

- 02 Planning a Road Trip?
- 03 SOLE Committee
- 04 Ministry in Melanesia
- 05 Term 4 - Ezra
- 06 Communication Matters
- 06 AGM Report
- 08 Prayer Focus

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news." Romans 10:15



Changed lives in Arnhem Land



Message in mime



Felt-making craft



Safari team

Changed Lives - Transforming Encounters with Jesus. This was the theme for the 2026 CWCI Safari to East Arnhem Land. The team were warmly welcomed everywhere they travelled. Isabel's teaching of God's word was beautifully supported by her mime art, by Alison's felt craft, and by the prior relationships Jenny and Alison had built with local women. We had terrific facilitators on the ground, and the collaboration with Missionary Aviation Fellowship (MAF) was deeply appreciated. It has been eleven years since a safari team visited this region. It was a joy to see indigenous Christian women leaders coming forward to support the visit....one expressing a desire to continue to be part of further safari ministry. The consistent engagement with God's living word will bring lasting fruit here. All praise to God!

Safari Speaker, Isabel reflects:

What a privilege it was to take the word of God to hearts that were prepared and hungry to hear it.

Under a large shelter in a very small, remote community.
In the front yard of a house where we gathered on dark to read God's word by the light of a torch.

In a church hall.

In the park beside the church.

In an aged care facility.

In private homes.

The venues changed but God spoke his word into hearts that quickly responded.

Thank you for bringing the word of God to us.

These words, spoken with great heart, sum up the impact of this safari.

Co-Leader Jenny reflects:

It was a wonderful opportunity, experience and joy to be able to accompany Isabel and Alison on the safari to East Arnhem Land. We were carried along on a wave of prayer which, at times, felt tangible. It was a privilege and joy to meet up with old friends in Arnhem Land from when we served on Elcho Island with MAF, and to meet new friends along the way. I was greatly encouraged by the love for the Lord that is so clearly seen here in the midst of the most difficult of circumstances. I pray that we will be able to support KYB groups in Arnhem Land into the future.

Co-Leader Alison comments:

It was a blessing to be amongst the Yolngu again and see their beautiful smiles and joyful welcome to their homelands. Despite the isolation, it is inspiring to see how God uses his people to share the gospel and encourage fellowship and teaching from his word. We witnessed Bible translation in action and worship through dance, song and prayer. Please continue to pray for strong leadership from the younger generation.

Margot Stuart
Safari Director
National Management Board



Camp Elim



Mt Tamborine



E3 at Stanwell Tops

Planning a road trip?

CWCI – Christian Women Communicating International – a worldwide Bible-based faith ministry had its beginnings in Australia in 1957 when a group of women went away for a weekend of Bible teaching.

Weekend Bible-teaching conventions remain a feature of CWCI ministry across Australia, New Zealand and the United

Kingdom. In Australia today, local area CWCI committees host eleven Bible-teaching weekends for women annually – from Cairns Qld to Albany WA, from Moree NSW to Broken Hill NSW, from Mt Tamborine Qld to Halls Gap Vic, Busselton WA, Blue Mountains NSW, Paynesville Vic, Forster NSW and Stanwell Tops NSW. Each place is a popular holiday destination. Go

on. Plan a road trip. Set up an interstate reunion! Meet new friends. Grow in Christ as the Bible is taught and friendships deepened.

Upcoming weekend conventions are advertised on the CWCI Australia website calendar <https://cwciaus.org.au/what-is-on/events>.

Start Small

Wagga Wagga CWCI Committee, NSW, has begun thinking about how to celebrate 70 years of CWCI in 2027. What a milestone – 70 years! A milestone helps us pause and look back, reflect on where we have come from and what has been achieved. It also helps us take stock of where we are and causes us to think about the future. Are we still headed in the right direction, or do we need a course correction?

Our Wagga Committee is barely two years old. How can we celebrate 70 years of CWCI ministry in Australia? Then someone suggested, “CWCI began with a weekend away in 1957, so why don’t we celebrate by doing the same?”

This is not a new idea. Some of us have had it in the back of our minds and on our hearts for a couple of years. We have been attending and observing the annual E3 Convention, held south of Sydney. [E3 stands for: Enlighten Enrich Empower, from Ephesians 1:18-19.]

I love going to E3 – it started when I lived

“just down the road”. But then I moved and now it’s a five-hour drive away. How many people can I invite to join me there? It would be great to grow something more local that I can invite lots of women to, to encourage them in their faith, and to share the blessing. This past March, while attending E3, this idea came to me about our area around Wagga – let’s start small!

