MOTHERS' UNION
Winchester Diocese

Charity No. 250063

Accounts and Annual Report for the period
1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

MOTHERS' UNION – WINCHESTER DIOCESE
ACCOUNTS AND ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1 JANUARY 2025 TO 31 DECEMBER 2025

INDEX

SECTION		PAGE
1	Annual Report of the Trustees	1-3
2	Independent Examiner's Report	4
3	Statement of Financial Activities	5
4	Balance Sheet	6
5	Notes to the Accounts	7-11

Mothers' Union Winchester Diocese

Trustees Report for 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

Mothers' Union Winchester Diocese is a registered charity, no. 250063. It is managed by a board of Trustees who are elected by the members of the charity for a period of 3 years. Elections were held during 2024 for the new board of Trustees to hold office from 2025 to 2027. Caroline Scull moved back into Winchester Diocese from Portsmouth Diocese and agreed to be co-opted onto the Trustee board.
In addition, 3 members agreed to help with the management of the diocese but not to become Trustees. They join meetings of the Trustee board but do not vote on resolutions.
The Trustees oversee the activities of the members of 19 branches, and a number of diocesan and deanery members. They also oversee various outreach projects within the diocese and they manage the affairs of the charity in accordance with the charity's constitution.
The Trustees during this period were:-

Jo Criscenti (elected)
Linda Hoskins (elected)
Caroline Scull (co-opted)
Sue Murphy (elected as President)
Susan Tickell (elected)

Revd Terry Roberts was appointed as the Mothers' Union Diocesan Chaplain in Summer 2023 and continues to hold that role.

THE MISSION STATEMENT of the charity is:-
The Mothers' Union Vision is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful, and flourishing relationships. The Aim and purpose is to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by the transformation of communities worldwide through the nurture of family in its many forms.
Mission

- To promote and support married life.
- To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children.
- To maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service.
- To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children.
- To help those whose family life has met with adversity.

We achieve this by;

- Developing prayer and spiritual growth in families.
- Studying and reflecting on family life and its place in society.
- Resourcing our members to take practical action to improve conditions for families and in the communities in which they live.

FUNDING

- Subscriptions: Funding is principally by members' subscriptions.
- Donations: Throughout the year individual members make donations and may decline to accept expenses for their work.
- Fundraising: by the branches for Mothers' Union Worldwide Fund, and for Diocesan Projects such as AFIA (our **A**way **F**rom **I**t **A**ll Family Holiday) & our Prison Support Project, and for local branch projects.
- Grants: for our Child Contact Centres, we receive grants from Ministry of Justice and from other organisations.

DIOCESAN MEMBERS

Diocesan members receive by post or by email a periodic newsletter and other Mothers' Union publications. This is for members who are unable or do not wish to attend branch meetings regularly or who live in a parish without a branch. Deanery membership is also an option for members from branches that have closed and these members are cared for in the deaneries.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

When planning our activities during the year, the Trustees have regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission. The Trustees review the financial position of the charity regularly including forecasts of cashflow and have assured themselves that the charity is a going concern.

The charity is currently in discussions with Mothers' Union charities in 7 dioceses in the south west of England with the aim of merging the 8 independent charities into a single charity (to be known as Mothers' Union South West). It is hoped the Mothers' Union South West will become a registered charity during 2026, and that the assets and activities belonging to Mothers' Union Winchester Diocese will be transferred to the new charity in early 2027. The aim is that this consolidation into a single charity will be cost neutral, ie the costs of running the new larger charity will be offset by efficiency savings.

The Trustee board meets at least 4 times per year, either via Zoom or in person.

- Worldwide Fund. This fund includes the overseas, relief and literacy funds. The money may be raised through events organized by branches or may be given by members individually or come from branch funds. The fund is administered by the central Mothers' Union who distribute information to members about the work overseas.
- Funds are similarly raised for the Britain and Ireland Development Fund.
- Branches also raise money for their own project work such as Parenting, Baptism and Marriage Projects, Community Cafes, Parent and Toddler Groups.
- Literature, cards and gifts are sold by MUe (Mothers' Union Enterprises Ltd) directly to branches. A grant is given by MUe to the Diocese based on volume of purchases.
- We usually hold a prayer service in the Cathedral every month. These services are also filmed and uploaded to our Facebook page.
- A Festival Service was held in June 2025 at St Lawrence's Church in Winchester.
- A Special General Meeting was held at Popley on 28th April when a proposal to change the constitution to allow for the dissolution of the charity was agreed. A Diocesan meeting was held at Hedge End on 15th October.
- The Trustees agreed in December 2022 that we would no longer run a residential Family Holiday. During 2025 we provided days out and treats for families and groups and supported a total of 49 adults and 46 children.
- We continue to run a Child Contact Centre in Popley, Basingstoke and this centre was reaccredited by NACCC in Autumn 2025.
- Mothers' Union were also pleased to provide chocolate selection boxes for the prisoners to give to their children at the Families Day organized by Spurgeons in December 2025.
- In November we held our usual vigil by the West Door of the Cathedral during the 16 days campaign against Gender-based violence. There were also events in other parts of the diocese organised by individual branches.
- We provided information packs to those who were ordained in Winchester Diocese in July 2025.
- Mother and Toddler Groups, Baby Clubs, support for women's refuges, community cafes and much other work in parishes continues to be carried out. Baptism families and married couples are followed up, elderly people and those with dementia and their carers are supported.
- Links are maintained with branches overseas.

