

St Alphege Mothers' Union

Newsletter - September/October 2021

Afternoon Tea

Thursday 5th August

In August, we were finally able to meet in person in the Oliver Bird Hall and it was lovely to get together. Several of our elderly members had not been out since the start of the pandemic, so they really appreciated seeing everyone again. We also welcomed Peter and Susan Johnson from Knowle Branch, Peter is our Mothers' Union Diocesan treasurer.

We enjoyed scones with jam and cream and home-made cakes, along with cups of tea and coffee. This was a very informal meeting, no speaker, but we all just enjoyed meeting and talking after such a long time in isolation.



Meetings in September and October

We are planning a meeting again in September, Covid permitting, with a *Show and Tell* theme. Please put **Thursday 2nd September at 1.30pm in the OBH** in your diary.

Once again, this will be an informal meeting, without a speaker. Members are asked to bring along any object - for example, an ornament, photo, jewellery, toy etc. - which has a particular significance for them. Then each of us can talk about what the object means to us.

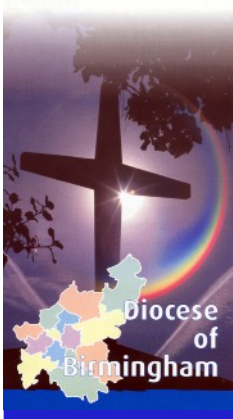
Thursday 7th October 1.30pm in the OBH

Ken Hewitt will give a talk on *The Origin of Surnames*.

We can arrange lifts to these meetings:

Contact Elaine (705 3265) Pat (705 8761) or Julia (744 3540).

News of Members



I am very pleased to say that Val Tew is doing well and is hoping to be back with us again soon.

David Patterson is recovering from shingles, Carol Caldicott took him some strawberries and cake from the meeting, and he sends his thanks.

Best Wishes to Val and David from all the members of St Alphege Mothers' Union. We hope you will both be fully recovered very soon.

Dear Members,

What a lovely meeting we had in August! It was wonderful to see everyone again after such a long time in isolation. Zoom meetings had helped, but there is nothing like meeting in person and enjoying tea and cakes and a friendly chat together. Let's hope we can continue to meet. We are planning meetings in September - a *Show and Tell* afternoon and in October a talk by Ken Hewitt. Do try to come, we can easily arrange a lift for you.

Mike and I are moving from the bungalow into sheltered accommodation in Shirley. We'll let you know when the move is arranged.

With my love, God bless

Chris

0121 243 4340

chris_thorp@blueyonder.co.uk

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Diocese of Birmingham

A Letter of thanks

Olwen Davies writes:

It was such a pleasure to attend - at last - the Mothers' Union meeting on 5th August and to meet up with old friends.

However, I was disappointed not to meet Carolyn Giddings, as she has faithfully rung me every week since March 2020 to see how I am coping and to have a little chat (usually about how our runner beans are doing). I cannot thank her enough, as it has really helped during those dark days. Let us hope that they are behind us now.

Olwen is in the photo of the afternoon tea.

Knitted Teddies

During lockdown, Evelyn Berry has been very busy knitting teddies. Susan Graham has sent this photo of some of them, to put in the newsletter. They look lovely, thank you Evelyn, it was good to see you at the afternoon tea (thank you Caroline for bringing her).

We are still knitting squares for blankets. If you want the pattern and wool. Contact Pat (0121 705 8761 patmarshall_1@hotmail.com) Pat will sew the completed squares together.

Mothers' Union cards and diaries

Pat Marshall has a selection of MU cards, which she brings to meetings. She has cards for all occasions; they are attractive as well as being very reasonably priced.

Elaine has a supply of MU Enterprises Autumn catalogues, showing Christmas and birthday cards, gifts, books etc. Below are pictures of a couple of this year's Christmas cards, which are priced at £4.25 for a pack of 10.

She will be taking orders for Christmas cards and for the 2022 MU diary. This time, the cover is olive green and the cost is £4.50. Elaine Diskin 0121 705 3265 elainediskin@hotmail.co.uk

You can also view these items online www.mueshop.org



Help is at Hand

Although restrictions have been lifted, help may still be needed for our elderly members.

If you need help with shopping etc. phone Elaine Diskin 0121 705 3265 (elainediskin@hotmail.co.uk)

or Julia Hanson 0121 744 3540 (hansons04@tiscali.co.uk)



People who have had help from Elaine and Julia have been very appreciative, not only for shopping but also for just having a friendly chat and to know that we care. Our thanks on behalf of the branch, go to Elaine and Julia for their sterling service.



Diocesan Events Saturday 23rd October

Members' Meeting

Hopefully, if the Covid regulations permit, we shall meet in person at a venue. We will confirm the place nearer the time. All members are invited to attend, and we can arrange to go together.

Keep this date in your diary – more details to follow.