

WCTU New Zealand

Volume 65, No 4  
Summer 2010

# WHITE RIBBON DIGEST

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



Main House Arahina Convention Centre, Marton

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:  
The Rite Journey to Manhood  
Gambling Grip on New Zealand  
Displays of Violence  
Youth Drug Info Sheet

Plus more  
WHITE RIBBON DIGEST

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



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

*"For God Home and Humanity"*

### President

Mrs Ruth Hillsdon  
8 Firth Place, Palmerston North 4412  
Tel. 06 3559246, Fax. 06 3559241  
Email: hillies@xtra.co.nz

### Treasurer

Mrs Margaret Larsen  
109 Parkers Rd, Tahunanui  
Nelson 7011  
Tel. 03 5485988, Fax. 03 5485968

### Vice Presidents

Mrs Janet Palmer  
201 TiroTiro Rd, Levin 5510  
Tel. 06 3684238, Fax. 06 3684239  
Email: palmers@paradise.net.nz

### Legal and Parliamentary Director

### Editor

Mrs Molly Aitchison  
84 Glen Street, Timaru 7910  
Tel. 03 6884642, Fax. 03 6884694  
Email: glenco@orcon.net.nz

Mrs Ruth Gray  
3 Piko Street, Nelson 7010  
Tel. 03 5483809

### WRD Distributor: changes of address, extra copies of WRD

Mrs Rowanne McRae  
9 Amber Dr., Tikipunga, Whangarei 0112  
Tel. 09 435 2811

### Secretary

Mrs Beverley Boardman  
179 Killarney Road, Hamilton 3204  
Tel. 07 8470763  
Email: bev.dave@xtra.co.nz

### Choice Words

And the angel said to them "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which shall be for all people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord" - Luke 2 v 10.11

### Contents

News in Brief / Alcohol and Accidents in the Home .....	Page 4
Youth Info Drug Sheet .....	Page 5
The Rite Journey to Manhood .....	Page 6
Displays of Violence .....	Page 7
Smokers & Depression / Women Catching Up .....	Page 8
WRD Editorial .....	Page 9
Gambling Grip on New Zealand .....	Page 10
Should a Christian Take Money?.....	Page 11
Union News .....	Page 13
Follow-up from World Convention .....	Page 14
Devotional Page .....	Page 16
Registration From to NZ WCTU National Convention .....	Page 18

## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Over the past few months since I last commented for the White Ribbon Digest there have been three issues that have largely dominated the news. For many weeks we watched the hideous oil leak off the Gulf of Mexico. Then we have had much time both in the news and in current affairs programmes devoted to the alcohol problem in New Zealand. More recently uppermost in our thoughts have been the earthquakes in Canterbury. And before you even get to read this digest, who knows what the sequence of events will be with history moving at such a pace as it seems to be at the moment.



Ruth Hillsdon

Unfortunately the alcohol issue will continue to be reported in its various hideous forms telling us of events that we know could have been avoided if we would take some action that seems so obvious to many of us but seems to elude those in power to do something.

One of the recent events in the news that particularly caught my attention and left me feeling very saddened and disappointed was a recent interview with Pam Corkery on TV1's Close Up programme. Pam plans to open a brothel for women whereby the sex workers are men and the clients are women.

I would probably have not given it much thought, apart from to say to myself "nothing surprises me anymore". But the thing that disappointed me the most in this was that Pam finished her interview by saying. "We were first with the vote, and we're going to be the first with a legal male knock-shop. I think it's a proud day."

To compare Pam's project to such a feat in New Zealand history is an insult to the women who fought so long and so hard to obtain 'the vote'. I will leave you to form your own conclusions. However do you not think Ms Corkery should check her history with regard to the reasons that New Zealand women embarked on such a project and brought it to fruition in September 1893? Then she may see how ludicrous her comparison is to New Zealand women being the first in the world to gain the vote with what she is proposing.