So, when it was suggested to have a weekend away, a “yes!” went around the table. We don’t have a large committee, and we don’t have all the experience and expertise of our E3 sisters (yet!). Like the women in 1957 we plan to start small, just with us and our KYB groups, with each one asking one friend to come.

We’re investigating a venue and thinking the theme could be, “*The God of small beginnings*”. We are also excited about where God may be leading us in the future.

After the meeting I went home and picked up my old and falling-apart copy of CWCI history, *Beyond Expectations*, by Grace

Collins and Jean Raddon. I was reminded of the beginnings of CWCI – just a group of women who wanted to dedicate some time to hear more from God’s word. They started small and so can we.

Growing women in Christ through **sharing** the Bible is the vision statement of CWCI Australia. This is our focus. Let’s keep on doing this in every corner of Australia. Let’s not be put off by small numbers, or by big numbers somewhere else. Let’s keep the vision alive and start small just where we are.

How about you – how will you celebrate 70 years?



Kaye Shooter
Development Director
National Management Board

Meet a speaker: Janet Fletcher – Southern Region

I have been a Christian for 50 years. I currently serve God as a teacher in a Christian school and on my church’s board. God has also been providing preaching opportunities in recent years through school, church and mission trips, where I also write and present training programs.

I have been on two trips with Hope Global to East Africa to train teachers and leaders. I have also taken four trips to Kenya with my school to serve in orphanages, and spent four months in Uganda and Kenya doing missional work with my church. I wrote and presented short courses to teachers in rural villages and then lived in an orphanage while running a summer children’s programme.

Janet will be the keynote speaker at the Halls Gap CWCI weekend in 2027.



Beyond the screen

SOLE CWCI Committee meets in person

There was a great sense of excitement at a local café in Apsley, Qld, as the SOLE (Sunshine On Line Events) Committee gathered in person for the very first time. With full attendance, there were Chair Sal from Dirranbandi; Secretary Sue from Rockhampton; Publicity Officer Julie from the Sunshine Coast; and local members Lynn, Treasurer, and Chris, Prayer Coordinator. Since 2022, the committee has only met online to organise KYB Introduction events every term and support the *Prayer for the Nation* meetings held in May.

In her book *Beyond Expectations*, Jean Raddon, CWCI's first full-time employee, writes: *'This world in which we live is constantly changing, and people's thinking is changing rapidly too. We need to "get with it" in order to communicate with them, while at the same time maintaining the basic standards and teachings of our textbook, the Bible.'*

Although COVID-19 was the catalyst that prompted women to 'get with it', many of CWCI's older members had long prayed that internet technology (IT) would be used effectively in CWCI ministry. In his faithfulness, God answered those prayers, even though some are no longer here to witness or experience the outcome.

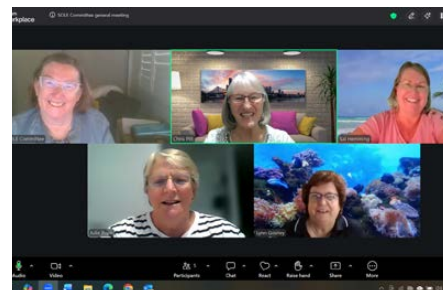
SOLE is a 'special interest' committee supported by the Sunshine Regional Board.



SOLE Committee meet in person

It grew from a tentative beginning in 2021, when a CWCI Australia member organised two events attended by 47 participants. As interest increased and knowledge and skills developed, a subcommittee was formed to explore more effective use of the IT platform. That subcommittee later recommended the formation of the SOLE Committee, which began in 2022 with five members. A sixth member joined for one year. In 2025 alone, over 625 women were reached through our active programming.

Today, SOLE presents one KYB introduction each term, featuring CWCI speakers, not only from the Sunshine Region but also from other regions, since travel time and expenses are no longer required. Hundreds of participants from across Australia, and occasionally from overseas, join to hear the speaker. Three identical sessions are held



SOLE Committee meeting online

during the first week of the Queensland school term. These sessions are recorded, and a YouTube video of the speaker is then made available via a link. All interested women are welcome to register for the available sessions – (see the CWCI Australia website – Events - <https://cwciaus.org.au/what-is-on/events/>)

We give thanks and glory to God for blessing this ministry *'beyond our expectations'*, and we marvel with joy as it continues to help women grow in Christ through the sharing of his word.

