developing countries, Specific areas of deprivation, Voluntary and community sector

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£54,982	£54,885	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Hilda Arnold		
Lesley Harvey		
Liz Walker		
Lynda Thompson		
Marion Edwards		
Mrs Heather Leckey		
Phyllis Whiteside		
Sally Mccurry		

Mothers' Union Down & Dromore

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105094

Accounts



Statement of Receipts and Payments

and

Assets and Liabilities

For the year ended 31st December 2024

Charity Number: NIC105094

**Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024**

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Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st December 2024

		Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Opening Bank and Cash Balances	Notes	41,204.49	-651.95	40,552.54	41,774.13
Adjustment to Opening Balances					
Adjustment to Branches Opening Balances				0.00	0.00
Add: Receipts					
Subscription, Donations & Legacies	2	21,796.06		21,796.06	27,110.54
Investment Receipts	3	791.07	411.31	1,202.38	1,082.40
Receipts for MU Activities	4	6,611.77	18,198.85	24,810.62	24,140.32
Other Receipts	5	5,572.13	1,601.13	7,173.26	9,907.25
Total Receipts		34,771.03	20,211.29	54,982.32	62,240.51
Less: Payments					
Diocesan and Branch Expenses	6	26,786.40		26,786.40	24,054.18
Payments to MU Activities	7	16,639.93	9,364.89	26,004.82	28,707.66
Other Payments	8	196.45	1,897.55	2,094.00	2,084.12
Total Payments		43,622.78	11,262.44	54,885.22	54,845.96
Transfers between funds		-3,860.69	3,860.69	0.00	0.00
Closing Bank and Cash Balances		32,352.74	8,296.90	40,649.64	41,774.13

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st December 2024

	Notes	Diocesan Funds 2024 £	Branch Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Investment Assets					
Investments in CIT Unit Trusts	9	26,767.21		26,767.21	24,414.85
Other investments					
Total Investment Assets		<u>26,767.21</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>26,767.21</u>	<u>24,414.85</u>
Cash Funds					
Current Accounts		22,208.49	16,151.72	38,360.21	38,597.88
Deposit Accounts			1,033.48	1,033.48	1,016.00
Petty Cash Funds		775.63	696.32	1,471.95	1,848.06
Total Cash Funds		<u>22,984.12</u>	<u>17,881.52</u>	<u>40,865.64</u>	<u>41,461.94</u>
Other Assets					
Stocks	10			0.00	67.50
Debtors	11			0.00	784.60
Prepayment				0.00	0.00
Total other assets		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>852.10</u>
Total assets		<u>49,751.33</u>	<u>17,881.52</u>	<u>67,632.85</u>	<u>66,728.89</u>
Liabilities					
Creditors			216.00	216.00	1,694.00
Subscriptions in advance	12			0.00	1,323.00
Total liabilities		<u>0.00</u>	<u>216.00</u>	<u>216.00</u>	<u>3,017.00</u>
Unrestricted Funds	13	37,958.44	17,665.52	55,623.96	51,646.01
Restricted Funds	14	11,792.89		11,792.89	12,065.88
Total Funds		<u>49,751.33</u>	<u>17,665.52</u>	<u>67,416.85</u>	<u>63,711.89</u>

On Behalf of the Trustees

Trustee 1 (Print Name) LYNDA THOMPSON

Signature

Lynda E. Thompson

Trustee 2 (Print Name) HEATHER LEICKEY

Signature

H. Leickey

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

1 Accounting policies

Set out below are the principal accounting policies which have been adopted in the compilation of the Receipts and Payments Account and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

(a) Receipts and Payments Account

All items of income and expenditure included within the Receipts and Payments Account have been accounted for on a cash receipts basis.

(b) Statement of Assets and Liabilities

(i) Investments

Investments in CIT Unit Trusts are initially recorded at cost and are then subsequently stated at fair value at each year end date.

(ii) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Specific provision is made for obsolete and slow moving stock on an item by item basis.

(iii) Subscriptions in advance

Some member subscriptions are received in advance prior to the commencement for the following year and these are included under Liabilities.

(iv) Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated which are expendable at the discretion of the charity in furtherance of its objectives.

(v) Restricted funds

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

	Diocesan Funds 2024 £	Branch Funds 2024 £	Set Off Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Analysis					
2. Subscription, Donations & Legacies					
Members' Subscriptions		19,464.00		19,464.00	23,582.10
Members' Donations General Fund				0.00	0.00
Donations & Legacies		1,828.06		1,828.06	3,015.44
Donations & Legacies				0.00	0.00
Branch Contributions	21,028.00		-20,524.00	504.00	513.00
	<u>21,028.00</u>	<u>21,292.06</u>	<u>-20,524.00</u>	<u>21,796.06</u>	<u>27,110.54</u>
3. Investment Receipts					
Bank Interest General Fund		75.39		476.72	367.48
Investment Income General Fund				314.35	309.70
Investment Income Education & Training				209.73	206.62
Investment Income Overseas				201.58	198.60
	<u>1,126.99</u>	<u>75.39</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,202.38</u>	<u>1,082.40</u>
4. Receipts for MU Activities					
Overseas Fund		4,799.69	-7,249.09	6,618.55	6,009.10
Ordinands Fund		764.21	0.00	764.21	833.95
Away From it All		138.75	-75.00	63.75	458.00
Mums in May		2,979.40	-1,542.00	2,674.40	78.25
Mums in May Quiz Books		1,324.50	-1,071.50	1,290.50	0.00
Grant		260.00		260.00	2,860.00
Hospitality Fund		0.00		0.00	0.00
Hydebank Prison Fund		480.00	-175.00	305.00	6.00
Indoor Members Fund		185.00	-150.00	35.00	28.00
Receipts for other MU activities		2,965.32	-13.45	6,187.44	2,416.39
MU Enterprise Diocese		247.47		247.47	292.75
MU Enterprise Shop		123.80		123.80	100.20
Outings		6,240.50		6,240.50	8,401.70
Receipts for other MU activities				0.00	2,655.98
	<u>18,682.85</u>	<u>16,403.81</u>	<u>-10,276.04</u>	<u>24,810.62</u>	<u>24,140.32</u>

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

		Diocesan Funds 2024 £	Branch Funds 2024 £	Set Off Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
5. Other Receipts						
Fundraising Events Receipts	Unrestricted		5,369.98	-150.00	5,219.98	7,958.67
Fundraising Events Receipts	Restricted				0.00	0.00
Sundry Receipts - Women's Aid	Restricted	421.13	300.00		721.13	412.58
Sundry Receipts - Women's Aid Newry	Restricted	880.00			880.00	960.00
Sundry Receipts	Unrestricted		352.15		352.15	576.00
		<u>1,301.13</u>	<u>6,022.13</u>	<u>-150.00</u>	<u>7,173.26</u>	<u>9,907.25</u>
6. Diocesan and Branch Expenses						
Members' Subscriptions	Unrestricted	21,028.00			21,028.00	22,804.00
Bank Fees	Unrestricted	57.99	805.22		863.21	1,096.50
Officers' Expenses	Unrestricted		365.73		365.73	137.85
Meeting fees and travel costs	Unrestricted		2,763.57		2,763.57	3,119.57
Stationery & Postage	Unrestricted		145.59		145.59	175.08
Gifts	Unrestricted		1,620.30		1,620.30	1,283.70
Other Diocesan & Branch expenses	Unrestricted				0.00	0.00
Branch Contributions	Unrestricted		20,524.00	-20,524.00	0.00	0.00
		<u>21,085.99</u>	<u>26,224.41</u>	<u>-20,524.00</u>	<u>26,786.40</u>	<u>28,616.70</u>
7. Payments to MU Activities						
Overseas Fund	Restricted	9,535.36	7,249.09	-7,249.09	9,535.36	7,391.40
Ordinands Fund	Restricted	788.12	0.00		788.12	657.20
Away From it All	Restricted	500.00	75.00	-75.00	500.00	700.00
Education & Training	Restricted				0.00	225.00
Grant	Restricted				0.00	2,498.00
Hospitality Fund	Restricted				0.00	0.00
Hydebank Prison	Restricted	536.46	175.00	-175.00	536.46	520.80
Indoor Members Fund	Restricted	368.34	150.00	-150.00	368.34	221.95
Mums in May	Restricted	2,720.65	1,542.00	-1,542.00	2,720.65	290.75
Mums in May - Quiz Books	Restricted	1,414.50	1,071.50	-1,071.50	1,414.50	0.00
Payments to other MU activities	Restricted	776.50	13.45	-13.45	776.50	2,410.00
MU Enterprise Diocese	Unrestricted				0.00	0.00
MU Enterprise Shop	Unrestricted		211.25		211.25	100.20
Outings	Unrestricted		5,764.45		5,764.45	8,607.36
Payments to other MU activities	Unrestricted	1,041.59	2,347.60		3,389.19	5,846.19
		<u>17,681.52</u>	<u>18,599.34</u>	<u>-10,276.04</u>	<u>26,004.82</u>	<u>29,468.85</u>