In August Ivan and I travelled to Auckland to the 'Family Forum' hosted by 'Family First New Zealand'. We were extremely impressed by the organisation of the day and the speakers that had been invited and commend Family First for such an event. As I attended on behalf of WCTU I was asked to write a report, however having reflected back on the day it is my recommendation that you look at their website: [www.familyfirst.org.nz](http://www.familyfirst.org.nz) and see for yourself the information that is there as well as which you can order the DVDs of the 'Family Forum' for yourself.

This will be our last digest for 2010 so from myself and the Executive of WCTU I wish you God's blessing for Christmas and the New Year. And remember this promise:

**"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me." Hebrews 13:6,7.**

*Ruth Hillsdon*

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**FRANCE:** The French Ministry of Health and Solidarity has mandated that alcohol and pregnancy warnings be placed on all purchasable alcohol beverages

**SALES OF BOOZE TO UNDERAGE YOUTH:** Police Sting operations around the country continue to net offenders in the liquor hospitality businesses who continue to break the law by selling to those underage.

The present penalty is obviously not a deterrent.

**SMOKING KILLS 5,000 NZ'ERS EACH YEAR.**

**YOUTH CULTURE:** The binge drinking culture amongst teenagers is the "killing fields of New Zealand" quote from parent of teenager who drowned while drunk.

**FIRST DRINK FOR YOUTH:** Weddings and funerals can be the first time that young people are introduced to alcohol when parents who are nearby are not supervising them.

**FATAL CRASHED:** Fatal crashes involving 15 – 19 years old have increased significantly since the alcohol purchase age was lowered in 1999 (NZ Police report).

**NO 1 DRUG:** Alcohol is the most commonly used recreational drug in NZ with 85% of adults (aged 16 – 64 years) having had an alcoholic drink in the past year.



## ALCOHOL AND ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME

Last year Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) paid out \$622 million for the treatment and rehabilitation of people injured in their homes.

The statistics showed that there were over 17,000 accidents in the bathroom each year, 87 stair related injuries every day and 133 injuries per week to children running through glass or falling from windows.

ACC Injury Prevention Manager, Keith McLea stated that preventions measures were often ignored. He also blamed alcohol as a factor in a quarter of all accident claims made in the home. He went on to say that 70 per cent of drinking was consumed in the home and that it was fair to assume that alcohol contributed to a significant of home injuries. Last year 5400 people were injured falling off a ladder at home.

Drinking alcohol makes people particularly vulnerable to falls and accidents.

## YOUTH INFO DRUG SHEET

**CANNABIS (MARIJUANA)**

MARIJUANA is prepared from the cannabis plant (Indian hemp)

HASHISH (Hash) is small blocks of dried cannabis resin

HASH OIL, is thick oily liquid extracted from hashish and is the most powerful form of cannabis.

COMMON TERMS: Grass, dope, pot, hash, mull.

There are 421 known chemicals found in cannabis. The main one is THC (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol)..

*HOW USED:* Usually smoked, mixed with tobacco, in a hand rolled cigarette called a reefer, joint or stick. Can be smoked in especially designed pipes. Can be eaten in biscuits or food.

*EFFECTS ON THE BODY:* Feelings of relaxation and self confidence, altered sense of taste, touch, smell and hearing. Intoxicating effects occur within seconds of using and can last for three hours.

*EFFECTS ON THE BRAIN:* impaired thinking, poor coordination, loss of inhibitions which can last up to 24 hours.

The short term memory loss can last for weeks.

### IT TAKES UP TO 30 DAYS FOR THE BODY TO GET RID OF ALL THE CHEMICALS FROM A SINGLE JOINT

*REGULAR LONG TERM USE:* This can increase the risk of respiratory illness similar to tobacco. These are lung cancer, chronic bronchitis and emphysema.

The risk of those driving motor vehicles or using machinery is impaired concentration, sight, hearing, coordination and over confidence.

