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Enjoying fellowship at Mt Tamborine

Sharing her story

“I want to tell all women who find it hard to open up and to break through – it is important to let God help you.” Nichole was interviewed by Rhonda Rees-Thomas

How did you first come to the convention?

Louise invited me to go to her church. Because she can interpret for the deaf, she was able to help me ‘hear’ the services. I had been a Christian but my life was in a mess and I was searching for direction. I came back to the Lord. And then Louise invited me to the Mt. Tamborine Convention.

What were your first impressions?

I was pretty nervous. I had no idea what to expect but I wanted to know more about God and the Word. I knew that the only way for my life was to follow God. Wow! Up in the mountains it was so beautiful and peaceful. I didn’t want to go home.

Did you feel welcome?

I felt close to God and the ladies were so welcoming. I was very emotional – because I felt like I wasn’t good enough, but everyone

was very understanding and loving. Even though I’m deaf I felt like I belonged and I was part of the whole weekend.

What did you like about the convention?

The Speakers were great and the music was so loud – I could feel the beat. It was very well organised, very positive. I enjoyed hearing stories from other women – about the things that have happened in their lives.

What has God done in your life as a result of coming to the convention?

Even though I knew the Lord, I was all over the place. I knew I needed more direction. I was afraid and ashamed. I felt it was impossible to be changed but now I know that nothing is impossible with God. I have found my identity is now with Jesus and I am no longer ashamed because he is so wonderful and loving and caring.

The Speakers’ messages encouraged me to get into the Word of God and to grow. I talked to the Speakers and asked lots of questions. Because there has been a lot of abuse and violence in my life I needed to know a lot about living for God and what I should do. I had felt like I was in another world – I felt lost and odd. I felt that I could never be a normal woman because I was abused when I was young, and also because I was deaf. I had no

communication – I felt no one understood. When I met the Lord I knew he loved me and he accepted me. When I went to the convention it was all women and I felt totally loved and accepted by them.

I believe it’s important for other women, both hearing and deaf, that I share [my story] so they know that God loves them no matter what has happened in their lives and they can be free from feeling trapped. I want to tell all women who find it hard to open up and to break through – it is important to let God help you.

I am really so blessed to share this story and also that I have victory because the Lord will not let me down as long as I trust in him with all my heart. I have become stronger in my inner self because I believe and have faith in Him. It is so simple. I’m healing from all the hurt as I pray and give it to him.

My passion is for other deaf women to come to the convention. There is quite a group of us now and we always have a wonderful time together with the hearing ladies.

I always look forward to going to the CWCI convention. It’s the best holiday and one of my favourite places to go.

Nichole Haupt (Davis)



A tale of two Safaris



Safaris to various remote areas of our country are vitally important to our ministry. The teams have amazing experiences as they minister to those who are thirsting for fellowship and share around God's word.



Looma: Browsing the bookstall



Wyndham: Dora found resources for the children



Looma: Annie with her large print Bible



Birdsville: Merrie Gilchrist, Nell Brook, Annette Elphinstone

South West Queensland

I had the privilege of joining with Speaker Merrie Gilchrist and pilot Steve Cavill on the Safari to South West Queensland in May.

We held meetings in Bedourie, Birdsville, Windorah, Jundah, Stonehenge, Augathella, Quilpie, Longreach and Tambo. Our final meeting at Yaraka was cancelled due to rain which prevented us from either flying or driving. We found that even a small amount of rain causes plans to change in the Outback, as the black soil roads quickly become sticky mud and are impossible to drive on. This meant that only one lady was able to come to our meeting at Jundah in the first week, but we had a lovely time with her. Other numbers ranged from 3 to 20.

Fellowship and sharing with the families we stayed with were also special times. The nearest church could be several hours away. While some were able to listen to services via the telephone, Christian fellowship is lacking. We stayed with one lady who also did KYB with her group via the telephone.

Many ladies shared how hard they found it to send their children to boarding school for their secondary education. On the other hand one of our hostesses shared the joys and challenges of teaching her six children, two of whom have now completed their schooling, through Distance Education.

The many prayers for safety and good health were answered. We were conscious of the Lord's enabling throughout the Safari and saw his hand in many of the changes to our plans.

