

Dates for your Diary 2026

June	20	150 years Celebration St Davids Applecross 10.30am followed by lunch
July	18	Standing Together St Basils Murdoch 10.30am
	30	Council meeting St Matthews Guildford 10am
August	9	Mary Sumner Day in Branches

MU Supplies

For all MU Supplies; stationary, cards, t towels and other supplies.
Please contact Karen Severin Publications Convener
contact details in Report Book

Karen is also happy to attend Branches and Diocesan events whenever possible.

Please send your articles and pictures to Denise Elvish
contact details in Report Book

Deadline for next issue 20 October 2026

15.3.26

Mothering Sunday
Mothers hope to be
Appointed to the task
Learnt from mother of me.

Handed down from generations
Questions not of thee
Nor ancient revelations
Of time-worn humanity

Mothers fill the void
That comes with sanity
They choose right from wrong
To engulf the misery

Erica Gliddon



Grapevine

Theme for 2026

'Look up—with Faith in your future'

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July 2026

News from the President

Many of us can recall in our lives when we have been given a challenge. In prayer with God if we look to the "Fruits of the Spirit" we can cope with any challenge.

*The Fruit of the Spirit is Love, joy, peace,
Patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness gentleness
Self-control; against such things there is no law.
Galatians 5:22-23*

The Australian MU theme for the next three years is: *"Encouraging Families through Faith in Action"* I wonder if you have been challenged in your Branch perhaps to invite a friend to the next MU event. They may become a member. Are you working closely with your minister to integrate MU work into the Parish it may be through collecting for a refuge. Are you visible in your Parish or invisible? There is much work to be achieved in our Parishes and communities. Are you up to the Challenge?

Love and Prayers

Jan

Midland MU

We were saddened to have to close Midland Mothers Union on the 24th June. This branch has been in existence as the longest serving branch in the Diocese.

Guildford members joined two of the Midland Branch members Christine Brackley and Anne Rowe the other two ladies due to health issues were unable to join us. Three members from Executive Committee and Midland Parish members made up our small congregation. Rev. Stuart Fenner led the Communion Service in the Church of the Accession and included the MU Closure from the MU Book of Prayer and Worship. Cont p10



Social Issues and Action

Dear MU Friends,

How wonderful it was to catch up with so many of you at our 150th celebrations at St David's, Applecross, recently. Such a joyous day! And what insightful speakers! In this article I wanted to focus on a few different areas, which are all related to Social Issues & Action.

Firstly, I wanted to remind you about the amazing work being carried out at Holy Grounds café, which is tucked in behind our cathedral on the ground floor of the diocesan offices. The programs that are operating from the café focus on the lonely in the community. Recently, our Diocesan Secretary, Lois Mc Grath circulated by email a coloured brochure outlining the various programs and I handed some out at our 150th celebrations. However, the best thing to do when you are next in the city, is to call in between 8am – 2pm for a coffee and a chat with Chrissy and see the place in action. Remember Chrissy is also willing to come and talk at a branch meeting and can be contacted via email: holygrounds.org.au So please tell your friends about Holy Grounds and make it your meeting place when in the city.

Remember too, that Homelessness Week runs from August 4th - 10th and during this week, not only is the issue of homelessness highlighted, but it aims to mobilize support and to shed light on the complexities of homelessness. I know that many of you are doing great work in supporting Anglicare, Parkerville and other agencies, but don't forget that Anglicare in Rockingham would greatly appreciate any of the following items: Soap, body wash, shampoo and conditioner, toothpaste & toothbrushes, socks and beanies. All donated items must be brand new.

This year the Annual Anglicare Sleep out will take place at the WACA on Friday 14th August. Together with some members from Carine/Duncraig Branch I am assisting with the registration and ushering of the participants between 4:30- 9:00pm. Would you like to join us?

