

WHITE RIBBON DIGEST

*"Promoting a Lifestyle Free of Alcohol
and other Drugs"*



Raising of the flag for New Zealand

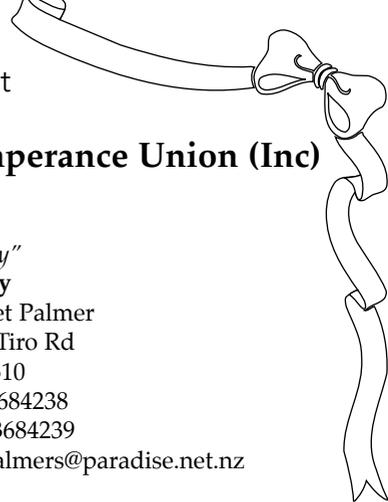
INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**Drink Driving Rate Increasing
Celebrate An Alcohol Free Christmas Dinner
Suffrage Remembrance**

Plus more

WHITE RIBBON DIGEST

**New Zealand Women's Christian Temperance Union (Inc)
Organised 1885**



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Organised 1885**

"For God Home and Humanity"

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Choice Words

Temperance maybe defined as;
moderation in all things healthful;
total abstinence from all things harmful.
Xenoption, Greek Philosphus 400 B.C.

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Cover caption: NZ delegates Janet Palmer and Vivienne Walker at World WCTU 2007 convention in USA.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

By the time this arrives the media will be counting down how many shopping days until Christmas, with the hope that it will stampede a shopping frenzy for their advertisers. If you haven't started your list, take a deep breath and do not get sucked into these advertising gimmicks.

Christmas is a time to think about the greatest gift of all to the world and that is the birth of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Here in New Zealand it is the time to wind down over the long summer holidays and spend this time with our families and friends and to do all those jobs that we have kept putting off. This can be a sad time also for many homes when the first priority is to buy the liquor to go with the food for the barbecues before the gifts for children or planning a few days away.

Although New Zealand is made of two main narrow islands with the sea, lakes or rivers not very far away, there are children who have never had a family picnic near the water. During this festive time fuelled by alcohol, domestic violence causes women's refuges to reach overflowing with frightened and battered women and children. New Zealand has a huge alcohol problem with large amounts of the family income spent on liquor, very much like the days in the 1800s when our work first began.

There are many schools which with the help from churches and food supplied by supermarkets, have breakfast and fruit lunches for these neglected children. This does not fix the problem but delays it and allows parents to abdicate their responsibility instead of facing up to their parental duties.

Some parents are also losing their money to pokie machines instead of paying for food and for the utilities. If these machines were restricted to casinos only it would make a big improvement to our society. We were one of the voices raised up in protest against their introduction into New Zealand but the authorities turned a deaf ear as usual and society lives with the result.

Many will be travelling from all parts of the world to be home for Christmas when families join together and attend church services. As we thank God for His protection and guidance over this past year and as we surrender our lives to another year of service may we read through the Gospels again of the coming of the Messiah and Saviour. "And you, Bethlehem, Land of Judah. Are by no means least among the leaders of Judah; For out of you shall come forth a ruler Who will shepherd my people, Israel. (Mathew 2v6)

May you have a Blessed Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Molly Aitchison



DRINK DRIVING RATE INCREASING

The headlines may vary slightly but all say the same thing, drink driving is on the increase. Once, mainly a man's domain, women now make up half the number of those who are caught over the blood alcohol limit of 80mg per 100ml of blood. Some countries think that this limit is too high and have reduced theirs to 50mg but New Zealand is again, out of step.

Prior to the last General Election, Paul Swain, MP, then Minister of Transport, attempted to reduce the blood alcohol limit down to 50mg but the uproar from Federated Farmers, hospitality trade and AA to name a few, caused such a rumpus that the Minister was unable to pursue the matter. Again another case of an issue relating to alcohol placed in the too hard basket. At least he tried his best. A recent study during a documentary showed that the average drinker had no idea of what a standard drink was relating to the amount of alcohol present. The beer drinkers were probably more aware of how much they were drinking with the beer alcohol content of 4%.

