

# White Ribbon Signal



## Message from the President

Dear friends and members of WCTU

The year went fast and many changes occurred everywhere, including rearrangements within the World WCTU. We met in Chicago during August with 110 delegates from 14 countries around the world. What a privilege and delight to be with Christian women who hold the same values and concerns for the world. New friendships were formed, reports and stories shared, ideas adopted and new officers for the next three years were appointed. Pray for our new world leaders. Praise God for the previous leaders and let's work together to help people everywhere turn to Jesus as the way to life and hope. In this edition of our White Ribbon Signal you can see pictures from this beautiful event. May the coming Christmas season be a time of beautiful fellowship with your family not forgetting those who are lonely and fragile at this important time in Christian history.

Peace and love to all.

JOY BUTLER  
President WCTU Australia Ltd  
Organisation Secretary for World WCTU



New World Officers for the next Triennium

## SPECIAL ISSUE CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



## Retiring President's message



Margaret Ostenstad reminded us that we are together in a battle. We need to help politicians make good laws. God's love is the centre of all we are and do. She said "His banner over me is love. Restore us mighty God - make your face shine on us."

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

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## PRAYER MATTERS

God is faithful - Once again we give thanks for the Lord hears our prayers. August saw our 42nd World Convention held in Chicago USA. Prior to this we prayed for our convention, for all the WCTU committee who organised the convention, for safe travelling, for the presence of the Lord during the convention and on all our speakers. To this we saw answered prayers and God-directed times of fellowship - Praise God!

We continue to pray for our nation for revival and reformation in the different areas of our societies, for doors to open for the WCTU in areas of Domestic Violence, drugs, alcohol and those in our society without a voice .

Let us not grow weary in our Noontide prayers, our WCTU National prayer and states prayer times. Let us lead the charge in prayer believing above and beyond in the mighty power of prayer.

*"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us."*  
1 John 5:14

### Christmas message

The Christmas story is about Jesus being sent to a world of darkness resulting from sin and rebellion. Jesus came to shine as a light in the darkness so that people could clearly see God's love for them. He is the One to whom the Old Testament prophet Isaiah was referring when he prophesied, "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light..." Jesus himself said, "I am the light of the world." John 8:12 That means that He is the light we all need to rescue us from the spiritual darkness of this world. Walking in darkness means we miss the joy and peace God meant for us to experience.

Let's open our hearts wide this Christmas season to Jesus—the light of the world.

Yours in Christ

Sue Langberg  
Vice President and Prayer leader, WCTU Australia



## Teaching Truth and Protecting Our Children

Children are our most precious trust — the hope and heart of tomorrow. The world they're growing up in is full of mixed messages, where harmful habits like smoking, drinking, vaping, and drug use are often disguised as normal or even exciting. That's why it's more important than ever that we teach them the truth early — that these are not symbols of freedom, but poisons that steal health, peace, and potential.

Through clear teaching, loving example, and consistent truth, we can give children the courage to choose wisely. Every conversation, every story, every classroom moment that shows them the beauty of a clean mind and body helps shape stronger families and safer communities.

As part of my work with DFK (Drug-Free Kids), I aim to share this truth in a positive, empowering way — helping children see that being drug-free and vape-free is an act of courage and godly strength. Using age-appropriate superheroes as a theme, we remind them that real heroes show godly attributes of self-control, stand strong, and use their lives for good.

As the Woman's Christian Temperance Union continues its long legacy of education and advocacy, we remain dedicated to helping every child grow up free from the shadow of addiction — healthy in body, pure in heart, and ready to shine their light in the world.

Courtney Langberg  
Children's Department WCTU Australia Ltd  
New Zealand WCTU



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## Resolutions made at World Convention, 2025 - by Joy Butler

At every convention the WCTU prepares Suggested Resolutions that are presented to the delegates for ratification. They are guidelines recommended for every country to follow during the next three years. This gives direction and cohesion to the world and helps make it clear just what we have agreed to do. It clarifies our duties for the next triennium. For the full document see the website. Here is an abridged version of what was presented and passed in August:

**CHILDREN** are precious, vulnerable and require guidance and care and are influenced strongly by social media and peers. RESOLVED that WWCTU continues to regard their education as one of the basic and most important elements of our work and FURTHER that WWCTU continues to find better and more effective ways to use Social Media, along with proven methods such as teaching in schools and church groups, to make a bigger impact on their lives and FURTHER that the use of the pledge card for children and youth be emphasised everywhere.



**CLEAN DRINKING WATER** is not always available and in many places poverty displays itself in the form of chronic hunger and thirst. RESOLVED that WWCTU acknowledge that access to water is a human right and therefore will help facilitate the accessibility of clean water in countries everywhere they can.



**ILLICIT DRUGS** abuse is a problem worldwide causing immeasurable suffering, poverty and loss of life while ruthless traffickers and mafia gather large profits from addicted victims. RESOLVED that WWCTU continues its work for a sober society where total abstinence from all non prescribed drugs, including alcohol, is promoted and advocated at the government and public levels.



**VAPING** was originally promoted as a harmless way for people to stop smoking but a new generation of young people has become addicted to nicotine, mainly because of the rampant vaping black market. RESOLVED that WWCTU continues to provide information about the dangers of vaping to young people and to those who can exert influence over them. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE has a strong association between alcohol consumption, with alcohol playing a significant role in a substantial percentage of incidents, including homicides. RESOLVED that WWCTU continues its work for a drug-free world by building awareness of the adverse impact of drugs and alcohol on families, with emphasis on Domestic and Family Violence.