- Services were held for the Wave of Prayer, Marriage Week and Lady Day. The Prayer Chain for the Sick and care of Indoor Prayer Members continues.
- Members have supported the Forget-me-not café in Hartley Wintney and the Sunflower Café in Odiham which support those with dementia and their carers.
- Mothers' Union Enterprises pays the diocese commission on orders received from members of Winchester Diocese.

ADMINSTRATIVE MATTERS

- The office address during this financial year was the Winchester Cathedral Office, 9 The Close, Winchester, SO23 9LS.
- Expenses are paid to trustees and committee members for travel to meetings and costs involved with carrying out work for the charity. Commissioned speakers who travel on behalf of the Mothers' Union are also paid travelling expenses.
- A periodic magazine (Archway) is produced for all the members twice a year and a monthly e-news for those who have provided their email address.
- Risks. The major risks, to which the Mothers' Union is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, are reviewed regularly and actions taken to mitigate such risks.
- Bank accounts: There are two current accounts held at Lloyds and NatWest respectively, and a deposit account held by The Church of England Central Board of Finance. There is also a Lloyds current account used for the Child Contact Centres.
- Reserves: At the end of the year, monies of £89,566.69 are held in a Church of England Central Board of Finance deposit account. The long term aim is to retain the balance on this account, in compliance with the objects and aims of the Mothers' Union, at a figure representing at least twelve months' operational costs.
- Interest. Diocesan long term deposits are kept in the Central Board of Finance Church of England Deposit Fund. Short term funds are held in accounts with National Westminster Bank plc and Lloyds bank plc.
- LINKS TO THE MOTHERS' UNION Charity no 240531. Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London SW1 3RB. Central subscriptions are collected on behalf of the Mothers' Union.



Sue Murphy (Diocesan President) Date 22nd September 2026
On behalf of the Trustee board

Report to the trustees of THE MOTHERS' UNION WINCHESTER DIOCESE

I report to the charity trustees, on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on pages 5 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)b of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and

- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Patricia Fox FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
36 Essex Road
Basingstoke
RG21 7TB

Date 20/10/26

Signed 

Mothers' Union Winchester Diocese
Charity number 250063
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31st December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025	Designated Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
Total Incoming Resources	3	16,983.20	900.00	22,345.15	40,228.35	42,593.22
Total direct charitable expenditure	4	9,775.00		21,711.01	31,486.01	27,626.80
Total support costs	4	1,759.68	-	413.97	2,173.65	1,540.41
Total resources expended		11,534.68	-	22,124.98	33,659.66	29,167.21
Net incoming resources for the year		5,448.52	900.00	220.17	6,568.69	13,426.01
Balance brought forward		57,971.07	14,294.94	53,559.29	125,825.30	112,399.29
Transfers into restricted fund	7	(3,098.86)	(24.50)	3,123.36	-	
Balance carried forward	6	60,320.73	15,170.44	56,902.82	132,393.99	125,825.30

The notes on pages 7 to 11 form part of these financial statements

Mothers' Union Winchester Diocese
Charity number 250063
Balance Sheet
As at 31st December 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	5	474.55		166.21	
Current assets					
Debtors	8	1,674.90		1,617.09	
Cash at bank and in hand		131,346.31		125,486.46	
		133,021.21		127,103.55	
Creditors and accruals					
Amounts falling due within 1 yr	9	(1,101.77)		(1,444.46)	
Net current Assets			131,919.44		125,659.09
Net Assets			132,393.99		125,825.30
Capital Funds					
Unrestricted funds			60,933.23		57,971.07
Designated funds			15,170.44		14,294.94
Restricted funds (Diocesan)			55,132.89		52,689.70
Branch funds held by diocese (Restricted)			1,157.43		869.59
TOTAL funds			132,393.99		125,825.30

Approval

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on and signed by

Sue Murphy

The notes on pages 7 to 11 form part of these financial statements

Mothers' Union Winchester Diocese
Charity number 250063
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2025
For the year ended 31st December 2025

