

Diocese of The Murray, South Australia.

**THE MURRAY
CON-TRIBUTARY
NEWSLETTER**



Transformation - Now!

February 2023

Greetings to you all,

I hope that 2023 has begun smoothly for you. I seem to have been attending a stream of meetings, mostly AMUA, since the year began and I can say that lots of organising has been achieved.

I think it is a sign that most of our members are in the older age bracket that so many have had poor health, surgery and in Strathalbyn branch alone 3 past members have died recently.

I have just received news that Elaine Lane a Life Vice President of AMUA in the Diocese of The Murray died on 14th February. I personally did not know her but have heard that she was a special lady and a very strong supporter of Mothers Union. Her efforts in many of our activities will be long remembered, one example is the work that went into setting up the 'Away From It All' holidays for those who needed it.

Please continue to pray for those who are ill and the grieving families both close to home and those overseas where there is so much devastation and heart ache.

One of the reports from those attending the Future Vision workshop last weekend was the power of prayer. Nothing new there but it is always good to be reminded.

Thankyou for the wonderful collection of things for AC Care. At the moment I will continue to deliver the goods to Murray Bridge. With Quickest Warmth re-locating and asking for a slow down of donations while they get their new storage organised the timing was good to deliver to AC Care instead for a while. The staff at AC Care said thankyou and that the requests from flood victims has diminished recently but that AC Care still have great need of our donations.

Talking to various branch presidents recently I am amazed at the interesting things being discussed at meetings keeping with the Aims and Objects and current theme. Giving out little 'swan' seed pods to produce a place for the butterfly to lay her eggs until they transform into more butterflies I think is a winner. Anything to make us stop and think and lead us into the Transformation - Now theme.

Ronda and I attended the State Meeting at St Barnabas building in February and between our 3 diocese we planned the visit to South Australia of our new Australian President Robin Ray in August. Dawn Colsey the chaplain of the Adelaide Diocese gave a very thoughtful talk linking the gospel of the day to the First Anglican service held in Sydney Cove when the First Fleet arrived. This was the lesser festival for this particular day and not one I had previously heard about and I found it most appropriate as my husband is a direct descendant of the first fleet but also the thought that our Australian Mothers Union would not be what it is today if the Anglican church did not spread all around our wonderful country.

love and blessings from Jocelyn

Publications: I know the year is rushing by but if you still need a diary please contact Eileen.

Families Equip... Liz, Richard and Jocelyn had a chance to display our Families Equip program at a Morphett Vale school this week. There was some interest in our course so now we wait to see what the parents and staff decide to do with the information.

Diary Dates: Note some changes of routine for 2023

Lady Day..... this year falls on a Saturday and we voted at November Council meeting to hold it on Monday 27th March.

This is to be held at Strathalbyn with our chaplain Fr Daniel to conduct the service.

This will be followed by a BYO lunch in the hall and Liz is going to tell us about the miracle of Corneal Transplants. We will have a brief Council Meeting this day too.

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Next Executive meeting...May 8th at Meadows

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Mary Sumner Day will be celebrated at Mt Barker. This year it will be held on Thursday 10th August to allow our new Australian President, Robin Ray, to attend. If you would like to meet her and to hear her speak and cannot make the 10th she will be at Riverton on 8th and Adelaide on 9th August. Please try to be present as I am sure her past experiences with AMUA and her enthusiasm for the future will be worth hearing. We will be collecting some questions to ask Robin from our branches so please let your president know what your queries are so that we can form a discussion time.

This will be an 11am service and followed by a shared lunch. We have not had shared food for quite a while due to some special diets but mainly due to the non-sharing Covid rules so I hope the decision is welcome and delicious. We will also have the banners from around the diocese on display.

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AGM

This year we have decided to hold our short AGM and Council meeting on Monday October 9th after a service and lunch. Keep the date free and the location will be advised ASAP. There will be no November service and celebration this year.