Sue Witten
Secretary

SOLE Committee – Sunshine Region

Women in Christ – Busselton Ladies Retreat



Busselton attendees



Busselton girls enjoying High Tea



L-R – Gail Gifford, Lynn Chapman (Chair), Sharynn McCormack

A retreat on the shores of Geographe Bay in beautiful autumn weather with a group of women keen to hear from God is a recipe for a wonderful weekend. Everyone was looking forward to connecting with 'old' friends as well as meeting new ones,

It was a usually very reserved day visitor who commented to a lady at her church craft group that it was "the best retreat" she has been to!

From the book of Ephesians, Kathy Sinclair left us in no doubt that, as Christian women, we are 1. Loved, 2. Accepted, and 3. Called.

We sensed the attack of the enemy in several ways leading up to the Retreat. Kathy had recently returned from England and asked for prayer because she was

quite unwell. On the trip down from Perth, she and her friend avoided some potential accidents.

Then our song leader, Steph, texted me the week before the retreat to say she had spent a day in hospital with vertigo! Praise God, she was able to come to camp and led us in worship from her heart.

Our enemy must have known that God was up to something worth trying to hinder – the building up, encouragement and challenge of his daughters.

The content of Kathy's message on 'Accepted' addressed the spiritual battles we face. A standout gem regarding the thoughts that flood our minds (modified from Dr M L Jones) was: *Are you talking to*

yourself (speaking God's truths) or listening to yourself (the lies of the enemy).

Then, in her final session was a powerful call for us to 'Arise' – to 'Wake Up' as we face the current crises in our world. There was no beating around the bush. This was a challenge we all needed to hear.

So, praise God, we returned to our homes built up in our faith and reminded how deeply *Loved* and unconditionally *Accepted* we are – sure of our *Calling* as daughters of the King.

Lynn Chapman
Chair

Bunbury CWCI Committee – Western Region

My KYB Story

At school I excelled in some subjects but found others difficult. I was not good at making friends, I was very shy and was teased by other girls. In my second year of high school, I finally found the courage to join the Christian group at school and gradually made friends and gained confidence. In my late teens I attended a youth rally and responded to the missionary speaker's appeal as I felt the Lord calling me to be a missionary. Following this calling I completed university, worked for a year, married, went to Bible College, and did linguistic training. However, by the end of the training my husband changed his mind and we didn't become missionaries. He also lost his faith, and I felt a double failure.

At this time, I decided to find a KYB group, having attended my mother's group before I was married. I was welcomed and KYB became an important part of my life. I joined a missionary committee and that helped somewhat to fill the void of my disappointment, grief and failure. When our youngest child was seven, I studied to become a secondary teacher. I was not good at controlling a class of teenagers. Failing my practicum, I had to repeat. I passed when given a small group of senior girls from other cultures. This was my calling and I spent the next years teaching

English language and literacy to community groups of adults. I also led small group Bible studies including KYB. My husband returned to the Lord after many years, and we did some short mission trips.

*How good is the God we adore!
Our faithful, unchangeable friend:
his love is as great as his power and
knows neither measure nor end.*

(J. Hart)

Heather Love
KYB Director
National Management Board

Ministry in Melanesia

Juniper Village KYB Workshop

KYB Solomon Islands has previously run a KYB Workshop for the Women's Fellowship of the Juniper South Seas Evangelical Church (SSEC), and we were excited to be asked to do another KYB workshop there in April 2026. Juniper is on the outskirts of Honiara City, accessible by vehicle, a 20-minute ride. Their church building is located at the top of a hill, at the bottom of which are the settlers' houses. Going to church there will always be an up-hill climb!

This time, our team was Jemima Maefonea and Lucy Wanofafia of the Solomon Islands Executive Committee.



Traditional and modern village houses

Though a fair number of women are illiterate, the KYB way of study, discussion, sharing and personal reflections helps them follow along and to participate in the discussions.

The highlight was the role play of the Life of Abigail (1 Samuel 25:18-20). And the discussion of Abigail's reaction when the servants told her that David and his men were coming to kill them all, led to very raw and open discussion of how women are meant to handle it when their husbands are in the wrong. This led Evalyn Kena, a middle-aged mother, to share how she's noticed ongoing changes in her husband who had previously been unfaithful to her. Through her ongoing Bible study commitment, she has noticed a change in her husband's character. Now he spends more time with their family and goes to church more often – a change that even their children have noticed, with one of their children commenting, "mami, dadi sens na distaem!" ("Mum, dad has changed!").

Jemima and Lucy both feel it's a great privilege to help women and men maintain an interest in studying God's word individually and not just relying on pulpit preaching.

