



Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester

Registered Charity Number: 250038

Trustees' Annual Report & Consolidated Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2016

Legal and administrative information

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

Charity Number: 250038

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

Trustees:

Margaret Rouse	Diocesan President (Chair)
RoseMarie Manning	Life Vice-President and Vice-President/Coordinator for Action & Outreach
Diane Wightman	Vice-President/Coordinator for Faith & Policy
Linda Poole	Vice-President/Coordinator for Finance & Administration
Susan Wilson	Life Vice-President
Christine Shephard	Diocesan Members' Coordinator
Annette Hall	Deanery Members' Coordinator
Gwynneth Roy	General Purposes Unit Representative
Hazel Banks	Deanery Leaders' Representative
Pamela Harvey	Diocesan Chaplain

The Trustees are constituted as follows:

Diocesan President	elected by the Diocesan Council
Vice-President/Coordinator for Action & Outreach	elected by the Diocesan Council
Vice-President/Coordinator for Faith & Policy	elected by the Diocesan Council
Vice-President/Coordinator for Finance & Administration OR Diocesan Treasurer (if serving in an honorary capacity)	elected by the Diocesan Council appointed by the Trustees
Vice-President/Coordinator for Marketing	elected by the Diocesan Council
Up to two Life or Ex-officio Vice-Presidents	chosen by them
Training Officer	appointed by the Trustees
Diocesan Members' Coordinator	appointed by the Trustees
Deanery Members' Coordinator	appointed by the Trustees
Diocesan Chaplain (if appointed) may attend and vote	appointed by Diocesan President and Diocesan Bishop
One representative from General Purposes Unit	elected by its members
One Deanery Leader	elected by Deanery Leaders

Administrator: Julie Foulds

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 2016

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 and elected General Purposes Unit make major decisions and carry out or enable practical projects. The elected Chair of Trustees (President) attends Worldwide Council and reports back to the Diocese. One part-time administrator is employed for 9 hours a 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 over 1,100 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. All our events and projects welcome involvement from members and non-members alike. Involvement may include donating money, goods or volunteer time. 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 and a generous pack of groceries are provided for each family. We produce a simple cookery book for each family to help them make good use of the groceries provided. Members of the organising committee accompany the families to provide friendly support throughout the holiday. In 2016 our new Project Leader took 11 families, including an elderly lady and her friend, to Haven Golden Sands Holiday Park in Mablethorpe, a compact site which is preferable if our allocated caravans are spread throughout the site. Instead of donating groceries, members gave 50 pence each and the groceries were bought in Mablethorpe. Letters and words of appreciation were received from the families, who would not otherwise have had a summer holiday. "No one has offered me anything like this before." is just one example of the reaction we have received. Our application form and guidelines for the holiday were revised at the end of 2016.

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 400 chocolate bars for Christmas, clothing and equipment for babies and children, and household and toiletry items. We knit clothing and make patchwork quilts for premature babies in the local hospitals and teddies for children visiting the local prisons. Teddies are also given to Social Services and the police for use with traumatised children, to the elderly and to children in refuges. Social Services were given some of our teddies to

“comfort and motivate” primary school children; one mute child is reported to have started talking for the first time to a teddy! Each teddy is checked and CE marked and around 300 were knitted during the second six months of the year. We also knit shawls and clothes for stillborn babies and clothing for disadvantaged children and asylum seekers. Instead of revising our own knitting pattern booklet, we have encouraged members to buy copies of a new publication by Mothers' Union Diocese of Dublin & Glendalough; over 100 have done so. We make fiddle quilts for dementia patients when requested. We support the Women's Welcome Project for asylum seekers and refugees in Leicester, particularly through donating disposable nappies, toiletries and teddies. Our Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire fund enables us to respond quickly to a wide variety of requests from support workers for items such as household equipment, nappies and baby items. We started a new project in 2016 supplying emergency toilet bags to Leicester Royal Infirmary. These bags are deliberately uniform and contain just basic toiletries: facecloth, toothbrush, toothpaste and comb. Approximately 500 bags were donated by members in the first six months of the project and the Matron of the LRI wrote to say how much they have been appreciated by emergency patients. All our gifts are very much appreciated by those who receive them.

Our ministry in local prisons continues, although it is frequently challenging. Members supervise children in the visits centre in Leicester prison. In Glen Parva Prison some members have been involved in running a parenting course and others have donated tea, coffee, sugar and biscuits to the chaplaincy so that refreshments are always available.