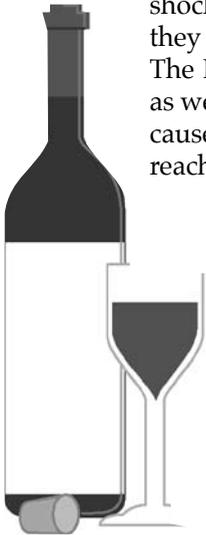
The spirit drinker ran into more problems when they poured what they thought was a nip, but which was in fact equal to two nips, giving a false sense of perception.

Now the wine drinkers were more confused and the generous amount they pour as they tried to gauge what they believed to be a standard drink but was often equal to three standard drinks instead of one.

As well as this, none realised that wine varies in alcohol content from 7% up to 20% with fortified wine i.e. sherry 18%.

Judges, police officers, school principals and prominent sports people were shocked when breath tested to find that they were over the limit when they had drunk only two glasses of wine over dinner.

The NZ WCTU continues to lobby for zero alcohol limit for all drivers as we are dealing with a mind changing drug that slows down reactions, causes drowsiness and loss of concentration long before 80mg is reached.



NZ NEWS BRIEFS

Dutch Students have invented powdered alcohol (aimed at youth) which they say can be sold legally to minors. Called Booz2 Go it is available in 20g packets. Mixed with water it results in a bubbly lime-coloured and flavoured drink at 3 per cent alcohol.

Secondary School pre Ball Cancelled

Congratulations to the principal of Otumoetai College when he heard that the tickets being sold included alcohol, he cancelled this ball and had it reorganised with no alcohol and extensive parental supervision.

Liquor Advertising

In the ten years of liquor advertising teen drinking has doubled. More teenagers are being treated in hospital emergency departments severely intoxicated or in a comatosed state.

Drinking Age

Medical and police authorities report that New Zealand has a youth alcohol epidemic and that the MPs are not listening. Most New Zealanders surveyed, know except those in the Beehive, the need to introduce a drinking age of at least 20 years and to raise the purchase age to also 20 years with no exceptions.

Alcohol Kills Brain Cells

Alcohol severely affects or kills the immature brain cells. In young people the younger they start drinking the quicker they become an alcoholic. All the reviews on alcohol will fail if this health issue is not dealt with and investigated.

Australian Women Not Listening

47 per cent of Australian women pregnant or breast feeding consumed alcohol. For every child with FAS disorder there are ten more with neuro-developmental problems caused by alcohol.

(March/April 2007, Australian White Ribbon Signal)

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME!!

We can't escape the fact that more women are drinking larger amounts of alcohol than ever before. Our newspaper headlines read "half of all drunk drivers are women"! How is that for gender equality?

When the NZ Women's Christian Temperance Union struggled for the vote for women and equal rights in the 1880s they would never have foreseen how far this would go.

We see young women, late teens early 20s who are binge drinking in groups and are not concerned that it is not safe to drink large amounts until they regularly pass out. They have left school and now free of parental control are spending a lot of their earnings on night-outs at hotels and night clubs and drinking often to the state of binge drinking and drunkenness.

Then there is another group who are older with ages ranging mainly from about 25 to 40 years. In this group most are career women who earn good salaries, single with no family commitments. They frequent a 'better class' establishment than the above younger group and can afford the expensive drinks from the top shelf. Women in their 30s and 40s are starting to present to health clinics with serious health alcohol-related problems such as the beginning of organ failure.

Women are not able to drink the same amounts of alcohol as men even if they think women can do anything. The men have an enzyme in their stomach that women only have small amounts of. It is the enzyme that allows men to stay under the limit while women become intoxicated on much less alcohol. Many women in this group admit freely to being on the prowl looking for men for casual sexual encounters.

Some young women are seen to be taking on more masculine behaviour and habits to compete with men and have surpassed many by drinking heavily, profanity, aggressive and drunk driving and one night stands. They are proud of their obnoxious behaviour.

In England these women have been called Ladettes and in Australia Ockerettes. What they will be called in New Zealand is yet to be coined but it could be blokette, matette or hoonette.

One of the latest surveys, by condom maker Durex, states that New Zealand women were the most promiscuous in the world. New Zealand women have an average of 20.4 sexual partners. The report didn't mention that New Zealand women have one of the highest rates of STDs and a very high rate for abortions.