I am thankful for the opportunity to have experienced the Safari ministry firsthand.

Kimberley

God's timing is always perfect! Even when we can't get our head around it, God knows best and he will orchestrate events in such a way that remind us that the work is his, as are the Kingdom results.

Speaker Dena Mullens, pilot David Curtis and I shared an amazing journey together, travelling around the Kimberley to Wyndham, Kununurra, Halls Creek, Fitzroy Crossing, Broome, Derby, Looma and Darwin.

We saw some exquisitely beautiful landscapes and had the opportunity to spend time with some amazing people within these communities. What an awesome privilege it is to be able to proclaim God's Word and to have the opportunity to share a small window into the lives of some of those we met along the way.

As a direct result of this Safari, we believe that there will be some taking up KYB by Correspondence in Hong Kong, Zimbabwe and in some of the isolated communities we visited. An indigenous KYB group has commenced in Looma and is being sponsored by a church on the opposite side of the country!

All of these outcomes are a result of being in the right place at the right time – that is, meeting with those on God's agenda at his appointed time!

When we are obedient to God and prayerfully undertake the tasks he assigns we should not be surprised by the outcomes!

It was wonderful to partner with the Bible Society Australia for this Safari. Their excellent array of resources was quickly snapped up and as a result of a generous grant many were also given away. One dear indigenous lady, Annie, was delighted to receive a brand new, leather bound, large print Bible. She told us that the old Bible she had at home was falling apart – and that this new Bible was such a precious and unexpected gift to her that day!

We give thanks to God for His guidance, provision and care for us in so many ways. Thank you to those who prayed for us. We are also very grateful to those who give so generously to support the ongoing ministry of CWCI Safaris. May God's Kingdom increase as we each do our part in serving him!

Rose Jeffrey

Annette Elphinstone

Obituary



Aileen Woolford
25.9.1930 - 6.4.2012

Proverbs 31 reminds us of Aileen Woolford. She was a woman of energy and wisdom and one who was "clothed with strength and dignity" when it came to her faithfulness in serving the Lord she knew and loved.

Aileen was a foundation member of CWCI in South Australia along with just five other women, on what was then known as the Central Committee. In 1967 she became the first Chairman of the Adelaide Committee and continued to lead the work of CWCI, either as the Committee Chairman or in other equally strategic roles, for many years.

Aileen welcomed the opportunities she had to share her joy and delight in her Saviour both as a Speaker and as a leader of a KYB group. For over 30 years she hosted a KYB group in her home.

We think of her gift of hospitality, her sense of humour, her servant heart and her humble spirit. "She was as beautiful on the inside as she was on the outside!" said a fellow committee member.

A fine example of her servant heart came the year when Jill Briscoe came as a Speaker for the Weekend Convention. Jill had a chronic back condition and the advice from the Sydney leaders said that the faithful, well-used and much-travelled Holden simply would not be appropriate to transport Jill to Victor Harbor. A cry for help was made to Aileen who initially offered her own car then did even better by contacting a friend who provided a Bentley, the ultimate in style and comfort!

Aileen continued to attend the Conventions at Victor Harbor up until 2011. We missed her this year and wondered if she was not well. What we did not realise was that she was preparing for a Convention far more wonderful - with all the saints in Glory.

Proverbs 31 concludes with the words, "Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate." Well done Aileen Woolford, good and faithful servant.

Sally Gray and Jill Dyer

That all might hear

When women fellowship, they encourage each other like Ruth, "your people should be my people and your God my God". Christian interpreters enlighten those who cannot hear the way. Margie Laviano shares her insights into being a signer for the hearing impaired.



Margie Laviano

CWCI – Christian Women Communicating International and across languages:

It has been a privilege and joy to be invited to serve as an Auslan interpreter for deaf and hearing women for the past couple of years. The word "interpreter" is derived from Latin, and refers to someone who explains the meaning and makes sense of what others have difficulty in understanding. When language barriers exist, people are separated and frustrated when they can't communicate and get their message across. In these situations interpreters are necessary. Although interpreting is an emerging profession, interpreters have been around for as long as people speaking have needed to communicate – for the purposes of trade, politics, war, religion and colonisation (Napier, McKee, Goswell, 2006). The importance of the interpreter's role is highlighted in the Bible where Paul urges the Corinthians to use an interpreter wherever "any man speaks in an unknown tongue... but if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence" (2 Cor 14:27, 28 NKJ).

