

Poinsettia Post

Anglican Mothers Union Australia
Brisbane



WINTER 2022



Congratulations Jenny!
Thank you Beverley

A Message from our President

Dear AMUA Members,

It was on 25th March this year at the Lady Day Service in St John's Cathedral that Archbishop Phillip Aspinall was finally able to officially appoint me as acting Diocesan President. Our AGM and the February Council Meeting were both cancelled because of the COVID 19 pandemic and the devastating floods in Queensland. Now, though, my head is buzzing with all I must attend to and my diary is filling up with invitations to visit branches and deaneries. I am really looking forward to meeting everyone and presenting so many long service scrolls and badges.



I would like to thank all of the members who have encouraged and congratulated me. Thank you too, to our former President, Beverley Perry, for all of the help she has given me as she handed over the position. Beverley was a wonderful President and all of her work has been carefully recorded and organised so the transition of the role can occur very smoothly indeed. I have a 'to do list' for each month of the year and an example of any report I have to write.

One of the few positive consequences of the pandemic has been the widespread use of the Zoom internet programme. In early March I was fortunate enough to participate in a Zoom Meeting for Zone C organised by staff at Mary Sumner House in London. I was able to meet Sheran Harper, our World-wide President who spoke at length and asked us to take her love and prayers back to all members. MU leaders from across the Pacific Islands, New Zealand and



Bev Perry congratulates Life Vice President Shirley Beale

Australia discussed their work and the special problems that quarantine restrictions and vaccinations have brought to their homelands. It proved to be a very interesting session even if I did have to get up at 4.30 am.

An important inclusion into the packed Lady Day Service was the presentation of Life Vice President Certificates and badges by President Beverley Perry to Eve Knott and Shirley Beale in recognition of their outstanding service to MU at both a diocesan and branch level over many years. Eve was unable to attend due to ill health. Our new Patron, Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeanette Young PSM, Governor of Queensland was in attendance at the Service, as was our new MU Chaplain, Rev'd Jane Mitchell.

Thank you very much to the 30 branches who participated in the Wave of Prayer in March and to those who celebrated Mothering Sunday with gifts, simnel cake and a Retiring Collection to support the Overseas Target Project 2022 - 'Disaster Management and Climate Change in the Pacific.'

I am looking forward to a busy year, starting with the next Country Council Meeting in Caboolture on 17 May where the guest speakers will be from Foster Care. I hope that many of you will be able to attend.

Blessings

Jenny



L to R: Archbishop The Most Rev'd Phillip Aspinall AC, The Honourable Dr Jeanette Young PSM, Jenny Bullock and The Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt



Jenny Bullock and AMUA Chaplain Rev'd Jane Mitchell



More photos from Lady Day 2022.

Photo Credit: Chris Martin

Above: Bev Perry presented Bursary Certificates to Theological Students: Mamuor Kunpeter and Peter Kur Jongkuch. Third Student Simon Kim was not able to be present.

Bottom Left: The Rev'd Canon Linda McWilliam thanked AMUA for on going support and for a cheque for \$12000 for Anglicar Southern Queensland Chaplaincy presented by Bev Perry.

Bottom Right: Bev Perry thanked Rev'd Canon Libbie Crossman for the love and support shown during her term as AMUA Choplain.



Burnett Deanery Day

Christchurch Childers warmly welcomed Burnett Deanery to hold our Lady Day. Rev'd Susan Barker's homily on the annunciation of Mary gave us a thought-provoking insight of a young girl's life and her trust in God.



Our guest speaker Beverly Perry shared with us her experience and wonderful memories of her 5yrs as Diocesan President. There was a lot to share eg 125th Anniversary Conference in Launceston. 2018 State Conference in Rockhampton, MULO South Pacific Zone starting in New Zealand and then the task of sharing with our diocese, along with the normal duties getting us all motivated to act upon 16 days of Activism against Gender based violence and learning to cope with COVID.

We are blessed to have Fr Robert and Beverly in our Deanery to encourage us in Transformation Now and into the future.

Cathedral St John's AMUA branch Birthday

Pictured (L to R): Her Excellency The Hon Dr Jeannette Young PSM (Governor of Queensland), Eleanor Mancini (president of the Cathedral AMUA branch), and the Dean The Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt during the celebration of the Cathedral branch birthday at the morning tea after the 9.30am Eucharist on 6 March 2022. The Governor and her husband Professor Graeme Nimmo attended the service and stayed for the morning tea celebration and chatted briefly with the congregation.



