

Greetings from the New Zealand President
Newsletter No. 50
August 2013



**CONGRATULATIONS ST JUDE'S
IN THE PARISH OF AVONDALE**

Auckland's first Branch to officially reach 100 years

(A chance discovery made by one of our MU Members who does volunteer work in the Auckland Diocesan Archives brought this information to light.)

It has not been all plain sailing but St Jude's remains one of our most dependable Branches, few in numbers but high in the time and talents devoted to furthering MU Objectives in their parish and community.

The birthday cake is cut by Mrs Joan Abbott, assisted by the Rev. Bob Hornburg, a former Vicar of St Jude's, whose encouragement and support has been greatly appreciated.



From the President

*Tena Koutou Katoa, Te Whanau O Te Karaiti and
Greetings in the Name of our Loving God.*

Dear Members of Mothers' Union and Friends

Our Founder of Mothers' Union, Mary Sumner is celebrated on the 9th August, the date of her death in 1921. In Auckland we celebrated the 120 years of MU in New Zealand at the Chapel of the Holy Child at the Anglican Trust for Women and Children, in Otahuhu. Phillip Beilby the CEO shared some challenges he faced since taking the post twenty months previously but was keen to focus on future projects. We are keen again to offer ATWC our support .

We join together to congratulate Prince William and Catherine the Duchess of Cambridge on the birth of their baby, Prince George Alexander Louis on 22nd July 2013.

Our Quiet Day with AAW: Corpus Christie (day of thanksgiving) was led by Bishop Te Kitohi Pikaahu at St John's Theological College, Meadowbank. We began the **day with the Eucharist Service, a visit to Sir Paul Reeves' tombstone, Bible study,** and personal introductions, building relationships and sharing lunch. We concluded with a Taize service with set singing themes and prayers. An invitation was extended by Bishop Te Kito to come back next year. A truly spiritual uplifting day was appreciated by both MU and AAW members.

Congratulations to St. Judes MU in Avondale on your Centennial. We are indeed grateful that a member had access to archive records that allowed us to celebrate. Vera Green quickly organised the service and the luncheon with the members. Rev Bob Hornburg was the celebrant and, interesting news, - when he was the Priest in charge he heard that this Branch was to close down. He attended the meeting and advised them to continue MU, and the secretary was instructed to 'keep writing.' *(As told in presence of Rev. Bob.)*

St George MU in Papatoetoe also celebrated their 95th Anniversary where Bishop Ross Bay presided over the service. He also commented that he would endeavour to attend the Centennial in 2018. It was encouraging to see many past members return for this celebration.

Iritana Hankins

MARY SUMNER DAY

9th August

A day of Optional Observance listed in the NZ Prayer Book, and of Special Observance to **all Branches of Mothers' Union.**

(l) The Rev. Trevor Cheeseman and Raewyn Skipper, Auckland Diocesan Vice-President & Branch Leader at St George's Papatoetoe, presided at the communion service in the chapel at ATWC.

(r) Iritana Hankins, NZ Provincial President, and Maria Riddle from Pukekohe Branch, preparing a sumptuous lunch.



It was a pleasure to welcome Heather Dawson, Wellington Diocesan President, as our guest for the day. She is seen centre (above) with the new Wellington banner, flanked on her left by Iritana Hankins and Vera Green, and on her right by Joan Neild and Emilie Aldwinckle, with Raewyn Skipper in front.

During Southern Archdeaconry meeting held after lunch, Heather spoke about the artistic design and construction of the banner, plus some of the activities that are keeping the Wellington Diocesan MU busy, including the Parent Education Programme introduced from Australia about two years ago.

WAIKATO/TARANAKI DIOCESE

Earlier in the year members of St Mary's Mothers' Union studied the Parable of the Talents in St Luke's Gospel and as a result looked at ways they could use their gifts to deepen their involvement with the various projects they support. Keen knitters have made baby clothes to enhance the financial support given to the Teen Mums. These were well received when Tania, the head teacher, and one of the mums came along to the May meeting to give an update on their activities. They look forward to receiving more clothes through the year.

Four members decided to make Beads Of Courage bags for children receiving treatment for cancer. For each procedure the child receives a coloured bead. It doesn't take long for children to collect a lot of beads and the bags are a handy way of keeping them together.

It has been felt for some time that members unable to come to meetings, and those Diocesan members living outside New Plymouth should be kept in more regular touch so a bi-monthly big print newsletter is being sent out. This will be in addition to the MU newsletter and other magazines Diocesan members receive. A member who enjoys writing has taken this on with the first one sent in July. It contained a message from Lynne Tembey, local and overseas news, plus prayer points.

Other talents are being exercised, including the most important one of prayer.

Sadly one of our members, the Children and Young Families Worker, Katie, has had her job disestablished due to funding cuts. This is a great disappointment to us. Besides providing money, toiletries and household items several members helped with the OSCAR programme by providing or cooking meals for the children before they went home

Two new members will be Admitted at our August meeting and then on the 21st we celebrate St Mary's Women's Day when guests from the Archdeaconry and other churches come to share a service, lunch and listen to a guest speaker. The sermon focuses on St Mary, mother of Jesus, and encourages us to be Christ bearers in our daily lives.

Rosemary Bent

Beads of Courage bag makers Virginia Wells, Linda Rountree, and Marie Medhurst, before delivering them to the hospital.