Can cause manic depression, hallucinations, poor concentration, impaired judgement and there is increasing evidence that in young people those who are regular users may develop schizophrenia.

*CONCLUSION:* There is no place in medicine or society for the use of this unpredictable drug. It is of great concern that we have a political party where some of its members have lobbied to have this drug decriminalised for those over the age of 18 years.



## THE RITE JOURNEY TO MANHOOD

Two Australian school teachers have come up with a unique educational programme aimed at young teenage boys to help them become responsible adults.

This year 10 especially trained teachers at Timaru Boys High School (TBHS) commenced a full year programme of 2 sessions a week to 175, Year 10 pupils (ages 13 -14 years). It takes the students through the seven stages to becoming an adult. TBHS is the first school in New Zealand to trial this programme.

It is a programme that is designed to make young teenage boys think and talk about topics such as bullying, sexism, racism, and how they can deal with anger and other problems.

In the NZ society many men try to act macho, the 'Southern Man' image, 'rugby, racing and beer' mentality which has not been successful in raising responsible boys. We need not wonder why we have boy racer hoons, young binge-drinkers and promiscuous sexual behaviour.

With so many from broken homes lacking the mentoring from loving fathers they have not been taught to be responsible and respectful to parents, teachers, the law, their employers and others.

The authors of this programme, Andrew Lines and Graham Gallasch, write that they were concerned about the decreasing human connection that the young boys were experiencing as they spoke to their pupils. More were focusing on technology (i.e. cell phones, computer games) and spending more time in front of their screens than taking part in family life

The seven stages of the Journey are:-

The Call, The Departure, The Following, The Challenge, The Abyss, The Return, and The Homecoming.

During the year the teachers have noticed encouraging behaviour changes in these young people. Other schools are watching this trial with interest.

For more information visit the website:- [theritejourney.com.au](http://theritejourney.com.au)

## DISPLAYS OF VIOLENCE

Why are so many of our young women allowing themselves to lower their standards in so many ways?

Police Departments, Hospital Emergency Departments and St John's Ambulance and others dealing with these situations are reporting an increase in violent assaults and 'loutish' behaviour, (once only seen in young males), now evident more frequently in young women and girls' disputes. Although seen in young teenagers, these are often not reported or dealt with by schools or Family Courts.

For those reported to Police, there has been a marked increase in female violent offending in the 16 – 24 age group.

In 2009 there were 715 convictions for women in that age group for intentional acts of violence compared with 341 in 2000.

Again we are justified in putting some of the blame squarely on the effects resulting from the stupidity of lowering the drinking age from 20 to 18 years in 1999. This domino effect has seen many young girls and women obtaining alcohol from family and friends. Our lovely young women have been short-changed by our members of Parliament who are too timid to raise the drinking age back. Our MPs should hang their heads in shame.

The Police frequently state that alcohol is a catalyst for bad behaviour amongst the girls. They are having to deal with girls and young women who are extremely intoxicated and see that there is a clear link between alcohol, violent behaviour and assaults.

Those who are researching this problem see that the girls are trying to get the attention of the boys by showing that they can consume large amounts of alcohol. Unfortunately no one has told them that there are many reasons why the female body can not metabolise alcohol as quickly as a male can.

Some of these girls and young women spend hours on preening themselves for their night out but after heavy drinking sessions come to after blacking out to find that they are lying in a pool of their own vomit, urine and faeces.

Some are brought to in the Emergency clinic to have their stomach pumped out. Most are slow learners as next weekend they are back to heavy drinking again.

Right across the board New Zealand has a huge problem with alcohol and violence. Instead of their friends trying to act as peacemakers they encourage them to punch up the other person. Some of these young women and girls have been victims or witnessed family violence and it becomes normal to strike-out when angry.