Caloundra Celebrates

Rev. Canon Libbie Crossman and Fr Bill Crossman travelled to Caloundra to officiate at the Service in St Andrew's, on 14 December 2021, and the following list of Mothers' Union Members were recognised : -

Betty Knight, 60 Year

**Lois Campbell, 60 year*

Carol Spence, 40 year

**Dorothy James, 40 year*

Jacquie Nickelson, 30 year

Muriel Bates, 25 year

Jean Ingle, 20 year

Margaret Liley, 20 year

Rev. Ingrid Busk, 20 year



Lois and Dorothy were not able to be present for the Service, however, Dorothy did maintain connection via Zoom. Both ladies have since been presented with their awards by our President, Cathy Richards.

Such a significant event for our MU Branch in Caloundra. It was such a treat to have Rev'd Libbie and Fr Bill, who had served here in the early 2000s, back in Caloundra for this special event.

Joy's Birthday

Algester AMUA Member Joy Young with her daughter Jo Stewart. Joy with her celebration birthday cake at our March Meeting. Joy's family gave her a surprise party for her 90th prior to our meeting. Her birthday was on 12 March.

Joy is a respected and loved member of our AMUA branch. She joined MU in October 1987.



St Paul's Maryborough International Women's Day

Members of St Paul's AMUA celebrated International Women's Day with a service praying in the name of women in the Bible and reflecting upon the needs of women in today's global community. Flowers were displayed in the colours of the day: purple signifying justice and dignity, green signifying hope and white purity.



President Carol Cranage with guest speaker Ann Morris

Our parishioner Ann Morris, a former educator, gave an inspirational talk centred around happiness and self-acceptance. Members enjoyed a time of reflection while sharing morning tea and a special cake.

Hilary Vale



Hervey Bay Wave of Prayer

St John's Hervey Bay AMUA gathered at the ministry center for our Wave of Prayer service.

Helen Jarvis





Transformation Now Service of Thansgiving St Paul's Ipswich

At our first meeting for 2022, St Paul's Ipswich AMUA began with the *Transformation Now Service of Thanksgiving* from the Mothers Union website of resources for 2022.

During the service butterflies were placed on a cross. On the butterflies were written thanksgivings for the transformations God has made during, and in, our lives.



On the small table you can see three items to go with the three written prayers for transformation: from adversity to blessing (the tiara), from sadness to joy (the container of oil) and from despair to hope (the colourful scarf).

Transformation has a rippling effect on the people in our own lives, in our families, in our communities and in the world. We all appreciated the service very much.

Diane Thomson

Hervey Bay AMUA Assisting the FCAC

Members welcomed Yr 7 students from Fraser Coast Anglican College to show elements practiced in the Anglican tradition, including a walk through the memorial garden, making of a banner, explanation of the sanctuary and the Eucharist. This was the 2nd year and will now be a as a yearly event.



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: Marjorie LANCASTER 20/10/1933 - 9/3/2022

Marjorie was enrolled as a Stafford Branch member in 2015. She was always interested in all aspects of Mothers Union attending meetings and Bible Study mornings. We remember her commitment and quiet dignity and give thanks for her life and fellowship we shared together.

Rose Mowat

VALE: Susan RYE -8/4/1947 - 23/12/2021

Sue joined AMUA Strathpine in 2011 and was a dearly loved member Sue passed away after her breast cancer returned. She will be remembered for her ever smiling face, her warm caring ways, her kindness, and willingness to help in any situation and make a positive influence in someone's life and her love of family. Sue loved the Lord and her church family and loved coming to MU, the fellowship and what it stood for – marriage and family. Each child that was baptised at St Faith's had a candle and holder decorated by Sue, she was also assistant Treasurer for the past 4 years.

Pam Lynam

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 Reflection from our Chaplain

LITTLE THINGS



I felt very honoured and humbled when asked to become the Chaplain for Mothers Union in this Diocese. As the Parish Priest at Algester, I had witnessed some of the amazing work undertaken by members of the Mothers Union group in that parish and, for that matter, world-wide; and the times I requested some assistance from them, especially with joy bags, they were always willing to help.

