



*Growing in love
for one another*

The Mustard Tree



*Mothers Union
Diocese of
Bunbury
Winter 2023
Makuru - Djilba**

*Distributed as a
supplement to the
'Mia Mia' Magazine*



Hello Readers ... I have volunteered to edit The Mustard Tree, so decided the best way to begin is with a brief introduction.

For those of you who do not know me -

I have been a member of St Mary's Church in Busselton - and the St Mary's MU - since July 2021.

Prior to that for 29 years my husband (the Rev'd Ken Broadbent) and I lived in Bremer Bay. Ken died in January 2022 aged 91. I have 3 children and 6 (grown-up) grandchildren.

I come from a long line of clergy families - my great-grand-father, grand-father and father, were all priests, so I am definitely a Rectory person! My mother was a very active MU member here in WA. I belonged to the Mt Pleasant branch during the 1980s.

I was a Speech and Drama teacher and lecturer for many years, but also taught other subjects such as English, Literature, Communication and so on (as required!) I am also passionate about the environment.

I have edited a couple of newsletters. I enjoy messing around on computers! I hope that tells you enough. On with the job! *Priscilla* (*Winter - early spring)



As we move through the Church's year we go from a great deal of excitement - CHRISTMAS, EASTER, ASCENSION, TRINITY - to those steady 'Sundays after Pentecost'. I don't know about you, but when I was a child I found all the 'Sundays after Trinity', as they used to be called, rather boring. But now I see that this is the time when our churches can slow down (hopefully!) and can take the opportunity to think about and practice 'growing in love for one another' and the 'faithfulness' of which Wendy writes on the next page



From the President : Winter 2023

The focus of the Winter edition of the Mia Mia is Faithfulness.

It was with sadness that we were unable to produce an Autumn edition of our newsletter as we waited on the Lord for the right person to be found to be our new editor. Our faithfulness has borne fruit and I am delighted that Priscilla Broadbent, a member of Busselton Branch, has come forward to fulfil the role of editor. I have written more on faithfulness in my article in the Mia Mia.

Our 2023 theme for Mothers Union in our diocese is 'Growing in Love for One Another.' As I expect is the case for many others, my primary reference and research tool these days is the internet. In searching for inspiration on theme, I came across an article by Justin White published at the end of 2018 entitled 'How to Increase Your Love for Others.'

As the starting point for his article, Justin White drew on the writing of St Paul, 1 Thessalonians 3.12:

'And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you.'

The author outlines six ways that we can grow in love for one another as given to us by St Paul in Thessalonians. While Justin White uses a culture of language that is not perhaps particularly comfortable to the generation from which most of our members and friends come, nor is it necessarily the language of our Anglican traditions, however the message he gives is clear. We can grow our love for each other:

- Through personal interaction – we need to make time to have face to face interactions for this is how love is fostered
- Through trials – there will be times when our love for one another will be tested, when we will need to seek forgiveness, when we may find ourselves loving someone but not loving their actions or behaviours
- Through other's successes – we need to set aside envy when someone else achieves success that we wish had been ours and rejoice in their success
- Through sacrifice – we are not called to love one another when it is convenient for us to do so. We may have to sacrifice for each other and to love even if it hurts.
- Through encouragement – our love for one another can be grown and strengthened when we give and when we receive encouragement.
- Through prayer – as we pray for and with others we are an example of God in the world. We are strengthened as a church and as individuals and we draw others to God by our example.

For Justin White, "the call to follow Jesus is a call to love the brothers and sisters that God's given [us]'. He suggests that this is what Jesus has done for us:

"Jesus met us face to face, the incarnation. Jesus loved us through trials, through successes, through sacrifice (the cross!), through encouragement, and he continues to pray for us right now."

May we all continue to learn more about Christ in order that we might be more Christ-like and through becoming more Christ-like may we continue to grow in love for one another.

Blessings Wendy Ref <https://harborwestoahu.org/2018/12/03/how-to-increase-your-love-for-others/>

Gone from us-

Sadly, but at the same time, with great thanks, we acknowledge three MU members who have served their Lord faithfully and now passed into his keeping for ever.

