



ANGLICAN  
MOTHERS UNION  
AUSTRALIA

**INSET**

**SUMMER 2017**

**Anglican Diocese of Grafton**



**Celebration Day AGM.**

**The new Provincial President Rev Anne Kennedy  
with our own Diocesan President Sandra Chambers.**

# A LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT SANDRA CHAMBERS

Dear Friends,

Once again the year has flown by, here we are in the Advent Christmas Season. This season of Joy to All - Christians or not, families try to be with their loved ones but for varied reasons this may or may not be such a joyful time. Let us be aware and let us be a peaceful, loving people— "showing the Light of Christ to all."

Celebration Day; Grafton looking beautiful in her coat of purple, a delight for our visiting Provincial President as she travelled to Grafton from Tweed Heads with her host Sylvia Loader, our past President. Numbers were small but I do hope everyone enjoyed their day. I thank everyone for their help on the day.

Our wonderful guest, Rev Anne Kennedy was a delight and we enjoyed tales from the past and from all our past Presidents with whom we were celebrating. On our service sheet we honoured them all, from our first, Mrs Ashton in 1928 to Sylvia Loader in 2016. What a wonderful job they did with their executives and all they achieved over the years to bring the Diocese to where we are today.

Once again praise goes to Joyce Welsh and the members from South Grafton who out did themselves in decorating Hunt Hall. Congratulations and well done to you all!

I hope all branches have received their email copy of the Bishop in Council Power Point and I hope you will put them to good use in advertising your branch and all MU does. Use it at your Meetings and in the parish so everyone can be informed. Thank you to Archdeacon Sally Miller for updating the program.

## ***Education Dept.,***

We welcome the Rev Thea Archinal to this position.

## ***MU Publications***

All publications will now be available by order, email / phone or off the shelf from the wonderful staff at the Cathedral Bookshop.

Phone: 0266423958

Fax: 0266435114

The Theme for 2018 "***In Mary Sumner's Footsteps***" - Branch Leaders please take this theme and see what you can achieve in your branches, I will be waiting to hear of your ideas or speak to our Department Heads, maybe they can help with ideas on how to plan your program using this theme.

***Lady Day*** will be held in Christ Church Cathedral, April 9th 2018. Further details will follow.

Remember to keep up to date with what is happening in MU by reading Families First and using the MU website. Also remember the Audio Mia Mia if you have any vision impaired members or seniors who are having trouble reading or holding the Mia Mia.

## LAUNCESTON TASMANIAN 125 YEAR CONFERENCE

I was honoured and delighted to be able to attend the conference for 125 years of MU in Australia held in Tasmania, in September and to be supported by so many members from the Grafton Diocese. There were nine members including three past presidents. I also had the pleasure to meet up with one of our former members, Vi Cossey, who is now a member of Melbourne Diocese. She wishes to be remembered to you all.

Our world wide president, Lyne Tembey was a pleasure to meet and listen to. Her talks were inspiring and she is so humble and faithful; a wonderful person to represent, lead and head our organisation. We had beautiful weather, great company and I had a wonderful travelling companion Heather Connell, from Bellingen.



**GOD BLESS,  
SANDRA**



## REFLECTION – Rev Camellia Flanagan

Yesterday I was in Murwillumbah for Faithfulness in Service training and on the way home I had time to call in to the Lismore Regional Gallery. The gallery overlooks the majestic scenery of the valley below and after looking at the magnificent exhibition of Brett Whiteley's visual diary of Paris, New York and Tokyo, I had a few moments to reflect on the magnificence of the natural beauty of the valley as well as the extraordinary gift of the artist recording his impressions of the urban landscape and the people within them. Then an old spiritual song came to mind written by Thomas Dorsey. Thomas Dorsey was born in Villa Rica, Georgia, a small town about forty miles from Atlanta. At age seventeen, he moved to Gary, Indiana, to pursue his music career. Two years later, he enrolled in the Chicago College of Composition and Arranging and began playing with local jazz groups. He soon formed his own band, which became the backup group for Ma Rainey, a well-known blues singer. It was not long before God put his hand on him and he turned from secular song writing to religion. He put together a choir at his church, Pilgrim Baptist Church, with Roberta Martin playing the piano and continued to write Christian songs.

In summing up his life as a Christian, Dorsey said that all of his work has been "from God, for God, and for His people."

