

Notes from St James The Great, Haydock, Mothers' Union Meeting  
held on Tuesday, 5 January, 2016

Annual General Meeting:

The Branch Leader's report summarised activities, events and achievements in 2015. Branch membership remains at 22, with an average of 14.1 in attendance at each meeting. Thanks were offered to all those who contributed in any way to the successes achieved in 2015.

Tiddlers Group continues successfully. Special thanks were offered to Janet, Nancy, Sue and Pat for their work on this.

The Treasurer's Report outlined the circumstances which have led to a current cash flow problem. Thanks were offered to Philip Peplow who has donated £100 to alleviate the immediate problem.

Lengthy discussions took place on how to resolve a difficult financial situation occurring in future. It was decided to raise the cost of tea at our meetings to £1 with immediate effect. Members were asked to consider all the other options which were discussed, including the possibility of members contributing towards a pool of money as a 'float', or maintaining a little of the money raised at events to better cover branch running expenses. Geraldine will be happy to receive views on the discussions held, or further suggestions for maintaining financial stability which balance with the non-profit making aims of the Mothers' Union.

Any Other Business

Members

Thank you cards have been received from Audrey Lowrey, for the card and floral arrangement she received during her illness, and from Gill and Bill Haydock for the card and flowers they received on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary. Membership fees are now due. Please let Rita have your subscription of £18.50 as soon as possible.

Speakers:

It remains difficult to obtain speakers at meetings, particularly as we are unable to offer anything other than a small donation to their causes.

A draft agenda for 2016 was discussed. This is to be developed and up-dated as and when necessary. A reference copy will be placed on the Mothers' Union notice board. This chart also contains information on when members are on rota to provide tea/coffee or donate a raffle prize.

Deanery Information:

The Deanery President was pleased that we had made contact with other branches in the Deanery by sending a Christmas Card to each.

There is to be a Deanery Dinner on 25 January 2016. Please let Geraldine know urgently if you wish to attend.

The Mothers' Union theme for 2016 is 'A Celebration of Faith'.

Leprosy Mission

Gill expects to be able to send a cheque for at least £100 to them as soon as all remaining box contents are counted.

### Diary Dates

Lent Lunches begin on 12 February, 2016. Geraldine is drawing up a list of helpers, providers of food and raffle prizes. If you have not already done so, please let Geraldine know if you are able to help in any way.

### Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place after the 7.30 Eucharist on Tuesday, 2 February, 2016. It is hoped that a representative from The Dog's Trust will be able to attend to speak to us. The speaker for 1 March has now been confirmed. Pat Grimshaw will talk about 'Family History'.

*Please continue to check the notice board for up-dates, information and further details on the list of events.*

*It is possible to have the agenda, the diary dates list and/or meeting notes e'mailed to you. If you wish to receive any, or all, of them by e'mail please inform Elaine Wallwork.*