Family Planning has pushed the safe-sex message for many years but these rates continue to increase proving their message is not working.

How can we get the message out that casual sex is not cool and not OK and combined with alcohol is ruining many young lives?

ONE VOTE

How important is your vote?

Often you will hear people say "I'm not voting. My vote will not make any difference". Throughout New Zealand we have just had a city and district council elections for Mayor, Councillors, hospital board members and others and only about half the eligible to vote did so even though it was a postal vote and didn't require any effort.

Articles in the newspapers with candidates profiles and booklets delivered to every home on the credentials of each person failed to get a good response. Next year is our General Election and it is hoped for a better response from the voters.

If you are one of those who think that your vote doesn't count... then read carefully. You may not be aware of the following statistics which indicate the importance of 'just one little vote' Yours.

In 1645, one vote gave Oliver Cromwell control of England.

In 1649, one vote caused Charles I of England to be executed.

In 1776, one vote gave America the English language instead of German.

In 1845, one vote brought Texas into the Union.

In 1868, one vote saved President Andrew Johnson from impeachment.

In 1876, one vote gave Rutherford B. Hayes the presidency of the United States.

In 1876, one vote changed France from a monarchy to a republic.

In 1923, one vote gave Adolph Hitler leadership of the Nazi Party.

One vote can make a difference. That one vote could be yours, if you care to use it.

WHEN SMOKERS QUIT

After a person stops smoking, the body starts to recover fairly quickly.

Within 20 minutes the blood pressure drops to a level similar to before the last cigarette.

At 24 hours the chances of a heart-attack starts to decrease.

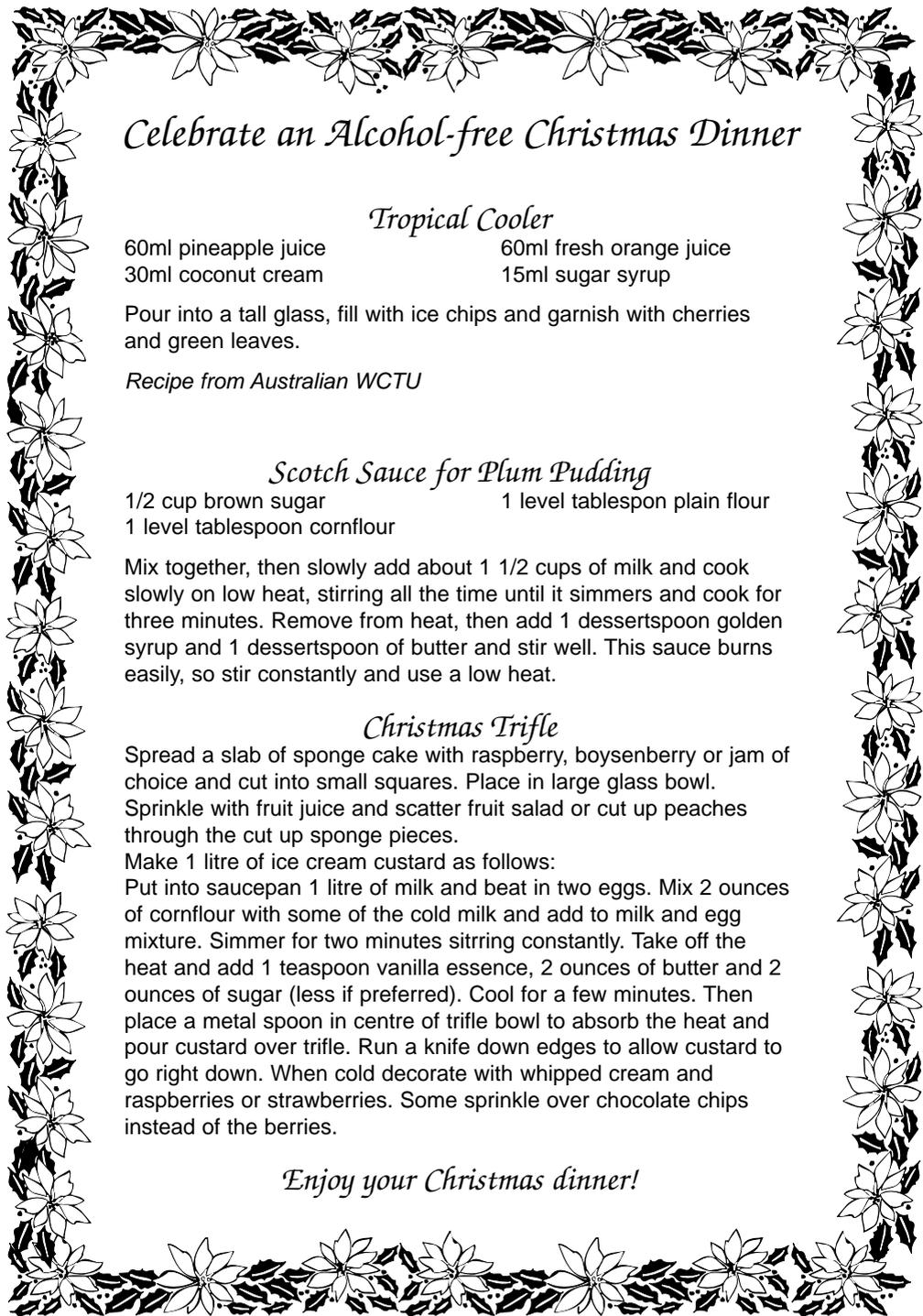
2 weeks to 3 months the circulation improves and the lung function increases by up to 30 per cent.