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting principles have been applied consistenly throughout the year and in the preceding year.

a Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable UK accounting standards, the Charities SORP (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011.

b Depreciation Policy

Provision for depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the charity is made at annual rates calculated to spread the cost (less residual disposal value) of each asset over its expected useful life.

c Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity

d Incoming resources

Voluntary income, donations and grants are accounted for on an accruals basis.

e Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates

Direct charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the Independent examiner's fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

2 Central Subscriptions

Mothers' Union Winchester Diocese is affiliated with the central Mothers' Union charity (charity number 240531)

Subscriptions are paid by members of Mothers' Union Winchester Diocese, and a portion of these subscriptions is paid to the Central Mothers' Union charity.

In 2025, Mothers' Union Winchester Diocese had 397 members and £24.50 was paid to the Central Charity for each of these members.

3 Income received

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies					
1100 - Donations from members or branches	523.60	900.00	8,027.81	9,451.41	9,415.49
1110 - Donations from others	25.00	—	1,103.70	1,128.70	1,501.25
1160 - Donations to branches or deaneries	1,470.98	—	—	1,470.98	2,862.22
1250 - Sponsorship income	—	—	50.00	50.00	60.00
1400 - Trust income	1,474.52	—	—	1,474.52	1,440.12
1600 - Subscription income	4,416.00	—	10,339.00	14,755.00	14,723.00
Donations and legacies Totals	7,910.10	900.00	19,520.51	28,330.61	30,002.08
Income from charitable activities					
1165 - Income for branch projects	1,587.60	—	—	1,587.60	2,132.70
1200 - Income for Quiet Days	—	—	—	—	250.00
1300 - Income from sales of MUe goods	406.19	—	—	406.19	650.69
1350 - Income from sale of other items	—	—	171.84	171.84	—
1700 - Referral fees for Contact Centre	—	—	80.00	80.00	100.00
Income from charitable activities	1,993.79	—	251.84	2,245.63	3,133.39
Other trading activities					
1360 - Income from sale of MS Rose cards	65.00	—	—	65.00	—
Other trading activities Totals	65.00	—	—	65.00	—
Other income					
1500 - Gift Aid received	2,027.67	—	72.80	2,100.47	2,314.87
1510 - Interest received	4,792.93	—	—	4,792.93	4,339.16
1520 - Grant income from MSH	193.71	—	—	193.71	303.72
1530 - Grant income from other sources	—	—	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Other income Totals	7,014.31	—	2,572.80	9,587.11	9,457.75
Total income	16,983.20	900.00	22,345.15	40,228.35	42,593.22

4 Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
Expenditure on charitable activities					
2100 - Subscriptions paid to Central charity	—	—	10,339.00	10,339.00	10,005.00
2110 - Donations paid to Central Charity	1,640.75	—	5,435.16	7,075.91	6,045.82
2120 - Payment to Central Charity for reso	372.64	—	—	372.64	464.73
2150 - Subscriptions to other	100.00	—	259.61	359.61	368.47
2210 - Hall rental	88.00	—	1,440.00	1,528.00	1,670.00
2220 - Trips or outings	—	—	2,109.49	2,109.49	1,354.01
2230 - Gifts purchased	—	—	146.25	146.25	238.64
2300 - Staff costs	1,264.00	—	1,633.50	2,897.50	1,584.00
2320 - Travel	283.50	—	—	283.50	42.60
2330 - Conferences and Training	261.00	—	—	261.00	124.00
2340 - Speakers expenses	118.20	—	—	118.20	26.10
2350 - Quiet Day Costs	—	—	—	—	25.00
2360 - Clergy packs	26.5	—	—	26.5	59.34
2400 - Production of Archway magazine	916.40	—	—	916.40	1,386.52
2510 - Postage	601.30	—	—	601.30	280.63
2520 - Telephone costs	173.00	—	348.00	521.00	335.00
2800 - Branch expenses	1,561.17	—	—	1,561.17	1,538.88
2810 - Branch expenditure on projects	2,368.54	—	—	2,368.54	2,078.06
Expenditure on charitable	9,775.00	—	21,711.01	31,486.01	27,626.80
Other expenditure					
2420 - Printing and Stationery	531.91	—	—	531.91	314.82
2530 - Computer costs & IT	209.30	—	—	209.30	338.11
2540 - Legal charges	47.00	—	49.50	96.50	35.00
2545 - Professional Fees	250.00	—	—	250.00	—
2550 - Insurance	486.89	—	336.00	822.89	785.50
2570 - Bank charges	2.74	—	—	2.74	—
2560 - Card handling charges	—	—	0.53	0.53	—
2700 - Depreciation	108.66	—	—	108.66	20.78
2900 - Miscellaneous	123.18	—	27.94	151.12	46.20
Other expenditure Totals	1,759.68	—	413.97	2,173.65	1,540.41
Expenditure Grand totals	11,534.68	—	22,124.98	33,659.66	29,167.21

