

Dates for your Diary 2023

March	26	Lady Day 10 am St Matthews Guildford
April	7	Good Friday
April	9	Easter Day
April	9-11	Wave of Prayer
May	24	1.30pm Fun-d raiser for OS&NO St Brendon's Warnbro

MU Supplies

For all MU Supplies; stationary, cards, t towels and other supplies.
Please contact Karen Severin Publications Convener

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

Please send your articles and pictures to Denise Elvish
Deadline for next issue 26 May

A Prayer for Turkey and Syria

Lord, be their **hiding place** and **refuge**
(Psalm 46:1-2). Let them know that though
the earth has given way, You hold them
in Your hands.

Let Your **peace** be their anchor
(Philippians 4:7), and give them the **strength**
to endure the days ahead (Philippians 4:13).

Move Your people around the world to **love**
generously and **give sacrificially** (Matthew
25:34-40), to reach out, comfort, and restore.

Spare them any more **calamity**, o Lord,
we place our **hope** in You!

WWW.YMI.TODAY

Grapevine

Theme for 2023
'Reflecting on the Past - going forward'

Official publication
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Part of the Worldwide Mothers Union

March 2023

News from the President

Welcome back to the New Year I trust it's been a happy and healthy one. I have had a busy time entertaining my grandchildren.

Australian MU Meeting

Last November I attended as an observer to the Australian MU meeting with former Diocesan President Kaye Healy. The meeting was held over a 3 day period and was in the suburb of Templestowe Melbourne. During this time I was able to meet with other Diocesan Presidents and Executive members. "*Transformation Now*" was the theme for this meeting which was Triennial. A new Provincial President was elected., Dr. Robyn Ray, who resides in Queensland. In the Eastern states there has been a lot of work with the Parenting Program, whilst other reports showed how MU in the different Diocese have used the 5 objectives to advance the work of MU so as I listened, observed and wondered how we here in Perth could Transform our communities I realized that we were meeting changes. Our continuing theme of "Reflecting on the Past - Going Forward" was showing us the way with God's help. This year we will be revisiting and reflecting on our past with our 125 years Anniversary. Some Branches are moving forward and inviting their communities to come and visit in friendship. How great is God as he guides us forward in our work.

The Retreat

On the 18-19th January a retreat was held at Yunderup we were blessed with good weather although a little warm the new Executive Committee met and I take this opportunity to both welcome and thank them for accepting the various roles. During this time of relaxation we were able to get to know each other and to look at their roles through our Mary Sumner 5 objectives, on how they can support our MU branches and be known in the community. I am sure as we travel this year you will hear more about their work.

Farewell to our Chaplain

On the 15th January I joined with many of you as we attended a farewell service for our MU Chaplain Bishop Jeremy James. We will all miss him for his gracious service to us. Our love and prayers go with him as he moves to Willochra to begin his work for our Lord. At the end of last year a thank you voucher from RM Williams (see photo page 4) was presented to him on our behalf by Kaye Healy. Please pray that we can soon put forward to the Archbishop the name of our new Chaplain.

Lady Day

This special day will be held on the 25th March 2023 at St. Mathews Guildford. A time of fellowship for us and I look forward to meeting you all.

During this year I will be visiting branches and getting to know you and your MU work.

Love and Prayers to you all

Jan

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A note from the NEW- OLD -Prayer & Spirituality Convenor.

My Dear MU Friends in Perth,

I am really giving thanks to God for his “nudges”!!

I have long been a believer in them. Sometimes I remember or think about 'someone' so I'll give them a ring – only to find there has been some upset in their lives and they really talk about it. I try to keep in mind a lesson learned long ago, to properly listen to what they are telling me, and not to 'listen with my answer running' ! I have known what it's like to want to answer the problem for them, and have something in my mind I want to say, and just listen for a pause in which I can start talking! What I have learned over time is that I cannot solve someone else's problems!

That is God's job, and I have to leave it to sort out between themselves!

It is my job to put the person in God's hands and leave them there. So often it works out in ways I couldn't possibly have imagined. Sometimes it's a bit of a battle for me!! A friend once said to me when people give her advice, she said “I put it on a shelf, and leave it there” Looks again later or she may never use it!! So that's OK!!! Or as my Jim was always saying, “a problem has the seed of the answer inside it”!

I often have hymns or 'ditties' running around in my head, and now it is that beautiful hymn of St Francis -

*Make me a channel of your peace, where there is hatred let me bring your love;  
where there is injury your pardon Lord; and where there's doubt, true faith in you.*

*O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to be understood to be loved, as to love with all my sole.*

*Make me a channel of your peace, where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;  
where there is darkness, let me bring your light; and where there's sadness, ever joy.*

*Make me a channel of your peace, It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of  
our selves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.*

Sebastian Temple

Well, it's running round in my head but I am having trouble remembering the words!!! It's a matter of age I think!! So if it's not right, please forgive me ! I tried.