Margaret Bell - (Mandurah Branch) Margaret had been a faithful servant, of strong faith and a Mothers' Union member for over 50 years. Her funeral was on the 26th April and several members attended at the Church of the Way in Coodanup. Margaret enjoyed sewing, growing vegetables helping her family where she could and will be missed.

Jill Havercroft - (Albany Branch) Jill enrolled as a MU Member in Perth at Woodlands / Wembley Downs 61 years ago. She came to Albany to start a new life. She was a member of the Bunbury MU Diocesan executive and travelled from Albany to Bunbury on her own for meetings. She was a very committed member. She became MU president of Albany for many years; started a Caritas group; set the tradition of an annual quiet day; was a woman of great faith and a keen Cursillo participant. Jill will live on in our hearts. Last June she was presented with a 40-year certificate of service at the nursing home where she was living.

Leone Bradshaw - (Busselton Branch) passed away recently. Her funeral was conducted at St. Mary's Church on Friday 5th May, and was attended by some of our members. Leone was a member of our branch from 2001 until 2019, when she went into care. Leone was regularly visited by an MU member until Leone's memory failed her, about 18 months ago. Leone and her husband Jeff (deceased) were staunch members of St. Mary's Church. May she rest in Peace & rise to Glory

Mothering Sunday and Mother's Day have come and gone for this year, but I thought this prayer was worth including in The Mustard Tree as it can be used as a prayer of thanksgiving and intercession at any time. (It is used with permission.)

Dear God, you formed and knitted us in our mothers' wombs. We give thanks for the sanctification of human, married and family life. We especially celebrate mothers; our mothers, new mothers, mothers-to-be, grandmothers and great grandmothers. We intercede for those who long to be mothers but cannot conceive. We pray for those who have lost children before birth, at birth and after birth.



We pray for women and mothers who suffer violence and abuse.

We give thanks for Mary, mother of Jesus who let it be done for her according to your will and who pondered many things in her heart.

May this day (Mother's Day) throughout the world be your moment, our God, to renew and sanctify us all in heart, mind, spirit and hope for the new day dawning. Bless all mothers this day, and thank you for those who now, upon another shore and in greater light, behold you face to face. Amen



(A prayer by
Ven. David Thornton – Wakeford)



SOCIAL ISSUES AND ACTION REPORT MAY 2023



At our last Executive meeting the matter of E Cigarettes and Vaping was raised as an issue affecting a lot of young people in our society. When one thinks about how many years it took for a lot of people to give up cigarette smoking and the fact most people nowadays choose not to smoke, one also wonders about how long it will be before E cigarettes and Vaping can be stopped.

The WA Health Department issued a paper on this which President Wendy passed on to us. The following are details on the contents and the known effects on those who Vape:

E Cigarettes Contain:

nicotine, cancer-causing chemicals, the same chemicals are found in cleaning products, nail polish-remover, weedkiller and bug spray. Toxins such as formaldehyde, heavy metals such as tin and lead, flavouring chemicals such as diacetyl, a chemical linked to serious lung disease, and volatile organic compounds.

Health effects from use of E Cigarettes:

Serious lung disease, long lasting damaging effects on the brain and physical development, nicotine poisoning, second hand exposure to harmful substances and vapes have been even known to explode causing serious burns.

The problem is because of the above chemical contents young people become very easily addicted. It has been said that one vape can contain the same amount of nicotine as is present in a packet of 50 cigarettes.

Since then I have been really pleased to learn that both the Federal and State Governments are issuing bans on their use other than by Doctor's prescription. It has become very prevalent in schools also with young people gathering in areas such as toilets and using vapes, so much so, some schools are installing security type devices that can detect the fact an E Cigarette is in use.

I hope that combined with all these efforts education campaigns can be set up in schools by the Education Department to continue to dissuade the young from becoming addicted and ruining their health.

As MU members we can keep these young people in our prayers and as parents and grandparents we can also do our best to influence those young people we are in contact with.



Sylvia Spicer - Social Issues and Action Coordinator



Did any of you who watched the wonderful Coronation of King Charles III on May 6th notice the tree on the beautiful screen which was used to shield the King during the anointing? I thought we had scored a Mustard Tree complete with birds and angels. Apparently all the leaves were the names of the Commonwealth countries. Mustard tree or not, it was a stunning and very powerful image! (It looks much better in colour!)