Prayers were circulated to encourage members to pray and raise awareness in their churches during the 16 Days of Action against Gender Violence in November/December 2016. Our Diocesan President represents Mothers' Union on the Diocesan Panel for Social Responsibility and the Diocesan Synod.

We celebrated the 140th anniversary of Mothers' Union by holding an Open Day at Whetstone Pastures Farm in June 2016. We organised stalls, games, worship and a programme of musical entertainment, including our own choir, during the day. Although the weather was wet, the day was enjoyable and well-supported. Over £2,000 was raised for Mothers' Union projects. Our Diocesan President visited every branch during September/October encouraging and praying with members during her President's Prayer Pilgrimage. Her visits were very much appreciated by members everywhere. To assist with the organisation and travel arrangements a small group of members came together to form a Communications Group. In 2017 both Margaret and this group hope to build on the contacts made and deepened through the Pilgrimage.

A Quiet Day and a retreat were arranged during the year, as well as three prayer services in the Cathedral. An Advent Carol Service was held in the Cathedral in December 2016. We maintain prayer chains to support anyone in need and some deaneries hold regular prayer groups. We make every effort to maintain contact with members who are not able to meet with others regularly, because they are housebound, working, or no longer have a branch local to them. They receive greetings cards and letters during the year.

In 2015 all Mothers' Union link groups were changed and we are still finding it difficult to establish contact with our five new prayer partners in Kenya, Nigeria (2), Solomon Islands and Zambia. We continue to pray for them, 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.

We support the work of the central organisation by selling Mothers' Union cards and gifts through our office and at our meetings and events. We also encourage members to order direct from Mary Sumner House if they prefer as they can still earn commission for Leicester Diocese on these purchases. Some members responded to a discussion paper on school sex and relationships education during the summer to inform the central Mothers' Union official response. 15 members attended the Mothers' Union General Meeting in Winchester in September 2016 and some of those also attended one of two special services at Winchester Cathedral the previous day.

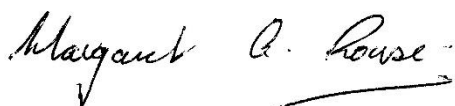
2016 was the first year of a new triennial period throughout Mothers' Union. Dioceses were asked to submit a plan of work for the triennial and training was provided for diocesan officeholders. One of our trustees, Linda Poole, now serves on the Finance & Central Services Unit Committee of the central charity and also on the Mothers' Union Enterprises Board.

Our assets at 31 December 2016 were £2,005 more than at the start of the year. A little less money was held in local funds but the General Fund had a surplus of £2,239. The Diocese of Leicester continues to generously provide office and meeting space for us at no cost. It is our practice to make a regular donation to the Diocese in lieu of rent. The Trustees have examined the current level of unrestricted reserves, £24,380, 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 Unit 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. At the end of 2016 the Diocesan Safeguarding Training Officer updated trustees on current requirements; training will be arranged for all who require it early in 2017.

Prepared by Susan Wilson, Diocesan Treasurer

The report was approved by the Trustees on 14 June 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret A. Rouse". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Margaret Rouse, Diocesan President and Chair of Trustees
On behalf of the Trustees

Consolidated Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016

	General Fund £	Central Funds £	Local Funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Income	29,773	10,505	11,393	51,671	47,059
Expenditure	29,675	10,505	8,074	48,254	52,829
Surplus/(Deficit)	98	-	3,319	3,417	(5,770)
Balances brought forward 1 January	22,141	-	23,388	45,529	51,299
Balances carried forward 31 December	22,239	-	26,707	48,946	45,529

	Notes	General Fund £	Central Funds £	Local Funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Income						
Subscriptions		17,355			17,355	17,855
Insurance		225			225	245
Diocesan General Fund		2,460			2,460	1,361
Gift Aid Income Tax recovered		2,052			2,052	1,925
Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme		213			213	451
MU Enterprises sales commission	1	487			487	454
Recycling		844			844	52
Investment income		87		22	109	133
Postage		3			3	1
Faith & Policy events		2,288			2,288	2,359
Training		303			303	-
Fiddle quilts		20			20	-
Diocesan events	2	37			37	1,137
Central/Provincial events					-	925
Mary Sumner House publications		3,399			3,399	3,625
Overseas Development Fund			3,910		3,910	3,810
MULFEP					-	233
MSH Wheels Appeal					-	274
Relief Fund			3,615		3,615	2,804
Britain & Ireland Development Fund			1,245		1,245	764
MSH Big Summer Appeal			132		132	-
MSH Harvest Appeal					-	120
MSH General Fund			1,603		1,603	859
Difference in MU Literature assets	1			-	-	3
Away From It All Holiday Project	2			8,494	8,494	6,148
Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire				2,154	2,154	1,521
Difference in Supporting Homeless in Leics funds				551	551	-
Difference in funds held by branches	3			172	172	-
Total income		29,773	10,505	11,393	51,671	47,059

