**MULOA**

**Mothers’ Union, Listening, Observing and Acting.**

Exploring the essence of what it is to be Mothers’ Union and how we can uniquely contribute to making a real difference in peoples lives.

Making it easier to say “Why Mothers’ Union?” in our local community and the wider community.

Over the 2017/2018 Members throughout the world will be exploring together in their local groups.

The process has already started in the West Indies. In the UK it begins in February, Newcastle Diocese was asked to be one of three pilot Dioceses for the UK and Ireland.

Three Branches were chosen to pilot this in our Diocese. An inner city branch a branch from the coast and a rural branch. After initial training with a core group of their members each branch took part in a consultation. The experience gained can be used to help the process move forward next month.

**Principles of MULOA**

**M**others’

**U**nion

**L**istening - to God,

 to each other

 to the marginalised

 to external learning

 creating safe places

**O**bserving- identifying and celebrating what we have

 Looking to the future

**A**cting - sharing honestly and taking responsibility

 What next?

**WHO?** Whose lives are we touching or could be?

**WHAT?** What difference are we making? or could be?

**HOW?** How do we effectively make a difference? or could we?

Not all branches will take part but we hope that a number will. Again not every member in the branch may wish to take part but a group of members may wish to.

Over 140 years ago Mary Sumner saw a need, she touched a lot of lives, and she made a difference. I hope that in the year when the theme is “In Mary Sumner’s Footsteps”, that The Mothers’ Union can move forward with God’s help and make a difference