In the article on The Rite to Manhood the creators of this programme have prepared one for young girls in Year 10. They say, "It was clear that the female students were struggling with issues of their own. An increase in the prevalence of eating disorders amongst junior high school students reflects the increased pressure these girls were feeling regarding their appearance. Non uniform days presented staff with challenges regarding the nature of girls' skimpy and sexually oriented attire, and the statistics regarding increased risk behaviours, including drug use and sexual activity, were alarming. For more information on both programmes visit. [theritejourney.com.au](http://theritejourney.com.au).

(WRD Ed. To my knowledge this programme for girls has not commenced in NZ as yet but we need it badly.)

## SMOKERS AND DEPRESSION

Well known researcher Professor David Fergusson, of Otago University, Dunedin reported that nicotine addicts were more than twice as likely to have symptoms of depression than non-smokers. He went on to say that it was not the case that people who were more likely to get depression were also more likely to smoke, but that smoking increased a person's chances of becoming depressed.

The study involved more than 1000 people who were asked at ages 18, then at 21 and again at 25 about their smoking habits and whether they showed any symptoms of depression.

## WOMEN CATCHING UP

AA Insurance deputy general manager, Martin Fox said that the recent drink-driving survey figures were cause for real concern, and the survey results suggested risk taking behaviours by both men and women that could be passed on to the next generation of drivers.

An AA Insurance survey of 4336 drivers aged 18 – 65 found that 32 percent of men and 24 percent of women admitted to driving over the limit.

Mr Fox said that men took more risks than women, broke the speed limit but women were catching up and more were drinking over the limit often with children in the car.

### **Be Strong**

*Say not that the days are evil, who is to blame?  
And fold the hands and acquiesce, Oh shame!  
Stand up, speak out, and bravely in God's name.*

## EDITORIAL

Canterbury's earthquake on 4 September at 4.35 a.m jolted most of us awake who live in the province. For those of us who live 100 miles away from Christchurch the damage was fairly minor but the earthquake was a long scary one.

The city of Christchurch and its outskirts have received much damage to homes and buildings with many having to be rebuilt. The people on the whole are a stoic lot and are recovering to rebuild their lives and homes. The many aftershocks, some very large ones, have hampered some the work of the building inspectors who have to keep returning again and again to check the safety of the structures. Civic leaders struggle to save the badly damaged historic buildings that make up this beautiful city's landmarks. Fortunately there were no lives lost.

Civil Defence and all Emergency and voluntary services under direction of a vigilant Mayor, Prime Minister and Central Government all worked like clockwork to bring this disaster under control.

With all this going on the liquor law recommendations have been put on hold. It does appear that the tough stand that Parliament was going to make has slowly been watered down. As usual the tinkering around the edges are not going to be of any consequences to the total drinking culture or the youth binge drinking. Many were so ambiguous the Police will have great difficulty in enforcing them.

It seems that the brewers and hospitality trade once again win and the long suffering public miss out again on health and safety concerns.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Day has again been and gone. The Food Safety Standards of Australia and New Zealand have again delayed until next year the decision whether to allow the mandatory health warning labels on all containers of beverage alcohol.

Is this the fourth or fifth year that they have dithered?

The brewers say that it is too expensive to put these labels on but they have to do so to get their booze exported into the USA.

So let's be honest and see who is in the drivers seat!

No prizes for the correct answer.

## GAMBLING GRIP ON NEW ZEALAND

Most New Zealanders gamble in some form or another. From housie in Church halls, betting on the horses or dogs, sports betting and raffles up to the one arm bandits and the pokie machines. Gambling is a progressive activity, starting small and advancing up to the many other forms. Pokie machines have been cited as the most harmful form of gambling. These machines with their bright flashing colourful images with cheerful tunes catch the imagination of those who have a void to fill with excitement and a change from the perceived humdrum of the players' daily life.

Each year September 1 is World Gamble – Free Awareness Day, but it is doubtful if many problem gamblers took their eyes off the screens of these hypnotic, addictive small machines or even knew that such a day was recognised in some places in the world.