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

	Diocesan Funds 2024 £	Branch Funds 2024 £	Set Off Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
8. Other Payments					
Fundraising Events Payments		189.68		189.68	1,609.49
Fundraising Events Payments				0.00	0.00
Sundry Receipts - Women's Aid	400.00	450.00	-150.00	700.00	1,345.00
Sundry Receipts - Women's Aid Newry	1,197.55			1,197.55	970.26
Sundry Receipts		6.77		6.77	1,452.40
	1,597.55	646.45	-150.00	2,094.00	5,377.15
	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £		Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
9. Investments in CIT Unit Trusts					
Opening Valuation		17,632.68	6,782.17	24,414.85	23,333.59
Additions					
Disposals					
Movement in fair value		1,698.91	653.45	2,352.36	1,081.26
Closing Valuation		19,331.59	7,435.62	26,767.21	24,414.85
	Diocesan Funds 2024 £	Branch Funds 2024 £		Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
10. Stocks					
MU Diocesan stock	0.00	0.00		0.00	67.50
	Diocesan Funds 2024 £	Branch Funds 2024 £		Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
11. Debtors					
Debtors	0.00	0.00		0.00	784.60

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

	Diocesan Funds 2024 £	Branch Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
12. Subscriptions in advance				
2023 Subscriptions received			0.00	1,323.00
13. Unrestricted Funds				
General Funds	15,991.06		15,991.06	13,538.18
General Fund MU Enterprises	2,635.79		2,635.79	2,388.32
General Fund Investments	19,331.59		19,331.59	17,632.68
Members Subscriptions			0.00	0.00
MU Diocesan Stock			0.00	67.50
Other Unrestricted Funds			0.00	0.00
Branch Unrestricted Funds		17,665.52	17,665.52	18,019.33
	<u>37,958.44</u>	<u>17,665.52</u>	<u>55,623.96</u>	<u>51,646.01</u>
14. Restricted Funds				
Diocesan Away From it All	375.37		375.37	736.62
Education & Training	1,475.32		1,475.32	1,265.59
Hospitality Fund	100.00		100.00	100.00
Hydebank Wood College	0.00		0.00	82.22
Mums in May	258.75		258.75	0.00
Mums in May Quiz Books	0.00		0.00	0.00
Grant Project	485.11		485.11	225.11
Ordinands Fund	152.84		152.84	176.75
Overseas Fund	514.11		514.11	779.94
Overseas Fund Investments	7,435.62		7,435.62	6,782.17
Women's Aid	123.49		123.49	0.00
Indoor Members Fund	40.83		40.83	109.17
Hydebank Prison Fund	110.73		110.73	111.19
Women's Aid Newry Fund	624.07		624.07	541.62
Other Restricted Funds	96.65		96.65	1,155.50
	<u>11,792.89</u>		<u>11,792.89</u>	<u>12,065.88</u>
Total Funds	49,751.33	17,665.52	67,416.85	

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

14. Restricted Funds (continued)

- Indoor Members Fund: it is used to buy small gifts for Indoor members special birthday and events that are organised as most of these members are house bound or in nursing homes.
- Hydebank Fund: to be used for craft classes and Christmas gifts at Ash House in Hydebank Wood College - the Women's Prison
- Women's Aid Fund: for Women's Aid project which gives support throughout NI to women and children who have experienced domestic violence.
- AFIA (Away From It All) Fund: is a Mothers' Union holiday/short break scheme to give the opportunity of a break to those who are experiencing stress in their family life.
- Education & Training: to be used for education & training by Diocesan Officers
- Hospitality Fund: to be used for hospitality by Diocesan Officers
- Grant - Mums in May: £82.22 balance used to purchase MU Quiz Books for Hydebank Wood College Life Improvement project
- Grant - Mums in May: £485.11 to be used for Mothers' Union projects
- Mums in May Fund/Quiz Books: Funds raised to support the Mums in May projects in Ireland.
- Ordinands /Centenary Fund: to help those in training for Ministry.
- Overseas Fund: This is a Fund to be used to donate to Mothers' Union Charity projects Worldwide.

15. Collections for Third Parties

Included under Fundraising Events Receipts and payments are collections for Mothers' Union All Ireland of £0 (2023: £0) and for Women's Aid £1,301 plus £300 Branches dealt directly with Women's Aid = £1,601 (2023: £2,317.58).
On the closure of a Branch a donation was transferred to Women's Aid amounting to £377

16. Transactions with the Trustees

No trustee received any remuneration during the year. Trustees received a reimbursement of expenses during the year. Trustees expenses amounted to £183.59 (2023 £58.40).

No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.
(If a trustee or trustee business provided professional services and received any payment for these services this must be disclosed)

17. Governance Costs

No governance costs incurred

18. Associated Charities

The charity is one of the Dioceses of Mothers' Union in Ireland, an unincorporated charity regulated by the Charity Regulator. In turn, Mothers' Union in Ireland is affiliated to the Mothers' Union, an unincorporated charity regulated by the Charity Commissioners in England and Wales.

Mothers' Union Down & Dromore

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105094

Accounts



Statement of Receipts and Payments

and

Assets and Liabilities

For the year ended 31st December 2023

Charity Number: NIC105094

**Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023**

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**Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st December 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Opening Bank and Cash Balances	39,663.21	2,110.92	41,774.13	43,167.05
	Notes			
Adjustment to Opening Balances				
Adjustment to Branches Opening Balances	0.60		0.60	0.00
Add: Receipts				
Subscription, Donations & Legacies	2 27,110.54		27,110.54	23,898.00
Investment Receipts	3 677.18	405.22	1,082.40	844.55
Receipts for MU Activities	4 11,450.63	12,689.69	24,140.32	22,799.96
Other Receipts	5 8,534.67	1,372.58	9,907.25	5,910.53
Total Receipts	47,773.02	14,467.49	62,240.51	53,453.04
Less: Payments				
Diocesan and Branch Expenses	6 28,616.70		28,616.70	24,054.18
Payments to MU Activities	7 14,553.75	14,915.10	29,468.85	28,707.66
Other Payments	8 3,061.89	2,315.26	5,377.15	2,084.12
Total Payments	46,232.34	17,230.36	63,462.70	54,845.96
Transfers between funds	-1,813.26	1,813.26	0.00	0.00
Closing Bank and Cash Balances	41,204.49	-651.95	40,552.54	41,774.13

**Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st December 2023**

	Notes	Diocesan Funds		Branch Funds		Total Funds	
		2023	£	2023	£	2023	£
Investment Assets							
Investments in CIT Unit Trusts	9	24,414.85		24,414.85		23,333.59	
Other investments							
Total Investment Assets		<u>24,414.85</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>24,414.85</u>	<u>23,333.59</u>		
Cash Funds							
Current Accounts		21,007.63	17,590.25	38,597.88	39,369.47		
Deposit Accounts			1,016.00	1,016.00	1,012.43		
Petty Cash Funds		761.98	1,086.08	1,848.06	1,807.83		
Total Cash Funds		<u>21,769.61</u>	<u>19,692.33</u>	<u>41,461.94</u>	<u>42,189.73</u>		
Other Assets							
Stocks	10	67.50	0.00	67.50	0.00		
Debtors	11	784.60	0.00	784.60	0.00		
Prepayment		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Total other assets		<u>852.10</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>852.10</u>	<u>0.00</u>		
Total assets		<u>47,036.56</u>	<u>19,692.33</u>	<u>66,728.89</u>	<u>65,523.32</u>		
Liabilities							
Creditors		1,344.00	350.00	1,694.00	415.00		
Subscriptions in advance	12		1,323.00	1,323.00	704.00		
Total liabilities		<u>1,344.00</u>	<u>1,673.00</u>	<u>3,017.00</u>	<u>1,119.00</u>		
Unrestricted Funds	13	33,626.68	18,019.33	51,646.01	52,291.76		
Restricted Funds	14	12,065.88		12,065.88	12,112.53		
Total Funds		<u>45,692.56</u>	<u>18,019.33</u>	<u>63,711.89</u>	<u>64,404.32</u>		

On Behalf of the Trustees

Trustee 1 (Print Name) M. THOMPSON Signature M. Thompson

Trustee 2 (Print Name) H. Leckey Signature H. Leckey

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

1 Accounting policies

Set out below are the principal accounting policies which have been adopted in the compilation of the Receipts and Payments Account and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

(a) Receipts and Payments Account

All items of income and expenditure included within the Receipts and Payments Account have been accounted for on a cash receipts basis.

