

HINCHLEY WOOD MOTHERS' UNION BRANCH
GUILDFORD DIOCESE

BRANCH REPORT 2021

Meetings were held on line for several months and contact maintained with all members. We were able to meet several times in the summer with some of the members. Some members attended the Lady Day Service on 25th March in Guildford Cathedral.

We had a Summer Garden Tea Party in July and a 'Reimagining MU' meeting in September at which we discussed past, present and future MU plans and ideas. Some very interesting discussions ensued. The meeting included some non-MU members which gave an outside perspective. Feedback from this meeting will be used along with that from other meetings both here in Guildford Diocese and across Britain and Ireland to form the vision for the future of MU.

As in previous years branch members put together the Christmas Gift Bags for ladies in the various refuges in the Guildford Diocese. Sadly two more refuges have opened over recent months due to the increase in domestic violence, and the need for safe places. The cost of the bags was covered by our members and very generous donations from the congregation here at St. Christopher's Church, for which MU and, we are sure the ladies in the refuges, are extremely grateful. This year we put together some 45 bags and were able to donate a further 20 hot water bottles following a last-minute request.

Sadly, both Hilda Highley and Ann Ashby died during 2021. Both long term members and widely loved, they were very active and involved in MU for many years. As we all know, Ann's mother Betty was heavily involved in MU so Ann felt she had been born into it! She had many stories from across the years. Hilda was always there with love and quiet support for everything that went on. Her solid family values and strong faith were of comfort to many. We will miss the wisdom and spirituality of both Hilda and Ann.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2021

Money held in Lloyds Bank, Surbiton account	£32.62
Cash held from 2020	<u>25.00</u>
	£57.62

Income

Donations from MU members and St. Christopher's Congregation	£380.00
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Expenditure

Costs of goods for Refuge Bags	<u>£315.00</u>
Surplus	<u>£ 65.00</u>

End of year summary	Cash in hand	£ 90.00
	Banked	<u>£ 32.62</u>
	TOTAL current funds	<u>£122.62</u>

Many of the goods were donated in kind so no financial record was kept of them. MU thanks all those who donated money or goods.

Antonia Wilson, Treasurer 16th January 2022