

# summer of hope

Dear Member

June 2021

This Summer of Hope, I pray that my letter finds you well. Some in our fellowship have suffered loss these past 18 months and felt the comfort from loved ones. Many of you have given kindness and shared your wisdom and faith. You are all in my prayers.

2021 marks the 145th anniversary of Mothers' Union, brought to life by Mary Sumner's vision of women supporting families and communities. This summer, we also mark 100 years since she died after a truly remarkable and inspiring life.

Mary Sumner led a breakthrough for women, whose role during her lifetime was chiefly to give support to male leaders in the Church, work, and society. Her vision was a world where women's voices were heard, and their own rights recognised.

**This Summer of Hope, we celebrate the opportunity to reflect on her extraordinary achievements, and to continue her incredible work, through prayer, creativity and giving.**

All around the world, women are growing their leadership skills, supporting one another, and making a difference, thanks to the generosity of members like you.

For example, in Tanzania, Jane Abnel Masingo is developing her leadership role both in the Church and in her community. Following in Mary Sumner's footsteps, Jane dedicates her life not only to looking after her child and her parents but also to teaching other women in her community and passing on her wisdom.

**Let me show you how - by sharing with you Jane's story of hope and leadership.**



Registered Charity Number 240531

Please turn over

## Mothers' Union Savings and Credit groups

How you've already helped...



**5,344**  
members

Since 2017

**over 1,150**

women have been enrolled into leadership positions in the church and community and this figure is growing rapidly.

**£200,000**

Total savings across 255 groups

**255**

savings and  
credit groups

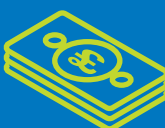


We estimate  
that at least

**26,720**



further people have benefited indirectly at the household level through improved diet, capacity to pay school fees, access to health care and improved housing.



**97%**

of members report a change in women's role in household decision making about money since they have been part of the MU project.

# Jane's story of Hope

Jane is 43, a single mother of one child. She lives in the diocese of Mpwapwa in central Tanzania, a mountainous district served by dirt roads.

After attending primary education and two years of Bible School, Jane joined her local Mothers' Union Savings and Credit group. Through this, she was able to take out a small loan to put her dream into action by starting her own food business.

Now, in spite of the pandemic hitting her income, Jane is looking forward to a Summer of Hope, thanks to the continuing support of her local Mothers' Union.

Members around her have provided a perfect refuge for Jane and the other women in her community, giving them a safe space to share their difficulties, advice and to grow together in mutual support. Jane says that thanks to her involvement in Mothers' Union she's learned how to: "help development outside the church as well as in the church".

"One of the biggest problems affecting women and children is gender-based violence," she says. With the group's support, Jane feels empowered to take action, lead, and pray for an end to this abuse.

Jane's dedication embodies the spirit of Mary Sumner's vision and keeps it thriving today. This Summer of Hope, our prayers go to all women who are inspired by Mary Sumner's extraordinary legacy of women's empowerment: helping each other, supporting one another, and transforming their communities.

Jane is a wonderful example of how important it is that we count our blessings and share them so we can support one another through the good times and the bad.

Enclosed, you will find a wall calendar, to help you count your blessings in the month of August, share prayers together, and put some loose change aside this Summer. You will also find a Creative Prayer enclosed, to accompany you in giving thanks for Mary Sumner's legacy, cherishing God's creations, and praying for the future of Mothers' Union worldwide.

If you are able to make a donation today to help grow our women's empowerment projects worldwide we would be extremely grateful.

May God bless you and grant you and your loved ones health, happiness, and a Summer full of Hope,

*Sheran Harper*

Sheran Harper  
Worldwide President, Mothers' Union

*P.S. In the most challenging times, it's more important than ever that we pray together and help one another. If your local group is planning a Summer of Hope fundraising event, why not join in and help empower more women like Jane?*



£90 could provide two day's training for a volunteer savings group facilitator like Jane to teach women the importance of saving and investing in sustainable businesses to support their family.



You can return this form or any cheque donations to:  
Mothers' Union, Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3RB

You can also donate online at [www.mothersunion.org/summer-hope](http://www.mothersunion.org/summer-hope)  
or by calling us on 020 7222 5533



Yes, I want to help build a brighter future for women in this summer of hope.

Please accept my gift of: £

1. My details (Please change if incorrect)

<Account No> <Source Code>  
<Title> <First Name> <Surname>  
<address 1>  
<address 2>  
<address 3>  
<Town>  
<County>  
<Postcode/Country>

2. My donation

Please enclose a cheque made payable to Mothers' Union or complete the credit/debit card details below.

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Switch ☐ CAF Charity Card

Card No

Valid from 

m m y y

Expiry date 

m m y y

Issue No. 

switch only

Security code

Signed:

☐ To help Mothers' Union save costs, I do not require an acknowledgement.

3. Please return this form or any cheque donations to:  
Mothers' Union, Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3RB

Tick this box to make every £1 of your gift worth 25p more for FREE.

☐ Yes, I want to Gift Aid any donations made to Mothers' Union now, in the future and in the past four years until I notify you otherwise.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

*giftaid it*

4. Staying in contact

☐ Gaming - If you tick this you **WILL NOT** receive any raffles, lotteries or free prize draws.

☐ Campaigns and Resources - Tick to **NOT** receive mail that contains membership resources, campaign materials or appeals.

☐ Non-essential - Tick to **NOT** receive mail that contains membership resources, campaign materials or appeals.