

Just A Reminder

MU AUSTRALIA-DIOCESE OF NEWCASTLE DIARY DATES 2012

February	10th	Maitland Deanery Meeting	10:00am	Kurri Kurri
	20th	Executive Meeting	9:30 am	Belmont
	27th	Newcastle Deanery Meeting	10:00am	Hamilton
	29th	Central Coast Deanery Meeting	10:00am	Lakes Anglican
March	9th	1st Council Meeting	9:30am	Cardiff
	26th	Lady Day	10:00am	Cathedral

Linda's Tasty Vegetable Scones

Ingredients

¾ Cup of Tasty Cheese, grated
 ½ a medium Carrot, grated
 2 slices of Bacon finely, chopped
 (I like to cook it before I add it)
 ½ a small onion, grated

2 tablespoons of finely chopped parsley
 2 cups S.R. Flour (perhaps a little more)
 1¼ tablespoons of Cream
 1 cup of Milk (perhaps a little extra)

Method

Place the cheese, carrot, bacon, onion and parsley into a large bowl then sift in the flour - stir to combine.
 Add the cream and the milk then mix it all together lightly. (if it is too sticky you can add a little extra flour, if it is too dry add a little milk).
 Knead the dough lightly on a floured board. Cut out the scones and place them on a lined baking tray.
 Bake in 180° C oven until they are golden.

Linda Mc Glinn

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

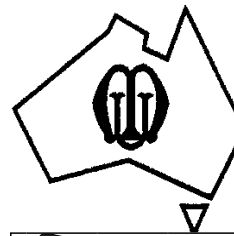
February 17th 2012

Please send your MU News/Photos for the next edition to:

Jenny Whiteman (Publicity Officer)

1 Dundas Street, MAYFIELD 2304

Phone: 4968 3336 Email: whiteman43@hotmail.com



MU Australia
Part of the World Wide Mothers' Union

Diocese of Newcastle Newsletter - November 2011

Overseas & Northern Outreach Luncheons 2011

2011
Theme

"What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God"
 (Micah Ch. 6: Vs. 8)

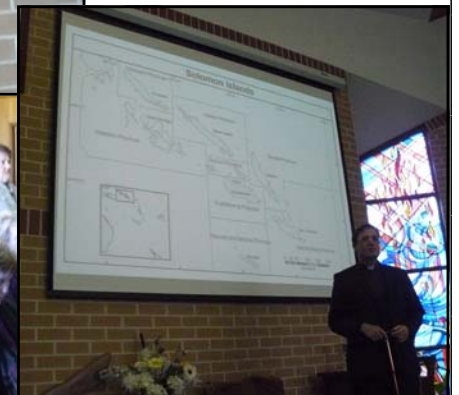
Guest speaker:
Fr Keith Joseph



Bp. Peter celebrated the Eucharist



Some of those attending



Ministry in the Solomon

President Laurel writes

Dear friends around the Diocese,

I cannot believe that the first 12 months of my Presidency is fast coming to a close. It has been an extraordinary year for me. Visiting branches for meetings, for presentations of 60 year and 50 year badges, 25 year badges and new membership. I have felt very much at home where ever I have been, and enjoyed the friendship that emanates from MU members no matter where they are.



In July at the Cathedral Branch, I joined their Wave of Prayer Service, which also included a Memorial Service for Nancy North, conducted by Robyn Southerden. A very fitting tribute to a loyal Member of MU. It was a busy day as there were new Admissions and Presentations of 50 year badges as well. At-Cockle Bay a member received her 25 year badge and two new members were admitted, one becoming a Lone Member living at Tea Gardens. Gloucester honoured four members with 50 year badges, as well as celebrating 50 years of their branch. Charlestown also honoured three members with 50 year badges and also admitted new members.

In August Dot Bodell represented me at Lambton's 82nd Birthday, presenting a 50 year badge and a 60 year scroll. She told me she enjoyed being there and had a lovely time. On that same day I was at Gosford at their 48th Anniversary. It was lovely with a 'bubbles' service, a very different light on our service, it was great. At Kurri Kurri I presented a 60 year scroll and we lunched out at the local Bowling Club, another great celebration.

