

OVERSEAS AND NORTHERN OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

JULY 2019

Dear Friends,

Brr! In many places this is a very chilly time of year. Although it doesn't get too cold here in Perth, June and July are usually our coolest and wettest months, so woolies are still needed. I have just returned from a "tour" which took me to Canberra, Brisbane and Bundaberg for AMUA gatherings, including a meeting of the Australian Executive. It was a wonderful opportunity for me to meet members of AMUA and to talk about the work we do through our Northern Outreach and Overseas Funds. I was most encouraged by the numbers at each venue, and by the commitment to the work of AMUA by members. As a grassroots organisation we are dependent on the enthusiasm of every member to keep what we do in the minds of others in our churches and beyond.

Overseas Project

Many of you already receive the monthly Newsletter from Mary Sumner House, and so will have seen the article by Jeanette Lawrence on Mothers Union's work with refugees, in which she highlighted the MULOA and peace and reconciliation training in Uganda. If you haven't, you can access it by cutting and pasting this link into your browser: <https://mothersuniononline.org/1I8Y-6CB65-018M29XKD9/cr.aspx> and scrolling to the article "Equipping Women as Peacemakers."

I have prepared a **new poster** advertising the Peace and Reconciliation project in South Sudan. Do use it in as many ways as you can to promote this project. Some ideas:

- enlarge it to A3 for your church notice board.
- reduce it to A5 and stick it on empty jars for use as a collection point for donations to the Overseas Fund. Remember my challenge of a few years ago to set aside the cost of a cup of coffee a month? If every member does this we would have \$225,000 to distribute from our Funds. Much easier than running a cake stall or other fund-raising function! Mind you, some groups might like to do both, and involve the wider parish.
- reduce it to A5 and write a prayer for the continuing roll-out of the peace and reconciliation project across South Sudan on the back. (Prayer #8 for Mothers Union workers and #61 for Asylum Seekers and Refugees of our Worship and Prayer Book might be helpful if you are stuck for ideas).
- stick the "labels" version on envelopes or in small ziplock bags for a parish-wide fund raiser, perhaps for Mary Sumner Day.

Northern Outreach

I have also prepared a leaflet showing how our Northern Outreach and Training Fund for Indigenous Women grants have been distributed. Please feel free to photocopy it and distribute it widely. I firmly believe that we should be bold about telling others what is happening, with our help, beyond our usual branch activities.

Wave of Prayer

In my last Newsletter I invited you to let me know how your diocese participates in the Wave of Prayer. If you do have any ideas, please let me know so that I can share them with others.

With my warmest good wishes as you seek to encourage members to offer "Christian care for families **worldwide**".

Christine