

## Wonder Women! – Then and Now President's Letter May 2021

Dear Sisters

I am writing this up in my room in the manse at Fairfield. If I turn my head, I can see what a beautiful day it is; sun shining, birds singing and blossom starting to make an appearance on the many trees in Fairfield. Today, we had hoped that some of you may have been able to join us at Fairfield for a District MWA service but sadly not so. Instead, we have joined together provincially via Zoom, which was a joy. However, I can not wait until we can all gather together again in a church! Executive are hoping that this will be possible on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at Fairfield. When we have firm arrangements, we will let you know. If you paid to attend last year's MWA Day (2019), the money for that has been kept and you will be able to use it for 2022 or have a refund if you wish.

Central Committee met via Zoom on 16<sup>th</sup> April to plan MWA year 2021-2022. Our new World Day of Prayer representative, Sr Maureen Colbert joined us for the first time and Sr Joy Raynor, a member of the online Circle "The Seedlings" was also present. Sr Patsy Holdsworth was also a first-time attendee, representing the Western District. I hope these Sisters were not too confused by their first Central Committee.

Sr Gillian Taylor was elected to succeed me as a President. However, I will still be involved with MWA Executive as I was elected as Home and Overseas Secretary to succeed Sr Naomi Hancock.

The theme for next year will be: "Dreams and Visions", Sr Thornton is hoping that she will be able to incorporate many of the other ideas and suggestions from Circles under this umbrella title. In particular, some of the suggestions around the climate crisis.

Central Committee had the grand sum of £5000 to distribute immediately to Projects Moravian and non-Moravian. The money was distributed as follows:

£1000 to replenish our Disaster Fund.

£500 to be sent to each of the following; UWD fund to keep 12 Masai girls in education, to support the Moravian presence in Myanmar, for the registration of programmes in Clinical Medicine and Pharmacy at the University in Western Tanzania and finally to Research for Dementia.

£250 to each of the following: help complete the church building at Khokona in Nepal, to help complete the external fittings of a new Kindergarten building at Star Mountain Rehabilitation Centre, ME Association, Tabby's Trust (Children's Brain Tumour Research), Butterflies Mental Health, NW Air Ambulances, Swindon Night Shelter and the Asthma Trust.

Our projects for 2021-2022 are:

At least £500 towards the UWD fund for Masai girls

£750 for British province's Summer Camp

£750 for Action Medical Research for Children

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We are suggesting that when we can finally meet face to face again that members bring an item each month to their Circle meeting if possible, to support their local foodbank.

I am pleased to announce that so far this year MWA has received £3072 in donations for Projects which I feel is a marvellous achievement. If any Circles still have any Project money, please can you send it to Sr Gillian Taylor as soon as you are able.

I understand that some of you have not received a booking form for September's retreat. If you would like one then please contact either myself or Gillian Taylor. It is probably going to be possible for some Sisters who can travel to attend the retreat just for the day on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September. If this is something you are interested in, please contact Gillian Taylor for further details.

I feel this is enough information – more details of the various Projects will appear in due course – but for now

Yours in Christ

Sr Janet Cooper

***MIZPAH***