**Deanery report from Alnwick Bamburgh Glendale and Norham**.

Chevington hosted our Deanery Day at St Johns. Steve Lunn the local blacksmith was a most passionate speaker, we also visited his forge up the street. It was a wonderful day to catch up with old friends.

The Diocesan Eucharist was held at St Michaels Alnwick during  which Bishop Mark and his wife Lindsey were welcomed into the MU. Thank you to Alnwick Branch who provided an amazing lunch.

Alnwick branch also hosted our Deanery Festival at St Michaels where the stunning new banner for Amble was dedicated. If you get a chance do look closely at it and see the splendid job Linda has done , even an eider duck!

Our Deanery Open day was held at South Caistron on a hot, sunny day . After a pooled lunch the members viewed the surrounding gardens and took a gentle stroll around the lake.

Norham had a visit from Bishop Mark were he enrolled new members and gave a talk about his life so far, it has been quite a journey. Amble showed off their new banner where Linda told us how she had created such an impressive work of art and I enrolled a new member. Belford held their annual afternoon tea at Belford hall and what a tea it was! Most branches have raised money for the Summer of Hope Project. Some members thoroughly enjoyed the Northumberland Archdeaconry Festival and were impressed by the speaker Bev Jullien. We intend to roll out MUOLA during the coming year.

Margy Tasker-Brown

**Hexham and Bellingham Deanery Report September 2018**

The Deanery Coffee morning is planned for 6th October in Bardon Mill Village Hall. We hope to match last year’s successful result.

A sampler embroidered in cross stitch by June Olliver, Hexham Branch, with Mary Sumner’s personal prayer in cross stitch and framed will be given to Lynne Tembey, as a retirement gift from Hexham and Bellingham Deaneries, along with a financial contribution.

Members of Hexham Deanery were invited by the members of Bellingham Deanery to afternoon tea at the Sill. It was a very successful occasion and hopefully to be repeated at a later date.

**Hexham Abbey Branch** - On the whole their membership is elderly but some manage to come to meetings in the newly refurbished Monastery building at the side of the Abbey. Rev’d Matthew Hunter; a MU member was presented with a framed cross stitch sampler with Mary Sumner’s prayer on his departure to a new parish.

**Haltwhistle Branch** - Mrs Nellie Alderson continues as Branch Leader. They will be in an Interregnum from early September.

**Haydon Bridge Branch** our Vicar, Benjamin Carter and Curate, Gill Alexander were admitted to membership at a Benefice service in Haydon Bridge, We joined St Columba’s MU Wideopen, for a Mary Sumner day and afternoon tea on 9th August. We were made very welcome and the tea was most enjoyable

**Bellingham Deanery**

**St Peters’ Humshaugh have** 11 members and cover a large geographical area, up as far as Kielder and down to Fourstones. Canon Stanley Prins, one time MU Chaplain to Haydon Bridge was buried in St Peters Humshaugh, on 16th July, where he had been Vicar for many years, before retiring to Bardon Mill.

In the absence of anyone volunteering for the post of Deanery Leader Sheila Walker has agreed to be contact only.  She will have the support of all branches.

Anne Brunton, Leader, Hexham and Bellingham Deaneries.

**Morpeth Deanery Report**

Our Lady Day Service was well attended.

Some of our members went to the Deanery Festival at Alnwick.

Our Newbiggin Branch had their usual delicious lunch “Delicious Spuds of May” and their lovely desserts, they said it may be the last lunch this year, but have agreed to do one next year.

We all enjoyed a Quiet Evening at the Holy Sepulchre led by the Rev. Lorna Beadle.

Our Service Day/Midday Prayers at the Cathedral was disappointing, only myself, Barbara and Sylvia were there except for one member who came for prayers.

Bothal Branch held their last Strawberry Tea in Angela’s garden, in future it will be in the hall where they meet.

Some of our members went on the coach with the Bedlington Deanery to the Archdeaconry Festival, thank you for arranging the coach Val.

We still deliver Emergency Hospital Bags to Cramlington Hospital, Fiddle Muffs to some wards, baby hats and cloths to Birthing Unit and Teddies to the Childrens Ward (which the Nurses were delighted to receive). Bellingham Branch has also sent some Emergency Toilet Bags for the Hospital and Sheila thanked them for me. Morpeth and Seaton Hirst Branches still do Toilet Bags.

Enrolled 2 new members.

We have a Lady called Margaret in the Morpeth Branch who knits a lot of clothes for charity, she is a marvel.

