



## **Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester**

**Registered Charity Number: 250038**

### **Trustees' Annual Report & Consolidated Accounts**

**For the year ended 31 December 2019**

## Legal and administrative information

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**Registered Charity Name:** The Mothers' Union (Diocese of Leicester Branch)

**Charity Number:** 250038

**Address:** St. Martins House  
7 Peacock Lane  
Leicester  
LE1 5PZ

**Trustees:**

Yvonne Smith	Diocesan President (Chair)
RoseMarie Manning	Life Vice-President
Susan Wilson	Life Vice-President
Ros Dobbin	
Ruth Fryer	
Annette Hall	
Pamela Harvey	
Diane Johnson	Diocesan Chaplain
Janice Lunn	
Linda Poole	
Diane Wightman	

The Trustees are constituted as follows:

Diocesan President	elected by Diocesan Council
Up to two Life Vice-Presidents	chosen by them
Seven Trustees	elected by Diocesan Council
Diocesan Chaplain	appointed by Diocesan President and Diocesan Bishop
One Deanery Leader	elected by Deanery Leaders

**Administrator:** Heather Powell

**Honorary Treasurer:** Susan Wilson

**Bankers:** CAF Bank Ltd  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent  
ME19 4JQ

**Independent Examiner:** Robert P. Appleby, MA, FCA  
Rutland House, 23–25 Friar Lane, Leicester, LE1 5QQ

## **Trustees' Annual Report 1 January to 31 December 2019**

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Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester is a charity federated to similar charities bearing the same name, and with the same Aim and Objects and sharing the same ethos and direction as the central charity. It is governed by its own constitution (last revised February 2011). The elected Board of Trustees makes major decisions and carries out or enables practical projects. The elected Chair of Trustees (Diocesan President) attends Provincial Conference and reports back to the Diocese. One part-time administrator is employed for 9 hours per week. All trading is channelled through Mothers' Union Enterprises Ltd.

The aim of Mothers' Union is to advance the Christian religion in the sphere of marriage and family life and this is focused on five objectives: to promote and support marriage; to encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children; to maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service; to promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children; to help those whose family life has met with adversity.

There are 1,000 Mothers' Union members in Leicester Diocese. Most are members of branches in Anglican churches throughout the Diocese; others pay their subscription and receive mailings direct from our Leicester office. Members are involved in local projects and ministry as well as supporting the work of the central Mothers' Union. Involvement includes prayer, volunteer time, donating goods or money. All our events and projects welcome involvement from members and non-members alike. We try to encourage new membership wherever possible and keep our local work under review to try to be as effective as possible.

Every year we arrange a fully-funded holiday for needy Leicestershire families through our Away From It All Holiday Project. Families are referred to us by Mothers' Union members, clergy, health visitors, social workers, teachers or other agencies. We often receive more applications than we can fund, but keep a waiting list, either for cancellations or for the year ahead. As well as the full cost of self-catering accommodation and facilities at the venue, transport, a generous pack of groceries and some kind of special treat (in 2019 pizza, chips, garlic bread and drinks one evening) are provided for each family. We produce a simple cookery book for each family to help them make good use of the groceries provided, and give each child a handmade teddy. Members of the organising committee accompany the families to provide friendly support throughout the holiday. In 2019 we took 11 families to Haven Golden Sands Holiday Park in Mablethorpe. Mothers' Union members were encouraged to give 50 pence each to fund the grocery packs, which were bought and assembled in Mablethorpe. We were very grateful for a local grant to cover the costs of one of the families. The holiday provides families with an invaluable opportunity to relax together.

We continued to support homeless and vulnerable adults and children in hostels, refuges, hospitals and elderly persons' accommodation in Leicestershire by collecting and donating Easter eggs, over 280 chocolate bars for Christmas, clothing and equipment for babies and children, and household and toiletry items. Members and supporters knitted clothing and cot blankets for premature babies in the local hospitals and teddies for Social Services and the police for use with traumatised children. These were all checked to ensure they complied with toy safety regulations. We supported the Women's Welcome Project for asylum seekers and refugees in Leicester by donating disposable nappies and sanitary towels. We provided emergency toilet bags for Leicester Royal Infirmary, Glenfield Hospital and some of the local hospitals. All our gifts were very much appreciated by those who received them.