1 to 9 months coughing, sinus problems, tiredness and shortness of breath decrease.

After 1 year risk of heart disease is half that of a smoker.

5 to 10 years stroke risk is that of a non smoker.

15 years the risk of a coronary heart disease is that of a non smoker.



Celebrate an Alcohol-free Christmas Dinner

Tropical Cooler

60ml pineapple juice
30ml coconut cream

60ml fresh orange juice
15ml sugar syrup

Pour into a tall glass, fill with ice chips and garnish with cherries and green leaves.

Recipe from Australian WCTU

Scotch Sauce for Plum Pudding

1/2 cup brown sugar
1 level tablespoon cornflour

1 level tablespoon plain flour

Mix together, then slowly add about 1 1/2 cups of milk and cook slowly on low heat, stirring all the time until it simmers and cook for three minutes. Remove from heat, then add 1 dessertspoon golden syrup and 1 dessertspoon of butter and stir well. This sauce burns easily, so stir constantly and use a low heat.

Christmas Trifle

Spread a slab of sponge cake with raspberry, boysenberry or jam of choice and cut into small squares. Place in large glass bowl. Sprinkle with fruit juice and scatter fruit salad or cut up peaches through the cut up sponge pieces.

Make 1 litre of ice cream custard as follows:

Put into saucepan 1 litre of milk and beat in two eggs. Mix 2 ounces of cornflour with some of the cold milk and add to milk and egg mixture. Simmer for two minutes stirring constantly. Take off the heat and add 1 teaspoon vanilla essence, 2 ounces of butter and 2 ounces of sugar (less if preferred). Cool for a few minutes. Then place a metal spoon in centre of trifle bowl to absorb the heat and pour custard over trifle. Run a knife down edges to allow custard to go right down. When cold decorate with whipped cream and raspberries or strawberries. Some sprinkle over chocolate chips instead of the berries.

Enjoy your Christmas dinner!

SUFFRAGE REMEMBRANCE

New Zealand has developed a recent habit of attempting to rewrite history or blurring the facts. By doing this much of our early history, many pioneers and in this case some women's sacrificial work has been forgotten or side-lined.

The NZ Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) was formed in 1885 after a visit from world-wide WCTU organiser Mrs Mary Clement Leavitt from Boston, USA. Many women were ready to welcome the aims of this organisation to help protect their homes. Many were downtrodden with large families and little money to support them as their husbands spent large amounts on alcohol, creating poverty at home. In the early years of WCTU the women knew that the only way to improve their lot was to obtain the crucial right to vote.