In September I was guest speaker at Cardiff and attended a Bateau Bay Birthday luncheon. At this a candle service was held and Elizabeth was most informative on MU happenings, all thought the day was wonderful. October took me to Hamilton to present a 60 year scroll and a 25 year badge, Dungog celebrated 72 years and two ladies received 50 year badges. Windale had three 25 year badges presented by me and Fr. Daniel was their guest speaker. I was guest speaker at the Deanery meeting at Raymond Terrace. So all in all you can see I am earning my keep. What a lot of years have been celebrated this year. Do you know of any other organization where membership lasts so long? I cannot think of one. It makes me contemplate 'how special is Mothers Union'.

Celebrations at St Peter's Hamilton

The October meeting of MU at St Peter's Hamilton was a wonderful day of celebration when two of our members were honoured for long service. Our guests included the Diocesan President Laurel Brook and members of Mayfield Branch.



**Laurel presents Grace with her
60 year certificate**

At the end of the Eucharist Laurel presented Grace Robertson with her 60 year scroll and congratulated on her years of dedicated service. Grace was admitted to MU in Branxton Parish in 1951, where she was organist. Later, after moving to Newcastle, she became a very dedicated and loyal member of Hamilton branch and always enjoyed reading to us about the Link Branches and keeping us up to date about them. This last winter Grace has not been well enough to attend meetings so it was a joy that she and her family were able to be with us to receive her scroll from Laurel in celebration of her loyal and faithful service.

Laurel also presented Jean Daley with her 25 year badge. Jean has previously served as treasurer in our branch. She, too, does not enjoy the best of health so it was wonderful that she could also be with us to celebrate her years of service.



After the presentations we adjourned to the parish hall for a delicious morning tea followed by a talk given by our guest speaker Laurel who spoke to us on our theme. This was highlighted with hymns relevant to the theme and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

All in all a lovely day of friendship, fellowship and singing.

Rewa Richardson

**Laurel pinning on Jean's
25 year badge**

St Alban's Charlestown Admission Service

On 20th July 2011 two new members were admitted and three members were presented with their 50 year badges by the Diocesan President Laurel Brook. Congratulations Charlestown. *John Ross*

50 year badges: Father Peter Middleton with Robin Ross, Marie Lott & Anne Youman.



St Paul's Gloucester MU 50th Anniversary

On 14th July 2011 a special Communion service was held to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the formation of the Gloucester Branch of MU. The Inaugural meeting, to form the branch at St Paul's, was held on 9th June 1961.

During the service Diocesan President Laurel Brook ably assisted by the Deanery Leader Judy Ford. presented four ladies with their 50 year Membership Badges and Certificates. This was a wonderful achievement and indicates their contributions and devotion over those 50 years. The recipients were Daphne Wilson, Val Smith, Joy Meyers and Dell baker but because of Dell's ill health her badge and

certificate was received by her daughter Dianne Kellehear on her behalf. The wave of prayer was incorporated within the service which was conducted by Rev. Roger Sharr.

Gloucester branch was joined by representatives from Dungog, Taree, Williamtown/Medowie/Malabula, Nelsons Bay and Raymond Terrace for this special day. After the service the 50th anniversary cake was cut and a delicious afternoon tea was served.



Joy Meyers, Daphne Wilson, Val Smith and Dianne Kellehear

T Potter

The Overseas and Outreach Luncheon must be mentioned, what a super day. Bishop Peter was welcomed to MU and led us in worship. Fr. Keith Joseph, Kurri Kurri's new Priest, spoke on the Solomon Islands, and what a fantastic speaker he proved to be. I do not think any one would have come away not being moved in some way or other, as he spoke about his life there and the work MU does as well. I was so proud to be MU that day, the feeling of the day was one of great love and caring and fellowship. The only adverse comment I have heard, was about the meat. Next year Exec has decided to try something new, there will be news of this when organization is fine tuned. I must say here that I am speaking of both the luncheons at Lambton and at Wyong. Thanks to those branches for hosting the event.

The theme has proved most interesting over the year, I have heard interesting stories on it, and hope that we have all benefited in our Christian lives through it.

