



## **Worldwide Information**

March 2020

Hello members in Connor Diocese,

I don't think I need to introduce myself to you as I met many members during my six years as Diocesan President. Now, as so often happens in Mothers' Union, I find myself recycled as Diocesan Worldwide contact, taking over from Noreen Hurst. I would wish to express my thanks to Noreen for her work in this role. As you are aware Noreen visited MU members in Zambia last summer and has brought back very interesting information and photos from that visit.

I am delighted to have been offered the post of Worldwide contact. Over the years I have had the pleasure of meeting members from other countries and I am very keen to promote the work of Mothers' Union Worldwide to members in the Diocese.

I cannot do this on my own, I have tried to find branch Worldwide contacts, but so far I have only discovered two. Perhaps there are more.

However, in the present situation, when branches are closed, I would like to think of every member as a Worldwide contact and I am going to provide you with all the information you need to acquaint yourself with our work Worldwide.

Of course Mothers' Union is a charity which relies on our donations to carry out this work. Members in Britain and Ireland, 2% of the total membership, have provided 80% of the funding. In Connor Diocese much of our donations come from Diocesan, Area and Branch events, such as services and other events. Members also make individual donations, by collecting money in their boxes or individual donations. I would like to thank the many, many members who have supported this work so generously over many years.

Do you know your branch donation to the Worldwide fund last year? How much did it average for each member and how many members have the boxes or make an individual donation?

Now that everything is closing because of the Corona Virus I believe that donations to Worldwide will be greatly reduced this year, although the programmes, etc which it supports, will still require funding.

### **Discovering Mothers' Union Worldwide.**

Most members will have access to the information I have.

All members should have a copy of Families Worldwide.

Please read the letter from our Worldwide President Sheran Harper.

Please read the information about the Worldwide Trustees, now Zonal Trustees. Note that there are 6 Zonal Trustees Worldwide and 5 from Britain and Ireland, at present.

Mary Sumner House is endeavouring to give members worldwide more influence in the governance of MU.

Discover who each Zonal Trustee is, the countries included in each Zone, the membership in each country and the projects.

Our greatest resource for discovering information on any aspect of Mothers' Union, and especially our work is the website - [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org). Please open that site, it is very easy to navigate. The opening page at present is Mothers' Union response to COVID-19.

Click on **Find Out More** and discover "**Resources to Support us in Challenging Times**". These include Craft and Community, Home Activity, Staying Connected, faith and Fellowship. Some excellent ideas here. Click on "**What We Do**" Click on "**Where We Work**"

Scroll down the page and all the countries where there is Mothers' Union are shown. Click on any country and all the information about it will appear.

Go back to "**What We Do**" Click on Projects, then Programmes, then Relief. There is excellent information on each of these pages. Discover everything about the work of Mothers' Union Worldwide and how our donations to the Worldwide Fund and Relief Fund supports that work.

Many videos on Mothers' Union can be viewed on **YOUTUBE MOTHERS' UNION**. Click on videos on menu at the top of the page. Search for **Corona Virus-Worldwide President Sheran Harper encourages members**. It is a very moving video.

So, members, if you receive this email, you should be able to access all this information. Please do, and please remember MU is a charity and relies on us for support. Please continue to fill your Worldwide boxes and if you don't have one please consider using a jar for your donations.

All our members worldwide are facing the challenge of the Corona Virus, many do not have access to the same medical care that we have. Let us remember everyone in our prayers. Special prayers will be found on the website and on Connormothersunion.org Facebook. Take care of yourselves and I look forward to meeting you in the future.

I hope to email you more information in the future, but meanwhile, if you need any more information, please contact me. My email address is - [valerie.ash123@btinternet.com](mailto:valerie.ash123@btinternet.com)

May God Bless us all until we meet again,

**Valerie M. Ash - Diocesan Worldwide Contact**