CWC – Christian Women Communicating:

This is what draws me to Mt Tamborine. The opportunity to be part of a process that works towards enriching the spiritual

lives of women, equipping, encouraging and strengthening each other in faith through Bible based teaching via interpreting. Interpreting for the Lord's purpose is a true joy. It is not the process of interpreting, the moving from one language to another that is the thrill, but rather the enabling of the Holy Spirit. It is not that he needs us, but rather that He chooses to use us for his purposes. The Lord himself communicates directly to the heart of individual Christians, but the fact that he chooses to work in and through us, should he choose, is truly humbling. Jesus came, not only to give sight to the blind but hearing to the deaf!

CW – Christian Women:

The coming together, the rekindling of friendships and the revitalising of our connection with Jesus. Together women go the distance when the need arises. Hannah prayed hard and received Samuel. Deborah led the army to victory when Barak faltered. Mary went to the tomb when the apostles feared for their lives. When women fellowship, they encourage each other like Ruth, "Your people should be my people and your God my God". Christian interpreters enlighten those who cannot hear the way.

C – Christian:

To serve as Jesus served. Christians employ servant leadership. It's not about getting to the top but empowering others to move forward. A Christian's world view is not based on investing in the right shares or embracing the power of positive thinking, crystals or planetary alignments but being a fool for Christ. Faith is "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Heb 11:1). Faith, not financial literacy or foolish beliefs, will prove the greatest investment. These Christian women are able to articulate without words, with fellowship and intuitive prayers.

Margie Laviano
(Signer for the hearing impaired)

Prayer Connect

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up;
do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the desert and
streams in the wasteland."
Isaiah 43:18-19 NIV



Praise God for the new things he is going to do. Thank him for making a way in the desert. Pray that we will be listening to his voice and walking the journey he has for us. Pray for times of refreshing and much blessing.

Margaret Hudson NMB Vice-President (Prayer)

East Central Coast

Praise God for

- Our faithful Intercessors who uphold all in prayer.
- All those on Committees and in KYB positions in our region.
- The ladies who attend KYB groups and CWCI functions.

Pray for

- The need to fill the role of Secretary and Treasurer on Regional Board and for Pam Martin as she carries three positions.
- Our Speakers as they prepare their messages, that God's word will convict hearts.
- Our faithful ladies who have lost loved ones this year.

East Central Plains

Praise God for

- The wonderful enthusiasm with which the KYB groups in the region are entering into the spirit of celebration for 40 years of KYB study.
- Raising up and equipping women to write the studies over the years.
- The time of fellowship recently when the Regional Board met with the ladies of Lachlan.

Pray for

- Regional Board to be strong and triumphant in the face of current trial with some members and their families facing serious health issues.
- God to bless and enrich us as we meet for a Day of Prayer.

Eastern

Praise God for

- The new KYB Area Coordinators for Bega, Young, Canberra and Narrandera.
- Adrienne Lesleighter who is moving away from Cooma – praise for the wonderful work she has done on the Snowy Mountains Committee and in KYB in Cooma over many years.
- The new KYB group at Coleambally.

Pray for

- The KYB Introduction on *Esther* at Bowral 9 October with Speaker, Jill Wallis.
- Breakfast at Queanbeyan on 10th November with Prayer as the theme and Diana Williams as speaker.
- All our busy ladies who dedicate time and effort to the ministries of CWCI.
- Those who have been deeply involved in the work of CWCI and are now in their 'twilight years', unable to continue because of failing health or just no longer able to cope.

Harbour

Praise God for

- Wonderful celebrations for 40 years of KYB.
- Joining together in 'Prayer for the Nation' in May.
- Our training day in August.

Pray for

- The Lord's leading and that we will act upon it for the positions of Chairman, Secretary and Development Administrator to be filled.