I am aware that there are those of you who are not well or have suffered loss, please be assured of my love and prayers. I especially wish to recognize the work of Nancy North at Cathedral Branch, Pauline Kibble at Mayfield and Jenny Davies from Wyong, these ladies have passed into God's nearer presence, may they rest in peace, and rise in glory Amen.

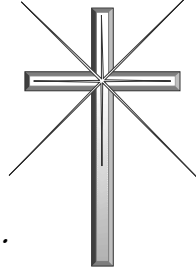
As we come to the close of the year for MU our thoughts turn to the Advent Season, Christmas and all the business that entails. Let us not get too involved in that part, but remember whose birthday it is and what a wonderful gift we received, when Jesus was given to us. May you all have a very blessed and happy Christmas celebrating with friends and family. May you also have a well earned rest over the holidays, and come back to MU next year fully refreshed and ready to GO!

May our Lord bless you all in the festive season.
Love and prayers
Laurel.





Chaplain's Message
The Rev. Dr. Daniel Dries



Such gracious hospitality...

Dear friends in Christ,

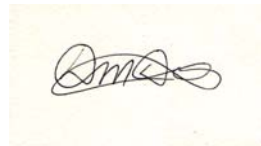
As I have now 'clocked-up' almost a year as Diocesan Chaplain to MU, I am starting to develop a greater sense of what MU stands for in our diocese. I have now been welcomed to a number of branches – some in city parishes, some in the suburbs, and some in 'the country'. Some of the meetings that I have attended have begun with the Eucharist, while others have commenced with one of the services from our excellent Worship and Prayer Book. The fact is, there is a great deal of diversity between the MU branches throughout the diocese.

There has, however, been one common element in every meeting that I have attended. Namely, FOOD! Apart from our Christian faith, if there is one thing that unites MU branches around the diocese, it may well be food. Of course, the food itself is not really important. The reason that we share food at meetings of MU is that it enables us to offer hospitality to one another. As I have visited MU branches around the diocese, I have been made to feel like a welcome stranger. If we as a church do nothing else right, it would seem that we, as Anglicans, have come to understand how important hospitality really is.

We know from the Gospels that Christ spent around 3 years teaching his disciples. Sadly, they seemed to understand very few of the lessons he gave them. When he prepared to be parted from them, Christ didn't give them a lecture on theology. Instead, he shared a simple meal with them. His final lesson was about the importance and power of gracious hospitality. We recognise this Sunday after Sunday as we share the Eucharist together, but we also reflect on Christ's profound, yet simple gesture whenever we share food together. I'm very grateful to all of the MU branches that have made me feel so welcome in recent months and I congratulate them on realising how important hospitality is to the faith that we profess.

With every blessing,

Fr Daniel Dries



Memorial Candle & flowers

delicious shared lunch.

We had all been saddened to hear of the death of one of our long-time members, Nancy North. Robyn Southerden spoke about some of Nancy's remarkable qualities including her dedication to MU and her quiet kindness to those facing surgery. Robyn then invited all those present to place a flower near a special candle which had come from Canterbury Cathedral.

Candles were placed on the altar to represent each of our link dioceses and Fr Mark Watson celebrated the Eucharist during which various members read short pieces about each Diocese and we prayed for them. The morning ended with a

Margaret Thirlwell

Mount Vincent

On 16th August 2011 Mount Vincent MU celebrated their 79th birthday with Fr. Keith celebrating the Eucharist. During the service our Diocesan President Laurel Brook presented long serving member Audrey Barrass with a 60 year certificate.



Laurel Brook, Audrey Barrass Rev. Dr. Keith Joseph.

Audrey has been a member since 1950 and has held the positions of President, Vice President and Treasurer over her many years of membership. Audrey is currently serving as Vice President.

After the service members, including Audrey, Laurel and Diocesan Vice President Elwyn Herbert, adjourned to Kurri Kurri Bowling Club for lunch where Audrey cut the birthday cake.

Lesley Flannery

News From the Branches

A Happy day for Newcastle Cathedral MU

On Wednesday 13th July, immediately before the Eucharist and Prayers to observe the Wave of Prayer, Newcastle Cathedral MU



Margaret & Beryl

members were delighted that our Diocesan President Laurel Brook was with us to present a 50 year badge to Beryl Firkins and a 25 year badge to Margaret Thirlwell. We were pleased, too, to welcome our Deanery leader Anne Clarke.



