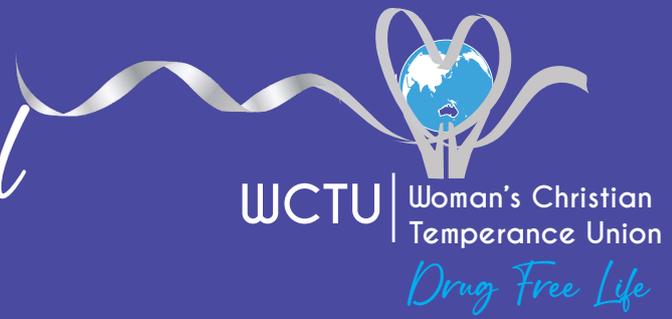


# White Ribbon Signal



## Message from the President

Dear members and friends of WCTU

Our new year resolutions have been made and we are well into 2026 - a new year of opportunity and hope. I've been reading some Old Testament prophets and they tell of God's goodness and urge the leaders and the people on. Haggai 2:4,5 says - *"Be strong Zerubbabel, says the Lord; and be strong Joshua...be strong all you people...and work, for I am with you, says the Lord of Hosts...My Spirit remains among you; do not fear."*

What beautiful words of encouragement for us as we continue the God directed work of WCTU. We have every reason to keep sharing the messages of temperance and health that we are entrusted with. We have beautiful children to save and keep pure for God's Kingdom.

Pray for our Children's Director, Courtney Langberg, as she leads this department of our work in Australia. In this edition of WRS you will see a full page of the current Drug Free Kids paper. Pray for its wide distribution. Make sure the children in your church, neighbourhood and family have a copy. Make a resolution to share this 4 times a year when it is published.

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

Bless you with courage and commitment.

JOY BUTLER and  
WCTU Australia team

## WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### News from South Australia



We are currently running a small exhibition in our tea rooms titled 'Reformers Or Wowsers'. We are featuring the history of Prohibition, the rising of the WCTU, legislative reforms, and the positive effects on society. Read on find out more...

In 2026, we plan to continue to encourage children to live healthy, drug-free lives. We are introducing a vibrant superhero theme designed to bring greater consistency, creativity, and engagement. Read on to find out more...

**WISDOM HERO PROFILE**

**NAME:** WISDOM  
**SUPERPOWER:** SMART THINKING  
**MISSION:** PROTECT YOUR BRAIN. PROTECT YOUR FUTURE.  
 WISDOM IS THE HERO WHO PAUSES BEFORE HE ACTS. HE ASKS QUESTIONS. HE CHECKS THE FACTS. HE LOOKS BEYOND THE MOMENT.  
**HE KNOWS** THE BRAIN IS STILL GROWING.  
**HE KNOWS** NICOTINE CAN CHANGE HOW IT WORKS.  
**HE KNOWS** ALCOHOL CAN AFFECT BALANCE, JUDGEMENT, AND FOCUS.  
 WISDOM DOESN'T FOLLOW THE CROWD. HE LEADS WITH TRUTH.  
**REAL STRENGTH STARTS IN YOUR MIND.**

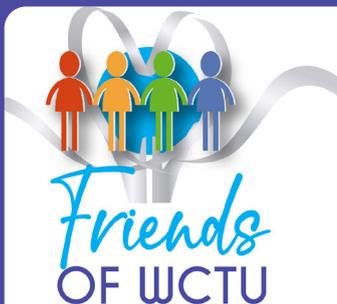
**WISDOM**

**KNOW THE FACTS. PROTECT YOUR FUTURE.**

### WCTU makes an impact in Uganda



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



GET INVOLVED! JOIN US  
BECOME A FRIEND OF WCTU  
VISIT:  
[WWW.WCTU.ORG.AU](http://WWW.WCTU.ORG.AU)

# White Ribbon Signal

## PRAYER MATTERS

Everyday we encounter why prayer matters. At the start of the day we lift our prayers to the Lord, asking for His blessings, protection and His presence to go with us throughout the day.

It has been said - Prayer is a partnership between heaven and earth that is exercised when God's people agree with the purposes of God and pray those purposes into being in the earthly realm.

When we start to understand what an incredible privilege it is to pray, how do we not know that our one small prayer has the power to change the world - yes prayer matters.

*"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."* 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 ESV

Please pray for -

- New members and our existing members for blessings and strength.
- Open doors, favour and new opportunities.
- For the mission of the WCTU that is not just history, but relevant as ever and may we become a household name once again.
- For our younger members - insight and guidance.

Yours in Christ

Sue Langberg

Vice President and Prayer leader, WCTU Australia

**FOR KIDS  
6-12 YEARS  
OLD**

## Children's Department

In 2026, we plan to continue to encourage children to live healthy, drug-free lives. We are introducing a vibrant superhero theme designed to bring greater consistency, creativity, and engagement. Each superhero represents a godly quality grounded in Scripture, including Wisdom, Integrity, Self-Control, and Courage, helping children connect biblical truth with everyday choices. Our first quarter focused on Wisdom, presented through bright and engaging content for children aged 6 to 12. The heart behind this is to empower children with confidence, character, and practical skills equipping them before pressure ever arises. This framework will extend to our website and a developing school resource pack. We want to reach and impact families, schools, and communities with our Drug Free Kids.

Courtney Langberg, Children's Department



### HERO #1

INSIDE EVERY KID'S MIND, THERE'S A TEAM OF HEROES. COURAGE STANDS STRONG. INTEGRITY STAYS TRUE. SELF-CONTROL KEEPS CALM. AND THEN THERE'S...