I learnt from those who distributed some of these joy bags, how much they were appreciated by those who received them, be it adults or children. They gave the receiver a sense of worth, of being cared for and loved by people they had never met.

On one occasion I went with members of the parish to the Ministry to Seafarers premise at the Port of Brisbane to deliver goods which included numerous beanies knitted by members of Mothers' Union; and in talking to those who staff this premise I learnt how much the beanies are cherished by seafarers.

Over the years I have personally treasured the little things done for me by others: the phone call to check how I was coping at a difficult times; the times of flowers gathered from his garden and given to me by a family friend when my father died, to name a few.

Mother Theresa said 'Do little things with great love'. Members of Mothers' Union do exactly that ... in so many and varied ways and in so many different environments world-wide. I look forward to hearing and appreciating more stories of the little things Mothers' Union members do as I have the opportunities to meet with many of you. May you each know that the things you may consider as little and insignificant, may have huge impact and be of great value in someone else's eyes. Keep up the good work and God bless each of you.

Jane Mitchell.

Mothers' Union- so much more than cups of tea

Part 5-AMUA at Diocesan Level

In each diocese across Australia there is strong support for families, and ending violence, poverty and homelessness although projects vary depending on the needs of the diocese and available resources.

Grafton: audio Mia Mia for members with hearing impairment.

Newcastle: support for the Samaritans work with homeless people.

Melbourne: greeting cards to all incarcerated women in Victoria for their personal use. They also support Karen Nursery schools in Myanmar.

Adelaide and The Murray: a strong connection with 'The Quickest Warmth' Project by supplying clothes, blankets and household items.

Ballarat Deanery: toiletry packs for emergency patients at the Grampians Health District Base Hospital.

Bendigo: support Mums4Mums outreach, provide knitted items for premature babies and seafarers, toiletries for hospital patients and Uni students, and support and inclusion of the Karen Christian group.

Sydney: Annual Seminar to bring families the opportunity to hear bible-based discussions by Christian speakers, an online connection through Christian Parenting Australia Facebook pages, Let's Chat forum enables parents to connect with others parents in a safe format as well as with Families Equip and Single Session Parenting Courses.

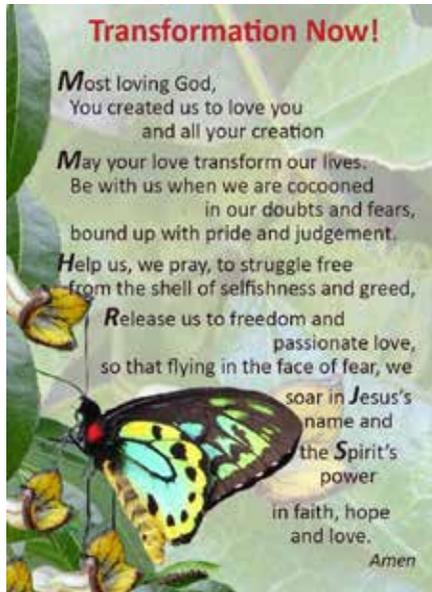
Brisbane: support the Women's Shelter, providing funding for children's equipment and playground, supports Kids at Risk, and provides 'Fresh start baskets' of household products for those leaving the shelter. Annually, three holidays are offered to families in need. MU helps in emergencies with funding for those affected by fire or floods or droughts. Many branches support the 16 Days of Activism Campaign. Bursaries are awarded to 3 theological students each year.

Northern Territory: supply Christmas hampers to 5 families in the shelter.



AMUA –DIOCESE OF BRISBANE 2022 PLANNER

- 2 Aug EXECUTIVE Meeting St Francis College Milton —10am
- 7 Aug Retiring Collection for Anglicare SQ Chaplaincy
- 9 Aug Mary Sumner Day.
- 16 Aug COUNTRY COUNCIL GYMPIE 10.30am
- 4 Sep Father's Day.
- 4 Oct EXECUTIVE Meeting St Francis College Milton —10am.
- 11 Nov Remembrance Day.
- 15 Nov COUNCIL MEETING —St John's Cathedral —10am.
- 25 Nov 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence begins.
- 6 Dec EXECUTIVE Meeting & Christmas Lunch.-10am
- 10 Dec 16 Days of Activism ends



Closing date for the next issue 15th July 2022

Editor - Susan Skowronski

