



Introducing... Sister Imelda Poole, MBE

A native of Great Britain, Imelda is a sister of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (IBVM). After many years in the field of Education and grass roots mission in the UK, her ministry moved to Albania, where the Archbishop of Tirana invited the Congregation to work in the mission against Human Trafficking.

This led to her co-founding an NGO called Mary Ward Loreto (MWL) which addresses the root causes of trafficking, including poverty, and is involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking. Sister Imelda currently serves as the President of Religious in Europe Networking Against Trafficking and Exploitation (RENATE). RENATE has grown from a handful of sisters into a leading NGO combating human trafficking in 31 European countries. It regularly convenes in different European nations to support work across borders in partnership with the many members of RENATE.



To find out more about the work of the Mary Ward Loreto foundation, visit the website: www.albaniahope.com
follow on Facebook: *MaryWardLoreto*
or email: imelda.poole@marywardloreto.net;

Who's Who at this year's conference?

Rachel Allison	<i>Helen Kim Memorial Scholar (Britain)</i>
Matt Collins	<i>Zoom Operator (www.mconlineevents.co.uk)</i>
Hilary Evans	<i>President, MWiB</i>
Wanda Hogan	<i>Helen Kim Memorial Scholar (Ireland)</i>
Alison Judd	<i>President, WFMUCW*</i>
Phoebe Parkin	<i>Youth President, Methodist Church in Britain</i>
Ruth Parrott	<i>Vice President, MWiB</i>
Sister Imelda Poole	<i>Keynote Speaker</i>
Nina Rawlins	<i>Finance Officer, MWiB</i>
Revd Pam Roberts	<i>Conference Chaplain</i>
Jude Simms	<i>Communications Officer, MWiB</i>
Joan Strong	<i>President, Methodist Women in Ireland</i>
Louise Wilson	<i>Area President, WFMUCW*</i>

* World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women

Together, with Hope on the Way

Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th April 2021



Welcome!

We are delighted to welcome you to this year's 'Swanwick Residential Conference'—neither at Swanwick, nor residential, but online via Zoom! This is a new and exciting venture for us, which we hope will open the door to doing things differently in future, with conferences and events offered to a larger number of participants across a wider variety of media.

Whether this is your first time with us, or your 91st, you're very welcome. In this document you'll find all the information you need for the weekend, and news of MWiB activities and events that might be of interest to you.

Please note especially the following information:

- ~ Access information for all Conference sessions and celebration event:
Meeting ID: 836 2869 0571 Passcode: 007789
Zoom access will open approximately 15 minutes before each session.
- ~ If you have difficulty joining the Conference on the day, do keep trying, but if you're absolutely stuck, please email: matt@mconlineevents.co.uk
- ~ Our Chaplain for the weekend is Revd Pam Roberts. You can contact Pam at any point during the weekend, by telephone (01782 395370) or via the 'chat' facility on Zoom (***ensure you're 'chatting' to Pam only**).
- ~ All participants will be placed into 'Break-out Rooms' at various points during the conference, for discussion in smaller groups, and after each break-out time there will be a short 'Q & A' session.
- ~ You can comment or ask questions at any time during the conference via the 'chat' facility; we will respond to as many as time permits.
- ~ If you have not yet made a donation (suggested £10) to help cover the costs of the conference, you can still do so by following the Conference-specific [link on the MWiB website](#) (not the general 'Donations' button).
N.B. Your donation can be Gift Aided if appropriate.

Programme

(All timings are approximate)


Saturday 17th April: morning session 10.00 am—12.30 pm

10.00 am	Welcome, introductions, and housekeeping notices	<i>Hilary Evans</i>
	Opening worship	<i>Jude Simms</i>
10.20 am	Keynote Session 1	<i>Sister Imelda Poole</i>
10.40 am	Break-out room discussions and responses	
11.10 am	Refreshment break	
11.35 am	Keynote Session 2	<i>Sister Imelda Poole</i>
11.55 am	Break-out room discussions and responses	
12.30 pm	Lunch break	

During the lunch break, optional break-out rooms will be available for conversation and socialising, and there will be on-screen information about books and resources on the conference theme.

