

Woman's Christian Temperance Union

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Friends and Sisters

Greetings to you from **Papua New Guinea** where I am based for the time being. This week a school principal died here. He had lived a life of bad habits, eating poorly, drinking alcohol and not following God's plan for a healthy, happy and holy existence. When I visited his school some time ago to talk about temperance, he left the meeting. He has died too young but his bad health habits caused this. Let's keep telling and sharing the good news about how to live well.

Death of school principal

In Papua New Guinea

An American older lady, **Linda Harvey Kelly**, is visiting the highlands of Papua New Guinea now. She recently became a member of WCTU in the USA. She grew up here as a child and is speaking at churches and schools in the highlands and telling everyone about WCTU and many want to join. That is such good news. Bless you and thank you Linda.

Good news from Kenya

The new **Nairobi Central** WCTU group has started work. Their first major event was an interactive training day on drug and substance abuse at a school in the huge Kibera slum and where they plan to visit regularly. Florence writes, "A group of 183 students of ages 13/14 participated. At the end of the training the students signed the pledge form to abstain from use of drugs and alcohol. Thereafter prayers were offered on their behalf." This is great news from Kenya.

Home Brews

Home brewing beer is a major concern in PNG and in Africa. Many poor women brew beer because it is easy and in high demand. It is much cheaper than buying commercially produced beer. It is often deadly poisonous. Children get involved and some die. The violence and abuse perpetuated because of this is horrendous. We need to be aware and address this problem in our countries. See the handout I have attached with this letter.

World Convention

Next year the **World WCTU Convention** will take place in Ottawa, Canada in August 18-24, 2016. Great speakers are preparing. Check the WWCTU website for details. www.wwctu.org

PRAY at noontime every day

Pray for - wisdom as we all seek to find ways to reach people around us
Pray for - the WCTU leaders in every nation and plans for World Convention
Pray for - the youth and children in your neighbourhood

This letter is sent with my very best wishes and claiming God's blessings on your life and work.

WCTU Motto - For God and Home and Every Land

Joy

Beer in Africa

The sad facts and what we can do about it



Africa to become fastest growing beer market in the world by 2017

- *A new report (March, 2015) expects more Africans to enter the beer market from the home brew sector, while commercial beer and premium brands forge ahead in the exploding African beer market.*
- *According to the report, the African beer market is the fastest growing global beer market with an annual average growth rate of 5% between 2013 and 2017 outstripping growth in the Asian and Latin American markets, which are projected to witness a growth rate of 4% and 3%, respectively.*
- *South Africa is the biggest market, followed by Nigeria, then Angola.*
- *At the moment homemade alcohol products still dominate the African market, but they pose a significant health risk which include, blindness, mental retardation, rage, violence and death.*
- *More than 25 percent of Africans are binge drinkers, the highest proportion in the world, WHO report.*
- *Most African countries already have laws that prohibit underage drinking and drink driving, but critics say these are poorly enforced and often completely ignored.*

Ingredients in home brewed beer are usually based on cereals - sorghum, millet etc. There is a process to make this and these horrible additives are often used and are frequently fatal:

battery acid, cheap perfume, high octane fuel, after-shave, methylated spirits and.....crocodile bile

Hundreds die

What can we do?

- 1 Educate yourself to know what is happening in your nation, in your neighbourhood.
- 2 Encourage your church pastor and leaders to address this issue at church.
- 3 Provide good pure drinks for everyone who visits your home.
- 4 Help provide alternative employment opportunities for poor women.
- 5 Educate and tell children and youth about the terrible dangers of home-brews.
- 6 Love them, pray with them, show them that God has a plan for them.
- 7 Encourage and praise them when they make good choices.

