



August 2018

THE BRIDGE

linking members, mission and events

Diary Dates

2018

August

31 Council Meeting 10:00am
St Andrew's Cathedral Chapter House

September

11 Upper North Shore/Ryde Area Day 10:00am to 12:30pm
St Mark's, Pennant Hills

15 Sudanese Seminar 10:00am to 2:00pm
Blacktown Anglican

18 Liverpool Area Day 10:00am to 12:30pm
St Mark's, Sadleir

19 Warringah Area Day 11:30am to 1:30pm
St John's, Dee Why

November

23 Advent Service 10:30am
St Philip's Church Hill
Morning Tea from 9:45am

December

7 Market Day Stall 7:30am to 2:30pm
Town Hall Square, Sydney

17-24 Christmas Wrapping 10:00am to 3:00pm
Town Hall Square, Sydney

24 Shop & Office close 4:00pm

Sharing Christ's love by encouraging, strengthening and supporting
marriage and family life.

Celebrating 100 years with Jean May Steele

MU Sydney are delighted to be able to celebrate Jean Steele's 100th birthday on 18 August 2018 with Jean, her family and friends.



Jean May Hill was born at Woodstock in the central west of NSW near Cowra, just 3 months before the end of World War 1. She was the 8th of 10 children, and as her oldest sister reached the age of 101 and a brother the age of 100 and 6 months, the family are blessed with genes for a long life.

After school she trained as a nurse and while working at Gladesville Hospital met Clyde Bathurst Steele, the brother of a nursing friend. Clyde and Jean were married at Woodstock on 27 December 1941.

They settled in Russell Lea, Sydney where they raised their four children: Mary, Bill, Peter and Ronald. At first they attended St Thomas' Russell Lea, but when that church was joined with Abbotsford Parish they transferred to the combined church at St Andrew's where Jean continued to worship. She is still living in her family home at Russell Lea today.

Jean joined MU in the 1950s and was active for many years until the branch finally closed. We thank her for her contribution to MU over the years and congratulate her on attaining the age of 100.

Jean has 10 grandchildren, 18 great grandchildren and 4 great great grandchildren

GAFCON 3 - Wendy Mayer

Proclaiming Christ faithfully to the nations

Nearly 2000 people gathered in Jerusalem from 17-22 June 2018 for the third Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCON 3). They came from all over the world, bishops, clergy and laity, meeting as members of the Anglican church all sharing a concern for its future effectiveness in spreading the Gospel of Christ in a world desperately in need of its message of hope and salvation through faith in Christ alone.

The repeated refrain of the conference was *We will proclaim Christ faithfully to the nations* and faithfulness to the gospel was a major focus throughout. We are to remain faithful to the truths presented in God's word and not to adopt socially acceptable doctrines aimed at making our churches more palatable to current tastes.

There were wonderful times of worship through singing, services, sermons and sharing in small groups. The gathering on the Temple Steps for a conference photograph and service of worship was particularly memorable.



At lunchtime on Wednesday all MU members were invited to bring their lunches to a meeting chaired by Mrs Okoh, wife of the GAFCON Chairman. Several members, including Marilyn Bennett from Myanmar, told of their ministries in their home countries, and we finished the time by praying together in twos or threes.

Christine and I met Mama Mwezwa Chimeldya, wife of the former Archbishop of Tanzania, who MU Sydney had sponsored to attend.

We were also enlisted as part of the Mothers' Union network, which was formed and lead by Mrs Gloria Kwashi, wife of Ben Kwashi, Bishop of Jos, Nigeria and the next General Secretary of GAFCON following Peter Jensen's retirement next year. A total of 9 networks were formed with the aim of expanding GAFCON members' ability to proclaim Christ faithfully to the nations in both word and deed.

The Conference finished by publishing a *Letter to the churches* which had been composed in consultation with all the delegates present, and was unanimously approved on the final day. The full text of that letter is available at the link below or just Google: GAFCON 2018 letter to the churches.

<https://www.gafcon.org/news/letter-to-the-churches-gafcon-assembly-2018>

MU Worker Canterbury - Sam Begg

Hi my name is Sam Begg. I'm currently studying at Sydney Missionary and Bible College and have the privilege of being the Children's Minister at St Paul's Canterbury. Part of my role at St Paul's is being involved in three particular ministries: our Sunday School, our weekly kids club called *Bounce*, and our annual kids holiday program called *Zone One*.



The past six months have been really encouraging as we have seen God working in all of these ministries. *Bounce*, which started in term 4 last year, has grown from having 10 regular kids from church families to almost 20 from a mix of both church families and non church going families. So not only are there kids coming who have no other exposure to the gospel but we have also been able to connect and build relationships with the parents of those kids as well.

Zone One, which was earlier in July, was also a huge encouragement this year. We had a total of 24 kids come over the three days. Our theme for this year was **God's Team** and as we explored the Gospel of Luke we learnt that Jesus is the best captain and coach for God's Team because he is powerful and he cares, because he defeated death the ultimate opposition and because anyone can be on God's Team by trusting Jesus.

From talking to some of the parents after *Zone One* it was great to hear that not only did the kids have fun with the games, craft and singing but more importantly they remembered and understood what they learnt about what it means to be on God's Team and to be a follower of Christ. Praise God for that!

Produced by: The Mothers' Union in Australia Diocese of Sydney Incorporated

Shop 39 Town Hall Square, 464 Kent Street, Sydney 2000

Office Hours - 9am to 4pm weekdays | Phone (02) 8030 8970

Email: office@musydneym.org.au | Web: www.musydneym.org.au

ABN 88 338 586 036