

# Wendy's Writings May 2025



*Forward into the future:  
with hope and love*



*"Dwell in possibility" – Emily Dickinson*

Dear members and friends

This coming Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> May is the inaugural DVSunday for the Anglican Church of Australia. It is a day for Anglican Churches around Australia to shine a light on the issue of Domestic and Family Violence, to give thanks for the work already happening, and to support the ongoing ministry of prevention and response.

Here are a few pointers from the communication guide provided to for churches to help them in sharing the message:

- DVSUNDAY, an initiative organised by the Australian Anglican Churches Families & Culture Commission
- We will be joining other Anglican churches across the country to say with one voice: Domestic Violence has no place in our homes, in our relationships and in our communities.
- We also want to take the opportunity on this day to give thanks to God, who sees and cares for those who suffer from domestic violence and for the work of the church. We read in Luke 4: 14-21 of Christ's proclamation of his good news: that God sees and cares for those impacted by injustice and suffering and declares that such injustice has no place in the kingdom of God.
- As a church, we also want to be those who see and care for those impacted by domestic violence and to work together to create a future where everyone is safe, respected, and enabled to flourish as God intended.
- We will be using resources created by the Anglican Churches Families and Culture Commission.

We as Mothers Union can engage with this initiative, even beyond DVSunday by spending time in worship, prayer and discussion. Resources are available at <https://www.tencommitments.org.au/> - a website of the Anglican Church of Australia. There is a video that you can view. Be aware that this video does ask for donations to support the ongoing work in this area. Being mindful of our need to spend MU money on MU projects I am not suggesting branches should make donations to this particular campaign.

I understand that a number of parishes, hopefully with the engagement of MU Branches where they exist, have already organised to host an Anglicare WA Standing Together workshop to grow awareness and understanding of family and domestic violence and to open the conversation of how we, as a community, can participate in its prevention. Please let me know if your branch is involved in hosting one of these workshops.

We are in the Easter season, the time in the church year between Easter Day and Pentecost. It is also the time of focus for Hope25. Bendigo MU have shared with us some resources that they have developed for members which I have sent with this newsletter. I encourage you to consider how you may use this as a branch and as individual members. There is a prayer guide for intentionally praying for our children and grandchildren, a booklist of titles held within their diocesan library which you might like to investigate for yourselves. The Bible study 'Grandparenting: Loving our Children's Children' was particularly recommended. The Bendigo MU Executive have purchased a set which they have made available to branches and parishes to borrow.

Plans for our Friendship Day in Boyanup on Friday 11 July are still to be finalised. We hope that many of our members will be present with us on the 11<sup>th</sup>. It is always an enjoyable day of fellowship and sharing, mixed in with some learning along the way.

During the last week of April I participated in the quarterly DP by Zoom meeting where I engaged in conversation with our Australian President and other diocesan presidents. We discussed much of which I have shared with you in this newsletter.

We were made aware of a 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Global Gathering planned for Durban, South Africa in early October 2026. An initial promotional flyer has been provided which outlines the hopes for the gathering and the possible costs. I will keep you updated as more information comes to light and what opportunity there may be for members to attend if you have the financial resources to do so.

I shared again information from the new AMUA Handbook on the make up of diocesan executives. Your executive spent some time discussing this in March and what we feel is necessary for the good governance of Mothers Union in our diocese. The first part of the Handbook statement, on what is essential, mirrors our thoughts:

Diocesan Executive shall comprise at least 3 people including but not limited to:

**Diocesan President**

**Vice President**

**Diocesan Secretary\***

**Diocesan Treasurer\***

\* Please note in smaller dioceses the President cannot hold a dual role, but Secretary and Treasurer may be the same person.'

With regard to other possible positions within our diocese, the following is a summary of our current thoughts:

**Prayer and Spirituality** – an essential role in the diocese but, while desirable, the person filling this role does not need to be a member of executive

**Overseas and Northern Outreach** – this is not currently an active role and the distribution of information received from AMUA can be managed by the core executive members

**Promotion and Communication** — this is not currently an active role and the distribution of information received from AMUA can be managed by the core executive members  
**Social Issues and Action** – in its current formal, this role is not essential and the distribution of information received from AMUA can be managed by the core executive members

**Publication** – an essential role in the diocese but, while desirable, the person filling this role does not need to be a member of executive, as is currently the case

While it is highly desirable that we have an executive that is made up of more than three or four members (being the core office holders), having an executive at all to lead our diocese into 2026 and beyond will not be a reality unless we have people willing to offer themselves for positions.

I ask each member to prayerfully consider who they will encourage to nominate for a role on our 2026-28 executive. If there is not a member within your branch whom you feel able to encourage, is there someone you know who is not currently a member of Mothers Union whom you might talk to.

Your current executive is more than willing to answer any questions about how their roles are currently managed and we would welcome expressions of interest from people who may like to consider nominating for any role.

Every blessing

Wendy Mabey  
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*God of Hope*

*you call on us to be your witnesses in this uncertain world;  
by your spirit awaken in us  
a true vision of your kingdom,  
a greater certainty of our salvation, and  
a deeper dedication to your service;  
that through our words and actions the same Spirit may  
bring many who are lost to be found,  
and for them to celebrate the hope  
that we can only have in Jesus Christ,  
in whose name we pray. Amen*