



Dear Member,

Let us Continue to Shine a light

As part of Mothers' Union, as well as our very precious Christian fellowship, we have a special calling, to grow God's Kingdom. We do this by working in our communities at home and around the world to help stop violence, stop poverty, and stop injustice.

Mothers' Union is one of a kind

Mothers' Union is a unique movement. It is one of the longest serving women-led movements in the world, and members, living where they serve, reach many unreachable by other means. Together, we can ensure that this remains the case for many years to come, helping every individual to thrive. Last year alone, your gifts of subscriptions and funds raised helped fellow members to support more than a million people around the world – we cannot thank you enough!

An increase to your contribution

Given the continuing economic uncertainties caused by the pandemic, the Provincial Presidents and worldwide trustees for Britain and Ireland reflected long and prayerfully about the appropriate level of subscription to ensure that the movement can be sustained. For 2021, they are asking each member to contribute 38p per week, or £20 for the year to support the central charity, as part of the **total subscription of £23 per year**.

The Sheffield Mothers' Union Trustees have decided that, instead of passing on the large increase, we would reduce the Diocesan subscription so that the total increase will only be £2 this year.

We do recognize that this is a significant increase over 2020, and it is only requested because of the uniquely challenging times in which we find ourselves. The central charity have taken significant steps to reduce the financial burden, which included launching an urgent appeal, reducing costs, a salary sacrifice taken by senior staff team from April onwards and finally taking the very difficult decision to reduce overall staff head count through a redundancy scheme.

The gains you will receive

To help ensure that you are kept even better informed about the work of fellow members at home and around the world, our current publication Families First has been reimagined. Accordingly, as part of your subscription you will receive, direct to your doormat, a new publication twice a year containing stories of members' work, together with faith resources and ideas and topics for local meetings.

This publication will be designed so that all can use it to reach out to new friends and members, encouraging them to become part of this amazing movement.

To give you an idea, this is how your precious gift of a subscription will be spent:

Scripture

In Matthew 5:14-16 Jesus said that

"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

Mary Sumner knew the simplicity and importance of these very lines. She called on members of the movement during her lifetime to let their light shine. Her words encouraged others to be like lighthouses, guiding others safely through the darkest nights.

Membership today

Many years later, members play a similar role in their communities. Their work is key in growing God's Kingdom, leading others by their own example, showing the light of their kindness. The gift of your subscription will enable us to support you so that together we can grow our movement in Britain & Ireland.

Together, we achieve this through;



Looking forward

Together we will continue to bring people into the warm embrace and fellowship of the movement. Members have lit up the way for so many to find the Lord for nearly 150 years, let us continue to shine a light and support those in need.

Yours in love and prayer,

Gill Fellows

Gill Fellows- President, Sheffield MU