

White Ribbon Signal



WCTU | Woman's Christian
Temperance Union
Drug Free Life



Message from the President

Dear members and friends of WCTU

As this WRS goes to print, the 42nd World WCTU Convention will be convening in Chicago, USA. What an event of inspiration it will be and all those involved are looking forward to this time of encouragement and pressing forward. The theme 'Fulfilling our Mission' will be a strong focus. If you are reading this during August 19-23 please pray in support of this great event. Pray for the new leaders who will be appointed at this time. Thank and praise God for Margaret Ostenstad who has been the world president for nine years.

The mission of the WCTU is - The purpose of the WCTU is to promote a drug-free lifestyle and Christian values in the home and the community.

Have we fulfilled our mission? This is the big question and one which we should be contemplating every day. We must continue to focus on the purpose for our existence and show people the way to Jesus. This is the only hope for this desperate and dying world. The struggles are too ugly, too big, too horrendous to cope with - but with God - all things are possible.

Jesus told us "With men, this is impossible but with God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26

God bless us all as we take Him at His word.

JOY BUTLER

JOY BUTLER and
WCTU Australia team



NO ALCOHOL!

No Alcohol At All

The good news for WCTU, and we've been saying this for 150 years - NO ALCOHOL is good for you. For so long the alcohol companies and others have tried to tell us that a little alcohol is good, wine is better, some alcohol in the pudding will make it taste better, alcohol will make you feel happier and you'll even be healthier with a bit to sip. BUT - all the research now tells us that even a little alcohol will do damage. Even moderate drinking can cause harm. Many cancers are caused by alcohol. It doesn't protect your heart - it breaks your body.

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Meeting at Sunnyside

Twenty members gathered to hear about the amazing work Delhantie Youth Care, a non-for-profit organisation, which cares for troubled kids.



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Children



Exciting news for Australia and New Zealand WCTU - Courtney Langberg, from Adelaide, has joined our team as the



Official publication of WCTU Australia - promoting a drug free lifestyle and Christian values in the home and community



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PRAYER MATTERS

In Matthew 18:19,20 Jesus says "Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in Heaven."

The word 'Agree' is the Greek word 'sumphoeneo' from which we get the English word 'Symphony' literally meaning 'to voice together'.

What a wonderful promise as we bring our prayer requests before the Lord. As we stand in the gap for others, we pray for sometimes impossible situations asking for the Lord's guidance and wisdom. We experience answers to our prayers. What a joy and privilege!

We bring our prayer requests this time for our World Convention first -

- Safety in travel, health for all our delegates and the Lord's presence throughout the duration of the Convention. Pray for our president Joy Butler, as she presents.
- Australia our country needs a spiritual awakening. Many are suffering with poverty, drug abuse, loneliness and the list is growing daily. We pray for our government who need encouragement to stand by what is right and wrong. Compromise has no place in Christianity. May the hearts of Australians turn back to the Lord.
- May the WCTU have increased favour and wisdom in the areas of need.
- Drug Free Kids - for Courtney Langberg, our new Childrens' Director, as she embarks in her role. Pray for open doors.
- New members - inter generational.

Thank you dear WCTU members for praying.

Yours in Christ

Sue Langberg
Vice President and Prayer leader, WCTU Australia

Another Mini Size Pocket Brochure - No. 5

FRIENDS OF WCTU - our newest mini size brochure is hot off the press and available for you and for wide distribution. It explains who we are and the various Membership categories - **Abstainer Membership** (total abstinence from the SAD poisons and full voting rights), **Associate Membership** (men can join and all literature available), **School Membership** (access to free downloadable resources for children), **Buy a special gift** (pack will include subscription to online newsletters and more).

Here is a list of the Mini Size Pocket Brochures: WCTU Australia, WCTU South Pacific Islands, Vaping, Alcohol and Family, Friends of WCTU. You can download them from our website: www.wctu.org.au/ourbrochures or email us preswctuaustralia@gmail.com



Children

Exciting news for Australia and New Zealand WCTU - Courtney Langberg, from Adelaide, has joined our team as the new Children's Department leader. She's a young woman with experience and expertise. She is a mother of two young children and comes from a background of teaching in high school. She knows what kids

need. We firmly believe she has lots to offer and will greatly bless the children whose lives she will touch through our Drug Free Kids newsletter and website and all the other wonderful ways she will find to reach them with the message of NO to alcohol and drugs. Please pray for her as she begins this task. She needs your support.