Wendy, Virginia & Anita

Another member. Beryl Wafer was unable to be present and will receive her 50 year badge at a later date.

Laurel also admitted three new members, Wendy, Virginia and Anita. Wendy, Margaret and our Secretary Dinah had all been together in Young Wives in Hamilton parish many years ago.

Flowers at the Cathedral



A Prayer of Hospitality and Compassion

*Open my eyes that they may see the deepest needs of people;
Move my hands that they may feed the hungry;
Touch my heart that it may bring warmth to the despairing;
Teach me the generosity that welcomes strangers;
Let me share my possessions to clothe the naked;
Give me the care that strengthens the sick;
Make me share in the quest to set the prisoner free.*

Coffee & Care

Coffee and Care continues to run smoothly. This year hasn't appeared any busier than 2010 going by stock and donations. Many thanks to all the ladies who give valuable time each month.

There is a great need for more volunteers to give time to the ministry of Coffee and Care at the Worimi Children's Court. I have had phone calls from rostered ladies about having only one person available. Security is excellent so that should not be a problem.

As I come to the end of my 4th year as Coffee and Care coordinator I am looking forward to someone putting up their hand to take on my job. I have approached many people without success.

Duties Include:

- * Stocking Court house kitchen with tea & coffee etc.
- * Compile a Roster of Volunteers at the beginning of each year.
- * Attend executive meetings

If you think you can fill this vital role please contact:

Glenda Boundy (phone: 49448314)



Hospital Visiting Baby Bundles.

40 Baby bundles have been made up and delivered so far this year these are given out by the Family Care nurses who work out of the hospitals. These nurses are the ones who go to the homes of the new mothers and babies to check that everything is going well and this is when they get the opportunity to see who is in need of one of our bundles.

All donations for the baby bundles are greatly appreciated and I would like to thank all those generous members who donate items. Any money donations are also very useful as I run out of different items at times and need to buy them.

Thank you to all those who have knitted booties for the hospital visiting. There is a particular need for small Pink and Blue booties as these are preferred by the new mothers. Thank you all very much
Anne Oaten

Archives

Our M.U. archives for the Diocese are stored at the University of Newcastle. The next collection of materials to be stored in this Archive will be sent to the University in 2015. As your new Archivist I need to start gauging how many records and other historical information there is out there, how it is stored and the need for cataloguing. If your Branch has records, photos and other archival information which should be added to what is already stored could you please contact me.

Phone: 40683336 or whiteman43@hotmail.com

Jenny Whiteman

Links

As usual, letters and magazines were sent to our links in Wales and Newcastle-upon-Tyne and more will be sent for the Christmas season. They enjoy our news and reading our magazines and newsletters. They suffer the same problems as us with ageing, but still seem to raise lots of funds for the many missions they support.

A few more branches have reported in with news of activities with their links. The changes of office bearers have been noted and supplied to Beverly Ovens for her report.

New contacts may be starting with Melbourne Diocese and hopefully one of their branches will contact Lambton branch soon but, to date we have not heard from anyone. Other branch names were also submitted for possible links. I also received a letter from Roz Glenn in Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, requesting links. I have suggested some branches to her and hope that they will soon be in touch.

Cheryl Stoddart

Coffee & Care:

Babs Gitten died suddenly after a short illness. Babs was a Coffee & Care lady for many years working with her sister Dianna Taaffe from Belmont North Redhead MU. I've sent a card and acknowledged her service on behalf of Coffee & Care.
Glenda Boundy

Lone Members

Several MU members have become lone members in the past few months. Joan Jones and Barbara Harkins from Birmingham Gardens and Barbara Charlmers from the Central Coast.

I have enjoyed telephone calls with several ladies who all seem happy to chat and share their MU journey. Pat Haigh very kindly sent me a delightful book of prayers and poems she had written including a poem about MU. Sadly Pat passed away on 17th September. I also learned that June Gordon passed away recently. She was known to some of you. I wrote to both these ladies' families sending love and prayers.

