

Hartshill Branch Report November 2015 by Sue Foster

Hartshill Mothers' Union has had another very enjoyable year this year.

We have 16 members; including 1 returning member, 1 newly enrolled member and Heather who has joined us from Fillongley and is representing us here today. 3 of our members are from other parishes and we would welcome any Diocesan members who would like to attend meetings!

Talks have included:

- Brenda Mosse talking on "Time to Spare, Time to Care": Valuing time alone, time to listen and sympathise, awareness of God's world.
- Our own Rob Kinderman talking on being a Street Pastor in Nuneaton
- Di Sliwinski discussing with us "Who are the Mothers' Union

Fellowship activities have included:

- Hand Bell Ringing
- "Desert Island Disc" where each members chose a meaningful piece of music. Each member explained why it was meaningful to them and we listened to it. (I think this item was particularly popular as we all learnt more about each other.)
- Hymn singing
- Making paper flowers
- A summer barbecue and a Christmas party

These activities were all organised/ provided by members .

I found it quite difficult to ensure that Hartshill members were kept informed of all the news I received by email from the Deanery and Diocese and so I created a website for Hartshill branch which can be found at

<http://www.little-blue-boat.co.uk/mu/>

I update the news on a monthly basis and print it for the 3 members who don't have internet access. Our program for the year and links to the Diocesan and Worldwide Mothers' Union websites can also be found there.

We also very much enjoyed hosting the Deanery Service in June and this has prompted us to pick up the gauntlet and organise next year's Mothering Sunday service at Holy Trinity Church, Hartshill.

We have also knitted blanket squares and created blankets for Chintowa Charity which supports a school in Malawi for street children. (see <http://www.chinthowa.org.uk/>) and collected toiletries for SARC.

Various of us have enjoyed events organised by the Deanery and the Diocese, although I do have the repeated complaint that many events are during the day and many of our members work or have other commitments. Perhaps I will request that next year's Advent Service at least is in the evening.

God Bless, Sue Foster (Hartshill branch leader)