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"First you take a drink, then the drink takes a drink, then the drink takes you."
"Nobody stays recovered unless the life they have created is more rewarding and satisfying than the one they left behind."

"All the suffering, stress and addiction comes from not realizing you already are what you are looking for."



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Meeting at Sunnyside - 6 August 2025



Helen Scale who started it all in Victoria, 50 years ago



Rosemarie and Graham at the meeting

We had 20 people gather to hear about Delhuntie Youth Care a non-for-profit organisation that has now existed for 50 years, first starting in Victoria where Elwyn and Helen Scale cared for troubled kids. They began as a young couple along the East Coastlands of Australia reaching out to kids who needed guidance. This is now a ministry that has helped thousands of kids during the last 50 years. The Adventure playground they have constructed is a tribute to their commitment and love they have for kids. Elwyn died a few years ago but his son Rodney and wife Marge are carrying on the beautiful work and touching lives and turning them away from a life of misery to Jesus, the hope of the world. WCTU at Cooranbong, near Newcastle was privileged to have Marge and Helen join us and showed us amazing pictures of the activities on a high tower, on logs over water and other adventures that teach resilience and dependence on trustworthy people and ultimately on God. WCTU Australia supports Delhuntie with financial aid and we are glad to do so.

Reported by Joy Butler

Drug Trafficking in the world today

Recently I watched/listened to a webinar from the USA about the growing problem of drugs and drug trafficking around the world. Three organisations participated and shared insights and current concerns. They were:

DFAF - Drug Free America Foundation (dfaf.org) who educate, advocate and provide information.

WFAD - World Federation Against Drugs (wfad.org) - a multilateral community of NGOs and individuals.

Members are from 475 organisations in 72 countries.

DEA - Drug Enforcement Administration (dea.gov) - US federal law enforcement agency that combats drug trafficking and distribution within the USA

This is some of the information, thoughts and ideas shared:

- The vast majority of drugs originate from China and are then smuggled around the world.
- "One pill can kill." Sean Ferns, USA
- There is a sharp rise of drug trafficking in the Middle East. Syria and Lebanon are significant drug trafficking countries with annual revenues in the billions of dollars for drugs
- There is high use by youth, refugees, military and criminals. There is a need for stronger border control.
- "We are not just fighting drugs, we are protecting our future." Mousa Daoud, Jordan
- There is an escalating synthetic drug epidemic in Pakistan. After September 11, drug traffickers focussed on Europe and Asia, and then Africa. Africa was the stop over and hub into Europe. There are 'ever evolving drug routes' and no place in the world now is untouched. It is scary.
- "Synthetic drugs are storming the globe. We need to do more. We must make a change from crisis and despair to hope. The world is watching - we must come together." Amy Ronshausen, USA
- Spokesperson from DEA, Sean Ferns said: "Forty years ago, in 1985, DEA lost an agent in Mexico. He was kidnapped, tortured and murdered. We must enlist everyone to help to find the best way to grow up enforcement - the first line of defence. We are working to stop trafficking. We must do two things - RAISE AWARENESS (use science based prevention methods) and promote PREVENTION".
- Postscript - This is exactly what WCTU has done for 150 years - raised awareness and promoted prevention. We continue to do this by every possible means.

By Joy Butler, President

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News from Western Australia

Our prayers have led us to re-dig the wells of WCTU in the South West region of Western Australia. Over the decades this region has seen much WCTU activity and cries out once again. Perhaps the prayers of those who have gone before us have come to Heaven's attention. Doors are opening for WCTU in WA once again.

We have formed an alliance with DOVES (domestic violence education and support) partnering to bring practical support and education through a series of workshops. WCTU educational resources are being distributed through churches, youth groups and several regional schools. We are in talks with YouthCARE Pastoral Care Manager in the southern region of WA to discuss opportunities around education. WCTU materials are being distributed throughout the schools in this region as a pilot program. We are seeing new members join and donations starting to come in, as we prayerfully consider financially sustaining the work of WCTU in Western Australia.

Prayer is a key strategy to re-digging the wells and we gather weekly on zoom to pray for Western Australia. It may be the beginning of a new era but it has begun again!

Jayne Crichton - Representative Western Australia

History snippet

1891

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Australasia (later renamed the National Women's Christian Temperance Union of Australia) was formed on the 25th May, 1891 at a meeting held in Melbourne for the purpose of federating the existing Colonial Unions. This was probably the first interstate gathering of women's organisations held in Australia.



To view more of our history visit: www.wctu.org.au

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