Dorethee and I have enjoyed fellowship when we visited several branches and I have enjoyed meeting everyone. All branches have elderly members who find it hard to get to meetings and I hope that they will consider becoming Lone Members when the time is right.

Recently I have been visiting the Spice Islands, off Indonesia which were colonized by the Dutch and are mainly Christian. Because of the Cross I wear a teacher and some ladies who spoke no English told me they were Christians, an English word that they **do** know. This was very special.

I am looking forward to next year. It is a real privilege to be getting to know our very special ladies who are lone members by phone, letters and visits. I am looking forward to sending them Christmas greetings.
Jenny Dacombe

Magazines

If you have new members who have joined after submitting the annual subscriptions (from which your magazine numbers are calculated) please notify me so that I am able to increase the order.
Juliet Maher

In Memoriam

St. Stephen's Adamstown

In just over a year Adamstown MU has lost five of its long serving members. The first was Iris Frey, then June Howard, Heather Clarke, Beryl Wallace and Marie Turrell - each one of these ladies made their own unique and wonderful contribution to our MU group.

- * **Iris Grey, obit. 07/05/2010:** was the consummate hostess - always willing to make her home available for celebratory lunches where she was in her element and always made those present feel they were a 'must' in the group. Iris passed away after a short illness.
- * **June Howard, obit. 21/01/2011:** was a very quiet, unassuming and capable person who was our Secretary for a number of years until she became ill and was admitted to a nursing home where she spent the last few years of her life.
- * **Heather Clarke, obit. 11/04/2011:** another quiet person who was ever willing to give the 'correct' interpretations and pronunciations of names and passages from the Bible. She loved the Church and everything it stands for. Heather spent the last five years or so of her life in the nursing home at Toronto after she had a bad fall in the shower which revealed as malignancy in her spine.
- * **Beryl Wallace, obit. 04/06/2011:** a loving and kind lady who had an innocence about her that saw the goodness in everyone. Beryl was very precise in all she did and always carried out whatever she had promised she would do for every occasion. Beryl passed away after a short illness.
- * Last, but not least, our beautiful **Marie Turrell, obit. 31/07/2011:** who always had a welcoming smile on her face and made every person feel that they were very important to her and the group. A kind and considerate person who, with her husband Jim, showed by example the true meaning of Christianity. Marie lost her sight and had moved into a nursing home at Corranbong for some three years and her beloved Jim moved into the home to be with her each day. Marie was a member of MU for some 44 years.

These five lovely people are sadly missed by the members of Adamstown MU. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Mavis Randle

Publication News

Thank you for the way in which you have supported this department during the year. MU stock as well as cards and books is available at the March and July Council meetings, the O & NO Lunches in August and the AGM in November.

MU stock is always available -

You only have to contact me

(Phone: 4920 8181 or risoutherden@idl.net.au)

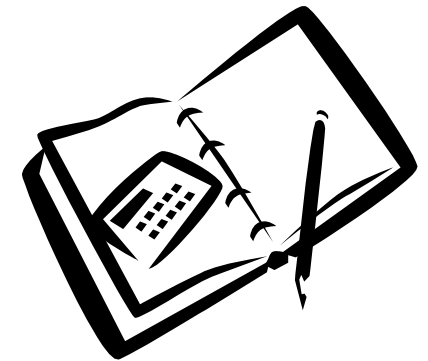
By buying goods from this department you are helping MU to support the work of the Neo-natal Intensive Care Unit at the John Hunter Hospital. What a wonderful way this is to assist tiny babies and their families at a critical time for them and also help us to fulfil our fifth object.

Janice, Barbara and I look forward to meeting you next year at one of those days when we have our goods for sale. This department is here to serve you and to help you promote MU, so please use us!

Robyn Southerden

Education Department

I am periodically receiving some good material via email from Wendy Mayer, the National Education Coordinator. This material is appropriate for use at Branch Meetings, but every Branch may not want to use it. At present I'm contemplating what might be the best way to distribute it. Some of it is quite lengthy, so to print it off myself and put it into each bag at Council Meetings and the AGM would be a poor use of time and resources if it's not going to be used. Emailing it to Branch Presidents would be ideal, then they could print off and use it if they so desire. However, I'm very aware that not all ladies have Email, so... this is a work in progress.



