

familiesfirst

e-NEWS JULY



10 years and 12,880 families!



In 2010, Mothers' Union celebrates the 10th anniversary of its parenting programme, celebrating equipping hundreds of trainers to help families around the world gain vital parenting skills.

Have you been on a parenting course? [Lets us know](#) how you found it.

As featured in the July/August *Families First*...



New government – family values?

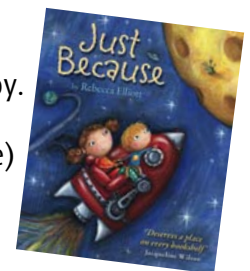
David Cameron professes to be 'an unashamed supporter of families and marriage'. With the coalition government rolling out their plans, tell us what *you* think about the new government's Agenda. familiesfirst@themothersunion.org

A beautiful princess

Rebecca Elliott, featured in this month's *Families First*, has written and illustrated *Just Because*, a children's book based on her two children. Daughter Clementine, born with severe brain damage and her younger son Toby, feature as the main characters in this very personal story.

Read in the latest issue of *Families First* of how a moment of Heartbreak has been replaced and transformed by gratitude and joy.

This book is available to buy from Mothers' Union Enterprises (MUE) at £4.99. Telephone: 0207 227 9730 or email: enterprises@themothersunion.org



Don't leave home without it!

Belmont International Ltd has teamed up with Ecclesiastical Insurance to bring a special offer to Mothers' Union supporters, donating £20 per Home insurance policy to Mothers' Union.

To get a quote Contact them via the website: www.belmont.com/mu or email: mothersunion@belmontint.com

WELCOME to the July e-newsletter from the *Families First* team

Reminder: Text that is [in blue and underlined](#) can be clicked on and links to the relevant webpage

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Catch up with *Families First* July/August edition- out now!

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Families First team, Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London SW1P 3RB

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Families First is a lifestyle magazine which encourages strong marriages, good parenting & active faith.

Click on the link below to subscribe to the magazine:

[Subscribe to Families First](#)

Wheels appeal – can *you* be involved?

The global recession has hit hard and in many countries, aid is not given because the transport isn't available. Mothers' Union needs fuel, vehicles and drivers in order to get aid to families in poverty around the world. Join us in raising money for vital transport by baking for:

- Village fetes
- Cake stalls
- Coffee mornings
- Baking sales
- Summer fairs



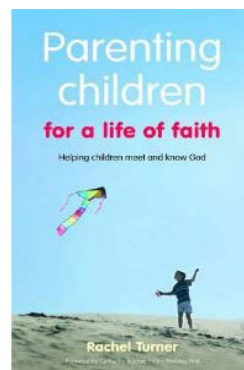
Please send proceeds to 'Mothers' Union wheels appeal', cheques made out to 'Mothers' Union'. Contact Mothers' Union for a poster: 020 7222 5533



Host a Big Lunch!

It's the month of the Big Lunch and on Sunday 18 July, people all over the country will be joining together with their neighbours in this one-day-get-together. The meal can be anything from a simple lunch to a full-blown party with DJs and a hog roast. Visit www.thebiglunch.com for ideas, to sign up and to download The Big Lunch toolkit. [Tell us](#) what you're planning!

Families First writer Rachel Turner releases new title for parents



Rachel Turner has been a full-time children's worker in churches around the UK and the National Children's Work Coordinator at New Wine.

Parenting Children for a Life of Faith explores how the home can become the primary place in which children are nurtured into the reality of God's presence and love, equipped to access him themselves and encouraged to grow in a two-way relationship with him that will last a lifetime. Purchase your copy here:

<http://www.brfonline.org.uk/9781841016078/>



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'Wherever two or three are gathered...'

In the recent *Families First*, you can read about the 'Golden Girls' who, upon seeing the need, reached out to their local community and also, how a humble parish church has become the talk of the town in *The Power of being nice*.

What are the needs in *your* community? Can you partner with someone else to make a difference? Read *Families First* for ideas and inspiring stories.

Pilgrimage to Jordan

Visit Jordan from 27 September – 4 October 2010 with Mothers' Union leaders Rev Denise Brown and Rev John Hudson.



The holiday costs £1095 per person and includes visits to several sites including Decapolis, Gadara, the ancient city of Petra, the Dead Sea and Mount Nebo. For further details and brochures contact: Worldwide Christian Travel: www.christian-travel.com or telephone: 0845 458 8308



How can you use Take 10?

It's wedding season and wedding fairs are in full operation up and down the country. Why not order a

Take 10 pack which includes 10 copies of the latest *Families First*, a *Keeping in touch with families* leaflet and sign-up forms, and take it to an event happening near you?

Let us know how you get on and please [share with us](#) how you have used them in other ways.

greenbelt

27 – 30 August 2010

Book before the end of July to get 10% off ticket prices for this year's Greenbelt festival, held at Cheltenham racecourse. Visit the website to see this year's lineup and information on how you can get involved.

<http://www.greenbelt.org.uk/>



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Book review by The Goodbookstall.org.uk

Her Mother's Hope by Francine Rivers

Francine Rivers has woven this story around a strong element of her family's history. Marta Schneider lives in a small village in Switzerland. Her mother is frail, her father a drunken bully who belittles Marta at every opportunity and blames her for everything that goes wrong, even for her lazy brother failing his exams! No praise for the fact that she had passed top of her class, and works constantly to help her mother. Instead of becoming cowed, Marta is determined to break free of her father's domineering control and sets out to work even harder and store every piece of knowledge from wherever she goes.

Reviewer Mary Bartholomew says 'At nearly 500 pages this is pure pleasure to read. I managed it in two days I was so hooked'.

Paperback
Price: £10.99
Publisher: [Tyndale House Publishers](#)
Published: March 2010



Marriage preparation pack

Mothers' Union diocese in Salisbury has released a marriage preparation pack called *Journeying Together*. Key topics addressed are:

- understanding our differences
- communication
- resolving conflict
- commitment
- managing finances
- becoming a step-parent



Journeying Together

To purchase a pack for £10, contact the diocesan office by calling 01722 333402 or email: mothers.union@btconnect.com



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