5 Fixed Assets

The following fixed assets have been purchased since September 2020:

	Initial Cost	NBV at 31/12/24	Depn	31/12/25
Projector - bought August 2024	186.99	166.21	62.33	103.88
Laptop for administrator - bought August 2025	417.00		46.33	370.67
TOTAL	**603.99**	**166.21**	**108.66**	**474.55**

6 Detail of funds

Represented by	**31/12/25**	**31/12/24**
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General fund	60,933.23	57,971.07
Designated		
Designated - ProjectGeneral	3,685.20	2,785.20
Designated - Subs Hardship Fund	10.49	34.99
Designated - General funds held by branches	11,474.75	11,474.75
Restricted funds held at Diocese		
Restricted - Subscriptions held for MSH	—	—
Restricted - Worldwide - Overseas	157.52	447.50
Restricted - Worldwide - Relief	330.00	40.00
Restricted - Worldwide - Literacy	250.00	285.10
Restricted - AFIA	48,896.97	44,783.30
Restricted - AFIA - Equipment	535.00	535.00
Restricted - North Hampshire CHild Contact Centre	4,896.78	6,385.93
Restricted - Prison Support (Angel Tree)	66.62	212.87
Restricted - WWSeasonal	—	—
Branch funds held by the diocese		
Restricted - Bitterne branch funds	385.94	194.84
Restricted - Christchurch Deanery	—	—
Restricted - Mudeford branch funds	67.43	67.43
Restricted - Christchurch Priory branch funds	122.59	85.85
Restricted - Romsey Abbey branch funds	236.38	236.38
Restricted - South Wonston branch funds	200.70	140.70
Restricted - Winchester City Centre branch funds	75.83	75.83
Restricted - Yateley branch funds	68.56	68.56
Funds of the charity	**132,393.99**	**125,825.30**

7 Transfers between funds

Funds raised by branches are usually held as Unrestricted funds. When these are sent to the diocese the branch often specifies the fund (eg funds raised are to be allocated to AFIA or Worldwide), and the funds then become restricted to that purpose.

In addition, when the diocese agrees to fund the subscription for a member, the sum required to cover the Central subscription is moved from the Subs Hardship Fund (which is a Designated Fund) to the fund for Central subscriptions (which is Restricted).

8 Debtors and Prepayments

	2025 £	2024 £
Prepaid insurance for Contact Centre	70.00	70.00
Prepaid subscriptions to NACCC	65.29	63.74
Prepayment of contribution to Canterbury Province	-	100.00
Gift Aid received late	2,086.70	2,008.35
Prepayment of 11mths of MSOffice for Office lapto	77.91	-
Prepayment MoJ grant for Contact Centre	(625.00)	(625.00)
	1,674.90	1,617.09

9 Creditors and Accruals

	2025 £	2024 £
Rental of hall for Contact Centre	120.00	120.00
Fees for Elaine for December	137.50	132.00
Expenses for Sue Murphy	20.40	104.22
Expenses for Dio Membership Sec	-	122.05
Fees for Diocesan Administrator	224.00	-
Accrual of insurance for diocese	62.87	56.19
Prepayment Subscriptions for 2026	537.00	910.00
	1,101.77	1,444.46

10 Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

No remuneration directly or indirectly out of the funds of the charity was paid or payable for the year to any trustee or to any person or persons connected with any of them.

Expenses were incurred by Trustees during the year as follows:

Trustees Period from 1st Jan 2025 to 31st Dec 2025	As Trustees £	In Other Capacities £	Total £
Linda Hoskins	59.99		59.99
Sue Murphy		940.86	940.86
	59.99	940.86	1,000.85

11 Away From It All Holiday

We decided at the end of 2023 that we could no longer run a week-long residential holiday as in the past
Instead we provided treats (days out or meal vouchers) for families who could benefit from this
We are investigating new ways to use our AFIA funds as currently the income exceeds expenditure

12 North Hampshire Child Contact Centre

We receive annual grants of £2,500 from MoJ for running the Child Contact Centres.
In addition, we received other donations totalling £25.40
We now charge a referral fee of £20 for each family - and received £80 in referral fees over the year

13 Staff costs

Mothers' Union Winchester Diocese no longer has any employees.
A self-employed administrator joined us in September 2025 and was paid £1,264 during the year.
We also have one self-employed member of staff for liasing with families of the Contact Centre (paid £1,633.50 over the year)
Expenses are included elsewhere (eg postage costs)