

## SALFORD ARCHDEACONRY REPORT AUTUMN COUNCIL 2012

In the last twelve months, since becoming Archdeaconry President, it has given me great pleasure visiting branches and meeting members across the Archdeaconry and discussing what they enjoy about the Mothers' Union and their views on how to take the MU forward; it has been encouraging to learn that new members continue to join branches across the deaneries.

Branches continue to support Mothers Union projects, Make A Mothers' Day and Wheels Appeal; and in the Manchester Diocese supporting the hospital knitting appeals and 'Freshers' (New Students Week).

This year the Manchester Diocese Mothers' Union were asked to support clergy at two Wedding Fairs and I was delighted to assist at the Fair at Event City Trafford Park in March and in October at Manchester Central. It was rewarding to learn that other exhibitors think it is good that the Church of England is taking part in wedding fairs, and talking to couples just how many are now choosing to marry in church.

I attended Eccles Deanery Festival in April, held at St. Paul's Walkden and Leigh Deanery Festival in June held at St. Michael's How Bridge. It was good to meet with members again and enjoy a catch up chat.

In July we celebrated the Salford Archdeaconry Festival. The Service took place at St. Stephen's Astley and was led by Revd. Angela Dand with Archdeacon David Sharples preaching. It was with great pleasure that we welcomed Revd. Sandra Kearney who was commissioned as the Mothers' Union Salford Archdeaconry Chaplain. The ladies of St. Stephen's Mothers' Union showed us great hospitality and after the service we enjoyed delicious cakes (the ladies of St. Stephen's do this very well) and tea together!

I joined together with members of Bolton Archdeaconry at their Festival in August. The service was held at All Saints Stand and I enjoyed meeting members from across the Archdeaconry after the service.

August saw me attending a service, with Barbara Taylor, at St. Paul's Peel, as 10 new members were enrolled into the Mothers' Union branch. After the service we enjoyed tea and cakes with the congregation who were very welcoming. Well done to Michelle Coghlin, Branch Leader, for her encouragement and faith.

A new member was enrolled at my branch St. Paul's Monton in September and I am delighted to add that two more ladies will be enrolled in November. In December I will join with St. Clements Salford as they welcome a new member.

I have enjoyed my first year as Salford Archdeaconry President and have been delighted to meet such lovely members across the deaneries and heartened by their warmth and enthusiasm. I am looking forward to working together in faith, for a successful future for the Manchester Diocese Mothers' Union, with new President Catherine Hilton, Archdeaconry Presidents Sandra Bradshaw, Christine Faulkner and Marion Ball.

Carol Eyles  
Salford Archdeaconry President  
26.10.12