Jeanette Johnston

Addit:

If you have access to an Email address please give it to Jeanette so that she can pass on any relevant information.

Jenny Whiteman

Overseas & Northern Outreach

My thanks to all for taking part in the 'Wave of Prayer'. How wonderful it is for us all to participate in the continuous prayer cycle.

The luncheon at New Lambton was held on Monday 8th August and, with 172 members attending, what a wonderful day it was. The day commenced with morning tea followed by the Eucharist celebrated by Bishop Peter Stuart assisted by Fr. Daniel Dries (MU Chaplain), Fr. Doug (New Lambton), Fr. Keith Joseph (Mount Vincent & Weston) and Noelene and Lyn (MU).

After the service our guest speaker Fr. Keith Joseph spoke about his ministry in the Solomon Islands and Northern Vanuatu. He held us in awe as he described this beautiful country. He showed us a very good Power Point presentation showing the countryside and the people, the church, the house where he lived and the college. He also told us about his faith journey and about how, after his Ordination as Priest, he took over the responsibility for the Degree Programme at the College which was the first degree programme in the Country. Later he became responsible for the Theological Education in the Anglican Church of Melanesia and travelled all over the Solomon Islands and Northern Vanuatu. At the end of 2010 he returned to Australia and is now Parish Priest in Mount Vincent & Weston parish.

After lunch Fr. Keith spoke about the conditions and customs of the Solomon Islands and about the MU workers who contribute much to the country and of how they looked after Fr. Keith by cutting his grass and doing his housework. This brought much laughter as we imagined MU members doing the same here. MU members form quite a large part of the Christian Community in the Solomons and the work that they do is highly valued.

We were very grateful to be able to have Fr. Keith speak to us about Melanesia and we thank him for giving up his time to tell us about the things that are important to us as MU workers in Australia.

On Friday 12th August we attended the Central Coast luncheon at St James church, Wyong. Fr. Keith, again, kindly accepted our invitation to be guest speaker and this was another enjoyable day with a good number attending.

I would like to thank you all for supporting our O.S. & N.O.R. luncheons and I am grateful to all branches who donated food and all who helped in the preparation for the day. Your generosity made both these days very successful.

Mavis Coleman

The Overseas Target Fund 2011/2012 has two projects.

1. Karen People at Mae Salit Kee on the Thailand Border.

- * MU Nursery School: situated in a Muslim area as an outreach to the community. The MU President at the border Naw Tamala writes: 'the school has 30 children, a Principal and three teachers. There are 17 girls and 13 boys.
- * Syllabus: Karen English Alphabets, names of fruits and animals, colours, shapes, days, months, times games and action songs and health; parts of the body and how to keep our bodies clean and healthy.
- * Parents participation in school activities by providing a rice lunch for their children and attending school meetings, opening and closing ceremonies and joining in in Christmas celebrations with their children.
- * Training: Nursery school teachers train in Mae La Camp then they go back in October for a refresher course.

2. Burundi.

MU Australia 8-10 years ago supported the Literacy Programme. In April this year MU Australia agreed to partner Anglicord Melbourne and continue to support the Burundi MU Literacy Programme. The training has now risen to a higher level and it has brought the building of economic empowerment to women in Burundi. Microfinance for the 110 Literacy Facilitators are trained through the MU Literacy Programme. After the 'Five Talents Training' the participants were full of enthusiasm and dedication.

Iraq:

Nawal George is the MU President of St George's Cathedral in Bagdad. MU members are mainly involved in cooking each day for all people who require a meal. They also sew clothes and furnishings for homes. There is also the St George's Medical Clinic which provides free medical treatment for over 100 people each day, covering over 8,000 households.

Canon Andrew White requests prayer for the children of Iraq. In this part of the world gunfire, exploding bombs, persecution, bereavement, poverty and ill health affect young and old alike. Childhood in Iraqi is not easy.

As we remember those facing persecution, the Rev. White requests that we also pray for those who persecute, that God's grace will move amongst them and that they may know His peace, love and forgiveness.

Beverly Ovens (MU Australia. O.S. & N.O.R. Coordinator)