Our only problem this year was the Data Base which is now resolved.

This is a delightful Deanery to work with I have enjoyed it.

Edna Maddison – Deanery Leader

**Newcastle Central Deanery Report**

**St. Columba’s Wideopen**

We started the year in a good financial position. We don't have a Branch Leader but we work well as a committee and have not had any real problems. Our speakers have been varied and very interesting and we have learnt more about the work of the Church Urban Fund, the West End Refuge and we look forward to a visit from our Diocesan President and a talk about the YMCA later in the year. Our curate, Revd. Morton came to us in May to talk about the Church in Norway just before he sadly had to leave to return to Norway for family reasons - he was a lovely lad and we miss him and his wife. We had our usual Quiet Afternoon in Lent and have helped with the services for members of the congregation who have difficulty coming to our usual Church Services by providing refreshments and lifts. In July some of the branch members had a lovely tea provided by our friends at All Saints’ and we were delighted to welcome members from Haydon Bridge and All Saints’ on Mary Sumner Day who joined us for a service and tea and made the day really special. At the end of the year we enter a new triennial and we look forward to having a new Branch Leader and Officers and moving into the future with confidence.

Joyce Elrod - Secretary.

**All Saints’ Branch, Gosforth**

Since the last report, we have heard all about ‘Citizens Tyne and Wear’, had a coffee morning to boost our branch funds and had a deanery committee meeting with the St. Columba’s ladies. In May, six of us went to the Diocesan Eucharist at St. Michael’s, Alnwick, then two days later, most of us saw the Coventry Cathedral service, live, thanks to the technical skills of our curate!

Some of our members were involved with Schools’ Week at the beginning of June, helping with lots of school parties coming into church every day and learning about David and Goliath through workshops, craft activities and singing. Also in June, our monthly meeting focused on ‘In Mary Sumner’s Footsteps’ and on preparations for our ‘Afternoon Teas in Style’ in July. This was a great success – well attended and a pleasing result. Several members enjoyed the Archdeaconry Festival at Holy Saviour’s Church, Tynemouth on 7th July – a great day!

Finally, we attended St. Columba’s Mary Sumner Day Service and Afternoon Tea on 9th August. Members of their branch had kindly supported ours a few weeks beforehand. We might be a small deanery but, by supporting each other, we have raised £361 between us to go towards local MU projects – a pleasing note on which to end my report.

Pam Taylor - Deanery Leader

**MU West Deanery Report September 2018**

We haven’t had any big celebrations this year and the year has gone very smoothly however the Tabitha branch sadly still remains in abeyance.

In June we were all invited to Holy Nativity Chapel House for a summer service and afternoon tea. The service was taken by their Reader in Training and we looked at Women in the Bible who seemed very unimportant and yet God used them in the line of Judah. We all came away refreshed in spirit and body (after tea).

We were invited by Holy Cross Church Fenham to celebrate Mary Sumner Day with them. We were welcomed with coffee in the hall and then we moved to Church. Barbara Bailes their Reader had made small areas in the church as prayer corners, each one different. We could colour-in Celtic Knot pictures and Barbara had pointers telling us how to pray whilst colouring. In another area we could make Prayer bracelets which we made with pieces of soft rope putting knots in at various places. Have you ever prayed opening and eating a chocolate? Another area. A quiet corner with books and also a place to light a candle and say a special prayer. We ended our time in church with Midday Prayer and then back to the hall where we enjoyed a Faith light lunch.

We were very proud of our branch at The Venerable Bede Church who designed a poster advertising MU and even prouder when we learnt that it had been taken on by the Diocese and enhanced and distributed to all the branches.

In June St John’s Whorlton had a very successful Hanging Basket demonstration night with any gardening questions. They visited Jarrow Hall and St Paul’s this year for their outing and the ladies had a very good day

.

I was very happy to join St Mary’s Ponteland branch on a visit to the Northumbrian Community at Felton. It was a lovely “Quiet Day” in a beautiful quiet setting.

We were represented, all be it by a small contingent, at Tynemouth for our Archdeaconry Festival where we all had a good day of celebration and friendship.

Anne Blight……...West Deanery Leader

**East Deanery Report 13.09.18**

East Deanery have four branches at present, all with good membership. St. Mary Magdalene are in abeyance and plan to close at the end of the year. The closing service is on Wednesday 12th December at 2pm. The branch leaders of the other groups have completed their 6 year and decisions about future leadership is still being planned.

Jackie Moore