And finally you may have heard of Dress for Success WA, which over the last decade has transformed the lives of thousands of West Australian women, through the support of professional clothing and career tools and a strong network of support to enable them to reach employment. Many of the women seeking help face significant barriers to employment, including family & domestic violence, housing insecurity, disability, mental health challenges, caring responsibilities, being migrants or First Nations women and time in the justice system. Expert delivered workshops and one-to-one support sessions provide the women with advice from volunteer Human Resources and Recruitment professionals, to help them identify their skills, create competitive resumes and job applications, develop interview skills, with a six month mentoring program. The West Perth 'boutique' is stocked with pre-loved clothing donated by the community and they don't receive any recurrent government funding.

Love and prayers,
Helen Krynen

Prayers are asked for.....

all those caring for a loved one who is ill, and for those who are sick, or lonely that they be comforted. We send our love and prayers to all those mourning the death of a loved one.



Lord God, you are my strength.
Hold my hand in my weakness and teach my heart to fly.
With you there's nothing to fear, nothing to worry about.
Hold me tight in your embrace so that I can be stronger than
the challenges in my life. Amen

VALE

JENNIFER ANNE CUFF

Jennifer's life was devoted to the LORD. She loved her family and supported others in friendship. Rev. Ross Kilpatrick led the service with Rev'd John Simpson the prayers on the 11th June at the Fremantle Cemetery.

Born on the 2nd April 1936 in Muswellbrook NSW. Both she and her brother had many household moves as her family worked in and owned a variety of retail businesses. This meant the changing of many schools. Throughout these moves she did complete her year 12 exam. After school Jenny moved to Sydney where she trained as a nurse although this was not agreeable when she became allergic to some of the surgical items.

Jenny turned to a love for Christianity when Billy Graham came to Sydney on the crusade. She later became involved with new ministries taking off in Sydney. It was through her work in the ministries that she met Charlie; they married and worked together as missionaries in the northern Territory later living in Darwin and Katherine. Friends always knew if they confided in Jenny their story would not be told elsewhere. She and Charlie had 4 children.

On the move to Perth Jenny worked in social security Mandurah. She eventually retired after the continuous travel became a burden. Jenny so loved domestic animals and had a variety of Chickens Cats and dogs during her lifetime.

In her retirement she grew orchids and became quite competitive with them. Both Patience and Solitaire was popular. She involved herself in community work, working for CMS, BCA and MU.

Jenny's love for her family was always important. Celebrations and memories were remembered as family and friends gathered to remember her well lived life. Jenny was 90 years old.

St. Andrew's MU Branch member Jan Rose

The first reading was taken from the Old Testament Isaiah 7:10-14 and the second reading from the New Testament Hebrews 10:4-10 both readings were read by members of MU. The Gospel read by Rev'd Frida Lemi was taken from the New testament Luke 1:26-38. The prayers were written and led by the Rev'd Rob Healy which preceded the Mothers Union prayer.

Bishop Kate Wilmot gave the address and spoke about Mary mother of Jesus, prompting us to think about Mary's life as a mother from the time of the birth of Jesus to his crucifixion. What of her feelings, what of her support and her great love for her son. This was likened to the Christian prayer and life service of our Mothers Union mothers. A lovely luncheon was served giving members an opportunity to have fellowship. Thank you to the Executive Committee for their help in contributing towards this day



Warnbro Branch

At St. Brendan's by the Sea, (in the diocese of Perth,) we have just celebrated the most joyous Easter Day ever! Following a deeply holy observance of Holy Week, it began with the Maundy Thursday Eucharist with a foot washing, followed by a moving Good Friday service, and then the 'Flowering of the Cross' on Holy Saturday. An ancient tradition but new to us. In just 30 minutes a bare wooden cross was transformed with greenery and flowers from our gardens, and then we danced! yes, we danced around the church singing 'Lord of the Dance'. There was a real sense of awe and wonder, as we gazed upon the Cross that burst in beauty and colour. That evening, after dark, the 'First Fire' of the Easter Vigil was lit and everyone received a candle which they lit from the Paschal Candle. The Easter Proclamation was sung by the priest before we all renewed our baptismal vows. Easter morning saw a packed church, with wonderful music led by our own newly formed Sacred Sounds ensemble, and the baptism of two small children.

