

## Hendra/Clayfield visits St Mary's Kangaroo Point

History was written and rewritten at the visit of the Hendra/Clayfield Branch of AMUA to St Mary the Virgin at Kangaroo Point, on 26 May 2021. Present history was written with a Eucharist and a gathering with 18 people including Aurelia, a happy soul, about to turn one. Past



history was introduced anew with a name, Mrs Brown. She had remained mysterious, a name on a bronze plaque on a fancy credence table, dedicated to her and the sacrifice of three sons in WW1. The MU branch which ran between 1910 and 1973, with intervals, presented the table to the parish in 1923. Mrs Mary Clancey Brown (1858-1922) was a member of MU with ten children, five boys and five girls. She became a widow, age 58, on 2/1/1916 when her husband died in Brisbane. Her five sons go to war, with two dying in battle, a third dying of the Influenza epidemic in England, and two returning home. Much energy was contributed to the war effort from MU and other associations, eg Red Cross, and the Soldiers' Sock Fund, in parcels and prayers.



Fellowship enjoyed on the rectory veranda in the sunshine with views to the city across the river, and lunch in the Cliffs Park next door, brought closeness in these lonely times.

*Marie-Claire Harch*

## A Message from Bev

Dear AMUA Members,

I do send you warm greetings and do pray that as the coronavirus continues to cause much pain and anguish across the world, we as Christians and AMUA members will know what it is to have “Hope and Confidence” in our God and Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Hebrews 3:6. “But Christ is faithful as the Son in charge of God’s house. We are his house, if we keep up our courage and our confidence in what we hope for.*

Those who attended the May Country Council Meeting at St. Luke’s Toowoomba were greatly blessed to hear from Bishop Daniel Abot and his lovely wife Rachel. He spoke about his experience during the civil war in Sudan, when as a 12year old he was part of the Lost



Boys of Sudan who walked 1,000 miles to freedom in Ethiopia, his 15 years in Refugee Camps, where he met his wife, Rachel. We heard how they both came to a personal faith during their time in the Refugee Camps, and that six days after Daniel’s ordination to the priesthood his family came to Australia as refugees. Even though their home is now in Toowoomba, before the covid travel restrictions, Bishop Daniel spend a lot of time in South Sudan, a place destroyed by decades of war, working in dangerous zones and experienced many atrocities. In 2014 he was consecrated as the Bishop of Duk in the Episcopal Church of South Sudan. Bishop Daniel sees his task is to help bring peace and reconciliation amongst the warring tribes, he is also involved in an orphanage project, adult education focusing on eradicating child marriage, and clergy capacity development.



Bishop Daniel and Rachel  
Photo Credit: Chris Martin

He shared that Mothers' Union in South Sudan plays a big role in the lives of the people in this troubled nation. The support that comes from the Mothers' Union worldwide, with their help towards projects and their continued prayer for this country of South Sudan is so important. We as members of the Brisbane Diocese, are linked with South Sudan through our Link Diocese Rokon. May I suggest we also add the Diocese of Duk and Bishop Daniel, his ministry and his family to our prayers.

While in the Brisbane Diocese, Bishop Daniel has been appointed as the Resource Church specialist working with our culturally and linguistically diverse congregations.

As you read in the Winter Mia Mia Canon Libbie's time, after six years as the Trustee for Zone C will end in December 2021. The results of the new Worldwide Board of Mothers Union for the Triennium 2022-24 have been announced and Pamela Abana the Provincial President of Melanesia will be our new Zone C Trustee. I have written to Pamela congratulating her on behalf of Brisbane Diocese.

Our next Country Council will be

*Pamela Abana at Australia Council 2019*



*Jennifer Murray thanked Bishop Daniel and Rachel*

at St. Peter's Gympie on 17 August where Canon Libbie will be our guest speaker. I look forward to seeing you there.

With Love and Blessings  
Bev



# THANKSGIVING FOR LONG SERVICE



Left: Beverley Perry attended the Redcliffe Deanery Day at Strathpine to present 60 year badges to Von Pascoe, Strathpine Branch and Gill Bust, Bramble Bay Branch and 25 year Badges to Noela Spicer, Hilary Baart & Dawn Fisher all from Strathpine.

At the Country Council meeting at St Luke's Toowoomba Bev Perry (Pictured at right) presented badges to (L -R): Lone member Ruth Adams 60 years, Val Hayward of Pittsworth 60 years, and lone members Roweena Bridge 30 years, Ronda Wilkinson 25 years, Narelle Cook 20 years, Donaldal Rogers 60 years



Awards at Pittsworth:  
see page 6

Right: Rev Pauline Harley presenting Lone Member Joan Grey with her certificate and 25 year badge at St Alban's Church Toowoomba West Parish.

Awards at St Peter's Southport included (Below Left) Bev Blazely 20 years and (Below Right) Bobbie Greer 40 years



# SEA SUNDAY AT GOONNA

18 JULY 2021



Sea Sunday is the day Anglicans particularly pray for Seafarers, in thanks and acknowledgement for the essential service they provide, often at great personal risk.

