

## WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION of WA Inc

The 118<sup>th</sup> annual convention of Western Australia was held in August opening with a church service at the SDA Church, North Perth on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Then on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> the convention business session was opened by State President Margaret Martin. The Memorial Service was conducted by Robin Harrison, and Pastor John Horvarth was the guest speaker before a combined lunch was enjoyed. Further business followed. On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> the Guest Afternoon was held with children who were winners of the art of speech competition and the bible memory contest presenting their items. Mrs Nola Adams has run these competitions for many years, and we know that the children who participate in learning the temperance poems will remember them when they are older. A number won the Helen Stacey Memorial Award for their efforts over several years. The speaker was Danny Harrison, a young man who is facing many health problems and difficulties following a horrendous car accident when he was 17, and he now speaks at schools and other places to warn young people of what can happen when combining alcohol, speeding and being urged on by others in the car. His message was very powerful, and we thought he was very courageous to share his story.

Convention resumed at headquarters on the 19<sup>th</sup> with further reports and noontide devotions were taken by Yvonne Hunt from the Salvation Army Crossroads West Program. Another excellent lunch was enjoyed by all present. We are in urgent need of a State Secretary and a Treasurer and it was decided that an honorarium will be offered if needed. Next year, a one day convention is to be trialled on the third Wednesday in August. Nola Adams was presented with a gift for her many years of dedicated service, as she has reluctantly retired because of failing health. Her contribution to WA has been outstanding, and we will greatly miss her. Thelma Payne is to continue with the day to day payment of accounts until a new treasurer is appointed.

