

Diocese of The Murray, South Australia.

THE MURRAY
CON-TRIBUTARY
NEWSLETTER



June 2021

Rebuilding Hope and Confidence

Dear Members,

I do hope you can find a warm spot to sit and read this newsletter. By now the shortest day of the year will have past and summer is on its way!!!!

Mt Barker branch have commenced a soup lunch kitchen each Friday using donated excess vegetables from the local supermarket. I am sure the effort involved is appreciated by many on these cold days.

The donations to Quickest Warmth, and I am sure other charities, by AMUA branches recently has included many beanies, rugs, clothes, bedding etc to help keep out the cold.

Let us Praise God for low numbers of Covid cases in Australia and the available medical help. Please continue to remember our Mothers Union members and their families in other countries where life is so difficult.

Lady Day at Mt Barker in March was an enjoyable celebration. After missing Diocesan get-togethers in 2020 it was so good to catch up again.

God is in the small things ... Our Strathalbyn branch decided to do something new for the local school children but what??? A phone call to the (chaplain) Pastoral Support Worker got her thinking and she came up with the idea of us supplying new drink bottles for the children who constantly forget or do not have bottles and request disposable cups from the staff. Drinking out of taps or bubblers is no longer allowed. Its not just a summer problem as sport and play cause thirstiness all year.

Our members have now donated a box of colourful bottles which can be named and handed out. We will follow up these with more as the year progresses. Prayer for guidance and asking questions gave results, small but useful.

Another area of being helped with small things came recently on our holiday. Richard and I had planned a trip to Tasmania for several years and Covid in Melbourne came to lockdown situation on the day we were meant to drive into Melbourne to the 'Spirit of Tasmania'. Together with another couple we cancelled plans and changed plans sitting in a motel room in Bordertown. Along the way on our newly organised trip to Border Village on the WA border and around Eyre Peninsula we felt that lots of little things were falling into place so well and we were certainly being guided big to us but small in the world scheme of things!

Love and blessings Jocelyn

MU World elections: Sheran Harper will continue as our World Wide President.

Pamela Abana from Melanesia is our new Trustee for Zone C as Libbie Crossman has completed 6 years.

Families Equip: We have just completed a 5 week course at Morphett Vale primary school with the attendees being parents of the students there. What a special time we had. The women were so willing to talk through many problems and share ideas. It was a privilege for Liz and I to lead this group and we know that your prayers helped us to guide these sessions.

Overseas & Northern Outreach: In her recent newsletter, Robin Ray our Australian co-ordinator has an article on The Coming of The Light worship and celebrations in the Torres Strait. (We can forward you by email a special Holy Communion liturgy for this celebration for use at meetings if you are interested. Carolyn & Jocelyn). In a different part of the world in countries with high death rates, little or no vaccines there is now a rise HIV in babies as mothers cannot get out due to lockdowns to access their antiretroviral medications.

Diary Dates:

July 1st marks the 150th anniversary of the Word of God coming to the Torres Strait. Perhaps you could include this prayer in your midday prayers for that day.

Almighty God, you have given to the people of the Islands of the Torres Strait the glorious light of the gospel of Christ: mercifully grant that we may always walk in the light of his love, and give us the strength and unifying power of your Holy Spirit to spread that light and enlarge your kingdom in the hearts of all people. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Mary Sumner Day

Monday August 9th

Christ Church, Main 1708 Main South Road, O'Halloran Hill

11am service followed by a BYO lunch (no shared platters please) and short AGM/Council meeting This will be followed by a talk by Fr Cliff Greaves about his involvement with White Ribbon Days.

Tuesday August 10th Naracoorte

Mary Sumner Day will be celebrated with our chaplain Fr Daniel at St Paul's Naracoorte with a service followed by lunch. Mount Gambier branch will be joining this celebration. All welcome. Any Questions please contact Jan Malpas