

## **MOTHERS' UNION ALL SAINTS' HERTFORD Report 2023**

2022 was a difficult year for the Mothers Union, disrupted by illness of individuals rather than the pandemic, together with less members able to assist running meetings.

We did manage a 'Pot Luck Supper in January to start the year, and the February meeting was on Zoom talking about Family History. In March we had an excellent Lent Reflection with Rev Bill Church, and the next three talks were all excellent – 'The Bible: From Manuscript to Digital' *Ann-Marie Parker* gave an illustrated talk on the fascinating subject of the history of ink, pen, paper & printing.

'The 4<sup>th</sup> Plinth in Trafalgar Square' *Lindsay Davies* gave an enjoyable illustrated talk about the time she put together something for this ever-changing space in London Her description of changing into and out of her wedding dress on top of the plinth had everyone very amused!.

*Mollie Day* spoke about her brother on D Day, landing on the Normandy Beaches and his heroic actions that followed, and the subsequent reunions that he and Mollie have attended.

From June onwards the plans all went pear shaped – the outing to the Gotha garden was cancelled as I had covid. The Wave of Prayer was very difficult as it was a Wednesday and a change of time clashed with Soundbites. The meal at Pearces' Farm Shop never materialised for various reasons and sadly our speaker for September was unwell and unable to come. In November we met in our house when Rosemary Bolton spoke about her year in office as Mayor of Hertford.

Some MU Cribs went out at Christmas to a couple of new children which is good.

The accounts remain healthy and the money we raised with the 'Count your Blessings Lent Calendar' which together with another small donation was sent to the MU Diocesan Project Fund, leaving a balance of just under £200 after subs for 2022 were paid.

Our Membership remained stable over the year although we are getting older and some less able to attend meetings now.

Dorothy managed to attend a couple of the Cluster Meetings in Hoddesdon, and Janet Bird has been elected as a Trustee of the MU in St Albans, having offered to be an observer at a meeting! Janet was able to attend a couple of the sharing days, but we do not feel that we were able to participate as we should be doing. Dorothy stood down as leader at the end of 2022 and this will raise questions as to the viability of the group as no-one is willing to take it on. Ann remains Treasurer, but we have no programme for 2022 and the group is likely to close.

Dorothy Toyn  
MU Leader 2022

