



# Diocese of Coventry

## Mothers' Union Coventry News Bulletin

9<sup>th</sup> June 2026

*Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.*

**Psalm 95:1-3**

### [JOIN US, JOIN IN!](#)

Dear friends,

What a joyous time to be a Mothers' Union member as we continue to share the message of God's love as we encourage more to Join Us, Join In!

### Mothers' Union 150<sup>th</sup> Celebrations in London

How exciting that members will gather today for the Mothers' Union 150th Anniversary Celebratory Service at St Paul's Cathedral in London followed by the Annual Gathering at the Emmanuel Centre tomorrow.

A gentle reminder that the 150th Anniversary Celebratory Service will be available to watch live from the Mothers' Union Facebook page, today at 5pm (UK time).

There's no better time to gather, watch, and celebrate this joyous occasion—especially with those who can't access Facebook. If you do come together, please be sure to take plenty of photos to share.

The Archbishop of Canterbury will be joined by Worldwide President, Kathleen Snow, CEO, Bev Jullien and distinguished guests and they want everyone who can't be at St Paul's to have the opportunity to celebrate too!

Thank you for holding all those involved in these two momentous events in your prayers especially our very own Paul Morris as he prepares to speak at the Emmanuel Centre about what Mothers' Union Coventry members and friends are doing to reach out in love to the homeless.

As we look forward to two days of celebrations like no other - where members gather from across Britain and Ireland - to celebrate Mothers' Union's legacy, showcase the present and shine a light on the future of our work – let us also thank the Lord and praise him through music and song.

### Just in case you missed these!

Members can hear Kathleen Snow and Bev Jullien talking about the history of Mothers' Union in this 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year on UCB1 (United Christians Broadcast) Radio station.

<https://www.ucb.co.uk/qrlisten#waystolisten>

Mothers' Union also took the spotlight on Songs of Praise on Mothering Sunday celebrating 150 years of Mothers' Union and can still be viewed via iPlayer.

### **Mothers' Union Coventry 150<sup>th</sup> Celebrations**

What a busy and joyous time it continues to be celebrating Mothers' Union 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year throughout the diocese.

- Members gathered recently in force at Berkswell Reading Rooms for the Mothers' Union Coventry 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Eucharist and Thank You Lunch.

A special note of thanks to Revd. Denise Burgess who preached and presided over the service and to the members who helped set up and tidy away.

- Over the May bank holiday weekend members were involved in running various workshops for the Warwickshire Scout 'Get In' Festival.
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- Our first Family Fun Day at Coventry Cathedral was a resounding success, drawing approximately 250 attendees. Those that attended enjoyed fellowship, craft workshops and a vibrant Praise Party led by Revd. Canon Nitano Muller with energetic performances from the Thrive Puppets ministry team.

It was a beautifully fitting coincidence that the date aligned with Bishop Sophie Jelley's installation as the tenth Bishop of Coventry. We were also delighted to have Bishop Sophie on hand to personally welcome MU Zonal Trustee Deb Lee, along with other cyclists as they paused their journey to St Paul's Cathedral.

It is wonderful to hear Mothers' Union volunteers express how much joy and personal blessing they receive from helping at these events but we are mindful of the hard work that is involved also.

Therefore, on behalf of the trustee board, a special note of thanks to Anne Short, Janet Jackson, Melanie Dowden and all those members who gave up their Saturday and also a weekend to support these two very special events.

### **Come and Join Us, Join In!**

- Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> June, Kenilworth Deanery MU stall at Kenilworth Lions Grand Show.
- Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> August - 6 brave souls will be abseiling down Coventry Cathedral to raise money for the MU 150<sup>th</sup> fund. For those wishing to make a donation a link will follow shortly.
- Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> August - Fosse Deanery MU Mary Sumner Lunch, St Peter's Wellesbourne Church Centre with guest speaker from Coventry Cathedral, Revd. Canon Nitano Muller.
- Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> August - Mary Sumner Day Services at St Giles, Exhall (10am) and St John's, Kenilworth (6pm).
- Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> August - MU Tea Party for the homeless at Gateway Hostel, Coventry, in celebration of Mary Sumner.

- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September -Fosse Deanery MU 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service, St Andrew's Church, Shotton.
- Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October - MU 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Lunch, St Barbara's Church, Earlsdon.
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November - MU Advent Service, St Andrew's Church, Shotton.

### **Mothers' Union Takeover Services and 150<sup>th</sup> events**

Thank you to members of St Peter's Church, Mancetter and St Nicholas Church, Kenilworth for taking part and inviting me to speak at their Sunday morning service with a focus on Mothers' Union.

It was also wonderful to see Revd. Eira Hale rededicate the Mothers' Union St Nicholas branch banner.

Thank you to St Martin's Branch, Finham members for inviting me to their 150<sup>th</sup> Strawberry Tea celebration where a new member was enrolled also. Another special moment was when we raised the roof to sing the Mothers' Union hymn written by Joan Atkin from York Diocese.

For those still thinking about planning a service or an event to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary – there is still plenty of time and if you need any help please let me know.

May all our events and celebrations continue to reflect the rich history and continued purpose of the Mothers' Union.

Please remember to keep the staff at MSH informed of any 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary events via [communications@mothersunion.org](mailto:communications@mothersunion.org) so they can share our good news stories.

A gentle reminder also for all things Mothers' Union 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations, events and resources, please search [mothersunion.org/150](http://mothersunion.org/150).

### **A new book about Mary Sumner**

More good news in that Chris Rutherford, Trustee and branch leader of All Saints, Harbury has written an excellent book about Mary Sumner. I found this to be a very enjoyable read and a thoroughly researched account of the extraordinary Mrs George Sumner. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

I would like to finish with a prayer lovingly prepared by Shotton branch members taken from this month's MU Coventry prayer diary:

'We pray for Mothers Union National 150<sup>th</sup> service at St Paul's Cathedral, for all those attending and for all members who are unable to go, praying for the work of Mothers Union-in the future, so the legacy given to us by Mary Sumner may continue in the years to come.

We also pray for the Annual Gathering held at Emmanuel Centre in London, so that all members can come together in friendship and a chance to connect and learn to serve - empowering women and families worldwide wide.

Amen'

With love and abundant blessings,



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