(b) Statement of Assets and Liabilities

(i) Investments

Investments in CIT Unit Trusts are initially recorded at cost and are then subsequently stated at fair value at each year end date.

(ii) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Specific provision is made for obsolete and slow moving stock on an item by item basis.

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Some member subscriptions are received in advance prior to the commencement for the following year and these are included under Liabilities.

(iv) Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated which are expendable at the discretion of the charity in furtherance of its objectives.

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Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Analysis	Diocesan Funds		Branch Funds		Set Off Funds		Total Funds	
		2023	£	2023	£	2023	£	2023	£
2. Subscription, Donations & Legacies									
Members' Subscriptions	Unrestricted		23,582.10					23,582.10	19,713.00
Members' Donations General Fund	Unrestricted							0.00	70.00
Donations & Legacies	Unrestricted		3,015.44					3,015.44	3,346.60
Donations & Legacies	Restricted							0.00	0.00
Branch Contributions	Unrestricted	22,804.00			-22,291.00			513.00	769.00
		<u>22,804.00</u>	<u>26,597.54</u>	<u>-22,291.00</u>	<u>27,110.54</u>			<u>23,898.60</u>	
3. Investment Receipts									
Bank Interest General Fund	Unrestricted	326.90		40.58				367.48	56.41
Investment Income General Fund	Unrestricted	309.70						309.70	341.42
Investment Income Education & Training	Restricted	206.62						206.62	227.79
Investment Income Overseas	Restricted	198.60						198.60	218.93
		<u>1,041.82</u>	<u>40.58</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,082.40</u>			<u>844.55</u>	
4. Receipts for MU Activities									
Overseas Fund	Restricted	7,017.01	4,746.85		-5,754.76			6,009.10	5,281.26
Ordinands Fund	Restricted	833.95						833.95	73.50
Away From it All	Restricted	633.00			-175.00			458.00	607.50
Mums in May	Restricted	228.25			-150.00			78.25	217.75
Grant	Restricted	1,260.00	1,600.00					2,860.00	560.00
Hospitality Fund	Restricted	0.00						0.00	0.00
Hydebank Prison Fund	Restricted	231.00			-225.00			6.00	50.00
Indoor Members Fund	Restricted	128.00			-100.00			28.00	37.50
Receipts for other MU activities	Restricted	2,509.59			-93.20			2,416.39	600.00
MU Enterprise Diocese	Unrestricted	292.75						292.75	229.89
MU Enterprise Shop	Unrestricted	0.00	100.20					100.20	152.60
Outings	Unrestricted	0.00	8,401.70					8,401.70	6,676.25
Receipts for other MU activities	Unrestricted	1,441.10	1,214.88					2,655.98	8,313.71
		<u>14,574.65</u>	<u>16,063.63</u>	<u>-6,497.96</u>	<u>24,140.32</u>			<u>22,799.96</u>	

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Analysis	Diocesan Funds		Branch Funds		Set Off Funds		Total Funds	
		2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
5. Other Receipts									
Fundraising Events Receipts	Unrestricted		7,958.67					7,958.67	3,098.48
Fundraising Events Receipts	Restricted							0.00	0.00
Sundry Receipts - Women's Aid	Restricted	172.15	240.43					412.58	2,087.05
Sundry Receipts - Women's Aid Newry	Restricted	960.00						960.00	725.00
Sundry Receipts	Unrestricted		576.00					576.00	0.00
		1,132.15	8,775.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,907.25	5,910.53
6. Diocesan and Branch Expenses									
Members' Subscriptions	Unrestricted	22,804.00						22,804.00	19,621.00
Bank Fees	Unrestricted	55.93	1,040.57					1,096.50	1,117.74
Officers' Expenses	Unrestricted		137.85					137.85	338.31
Meeting fees and travel costs	Unrestricted		3,119.57					3,119.57	2,059.33
Stationery & Postage	Unrestricted		175.08					175.08	208.71
Gifts	Unrestricted		1,283.70					1,283.70	709.09
Other Diocesan & Branch expenses	Unrestricted							0.00	0.00
Branch Contributions	Unrestricted		22,291.00					22,291.00	0.00
		22,859.93	28,047.77	-22,291.00	-22,291.00	-22,291.00	-22,291.00	28,616.70	24,054.18
7. Payments to MU Activities									
Overseas Fund	Restricted	7,391.40	5,754.76					7,391.40	6,052.93
Ordinands Fund	Restricted	657.20						657.20	340.30
Away From it All	Restricted	700.00	175.00					700.00	600.00
Education & Training	Restricted	225.00						225.00	0.00
Grant	Restricted	1,000.00	1,498.00					2,498.00	0.00
Hospitality Fund	Restricted							0.00	0.00
Hydebank Prison	Restricted	520.80	225.00					520.80	202.20
Indoor Members Fund	Restricted	221.95	100.00					221.95	15.84
Mums in May	Restricted	290.75	150.00					290.75	680.25
Payments to other MU activities	Restricted	2,410.00	93.20					2,410.00	1,809.26
MU Enterprise Diocese	Unrestricted							0.00	14.06
MU Enterprise Shop	Unrestricted		100.20					100.20	292.40
Outings	Unrestricted		8,607.36					8,607.36	6,907.30
Payments to other MU activities	Unrestricted	1,269.16	4,577.03					5,846.19	11,793.12
		14,686.26	21,280.55	-6,497.96	-6,497.96	-6,497.96	-6,497.96	29,468.85	28,707.66

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

Analysis	Dioceasan	Branch	Set Off	Total
	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2022 £
8. Other Payments				
Fundraising Events Payments	1,609.49			0.00
Fundraising Events Payments			1,609.49	0.00
Sundry Receipts - Women's Aid	400.00	945.00		890.00
Sundry Receipts - Women's Aid Newry	970.26			1,194.12
Sundry Receipts		1,452.40		0.00

1,370.26 4,006.89 0.00 5,377.15 2,084.12

	Unrestricted		Restricted		Total	
	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2022 £	Funds 2022 £
9. Investments in CIF Unit Trusts						
Opening Valuation	16,851.78		6,481.81		23,333.59	26,634.90
Additions						
Disposals						
Movement in fair value	780.90		300.36		1,081.26	-3,301.31

17,632.68 6,782.17 24,414.85 23,333.59

MU Diocesan stock	Diocesan		Branch		Total	
	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2022 £	Funds 2022 £
	67.50		0.00		67.50	0.00

11. Debtors	Diocesan		Branch		Total	
	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2022 £	Funds 2022 £
Debtors	784.60		0.00		784.60	0.00

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Diocesan Funds 2023 £	Branch Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
12. Subscriptions in advance				
2023 Subscriptions received	1,323.00	1,323.00	1,323.00	704.00

	Diocesan Funds 2023 £	Branch Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
13. Unrestricted Funds				
General Funds	13,538.18		13,538.18	12,847.72
General Fund Investments	17,632.68		17,632.68	16,851.78
Members Subscriptions			0.00	0.00
MU Enterprises Diocesan	2,388.32		2,388.32	2,095.57
MU Diocesan Stock	67.50		67.50	0.00
Other Unrestricted Funds			0.00	0.00
Branch Unrestricted Funds		18,019.33	18,019.33	20,496.69
	33,626.68	18,019.33	51,646.01	52,291.76

	Diocesan Funds 2023 £	Branch Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
14. Restricted Funds				
Indoor Members Fund	109.17		109.17	178.62
Hydebank Prison Fund	111.19		111.19	57.99
Women's Aid Newry Fund	541.62		541.62	151.88
Diocesan Away From it All	736.62		736.62	803.62
Education & Training	1,265.59		1,265.59	1,283.97
Hospitality Fund	100.00		100.00	100.00
Hydebank Wood College	82.22		82.22	82.22
Grant Project	225.11		225.11	305.11
Mums in May	0.00		0.00	62.50
Ordinands Fund	176.75		176.75	0.00
Overseas Fund	779.94		779.94	691.43
Overseas Fund Investments	6,782.17		6,782.17	6,481.81
Women's Aid	0.00		0.00	624.10
Other Restricted Funds	1,155.50		1,155.50	1,289.31
	12,065.88		12,065.88	12,112.56

Total Funds 45,692.56 18,019.33 63,711.89 7

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

14. Restricted Funds (continued)

- Indoor Members Fund: it is used to buy small gifts for Indoor members special birthday and events that are organised as most of these members are house bound or in nursing homes.
- Hydebank Fund: to be used for craft classes and Christmas gifts at Ash House in Hydebank Wood College - the Women's Prison
- Women's Aid Fund: for Women's Aid project which gives support throughout NI to women and children who have experienced domestic violence.
- AFIA (Away From It All) Fund: is a Mothers' Union holiday/short break scheme to give the opportunity of a break to those who are experiencing stress in their family life.
- Education & Training: to be used for education & training by Diocesan Officers
- Hospitality Fund: to be used for hospitality by Diocesan Officers
- Grant - Mums in May: £82.22 balance to be used towards Hydebank Wood College Life Improvement project
- Grant - Mums in May: £225.11 to be used for Mothers' Union projects
- Mums in May Fund: Funds raised to support the Mums in May projects in Ireland.
- Ordinands /Centenary Fund: to help those in training for Ministry.
- Overseas Fund: This is a Fund to be used to donate to Mothers' Union Charity projects Worldwide.