Expenditure	Notes	General Fund £	Central Funds £	Local Funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
MSH subscriptions		12,869			12,869	13,395
Staff salary		4,287			4,287	4,243
Insurance		635			635	681
Stationery & equipment		33			33	40
Postage		230			230	220
Photocopying		10			10	-
Bank charges		15			15	-
Donation in lieu of rent		500			500	-
MUspaper		2,830			2,830	2,634
Officials' expenses		566			566	664
Training		1,784			1,784	65
Faith & Policy events		2,338			2,338	2,015
Diocesan events		83			83	1,715
Central/Provincial events					-	836
MSH publications		3,431			3,431	3,680
Gifts		44			44	47
Overseas Development Fund			3,910		3,910	3,810
MSH Wheels Appeal					-	274
MULFEP					-	233
Relief Fund			3,615		3,615	2,804
Britain & Ireland Development Fund			1,245		1,245	764
MSH Big Summer Appeal			132		132	
MSH Harvest Appeal					-	120
MSH General Fund			1,603		1,603	859
Difference in MU Literature assets	1			224	224	-
Away From It All Holiday Project	2			5,696	5,696	10,041
Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire				2,154	2,154	1,521
Difference in Supporting Homeless in Leics funds					-	1,561
Fiddle quilts		20			20	-
Difference in funds held by branches	3				-	607
Total expenditure		29,675	10,505	8,074	48,254	52,829

Away From It All Holiday Project:

	£	2015 £
Income:		
Balance at 1st January	5,805	9,671
Donations	6,375	6,028
Proceeds from 140th anniversary event	2,119	-
Deposits	-	120
Interest on CBF account	22	27
Total	14,321	15,846
Expenditure	5,696	10,041
Balance at 31 December	8,625	5,805

Expenditure breakdown:

Accommodation (including £660 deposit for 2017)	3,967	7,920
Coaches (including £240 deposit for 2017)	1,320	1,920
Food	400	77
Deposits	-	120
Expenses	9	4
Total	5,696	10,041

Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire account:

	£	2015 £
Income:		
Balance 1 January	5,066	6,627
Donations	2,154	1,521
Total	7,220	8,148
Expenditure	1,603	3,082
Balance 31 December	5,617	5,066

Current Assets:

	Notes	General Fund £	Central Funds £	Local Funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
CAF Bank Cash Account		4,446	10,505		14,951	11,071
CAF Bank Gold Account		3,431			3,431	3,426
CBF Deposit Account		14,362		5,374	19,736	19,736
Nat West MU Literature account				940	940	1,289
MU Literature cash in hand				101	101	64
MU Literature debtors				22	22	68
MU Literature stock	1			1,192	1,192	1,058
CBF Away From It All Holiday Project account				5,405	5,405	5,405
Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire account				5,617	5,617	5,066
Funds held by branches	3			10,210	10,210	10,038
Less creditors	4		10,505	2,154	12,659	11,692
Total Current Assets		22,239	-	26,707	48,946	45,529

Notes to the accounts

1. MU Literature

Stock is bought at retail price from Mothers' Union Enterprises Ltd. £46 of stock was written off during 2016.

2. Away From It All Holiday Project

£2,119 proceeds from 140th anniversary event were transferred to this fund. Fund balance at 31 December 2016 is £8,625.

3. Funds held by branches

At 31 December 2016 Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester had 12 deanery committees and 49 branches. The total assets held at 31 December 2016 by the 7 deaneries and 48 branches which submitted returns was £10,210.

4. Creditors at 31/12/16

	General	Central	Local	Total
Overseas Development Fund		3,910		3,910
Relief Fund		3,615		3,615
Britain & Ireland Development Fund		1,245		1,245
MSH Big Summer Appeal		132		132
MSH General Fund		1,603		1,603
Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire			2,154	2,154
	-	10,505	2,154	12,659

This is the financial position of Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester as at 31 December 2016.

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis under section 42(3) of the Charities Act 1993.

Prepared by Susan Wilson, Diocesan Treasurer

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 14 June 2017.



Margaret Rouse, Diocesan President and Chair of Trustees
On behalf of the Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees and members of Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester on accounts for the year ended 31st December 2016, set out on pages 7 to 10 of this document

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the seeking of 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 41 of the Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 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:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert P. Appleby', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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

10 July 2017