From p5.....Members shared honestly — envy, anxiety, restlessness, disappointment, frustration, and a constant wanting of more. The Bible calls this covetousness. While it may not sound serious at first, it lies at the root of many other commandments: do not steal, do not commit adultery, do not murder, and so on. All our offences flow from discontent — from failing to see the extraordinary gifts of God, even when those gifts are imperfect in a fallen world. God's grace is sufficient.

Tony encouraged us to view life, breath, and family itself as gifts from God.

We should resist the constant pull of consumerism and the comparison trap fed by social media and screen images. Instead of unrealistic expectations of our spouses or children (which so easily breed resentment), we are called to cultivate contentment like the Apostle Paul, who wrote: ***"I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content"*** (Philippians 4:11).

We went home challenged to live lives that reflect gratitude for all that our gracious God has given us.

"Lord, teach us the secret of contentment in our families and in our daily lives. Fill our hearts with gratitude for what you have given us, and help us to trust in your grace in every season. Amen".

Lesmurdie MU

A wonderful afternoon was experienced by church members of St. Swithun on Tuesday 14th April. MU members organized an afternoon tea of thanksgiving for the help of the many donations for various organizations given in service.

At a short meeting prior to the afternoon tea told of a successful Mothering Sunday Service. A trip was taken to St. Georges Cathedral and Holy Grounds which they found quite busy. Nancy Rhodes has taken in quilts to Ronald McDonald house for children suffering from cancer and after to day more to come. A table full of knitted beanies, by a lady were already to be sent overseas to Africa. Their project this year is called "Little Things" being goods for babies that are associated with the Dandelion organization. A person from this organization will speak at their Soup and Sandwich day on the 4th August. The ladies went on to tell stories of the homeless some of which are in the East Perth area they had visited.



Dalkeith Branch 14th May 2026 Meeting by Jane Shepherd

Reverend Peter Smith began our gathering with a beautiful Holy Communion service in the church. We then moved to the Church Hall for morning tea, warm fellowship, and a special celebration of **Beris Carter's 90th birthday**. We were delighted to welcome new visitors Judith Parnell, Rosemary Clay, Elizabeth Pratten, and

150 years Celebrations

Thank you to all our members who took part in the 150years celebrations. On **Saturday 20th June** in the cloudy and cold weather **130 members** were unstoppable as they arrived by **10.30am at St. David's Church Applecross**. Many branches brought their banners and these were displayed around the Church. The Eucharist was led by **Bishop Kate Willmot assisted by Father Des Smit MU chaplain and Rev. Frida Lemi**. Our organist Jenny was most grateful to be asked to play for this occasion as her mother was a MU member. At the commencement of the service the **Sudanese members** from Malaga MU/Balcatta/Hamersley MU and Joondalup sang the opening hymn. Diocesan President Jan Rose led the procession with the Perth Diocesan Banner after which she welcomed all members and thanked the clergy, organist, Parish members and Applecross MU for their help in setting up for this day. **Bishop Kate** gave the homily speaking about her memories of MU in her early days of ministry. She went on to say how MU is welcomed in countries around the world and quoted from the book of Acts engaging members with Paul the Apostle, letters on discipleship. Prayers were led by **Rev. Rob Healy**. At the end of the service the MU prayer was said and this was led by Former Diocesan President **Kaye Healy**. A **retiring collection** was taken up for Northern Outreach and Overseas.

Members on leaving the Church moved to the Hall for a finger luncheon. **Grace** was said by Kaye Healy. During the lunch a **Celebration Cake** was cut by Bassendean MU member Merle Andrews.

At 12.45pm member **Judith Nichols** was asked to speak on our founder Mary Sumner. She told how MU first started in 1876 and why Mary Sumner thought there was a need to help families.

Rev. Frida Lemi spoke about how MU was known in Southern Sudan and how it became an important part of their upbringing. Various projects by MU have helped many members over the years. Frida's commitment to MU continued when she came to Australia.

Kaye Healy took us back down memory lane with dates, commencement of branches, overseas visitors and various state events.