Thank you for your ongoing support for our ministry in Melanesia through finance and prayer!

Colleen Oates
Melanesia Director
National Management Board



KYB Workshop at Juniper on the outskirts of Honiara City



Solomon Islands (SI) Executive Committee with Colleen and SI Country Advisor, Machi.



KYB workshop small group

Growing women in Christ through sharing the Bible

Have you ever owned a bonsai tree? Ever trained a bonsai tree? Recently I attended a Bonsai Exhibition. Amazing, tiny replicas of mature trees – spruce, hawthorn in blossom, elm, maple...

A key organisational distinctive for CWCI Australia is found in our Vision Statement – **Growing women in Christ through sharing the Bible.**

Sharing the Bible. That is what we do – at events, in KYB groups and on safaris.

Why do we do this? We do this because we believe that *...all Scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.* (1 Timothy 3:16)

Now this verse came to my mind at the bonsai exhibition. I was given a catalogue at the door. Each tree had a little blurb in the catalogue. Often the age of the tree was mentioned...some were only a few years old...one was the same age as me!

But every tree had another date – the date its training had started! Some had been trained from tiny seedlings. Others had been trained from a branch broken off an old tree. Since this date they had been carefully pruned, fed, watered, trained into the shape and appearance of the full-size, mature species.



English Elm trained since 1987



Port Jackson fig

And then I remembered Ephesians 4:11-16. Ever thought of yourself as a bonsai tree being trained to look like Jesus? Listen to these words...

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

In just this way, CWCI Australia is like a bonsai tree exhibition. Here we are, at events, KYB and safaris, training one another in righteousness:

- so that the body of Christ may be built up,
- so that we become mature – attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ
- so that we will not be tossed around by every wind of teaching and the cunning of deceitful scheming
- so that we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head – that is Christ – our Saviour and Lord.

So, as we prune, feed, water and train one another in love through CWCI Australia ministries, let's not forget the big picture. May **Growing women in Christ through sharing the Bible** be our goal in all things. In what ways can we do this better – for the glory of God and the good of humankind?

Prepared from a talk given at a National Management Board meeting

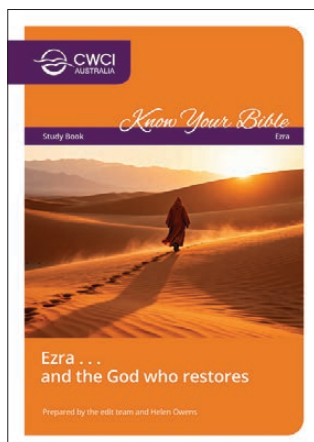
TERM 4 KYB STUDY

Ezra...and the God who restores

God worked through pagan kings and through faithful servants like Ezra. This reassured the Jewish remnant: they were still God's covenant people; he had not forgotten them. Don't miss this five-week study.

Do you know that KYB study guides can be purchased from Head Office for use in your church or community Bible study group? Contact Head Office on 02 9740 6355 for more information. Audio and print introductions to KYB studies are available on our website

<https://cwciaus.org.au/know-your-bible/kyb-introductions/>



INTERNATIONAL BOARD NEWS

Praise God for KYB growth internationally

In recent years the International Board (IB) has been encouraged by the growth of individual study groups in new countries, or in places where there has not been contact for some time. These groups sometimes use studies translated in the past, but more often they ask for current English studies. Occasionally, they ask for permission to translate more recent KYB material.

IB realised that there was a need for a dedicated person to answer the enquiries received, correspond with and encourage new groups, and liaise with people seeking to translate. The role of KYB Global Ministry Director was therefore created, with an emphasis on the promotion of English studies and pastoral responsibilities.

Although a new role, this work was carried out for the past four years by the IB President, Sandra Gilbert. Sandra completed her term as President in December 2025 but will continue in this new role until another suitable person is found.

Jenny Nixon
Secretary

CWCI International Board

Communication Matters – Making great introductions

My neighbour John always gave great introductions. He'd say, Heather, I want to introduce you to some friends of mine.... and he would go on to tell me something about his friends that might be of particular interest or significance to me. Then he would turn to his friends and, repeating their names for my benefit, he would tell them some things about me that would be of interest or significance to them. I loved John's introductions. They set me up for great conversations with new friends.