15. Collections for Third Parties

Included under Fundraising Events Receipts and payments are collections for Mothers' Union All Ireland of £0 (2022: £0) and for Women's Aid £1,372.58 plus £945 Branches dealt directly with Women's Aid = £2,317.58 (2022: £2812.05).
On the closure of a Branch a donation was made to Fields of Life amounting to £1,000

16. Transactions with the Trustees

No trustee received any remuneration during the year. Trustees received a reimbursement of expenses during the year. Trustees expenses amounted to £58.40 (2022 £0).

No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year. (If a trustee or trustee business provided professional services and received any payment for these services this must be disclosed)

17. Governance Costs

No governance costs incurred

18. Associated Charities

The charity is one of the Dioceses of Mothers' Union in Ireland, an unincorporated charity regulated by the Charity Regulator. In turn, Mothers' Union in Ireland is affiliated to the Mothers' Union, an unincorporated charity regulated by the Charity Commissioners in England and Wales.

Mothers' Union Down & Dromore

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105094

Annual report



Diocese of Down and Dromore

Annual Report

For the year ended 31st December 2023

Charity Number NIC 105094

Legal and Administrative Information, with addresses for correspondence

Charity Name: Mothers' Union Diocese of Down and Dromore

Charity Number: NIC 105094

Principal Office Bearers

Diocesan President – Mrs Mavis Thompson, 203 Ballynahinch Road, Dromore BT25 1EU

Diocesan Secretary – Mrs Phyllis Whiteside, 5 Moyra Park, Saintfield BT24 7BG

Diocesan Treasurer – Mrs Lynda Bremner, 40 Garnerville Park, Belfast BT4 2NY

Trustees:

Mrs H Arnold, Mrs E Briggs, Mrs P Burrell, Mrs M Edwards, Mrs H Leckey, Mrs E Lester, Mrs R Macartney, Mrs S McCurry, Mrs C Stewart, Mrs R Teggarty, Mrs L Thompson, Mrs M Thompson, Mrs P Whiteside

Bankers:

Ulster Bank Ltd, Connswater Branch, Arches Retail Park, Belfast BT5 4AF

Independent Examiner for Accounts: Mrs Wilma Cathcart, 7 Grange Crescent, Saintfield, Co Down, BT24 7NE

Purpose, Aims and Objects of Mothers' Union

The Purpose of Mothers' Union is to be concerned with all that strengthens and preserves marriage and Christian family life.

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 the 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.

Mission Statement

The Mothers' Union is a Christian organisation which promotes the well-being of families worldwide. We achieve this by:

- Developing prayer and spiritual growth in families
- Studying and reflection on family life and marriage and their place in society
- Resourcing our members to take practical action to improve conditions for families, both nationally and in the communities in which they live.

The Trustee Board

The Byelaws for MU in the Diocese of Down and Dromore require that the Trustee Board shall be elected triennially by Diocesan Council and that nominees for membership of the Trustee Board must be or have been members of Down and Dromore Council.

The Trustee Board is comprised of the Diocesan President, four elected Vice-Presidents, Diocesan Secretary, Diocesan Treasurer, four Unit Coordinators, Hospital Visitor, Indoor Member Contact, Links Correspondent, Media and Public Relations Representative, Worldwide Representative, Prayer Representative and Young Members Representative. There are also ex officio (non-voting) Members including the Diocesan Chaplain, the Bishop's spouse, Social Policy Representative, AFIA Representative, Area Representatives and the immediate past Diocesan President.

The Trustee Board meets at least twice a year and at such other times as the Diocesan President may deem necessary; half the membership constitutes a quorum. It has the power to form sub-committees and may co-opt a number of persons who might not be members of Mothers' Union to act in an advisory capacity.

Accounts are passed annually by the Trustee Board and an Honorary Auditor/Independent Examiner is appointed by the Trustee Board.

Unit Committees

There are four Unit Committees, each concerned with an area of activity or interest on behalf of the Trustee Board.

- Finance and Central Services – deals with finance and matters related to administration and governance
- Action and Outreach – primarily manages projects and campaigns, and provides links with members and projects worldwide
- Faith and Policy – focuses on underpinning all our activities with prayer and Bible study and provides resources for services and meetings
- Fundraising and Communications – prepares publications and leaflets on relevant matters, coordinates media activity and publicity, and leads on fundraising activities.

Diocesan Council

The Council comprises: Members of the Trustee Board, all Branch leaders and Secretaries, Diocesan Members, All Ireland Office Bearers resident in this Diocese (ex officio), all Past Diocesan Presidents (ex officio). Diocesan officials are elected to serve for a three-year period and shall be eligible to serve for one further three-year term whether consecutively or at intervals. Retirement for any reason during a three-year period of service shall be considered as completion of such a three-year period.

The Council meets at least twice each year and thirty-six members constitutes a quorum.

In cases of unavoidable absence of Branch Representatives, substitutes are eligible to attend. All Diocesan Council meetings include a time of worship, the Mothers' Union Prayer and Wave of Prayer.

Method of Election

Office bearers (the Trustees) of Down and Dromore MU are elected triennially, in accordance with the Constitution of Mothers' Union in Ireland and the Diocesan Bye Laws. They must stand down from office after three years but may be re-elected to that role for a further consecutive triennial, after which they are no longer eligible to be re-elected to that position. All roles commence at the beginning of January, with the Diocesan President being elected the previous year to take up that role i.e. in 2025, 2028, with the other office bearers a year later 2026, 2029 etc.

Administration

As required by law, the annual report from the Trustees for Mothers' Union in the Diocese was submitted to the Charity Commission (NI) in October 2023 in respect of 2022. The Trustees have

continued to improve the governance of MU in the Diocese and in Branches in various ways during 2023.

Achievements, Performance and Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duties in line with the Charity Commission's Public Benefit statutory guidance.

All the activities of Mothers' Union in the Diocese, as demonstrated below, have been conducted throughout the year to fulfil our statement of Public Benefit.

Finances

Our finances are managed with the Finance and Central Services Unit, primarily by the Treasurer who liaises closely with the bankers and prepares and presents reports and interim statements to each meeting of the Trustees and Diocesan Council. The Treasurer also reports to meetings of the Finance and Central Services Unit as required. Any cash received within branches or centrally is counted under dual control.

Formal Meetings in 2023

Diocesan Trustees met on 9 March, 7 June and 12 October with other meetings with DP, VPs and Unit Coordinators held as necessary.

Diocesan Council met on 26 April and 25 October.

The **Unit Committees** met as necessary throughout the year.

All Ireland meetings were attended by Diocesan President Mavis Thompson by Zoom and in person.

All Ireland Unit meetings took place by Zoom and were attended by the Unit Coordinator or representative.

Britain and Ireland Diocesan Presidents Update Meetings took place by Zoom.

Services and Special Events

AI Diocesan Presidents' Awayday – 28 January in CITI Dublin

Annabella Hayes Day - 7 February by Zoom

AI Worldwide Service – 16 March Speaker Chantale Mbanda, a Bishop's wife from Rwanda

AI Training Weekend – 24 – 26 March held at An Grianan, Termonfeckin

Annual Festival Service – 30 March held at St Mark's, Newtownards

Prayer Walk -9 August Mary Sumner Day from Bangor Abbey

Indoor Members Holy Communion Service and Tea Party – 7 September at St Donard’s Parish Church Belfast

16 Days of Activism Breakfast – 25 November at Temple Golf Club

Advent Carol Service – 4 December at Knockbreda Parish Church, Belfast

Mothers’ Union Branches – Newcastle, Gilford, Annahilt and St Mark’s Newtownards were visited and also Willowfield and Dromore Area Services

Service and lunch to celebrate Seagoe MU 100 years

Throughout the year at Church services and other events, members were supported by the Diocesan Chaplain, Rev Duncan Pollock.