WELLINGTON DIOCESE

Marjorie Niven from Epiphany in Masterton visited Doreen Earls in the MU group of Slavin, Belleek, Garrison and Kiltyclogher, in the Diocese of Clogher. Marjorie was able to attend a lovely service in the Cathedral in Enniskillen commemorating **60 years of the Queen's coronation**. She met **Dean Kenny Hall**, the Dean of the Cathedral, and the Bishop preached. After the service she met Margaret Crawford who was All Ireland President for 3 years.

Photo. Marjorie in Enniskillen Cathedral in the middle in blue with the Clogher ladies and the Dean, and their banners.



At Wellington AAW Diocesan AGM in Waikanae on July 27th the new MU travelling banner was blessed by Rev Wendy Scott, Ministry Educator for the Diocese of Wellington. We are thrilled with the banner which has been designed and made by Beverley Shore-Bennett's daughter, Diana. On the back are printed the MU logo and the words **'Christian Care for families worldwide'**. Wendy is a Story teller and spoke about that as well as about Bishop Justin's charge:- We are family, we are disciples, we care for the last, the lost and the least.

Heather Dawson Raumati Beach
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Two Important events are coming up in Auckland in October. Apologies to anyone who we did not reach to warn that the Mary Sumner Lecture had been postponed from 9th August. The lecture is held every second year, so please take advantage of this opportunity to hear Sir Owen and enjoy lunch together.

THE MARY SUMNER LECTURE

Tuesday, 3rd September 2013 at 11 a.m.
(Please disregard previous date advertised)

SIR OWEN GLENN

Will speak on

THE ROLE OF MOTHERHOOD IN PROTECTING AND NURTURING OUR CHILDREN

At St Mary's in Holy Trinity Cathedral
Parnell, Auckland

Followed by a light lunch in the Selwyn Library

Open to all members, friends, and the general public

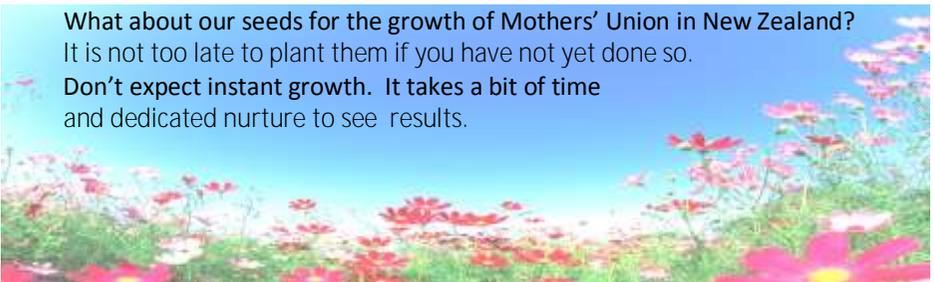
For catering purposes, if attending
please advise the secretary
maggies.mill@xtra.co.nz
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Remember this year's theme? The Seeds We Sow.....
Spring has sprung. Blossoms and daffodils are blooming everywhere.

What about our seeds for the growth of Mothers' Union in New Zealand?

It is not too late to plant them if you have not yet done so.

Don't expect instant growth. It takes a bit of time
and dedicated nurture to see results.



Last year we made an application for the Mothers' Union to become a Nationally Organised Society affiliated to the National Council of Women, to bring us into the mainstream of agencies advocating for women's and family affairs in New Zealand.

Unfortunately, an error was made on the application form.

This year we are closer than you might think to getting this right.

Consequently MU needs to take an interest in things that form part of the NCW agenda as a whole..

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN
OF NEW ZEALAND
(Auckland Branch)

Invite you to join us as we celebrate
120 years of votes for women



ON SUFFRAGE DAY

Thursday 19th September 2013, 12.30 – 1.30 p.m.

In front of the tiled memorial
Lower Khartoum Place, Lorne Street, Auckland

For a short programme of music, speeches, entertainment
And some group participation

The Garden

Come and plant a garden

by scattering the seeds of love and watching peace grow.

Then scatter the seeds of peace and harvest the fruits of justice.

Then scatter the fruits of justice and witness the flowering of hope.

And when you scatter the seeds of hope

You will walk in the garden of paradise.

Richard Becher (Seeing Christ in Others: 2002)

Think Syria and Egypt right now, and pray that some flowers will grow
for the people who live there.

Front and back of the bookmark made
By Vera Green to commemorate St
Jude's centenary.



Two large social events have very recently been held at Selwyn Village, Auckland - Bruce and Kathleen Nicholls celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with family and friends, and received many congratulatory messages including one from HM Queen Elizabeth.

A high tea party for Jean Williams' significant birthday (starting with 8) was shared by husband Ron, their large family and friends.

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Christchurch Branch is planning an enrolment service in October. Watch out for a delegation from Auckland looking for an excuse to visit the South Island

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Our friend Tai, now living in Apia, is having some health problems. Please remember her in prayer.

The Mary Sumner Prayer

(Written in 1876 by Mothers' Union founder, Mary Sumner)

All this day,
O Lord,
let me touch as
many lives as possible
for thee;
and every life
I touch, do thou by
thy spirit quicken,
whether through the
word I speak,
the prayer
I breathe,
or the life I live.
Amen.



(This is a one-off from one of our members)

Wife texts husband on a cold winter's morning:

"Windows frozen."

Husband texts back:

"Pour some lukewarm water over it."

Wife texts back:

"Computer completely bugged now."

THE PROVINCIAL TEAM

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