By this time Kate Sheppard, a devoted Christian had joined the ranks of the WCTU and because of her organisational skills was elected Franchise and Legislative Department superintendent. Throughout the country she organised the WCTU members to collect signatures on a petition. Many rode horses inland to isolated settlements, others pushed prams over rough unsealed roads and footpaths. No cars, computers or email to help. They continued collecting for six years often with strong opposition from most men. At last they had gathered 31,872 signatures. Then on September 19, 1893 Parliament passed the Franchise Bill.

The white camellia was presented by WCTU members to every member of Parliament who supported the Franchise Bill and to the present day is the symbol of this occasion.

WCTU went on to introduce early social welfare in to New Zealand with creches, the first maternity hospital in Southland, kindergartens, Maori Girls and other hostels, restrooms, tearooms and Sailors Rests. Much of this work was later taken on by churches and government.

Kate Sheppard continued in the work of WCTU and became the Editor of White Ribbon Digest and Legal Director. At the same time she commenced the National Council for Women (NCW) in 1896, three years after the franchise as many groups did not see their way clear to adopt the complete WCTU policies. Kate Sheppard was the first NCW President.



TOBACCO CONTROL AWARD TO NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand, Ireland and Finland have been jointly awarded the Global Smoke-free partnership's Extraordinary Award in Edinburgh, in recognition of their 'exceptional and outstanding commitment' in the development of guidelines for Article 8 (Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke) of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. (FCTC)

"This award is a testament to the high regard in which New Zealand is held internationally in this area", said Mr Damien O'Connor, Associate Minister of Health. "New Zealand has played a leading role in establishing international agreement on the guidelines which were adopted unanimously at the Conference of Parties in Bangkok in July 2007".

The FCTC is a World Health Organisation initiative in response to the global epidemic of tobacco addiction. It is the first binding international treaty that provides an agreed approach to tobacco control at a global level in order to protect public health and reduce deaths from tobacco related illness. The guidelines give national and local governments clear directions to establish smoke-free environments.

New Zealand initiatives include:

New Zealand was the third country in the world to introduce smoke-free indoor workplaces and includes bars and restaurants.

New Zealand is the only country in the world that has a national free-phone Quit-line which provides nicotine replacement therapy.

New Zealand is to introduce pictorial warnings on cigarette packets, which is the most effective method of informing smokers, and those considering smoking of the extremely serious health effects of smoking.

The government has recently committed an extra \$43 million over four years to combat smoking.



LIQUOR ADVERTISING

"The purpose of advertising is to sell a product. The goal is to plant the idea solidly in the mind of the potential consumer. Incredibly gifted marketing people succeed at a level that we often do not imagine. The advertising of alcoholic beverages is clearly, absolutely, unequivocally aimed at youth! The ads tell us people who use alcohol are cool, attractive and sophisticated. Not only is the idea to promote a specific brand but also to promote a specific brand but also to brand loyalty.

One year ago the American Medical Association (AMA) worked to defeat the marketing of Alco pops ~ fruity drinks and malt beverages which were advertised as a youthful, sexy and fun drink in flashy ad campaigns in youth magazines. There is nothing sexy about the gateway to alcoholism.

The AMA, state and speciality medical societies took action. Working with attorney generals in California, Maryland and New York, we convinced the promoters to step back and cancel the effort.

The AMA has called on the National Collegiate Athletic Association to eliminate alcohol advertising connected with NCAA events. We think the flood of alcohol ads and events undercut efforts to combat binge drinking."

An excerpt from keynote speaker, John C. Nelson, MD, MPH, former president, American Medical Association from talk at World WCTU Convention 2007

It would be refreshing to hear our medical leaders speak out in such a positive manner and for them to inform our parliamentarians that prevention is the answer to our escalating liquor problems. Raising the drinking age to at least 20 years, banning liquor advertising in the media, and giving heavy penalties to those who supply minors with alcohol plus educating the youth on the dangers of alcohol to the human body.

OUR FAITH

A true story is told of an American minister who publicly depreciated total abstinence. When he had finished his speech, an elderly gentleman stood up and told of a young man who was a reformed drunkard, but was tempted to take wine in the house of his much respected minister from whom he thought could come no temptation. After this occasion he swiftly followed the road to ruin from which he never recovered. The man went on to say "that young man was my son and the minister who persuaded him to drink was the one who has just addressed us."