Members attendance at External Events

Commissioning service of Diocesan President Sally Cotter and Trustees for Connor Diocese - 12 March attended by Diocesan President Mavis Thompson.

Presbyterian Women’s Annual Conference – 4 May attended by Diocesan President Mavis Thompson

AI Chaplain’s Commissioning Service – 11 June at St Patrick’s Cathedral, Armagh.

AI MU Conference – Changing the Story - 15 September Seagoe Parish Centre

Women’s Getaway Weekend – 6/7 October at Hotel Kilmore, Cavan. The speaker was Melanie Douglas. Several members attended and found it very encouraging.

MU Service of Holy Communion in Christ Church Dublin 2 November. Four members travelled from Down and Dromore, but because of travel restrictions after floods, did not arrive in time for the meeting but joined members from Dublin and Glendalough for coffee after the service.

All Ireland Council meetings were attended by Diocesan President and Trustees on 22 April by Zoom and 21 October in person at Seagoe Parish Centre, Portadown.

The Women’s Refuge in Newry was visited by Diocesan President Mavis Thompson and a few Trustees in December.

Elections in 2023

There were no elections held in 2023, but in November one of the Unit Coordinators stood down from her position due to beginning training as a Diocesan Lay Reader.

Project work in support of our Aims and Objects

Action and Outreach

Prisons Outreach – we are pleased that once again Mothers' Union volunteers from throughout the Diocese have been able to resume the craft classes in Hydebank Wood College – the Women's Prison for Northern Ireland. They meet on a weekly basis to make various items of craft that can be kept by the women. At Christmas each female resident received a gift of shower gel, chocolate and a Christmas card.

AFIA – in 2023 we were able to help one family, whose son has severe autism, have a short break at the Roe Park Resort.

Support for Women's Aid Newry and Bangor - donations of groceries, clothing, toiletries, toys and other basic necessities are made by members and branches and are distributed to the two Women's Aid shelters in Newry and Bangor. This year we were once again able to host an afternoon tea party with the ladies and children in Newry.

Emergency wash bags – filled emergency wash bags were distributed to all three hospitals in our Diocese. These items are stored in the ED and Children's Department to use when an unexpected stay in hospital occurs. In the Children's Department, parents think of their children when they are taken into hospital, but don't think of themselves when they have to stay with their children.

Knitted baby clothes/blankets – knitted items were donated by members and distributed to Neonatal departments in hospitals and were gratefully received.

Twiddle muffs and knee blankets – the Ulster Hospital is particularly grateful to receive these items for the many elderly patients, including those with dementia, who have to wait in the Emergency Department for treatment or admission.

Outreach to Foodbanks – in 2023 the Trustees again agreed to support six foodbanks around the Diocese by donating groceries and other essential items to the value of £100 to each of them. Trustees contacted the foodbanks in Dromore, Kilkeel, Portadown, Banbridge, Bangor and Belfast to confirm their needs and delivered the items to them. This year we were awarded a grant of £600 from Mums in May to match the amount the Diocese had donated so we were able to supply the foodbanks a second time. Gifts of food and some seasonal treats were very much appreciated by the foodbank managers.

Worldwide – this year Down & Dromore hosted a Worldwide Evening on 16 March at Seagoe Parish Church when we heard from Chantale Mbanda, a Bishop's wife from Rwanda, about the work Mothers' Union is doing there.

Faith and Policy Unit

Prayer Chain – members of the Diocesan Prayer Chain are united in giving prayerful support when urgently required. Those who are ill, bereaved, in despair, those with depression or anxiety or any other needs feel the support of those who are praying.

Indoor Members – indoor members in the Diocese are not forgotten, receiving birthday cards and reflections sent from Mary Sumner House and on 7 September we once again were able to have the Communion Service and Tea Party at St Donard’s Church, Belfast. It was great so see so many members present and everyone enjoyed the afternoon.

Diocesan Visitor – visits to members at home or in Nursing Homes are made during the year. Where it isn’t possible to visit, cards are sent.

Social Policy – Saturday 25 November was when we marked the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence. A Prayer Breakfast was held at Temple Golf Club where the speaker was Detective Chief Inspector Heather Campbell of the Rape Crime Unit in the PSNI and head of the MARAC team, a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment organisation relating to Domestic Abuse. Also in attendance were representatives from the two Women’s Aid refuges in the Diocese, Baroness Ritchie, Lady Eames and Bishop David and Mrs Hilary McClay.

Fundraising and Communications

Midday prayers are available through Facebook and on Down and Dromore’s Facebook page members can follow what is happening in the Diocese and keep up to date with the latest news. The All Ireland website is regularly updated with news, prayers and upcoming events as well as a monthly letter from the All Ireland President. “Focus” was once again available in print.

Membership

Mothers’ Union membership is 851 including 19 Diocesan Members. Sadly we had a few branches close, but some members joined other branches or became Diocesan Members. Some branches welcomed new members.

Planning for the Future

We look forward to 2024, our fundraising year for Mums in May – an All Ireland Fund which provides grants to the Dioceses and Mothers’ Union Branches for projects. Big Hymn Sings and tea parties are planned and it is hoped that these might encourage new members to join Mothers’ Union.

Signed on behalf of Trustees

Mrs Mavis Thompson – Diocesan President

M. Thompson Date *1/8/2024*

Mrs Heather Leckey – Diocesan Secretary

H. Leckey Date *1/8/2024*

Mrs Marion Edwards – Finance and Central Services Unit Coordinator

M. Edwards Date *1/8/2024*

Mothers' Union Down & Dromore

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105094

Annual return

I report on the accounts of the Trust which are set out in the Statement of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Wilma Cathcart

Member of the Institute of Bankers in Ireland, Member of the International Compliance Association & Certified Fraud Examiner (ACFE).

7 Grange Crescent, Saintfield, Co Down, BT24 7NP.

7th September 2024

Mothers' Union Down & Dromore

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105094

Accounts

I report on the accounts of the Trust which are set out on pages 1 to 8 of the Statement of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Respective Responsibilities of Charity Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

I have examined the Charity Account for Mothers' Union Down & Dromore (NIC 105094) as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 63 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I can confirm that I have not identified any matters that require drawing to your attention.



Wilma Cathcart
7 Grange Crescent
Saintfield
Co Down
BT24 7NP

18th August 2023.



Statement of Receipts and Payments

and

Assets and Liabilities

For the year ended 31st December 2022

Charity Number: NIC105094

**Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022**

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Statement of assets and liabilities	2
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**Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st December 2022**

	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
Notes	£	£	£	£
Opening Bank and Cash Balances	39,957.51	3,209.54	43,167.05	48,997.73
Adjustment to Opening Balances				
Adjustment to Branches Opening Balances			0.00	0.00
Add: Receipts				
Subscription, Donations & Legacies	2 23,898.00		23,898.00	22,635.05
Investment Receipts	3 397.83	446.72	844.55	799.10
Receipts for MU Activities	4 15,372.45	7,427.51	22,799.96	11,034.33
Other Receipts	5 3,098.48	2,812.05	5,910.53	2,814.26
Total Receipts	<u>42,766.76</u>	<u>10,686.28</u>	<u>53,453.04</u>	<u>37,282.74</u>
Less: Payments				
Diocesan and Branch Expenses	6 24,054.18		24,054.18	21,182.28
Payments to MU Activities	7 19,006.88	9,700.78	28,707.66	20,996.14
Other Payments	8	2,084.12	2,084.12	935.00
Total Payments	<u>43,061.06</u>	<u>11,784.90</u>	<u>54,845.96</u>	<u>43,113.42</u>
Transfers between funds	-2,976.47	2,976.47	0.00	0.00
Closing Bank and Cash Balances	<u>39,663.21</u>	<u>2,110.92</u>	<u>41,774.13</u>	<u>43,167.05</u>

