**WHY OH WHY AM I PLANNING TO PLAY 140 HOLES OF GOLF IN A WEEK?**

I shall be raising funds for the Mother’s Union which celebrates 140 years since it was founded. I have been a member for over 30 years and am now the branch leader in Uppingham. We are the largest branch in the diocese and involved in the following in support of children and families.

* Messy church - monthly in our church school. This involves craft activities relating to a Christian theme and ends with tea for children and their carers.
* Open the Book – at our other primary school. The children dress up and act out Bible stories
* Running a creche in church.
* Supporting our Sunday School
* The Foodbank – members are involved and support this important initiative.
* Away from it all (AFIA). Each year we send a family away on holiday.
* Messy church picnic to Rutland Water. Several children had never been to Rutland Water before.
* Support to the activities for families based in the church at the Christmas in Uppingham event.
* This year we also helped with craft activities for children at the start of the Christmas holidays.
* I continue as a Street Pastor once a month.

Though keen on what we do locally I am passionate about the international work of the organisation. Funds raised will go towards this, particularly in South Africa where we have been lucky to visit and see work in action. MU is the largest Christian organisation supporting family life. There are 4 million members in 83 countries. Helping schemes are planned alongside the communities and family needs. It may involve the following

* Literacy schemes
* Improving health care
* Supplying clean water

**Our aims and objectives are:**

* To promote and support married life
* To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children
* To maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service
* To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children
* To help those whose family life has met with adversity

I attach some photos