

2018 letter for website

Dear members and friends,

2017 was a good year as we reached out into Southwark and beyond supporting family. We give thanks for the increased use of our Away From It All Project as we were able to fund and arrange 16 holidays for those in need of a break. Also we give thanks for our Tea at 3 Project at the Evelina Hospital for sick children. We now attend the Evelina one afternoon every week offering a listening ear and tea and cake to carers and parents of sick children. Also we gave £1,250 for presents for children of those in Prison. We give thanks for these projects and for the numerous, varied smaller ones going on all over our Diocese. We continually give thanks and pray for all that we do and for new initiatives supporting families. We are proud to have a recognised voice against Injustice and Gender Violence and for our powerful voice/action on Reconciliation and Peace here and in other countries.

This year's theme is 'In Mary Sumner's Footsteps' and we will be holding MULOA (Mothers' Union Listens, Observes and Acts) Events to help us to focus on the way forward. Keep your eyes open for dates and venues.

Also this year is the third year in a triennial and therefore we have to have Elections. For 2019 we will need a new Diocesan President and two Vice Presidents and many others who would have held office for 6 years (by end 2018) who will be moving on. We are called to pray and with God's leading, we should ask others to take on new roles. We have a wonderful Trustee Board and vibrant working units and we pray for this to continue with the changes that will take place.

Let each one of us seek God's will for us and respond to His call.

May we continue to pray for each other as we work together supporting families.

So we go forward with Christ for another exciting year!

*Cynthia Smith*

DP Southwark