Our Guest Speaker from **Parkerville Children and Youth Care Kim Brooklyn** told our members a little bit about herself before she told of the various projects that Parkerville have set up particularly Ruby's. Later she told a story of a family which revolved around a son, step father, mother, and father. The son was having trouble dealing with the family situation. She said it was important to keep a family together and Parkerville managed this in small visits to begin with and gradually working up to weekly stays. This relationship has been repaired and the son has now gained work.

The afternoon ended at 2.05pm with the Grace

My thanks to the work of Helen McDonagh MU member Applecross MU who put together a team of MU and Parish workers. The team work and arrangements were a credit to them all.

Jan Rose Diocesan President

One of the godmothers is an MU member and the children were each presented with a book from MU. And then the finale! Late in the afternoon we gathered on Warnbro Beach to witness another baptism. This time it was a young man who had specially requested total immersion in the ocean, a first for our Rector as well. The sea breeze was strong and we watched the incoming tide slowly edge ever closer to the 'altar' set up on the sand. We said Evening Prayer and sang a hymn, and finally priest and candidate waded knee deep into the waves where he was immersed three times and baptised.

'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit' Amen. Alleluia!
Christ is risen. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
Felicity Williams



Dalkeith Branch 9 April 2026 Meeting by Jane Shepherd

On Thursday 9 April 2026, members gathered in the Church Hall for our monthly Mothers' Union meeting. Judith Nichols led our morning worship and reminded us of the **Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer**, a special three-day period of united prayer that takes place at this time each year.

We were delighted to welcome our **MU Diocesan President**, Jan Rose. After enjoying morning tea and warm fellowship, Jan spoke about her joy in visiting branches throughout the year to share news and learn what each group is doing. She gave a brief overview of **Holy Grounds**, the welcoming coffee shop and outreach centre at Church House in Cathedral Square, Perth, and suggested that a group visit there would make a lovely activity for us in the future.

Jan also brought warm news of the Zimbabwe MU group who attended the recent Lady Day celebrations in Adelaide. Their visit has been a great encouragement, especially to our Sudanese members, as well as to the whole branch.

Business was kept brief so we could make the most of the next session: another inspiring video from the Sydney Mothers' Union Seminar, held under the theme "**The Joy of Enough**".

The first speaker, Amy Townsend, spoke on "Contentment in God Alone". This was followed by Rev Dr Tony Payne's talk on "**Contentment in our Families**". He began by examining the opposite of contentment — **envy**. As Christian parents and grandparents, we can feel deep sorrow when family members do not meet our hopes, and we may find ourselves envying those whose children are growing in faith, doing well at school or sport, or whose lives appear more successful or comfortable. Families can bring great joy, but also grief and disappointment. True contentment, Tony reminded us, is a quiet satisfaction with what God has given us right now. At this point we paused for discussion: "What feelings do you experience when you're not content?"

PERTH MOTHERS' UNION CELEBRATES 150 YEARS



Members gathered for the Thanksgiving service at St David's Church Applecross on 20th June 2026.



Members from the Sudanese MU Malaga/Balcatta/Hamersley/Joondalup sang the opening Hymn



Bishop Kate Willmot presided assisted by Father Des Smit MU Chaplain and Rev. Frida Lemi



Members enjoying the luncheon St. David's Hall ~



Bassendean MU member Merle Andrew's cutting the cake



Dalkeith MU member Judith h Nichols



Parkerville Children and Youth Care CEO Kym Brooklyn



Rev. Frida Lemi -Sudanese Liaison



Former Perth MU Diocesan President Kaye Healy



and Rose. After a short business meeting, we had the privilege of hearing Reverend Peter Smith speak on **Intergenerational Church**. Drawing on research into declining church attendance in Australia, Peter highlighted the crisis facing the Gospel's growth, particularly among younger generations.

Intergenerational Ministry is the intentional and regular building of meaningful relationships across all age groups, rather than separating people into age-specific programs. The Bible strongly encourages this (Titus 2:1-2, Psalm 78:4), reminding us that passing on the faith is the shared responsibility of the whole church family — not just Sunday School teachers or youth workers.