Love and blessings,  
Rosemary.

NB: words corrected by editor with consent of author

projects so they begin to generate their own income to fund not only their work, but their workers. Periodically there will be a specific Overseas Project Target Fund. Periodically there will be a specific Overseas Project Target Fund.

b) The Overseas Relief Fund is administered by Mary Sumner House, and enables money to be sent quickly to Mothers Union dioceses in areas where there have been natural disasters, and help is needed. Members in Australia contribute a portion of their Mothers Union subscription to the Overseas Fund. Members are also encouraged to make further donations to these funds.

c) The Northern Outreach Fund supports the mission of AMUA and the promotion of Christian family life in The Northern Territory, North West Australia and North Queensland. Members throughout Australia contribute to the fund through an annual contribution, personal donations and special efforts.

d) The Papua New Guinea and Melanesia Development Fund was established in 2009 to meet the needs of developmental work in consultation with Mary Sumner House Action & Outreach Unit.

e) The Training Fund for Indigenous Women. The capital provided for this fund is invested and the interest from this investment and further donations received are used annually to facilitate funding of the training of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Island women.

f) The Australian Disaster Relief Fund was established to provide relief to families suffering hardship caused by natural disasters in Australia. From time to time Australian members are asked to provide funding for special projects by their link diocese or branch. It is important that dioceses build up special relationships with their links and that these links are primarily a prayer partnership.

Darren, from AOA has forwarded the following brief summary and update to me.

Church and Community Disaster Resilience in Tonga and Fiji. Families living in the Pacific are increasingly experiencing the impacts and adversity of climate change, with cyclones and flooding becoming regular events. The impact of repeated disasters not only destroys infrastructure and homes but can produce instability in family life and place children at risk. The project works to equip and empower youth in the Pacific to create safer communities that are prepared for and equipped to respond to natural disasters, and provide the necessary equipment through prepositioned supplies to support an emergency response. Early this year, two new containers were prepositioned in Fiji and filled with emergency supplies, thanks to the support of Mothers Union Australia.

Wendy Mabey  
Overseas & Northern Outreach Coordinator  
ono@muaustralia.org.au

## FAREWELL BISHOP JEREMY JAMES OUR MU CHAPLAIN

Many of our MU members joined in the congregation for the farewell thanksgiving service for the Right Reverend Jeremy James tssf at St. George's Cathedral on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

Perhaps you were a member who watched live streamed on YouTube and were able to absorb the opening of the sung Eucharist with a procession of Clergy from the Cathedral, Diocese, and the Archbishop. The readings marked the feast of the confessional of Peter. Bishop Jeremy's sermon told of his trip to the UK and his fondness of his visit and other interesting aspects of his Christian life. He reminded us of what Jesus said: love one another, even as I have loved you *John 13:34* and his other message to forgive each other as *Mark 11.25* states.

At the completion of the service several farewell remarks were given on where Bishop Jeremy's ministry had taken him. The story told of the Parishes and the various organisations he had been a member. He thanked the Sudanese ministers and the community for their work. The Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy presented him with a painting of a scene from Kalgoorlie.

As the service ended, attendees gathered to the side of the church for fellowship, drinks and nibbles and to wish Bishop Jeremy God's Blessing and prayers as he commences his next journey in South Australia as God's disciple.



Ruth Styles, Nancy Ciampini, Isabel Cole, Bishop Jeremy, Lyn Sellers



Bishop Jeremy wearing his new Akubra Hat purchased with RM voucher from MU

## Out and About in Branches

### MU Welcome Back Dinner

MU members at Carine /Duncraig gathered to welcome a new year of MU with a dinner on Saturday evening, 21<sup>st</sup> January in the outside patio area at St Nicolas Church, together with many husbands and friends. It was a happy evening with great fellowship and lots of laughs and of course a delicious meal. After Geraldine said Grace, we enjoyed a meal of roast lamb with a variety of salads, followed by a selection of desserts. It was a wonderful way to begin anew year of MU in our Branch.