Between 2008 and 2009 NZ'ers lost more than \$2 billion to all forms of gambling in a country of just over 4 million people!

The cost in human misery can not be measured but many have lost their families as this gambling fever takes over and tears lives and homes apart. It costs the taxpayer dearly as problem gambling puts a heavy burden on health, justice and social services. When families split up many have to go on to the social welfare benefit.

It is sad to see Christian groups accepting donations from those trusts who give out some of the proceeds to sports clubs and other groups who apply for handouts.

Predictions that sports betting would result in match fixing is unfortunately proving to be the case.

On researching through the NZWCTU files I came across this article written by the late Mrs Jeanne H Wood QSO when she was the NZWCTU Legal and Parliamentary Director.

I believe that it is worthy of publication with the hope that it may be a help Christians who have questions on this topic.



## SHOULD A CHRISTIAN TAKE MONEY THAT HAS BEEN RAISED THROUGH GAMBLING?

### FIRST - WHAT IS GAMBLING?

It is gaining through chance, at the expense of another.

In many areas, minor concessions are permitted under the doubtful premise that 'the end justifies the means'. So raffles, housie, lotteries (all used to raise money for needy causes) are first tolerated then endorsed and finally promoted as a virtuous way of raising money. Finally large mammoth lotteries and casinos, when promoted, bring little opposition. Now the Liquor Trade has 'a chance to win' as a draw- card for increasing sales.

### GAMBLING IS AN OFFENCE AGAINST GOD - HOW?

The basic motive for gambling is covetousness – wanting something that hasn't been earned. (Exodus 20 v 17)

Jesus spoke against it. (Luke 12 v 15)

Likened it to Idolatry (Col. 3 v 5)

Shouldn't pine for something you haven't got. (Hebrews 13 v 5)

Not to be spoken of. (Ephesians 5.3)

It is undoubtedly steeped in sin; it causes recklessness and indolence, leading often to social ruin, thieving, lying, cheating and violence.

A nation nurturing a massive chase after good-luck bubbles, regardless of the serious side-effects created, needs opposing not condoning.

Every sane economist wants citizens of his country to be independent, steady, industrious and productive, receiving just reward for labour expended. If chance becomes the determining element for an investment it certainly cannot be the right action for a well-adjusted steward of finance. A Christians' stewardship is by Divine appointment – and that should not be taken lightly as unnecessary extravagance should not be part of a Christian's stewardship.

### ETHICAL ATTITUDES TO GAMBLING

Apart from a Christian attitude to gambling ethically there are only three things that justify taking a dollar from anyone.

1. I give the value of a dollar for something – the law of exchange
2. I give service to the value of a dollar – the law of service
3. I give freely as a gift – the law of love.

### OBLIGATIONS OF A CHRISTIAN - WHAT ARE THEY?

1. We are living 'epistles' – We are watched to see if we uphold our Biblical principles. Insincerity absolutely wipes out any good testimony.(2 Cor.3 v 2)

2. We are lights. (Matt.5 v 16) Lights reveal evil. Works of darkness need exposing not condoning. A lot of Christian lights turn off when they lose power or become disconnected.
3. We are examples. (Hebrews 12 v 13) Make straight paths for your feet. WE have to make straight paths for our feet – so that nobody is turned out of the way if following us.

Some say that life is a gamble but to put ourselves in the hands of God is certainly not a gamble. Everything we own or do is under the guidance of our Lord and should conform to His will.

Some Christian organisations, once strong opponents of gambling (which usually goes hand in hand with the liquor trade), now accept a grant and what has happened? The very necessary voice of protest against the evils of our nation's increasing covetousness is DEAD – stone dead. One can not condemn a practice if we have become one who accepts its takings. It completely devitalises Godly protest against sin.

It is often claimed that welfare benefits all (or most) acquire their revenue from many sources which include taxes on alcohol and gambling. Should we refuse these?