During 2019 our Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire fund enabled us to respond quickly to a constant level of requests for help. All age groups have needed support, from older people needing clothing, food and other items, to new born babies and small children. Mothers' Union members have given generously throughout the year to support those in need in the city and county.

During 2019 our contact with Leicester Prison came to an end. Teddy bears were no longer required for children visiting, nor Christmas cards for prisoners.

Prayers were circulated to encourage members to pray and raise awareness in their churches during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence in November/December 2019. A trustee represents Mothers' Union on the Diocesan Panel for Social Responsibility, where another member also takes the lead on the issue of modern-day slavery. In May members supported the Bishop by serving refreshments at a meeting of the Diocesan Synod held at Bishop's Lodge. Our Diocesan President has been involved in the Diocesan group planning to welcome several overseas bishops and their spouses to the Diocese in advance of the Lambeth Conference for Anglican bishops in summer 2020.

A Quiet Day was arranged during the year, as well as three prayer services in Leicester Cathedral. We maintained prayer chains to support anyone in need and some branches and deaneries held regular prayer groups. Our monthly email newsletter included prayer topics relevant to Mothers' Union to encourage members to unite in prayer. We made every effort to maintain contact with members who were not able to meet with others regularly, because they were housebound, working, or no longer had a branch local to them. They received greetings cards and letters during the year.

Since all Mothers' Union link diocese groups were changed in 2015 we have found it difficult to establish contact with our five new prayer partners in Kenya, Nigeria (2), Solomon Islands and Zambia. In 2019 we have had success in establishing contact with Mother' Union in Mombasa, Kenya, and renewed efforts are being made with the others. We continue to pray for them all, encouraging all members to particularly remember them at the end of June and beginning of July each year when our group appears in the Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer schedule. In 2019 we reverted to preparing prayers for branches or individuals to use during this period, as members appreciate that structure.

We supported the work of the central organisation by selling Mothers' Union cards and gifts at meetings and events. We also encouraged members to order online direct from Mary Sumner House if they preferred as they can still earn commission for Leicester Diocese on their purchases. 13 members attended the Mothers' Union General Meeting in Portsmouth in September 2019, including a special service at the Cathedral the previous evening. Several members attended the Thy Kingdom Come Global Moment at Coventry Cathedral in May 2019.

During 2019 one of our trustees, Linda Poole, served as a non-executive trustee on the central Mothers' Union Enterprises Board. The central Mothers' Union started the year working under a substantially revised constitution and the changes also affect the way we work in our Diocese, particularly the way that we relate to the centre and the way that the centre resources us. A central database of members has been developed, with each diocese responsible for ensuring

its records are correctly uploaded; this has been an ongoing, time-consuming task throughout the year.

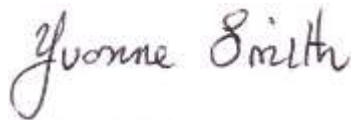
In due course it will be necessary for us to revise our constitution but, until the new ways of working bed in at both central and local levels, we need to wait before changing our formal structure. However, as agreed by the Trustees in 2018, from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 our Trustee Board comprises a Diocesan President, two Life Vice-Presidents, a Diocesan Chaplain, Deanery Leader (position vacant) and seven General Trustees, to reflect the fact that the former central organisational units no longer exist. At the beginning of the year individual trustees opted for areas of work that suit their interests and skills. During the year we changed our grouping of branches into deaneries in line with the new divisions created by the Diocese of Leicester; there are now 10 deaneries instead of 12. On 5<sup>th</sup> December our part-time Administrator, Julie Foulds, left our employment to take up a full-time role with the Diocese of Leiceser.