Revivalist official organ of the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster 2007

AN OVERVIEW OF THE WORLD CONVENTION, INDIANAPOLIS, 2007

It was with a little trepidation that I left New Zealand to attend the 37th World Convention of the Woman’s Christian Temperance Union held at the Adams Mark Hotel in Indianapolis, USA, representing our President. I was fortunate to be accompanied by Vivienne Walker who was also a voting delegate. Unfortunately we did not arrive until late in the afternoon but were in good time for the evening session. This was the Parade of World Officers followed by the flags of the countries represented, the USA flag, the Christian flag and the Temperance flag. Vivienne was our flag bearer and I gave my little speech in response to the official greetings, so New Zealand was well represented. The World President, Sarah Ward was almost overcome with surprise at receiving a Civic Award from the State of Indiana during the evening. I must mention the beautiful singing of several of our World Officers who took part in this evening. Sarah Ward gave her President’s Address, giving us an insight into the work of Frances Willard, and then an outline of the future work of the World WCTU.

Convention started in earnest on Tuesday morning. There were 35 countries represented and 350 delegates, and the leadership from the top table was superb. This day was taken up with general business, the reports of the Field Workers, and the Country Presentations. The keynote speaker of the day was Dr John Nelson, USA, who was recently retired as the head of the Medical Association. His topic was ‘The Consequences of Alcohol – from birth to death’.

Wednesday we were told we must be on the bus ready to leave for Evanston by 8am, to view the house where Frances Willard had lived with her family. We were all given a packed lunch before we set off. On arrival at Willard House we were met by volunteers and shown around. Willard House is now a museum and is in extremely good condition for its age. On the way home we were dropped off at a huge shopping mall. Before we left the bus we were handed an envelope containing money for a meal and directions back to the bus, just in case we got lost.

Thursday and Friday were extremely busy with workshops all day. The President said, “you asked for workshops so you got workshops”!! There was a good choice of topics with four in the morning and four in the afternoon. Vivienne and I tried not to double up and we succeeded, with one exception. I concentrated on learning how the different departments were to be worked and will expand on that at a later date. The Thursday evening was set aside for the various contests. There were four entries in the Oratorical Contest which were of a very high standard. The Adult Presentation ‘Your Life - Your Responsibility’ took the form of video presentations which also were of a high standard. There were two entries in the

Adult Bible Story Telling which were very entertaining. The winners of the poster competition were announced and we were thrilled to hear some of the entries from New Zealand were successful. Friday night we were taken by bus to the Indiana Capitol to attend a reception in our honour.

On Saturday, following a Worship Service in the Golden Ballroom, the keynote speaker was Dr Samuele Bacchiocchi, USA, whose topic was ‘The Christian and Alcoholic Beverages’. Dr Bacchiocchi is the author of the book ‘Wine in the Bible’. The afternoon session was taken up with the Memorial Service and the Election of World Officers, followed by revisions of the Constitution and Bylaws. The Resolutions Committee presented their report which was accepted. A talent programme together with the Convention Choir filled the evening slot.

Sunday was set aside for Worship in the morning. In the afternoon we were entertained by two talented Korean young ladies on the piano and violin, followed by a large group of young people entitled “‘Amazin’ Praising’. These kids were excellent. There was a White Ribbon Recruitment service where a number of little ones were received into WCTU by having a white ribbon tied around their wrists. Convention ended with us attending an evening service in Christ Cathedral in downtown Indianapolis.

I must say thank you to all those who made attending this Convention possible. I have certainly learned a lot and hope I can share it with all WCTU members and others.

Janet Palmer, NZWCTU Secretary

World WCTU Colouring Competition 2007 NZ Awards

Eight countries including New Zealand participated in this event.

With nine entries per country there were 72 entries to be judged.

For New Zealand to receive three placings and one highly commended was a gratifying result. The work was of such high standard that judging was very difficult.

Section 1: 5-7 years 3rd Prize: Aki Hematoto Ali

Section 2: 8-10 years Highly Commended: Christy Young

Section 3: 11-13 years 1st Prize: Daniel Christer

3rd Prize: Jessica Heidi Bowen Williams

All these entries were from Balmoral SDA School, Auckland.

Congratulations to all these children and your school for this great effort.