In 2 Corinthians chapter 3 Paul refers to an interesting practice of his day saying, *'Do we need, as some, a letter of commendation to you or from you?'* In the church I attended as a young person 'letters of introduction' were given to church members who were moving to fellowship at another church. The letter commented on their salvation testimony, their standing in the church community and giftedness in Christian ministry. Perhaps this seems an archaic practice? But it paved the way for a welcome into active fellowship with the new church. It was a great introduction.

I once attended a large church in Canada. This church wanted to make sure that everyone had someone to talk to during the morning tea break. So, they practised the 'Five-minute rule'. Church members were encouraged to engage with one another, and especially newcomers or visitors, for five minutes and then deliberately hand the conversation over to another person. Picking up on something from the first conversation, the church member might say, 'I would like you to meet [insert name] because they will be interested to talk with you about [insert common interest]'. In this way they established connections that helped conversations go beyond the weather (!) to shared interests, concerns and experiences.

TISQN is a helpful tool for making great introductions. You may be asked to introduce a speaker at a special event. Or you may want to introduce a neighbour to another neighbour, or a school parent to another parent, or a friend at church to a visitor or

newcomer. Whatever the scenario, TISQN provides a framework for an introduction.

TISQN stands for:

- T Theme** – what is going to be talked about?
- I Importance** – why might the listener be interested?
- SQ Speaker's Qualifications** – what authority or experience does the speaker have?
- N Name** – repeating personal names in conversation is very affirming

TISQN helps to:

- Minimise introductions so that ongoing conversation can be maximised
- Allay nerves about talking with people we don't know
- Engender enthusiasm and expectation in the listener by establishing a connection to their story or life experiences

The TISQN format is valuable when we introduce a public speaker to their audience. But it has great value for personal introductions as well. Imagine a conversation like this:

Me: I've loved talking with you today and discovering you enjoy patchwork and helping at the local neighbourhood house craft classes. I'd like to introduce you to my friend who is also interested in needlecraft.

(Calls out to friend...)

Hi Marg, I want you to meet Jacqui. She enjoys patchwork, too. Jacqui has been making quilts for residents at our local nursing home. She also teaches patchwork at the neighbourhood house. I know you have started making quilts and were looking for a group to join. Come and have a chat with Jacqui.

In what ways might TISQN be a useful addition to your communication toolbox? Try using it next time you want to make a great introduction.

Heather Jackson
Communications Director
National Management Board

CWCI Australia Annual General meeting May 2026

Thirty-seven members across Australia joined the **CWCI Australia Annual General Meeting** on May 15th via Zoom. We praise God for the ministry which took place throughout 2025, through his enabling.

The full 2025 **Annual Report** of CWCI Australia and audited financial statements can be downloaded from the *CWCI Members' Area*. Here is a summary of this report.

Policies were reviewed, ensuring good governance.

Prayer undergirded CWCI's ministry via the Australian Prayer Calendar, Prayer for the Nation (May), Call to Prayer (July), and Prayer Matters and Melanesia Ministry Prayer Notes (produced following NMB meetings).

New recordings of Interregional Bible Teachers were added to the Members' Area where **Speaker Panel** booklets are available. An online Speaker Event provided speaker development and encouragement.

Communication channels include *BOND*, CWCI Aust website and Facebook, helping women connect by awareness of activities, training, policy and governance.

KYB studies: *Tabernacle and Temple* – the promise of God's presence with us; *Luke Part 2* – Learn from the Teacher; *1 Samuel* – Getting what you asked for; *Philippians* – Serve! Shine! Rejoice!

Regional boards: Eastern; Harbour (also caretaking East Central Coast); South Eastern, Southern, Sunshine, Tropical and Western.

National Safaris were conducted to Western Queensland; Stuart

Highway North; Victoria North Border and Tasmania Central West and North. Over 1,600 women attended **Regional Safaris**.

The **National Enrichment Program** for regional board members provided training: *"Bridging the Gap"* (involving women in regional ministry via subcommittees) and *"Saying Goodbye-Saying Hello"* (finishing well or beginning on regional board).

Melanesia ministry expanded, with training in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Country Advisors visited their designated country. Jacqui Guy retired after years of developing this ministry. Elaine Carter gave fruitful service before becoming ill and passing away during the year. Country Advisors continue this ministry, and generous donations benefit women in these countries.

We are thankful to God for our efficient, friendly **staff** at Head Office: Chris Mill, Michelle White (who resigned in February 2025) and Melissa Bonham (who commenced in July 2025).

National Management Board – NMB members have a designated portfolio and also serve on subcommittees: Communications; Handbook; KYB; Melanesia; Property; Safari and Training. Current and incoming NMB members attended a Development and Planning conference. All positions for the 2026-2028 NMB are filled.