Murray

Praise God for

- The Regional Safari that was a time of great blessing to those who attended and to the team.
- The rain that has finally come in the west of the region.

Pray for

- The need to fill vacant positions of Vice-Chairman (Speakers) and Development Administrator on Regional Board.
- CWCI functions:
 - 12 September - West Wimmera Dinner
 - 13 September - Wimmera Morning Coffee
 - 12 - 14 October - Yackandandah Quiet Retreat
 - 7 November - Finley Coffee Evening
 - 8 November - Shepparton Coffee Evening
 - 9 - 10 November - Bendigo Mini-Convention

South Eastern

Praise God for

- The Ministers' Wives Conference held on 22 - 24 August.

- A really beneficial training time for Committees and KYB Leaders in June and the challenges given by Kathy Deighton and Lisa Watson in discovering how to move ahead with the ministry of CWCI.
- Opportunities committees have with KYB ladies to celebrate 40 years of KYB. Beth Allison will be sharing with women across the Dandenong Ranges area at a Garden Party being planned for 27 October.

Pray for

- KYB groups as they start a new term of study.
- Pray that we will find new ways of reaching younger women that will attract them towards studying God's Word.
- Beth Allison as she shares with women in Warragul on 18 October and her message on 'Climbing Life's Mountains'.

Southern

Praise God for

- Our Regional Training weekend at Belair in June with Kathy Deighton, which was a great time of learning and sharing together.

Pray for

- The Riverland function in September to celebrate 40 years of KYB, that this will bring more women to study the Bible and a group will start in Berri.
- For the Silver City Weekend Convention in September with Speaker Joan Kirsten.

Sunshine

Praise God for

- The blessing of the Murraylands 'Christmas in July' function with Speaker Marilyn Salmon.
- The wonderful encouragement of the Regional Conference at Hervey Bay.

Pray for

- The Lord's leading to ladies who might serve on Committees still in need of new members.
- The preparation for the Mt Tamborine Convention and for Speakers Joan Young and Hazel Benn.
- Encouragement for new KYB groups.
- Safety and blessing on all Regional Safaris.



- Women to be encouraged at the function in Rockhampton on 4 - 5 September.

Tasman

Praise God for

- The teaching and fellowship enjoyed by all who have attended CWCI functions in the first half of this year.

Pray for

- Lisa Watson, KYB Director, our guest Speaker in the north of Tasmania on 26 - 27 September.

Tropical

Praise God for

- KYB groups who joined together at 'Prayer for the Nation' events.
- The 40th anniversary 'Introduction to Peter' celebrations in June/July that were times of inspiration.
- Two Safaris - Central West in July and Bowen Basin in August.
- The functions in Mackay and Bowen that were such a blessing.
- That we now have more Speakers from amongst women living in our region.

Pray for

- Much blessing for those attending outreach functions in Ingham and the Tinaroo convention.
- More Area Coordinators to serve across our region.

Western

Praise God for

- A successful Regional Board meeting in July.
- New Board Secretary Michelle Ludovico.
- The appointment of Glenyse Worth to the position of Vice-Chairman (Prayer). She will be taking up the position in 2013.
- The Mini Regional Safari to the Northern Wheatbelt area from 22 to 25 August.

Pray for

- The new Regional Board members.
- Good health for Speakers
- The following functions: Perth Coffee & Dessert – Joyce Plumb on 20 September; Esperance Coffee & Dessert Night – Christine Hadfield on 27 October.
- Continued blessing from seeds sown at various Conventions held in our region.

KYB by Correspondence



I have a list of thirty-two ladies dating back to 1984, and photos of many of them. I have met only nine ladies face-to-face but each one has enriched my life through

KYB by Correspondence. I began as a tutor supervisor and immediately enjoyed the blessing of sharing with ladies who walk closely with the Lord and have a desire to help other ladies study his word. Many times I add their wisdom to my answers and pass it on to my other tutors.

Including a personal note as the studies go back and forth, we share joys and sorrows and sometimes things that make us laugh out loud. We pray for each other too.

