

# **THE MOTHERS' UNION PROVINCE OF SCOTLAND**

**Scottish Charity Number SC036459**

## **Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017**

### **Bank**

Clydesdale Bank, Perth Branch, 158/162 High Street, Perth PH1 5UH

### **Independent Examiner**

David Gow

### **Structure and Governance**

The Mothers' Union Province of Scotland is part of the worldwide Mothers' Union and is governed by its Constitution, which was last modified and adopted by the Provincial Council at its meeting on 29 April 2014. The Constitution incorporates the objects and regulations of The Mothers' Union, 24 Tufton Street, London SW1P 3RB, registered charity number 240531 (referred to as Central MU in this report and accounts).

### **Current Trustees**

Jean McPherson Richardson (Provincial President)

Helen Godfrey (Diocesan President – Edinburgh)

Jill Cameron (Diocesan President – Glasgow & Galloway)

Catherine Green (Diocesan President – Moray, Ross & Caithness)

Elizabeth Benton (Diocesan President – St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane)

### **Contact Address**

c/o Paul Hindle, 40 Garngaber Avenue, Lenzie, Glasgow G66 4LL

### **Recruitment and appointment of Trustees**

The trustees are the Provincial President and the Diocesan Presidents of the five active dioceses. Aberdeen & Orkney does not currently have a Diocesan President, but its interests are represented by a member in a non-voting capacity.

The Provincial President is elected by the Diocesan Presidents and the four unit coordinators from each diocese from the names submitted by the membership, and shall hold office for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-election for one further term of three years.

The current Provincial President was re-elected for a second term commencing at the beginning of the year 2016

## **Management**

The Charity is managed by the trustees assisted by the Provincial Officers who are appointed by the trustees and approved by the Provincial Council. The current Provincial Officers are Sarah Gammell (Hon. Secretary) and Paul Hindle (Hon. Treasurer).

## **Charitable Objectives**

- To uphold Christ's teaching on the nature of marriage and promote its wider understanding.
- To encourage parents to bring up their children in the faith and life of the Church.
- To maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service.
- To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children.

## **Activities and achievements**

The Mothers' Union members continued throughout 2017 to respond and reach out to their communities and beyond through their various projects. In some cases, they form partnerships with like-minded organisations so that together they can each play a part in helping families and individuals at their time of need. There is no barrier to helping whoever they can.

Mothers' Union members provide play areas at visiting times in four prisons in Scotland (Greenock, Perth, Low Moss and Glenochil).

Small knitted garments for premature babies and gowns for stillborn babies are given to hospitals as well as welcome packs for emergency admissions. Hats for seafarers, Fiddle blankets, and bonding squares are also made.

New baby packs, toothbrushes/toothpaste for Malawi and underwear for Africa are some of the items made or collected for overseas projects.

Items which are collected and donated for local distribution include Christmas gifts for the housebound, pants for prisoners on remand, Christmas cards to prisoners, Toiletries for prisoners on release, cards for prisoners to send.

Members enjoy providing facilities for breast-feeding and nappy changing at one of the summer's agricultural show grounds.

We provide short holidays for families who need to get away for a while and where numbers are too small to support to holidays, fundraised donations are given to partnership organisations to support the respite which they can offer. MU also offer parenting courses for mothers and fathers.

We are raising the profile of domestic abuse to church members, the wider public, within prisons and praying for the victims. We also provide toiletries for women's refuges and local hospitals.