Do we know where such aid comes from? We do know when outright grants come from gambling and the liquor trade and to be seen accepting help from these destructive sources makes Biblical testimony null and void.

The input from conscientious tax-payers into Government coffers, should assure beneficiaries that their commitment, through taxes, deserves a just reward and until this is disproved, this argument is irrelevant.

#### WHAT IS THE REAL QUESTION?

It is not what WE think. It is not how WE justify our actions. IT IS WHAT THE WORD OF GOD SAYS. Do we heed the Bible or not? Are we prepared to abide by the Word of God or not? IT IS AS SIMPLE AS THAT.

Today, very few people uphold God's mandates. What harm is there in a little flutter? What harm is there in a little cheating or a little stealing? Today's unprincipled conduct is very pronounced.

Some organisations and churches have always voiced a strong protest against all forms of gambling. They base their stand on the Word of God. To ignore God's mandates is to remove the protective barrier around individual and national security. It can truly be said that gambling breeds a class of non-producers who live by fleecing their fellows.

We need Christians who take heed of Paul's advice in Ephesians 5 v 9-11 and Phillipians 4 v8. Romans chapter 12 is a good portion to study in this connection.

An old experienced sage once said, "Gambling is the child of avarice, but the parent of prodigality." - that means "extravagance"!

## UNION NEWS



It may seem to be a bit early to be thinking of Christmas but as soon as we get over Labour Weekend it seems to follow so quickly. Here in NZ we have end of year functions that start early in November, planning for long summer school and work holidays, and organising for family celebrations. Amongst all this there is the fruit and vegetables to preserve and freeze and make into jams, sauces and pickles. On top of this there is the Spring -cleaning and gardening! No wonder many women are feeling worn out by the end of the year. To make things a bit easier start early, planning list and get those Christmas cards, letters written and decide that you are going to have a simpler time so as to enjoy the real meaning of Christmas. This year delegate out more tasks so that you can be a Mary and not a Martha when it comes to the chores. Get the men to light up the BBQ. May you have a Blessed stress-free Christmas.

#### TO ALL MEMBERS

Please check that you have included the date on all correspondence, reports, submissions, newsletters etc. before sending them off. Some people will just bin anything that has no date so don't waste all your effort. Also could you please put your address on the back of envelopes as sometimes mail is put in wrong letterboxes in a different street and not everyone would put it back in the post box again..

#### WHANGAREI UNION REPORTS

In September we had the privilege of having Johnny Kunitau, clinical team leader of Rubicon, come and speak at our meeting.

Rubicon is an Alcohol and Drug support service for young people aged 11-19 years in the Whangarei and Kaipara region.

It has been operating for ten years and has an encouraging success rate.

As an alternative to expulsion from school for one-off drug offences, teenagers can sign up to Rubicon for 12 months. They must make a promise to be drug-free and attend alcohol and other drug counselling and education. During this time they are also regularly drug tested.

Of the clients who finish the programme, 85 per cent will have no permanent marks on their police or school records. These youth go on to become productive people in the community, some have become the headboy or headgirl, joined the police, army and navy.

## White Ribbon Digest

Rubicon currently has seven counsellors and three administration staff working with around 500 young people in the local schools. They have recently applied for funding to run a programme for young problem drinkers. If this is approved a further two staff will be employed.

As a Union we are happy to support this wonderful work. We encourage you all to find out what organisations are helping in your area.

*Rowanne McRae, Secretary*

## FOLLOW-UP FROM WORLD WCTU CONVENTION

The World WCTU President's Honour Roll Award for Excellence was for countries who completed some requirements regarding programmes. These were that a National Director be appointed for each Department.