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st December 2022

	Notes	Diocesan		Branch		Total	
		Funds	2022	Funds	2022	Funds	2021
Investment Assets		£	£	£	£	£	£
Investments in CIT Unit Trusts	9	23,333.59		23,333.59		26,634.90	
Other investments							
Total Investment Assets		23,333.59	0.00	23,333.59	26,634.90		
Cash Funds							
Current Accounts		20,613.05	18,756.42	39,369.47	41,695.27		
Deposit Accounts			1,012.43	1,012.43	1,012.33		
Petty Cash Funds		240.99	1,566.84	1,807.83	1,526.43		
Total Cash Funds		20,854.04	21,335.69	42,189.73	44,234.03		
Other Assets							
Stocks	10	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.30		
Debtors	11	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,221.00		
Prepayment		0.00	0.00	0.00	616.00		
Total other assets		0.00	0.00	0.00	1,853.30		
Total assets		44,187.63	21,335.69	65,523.32	72,722.23		
Liabilities							
Creditors		280.00	135.00	415.00	2,903.98		
Subscriptions in advance	12		704.00	704.00	780.00		
Total liabilities		280.00	839.00	1,119.00	3,683.98		
Unrestricted Funds	13	31,795.07	20,496.69	52,291.76	58,150.70		
Restricted Funds	14	12,112.56		12,112.56	10,887.55		
Total Funds		43,907.63	20,496.69	64,404.32	69,038.25		

On Behalf of the Trustees

Trustee 1 (Print Name) MAVIS THOMPSON Signature *Mavis Thompson*

Trustee 2 (Print Name) PHYLLIS WHITESIDE Signature *Phyllis Whiteside*

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

1 Accounting policies

Set out below are the principal accounting policies which have been adopted in the compilation of the Receipts and Payments Account and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

(a) Receipts and Payments Account

All items of income and expenditure included within the Receipts and Payments Account have been accounted for on a cash receipts basis.

(b) Statement of Assets and Liabilities

(i) Investments

Investments in CIT Unit Trusts are initially recorded at cost and are then subsequently stated at fair value at each year end date.

(ii) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Specific provision is made for obsolete and slow moving stock on an item by item basis.

(iii) Subscriptions in advance

Some member subscriptions are received in advance prior to the commencement for the following year and these are included under Liabilities.

(iv) Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated which are expendable at the discretion of the charity in furtherance of its objectives.

(v) Restricted funds

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

2. Subscription, Donations & Legacies

Analysis	Diocesan	Branch	Set Off	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted		19,713.00		19,713.00	19,924.50
Unrestricted	72.00		-2.00	70.00	64.00
Unrestricted		3,346.60		3,346.60	2,310.55
Restricted				0.00	0.00
Unrestricted	19,621.00	-18,852.00		769.00	336.00
	19,693.00	23,059.60	-18,854.00	23,898.60	22,635.05

3. Investment Receipts

Bank Interest General Fund	42.57	13.84		56.41	48.46
Investment Income General Fund	341.42			341.42	208.52
Investment Income Education & Training	227.79			227.79	216.95
Investment Income Overseas	218.93			218.93	325.17
	830.71	13.84	0.00	844.55	799.10

4. Receipts for MU Activities

Overseas Fund	5,820.35	3,545.97	-4,085.06	5,281.26	4,213.90
Centenary Fund	73.50			73.50	266.80
Away From it All	786.62		-179.12	607.50	110.00
Mums in May	662.75	66.00	-511.00	217.75	2,662.00
Grant	260.00	300.00		560.00	260.00
Hospitality Fund				0.00	100.00
Hydebank Prison Fund	150.00		-100.00	50.00	-5.00
Indoor Members Fund	77.50	10.00	-50.00	37.50	55.00
Receipts for other MU activities	1,567.17		-967.17	600.00	21.00
MU Enterprise Diocese	229.89			229.89	207.23
MU Enterprise Shop		152.60		152.60	93.40
Outings		6,676.25		6,676.25	2,650.00
Receipts for other MU activities	7,879.05	434.66		8,313.71	400.00
	17,506.83	11,185.48	-5,892.35	22,799.96	11,034.33

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

5. Other Receipts

Analysis	Diocesan Funds		Branch Funds		Set Off Funds		Total Funds	
	2022	£	2022	£	2022	£	2022	£
Unrestricted Fundraising Events Receipts			3,498.48		-400.00		3,098.48	1,750.65
Restricted Fundraising Events Receipts							0.00	0.00
Unrestricted Sundry Receipts - Women's Aid	1719.1		717.45		-349.50		2,087.05	985.00
Restricted Sundry Receipts - Women's Aid Newry	725.00						725.00	0.00
Unrestricted Sundry Receipts							0.00	78.61
	2,444.10	4,215.93	-749.50	5,910.53			2,814.26	

6. Diocesan and Branch Expenses

Unrestricted Members' Subscriptions	19,621.00						19,621.00	18,858.00
Unrestricted Bank Fees	79.81		1,037.93				1,117.74	830.00
Unrestricted Officers' Expenses			338.31				338.31	20.00
Unrestricted Meeting fees and travel costs			2,059.33				2,059.33	541.53
Unrestricted Stationery & Postage			208.71				208.71	185.41
Unrestricted Gifts			709.09				709.09	747.34
Unrestricted Other Diocesan & Branch expenses							0.00	0.00
Unrestricted Branch Contributions			18,854.00		-18,854.00		0.00	0.00
	19,700.81	23,207.37	-18,854.00	24,054.18			21,182.28	

7. Payments to MU Activities

Restricted Overseas Fund	6,052.93		4,085.06		-4,085.06		6,052.93	10,088.54
Restricted Centenary Fund	340.30						340.30	0.00
Restricted Away From it All	600.00		179.12		-179.12		600.00	1,225.00
Restricted Hospitality Fund							0.00	0.00
Restricted Hydebank Prison	202.20		100.00		-100.00		202.20	387.05
Restricted Indoor Members Fund	15.84		50.00		-50.00		15.84	194.15
Restricted Mums in May	680.25		511.00		-511.00		680.25	3,602.00
Restricted Make a Mothers Day							0.00	0.00
Restricted Payments to other MU activities	1,809.26		967.17		-967.17		1,809.26	572.04
Unrestricted MU Enterprise Diocese	14.06		292.40				14.06	39.54
Unrestricted MU Enterprise Shop			6,907.30				292.40	93.40
Unrestricted Outings	7,433.42		4,359.70				6,907.30	2,618.41
Unrestricted Payments to other MU activities	17,148.26	17,451.75	-5,892.35	28,707.66			21,182.28	20,996.14

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

Analysis	Diocesan	Branch	Set Off	Total
	Funds 2022	Funds 2022	Funds 2022	Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
8. Other Payments				
Fundraising Events Payments				0.00
Fundraising Events Payments				0.00
Sundry Receipts - Women's Aid	525.00	1,114.50	-749.50	890.00
Sundry Receipts - Women's Aid Newry	1,194.12			1,194.12
Sundry Receipts				0.00
				935.00

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds 2022	Funds 2022	Funds 2021
	£	£	£
	1,719.12	-749.50	2,084.12
			935.00

9. Investments in CIT Unit Trusts

Opening Valuation				
Additions				
Disposals				
Movement in fair value	-2,384.25	-917.06	-3,301.31	1,923.90
Closing Valuation	16,851.78	6,481.81	23,333.59	26,634.90

	Diocesan	Branch	Total
	Funds 2022	Funds 2022	Funds 2021
	£	£	£
10. Stocks			
Mu Enterprises stock	0.00	0.00	16.30

	Diocesan	Branch	Total
	Funds 2022	Funds 2022	Funds 2021
	£	£	£
11. Debtors			
Debtors	0.00	0.00	1,221.00

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

	Diocesan Funds 2022 £	Branch Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
12. Subscriptions in advance				
2022 Subscriptions received	704.00	704.00	704.00	780.00

	Diocesan Funds 2022 £	Branch Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
13. Unrestricted Funds				
General Funds	12,847.72		12,847.72	13,299.17
General Fund Investments	16,851.78		16,851.78	19,236.03
Members Subscriptions		0.00	0.00	0.00
MU Enterprises Diocesan	2,095.57	2,095.57	2,095.57	1,689.29
MU Enterprises	0.00	0.00	0.00	190.45
MU Enterprises Stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.30
Other Unrestricted Funds		0.00	0.00	0.00
Branch Unrestricted Funds		20,496.69	20,496.69	23,719.46
	31,795.07	20,496.69	52,291.76	58,150.70