Our assets at 31 December 2019 were £4,094 more than at the start of the year. The Trustees have examined the current level of unrestricted reserves, £23,392, and assess this to be satisfactory to secure the charity's immediate future. Falling membership is a concern, even though some expenditure falls with it.

Assessment and mitigation of risk is undertaken by the Finance and Administration Working Group and regularly reported to the Trustees. The Trustees are paying due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit as we seek to meet our charitable objectives. We follow the Leicester Diocese Safeguarding Policy with the additional request that members make themselves aware of who the Safeguarding Coordinator is in the parish where they are working. In 2019 we have ensured that all relevant individuals have undertaken the appropriate level of Safeguarding training and the Trustees appointed the Diocesan President as the liaison with the Diocese.

Prepared by Susan Wilson, Diocesan Treasurer

The report was approved by the Trustees on 24 June 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yvonne Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Yvonne Smith, Diocesan President and Chair of Trustees  
On behalf of the Trustees

## Consolidated Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019

	General Fund £	Central Funds £	Local Funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
<b>Income</b>	11,613	21,963	11,296	44,872	49,688
<b>Expenditure</b>	10,983	21,963	7,832	40,778	47,287
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	630	-	3,464	4,094	2,401
<b>Balances brought forward 1 January</b>	22,762	-	30,358	53,120	50,719
<b>Balances carried forward 31 December</b>	23,392	-	33,822	57,214	53,120

	Note	General Fund £	Central Funds £	Local Funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
<b>Income</b>						
Subscriptions		4,876	13,797		18,673	18,938
Insurance		205			205	215
Diocesan General Fund		1,810			1,810	1,753
Gift Aid Income Tax recovered		2,536			2,536	2,331
Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme		344			344	299
MU Enterprises sales commission	<b>1</b>	596			596	451
Recycling		666			666	837
Investment income		149		39	188	102
Repayment of bank charges		5			5	-
Faith & Policy events		250			250	3,253
Expenses refund		22			22	-
Diocesan events		30			30	1,266
Mary Sumner House publications					-	326
Diocesan President Retirement gift donations					-	694
Other income		124			124	-
Overseas Development Fund			2,972		2,972	3,848
Relief Fund			2,703		2,703	2,545
Britain & Ireland Development Fund			1,106		1,106	920
MSH Summer of Hope			271		271	100
MSH Harvest Appeal					-	100
MSH General Fund			1,114		1,114	956
Worldwide President retirement gift donations					-	15
MU Literature					-	108
Difference in MU Literature assets	<b>1</b>				-	130
Away From It All Holiday Project	<b>2</b>			6,709	6,709	7,761
Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire				2,611	2,611	2,014
Difference in Supporting Homeless in Leics funds				1,221	1,221	726
Difference in funds held by branches	<b>3</b>			716	716	-
<b>Total income</b>		<b>11,613</b>	<b>21,963</b>	<b>11,296</b>	<b>44,872</b>	<b>49,688</b>

<b>Expenditure</b>	Note	General Fund £	Central Funds £	Local Funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
MSH subscriptions			13,797		13,797	14,161
Staff salary		4,394			4,394	4,239
Employer's NIC		341			341	321
LDBF salary administration		72			72	72
Insurance		495			495	495
Stationery & equipment		66			66	47
Postage		335			335	198
Photocopying					-	5
Bank charges		70			70	60
Meeting room hire		192			192	374
Website		8			8	-
MUspaper		2,996			2,996	3,012
Officials' expenses		818			818	528
Training		558			558	597
Faith & Policy events		140			140	3,090
Diocesan events		282			282	1,040
MSH publications		92			92	42
Diocesan President Retirement gift donations					-	694
Other expenditure		124			124	-
Overseas Development Fund			2,972		2,972	3,848
Relief Fund			2,703		2,703	2,545
Britain & Ireland Development Fund			1,106		1,106	920
MSH Summer of Hope Appeal			271		271	100
MSH Harvest Appeal					-	100
MSH General Fund			1,114		1,114	956
Worldwide President retirement gift donations					-	15
MU Literature					-	108
Difference in MU Literature assets	<b>1</b>			239	239	-
Away From It All Holiday Project	<b>2</b>			4,982	4,982	5,919
Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire				2,611	2,611	2,014
Difference in funds held by branches	<b>3</b>					1,787
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>10,983</b>	<b>21,963</b>	<b>7,832</b>	<b>40,778</b>	<b>47,287</b>