There was a further blessing in store for me when I began to feel I would like to

do what my tutors do – to be in touch with students who choose to study the Bible by correspondence. These are the women for whom KYB by Correspondence exists. So in my photo gallery and counted as friends, I am privileged to include farmers whose studies dry up during harvest, sowing or shearing, and start again when they can afford the time. A young mum moved to where there was no local KYB group. She kept up her studies by mail, befriending other young mums until she formed a regular KYB group and discontinued her correspondence studies. What a way to lose a student! Another friend struggles with many of the questions but we have completed seventeen studies together. Little by little her understanding of the Lord is growing.

Yet another chooses correspondence because her health is not good and she can study at her own pace.

I love KYB by Correspondence, but I must go – I hear the postie at my letter box.

Lynette Wilson



Since my first involvement with CWCI in 1968 amazing pathways have opened in ministry to women, not only to me, but to thousands of other Christian

women. What we learn we pass on to others (2 Timothy 2:2).

Can it really be 23 years since I enthusiastically accepted an invitation to join the KYB by Correspondence tutoring team? I had no real concept of the enriching experience of both teaching and learning this ministry would prove to be. Certainly a challenge to diligently keep up my own study and understanding of God's word, lest I lead others astray. Studying to show [myself] approved by God ... a workman who need not be ashamed (2 Timothy 2:15).

I praise God for past and present Administrators and Coordinators who guided me through the learning process, encouraging me every step of the way.

It was as though a whole new world opened before me. As someone who has not travelled extensively or even left Australian shores, I began learning of many places, including Singapore and Vanuatu.

Even now, just looking through the names of those with whom I've journeyed through various studies brings back loving memories. The letters shared caused us to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep; and as a result, to pray continually. (Romans 12:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Some students are lonely, isolated, scarcely literate, living in trying circumstances, with tragedy, fading health, drought, or disillusionment ... but all are blessed and encouraged by God's word. Great rejoicing comes when some find salvation in Christ; a few, deliverance from long-held guilt in spite of their genuine faith (Hebrews 10:22). At times it seems our roles should be reversed, as a student's personal light added to my shine.

Now I know it's time for me to pass on the baton to other faithful, gifted women of God. May he extend and bless this vital ministry for his Kingdom and glory. Amen.

Doreen Dorman

Note: KYB by Correspondence can also be done via email. For information on all aspects of KYB by Correspondence please contact Head Office.



Solomon Islands

A time of challenge and change lies ahead when Jemima Maefonia “steps into the shoes” of Machi Rietveld to lead the ministry of KYB in the Solomons next year.

For the last 13 years Machi Rietveld and her husband Kevin have been serving as Bible teaching missionaries in the Solomon Islands. During the last six years or so, Machi has focussed heavily on spreading the “Good News of KYB” working closely with Unity Kuba and other Solomon Islands women. At the end of 2012, Machi and her husband will be retiring and God has answered many prayers in providing a gifted and committed couple to “step into their shoes”.

Jemima Maefonia, her husband Eric, and four children (2 boys and 2 girls) have spent the last six years in Melbourne studying at the Bible College of Victoria. They have recently returned to the Solomon Islands ready to take on whatever God lays before them to do in the areas of Bible teaching and training for church leaders. For the remainder of this year, Jemima will work with Machi, learning her work, ready to “step into her shoes” at the end of this year. Jemima has come back with an eagerness to teach women to study their Bibles. “The women in Solomon Islands need to know their Bible better,” Jemima said recently, “They do not have a good knowledge of God’s word. Studying God’s word as an everyday habit is something that these women have not yet learned, and I want to take every opportunity to go out and teach them how this can be done. I believe KYB provides an easy and clear way for these women to learn this.”

Jemima has a great deal of experience in teaching Solomon Islands women. Previously she worked with Compassion through the South Seas Evangelical Mission, and was the coordinator for 17 regional Bible Colleges in the Solomons. During this time she travelled from one to the other, teaching the women in various subjects from nutrition and health, to budgeting and general Bible knowledge. She has also worked with the Solomon Islands Churches Association, and also taught at Kautave which is a Rural Training centre and Bible School in East Guadalcanal. Much of her work also involved visiting the female students and generally checking on them and encouraging them in the Christian walk and Bible School studies.



