

In the Province of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
And throughout the World

Greetings from the New Zealand President
Newsletter No. 51
November 2013



The Day the Kiwis Came Calling
Katherine McIntyre, MU Member from Kohi/Orakei Branch at St Andrew's
Auckland, New Zealand,
with her daughter Ruth and grand-daughter Lucy
On a flying visit to Mary Sumner House, London.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Tena Koutou Katoa, e Te Whanau a Te Karaiti

Dear Members of the Mothers' Union and Friends

This has been a busy year for me as your Provincial President visiting many members and attending functions and services in the different Dioceses. I enjoy receiving your email, letters and calls as it shows how busy we are in 'the Lords vineyard.' Looking at our conference to be held in Auckland in July 2014. All Dioceses Presidents and Provincial Presidents will be involved in planning this special time together.

Mary Sumner Lecture: St Mary's Cathedral Parnell was the setting for Sir Owen Glen to deliver our Mary Sumner Memorial Lecture. Born in India Owen Glenn came to New Zealand with his parents at aged nine and completed his formal schooling from Mt. Albert Boys Grammar aged fifteen years as his *father* could not afford to keep him at school. He began a career in logistics with Trans Tasman Airways. Proud of his Catholic faith, he continues to support these communities in his homeland and around the world. Here in New Zealand he is the sponsor of the Inquiry in to All forms of Child Abuse and Domestic Violence. A quiet speaker whose is passionate to make a difference in the lives of families.

Christchurch MU celebrated the enrollment of Rosalyn Dean at the Community of the Sacred Name with Mother Keleni. Rosalyn an active young woman in the community is from the parish of Avondale, where the first branch of MU was established in New Zealand and out of England in 1886. Archdeacon Carole Graham led the service and Margaret Wilson who continues to encourage and support this membership enrolled Rosalyn. Fifteen people attended the service of which seven were MU members. Sr. Alena sang her own composition 'Lord you are my life' complemented by her fine guitar expertise which was inspirational. Every enrollment including this one is an encouraging sign for Christ.

Congratulations to the Wellington branch for establishing and finely piloting the Parent Encourage Programme in Porirua and Karori. The material: explanations, discussions, gathering of data is professional as is the departure from the Australian programme to apply more aptly to New Zealand needs. I look forward to this becoming a National programme in the future. Thank you all for making this document available for me to deliver at the MU Council Meeting in Melbourne in November.

In August while in Wellington my granddaughter Rachel and I travelled by train to visit members on the Kapiti Coast. At Paraparaumu Heather Dawson, Diocesan President was waiting for us. At Raumati café we had a chat and catch up over morning tea. We strolled through the park admiring the upgraded playground and facilities. At St Michaels where Heather worships we paused for quiet prayer. We were delighted to meet with Perdita Bental, Anne Carpenter, and Helen Nicholls at Waikanae for lunch. And to share MU news. We journeyed back to St Paul's, in

Kapiti to attend the 2pm Service and afternoon tea. Rachel enjoyed our special day of fun. It was now time to head home so we boarded the train back to Wellington recording a day of fellowship and *admiring Gods creation*.

Elections for Provincial President

My three-year term as your Provincial President expires on Mary Sumner Day 2014. Many have asked if I could do another term, and I have deliberately waited until after the MU Australia Council Meeting in November, which I have just attended, before making a decision. There was much that I was able to grasp from their Council that would have better helped me in working with you all, and especially the Diocesan Presidents and past Provincial Presidents as a team (my back bone). We will work together to get the 2014 July New Zealand **Provincial Conference 'up and running'**.

Consequently I will put my name forward for a second term as a candidate for the position of MU Provincial President of Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia in 2014-2017.

Nga Manaakitanga *blessings na Iritana*

A busy month -



Melbourne

Left to right, Pam Powell, Marcia Ashworth, Jan Livingston (former MU Australia PP), Rev. Iritana Hankins (MU Aotearoa NZ & Polynesia PP), Joslyn Ross, Anne Downing (members) at the MU Australia Council conference in November.

Christchurch

Left to right, Rev. Iritana Hankins, Newly-enrolled member Rosalyn Dean, Margaret Wilson, Mother Keleni, and the Ven. Carole Graham, at the CSN, in November.



FROM THE WAIKATO DIOCESE

The Taranaki Cathedral of St Mary's Patronal Festival was held on 21 August 2013. Nearly 100 people from many parishes and other churches in and around New Plymouth attended the communion service led by the Rev. Jacqui Paterson from Holy Trinity, Fitzroy. Her sermon was "Welcome to the Revolution" based on the Magnificat. Many of those present had heard numerous sermons based on Luke 1: 46-55, but Jacqui left no-one in doubt as to how radical and revolutionary the Song of Mary really is. After a very tasty lunch Christopher Luke, the talented Director of Music, Taranaki Community and Cathedral Executive Officer, Music Innovation Trust of Taranaki, spoke of 'The Women in his Life'. These included Dr June Nixon in her role as organist at Melbourne Cathedral, and his own family members including his four beautiful daughters. **The offering taken up during the service was donated to the local YMCA's (Teen) Mums Programme and the House of Sarah in the Diocese of Polynesia.**

Our special journey, based on the Parable of the Talents, has continued throughout the year. A group of MU women have continued to knit beautiful **baby and children's garments which have gone to a number of destinations including the local CYF's Home, the Christchurch City Mission, baby beanies to the local Plunket nurses, and peggy square rugs to the Teen Mums.** All these items have been truly appreciated, and a really heartfelt letter of thanks was received from the Christchurch City Mission.