On Monday March 20<sup>th</sup> we will be welcoming Ian carter, AM, as our guest speaker who

will talk to us about the Diocese's plans for the future with addressing Family and Domestic Violence. The meeting will commence at 10am and conclude with midday prayers. For further information, please contact Michelle Szymanski



### Social Issues and Action Helen Krynen

Lord, we pray that through social action  
we create a vision of your kingdom here on earth.  
We ask not to fly from the world but to engage with it,  
where there is injustice let us find ways to eradicate it,  
where peoples 'basic human rights are so exploited  
that they have no life left to call their own-  
may we not stand aside, but fight for equality and for dignity.  
May we be a voice for change where there is none,  
May our hearts not grow cold  
When our simple compassion might find our neighbour food and clothing.  
May our politics be based upon gospel values,  
Our motives be to serve our God alone,  
And through God, to transform this world.  
AMEN



Overseas & Northern Outreach From Australia Convener

What is the Overseas & Northern Outreach Department?

I have recently received the February edition of the Mothers' Union e-Newsletter published by Mary Sumner House. It is the first newsletter for 2023 and commences thus:

A Happy New Year to all our members and friends. Welcome to the first e-newsletter of 2023! We are looking forward to the upcoming year and continuing our work with our members, friends and churches to support people around the world to overcome inequality through activism, advocacy and practical action. With kindness, courage, and compassionate actions, Mothers' Union will continue to help the world's hardest to reach communities to transform their lives.

As Mothers' Union members we are called to activism, advocacy and practical action. We are called to be kind, to have courage and be compassionate in our actions. So what does this mean to us in Australia as we seek to transform the lives of others through our Overseas and Northern Outreach section?

Our own AMUA Handbook 2018 (p21) states that:

Through the worldwide Mothers Union network, the Overseas and Northern Outreach Department has a special responsibility to participate in the mission of the church by furthering the awareness of issues of aid and development, working towards the alleviation of poverty, and fostering compassion and justice for all people....

The Mothers Union has a role to play, along with other international agencies, in response to human need in the world community. The department seeks to promote issues of mission, aid and development by:

- a) encouraging prayer,
- b) inspiring members to give financial support, and
- c) sharing information. In this, my first newsletter,

I want to share information on the second aspect of this three pronged approach.

Again, from our Handbook (p21-22):

INSPIRING MEMBERS TO GIVE Raising funds to facilitate the mission of the Mothers' Union in places where it is under-resourced, is a function of the Overseas and Northern Outreach Department. Members are encouraged to give to the various Grant Funds.

a) The Overseas Fund which is administered from Mary Sumner House in London, has in the past provided for Community Development Co-ordinators (CDC), worldwide, enabling them to initiate programmes of leadership training and spiritual growth, maternal health and child care, hygiene, nutrition and literacy. .. Grants are also given for conferences, seminars and training. Increasing emphasis is being placed on encouraging dioceses to set up viable self-help

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.

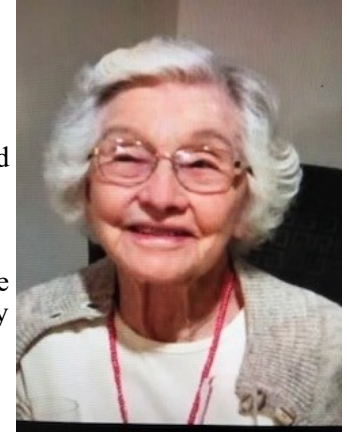
*Father hold them in your loving embrace and comfort them*



VALE

ANNIE (NANCE) JONES

Nance Jones was a woman of great faith, whose lifelong commitment was in helping others. Nance was born in Victoria, the daughter of a farming family on 10<sup>th</sup> June, 1924. She became an MU member in 1955 when she joined the Mt Lawley Branch and she and her husband Roy had 6 children over 14 years. In 1979, Nance and Roy moved to Port Hedland and Nance started an MU Branch in South Hedland. On their move back to Perth, Nance supported the Diocesan MU through helping in the MU Rooms in the city on a regular basis. She also became secretary for the Resource Department of MU Executive and then became Education Officer for AMUA and travelled by bus from Perth to Brisbane to attend Australian Council in 1989.



Nance was much loved by her parish family and began the Prayer Group for Schools, which led to Nance being invited to various school assemblies at Poynter Primary School. Nance and Roy were the first residents in Lady Mc Cusker Village and Nance became the secretary of the Resident's Committee. She was a very committed Pastoral Partner and following the death of her husband Roy, did voluntary work in a hospice. Nance was an enthusiastic gardener and was passionate about social justice issues before it became fashionable. Nance had a love of words and she self-published two books during her life. Nance was awarded her 60 years of service to MU in 2015. A service of thanksgiving for the life of Nance Jones was held on 10<sup>th</sup> January where her six children and their families, MU members and friends gathered to remember a life well lived. Nance was 98 years old.

**SAVE THE DATE** May 24 ( 1.30pm ) Fun-d Raiser @St. Brendan's Warnbro for O and NO. High Tea and Musical afternoon. Contact Felicity or Edna .  
(Invitations will be sent to Branches closer to date)