

## Dates for your Diary 2024

March	22	Lady Day Service 1 10am St Andrew's Shelley + workshop
March	23	Lady Day Service 2 10am Holy Trinity Malaga + workshop
March	29	Good Friday
March	31	Easter Day
April	9-11	Wave of Prayer
May	13	Visit of Worldwide President & CEO at Wollaston Theological College 9.30am ticketed event

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### **MU Supplies**

For all MU Supplies; stationary, cards, towels and other supplies.  
Please contact Karen Severin Publications Convener  
details in Report Book

Karen is also happy to attend Branches and Diocesan events whenever possible.

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Please send your articles and pictures to Denise Elvish  
contact details in Report Book

**Deadline for next issue 26 May**

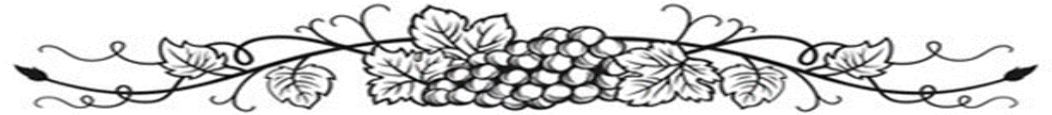
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## Happiness from the Heart

A son is the fulfilment  
Of many elusive dreams  
A dream may fill your day  
Until reality is possible

When we consider the real world  
Our happiness borders on content  
And sons and daughters that come from God  
Rejuvenate our lives one hundred percent

Erica Gliddon



# Grapevine

## March 2024

**Theme for 2024**  
**'Look up - moving forward'**

Official publication Perth Council of MU Australia Inc.  
Part of the Worldwide Mothers Union

### News from the President

#### **From the President**

Welcome back to the New Year. May this be a happy and healthy one for you all and I trust that you have had an enjoyable time with your family during this holiday period. Many of you will be looking at your program's for this year and I look forward to hearing your news at our first Council meeting.

#### **The Retreat**

On the 18<sup>th</sup> January an Executive retreat was held at Yunderup the home of MU Secretary Lois McGrath. It was a time of relaxation, planning and prayer. Christine Brain gave us all much to think about when she challenged us in our Executive roles to *Look Up - Move Forward*. What does the MU objectives mean to us in our role? How can we use our MU objectives in our communities? I am sure GOD has a plan for each of us and I will be interested to hear about how you will Look Up and Move Forward.

#### **Visit by Australian President**

Our Australian President Robin Ray will be visiting us in Perth from the 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> March. We will be holding two Lady Days one at St. Andrew's Church Shelley and the other at Holy Trinity Malaga. Robin has asked to meet as many of you as she can and will be running workshops after the church services.

#### **Visit by Worldwide President**

We are delighted that Mrs Sheran Harper Worldwide President of MU and Jeanette Lawrence from Mary Sumner House will be visiting our Diocese on the 13<sup>th</sup> May. I know that many of you will want to meet these two ladies and hear what news of MU in other zones.

#### **History**

During the holidays I was contacted by the daughter of a Mrs E. Peach. I was sent two books the first being The MU Service Book of 1948 and second a booklet which celebrated Mothers' Union in the Province of Western Australia its Golden Jubilee. The second, I found most interesting as it is the story of Mothers' Union in Western Australian from 1898-1948. There were tributes written by many women throughout this booklet. Part of the message from Mrs. G. Fisher Central President : "*Hold fast the profession of your Faith without wavering*" – *only so can you be strong enough to help others in this world which is suffering so sadly and grievously for lack of Faith*" a challenge for us to day. It is indeed a booklet with wonderful history.

### Our New Bishops

Mothers' Union members were well represented at the recent consecration of our two new Bishops. The Right Reverend David Bassett and The Right Reverend Hans Christiansen. There were many representatives of Bishops and Clergy from across Australia and here in Perth. The Sermon was given by The Most Reverend Geoffrey Smith, Archbishop of Adelaide and Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia. He spoke of the decline of faith in communities and as Christians we must look for a revival through prayer.

Prayer remains vital as we move into Lent, Easter and our World Day of Prayer in March. The Christian women of Palestine put together the service for this day. Please hold them in our prayers the many hostages and refugees, people who are just suffering in this war.