'The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took, and sowed in his field; which indeed is smaller than all seeds, but when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches'.

News from the Branches:

BUSSELTON

In March we had planned to have an outdoor meeting at the Anglican Campsite, to enable any members who had not visited the MU caravan to do so. Because the hall at the campsite was already being used we had thought an outdoor picnic would be a pleasant social setting to hold our meeting. However, at the last minute everyone was informed that we would meet indoors at St. Mary's family centre as usual because the weather that afternoon was going to be inclement, or at least very windy.

At our April meeting we made Joy boxes after our formal meeting. It was a happy and productive session which replenished our supply.

We continue to visit and keep our ailing members in Prayer as well as many Parishioners, who are unwell or recovering from adversity.

We had a couple of Baptisms at Easter when the Venerable David Thornton - Wakeford and his wife Debra were guiding our Parish. Our MU members attend these services and give a small talk on MU after the child is baptised. The Minister gives a Baptism candle from the Parish to the child and MU gives a lovely personal Baptism card usually made by member Annie Eva-Pascoe. Any children attending the Service are given a bookmark with a Christian verse on it. Our MU members follow up for the next 5 years with a personal anniversary card to all children, remembering the day they were baptised. *Lesley Hooper - secretary*

PS - readers who know Glenda Marshall will be very happy to know that she has largely recovered from her recent illness. (Ed)

BOYUP BROOK

Mother's Day On Saturday May 13th, MU members, assisted by other parishioners, made about 100 small buttonhole posies which were delivered to businesses in the town to give as a gift to their customers. Posies were also delivered to the hospital and our seniors Lodge.

At our Sunday parish service of Morning Prayer, we helped to prepare a display of baptismal memorabilia. We had 5 beautiful family heirloom gowns, with some dating from the 1860's. Also displayed were cups, serviette rings, an eggcup, a bowl, and a lovely hand knitted shawl. At the end of the service MU members gave out small gift bags containing a couple of chocolates and a thoughtful saying. *Jan Ritson*



KATANNING

Katanning MU Branch got off to a slow start but our aim is to reach out by visiting members of our congregation who are somewhat housebound and we take them a cake and flower. However for those who would like to enjoy some time out we will take them to a local Cafe for Morning or Afternoon Tea.

A few of our members will attend the Fellowship Day in June.

MU members are getting behind a special event in the parish -The Mothers, Daughters and Friends Afternoon Tea. This is popular and members of other churches attend also.

We usually produce a flyer and concentrate on a particular well known artist.

This year that person will be the late Judith Durham of The Seekers fame.

We include well known songs etc. and a fun time is had by all.

Sylvia Spicer - Secretary

MANDURAH

The Mothers Union held a World Day of Prayer service on Friday 3rd March 2023. This was about Taiwan 'I have heard your faith', and was a shared service including participants from St Damian's Catholic Church in Dawesville, The Salvation Army Church and ourselves.

The service was beautiful and a video was shown on the culture and differences especially between China and Taiwan. Each church took part in the readings and 5 ladies read stories about the difficulties ladies incur in Taiwan. Around 50 people attended and afternoon tea was held in the gardens; unfortunately we forgot to take photographs!

Next year the World Day of Prayer will be held at the Salvation Army Church on Lakes Road.

Sandra Keelty - Secretary

BUNBURY

Bunbury did not have an April meeting as it was less than a week from Lady Day, which we all thoroughly enjoyed.

Our May meeting was held without a Eucharist as Dean Daryl was at retreat, therefore we had a service from our Mothers Union book. This was followed by fellowship and our morning tea, with the added bonus of a guest speaker.

Our guest speaker for the morning was Karen Bardon, who is a Liaison Officer with EdConnect Australia, and serves the Peel and South West areas. Karen explained to us how EdConnect works, how the volunteers in the program provide great assistance to students and the value of such a service. Our members thoroughly enjoyed the occasion and were very grateful to Karen for the time she took to advise us of the valuable contribution to the Education system that EdConnect provides.

We had a display of beautiful knitted and crocheted rugs on display at the meeting and it was decided that one of the smaller rugs will be given to a member who is in care and confined to a wheelchair. We hope it brings her joy and shows the love and respect we have for her.

Some members joined each other for lunch at an off site venue.