In 1937, he wrote a song for Mahalia Jackson, "Peace in the Valley,"

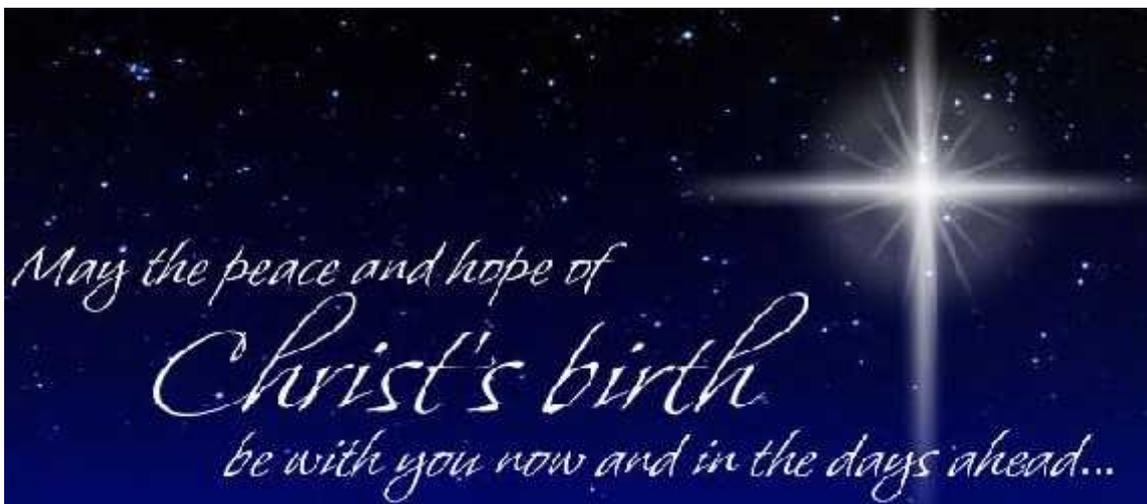
"I am tired and weary, but I must toil on  
Till the Lord comes to call me away,  
Where the morning is bright and the Lamb is the light,  
And the night is as fair as the day.

There'll be peace in the valley for me someday,  
There'll be peace in the valley for me.  
I pray no more sorrow and sadness or trouble will be,  
There'll be peace in the valley for me."

There is no word more precious than peace, nor a more joyous state of being for a Christian, than to know God's peace. We long for it, and when it comes to us it is directly from our heavenly Father.

Thanks to Google and Lindsay Terry and staugustine.com

The Reverend Camellia Flanagan, tssf Chaplain Grafton Diocese  
AMU



## Memories of Eric Clarence Farlow (Alstonville)

**Memories of Eric Clarence Farlow**, and husband to Isabel passed away on 9 June 2017 after a very short illness. He was at Marima, Caroon Nursing Home for two years prior where he made a huge impression. He gave and received lots of cheek and forged strong bonds with many of the staff who expressed heart felt sentiments of how he had influenced and even changed their lives during this time. He would be pleased to know that he was remembered in this way.

Eric was a husband, father, granddad and great granddad. He was steadfast and unwavering but at the same time loved a joke and to make people smile with him. His life can be summed up as one of service.

Young Eric grew up on the family farm in Maclean and indulged his love of growing crops and building things. His passion in those early days was growing vegetables and this desire never left him. Many family, friends and acquaintances benefited from his knowledge on these subjects. Eric was a member of the Lower Clarence Agricultural Society for many years and Vice President for about 10 years. In 1960, prior to the Shire being involved he was appointed as one of the trustees of the show-ground. He was honoured to be appointed to this role.

His other passion in life was his bees. He acquired his first hives at the age of 16 and eventually went on to serve as Chairman of the North Coast Commercial Apiarists Association for several terms. He also served ten years on the State Potato Growers Association representing the north coast.

Throughout his life Eric was very busy in the church. Over many years his building knowledge and experience led him to be elected onto several building committees, helping to achieve many projects such as new or converted churches in Maclean, Yamba, Iluka and later Wyoming (at Gosford), renovating or building new church halls at Maclean and Alstonville, renovating rectories and the building of Emmanuel college in Ballina. He was a visionary when it came to these church building projects. There was a lot of hard work and time involved, all voluntary and these achievements remained a significant memory of his.

