

Dear Fellow Members

Covid-19 update - SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020

Letter number 7!

We continue with prayers and I trust you are keeping well still.

Once again, don't forget these little letters (well not so little!) are for ALL members so don't forget to share the content.

I have delayed sending this letter until after we had a Trustee meeting so that any decisions could be incorporated.

We have had our second Zoom Trustee meeting. It's nice to see some faces again!

I hope you were pleased with the Roundabout. A larger edition as we didn't have one in the Summer. It is lovely to read what you, as branches have managed to achieve during this time of restrictions. Do keep sending in your stories to Ruth. A shared story can inspire another branch. Maybe you have some inventive fundraising ideas. Virtual coffee morning/afternoon tea/cheese and wine evening. Share it with us. The closing date for copy is 23<sup>rd</sup> October so don't delay!

Our Council & AGM meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10am will be by Zoom and I will send you the link a day or so beforehand. Do make every effort to attend and I'll make every effort to get the link correct – I'm still learning! Normally at Council we have a speaker but as we have to incorporate a postponed AGM this will not happen. I will try to find someone with a little light hearted piece to make us smile.

Our Forum Meeting (December 6<sup>th</sup>) which is for Deanery Leaders and Trustees and other office holders will, I hope, be a real meeting at Hucclecote as we can all be suitably distanced. The next Roundabout will be ready for collection at that meeting so Deanery Leaders come ready to collect yours!

The other 'Live' meeting will be prayers in the Lady Chapel at the Cathedral on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November at midday. This is to remember the 16 days of Activism particularly. Again I encourage all who can to attend. There is plenty of space in the Lady Chapel. We have invited our Bishop, Rachel, to attend. It will be for just 15 minutes as there is a special Eucharist at 12.30 and the vergers will need to set up for this.

Orders can continue to be sent to Doreen or to the office. Christmas cards are in. All branches have been sent catalogues so that you can see what is available. Please encourage members to order from them. It all helps with funds as we get a small percentage for all that we sell.

A reminder that subscriptions need to be gathered in. The details were in my last letter.

Families Worldwide will be sent to us individually so it is essential that our database is kept up to date. If you have any changes in your branch please send details to the office and also to Peter Cottey. If you have not got Peter's address then tell us at the office when you send to us and we will forward the details for you.

Registered Charity Number 249912

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**Office open Tuesday and Friday 10am-3pm (term time only)**

When we send out the Report Forms at Forum there will be a listing for each branch as well to check and update.

Alma, on behalf of Eastwood Park Prison, was delighted with the wool we recently sent so do continue to send your donations to the office. Margaret has also delivered a huge bag of baby blankets so again, keep knitting. Dorothy says the hospital is also very pleased with the bags for personal items that she delivers regularly. You will find various patterns for these items on our website.

I've not heard anything about a retreat at Holland House, Crothorne, in November but keep the dates free in case we can go ahead.

We are busy planning for next year. We appreciate that we don't know what will be the rules then but we plan in faith. We are resuming our Midday Prayers at the Cathedral and have allocated Deaneries to each month. The last Friday of the month. This still has to be confirmed but the following is proposed.

January 25 <sup>th</sup>	Stroud
February 26 <sup>th</sup>	Gloucester City
March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Severn Vale
April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Wotton
May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Cheltenham
June 25 <sup>th</sup>	Trustees
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	Tewkesbury & Winchcombe
August	No Prayers
September 24 <sup>th</sup>	Cirencester with Fairford
October 29 <sup>th</sup>	North Cotswolds

Once dates have been confirmed we will send a 'Diary Dates' to you all

We also hope to have the office open on Tuesdays and Fridays from January but it may be on reduced hours. We will keep you informed!

Do keep looking at the Mothers' Union Central Website for information and links. They are working so hard on a much reduced workforce to keep everyone informed and enthused. At the very least do try to hold a monthly prayer meeting in your local church (my branch started to do this and already we have 4 people who have never joined with MU things before so we have great hopes of increasing our membership!).

Keep in touch with your members, keep praying and keep the enthusiasm going.

I will finish with the quote I put on my very first letter to you  
*Philippians 4:6-7 – 'Do not be anxious about anything but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the Peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.'*

With love and blessings from your Trustees  
Kay

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