**RECOVERY** for those who are battling with alcohol and drug addiction is a problem for many. RESOLVED that WWCTU continues its work for a drug-free world by building awareness of drugs and alcohol and how it can destroy individuals and families and that WWCTU, provide recovery programmes which are affordable or free.



## News from South Australia

- As 2025 draws near to a close, we reflect on the goodness of our Lord and His continuous blessings over the WCTU.
- We have seen an abundant increase of people coming into our tea rooms to hear about the work of the WCTU.
- The re-opening of WCTU in Western Australia has been an answer to prayer and we believe there will be many doors open for the expansion of the WCTU work.
- WCTU South Australia was proudly sponsored by the world's largest gold mining company, Newmont, to run a bus advertising campaign in Alice Springs for FASD awareness. We hope to continue our alliance with Newmont in the future.
- Our tea rooms are now well stocked with sparkling non-alcoholic drinks for the Christmas season and we also share WCTU mocktail recipes with our customers. We wish you all a safe and blessed Christmas.

Karen Edwards - President South Australia

## News from Victoria

After nearly 8 years as Victorian WCTU Drug Ed Worker, Dawn Stark has given her final school presentation. Dawn has done excellent work educating several thousand students, mainly in Grades 5 & 6, but also in the lower years of secondary school. She has developed the programs to include new issues such as vaping that have emerged over the years. We are very appreciative of Dawn's valuable work during these years. We are currently working with two possible successors who we pray will continue this important work.

Two of our leaders, Jan Shattock and Rhona Theodore, attended the recent World WCTU Convention in Chicago, USA. Sadly, while they were still in Chicago, Rhona's husband died unexpectedly in Melbourne. We pass on our sincere condolences to Rhona. Thankfully, as Christians, we know they will be reunited in Heaven.

Victoria WCTU continues to spread the message of the dangers of vaping on the backs of buses in 5 large provincial centres as well as our FASD video ads in doctors' surgeries.

Anne Bergen - President Victoria

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## *ACT the first to introduce nation-leading alcohol delivery laws - 21 October 2025*

'Community groups and survivor-advocates have welcomed the ACT Government's tabling today of its Liquor Amendment Bill 2025. The Bill updates the ACT's Liquor Act to provide important safety measures that will reduce harm to women and children. This is a critical moment in Australia's progress in addressing the crisis of family, domestic and sexual violence. Liquor laws across the nation still fail to properly regulate today's online retail delivery environment, and the evidence shows this is fuelling and exacerbating family and domestic violence. Updates to the legal requirements are long overdue.'

This is a good move on the part of the ACT and we hope this will be expanded and other states will follow. All moves to protect families are important. For the full report - see online <https://fare.org.au/act-the-first-to-introduce-nation-leading-alcohol-delivery-laws/>

## *Parenting in the Era of Pro-pot propaganda*



We live in a difficult time for parents - here is an excellent and important resource that will explain so much about what is going on in the world today and how parents can help their children negotiate the difficult dilemmas they face when facing numerous advances for legalizing drugs on the streets.

*"Parenting today means guiding children through a maze of pro-pot propaganda and surface-level harm reduction messages, all while facing real risks linked to family history. The parental influence on addiction, substance use, and health choices has never been more crucial. We will explore how parents can empower their children against addiction, drawing on research, real-world stats, and expert advice."*

*Let's start with some good news and understand that children, their child, your child, our children have a number of Human Rights enshrined in United Nations Conventions, and one of those Conventions is Article 33 of the Rights of the Child, and one every parent/guardian should know, hold dear and wield, when it comes to protecting their children."*

See this website for lots more helpful information.  
<https://worldresiliencyday.com.au/parenting-in-the-era-of-pro-pot-propaganda-other-substance-selling-sociopathy/>

## CONTACT US

NATIONAL OFFICE  
[wctuaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:wctuaustralia@gmail.com)

NATIONAL PRESIDENT & WRS EDITOR  
Mrs Joy Butler  
[preswctuaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:preswctuaustralia@gmail.com)

NATIONAL OFFICE & VICTORIA UNION  
PO Box 7612  
Dandenong, Victoria, 3175  
[drug-free@bigpond.com](mailto:drug-free@bigpond.com)

NATIONAL SECRETARY  
Mrs Rhona Theodore  
[rhona.theodore@bigpond.com](mailto:rhona.theodore@bigpond.com)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA UNION  
255 Sir Donald Bradman Drive,  
Cowandilla, SA, 5033  
(08) 8354 4442  
[wctusa@wctusa.com.au](mailto:wctusa@wctusa.com.au)

WORLD ORGANISATION SECRETARY  
Joy Marie Butler  
[preswctuaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:preswctuaustralia@gmail.com)

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT  
Courtney Langberg  
[childrensdepartmentwctu@gmail.com](mailto:childrensdepartmentwctu@gmail.com)

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS  
Tanja Curcic  
[getintouchwctu@gmail.com](mailto:getintouchwctu@gmail.com)

 FACEBOOK: WCTU Australia - WOW

 INSTAGRAM: WCTU\_australia

 PINTEREST: Non-alcoholdrinks - WCTU



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VISIT:  
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