The Australian
Women's Register

Entry type: Organisation
Entry ID: AWE0955

Woman’s Christian Temperance Union of South Australia

(1889 -)

Born	18890101
Occupation	Lobby group, Religious organisation, Women's Rights Organisation

Summary

The South Australian branch was founded in1889, following a visit from American spokesperson, Jessie Ackermann. Its purpose was to promote temperance and Christianity in order to improve people’s lives and so also involved tackling questions such as raising the age of marriage consent for girls and women’s suffrage. By 1899 membership of the various branches numbered over 1100. Elizabeth Webb Nicholls was its first president and served two terms; 1889-1997 and 1906-1927 and in 1891 Mary George became its first paid secretary. Under Nicholls’ leadership the Union took an active role in the campaign for women’s suffrage in South Australia, having a suffrage department convened by Serena Thorne Lake in 1890-1891, and became involved with the Women’s Suffrage League.

Published resources

Edited Book
Women in Australia : an annotated guide to records, Daniels, Kay, Murnane, Mary, Picot, Anne and National Research Program (Australia), 1977

Torch-bearers : the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of South Australia, 1886-1948, McCorkindale, Isabel, 1949

Book
In her own name. A history of women in South Australia from 1836, Helen Jones, 1986

Fresh evidence, new witnesses : finding women's history, Allen, Margaret (Margaret Ellen), 1947- ; Hutchison, Mary and Mackinnon, Alison, 1942-, 1989

History of the Union, Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Western Australia, 1952

A Century of Service: The history of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of South Australia Inc. : supplementing 'Torchbearers' (the first sixty years), Harry, Millicent K. (Millicent Kate), 1986

Ideal recipe book for use of currants, raisins, sultanas and grapes : also recipes for refreshing fruit beverages and party drinks Edition 4th ed. Publication Details [Adelaide : , 1933?] (Adelaide : Reliance Printery) Physical Description 32p. : ill. ; 21cm., 1933?

Newsletter
The Alliance news : the organ of the South Australian Alliance, W.C.T. Union and the temperance organizations of the colony, [1898-1907]

Report
Minutes of ... annual convention, Woman's Christian Temperance Union of South Australia. Convention, 1890-1931

Report of ... annual convention, Woman's Christian Temperance Union of South Australia. Convention, 1932-

Journal
The Patriot, [1907-1968]

Thesis
Of lengthening cords and strengthening stakes : the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of South Australia, 1886-1896, Craig, Maureen., 1983

As High as Heaven: The Woman's Christian Temperance Union in South Australia, 1886-1915, Wiles, David, 1978

Journal Article
The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of South Australia AU: SO: , v.16 1988 : 134-142 DEMJ: Women's-rights; South-Australia: Social-history DEMN: Alcohol-abuse ID: Women's Suffrage League (SA) NS: Woman's Christian Temperance Union (Adelaide), Luxton, Janet, 1988

Pamphlet
The Awakened Woman, Mead, Lilian S., 1895

Jubilee Thanksgiving Memorial 1886-1936 / Woman's Christian Temperance Union of South Australia Publication Details [Adelaide] : The Union, 1936. Physical Description 31 p. : ill., ports. ; 28 cm., 1936

The Old Order Changeth, 1938

New Lives for Old: The story of the prison work of Mrs. E.B. Turner as state superintendent of prison work in South Australia for the Woman's Christian Temperance Union 1909-1939, Abbott, Edith S., ca1940

Resource
Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Archival resources

State Library of South Australia
Woman's Christian Temperance Union of South Australia : SUMMARY RECORD

Northern Territory Library, Northern Territory Collection
Petition no. 38 of 1894 : signed by 11,600 persons in favour of the Women's Suffrage (Constitution) Bill

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