Our meetings are held the first Thursday of each month, and all ladies whether members or not are welcome to share the morning with us from 9.30am at St Boniface Cathedral.

Diane Hill - President

LADY DAY 2023 AT THE CATHEDRAL

Friday 24 March was MU's Lady Day Celebration and Service. Revd Justine Richmond was due to be the speaker but had just come down with Covid, so Wendy Mabey, the MU President, showed slides of some of the extraordinary aid and other work MU is doing, including in the Australasian area.



Lunch was catered for in the Cathedral Hall



Gathering with the banners



Growing in love



- *Take into account that great love and great achievements involve great risk
- *When you lose, don't lose the lesson
- *Follow the three Rs: respect for self; respect for others; and responsibility for all your actions
- *Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck

- * When you realise you've made a mistake, take immediate steps to correct it
- * Spend some time alone every day
- * Open your arms to change, but don't let go of your values

From the MU Chaplain - Reverend Cathie Broome - *We all get tired!*

Blessings to you all,

Gosh, it has been a tiring couple of weeks! I wonder if any of you have also had a similar experience before, where you found yourself dealing quite unexpectedly with a difficult and often stressful situation. Well, recently I found myself in this situation and it affected my sleep. I started finding it hard at times to settle at night and I woke up tired, not just physically but emotionally, mentally, and spiritually tired as well.

So I thought I would share with you, my sisters in Christ, some thoughts on how to get through tough times and to reassure you that we all face challenges. The wonderful thing about Mothers Union is that we don't do it alone and that each and every day our Lord walks with us on our journeys. So for me, I started with prayer when I was faced with this recent situation. As I prayed, I thought about one of my favourite stories in the Bible, The Woman at the Well.

If you haven't taken the time to read this incredible story, I encourage you to turn in your Bible to John 4 and read through the passage. As I pondered this story, I thought about how comforting it was that Jesus got tired, too.

"Now he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son, Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon." -John 4:4-6

Jesus was tired.

Can you imagine how tired Jesus must have been? Tired physically, sure. Walking hours a day to get to where you need to go would be exhausting. But Jesus must have been so tired on the inside. He was tired of seeing his people treating each other cruelly, tired of dealing with the Pharisees, tired of people not believing He was the Saviour, tired knowing He would be going to the cross, tired of the broken world that was once perfection.

As I thought about this I realised that faith doesn't prevent fatigue, it just gives us a place to sit. When Jesus got tired, He took a seat by Jacob's well. He may have taken a seat because he himself needed to rest. However, I believe He took a seat at the well not only because He himself was tired. He took a seat because the Samaritan Woman was tired. She needed the rest only Jesus could give her, Holy rest.

Right now I think we all need a little bit of Holy rest. No amount of sleep, social media, Netflix, video games, or relationships can give you Holy rest. Only Jesus can provide us with that type of peace.

When you are deeply tired on the inside, take a seat at the Well. Sit with your Father. Allow Him to comfort you. Resting with God does not make you lazy. It gives you strength. Jesus got tired, too. He knows exactly how you are feeling. Rest with Him.

With God's grace and blessings, *Cathie*

AMUA BUNBURY DIOCESE FRIENDSHIP DAY

Commencing at All Saint's Collie,
46 Venn Street, Collie
And then at CWA Rooms, Coalfields Road, Collie
on
Friday 30th June 2023



Please bring your MU Prayer and Worship Book, a Bible,
and your own lunch.

9.15am Gather at All Saint's Collie, morning tea hosted by Executive.

Talk on the history of All Saint's and an explanation of their life-sized
sanctuary mural.

Welcome by Diocesan President.

SERVICE: Form 3 from the AMUA prayer and worship book.

Gather at Collie CWA Rooms.

Lunch (BYO – microwave available)

Mothers' Union matters – sharing between executive, branches and
members.

Prayer.

The Grace. Depart for Home.

RSVP branch numbers to wsm@westnet.com.au
or by text to 0418 923 346

Monday 26th June.



Kapsabet



Bunbury

The Diocese of Bunbury has a relationship with the Diocese of Kapsabet which also involves a relationship between Mothers Union in both dioceses. As part of Wendy's preparation for her presentations in Queensland she asked Mama Selline for a report and photos of the ministry work currently being undertaken in their diocese.