Saturday 17th April: afternoon session 2.00 pm—4.00 pm

2.00 pm	Hope for Justice—Stop the Traffick—Railway Children: three organisations working with trafficked people share news of their work and activities	
3.00 pm	Keynote Session 3	<i>Sister Imelda Poole</i>
3.30 pm	Responses to questions and comments	
3.45 pm	Notices and prayers	
4.00 pm	Close	



MWiB Registered Charity no. 1156626
 MWiB, c/o Touchstone, 4 Easby Road, Bradford BD7 1QX
 Methodist Women in Britain is the British Unit of the
 World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women

Sunday 18th April: morning session 10.00 am—12.00 noon

10.00 am	Welcome and notices	<i>Hilary Evans</i>
	Opening prayers and update on activities	<i>Rachel Allison, Wanda Hogan, and Phoebe Parkin</i>
10.30 am	World Federation update	<i>Alison Judd, Louise Wilson, and Joan Strong</i>
10.55 am	Short break	
11.05 am	Bible Study	<i>Louise Wilson</i>
11.35 am	Worship	<i>Led by Hilary Evans</i>
12.10 pm	Thanks, acknowledgments, and close of Conference	

Sunday 18th April: 3.00 pm—4.00 pm

Zoom access opens at 2.50 pm

A celebration of ten years of Methodist Women in Britain

...including a potted history of MWiB, a fun quiz, reflections from former MWiB Presidents, and two hymns written especially for the occasion.

Bring your own cake and candle—party hats optional!

Keep in Touch:

For up-to-date information about MWiB events and activities:

visit our website:
www.mwib.org.uk

join our Facebook group:
 Methodist Women in Britain

follow us on Twitter:
 @MethodistWomen

join our emailing list:
communications@mwib.org.uk

Is it YOU we're looking for?

There are many ways in which you can get involved in MWiB:

- District Rep to Forum
- Executive Leadership Roles
- Website and Social Media
- Finance Officer
- Helen Kim Memorial Scholar

Exciting roles: new challenges

Email admin@mwib.org.uk to find out more about any of these important volunteer roles



Celebrating ten years of MWiB

As you're no doubt aware, 2021 marks ten years since the launch of Methodist Women in Britain at the Methodist Conference in Southport, in 2011, and we are planning a number of activities and events throughout the year to mark this milestone.

We hope you'll be able to join us as we celebrate our special year.

For women, for justice, for Christ

An exhibition at Epworth Old Rectory

highlighting the people, projects, events and campaigns that tell the story of the first ten years of MWiB. As yet there is no opening date confirmed for 2021, but it is hoped to repeat the same exhibition in 2022, when we hope to produce an accompanying booklet.

Methodist Conference

24th June–1st July, Birmingham

Unfortunately, while Conference is still taking place in Birmingham, the usual exhibition and fringe events will not be taking place, and so our planned activities for celebrating our anniversary will not be going ahead. We are working on alternative arrangements for the induction of Ruth Parrott as MWiB President, and hope to have details soon.

Summer Garden Party

August [date tbc], at Epworth Old Rectory

A chance to get together to celebrate MWiB, to eat together, to visit the Rectory and exhibition, and to enjoy (we hope!) some sunshine!

Just Living: Being Faithful with God's Resources

Saturday 23rd October, at Central Methodist, Chippenham

World Federation Day event with worship, keynote presentation and workshops based on SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production.

(NB: dates and details may change depending on ongoing coronavirus restrictions; watch mailings, website, Facebook and Twitter for information)

Methodist Women in Britain is a self-financing volunteer-run charity within the Methodist Church in Britain. Together with Methodist Women in Ireland, we form the Europe: Britain and Ireland Area of the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women.

Largely based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, our activities, events and campaigns fall within four main areas of focus:

Creative Spirituality

MWiB acknowledges and values the diverse ways of expressing the Christian faith that lie at the heart of our movement, and supports creative spirituality by providing pilgrimage opportunities, worship and prayer resources, and the annual Easter Offering service, and by supporting the World Day of Prayer and Y-Pray conference.

World Church Focus

A founding aim of the first Methodist women's movement, we continue to support Mission Partners with prayer and practical support, working with Global Relationships to share news and identify projects for fundraising, gifts and grants, and visiting Mission Partners and partner churches overseas on behalf of the Methodist Church.

Global Social Justice

Working in partnership with the Methodist Church and others, MWiB seeks to raise awareness of, and engage the wider church with, issues of social justice both in the UK and around the world, most recently Dalit Solidarity, migrancy and refugees, hearing and visual impairment and the church, climate change, and human trafficking.

Resourcing and Enabling

MWiB is primarily funded through donations, enabling us to fund the running of the movement, to underwrite activities, events and resources, and to offer gifts, grants and bursaries to projects, groups and individuals, with the aim of empowering and enabling women and girls both in the UK and around the world.

For more information about MWiB and news of our current events, activities and campaigns, visit our website: www.mwib.org.uk

For information about the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women, visit: www.wfmucw.org