Jemima Maefonia



KYB study workshop

“This was all before I was married” Jemima said, “before I met my husband.” For the last six years Jemima has been a busy mother, with the boys at secondary school and the girls at primary school in Melbourne. She also attended BCV classes as often as possible, juggling her roles as wife, mother and Bible student, with God’s help and provision.

Jemima said she was a little fearful of sea travel in ships and, knowing that this is the chief mode of transport in the Solomon Islands, she realises that leaning on and trusting in the Lord for His strength will have to be practised. “Apart from the sea travel, I am really looking forward to getting into the villages, meeting with and teaching the women the riches of God’s Word; and the blessings and challenges that come from regular reading and study of the Bible.”

Jemima says “I have always loved meeting new people and sharing God’s love wherever I go; and promoting KYB amongst the women of the Solomon Islands will be a privilege and a pleasure at the same time.”

Machi Rietveld

2005. Two women meet in Honiara, Solomon Islands. A vision is shared and caught.

Unity Kuba had come home to the Solomons in 1999, after spending some years in PNG.

There she had been introduced to KYB, and was keen to start groups back in her home country. She launched into it, but as the years went by, she needed a faster means of communicating with CWCI in Australia. Machi Rietveld, a missionary from Australia, attended Unity’s church, and offered to email Unity’s correspondence. Machi had led a KYB group back in Australia.

It wasn’t long before Machi began partnering with Unity in bringing KYB to the women. They travelled together to remote islands, up into the mountains and to isolated villages to share their love of God’s word and give women the opportunity to study it. Machi produced an introductory workshop to show the women how to use the KYB studies.

Just when they had decided to start on Honiara, the capital city, Unity’s husband was transferred to Malaita, a long ferry-ride away from Guadalcanal. Far from giving up, Machi prayed for somebody else to accompany her and pressed on.

In 2009 Machi coordinated a wonderful tenth anniversary celebration. About 120 women came from all over the islands and sang, prayed, listened, ate and joyfully launched the first Solomon Islands Pijin KYB translation. Machi and her team worked hard for months to bring it all together. Two years later Machi held a KYB workshop for up to 70 women over several days, and did all of it on her own because a cyclone kept the other presenters away.

Machi realised early on in her KYB travels that many of the village women were illiterate, so she was thrilled when the International Board of CWCI asked her to consider recording a Pijin KYB study onto a portable Saber player. She also began using KYB studies with a women’s literacy group.

Ever conscious that her time in the Solomons was to end in 2012, Machi made sure she had somebody in place so that the work would continue.

Machi, CWCI salutes you and thanks you. We know that your ‘retirement’ will be in name only, and that the Lord has more for you to do. May you be blessed as you return to Australia.



KYB 40th anniversary

Wisdom and rubies were the theme of the celebrations held by two Committees



40th Anniversary cake

Pictures by JA Bradley & Son (Temora Independent newspaper)



New Testaments were distributed

Temora

In April over 120 women attended a celebration of 40 years of KYB. The local CWCI Committee chose a theme of rubies and wisdom.

Highlight of the evening was the message given by the guest speaker, Dr. Greta Gaut, from Parkes. Greta spoke about precious things such as those that mark significant anniversaries and then referred to long lasting memories such as those that are thought about on Anzac Day.

"This special day in the Australian calendar has just reminded us of our freedom, how much it cost and is still costing our soldiers, and how precious it is," Greta said. She went on to

mention a greater freedom, the freedom we celebrate and remember at Easter.

"There is much bad news in our world to-day and everyone is part of that because we are all in trouble when it comes to God. But the good news is true, too. Jesus offers freedom - freedom from death, freedom from sin and guilt and judgment because Jesus' death on the cross bought us forgiveness," Greta explained.

"Wisdom is understanding and accepting all this," Greta added. She concluded by comparing wisdom to rubies, saying it can change us, not just add decoration. Wisdom cannot be lost, like a precious stone, but wisdom will last forever. "Wisdom is more precious than rubies, isn't it?"

The 40th anniversary cake was cut by Lillis Fox, representing those who have been involved with KYB for many years, and Donna Bootes, representing those women who have joined groups within the last year, demonstrating that KYB Bible Study is still going strong.

