

Woman's Christian Temperance Union

June 2016

Friends and Sisters in Africa and Papua New Guinea

This year has flown by and as I prepare to depart PNG to travel to Australia, then to Africa and on to Canada to attend the **WWCTU Convention in August**, I wish to send you greetings and well wishes. Your concerns are mine and I continue to pray for you and the important work you are doing to proclaim the temperance message in your various countries.

History of Alcohol in PNG

Alcohol in Papua New Guinea does not have a long history. It is only since the outside world came to this place during the very latter part of the 19th century that alcohol was introduced. Before that there is no evidence that the indigenous people of this land drank brewed drinks. It was in 1962 when the colonial power, Australia, gave permission for the local people to drink alcohol just as they did. Since that time the troubles surrounding alcohol have arisen and grown. The government is still trying to address the problems relating to alcohol and its effects on the nation.

Teach our children in PNG

It is important that we, **the women of the WCTU in PNG**, endeavour to teach children and youth the truth about the DAT poisons. (drugs, alcohol, tobacco) We must find every opportunity to let our voices be heard. Speak at schools, youth groups, churches, pathfinders and scout rallies - encourage children to sign the pledge. Last weekend over 30 young people signed the pledge in Lae.

Teach our children in Africa

Exactly the **same applies to Africa** in all the nations where WCTU is represented. Praise God for people like Germaine in Rwanda, Florence in Kenya, Elsie in Zimbabwe, Gelane in Ethiopia, Cynthia in Sierra Leone, Joy in Uganda, Laurentine in DR Congo who are making a difference and telling the important message of temperance. I would love to hear news from Benin, Burundi, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo and Zambia where someone receives an email from me every month.

Pray for World Convention

Please PRAY for the WWCTU Convention which takes place in Ottawa in August. Many people will travel from all over the world to give reports, hear inspirational speakers and gather information and resources to share back home. PRAY for an outpouring of God's Spirit on this event. **PRAY for the leaders.**

God bless you each one with courage and fortitude.

Joy Butler