As the year progresses I will be visiting branches and firstly the branches whom I didn't visit last year.

Love and Prayers to you all

*Jan*



### Lady Days and Australian Provincial President Visit

A visit by our Australian President will take place from 22<sup>nd</sup> March to 23<sup>rd</sup> March in our Perth Diocese. All members are invited to either Lady Days or both if they wish to do so.

#### Lady Day 1 Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

A Eucharist will be held at St. Andrew's Church 37 Bernier Road Shelley at 10am. Rev. Des Smit MU chaplain will officiate. Guest speaker will be Australian President Robin Ray who will also hold a workshop. Members to bring a share Lunch. Tea/Coffee available. Completion time 2pm

#### Lady Day 2 Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024

A Eucharist will be held at Holy Trinity Malaga 59 Weir Road Malaga at 10am. Rev. Rob Healy with Sudanese priests will officiate. Guest Speaker will be Australian President Robin Ray who will also hold a workshop. Members to bring a shared lunch. Tea/Coffee available. Completion time 2pm.



### The Beauty of the Spring

“God, give us eyes to see the beauty of the Spring and to behold Your majesty in every living thing.  
And may we see in lacy leaves and every budding flower the Hand that rules the universe, with gentleness and power.  
And may this Easter grandeur, that Spring lavishly imparts, awaken faded flowers of faith lying dormant in our hearts.  
And give us ears to hear, dear God, the Springtime song of birds with messages more meaningful than man's often empty words, telling harried human beings who are lost in dark despair —  
‘Be like us and do not worry for God has you in His care.’  
Amen.”



If you have not received your 2024 Theme  
*Look up - Move forward*  
and Bible Study notes please contact Lois McGrath

**Overseas & Northern Outreach Overseas Project Target Fund:**

Theme: Disaster and Climate Change Management in the Pacific.

Project: Building disaster resilience for people with disabilities in Solomon Island

"People living with disability are two to four times more likely to die or be injured in a disaster than the general population." University of Sydney

The project's theme is Disaster and Climate Change Management in the Pacific. The project specifically aims to build disaster resilience for people with disabilities in Solomon Islands. Due to the increasing impacts of climate change, families living in the Pacific are facing regular events of cyclones and flooding. People living with disabilities are among the most vulnerable groups in such emergencies.

To address this issue, the program is working on establishing local churches as evacuation centers in times of emergency. Anglican Overseas Aid is partnering with the Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations (CANDO) to build community awareness, ownership and commitment from key community members, including People with Disability Solomon Islands (PWDSI) - the national representative organization. The involvement of PWDSI is crucial in ensuring that people living with disabilities are at the center of the project's activities and facility design.

The program identifies communities in need, many of which are still practicing open defecation. Hence, the program prioritizes the establishment of accessible and secure toilet/shower blocks to be designed and constructed on the church compound, which will support the church building being used as an emergency shelter. The church retrofitting plans also include improved lighting and security.

Moreover, the program also trains community volunteers in protocols that promote the inclusion of people living with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. In 2024, Mothers Union Australia will also partner in upgrading a local Solomon Islands church into an evacuation center, with a specific focus on the inclusion of people living with disabilities. This project aims to create a safer future for communities and reaffirm the local church as the center of community support during emergencies.

Implementing Partner: Anglican Overseas Aid (AOA) is an overseas relief and development agency of the Anglican Church of Australia. AOA has full Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade accreditation and is a member of ACFID, ensuring the highest level of governance and expertise

Social Issues and Action

Dear MU Friends

Welcome to 2024! I pray that the year has begun well and that you are looking forward to all things MU in the year ahead. We are certainly blessed to be having visits from both our Australian President, Dr Robin Ray in March and our Worldwide President, Mrs Sheran Harper in May. Make sure you secure your ticket to the lunch at Wollaston on May 13<sup>th</sup>, for an opportunity to meet Sheran together with Jeanette Lawrence, a representative from Mary Sumner House. It will be a wonderful time of fellowship together.

