

17.9.2021

Hello Everyone,

It was lovely to see people at the meeting on Tuesday. For those of you who were not there, we looked at some old records of MU from the last 70 years, including a tablecloth which is signed by members of St Mary's. There are so many familiar names. We have a cloth to start our own memories and this will be a "Covid Year" cloth and we will date it to remember this traumatic year!! If you would like to have your name on the cloth, we have a sheet prepared with spaces in which to put your signature. There is no deadline for this at the moment and we will have the signatures sheets available at the Open day on 25th September and at the next MU meeting. These will be traced onto the cloth and embroidered to make them permanent.

I am sure that we have sufficient embroiders to make this part of the production a pleasant task.



We now can look forward to the next meeting which hopefully will be able to be held in St Lukes Chapel.

On Monday at 7pm I was watching The One Show on BBC1 and to my surprise there was a long feature about Erin Pizzey, the founder of Women's Refuges. Two other women were featured, one a mother, who with her children had been one of the first to use the refuge. The other lady was her daughter. They both spoke of the warmth and kindness given to them when they needed it most.

The weekend after next is the Church Open day, when we will have a Mothers' Union display in St Helen's Chapel. This will show the work MU do throughout the world and will include what we do here in Tickhill. An example of fresh start basket that we send to the Doncaster Women's Refuge will be there and some background about the beginnings of the refuges in this country.

Another car load of towels, bedding and mens clothing is ready to be delivered to GFFG at Balby this week. If anyone has anything to donate please let either Margaret or myself know.

After next week, we will be again collecting things for fresh start baskets the refuge so again let us know if you have anything to donate so that they can be collected or delivered here to me. We will be sorting the week beginning 27th September after the Open day and Harvest weekend.

Tanis comments on the achievement of Emma Raducanu this week, what a wonderful ambassador for teenagers!

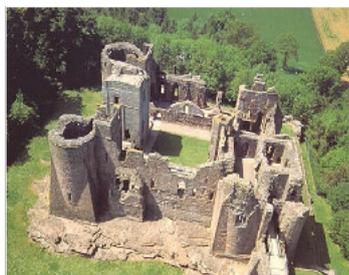
Hi everyone

I hope you are all in good spirits. So as we look ahead with Hope and Confidence, our theme for 2022 is 'Transformation Now!'

Well haven't we seen many transformations in our lives, nature alone shows how a caterpillar becomes a beautiful butterfly, ugly ducklings become swans, and in the world at large what began as a few simple meetings became a worldwide organisation called the Mothers' Union.



I remember as a young girl, I attended St Giles Church of England school for girls; I was very shy but I loved it. I enjoyed our art classes and one school year we had to put together an appliqué picture out of scraps of material. I did an underwater scene with tropical fish, sea urchins and shells, to my disappointment it ended up on the office wall of our headmistress miss Stevens. I never got to take it home for my mother to see and I never realised the compliment being paid.



We also played tennis at Pontefract castle, where there were wonderful lawn tennis courts, I was no Emma Raducanu, but I did enjoy the game and it transformed me from a shy girl into an energetic one. If you watch Wimbledon as I do, and then the match in New York with 2 teenagers out to win an important title, you can't help but see the transformation of the winner. Emma Raducanu is a beautiful



intelligent young girl with talent galore. We can watch her being transformed into a worldwide sports personality, but it will take hard work, dedication, patience and acceptance of defeat at times; good luck to her!

I continued to play tennis as a student nurse because we had hard courts attached to the nurse's home. I was never very good but it kept me fit, or so I thought.

So we are trying to get back to normal; branches are having meetings and planning for the future. 2022 will have many challenges, not only for Mothers' Union but worldwide. What can we do? First we must pray, asking God to sustain and direct us. I spend quiet moments in the early morning praying and asking for help, and thanking God for all that we have, so many gifts.

So whatever transformations are ahead for Mothers' Union, let us all be a part of it, vow to be proactive, loving and kind, following in our Lord Jesus Christ's footsteps, who transformed our sin into glory.

Remember that the hymns we sing are praise, prayers and thanksgiving, so sing this Graham Kendrick's song with gusto; it can transform your mood (MP 445)

Shine Jesus shine
Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring
Shine on me, shine on me



Keep smiling and remember, a rainbow can transform a gloomy day.
Love and God Bless, Tanis

Lord you are in this place,
Fill us with your power, cover us with your peace, show us your presence.

Lord help us to know
We are in your hands, we are under your protection, we are covered by your love.

Lord we ask you today
To deliver us from evil, to guide us in our travels, to defend us from all harm.

Lord give us now
Eyes to see the invisible, ears to hear your call, hands to do your work, and hearts
to respond to your love.

Amen

Love to everyone from Helen on behalf of the committee
Margaret 742180
Helen 744126
Liz 759852
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Kathie 743451
Chris 743784
also there for a chat Elaine 743842 and Liz Rennison 742830