Dear Wendy

Attached please find the Report that shares part of the Ministry we are currently undertaking.

The Safer Communities Project implementation is progressing and is offering lots of lessons for safeguarding intervention

We continue with our Ministry at Kimngoror Health Center. The cash we received that is mentioned in the report was channeled to support our ministry with lactating mothers at Kimngoror Community Health center. We did repairs of water systems of the maternity wards so mothers can access clean waters and The Baby Sweaters we received through Rev. Cathie Broome were taken to Kimngoror Maternity ward to help the little babies being born but whose mothers cannot afford baby clothing

Attached also are photos of the Baby Sweaters and the photos from the launch of Safer Communities, which you can use on your reports. The other two photos with mothers Union members are photos taken during World day of prayers, when Mothers Union from different Parishes gathered at different places to pray and reflect on the ministry. We prayed for the Ministry of AMUA.

Many Blessings

Selline Korir,

Extracts from the report ...

Christian greetings and peace of Christ as we observe lent which strengthen us through the practice of solitude and prayer. We are doing well as Mothers Union Diocese of Kapsabet and hope that you are also going on well in Bunbury Diocese. Greetings to mothers in your diocese.

As Anglican diocese of Kapsabet, we have a myriad of activities that make our department an active member of the body of Christ.



We appreciate your diocese for the fervent prayers and support both in cash and kind. The items you sent us were taken to King'oror Health Centre that assisted mother who afforded a smile while receiving the gift during such hard economic times. We cannot miss to mention the 1000 Australian dollars we received from the Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Bunbury which we committed to support Mothers Union development programs.

This year 2023, we are intentional in focusing on addressing Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Nandi County which is the geographical jurisdiction of the diocese of Kapsabet. Most families have challenges mostly surrounding gender based violence with women and children as the most affected. In Kenya and Nandi County in particular, every news broadcast cannot miss a reported case of GBV. You hear of victims and perpetrators of violence. Worse are scenarios where men kill their wives and children and also take their own lives.

Bishop Paul Korir in his remarks applauded Mothers' Union for being sensitive to the ever increasing challenges that face the society. To him, the safer communities' project makes church missional for real. It is an initiative that helps in reimagining and reimagining ministry. Quoting Psalms 11:3, Bishop said that we live in a time when the foundations are shaken especially the foundations of the family. The question that lingers is "What shall the righteous do?" Working and walking towards safer communities is the path that the church should do especially in Nandi county. Bishop assured to pray for the success of the project while urging the implementers to document stories and lessons to be learnt for posterity with an aim of securing the family unit that is under siege. He then went ahead to launch the Safer Communities project in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.



The Baby Sweaters we received through Rev, Cathie Broome were taken to Kimngoror Maternity ward to help the little babies being born whose mothers cannot afford baby clothing.

The other two photos with Mothers Union members are photos taken during World day of prayers, when Mothers Union from different Parishes gathered at different places to pray and reflect on the Ministry. We prayed for the Ministry of AMUA



Mothers Union, Diocese of Bunbury

2023 Events and Dates of Importance

June	3rd	Branch reports to Diocesan secretary
	25th	Executive member reports to all executive
	29th	Executive meeting day before Friendship Day
	30th	MU Friendship Day – Collie
July	<i>public school holidays 1st - 16th July</i>	
	30th	<i>ACW Fellowship Day</i>
August	9th	Mary Sumner Day
	14th	Mustard Tree contributions to Editor
	15th	Notice of AGM and request for agenda items to branches
September	20th	Agenda items for AGM to Diocesan secretary
	20th	Branch annual reports to Diocesan secretary
	20th	Executive annual reports to Diocesan secretary
	<i>Public school holidays 23rd Sept - 8th Oct.</i>	
October	Branch annual meetings to be held this month	
	7-8 th	<i>Synod</i>
	14th	Annual Report Book to be distributed
	14th	AGM agenda to all branches and executive
	21st	Executive members reports to all executive
	25th	Executive meeting in Busselton
	26th	Diocesan AGM and Country Rally in Busselton
November	Branch annual meetings to be held if not held in October	
	14th	Mustard Tree contributions to Editor
	30th	Branch annual returns to Diocesan Secretary
December	31st	Financial year ends for branches