All generations are precious and vital members of the Body of Christ. Children and young people need the wisdom, love, and example of older members to grow as faithful disciples. Likewise, older members are encouraged, refreshed, and inspired by the energy and faith of children and youth. While there is value in some age-specific gatherings, intergenerational ministry intentionally brings us together — teaching us that church is about **“We”**, not **“Me”**.

A Prayer for Intergenerational Unity

Gracious God, Thank you for calling us into your family, where every generation has a place and a purpose.

Help us to build genuine relationships across all ages, so that young and old may learn from one another and grow together in faith.

Give us hearts to pass on the Gospel with joy and humility, as we share our stories, our wisdom, and our love.

May your Holy Spirit unite us so deeply that our life together displays the reconciling power of Christ's cross — drawing us closer to you and to one another. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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From front page

Rev. Stuart spoke about John the Baptist, from the book of Luke and said how John was a disciple of the LORD as are Mothers' Union members. (to day was the celebration of John's birth). The Mothers' Union Banner was displayed in the Sanctuary. At the end of the service a lovely and welcoming morning tea was served in a friendly atmosphere in the hall opposite the church.

**NB:** MU may commence again. It was suggested to leave it until next year and there will be conversations again. Please pray that this will happen. Two members will become Lones.

Photo: Christine Brackley and  
Jeanet Alsworth



#### An Update on Holy Grounds Café – tucked behind St George's Cathedral

Dear MU Friends, Did you know that Holy Grounds is more than a café? It's a place built by the community, where connection, creativity and great coffee come together to combat social isolation.

This afternoon I met Chrissy, who is the manager at Holy Grounds café, located in the foyer of Church House in Pier Street. Each cup of coffee purchased helps towards the various programs that operate out of Holy Grounds. Recently our Diocesan Secretary, Lois McGrath, emailed a coloured brochure highlighting the many programs offered by Holy Grounds, with a focus on the lonely in our community. It is well worth reading and I will have some copies available at our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on 20<sup>th</sup> June at Applecross.

Currently there are plenty of volunteers assisting this work, but there are ways we as members of Mothers' Union can help, especially in encouraging one another to visit and enjoy a coffee.

\*Organise a branch meeting at Holy Grounds and Chrissy is happy to do a presentation while you are there sharing the work they do. Or combine it with a guided tour of the cathedral.

\*Every Thursday from 11am – 1pm drop in for crafting and knitting, with beginners welcome. Or maybe you would like to contribute by crocheting or knitting flowers, which will be used for an art installation to help bring awareness to poverty in WA by 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2026 - email for more information:

[connect@noplacforpoverty.org.au](mailto:connect@noplacforpoverty.org.au)

\* Tell your friends about Holy Grounds and make it your meeting place when in the city, rather than another café.

\* Chrissy is willing to come out and talk at your branch meeting, so invite a nearby branch or two and get together to hear about this important work happening in our city.

Holy Grounds is open from 8am – 2pm Weekdays

Website: [holygrounds.org.au](http://holygrounds.org.au) Email: [holygrounds@perthcathedral.org](mailto:holygrounds@perthcathedral.org)

Call Chrissy for a chat  
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AROUND THE DIOCESE

Lady Day Service

Our Lady Day service held on the 25th March was this year celebrated at the Church of the Resurrection Swanbourne. Close to 40 members attended. This church is quite spacious and has good facilities. The MU Perth Diocese Banner stood next to the Swanbourne MU Banner in remembrance of the prayer and service of Mothers' Union members.

The Eucharist was led by Bishop Kate Wilmot and assisted by Rev'd Frida Lemi. The opening hymn was God is Love, let heav'n adore him. Other hymns during the service were: Be still, for the presence of the Lord, I, the Lord of sea and sky and Lord, the light of your love is shining. These hymns were played by Ruth Styles from the Mt. Pleasant MU. A welcome was given to the congregation present along with thanks to Rev'd. Jacob Legarda and the Swanbourne Parish.