Not only did Eric spend his church life overseeing the building and renovation of many buildings, he also had a very full life serving in the church. At the age of 18, he was appointed as a church parish councillor, and went on to serve on church parish councils at Maclean, and then Wyoming until 1989. He served in many roles over the years including as the Rector's Warden, People's Warden, Parish Councillor, Synod Representative, Member of the Diocesan Enabling Team for Pastoral Care, Pastoral Care Chairman at St James, Parish Nominator in 2 parishes, Parish Chairman for Fund Program, and (Emmanuel) College council member in addition to the numerous other building committees. Truly a lifetime commitment.

Eric was a member of the Anglican Men's Society for over 30 years, becoming Newcastle Diocesan Chairman for 12 months. He was also an active member of MU from 1997. During this time he was also a member of the Lions Club in Gosford and a member of Probus in Alstonville, involving a lot of community activities which he found very worthwhile. He was also a member of the Gosford Wood Turners, loving to learn and perfect new techniques and create with his precious lathe.

If you knew Eric, you knew he was a perfectionist. He was very methodical and everything had its place. He followed the philosophy of if it's worth doing it's worth doing well.

***Vale Eric Clarence Farlow.***

(As shared by Rhonda Farlow – daughter.)



# TWEED NEWS

VALE - RAY COLES 20<sup>TH</sup> May 1935 -8<sup>TH</sup> August 2017



RAY WITH LONG TIME MEMBER'S NOELA ANNAND (1971) & MAUREEN BAXTER (1986)

It is with a great deal of joy we remember and celebrate the life of Ray Coles.

Ray joined MU on 24<sup>th</sup> December 1963 and first came to Tweed Heads from Byron Bay in 1989. Loved by everyone who knew her, her love of God, family, friends, church, community and MU was without a doubt what drove her throughout her very busy life.

Within MU she held so many positions. President 2000 – 2005 and “caretaker” president on several occasions during times of transition within the branch. She was a wonderful Secretary carrying out that role in the early days of the branch when Eileen Newell was President.

When not officially on the executive, she spent her time constantly assisting and encouraging all members. Her loyalty to everyone was invaluable.

Respected throughout the Diocese she willingly assisted when asked and was a wealth of knowledge within the MU family.

Within our Parish she was a member of Synod for many years, completed the 4 years of EFM and LLM training and was always in the background doing those little things that needed doing. She washed the linen each week and in her earlier years did pastoral care at Nursing Homes. She took Communion to house bound parishioners. The list of her service is endless and her generosity amazing. Just by being, Ray brought joy and happiness to those around her. She is missed so very much and we have been honoured to call her our friend.

She left St Cuthbert's for the final time to the Seekers song “The Carnival is Over”. A MU guard of honour was formed. To Ray life wonderful and her beliefs in the objects of MU upheld her faith.

## **TWEED HEADS BRANCH NEWS**

Time does go by so quickly and Tweed Heads Branch continues to embrace the commitment made to our purpose.

“The PURPOSE of MU is to be especially concerned with all that strengthens and preserves marriage and Christian family life”.

Within our community we have become increasingly aware of women and children who have been forced to leave the family home and seek safety. As a result, we support a sanctuary for women and children who have needed to seek this safety. We are giving clothing, toiletries, furniture and any items that make their transition to safety more bearable. It is an on-going and absolutely needed service.

At our branch meetings we had the knowledge of Sergeant Brad Foster from Tweed Heads Police as guest speaker at the September meeting. He spoke of the need to practice security within our homes and within the community. A very informative day that we opened to the parish. A lovely luncheon followed the morning.



**Brad being thanked by President Ruth Conlan  
Members at the meeting**

Christmas luncheon will be enjoyed at Tweed Heads Bowls Club on 15<sup>th</sup> November and we all look forward to the challenges of 2018.

A little reflection.

### “MOTHER

The whole being of the mother is in the child.  
The whole being of the child is in the mother.”  
(Marion Mc Call)

Have a wonderful Christmas everyone and much love.

Yvonne Turner and Tweed Heads MU.

### PHOGRAPHS FROM CELEBRATION DAY GRAFTON



New Member Lyn Emerson



Rev Anne Kennedy



Members AGM

# CELEBRATION DAY CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL GRAFTON

*May every Christmas blessing  
Be yours to have and share,  
And may you  
Feel the warmth of God's love everywhere!*



Diocesan Executive takes this opportunity to thank you for your love and support. We would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a wonderful year in 2018.

**Editor: Pam Ansell**

**Closing Date for Inset content Autumn Edition will be 15th February, 2018.**

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If sending photos please use jpeg format**