Thank you to you all who were able to join us at St Matthew's Guildford in December, last year for our first Diocesan MU Service during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender- Based Violence. It was a very moving service, with every participant given the opportunity to write a prayer, which was hung on the Prayer Tree at the conclusion of the service and a challenging message from Rev Bec Bydder, Prison Chaplain.

This year the service during the 16 Days of Activism will be held at St Nicolas Church, Carine/ Duncraig **on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December** at 10am. Please put the date in your diaries now as I know life becomes busier at that time of the year. There will be other services during the 16 Days- on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November at the Cathedral and Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December at St Paul's, Beaconsfield, organised by the Diocesan Family and Domestic Violence Working Group.

The Diocese together with Anglicare WA has organised Family and Domestic Violence Training for both Clergy and Laity at Wollaston Theological College. The workshops will assist participants to identify and address FDV in their parishes and schools. The training is being fully funded by Anglicare WA. The dates for FDV Training for Laity are **either 5<sup>th</sup> March or 31<sup>st</sup> August** from 9:30 am – 12:30pm. Registrations can be done online through the Diocesan **e bulletin** or via the link in the February Anglican Messenger.

As you journey through the season of Lent with its focus on prayer, reconciliation, fasting and acts of mercy, May God continue to bless you,

Love and prayers,  
Helen Krynen



## Worldwide President Visit

A day visit to Perth by our Worldwide President Mrs Sheran Harper will take place on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024. 9.30am at Wollaston Theological College, 5 Wollaston Road Mt. Claremont Perth. Mrs Sheran Harper will be accompanied by Ms Jeanette Lawrence Zone C Regional Development Coordinator. Both ladies will fly out to Brisbane for a visit and on to Sydney for the Australian Conference on 20<sup>th</sup> May. All members are invited to hear both ladies speak of the MU work taking place in the northern hemisphere. During the day morning tea will be held and a luncheon. Tickets for the luncheon will need to be purchased and paid for prior to this day. These will be available through MU Secretary Lois McGrath

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### Lenten Prayer

Almighty and Everlasting God,  
You have given the human race  
Jesus Christ our Savior as a model of humility.  
He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man  
And giving His life on the Cross.  
Help us to bear witness to You  
By following His example of suffering  
And make us worthy to share in His Resurrection.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son.  
Amen.

### *Let Us Have Hearts of Thankfulness*

"Lord God, You loved this world so much that you gave your one and only Son, that we might be called your children too. Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace of Easter Sunday, every day. Let us have hearts of thankfulness for your sacrifice. Let us have eyes that look upon Your grace and rejoice in our salvation. Help us to walk in that mighty grace and tell Your good news to the world. All for your glory do we pray, Lord, Amen."

— Rachel Marie Stone

## Prayers are asked for.....

all those caring for a loved one who is ill, and for those who are sick, or lonely that they be comforted. We send our love and prayers to all those mourning the death of a loved one.

*Father hold them in your loving embrace and comfort them*



## Vale

It is with sadness I share the passing of Constance Maude Robinson from the Parish of St. Edmunds Wembley.

Connie went to be with her Lord on 5th November 2023 aged 93.

Connie & her husband Colin worshipped at St. Edmunds for many many years and worked endlessly in the early years of building the new church which was consecrated in 1953.

Connie was MU President, a beautiful, faithful serving MU member and President. Her love of Mothers Union was a sheer joy and an inspiration to all.

May she rest in peace such a good and faithful servant.

Daphne Thacker JP

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It is with sadness that the announcement was made of the passing of Mrs. Ruth Reid wife of former Governor Gordon Reid. Mrs. Reid was our MU Vice Regal Patron from 1984-1989. She was a gracious lady who supported MU throughout those years. Janet Allsworth attended the funeral on our behalf.

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On February the 7<sup>th</sup> Archbishop Kaye launched the new Perth Diocese App, and the prayer below was taken from this App, posted by the Archbishop of Jerusalem, Hosaam Naoum.

## A Prayer for Peace

O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land.

Be with those who need you in these days of suffering;

We pray for people of all faiths – Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land.

While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace,

We also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples.

Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children –

For to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.

In Jesus' name we pray,

**Amen.**