These Directors were to encourage their countries to observe:

Alcohol-free Day • Tobacco-free Day • Fetal Alcohol Spectrum (FAS) Awareness Day • World WCTU Day of Prayer

*World President Sarah Ward (USA) presenting  
Janet Palmer (NZ) with the Award for  
Excellent certificate*



◀ *World President Sarah Ward  
with those who she presented the  
Award to the following countries  
Sheela Lall (India), Cynthia  
Clarkson (Sierra Leone) back  
row Irmeli Kaipainen (Finland)  
Samira Girgis Asham (Egypt)  
Janet Palmer (NZ)*



## White Ribbon Digest



*Annette Paterson and Janet Palmer at Stavanger, 12-17 May 2010*

Too Busy

I knelt to pray but not for long,  
I had too much to do  
I had to hurry to get to work  
For bills would soon be due.  
So I knelt and said a hurried prayer,  
And jumped up off my knees.  
My Christian duty was now done  
My soul could rest in ease....  
All day long I had no time  
To spread a word of cheer  
No time to speak of Christ to  
friends

They'd laugh at me I'd fear.  
No time, no time, too much to do,  
That was my constant cry,  
No time to give to souls in need  
But at last the time, the time to  
die.  
I went before the Lord,  
I came, I stood with downcast eyes.  
For in His hands God held a book;  
It was the Book of Life.  
God looked into His book and said  
"Your name I cannot find  
I once was going to write it down....  
But never found the time."





**Devotional Page**  
**DON'T BE AFRAID**  
**I AM WITH YOU**

*(author unknown)*

I watched a TV Church service from Atlanta USA, honouring one of its senior pastors who had been retired for many years.

He was 92 at the time and I wondered why a church would ask an old man to preach at that age. The pastor welcomed the old man to the pulpit and he received a warm welcome.

He rose slowly from his chair and with great effort walked to the podium. Without written notes of any kind he placed both hands on the pulpit to steady himself and then quietly and slowly began to speak.

“When I was asked to come here today and talk to you, your pastor asked me to tell you what was the greatest lesson ever learnt in my fifty years of ministry. I thought about it for a few days and it came down to just one thing that made a difference in my life and kept me through the trials. The one thing I could rely on when tears, heartbreak, pain, fear and sorrow paralysed me.....the only one thing that could combat was this verse...

Jesus loves me this I know  
For the Bible tells me so  
Little ones to Him belong  
We are weak but He is strong.  
(Chorus)

Yes Jesus loves me, yes Jesus loves me, yes Jesus loves me

The Bible tells me so.

When he finished the church was so quiet that you could actually hear his footsteps as he shuffled back to his seat. I don't think that the congregation will ever forget it

Here is a new version for those with white hair or even no hair.

1. Jesus loves me, this I know, though my hair is white as snow,  
Though my sight is growing dim, still He bids me trust in Him.  
(Chorus) Yes Jesus loves me etc.
2. When the nights are long and dark, in my heart He puts a song  
Telling me in words so clear Have no fear, as I am near.”
3. Though my steps are oh so slow, with my hand in His I'll go,  
On thru' life, let come what may, He'll be there to lead the way.
4. When on earth my work is done and life's victories have been won  
He will take me home above then I'll understand His love.
5. I love Jesus does He know have I ever told Him so?  
Jesus loves to hear me say that I love Him every day.

Amen



**OBITUARY**

**JOAN MILNE**



Joan Milne was a faithful member of the Manawatu WCTU where she attended with her friend Lyn Rawlings (Dew). She attended the Centennial Celebrations at Parliament Buildings in 1993. Even after Joan was unable to travel any more to the annual WCTU Conventions she maintained a keen interest in the affairs of WCTU. She enjoyed a visit and receiving a copy of the White Ribbon Digest. She was a faithful member of the Seventh Day Adventist Christian Church. We look forward to meeting Joan again in the earth made new.

Sent in by her friend Margaret Strawbridge.

NZ WCTU NATIONAL CONVENTION



Arahina Ministry & Function Centre  
457 Wellington Road, Marton

7th-10th March, 2011

COST \$135

Please arrive Monday 7th when a light evening meal will be provided

Registration Form:

Mrs Beverley Boardman, 179 Killarney Road, Hamilton 3204.