	Diocesan Funds 2022 £	Branch Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
14. Restricted Funds				
Indoor Members Fund	178.62		178.62	116.96
Hydebank Prison Fund	57.99		57.99	-9.81
Women's Aid Newry Fund	151.88		151.88	0.00
Diocesan Away From it All	803.62		803.62	617.00
Education & Training	1,283.97		1,283.97	1,056.18
Hospitality Fund	100.00		100.00	100.00
Hydebank Wood College	82.22		82.22	82.22
Grant Project	305.11		305.11	95.11
Mums in May	62.50		62.50	80.00
Ordinands Fund	0.00		0.00	266.80
Overseas Fund	691.43		691.43	705.08
Overseas Fund Investments	6,481.81		6,481.81	7,398.87
Women's Aid	624.10		624.10	51.00
Other Restricted Funds	1,289.31		1,289.31	328.14
	12,112.56		12,112.56	10,887.55

Total Funds 43,907.63 20,496.69 64,404.32

Mothers' Union Diocese of Down & Dromore
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

14. Restricted Funds (continued)

- Indoor Members Fund: it is used to buy small gifts for Indoor members special birthday and events that are organised as most of these members are house bound or in nursing homes.
- Hydebank Fund: to be used for craft classes and Christmas gifts at Ash House in Hydebank Wood College - the Women's Prison
- Women's Aid Fund: for Women's Aid project which gives support throughout NI to women and children who have experienced domestic violence.
- AFIA (Away From It All) Fund: is a Mothers' Union holiday scheme to give the opportunity of a break to those who are experiencing stress in their family life.
- Education & Training: to be used for education & training by Diocesan Officers
- Hospitality Fund: to be used for hospitality by Diocesan Officers
- Grant - Mums in May: £82.22 balance to be used towards Hydebank Wood College Life Improvement project
- Grant - Mums in May: £305.11 to be used for Mothers' Union projects
- Mums in May Fund: Funds raised to support the Mums in May projects in Ireland.
- Ordinands /Centenary Fund: to help those in training for Ministry.
- Overseas Fund: This is a Fund to be used to donate to Mothers' Union Charity projects Worldwide.

15. Collections for Third Parties

Included under Fundraising Events Receipts and payments are collections for Mothers' Union All Ireland of £0 (2021: £0) and for Women's Aid £2,812.05 (2021: £985).

16. Transactions with the Trustees

No trustee received any remuneration during the year. Trustees received a reimbursement of expenses during the year. Trustees expenses amounted to £0 (2021 £0).

No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year. (If a trustee or trustee business provided professional services and received any payment for these services this must be disclosed)

17. Governance Costs

No governance costs incurred

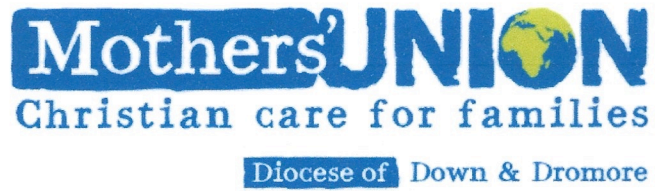
18. Associated Charities

The charity is one of the Dioceses of Mothers' Union in Ireland, an unincorporated charity regulated by the Charity Regulator. In turn, Mothers' Union in Ireland is affiliated to the Mothers' Union, an unincorporated charity regulated by the Charity Commissioners in England and Wales.

Mothers' Union Down & Dromore

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105094

Annual report



Diocese of Down and Dromore

Annual Report

For the year ended 31st December 2022

Charity Number NIC 105094

Legal and Administrative Information, with addresses for correspondence

Charity Name: Mothers' Union Diocese of Down and Dromore

Charity Number: NIC 105094

Principal Office Bearers

Diocesan President – Mrs Mavis Thompson, 203 Ballynahinch Road, Dromore BT25 1EU

Diocesan Secretary – Mrs Phyllis Whiteside, 5 Moyra Park, Saintfield BT24 7BG

Honorary Diocesan Treasurer – Mrs Lynda Bremner, 40 Garnerville Park, Belfast BT4 2NY

Trustees:

Mrs H Arnold, Mrs E Briggs, Mrs P Burrell, Mrs R Clarke, Mrs M Edwards, Mrs H Leckey, Mrs E Lester, Mrs R Macartney, Mrs S McCurry, Mrs J Reain, Mrs C Stewart, Mrs R Teggarty, Mrs L Thompson, Mrs M Thompson, Mrs P Whiteside

Bankers:

Ulster Bank Ltd, Connswater Branch, Arches Retail Park, Belfast BT5 4AF

Independent Examiner for Accounts: Mrs Wilma Cathcart, 7 Grange Crescent, Saintfield, Co Down, BT24 7NE

Purpose, Aims and Objects of Mothers' Union

The Purpose of Mothers' Union is to be concerned with all that strengthens and preserves marriage and Christian family life.

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 the 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.

Mission Statement

The Mothers' Union is a Christian organisation which promotes the well-being of families worldwide. We achieve this by:

- Developing prayer and spiritual growth in families
- Studying and reflection on family life and marriage and their place in society
- Resourcing our members to take practical action to improve conditions for families, both nationally and in the communities in which they live.

The Trustee Board

The Bye-laws for MU in the Diocese of Down and Dromore require that the Trustee Board shall be elected triennially by Diocesan Council and that nominees for membership of the Trustee Board must be or have been members of Down and Dromore Council.

The Trustee Board is comprised of the Diocesan President, four elected Vice-Presidents, Diocesan Secretary, Honorary Diocesan Treasurer, four Unit Coordinators, Hospital Visitor, Indoor Member Contact, Links Correspondent, Media and Public Relations Representative, Worldwide Representative, Prayer Representative and Young Members Representative. There are also ex officio (non-voting) Members including the Diocesan Chaplain, the Bishop's spouse, Area Representatives and the immediate past Diocesan President.

The Trustee Board meets at least twice a year and at such other times as the Diocesan President may deem necessary; half the membership constitutes a quorum. It has the power to form sub-committees and may co-opt a number of persons who might not be members of Mothers' Union to act in an advisory capacity.

Accounts are passed annually by the Trustee Board and an Honorary Auditor/Independent Examiner is appointed by the Trustee Board.

Unit Committees

There are four Unit Committees, each concerned with an area of activity or interest on behalf of the Trustee Board.

- Finance and Central Services – deals with finance and matters related to administration and governance
- Action and Outreach – primarily manages projects and campaigns, and provides links with members and projects worldwide and locally
- Faith and Policy – focuses on underpinning all our activities with prayer and Bible study and provides prayer resources for services and meetings
- Fundraising and Communications – prepares publications and leaflets on relevant matters, coordinates media activity and publicity, and leads on fundraising activities.

Diocesan Council

The Council comprises: Members of the Trustee Board, all Branch leaders and Secretaries, Diocesan Members, All Ireland Office Bearers resident in this Diocese (ex officio), all Past Diocesan Presidents (ex officio). Diocesan officials are elected to serve for a three-year period and shall be eligible to serve for one further three-year term whether consecutively or at intervals. Retirement for any reason during a three-year period of service shall be considered as completion of such a three-year period.

The Council meets at least twice each year and thirty-six members constitutes a quorum.

In cases of unavoidable absence of Branch Representatives, substitutes are eligible to attend. All Diocesan Council meetings include a time of worship, the Mothers' Union Prayer and Wave of Prayer.

Method of Election

Office bearers (the Trustees) of Down and Dromore MU are elected triennially, in accordance with the Constitution of Mothers' Union in Ireland and the Diocesan Bye Laws. They must stand down from office after three years but may be re-elected to that role for a further consecutive triennial, after which they are no longer eligible to be re-elected to that position. All roles commence at the beginning of January, with the Diocesan President being elected the previous year to take up that role i.e. in 2022, 2025, 2028, with the other office bearers a year later 2023, 2026, 2029 etc.

Administration

As required by law, the annual report from the Trustees for Mothers' Union in the Diocese was submitted to the Charity Commission (NI) in September 2022 in respect of 2021. The Trustees have continued to improve the governance of MU in the Diocese and in Branches in various

ways during 2022. Ongoing support has been given to Branch Leaders, Secretaries and Treasurers to help with any difficulties due to the continuing pandemic.

Finance

Our finances are managed with the Finance and Central Services Unit, primarily by the Treasurer who liaises closely with the bankers and prepares and presents reports and interim statements to each meeting of the Trustees and Diocesan Council. The Treasurer also reports to meetings of the Finance and Central Services Unit as required. Any cash received within branches or centrally is counted under dual control.

Achievements, Performance and Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duties in line with the Charity Commission Public Benefit statutory guidance. However due to Government restrictions at the beginning of the year, we followed the guidelines in force at the time. Mothers' Union continued on and members kept in touch with each other by phone, text or Zoom when unable to meet. A lot of members worked on projects at home for hospitals and care homes as well as contributing to Women's Aid Refuges, or a need in their community.