LETTERS TO EDITORS

Nelson Mail

ALCOHOL'S CONSEQUENCES

Sir, Your article on Nelson's alcohol problems (Nelson Mail, August 4), aroused a sense of disgust. That people so degrade themselves is very sad. Does it have to be so?

History shows that alcohol has always been a problem. Maybe it has to do with one fundamental fact ~ alcohol is a poison and drinking it will have detrimental effects. It kills brain cells and causes inebriation, leading to inappropriate behaviour, as reported.

Why do so many in Nelson degrade themselves this way? Are their lives so meaningless they just want to blot them out? Get a life.

Are professional bar owners really being responsible, or are they the cause of this culture? Do we need 450 licensed premises in our region. Liquor has been made grandiose and the consequences ignored. We give knighthoods to the booze barons and elaborate awards to wine and beer producers. But what about all the alcoholics, road deaths and injuries, broken families, abused children, crime and related health problems?

Stop giving alcohol respectability. Educate, especially children. Raise the drinking age. Stop alcohol advertising. Limit outlets and open hours.

It is not to do with 'the time drinkers put their glasses down' so much as how many times they pick them up. A 'community hoping for change' ~ I hope so, and encourage the Liquor Liaison Group to this end.

Lawrence Sumner, Monaco, August 9, 2007

The Marlborough Express

ZERO ALCOHOL LIMIT

Your excellent editorial Get Tough on Drink Driving (Express Jan 22) hopefully has deepened the concern of all readers.

A zero alcohol limit must be introduced to all drivers. New Zealand is far too lenient.

There should be no first time or repeat offenders.

Out of interest are you able to find out for us please what penalties there are in other countries? Is there still execution in some countries?

The article Cops to Target Drinking Drivers (Express Jan 18) mentions Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD) should also mean Student Against Drink and other Drugs.

Elaine Hadfield, Blenheim, 29 January, 2007

The Christchurch Press ~ 5 Septembre 2007

DOUBLE STANDARDS

The student riots in Dunedin are an issue of alcohol abuse among youth, a situation also uppermost in the death of two Christchurch teenagers in May.

A double standard exists in society in regard to alcohol compared with other drugs, especially when we consider the banning of party pills.

In the central city we have a monument commemorating suffrage campaigner Kate Sheppard: it is often overlooked that her campaign took place in the context of the Women's Christian Temperance Movement she was a member of.

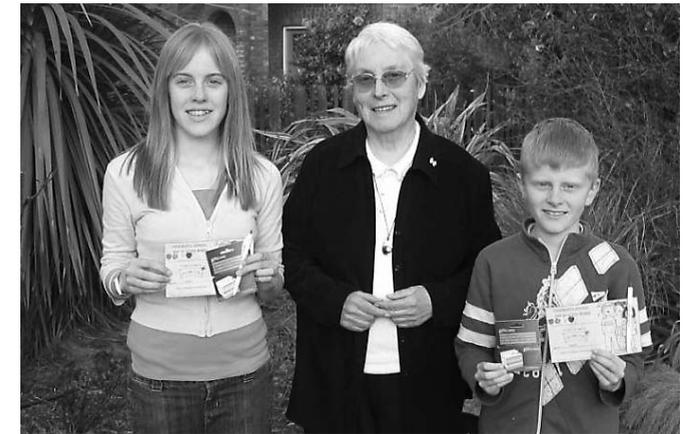
Problems associated with alcohol abuse in society have long been known, yet legal restrictions have been relaxed to an unprecedented degree in the last 20 years.

Increasing trends of alcohol abuse among New Zealand teenagers are a result of ill-advised lowering of the legal purchase age and must be addressed by raising it.

D. Dunford, Aranui, Christchurch

T.K. NEWS

Every term a new issue of the T.K. (Temperance Kids) News is printed for ages 8-13 years. If you would like to receive the worksheet to hand out so we can all take part in helping to educate our young people against the dangers of alcohol and other drugs, please order from Mrs Rowanne McRae, 4 Nottingham Road,



Whangarei. Congratulations to Charlotte and Jacob McKay, Timaru who were the first to complete their four entries of the T.K. News. They were presented with their voucher from President, Mrs Molly Aitchison.

