

Cromhall and Falfield Mothers' Union 2010/11

In January 2010 we held the first meeting of this new branch –a joining of Cromhall & Tortworth with Rockhampton, Oldbury & Falfield. We had hopes of doubling our numbers but sadly some of the older members from the joining group found the change too much and have opted out.

In February we met to learn more about Cameroon and its people in preparation for the WWDP in March. There was also a Fairtrade Stall to highlight the coming Fairtrade fortnight.

Speakers during the year included Suzette Wadman on her move from S Africa to Thornbury, Kate Thompson recalled the Diocesan visit to India, Jennifer Oldersahaw spoke about her Experiences in Palestine and Jane Hathway investigated traditions around Birthdays.

As usual we hosted the local MU lunch in June inviting Thornbury and Chipping Sodbury branches to join us. Once again we had lovely weather for this and enjoyed a relaxing time in the garden. Other meetings included a summer Eucharist at St George's Falfield, the Wave of Prayer in St Oswald's Rockhampton, a Deanery Quiet Day in Rangeworthy and the Mary Sumner Day picnic in the Forest of Dean.

As a new branch we are looking for new resolutions.

We decided to try to become more visible in the community, small in number as we are.

1. We see that there are many young families with children under five in our local community and knowing that the MU has been running successful parenting courses in the Diocese, it was decided to try to set up a group within our Benefice. A small group was formed and a successful first meeting took place. Sadly we may not have sufficient support to be able to continue with this. If you know of anyone who would be interested, please let Leslie Stonehouse know as soon as possible.
2. We plan to have a coffee morning this summer, choosing a venue and time to encourage, in particular, the young Mum's to attend.
3. And an open meeting was held recently with Astrid Molyneux as speaker. Her account of cycling around the world over 2 years left us all amazed and breathless!

Finally, we are delighted this year to welcome Red Jenny as a new member in our branch. We now meet in Falfield Village Hall, usually on the third Monday afternoon of the month. We hope that many of you will join us for the occasional meeting during 2011. Posters advertising our meetings can be seen in the church porch each month and also details can be found on 'cromhall.com'.

Ann Greenhalgh – Branch leader.