Formal Meetings in 2022

Diocesan Trustees met on 24 March, 26 May and 11 October with other meetings with DP, VPs and Unit Coordinators held as necessary.

Diocesan Council met on 6 April and 30 November.

The **Unit Committees** met as necessary throughout the year.

All Ireland meetings were attended by Diocesan President Mavis Thompson by Zoom and in person.

All Ireland Unit meetings took place by Zoom and were attended by the Unit Coordinator or representative.

Services and Special Events

Commissioning Service – 2 February of the Diocesan President Mavis Thompson and Diocesan Chaplain Rev Duncan Pollock held in Dromore Cathedral.

Commissioning Service – 27 February All Ireland President June Butler and All Ireland Trustees held in St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh.

Pilot course "Equipping the Church to take action and end Domestic Abuse" – five Zoom meetings in January.

Annual Gathering planning and preparation – thirteen Zoom meetings and two in person meetings between 16 February and 1 October.

Annual Gathering Services in St Anne's Cathedral – 4.30pm and 7pm 23 September.

Annual Gathering in ICC Belfast – all day 24 September.

Mothers' Union Branches – Killinchy, Knockbreda, St Brendan's, St Elizabeth's, St Dorothea's and Willowfield Area Service.

Dinner to celebrate Carryduff MU 60 years.

Service to celebrate Shankill MU, Lurgan 80 years.

Service to celebrate Annahilt MU 70 years.

Service to celebrate Magherahamlet MU 60 years.

Zoom meetings with Mary Sumner House 23 March and 22 November.

Three Zoom meetings and two in person meetings from 13 May to 9 August with Kingdom Voices to plan and prepare for the visit of Bishops' wives from Burundi, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Chile and USA for a Prayer Walk at Tobar Mhuire, Crossgar after a session discussing Gender Based Violence and Domestic Abuse.

Worldwide service in Carryduff Parish – 7 November – speaker – Sheran Harper Worldwide President.

16 Days of Activism event – coffee morning in St Finnian's Church Hall 26 November.

Advent Carol Service – 7 December in Newcastle Parish Church.

Throughout the year at Church services and other events, members were supported by the Diocesan Chaplain, Rev Duncan Pollock.

Trustees and members attended the two Commissioning Services in Dromore and Armagh, which were special and meaningful in the life of our Diocese.

Members attendance at External Events

Commissioning service of Diocesan President Sally Cotter for Connor Diocese attended by Diocesan President Mavis Thompson and June Butler.

First part of Safeguarding training 30 May by Zoom attended by Mavis Thompson.

MU Service of Holy Communion in Christ Church Dublin 6 October. Five members attended from Down and Dromore and were joined by members from Dublin and Glendalough.

Women's Getaway Weekend 4 November at Springfield Hotel, Leixlip. The speaker was MU Worldwide President Sheran Harper. Several members attended and found it very encouraging and uplifting.

All Ireland Council meetings were attended by Diocesan President and Trustees on 7 May by Zoom and 19 November in person at Springfield Hotel, Leixlip.

The Women's Refuge in Newry was visited by Diocesan President Mavis Thompson and a few Trustees in December.

Elections in 2022

Mavis Thompson Worldwide Representative was appointed Diocesan President from 1 January.

A number of Trustees have completed their term in office at the end of this year. Elections have been conducted and the results are as follows:

Diocesan Secretary - Mrs Heather Leckey

Faith and Policy Unit Coordinator - Mrs Roberta Macartney

Fundraising and Communications Unit Coordinator - Mrs Rosie Teggarty

Indoor Members Representative - Mrs Sally McCurry

Links Correspondent - Mrs Elaine Lester

Project work in support of our Aims and Objects

Action and Outreach

Support for Women's Aid Newry and Bangor - donations of groceries, clothing, toiletries, toys and other basic necessities are made by members and branches and are distributed to the two Women's Aid refuges in Newry and Bangor. This year we were once again able to host an afternoon tea party with the ladies and children.

Emergency wash bags – filled emergency wash bags were distributed to all three hospitals in our Diocese and were, as always, gratefully received.

Knitted baby clothes/blankets – knitted items were donated by members and distributed to hospitals and hospices and were gratefully received.

Twiddle muffs and knee blankets – the Ulster Hospital is particularly grateful to receive these items for the many elderly patients, including those with dementia, who have to wait in the Emergency Department for treatment or admission.

Refugee support – a new project this year, funded by the Diocese and also a grant from Mums in May, was to provide stock pots for those who have arrived in Northern Ireland as refugees. They cook their meals in one pot and having arrived in the country with very little, appreciated the donation of stock pots.

Prisons Outreach – as Covid restrictions were not completely lifted we have been unable to hold our normal craft classes for the women in Hydebank, however a personal gift and a

signed Christmas card were delivered by a Trustee to Hydebank for all male and female prisoners.

As a Diocese we were able to donate Christmas books for the children of prisoners in Maghaberry Prison.

Outreach to Foodbanks – in October the Trustees agreed to support six foodbanks around the Diocese by donating groceries and other essential items to the value of £100 to each of them. Trustees contacted the foodbanks in Dromore, Kilkeel, Portadown, Banbridge, Bangor and Belfast to confirm their needs and delivered the items to them. Gifts of food and some festive treats were very much appreciated by the foodbank managers.

Away From It All – no applications for Short Breaks were received this year so it was decided to offer food or heating vouchers to families who were struggling during difficult times. A number of Clergy were contacted, and six £100 vouchers were issued before Christmas. This assistance was greatly appreciated by all families.

Worldwide – one of the highlights of the year was the opportunity to host a Worldwide Evening with our Worldwide President, Sheran Harper, as the speaker. It was a very uplifting and challenging evening.

Faith and Policy Unit

Prayer Chain – members of the Diocesan Prayer Chain are united in giving prayerful support when urgently required. Those who are ill, bereaved, in despair, those with depression or anxiety or any other needs feel the support of those who are praying.

Indoor Members – indoor members in the Diocese are not forgotten, receiving birthday cards and reflections sent from Mary Sumner House.

Hospital Visitor – visits to Nursing Homes began again towards the end of the year and a few visits were made. Cards are also sent to members.

Social Policy – Saturday 26 November was when we marked the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence. A coffee morning was held in St Finnian's Church Hall when most of the branches in the Diocese were represented. A power point presentation updated everyone about the issues around Gender Based abuse.

A new initiative in Ireland – Equipping the Church – has been running on Zoom all year and was the basis for Down and Dromore's involvement in a workshop with the spouses of around 30 Bishops from various countries in South America and Africa who were staying in Tobar Mhuire Retreat Centre in Crossgar. Discussions, in nation groups, were very open and, at times, difficult to hear, were followed by a Prayer Walk in the Centre's Prayer Garden. This happened on 9 August – Mary Sumner Day.

Fundraising and Communications

Midday prayers are available through Facebook and on Down and Dromore's Facebook page members can follow what is happening in the Diocese and keep up to date with the latest news.

The All Ireland website is regularly updated with news, prayers and upcoming events as well as a monthly letter from the All Ireland President. "Focus" was once again available in print. A Christmas Card with information of different Branch events and a Christmas message from the Diocesan President was given to each member before Christmas.

Many branches, in June, celebrated the Platinum Jubilee of our Patron, Queen Elizabeth II, then in September heard the sad news she had passed away.

Membership

Mothers' Union membership is 852 including 23 Diocesan Members. Sadly we had a few branches close, but some members joined other branches or became Diocesan Members. Some branches welcomed new members.

Planning for the Future

We look forward to 2023 when hopefully all restrictions will be lifted and members will feel more comfortable meeting in person and renewing friendships. We hope to be able to have our senior members together for a Communion Service and afternoon Tea Party and to meet together for our Festival Service.

Signed on behalf of Trustees

Mrs Mavis Thompson – Diocesan President

.....  Date 7 June 2023

Mrs Phyllis Whiteside – Diocesan Secretary

.....  Date 7 June 2023

Mrs Marjion Edwards – Finance and Central Services Unit Coordinator

.....  Date 7 June 2023

Mothers' Union Down & Dromore

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105094

Annual return

I report on the accounts of the Trust which are set out on pages 1 to 8 of the Statement of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Respective Responsibilities of Charity Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

I have examined the Charity Account for Mothers' Union Down & Dromore (NIC 105094) as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 63 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I can confirm that I have not identified any matters that require drawing to your attention.



Wilma Cathcart
7 Grange Crescent
Saintfield
Co Down
BT24 7NP

18th August 2023.