Phone (07) 8470763 email bev.dave@xtra.co.nz

By February 15th, 2011

Name .....

Address.....

.....

A non refundable deposit of \$50 is required with registration.

Please make cheques payable to WCTU

Do you require vegetarian meals  yes  no *please tick*

Other dietary needs, please state .....

Travel arrangements: Private car Train Bus to Te Puke Plane (circle)

*If travelling by air the closest airport is Palmerston North. Transport will be available but you may need to wait at the airport to be collected, depending on any other folk arriving.*

Time and date of arrival .....

Time and date of departure .....

Do you need transport to Convention venue  yes  no *please tick*

UNION OFFICERS

**WHANGAREI**

Pres. Mrs Vi Codling, 3/285 Kamo Road, Kensington, Whangarei 0112

Treas. Mrs Rowanne McRae, 9 Amber Drive, Tikipunga, Whangarei 0112, 09 435 2811

**AUCKLAND**

Pres. Mrs A. Paterson, 10 Keystone Ave, Mt Roskill, Auckland 1041, 09 6206721

Sec. Mr P. Groom, 42 Tranmere Road, Sandringham, Auckland 1041, 09 8464849

Treas. Mrs A. Paterson

**TAURANGA**

Pres. Mrs F. Ralston, 1/16 Oban Road, Tauranga 3112, 07 5411186

Sec. Mrs Phyllis Irvine, 195 Waihi Rd, Tauranga 3110

Treas. Mrs F. Jennings, 57 Pukemapu Road, Tauranga 3173

**MANAWATU**

Contacts: Mrs R. Hillsdon, 8 Firth Place, Palmerston North 4412

Mrs J. Palmer, 201 TiroTiro Road, Levin 5510, 06 3684238

**WELLINGTON**

Contact: Mrs M. Ross, 13 Stafford Street, Wellington 6011, 04 3851294

**STOKE/ NELSON**

Pres. Mrs M. Larsen, 109 Parkers Road, Tahunanui, Nelson 7011, 03 5485988

Sec. Mrs R. Gray, 3 Piko Street, Nelson 7010, 03 5483809

Treas. Mrs B. Watts, 1/103 Tipahi Street, Nelson 7010, 03 5480633

**NORTH CANTERBURY**

Sec. Mrs D. McCone, 2/9 Northfield Road, Christchurch 8051, 03 3526433

Treas. Mrs B. Osborne, 40 Uxbridge Street, Christchurch 8051, 03 3527482

**TIMARU**

Contact Mrs M. Aitchison, 84 Glen Street, Timaru 7910, 03 6884642



## MISSION STATEMENT

"To reduce health and social problems by promoting a lifestyle free of alcohol and other drugs."

### YOU ARE NEEDED

*You can assist the NZWCTU by becoming a member and/or subscriber to the WHITE RIBBON DIGEST.*

By signing the following pledge you may become a member of this organisation. "I affirm my life-long pledge of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquor as a beverage, and my willingness to pursue all proper means to discourage and prevent its use in society. I pledge myself to work and pray to this end by endeavouring to promote a personal purity of life, free from the menace of narcotic poisons and drugs, claiming always the promised guidance and help of God.

Signed .....

Membership fee \$15 per annum includes WRD	\$ .....
WHITE RIBBON DIGEST fee \$10 per annum	\$ .....
Overseas \$18 per annum (includes postage	\$ .....
Donation	\$ .....

Men are eligible for full membership

For further information contact Mrs Janet Palmer  
201 TiroTiro Rd  
Levin 5510

Applications from Advertisers are welcomed also.

If you enjoyed reading this Digest and would like to receive future copies please send to  
Mrs M Larsen,  
109 Parkers Rd, Tahunanui,  
Nelson 7011