Emphasising the importance of corporate prayer in underpinning the work of MU, members co-ordinated our part of the MU Wave of Prayer with a number of women gathering in the chapel on Friday 27th September. This gave a sense of unity in prayer for one another as the wave of prayer moves from Branch to Branch and Diocese to Diocese. Waikato is linked to Tanzania, Ireland and Auckland. Tanzania has one of the largest number of MU members in the world, and this year they have joined forces with Government Nurses to raise awareness of HIV/Aids, malaria, breast cancer and family planning.

Anne Knox

A subsequent email from Rosemary Bent, just received, brings us up to date with the news "This is just to let you know I have been elected Diocesan President for Waikato and Taranaki Diocese. Anne Knox continues as Leader of St Mary's Mothers' Union (New Plymouth). I hope to be able to be in more frequent contact with our few Diocesan members in the Hamilton area."

Rosemary



NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE OF POLYNESIA

(Photo from Amelia Tu'uinukuafe via Rosemary Bent, Text from Amelia)

Enclosed are some of the photos from our recent MU combined service.

The wonderful things we had during this service were the expressions of the love of God to one another in drama, action songs and prayers.

(The colourful costumes are in contrast to the usual blue and white uniforms.)

Amelia has since written -

The visit from our sisters in Fiji has been cancelled until further notice. We had a workshop about the Parenting Development Programme on the last week of September, and it was a success. I first introduced it to the members of our Parish of St Matthias, and plan to invite the other parishes' members to join early next year.

Unfortunately it was not possible for Amelia to be involved in any MU activities while in Auckland recently during her husband's hospitalisation for nerve compression surgery. We hope and pray that his recuperation is progressing well.

From Archdeacon (call me "Tai")

I am hoping for some quality time when I next visit Auckland. Standing Committee meeting in New Plymouth provided me with an opportunity to meet with Rosemary and Michael Bent. Rosemary is keen to assist with providing assistance towards our first Anglican School in Samoa, and Faasega Tapelu who was commissioned as MU member in Otahuhu is the principal of the school.

Had a wonderful get-together with Valerie (Hogan) last week, and it was also wonderful to be with Emilie (Aldwinckle) and Raewyn (Skipper) at the AAW service on Saturday at the Selwyn Heights Retirement place.

Meanwhile, best wishes for Advent and Christmas seasons.

Blessings and much Alofas, *Tai.*

WELLINGTON DIOCESE

(This is a précis of Heather's regular newsletter, November edition, which may be a repeat taken from the full version already distributed.)

I visited Auckland to attend the Mary Sumner Lecture on August 9th, and it was delayed.I was looked after well by the Auckland ladies on that day though, and learned a lot about the Anglican Trust for Women and Children (where the celebration of Mary Sumner Day was held). Joan Neild, Auckland MU President, and I are in regular contact.

Iritana Hankins , MU NZ PP, enjoyed a quiet day on the Kapiti Coast in late August. I have received , news from Ann Mayer in St Asaph Wales, Doreen Earls in Clogher Ireland, and Rosemary Hill in France.

The MU groups are all busy with group activities—e.g. Epiphany are having a Spring Day Out visiting three churches, one pub, and one station at Tinui, Castlepoint and Riversdale. Levin are celebrating the 101st birthday of a member.

I did not attend the Diocesan Day as I was driving Kathleen Godfrey to Napier to attend the installation of her son Michael as the new Dean of Waiapu. It was a wonderful occasion. I met several AAW and MU sisters. I also met the new Dean of Waikato, the Very Rev. Peter Rickman, who told me that he and his wife are MU members. I have put him on my email list to receive our newsletters.

We have received a few orders for Mary Sumner Roses They are \$14.00 each. Please order from Christine Goodin, chistinegoodin@xtra.co.nz

Val Malcolm has sent out another prayer letter for the PEP. Rev. Carrole Lewis and Deidre Whitcomb have a new PEP in Kapiti with four attending. This is still a trial programme until we have sorted out the NZ aspect of the course, and been given approval from MU Australia. Please keep this programme in your prayers as it is taking a while to get going. We have a few Facilitators keen to take programmes. I have heard from several places that there are already other parenting programmes available in the Diocese, and we have, but MU should be given a fair chance.

A merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

Love from *Heather* heatherfeather646@gmail.com

Phone 049021866 or text 0211067463.



In 2013 we have been charged with the theme "THE SEEDS WE SOW"
In 2014 our challenge is "SOWING THE FUTURE TOGETHER "
It is a team effort!