**Away From It All Holiday Project:**

	£	2018 £
Income:		
Balance at 1st January	13,242	11,379
Donations	6,234	6,912
Poor's Platt	475	750
Food surplus 2017		6
Cash surplus 2018		93
Interest on CBF account	39	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,990</b>	<b>19,161</b>
Expenditure	4,982	5,919
<b>Balance at 31 December</b>	<b>15,008</b>	<b>13,242</b>

Expenditure breakdown:

Accommodation	3,124	4,073
Coaches	1,100	1,040
Deposit for coach 2020	100	
Food	600	500
Entertainment	-	200
Training	-	55
Expenses	58	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,982</b>	<b>5,919</b>

**Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire account:**

	£	2018 £
Income:		
Balance 1 January	7,078	6,352
Donations	2,611	2,090
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,689</b>	<b>8,442</b>
Expenditure	1,390	1,364
<b>Balance 31 December</b>	<b>8,299</b>	<b>7,078</b>

**Current Assets:**

	General Fund £	Central Funds £	Local Funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
CAF Bank Cash Account	722	8,621	12,212	<b>21,555</b>	19,334
CAF Bank Gold Account	3,441			<b>3,441</b>	3,436
CBF Deposit Account	19,736			<b>19,736</b>	19,736
Nat West MU Literature account			646	<b>646</b>	799
MU Literature cash in hand			54	<b>54</b>	43
MU Literature debtors			15	<b>15</b>	51
MU Literature stock	<b>1</b>		1,018	<b>1,018</b>	1,078
CBF Away From It All Holiday Project account			5,405	<b>5,405</b>	5,405
Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire account			8,299	<b>8,299</b>	7,078
Funds held by branches	<b>3</b>		8,783	<b>8,783</b>	8,067
Creditors	<b>4</b>	(507)	(8,621)	(2,611)	<b>(11,739)</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>23,392</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,821</b>	<b>57,213</b>
				<b>53,120</b>	



## Notes to the accounts

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### 1. MU Literature

Stock is bought at retail price from Mothers' Union Enterprises Ltd. £51 of dated or damaged stock was written off during 2019.

### 2. Away From It All Holiday Project

Fund balance at 31 December 2019 is £15,008.

### 3. Funds held by branches

At 31 December 2019 Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester had 10 deanery committees and 42 branches. The total assets held at 31 December 2019 by the 4 deaneries and 37 branches which submitted returns was £8,783.

### 4. Creditors at 31/12/19

	General	Central	Local	Total
	£	£	£	£
MSH subscriptions		455		455
Staff salary	268			268
Employer's NIC	16			16
LDBF salary administration	6			6
Postage	4			4
Website	8			8
Officials' expenses	183			183
MSH publications	22			22
Overseas Development Fund		2,972		2,972
Relief Fund		2,703		2,703
Britain & Ireland Development Fund		1,106		1,106
MSH Summer of Hope Appeal		271		271
MSH General Fund		1,114		1,114
Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire			2,611	2,611
	<b>507</b>	<b>8,621</b>	<b>2,611</b>	<b>11,739</b>

This is the financial position of Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester as at 31 December 2019.

The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis under section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

Prepared by Susan Wilson, Diocesan Treasurer

## **Independent Examiner's Report on the accounts**

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### **Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees and members of Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester on accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019, set out on pages 6 to 9 of this document**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 of the Charities Act),  
and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Robert P. Appleby, MA, FCA  
Rutland House  
23-25 Friar Lane  
Leicester  
LE1 5QQ

11<sup>th</sup> October 2020