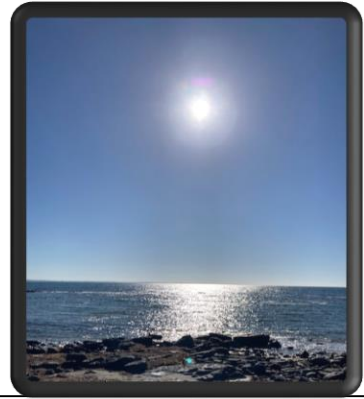




# Wendy's Writings February 2024



**'Be salt and light:  
Shine Brightly'**

*Just as salt flavours food, committed disciples flavour the world with Christ's love.*

Dear members and friends,

Last month when I wrote to you, as we commenced a new year, I had been overlooking the sunrise in Augusta. This weekend as I write to you I am in Bunbury and spent yesterday evening walking on the beach with Ian and Dusty, seeing the sun as it began its late afternoon descent over the salty ocean. In many ways it was the same, and yet it was also different. Just as you and I are the same in some ways, and yet all very different. And it is our differences that allow each of us to share our unique flavour with those whose lives we touch each day.

If you have received a copy of Bishop Ian's February newsletter through your parish, you will have seen photos of Liz Byleveld with members of Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Kapsabet. Below are two further photos sent to me by Mama Selline, with comments on the ministry that Liz is undertaking.



Elizabeth is sampling Mothers' Union ministry in the Diocese of Kapsabet.

Every week she visits a Parish, then Monday and Tuesdays are her days of reflection

Most of the activities she joins or participate in are our MU Annual plans. So, when she visits a Parish, she joins in the activities of the week



Lent is almost here. Bishop Ian has written a Lenten Study for our use, a copy of which I am sending out with my newsletter. The course focuses on the third diocesan strategy of *Growing in love for, and encouragement of, one another*. You may like to undertake this study on your own, or as part of a group. You may like to consider using one or more of the weeks during your branch meeting/s that will occur during Lent.

I remind you that our Australian President, Dr. Robin Ray will be visiting us in March and an itinerary has been prepared to provide an opportunity for as many members as possible to meet with Robin in Albany, Bunbury and Mandurah.

Branches have received flyers and luncheon orders for Lady Day in Bunbury, as well as for our day in Albany. For those branches who will have members attending our main Lady Day service at the Cathedral in Bunbury, can I ask that all luncheon orders and payments are sent in by branches only. It can be difficult to provide accurate numbers to our caterer when individual members RSVP and pay directly as it takes, at times, a lot of checking to ensure people aren't being counted more than once, or being missed completely.

Due to commitments he has in the eastern states, Bishop Ian will be unable to be with us for Lady Day this year. The Dean, the Very Reverend Darryl Cotton has kindly agreed to celebrate and preach at our Eucharist. We will have a slightly different format this year with moving straight to the hall for lunch after our service and then after lunch hearing from our Australian President and enjoying time in a conversation with Robin about Mothers Union.

As proposed by our Executive, and endorsed by members at our annual meeting last year, awards in recognition of years of service by members will now be presented at our annual meeting each year rather than at Lady Day.

I recently took part in a Zoom meeting of Diocesan Presidents, chaired by Robin Ray. We heard of updates to our AMUA Handbook, which it is hoped will be available for us to look at when we all gather in Sydney in May for our Australian Council meeting. We also heard of the finalization of plans for our next Overseas Target Project. Details will be available later this month and I hope that we will find ways to engage in the project and consider opportunities for providing a financial contribution, whether at a personal, branch or diocesan level.

During the meeting we were also encouraged to make use of our national prayer diary that has been prepared by Christine Jensen, our national Prayer and Spirituality Coordinator. Ann Busch has forwarded this to all branches. Members can use the diary during their daily prayers in conjunction with the Mothers' Union Prayer Diary and Wave of Prayer. I would also encourage branches to use these three resources as a part of their branch service / prayer time when they meet.

Every blessing

Wendy Mabey  
President  
AMUA Diocese of Bunbury



*Praying globally – serving locally  
Supporting family life  
Advocating for social justice*