Teekaya

Rowanne McRae (T.K. Supt.)

UNION NEWS

9 SEPTEMBER FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DAY

Auckland Union Reports:

Members distributed brochures prior to FAS day to all the local churches as well as posting them to all Unions.

The Salvation Army has sent a package of resources to every branch in NZ. The Manakau branch gave away little packets of lollies with the No Alcohol during pregnancy attached. Many churches rang their bells, to start the FAS bell concordance worldwide and articles were published.

Nelson Union Reports:

On the 9 September Nelson WCTU members handed out literature on FAS and placed literature in the Public Library. The Nelson president wrote a letter to the editor and the paper printed an article on FAS. As a result of these she has received requests for further information which she supplied.

Timaru Union Reports:

Seven churches were contacted and rang their bells for FAS day. Three local papers printed articles on the dangers of drinking alcohol during pregnancy. A large FAS educational display was on show for one week prior to FAS day at the Public Library with literature and WRDigest for the public to take. Appreciative comments received. This was a WCTU effort.

The Secretary spoke to the group at the Baptist Church Community Coffee morning on FAS and literature was given out.

Blenheim Reports:

The Public Health Unit worker organised educational displays at Blenheim and Picton Libraries and organised a special breakfast function to get the FAS message out to community health workers, midwives and practise nurses where they gave an excellent presentation. She also endorsed Jenny Salmon's book on FAS NZ birth mother's experiences. Sixteen copies of this book were donated to libraries, schools, colleges, health service providers, Youth For Christ, Nelson Anglican Diocese and Blenheim Police.

OBITUARIES

BETTY LARSEN

Blenheim Union. Betty was a member of Palmerston North Union and after moving to Blenheim became involved with the Blenheim Union. Here she attended meetings and was a strong supporter of total abstinence. Betty was a reliable and helpful member. She delivered the Little White Ribboners birthday cards a position she enjoyed. Betty died in Blenheim on 17 July, 2007 aged 82 years and is now awaiting the resurrection day.



MRS EDNA VIOLET SMITH

2 August 1914 - 21 February 2007

Hamilton Union. Edna supported many causes including the WCTU in Hamilton for about 40 years. After the Union began meetings in members' homes Edna's home was often open for our meetings. She did not travel to National Conventions but helped at the last one held in Hamilton. She was Secretary for many years and is very much missed for her willingness to help, her cheery smile and happy disposition.

Our expression of deepest sympathy was extended to her five daughters and their families at the funeral service.

MRS MAUD ELIZA ROBERTSON

1909 - 2007

Whangarei Union. Mrs Maud Robertson went to be with her Lord whom she loved and served on 7 September 2007, aged 98 years.

In her passing Whangarei WCTU Union has lost an active loyal member who was a Treasurer for 39 years.



She had attended 40 National Conventions and often was the convention pianist. She loved singing and was a blessing to many. She was a songster in the Salvation Army for 73 years and a pianist for 34 years as well as a member of the Whangarei Choral Society.

She will be sadly missed, but her memory and influence will live on forever in many lives.

MRS JEANNE HELEN WOOD, QSO
29 October 1917 - 7 August 2007

Timaru Union. Mrs Jeanne Wood was an active and respected member of WCTU for most of her adult life. She held many prominent positions during that time.

She was Editor of the NZ White Ribbon Digest and the National Legal and Parliamentary Director, holding both positions at the same time for about 15 years. She wrote many letters to The Timaru Herald as well as other papers, to MPs, submissions to Parliamentary Select Committees as well as appearing in person on issues dealing with alcohol.

For the NZ WCTU centennial in 1985 she wrote our history book, A Challenge Not A Truce.

Jeanne was well known for her practical help, cooking and baking for the sick and bereaved, her compassion for the underdog, her enthusiasm and a great sense of humour.

For her temperance work and public service she was awarded the Queen's Service Order.

Mrs Alma Laurenson, President of Timaru Union and Mrs Molly Aitchison, National President, both placed posies of white camellias tied with white ribbon on Jeanne's casket at her service, 11 August 2007 at Avonhead Baptist Church, Christchurch.

Jeanne is survived by three children, ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



UNION OFFICERS

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AUCKLAND

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