The Committee was able to offer every woman a New Testament due to a generous donation of special editions of the New Testament from the Bible Society and the opportunity to buy more from a local church. These were gratefully received.

A solo entitled "Free Now" was sung by Diane Kemp and this completed a very special evening.

Virginia Harris

Sutherland

The Sutherland CWCI committee were excited that KYB was 40 years old and wanted to celebrate in style with a High Tea.

Because a ruby is the gem for the 40th anniversary, our thoughts turned to what the Bible said about rubies and chose as the verse for the High Tea, Proverbs 3:15:

"Wisdom is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her."

Over 90 ladies came to hear Narelle Gatenby encourage us to seek wisdom in Christ. She explained how precious rubies are as they are produced deep in the earth under great pressure. Finding them requires a lot of effort but there is eternal value in finding wisdom in Christ.



Through the decades with the 'Teapots'


As red is the colour of rubies, this was the colour of our décor. The cake for KYB represented the ruby and we sang 'Happy Birthday' as Narelle cut the cake.

KYB books from years past were displayed showing how KYB grows better with the passing years.

KYB through the decades was celebrated in song singing to the tune of 'I'm a little teapot'. We realized what a blessing KYB has been to those who have truly come to know Jesus through the KYB method.

Jenny Croucher

Journalling with KYB

 A decision to write down in her journal points from each week's KYB study proved to be a real blessing for Cecily Jackson. She shares some of that journey here.

Last year, when we started the third term study of *1 Samuel*, I decided to write down in my journal points from each week's study which would help me to grow in godliness. I drew the points from what God had given me as I answered the questions, from what we shared in the group, from the leader's summary, and from the notes. So, for instance:

- *Week 1:* Like Hannah, when I have a problem, take it to God and ask him to solve it; be willing to give my most precious thing (her son Samuel) to God for his use.
- *Week 2:* Worship God with my whole heart, leaving no room for idols; don't overstep boundaries that God has put in place; read God's word every day.

I enjoyed this so much that I continued with the fourth term study of *James*.

- *Week 1:* Have a joyful attitude to trials and look for learning and maturing opportunities in them; be quick to listen and slow to speak.
- *Week 4:* Look for God's approval, not man's; make time for spending with God; don't fuss when God changes my plans; pray about plans that I make.

Sadly I forgot about this new practice over the long holidays, and didn't keep it up for *Isaiah Part 2*, but started again with *1-2 Timothy & Titus*.



- *Week 3:* Jesus has wiped out my former life, so there is no need to revisit it; I need to be right with God and with others when I pray; serve God and others with a glad heart wherever he has placed me.

Reading back over my entries for the three studies has been illuminating, especially noticing which points feature in every study. All three make mention of treating people equally, without favouritism. God must take that very seriously! It has also been a good yardstick for assessing whether I've made any progress in my quest for godliness.

Journalling in this way has been a real blessing to me, and has reinforced all that I've learnt in the KYB studies. I can recommend it!

Cecily Jackson

Jean Whitelock hangs up her Leader's Guide

After more than 30 years of involvement with KYB, Jean Whitelock has decided the time is right to step down from the leadership of her group in Ocean Grove, Victoria, a position she held for ten years. Jean shared some details of her KYB history.

It started in 1976 after she attended a CWCI Day Convention at her church, and all the women who attended were fired up to study God's word. Ten new KYB groups were formed, some in the town and others in outlying country areas. Back in those days, the studies were on roneoed pages and the members took turns to lead. The men in the church were so taken with the wonderful time their wives were having, they decided to start Bible study groups of their own. The church went from strength to strength, with a second morning service needed to accommodate the numbers.

Being married to a minister, Jean moved around quite a bit, but always managed to join or start a KYB group wherever she was. In one place a group of 'mature' ladies evolved into a much bigger group with a crèche. One of the young mums later became a KYB Leader herself. One group Jean attended had 60 to 80 women, with several discussion groups. It was subsequently disbanded and the women challenged to start their own groups. Jean took up the challenge, and continued to lead different groups from 1993 to 2011.

Jean thanks God for all the opportunities he has given her, and we thank him for inspiring Jean to faithful service through all those years.



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