At Goodna we hold a special place in our hearts for seafarers. Many of our number knit, crochet and bring gifts to take to the Mission to Seafarers at the Port

of Brisbane. Here is a snapshot of the amazing current collection gathered for blessing at church this Sunday... we counted 381 beanies, 59 scarves, and several blankets, bundles of clothes, and toiletries and small gifts. This includes wonderful contributions from St Paul's Ipswich, Boonah-Harrisville, and Kingaroy Mother's Union. Thank you and blessings to you all!

Diane Thomson

## BANYO SUPPORTING VULNERABLE CHILDREN

Banyo branch asked their church community to donate essential items for the Zephyr foundation.

This foundation reaches out to children affected by Domestic Violence, providing necessary items to help them return to school. Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity.

Lyn Northfield



## AMUA FRIENDSHIP DAY PITTSWORTH 11 JUNE 2021

We were warmly welcomed by President Romona Postle to St Andrew's Anglican Church for their Annual Friendship Day. There were approx. seventy MU members in attendance. Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Rev'd Francis Andrews. During the service a number of badges and scrolls were presented by Deanery President Mrs Anne Stallman.

Guest speaker Mrs Kate Venables, wife of Bishop Cam Venables, Bishop of the Western Region, spoke of her life as a wife, mother, teacher and her role as Executive Director of Catholic Care Social Services for Toowoomba and South West Queensland. Kate used a quote, 'God has a plan for good in our lives'.



*Carol Baker (10 years), Romona Postle (President), Jan Shaw (25years), Dale Nutley (20years), Leonie Lee-Archer ( 20years),Karen Kronk ( 20 years) Front Mary Volk (25years), Val Hayward( 60 years).*

An aspect of Kate's work is liaising with refugees and migrants, assisting them to connect with the community. Nearly 3000 refugees and migrants including Yazidi people, Sudanese, Congolese, Syrian and Iraqi people have relocated to the Toowoomba region in the past three years.

I am sure we all felt uplifted and energised as we left for home. We thank the Pittsworth MU members for a great day.

Pam Grundy & Narelle Cooke  
Lone Members – Oakey.



## REDCLIFFE DEANERY QUIET DAY 5 MAY 2021

A Life of Abiding... This was the focus of the Redcliffe Deanery Quiet Day, hosted by the Strathpine Branch. Members from each branch attended and were blessed with a meaningful and fruitful time, led by Rev'd Beryl Nielsen, assistant priest at St Faith's, Strathpine. Rev'd Beryl read John 15: 1–9 and spoke on a life of Abiding. She encouraged us to enter our time of reflection

conscious of the presence of our loving creator, assuring us: *“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me I will hear you.”* Jeremiah 29:11-12.

There were two important words to remember as we entered in this quiet time of reflection:

**IF**...if we abide, this being a choice.

**YOU**...in the Greek, “you” is a collective word for community, reminding us of the communities we are a part of and how intertwined we are with them and that it is not what we wish for, but what God lays on our hearts.

We were given options for our quiet time of contemplative prayer, we could focus on one of these three:

### **Abiding in the Fruitfulness of a Life of Prayer**

Rev'd Beryl encouraged us to pray for the desire of a deeper relationship with Jesus, that our life abiding in the vine might be an open channel for Jesus' life and healing to flow in and through us. We were to ask ourselves, how might the fruitfulness of my prayer life be deepened, that Jesus' blessing might flow through me to communities with whom I share life.

### **Abiding in the surrender to Father's Loving Pruning**

With this option we could reflect on walking in the garden or sit with Jesus and reflect. Rev'd Beryl reminded us that when a good gardener prunes a bush or tree they first think about what needs to be pruned to allow light to reach into the plant for growth. When our Father prunes it is a loving and

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## REDCLIFFE KNITTING FOR ANGLICARE

Redcliffe AMUA members have been busy knitting blankets and rugs for Anglicare to distribute to families in need.

Many thanks to our members and friends for their valuable contribution.

Photo: Rev'd Graheme Baldock, Gillian Whittall (MU Member) and Alison Dunstan, (President) showing a selection of rugs.

*Robyn Francis*



## ST LUKE'S TOOWOOMBA PYJAMA DRIVE

During May, St Luke's Toowoomba AMUA members held the annual pyjama drive to collect new warm pyjamas for distribution to charities.

Rev'd Canon Paul Mitchell (pictured) blessed the bags of clothing before they were passed on to Emily O'Sullivan a representative from Protea Place, a Women's Support Centre in Toowoomba.

Protea Place provides a safe non-judgemental environment that offers respect and dignity for all women to access essential, practical and emotional support. They work closely with the community, connecting vulnerable women so they believe they matter.





**For the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Rev 7:17**

VALE Pat HUNT -15 May 2021.

