



*“Encouraging  
Families  
through Faith  
In Action”*

## MU Newsletter January 2026

Dear MU Members,

Here we are, halfway through February! I hope you were all able to enjoy a quiet January, and MU goes well for you this year.

More MU news since my last newsletter at the beginning of Jan is the announcement that the vacant Australian Council Exec Positions have been filled. Bethany Mills (Sydney) will be taking over the reins as Mia Mia Editor, and Karen Hayden (Melbourne), yes this is me! will coordinate Promotions and Communications role. We are currently attending a Strategic and Planning Workshop, to reaffirm our vision for MU in 2026, and this triennium to 2028. Look out in the next edition of Mia Mia for the Aust Exec bios introducing/reintroducing ourselves.

I apologise for the lateness of passing this on, Christine Jensen circulated 2026 prayers for Australian Council (for each day of the month) to be included in your prayers whether as a branch, or individually. I have included them in this print out for you, so it is a bit longer this month. As always, Christine also included these words:

*“Prayer is a precious gift, isn’t it? We can bring all our requests to our Heavenly Father and he hears them. I love the Wave of Prayer as it widens our vision to pray for our Mothers Union members across the world. To think that there are 4 million members praying for us here in each of our dioceses is humbling.”*

MU Calendar Dates MU Melbourne, and Executive office bearer list should be available through your branches. Please contact your contact person, or me for information on dates.

Australian MU President, Robin Ray has sent her newsletter for January 2026 which you can view [<<here>>](#). She has asked for your prayers as Aust Exec meet, which will still be gratefully received.

Mary Sumner House (MSH) has sent a 150 year prayer book lighting the way thank you. As you can imagine from worldwide input, not all prayers could be used, however they say to be reassured that the prayers not selected for publication will still be thoughtfully used and shared through the online platforms and other services, with proper acknowledgement wherever appropriate. The book can be purchased but, unfortunately, not available for postage to Australia (I tried).

We received correspondence from Mary, our Karen Nursery Schools (KAMB) contact. They send thanks for the funds recently received, and are ever thankful for our financial support, and in Mary’s words “the way you value us”.

*time for every matter under heaven” Ecclesiastes 3:1.* There is a printed copy available at Holy Trinity.

**A Reminder that Fees/Subscriptions \$45.00 are due now. For Treasurers;** funds can be paid by Cheque, made out to Mothers Union Diocese of Melbourne and posted, along with corresponding forms to:

PO BOX 7097

Wattle Park Vic 3128

or

Direct Credited to our Diocese ADF Account:

Bank Name – Indue Ltd

Account Name – Mothers Union

BSB – 703 122

Account Number – 05000420

***These account details are correct, and that the message generated may be safely overridden, as advised by Diocesan ADF Account Manager***

If Direct Crediting, reference your ***name, 2026 subs, and branch*** if possible (we know space can be limited) **so funds can be identified. PLEASE** send us an email including the forms, or to advise forms have been sent separately, so we can update our records:

**[office@mumelbourne.org.au](mailto:office@mumelbourne.org.au)** Individuals can direct credit fees, same procedure.

**Contact me if you are unsure.**

#### **Dates of MU Happenings around Melbourne:**

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March World Day of Prayer 10.30am** The Topic is Nigeria “I will give you rest:.”  
St Davids Uniting Church 128 Parkers Road Parkdale

Lady Day Celebrations are being finalised and will be advised as soon as possible this month (Feb).

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30am** St Paul’s Ringwood (Mullum Mullum) Lady Day Service 40  
Warrandyte Road Ringwood 3134

Please let me know if you have an even coming up. Placing it in the newsletter is not just notifying those who might like to attend, but lets us all know what’s happening around the MU Melbourne Diocese.

*Should you need more information, have any questions, please contact the Leader/President or the Secretary/Contact Person in your Branch or call me directly.*

*Love and Peace,*

*Karen*

## **AMUA PRAYER DIARY 2026**

Gracious Lord, as we look back over the 150 years of Mothers Union we give great thanks for Mary Sumner's vision and the wonderful ministry of Mothers Union throughout the world. We pray for Mothers Union in Australia and in each of our dioceses that we will continue to promote Christ's teaching on marriage and family life and so be a blessing to our nation.

Please give us wisdom and insight as we look to the future. May your name be hallowed and your kingdom come. Amen

**Day 1** Australian Executive: Robin Ray - President  
Elizabeth Parker - Vice President, Parenting  
Wendy Mabey - Vice President Domestic Violence  
Sue Milwright - Secretary  
Ailsa Gill - Treasurer Diane Thomson - Overseas and Northern Outreach  
Kristi Day - Social Issues and Action Bethany Mills - Mia Mia  
Christine Jensen - Prayer and Spirituality  
Kären Hayden - Promotion and Communication  
Lindy Driver - Publication

**Day 2** Adelaide: Rev. Gethzi Devasagyam and all members

**Day 3** Armidale: All members

**Day 4** Ballarat: Felicity Lowery and members

**Day 5** Bathurst: Lorraine Clarkson and members

**Day 6** Bendigo: All members 2

**Day 7** Brisbane: Jenny Bullock and members

**Day 8** Bunbury: Isobelle Shorteed and members

**Day 9** Canberra Goulburn: Monica Short and members

**Day 10** Gippsland: Lindy Driver and members

**Day 11** Grafton: Gae Shorten and members

**Day 12** Melbourne: Kären Hayden and members

**Day 13** Newcastle: Elizabeth Bissaker and members

**Day 14** Northern Territory: Pam Powell and members

**Day 15** North Queensland: Kristi Day and members

**Day 16** North West Australia: Jenny Jamieson and members

**Day 17** Perth: Jan Rose and members

**Day 18** Riverina: Rev. Sue-Ellen Childers and members

**Day 19** Rockhampton: Sue Witten and members

**Day 20** Sydney: Luanne Mills and members

**Day 21** Tasmania: Jenny Archer and members

**Day 22** The Murray: Caroline Earl and members 3

**Day 23** Wangaratta: Rev. Maryann Leonard and members

**Day 24** Willochra: Roz Rowett and members

**Day 25** The MU Chaplains for each Diocese

**Day 26** Life Vice Presidents: Elizabeth Appleby Deane Bray Jan Livingstone

**Day 27** Worldwide President: Kathleen Snow

**Day 28** Zone C Trustee: Pamela Abana

**Day 29** Mary Sumner House staff: Bev Julien - CEO Jeanette Lawrence - Zone C

**Day 30** Overseas Target Fund Project: Literacy Program in the Solomon Islands