**WISDOM.**  
THE CLEAR VOICE THAT SAYS, "LET'S CHECK THE FACTS FIRST."

**WHAT WISDOM KNOWS**

- THE BRAIN KEEPS DEVELOPING UNTIL ABOUT AGE 25.
- NICOTINE CAN AFFECT MEMORY, FOCUS, AND MOOD.
- ALCOHOL CAN AFFECT BALANCE, JUDGEMENT, AND SELF-CONTROL.
- SUBSTANCE USE CAN MAKE LEARNING HARDER.
- STRONG BODIES GROW BEST WITHOUT HARMFUL SUBSTANCES.

**COMPLETE THE VERSE...**

**JAMES 1:5**  
"IF ANY OF YOU LACKS WISDOM, YOU SHOULD ASK \_\_\_\_\_, WHO GIVES GENEROUSLY TO ALL WITHOUT FINDING FAULT, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO \_\_\_\_\_."

### WISDOM HERO PROFILE

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**KNOW THE FACTS. PROTECT YOUR FUTURE.**

# White Ribbon Signal

## DID YOU KNOW???

Research in **Texas, USA**, shows the rising rates of cannabis use amongst young people. Impaired driving and crashes with 120 deaths per year occur. Herschel Baker, Queensland Director for Drug Free Australia says "Safeguards that limit access to cannabis, especially among underage youth, are critically important tools for deterring underage substance use and impaired driving. Proven prevention strategies include tighter regulation and enforcement, targeted public education campaigns, youth prevention programs, and ongoing enforcement."

The Justice Department is urging the **U.S. Supreme Court** to uphold the constitutionality of a federal law preventing marijuana users from legally owning or possessing guns—insisting that, even if cannabis is rescheduled under an executive order issued by President Donald Trump, its use makes people uniquely dangerous and deserving of disarmament.

**Queensland** is showing terrible statistics which clearly shows drug-driving is now a bigger issue for the state than is drink-driving. Throughout 2025, 302 people lost their lives on the roads. It is the highest number of fatalities recorded since 2009, when 331 people died. Queensland's annual road death toll has reached a 16-year high as police target drink driving. There is an urgent need to address drug-driving but it is difficult as there are so many drugs to be targeted and tested.

Unfortunately for **NSW** the discussion rages in parliament about the impact of current cannabis laws, including the criminal justice costs associated with prohibition. Some supporters of a reform of cannabis laws say 'the evidence is clear: the existing framework is expensive, inefficient, and no longer fit for purpose.' The current committee agreed on a staged approach to legalisation as a practical, structured pathway forward. This is against all the evidence and research that proves cannabis should be totally prohibited.

## WCTU makes an impact in Uganda



On a sunny Sunday afternoon our team headed out to a nearby village in rural Uganda to teach the

youth about the dangers of alcohol and drugs. 120 youth signed the WCTU pledge card, promising that with God's help they will not experiment with harmful substances. It was an extremely rewarding experience to plant good seeds to the future generation.  
Tanja Curcic - WCTU Marketing Officer, Little Blue Shed Director

## News from South Australia



We have had a busy start to the year. Our property in Blyth, two hours drive from Adelaide, previously housed men who were seasonal workers. We are now networking with the United Wesley Mission to help house homeless women and children. Our new caretakers Chris and Erlinda, have been involved in mission work, as well as alcohol rehabilitation programs. They hold weekly Bible studies and are hoping to start monthly AA meetings for the local community. Erlinda is now a WCTU member and Chris is an associate member. They are a real answer to prayer!

We are currently running a small exhibition in our tea rooms titled 'Reformers Or Wowsers'. We are featuring the history of Prohibition, the rising of the WCTU, legislative reforms, and the positive effects on society. Our exhibition is advertised in the local community magazine reaching 60,000 readers. We were able to share information about our work with the lovely ladies from the Red Hatters Society.

Karen Edwards, President

# White Ribbon Signal

## News from Western Australia

We continue to work with Jayne Crichton, our member in Perth, who is re-establishing WCTU. We look forward to the possibilities of speaking engagements within the community.

## News from Northern Territory

This year we plan to support Sharon Bird, our member in Alice Springs. We plan to have a WCTU stall at the Alice Springs Royal Show. We had a great reception from the locals two years ago. Last year we featured the FASD bus advertising campaign in Alice and we hope this has led to the WCTU becoming more recognised.

## Announcement from Victoria

Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Victoria will be holding its 138th Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, 24th March 2026 at 10.30am at its Headquarters 6 Langhorne Street, Dandenong 3195, Phone (03) 9791 8490  
All welcome.

## Announcement from New South Wales

Be Alert - watch for WCTU meeting at Sunnyside, Cooranbong in early April. Come and hear Tanja, from Africa, who will tell us about her work in Uganda with children and about the WCTU marketing plan for Australia.

## History Snippet

1894

There were 14 local Unions in Tasmania with a membership of 280. In the 1890s the Hobart Branch worked with the Chinese community and prisoners and advocated broad ranging social and political reforms including women's suffrage.

During World War I they fought for early closing and distributed literature on venereal disease. They also fought for the repeal of the Contagious Diseases Act.



To view more of our history visit: [www.wctu.org.au](http://www.wctu.org.au)

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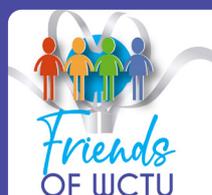
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