Pat joined MU at Redcliffe in 1958 and has been a member at Manly since the branch commenced in 1981 and held many executive positions during that time. Many members will remember Pat and her late husband Derek for their work in the MU bookshop over many years.

VALE Lorna THOMPSON 26/1/1926 - May 2021

Lorna joined AMUA in Cunnamulla in 1971. She became a Lone Member in 2008. Many years later she moved to Brisbane to be closer to her daughter, Leslie Howard. On behalf of Beverley Perry, Leslie presented her mother with a 50 year Badge and Scroll on Mother's Day, 2021. Lorna passed away a few days later.

VALE Hilda BERRYMAN 15/9/1922 - 31/5/2021

Hilda joined AMUA at St Peters, Southport on 16 August, 1995. Over the years she enjoyed the fellowship of other AMUA members at Southport until the Branch closed and she became a Lone Member. *Marjory Fieldus.*

VALE Elizabeth Ellen LAUNDER - 7/5/2021

In 1990 "Betty" joined Banyo Caritas and in 2006 she became a Mother's Union member. She loved working in the MU bookshop in town. *Lyn Northfield*

***Eternal God, we are mindful of the contribution made by faithful members. Thank you for the leadership and encouragement they provided, for their commitment to the purpose of AMUA. We give you thanks and praise for the lives they lived and the fellowship we shared.***

***Amen.***

## A Love Connection

Love connects us closer especially at this time of Corona virus pandemic.

God is love. Because we were created in the image of God, we are all interconnected to each other. We are a family of God, and it is our responsibility to take care of each other.

Our Mothers' Union Vision is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful, and flourishing relationships.

Jesus gave us a new commandment: 'That you love one another just as I have loved you. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples'. (John 13:34-35) Faithful discipleship is supposed to be the hallmark of MU members. Because we lead busy lives and have put other things as priority, our spiritual lives are lacking.

The Holy Spirit is always with us to help and to energise us, not to live in isolation from others, but strive to go beyond ourselves, to help others in the wider community and to the world.

Our culture today makes us live individual lives rather than with community for the common good of all. So often we think of ourselves only and we become self-centred and not thinking of others. God always want the best for us, and we want the best for our family and the world. We have to love and respect others to have flourishing relationships. Love connects us into relationships that leads us to action and from action to have peace in life.

"Because of your love and prayers," our worldwide president said, "we can stay connected and plan ways to give families with little or no hope, a bright future". Wherever love is, there is God. It is love that we get involved with caring and giving. Caring and giving shape us.

Prayer: Loving God, we thank you for your amazing love for us all. Help us to love others more. In Jesus name we pray. Amen



*Eleanor Mancini*

# Mothers' Union- so much more than cups of tea

## Part 2

Continuing our exploration of the work of Mothers Union, today we will look at Mothers Union's involvement with the UN.

Mothers' Union has consultative status with ECOSOC (The United Nations Economic and Social Council) which was established in 1946, in order to promote, report on and monitor issues relating to the political, economic, civil, social and educational rights of women.

Each year, Mothers Union attends the two-week session of The Commission on the Status of Women in New York. This Commission is the principal global body dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and is "instrumental in promoting women's rights, documenting the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women."



A delegation of Mothers Union members and staff work alongside other NGO's promoting the equality of women, and influencing and advising Government delegations. Each year, member states sign up to a set of agreed conclusions. Mothers' Union has an important role to play in making sure that the voice and needs of our members and women around the world are present in these agreed conclusions, and in holding Governments to account after UNCSW to ensure action is taken to uphold these.

Mothers' Union advocates and campaigns at a local, national and international level to see these changes become a reality. Members are passionate about issues of social justice, communicating with governments and decision makers, and collaborating with other charities and organisations to help bring a united voice for change.

In the next issue, we will look at the work of Mothers Union Worldwide and what Mothers Union is doing 'in the Zone.'

## Redcliffe Deanery Quiet Day

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careful process. It can be painful, but He says to us “*I know the plans I have for you...plans for hope and a future.*” We should pray for grace of openness to the Father’s loving pruning and the peace to let go of anything blocking the flow of God’s fruitfulness within and through us.

### **Abiding in the gift of fruitfulness received and shared**

The fruit comes from the pruning the gardener has done in our lives as we pray for a deep abiding in the Lord and give thanks for ways our lives and our community has been nourished. No branch can bear fruit by itself.

There were practical items we could take to use as a focal point of our quiet time: a pruned piece of a vine; fruit that grew on vines: cards with descriptions of attributes/strength that might apply to our lives.

The quiet time concluded with communion. Bev Perry led us in Midday prayers, a fitting end to a wonderful morning.

*Pam Lynam*

## CALENDAR

### **OCTOBER**

17 International Day for Elimination of Poverty

### **NOVEMBER**

16 Diocesan Council Meeting - Cathedral 10 am

25 International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women

### **DECEMBER**

10 World Human Rights Day



**Closing date for the next issue 15th October 2021**

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