AUCKLAND DIOCESE First of all, a warning -

Do not miss our next AGM which is to be held on Sunday 23rd February 2014 At 3 p.m. in the Bishop Monteith Visitors Centre, Holy Trinity Cathedral, To be chaired by our Chaplain The Right Rev. Te Kitohi Pikaahu, and followed by Evensong at 5 p.m. This is earlier than usual, but it is going to be a busy year, and we want to make a flying start. Our regular events have all been organised, **including a repeat of the Quiet Day with AAW, again at St John's College on Corpus Christi Day, Friday 19th June.** Our celebration of Mary Sumner Day will this year take place on Friday the 8th August with a Missions Day (which alternates with the Mary Sumner Lecture) at which the Rev. Mike Hawke from the Anglican Missions Board will speak. Our prayer cycle continues unabated, and the annual Diocesan Archdeaconry and Council meetings will be notified in **next year's diary of events. We will be sowing the future together.**

Most of our Branches are continuing to meet monthly, and provide support for a variety of local charities, whether under the banner of MU or the local Parish. The popular music and movement groups for pre-schoolers and their care-givers, really are leading to more baptisms and family involvement in church. There is also a large amount of knitting going on, tagged with our MU Golden Needles cards, a tradition which has been in place for many years. There is a beautiful **array of children's garments flowing through to the big hospitals, Plunket nurses,** and the Anglican Trust for Women and Children, for distribution to the most needy. Most groups are able to intersperse their meetings with interesting outings and activities. One such was held this month, organised for the Kohi-Orakei Branch by Katherine McIntyre (yes, the same lady featured on our cover page). **This was "The Sermon On The Mount" i.e. Mt Wellington, one of the small dormant volcanoes in the Glen Innes area.** Katherine gave a short talk on the geology and history of the volcano, and a presentation on the Beatitudes. Apart from the mission levies sent to MSH each year, Kohi-Orakei also makes monthly donations to the Quan Am Foundation established by Lucette (daughter of Jan Dillon, one of our MU members) for the support of orphan children in Vietnam. Other Branches have similar ventures and activities.

Joan Neild

Publicity Progress

Vivienne is back on deck, and is continuing to work on the website entitled **Mothers' Union NZ.** This will be linked with other MU and relevant sites, and should be open soon (hopefully before Christmas). Facebook and Twitter will also be operating. Notwithstanding the modern trends, our members who are not IT-equipped will not be forgotten.

From one Guest Editor to another - Bishop Andrew Proud's message as guest editor in "Families Worldwide No.13", a publication from MSH containing Mothers' Union resources for prayer and action. Too inspiring to me, not to share.

"On the Shoulders of Giants"

'(A reflection on the important place Mothers' Union has played and continues to play—in the lives of individuals and the wider Church.)

I have only been a members since May 2013, but I have worked with Mothers' Union for years and especially over the nine years we were in Ethiopia with Anglican missionary organisation USPG. You may not know this, but the average Anglican today is 26 years old, black, female and African—and, like as not, a member of Mothers' Union. Which means that we are the beating heart of the Anglican Communion!

Our Mothers' Union group in Ethiopia was extraordinary. Members were already active when we got there, visiting the sick and bereaved in the horrendous prisons on the border with South Sudan, and teaching family values. But I shall never forget how, at the end of a long hot, sticky, dusty journey by car, on a visit to an outlying mission station, it was the Mothers' Union members, dressed in their uniforms, who washed our feet with the precious water they'd carried a mile from the nearest river. It made you want to cry—because you knew that they would have to make the journey back to the same river to fetch water that evening for their families.

And I shall never forget how, when the men had got themselves locked into playing out deep clan rivalries in church meetings, and were threatening each other with actual bodily harm, it was often Mothers' Union members who stood up to them to challenge the ungracious, ungodly, foolish behaviour. They saved many every day.

That's why I'm proud to be a member of the Mothers' Union and now to be Chaplain to the Central Mothers' Union. You could say I've come late to the party, and you'd be right. But I don't mind admitting that much of what we achieved together in Ethiopia was down to the mothers there - young and old. When I come to think of it, they didn't only wash our feet—we stood on their shoulders too, just as the Church stands on the shoulders of Mothers' Union everywhere. And I want to thank you, for all that you do; for your obedience to the loving will of God. And I pray that it will always be your food—and my food—as it was Jesus' food, to do the will of him who sent him. As love was his meaning, so may it be ours.'

Wishing you Love and Joy in the celebration of Christmas
A refreshing holiday, and
Happiness and vitality for the Coming Year

THE PROVINCIAL TEAM

Provincial Chaplain:	The Right Rev. John Paterson, P.O. Box 87255, Meadowbank, Auckland 1742.
Provincial President:	The Rev. Iritana Hankins, 20 Mataroa Road, Otahuhu, Auckland 1062, Email i.hankins@xtra.co.nz , Phone: 0064 (0)9 276-3088
Secretary/Treasurer:	Mrs Diane Chapman, 20 Mataroa Road, Otahuhu, Auckland 1062, Email: chapman-01@hotmail.com , Phone (09) 275-7061 or 027 430-9047
Guest Editor:	Mrs Margaret Wilson, 301 St Heliers Bay Road, Kohimarama, Auckland 1071 Phone 0064 (0)9 521-1229 Email maggies.mill@xtra.co.nz