Liz Skilbeck
President
National Management Board

On the Blog

Devoted Devotions



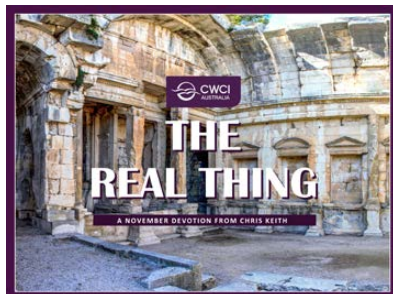
During the six years Chris Keith served on National Management Board she prepared 52 monthly devotions for the CWCI Australia Blog. Such faithfulness! We praise and thank our Heavenly Father for the gift of teaching she has shared so generously.

Chris Keith's devotions are not copyrighted. She is happy for others to use them.

We encourage you to make use of this amazing resource to grow people in Christ through sharing the Bible. Please make verbal or written acknowledgement of Chris' creative effort and generous provision if and when you make use of her work.

The CWCI Australia Blog can be viewed on our website.

<https://cwciaus.org.au/news/blog/>



Blog comments

"Love these small devotions. I just found them. What a blessing. Thanks Chris. This one is a wonderful encouragement giving me hope for the future and present."

"Thank you, Chris, for this encouraging and convicting reminder."

"Thank you, Chris, for sharing his word in such an insightful way. Today's idols can be very deceptive and hidden within our culture."

"Simple yet so powerful. Thank you."

News and Updates

2027 - CWCI Australia 70th Anniversary

Preparations are getting underway for CWCI Australia's 70th Anniversary celebrations in 2027. Regions, committees and members are encouraged to start planning now to celebrate this marvellous milestone. National Management Board are preparing a range of promotional and celebration resources. More information will be included in Summer BOND.

Prayer

As CWCI Australia continues to encourage women through Know Your Bible (KYB) groups, events, and outreach across the country, prayer remains central to the ministry. We invite you to keep this work before the Lord, asking Him to strengthen those who serve and to continue growing women in Christ through his word.

The 2026 CWCI Australia Prayer Calendar is a helpful way to prayerfully uphold every part of our ministry before God. To download a copy, visit <https://cwciaus.org.au/pray/>

Events

Throughout the year, there are events being held by CWCI Australia across the country for women. To find an event near you, visit <https://cwciaus.org.au/what-is-on/events/>

Searching the Members' Area of the CWCI Australia website

Do you know what this icon represents?



When CWCI members access the Members' Area of our webpage this icon appears at the top of every folder section.

Click on the icon and type in keywords to search the folders below it for the document you require.

You can search by Form number eg. G07

You can search by Keyword eg. Medical

You can search by Title eg. Treasurer

Another way to find information in the Members' Area is to become familiar with the folders listed in the lefthand side menu. These large folders help narrow your search field. For example, if you are looking for information about creating brochures, open the *Promotional Resources* folder first, then search by keyword, e.g. *logos*, or *map*.

Diamond celebration in Tasmania

60 years of CWCI ministry in Tasmania will be celebrated as part of the *Southern Tasmania Safari, Monday 26th October to Wednesday 4th November 2026*, with Speaker Beth Allison and Leader Ros Murdoch. View the itinerary at <https://cwciaus.org.au/what-is-on/australian-safaris>

Spotlight on Regional Boards



Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Each member of National Management Board has been given a regional board to encourage. Recently Narelle McLeod, Vice President Prayer, was blessed to travel through Far North Queensland while on a caravan holiday. Along the way, she connected with each member of the Tropical Regional Board. What a privilege it was to meet the Tropical Board members in person; some from Cairns / Atherton region and

others from Townsville. There are seven regional boards across Australia, and each one is very important to the ongoing work of CWCI Australia. The women serving on these boards are united in one purpose: to glorify God and support the spiritual growth of women across Australia. Most of these women serve in various other ways, within their local churches, leading or assisting with KYB groups and CWCI committees – and serving their communities in other ways. So, the time they put aside to serve God on a CWCI Australia regional board is greatly appreciated.

National Management Board



Dear friends let us love one another for love comes from God 1 John 4:7

Winter is over – spring is in the air! We can look forward to warmer weather, seeing new buds on trees, flowers blooming, and new life as we see animals and birds reproducing.

Since I was a young girl, I have always enjoyed having chickens in our backyard. It is a great joy to witness a mother hen sitting on her eggs for 21 days, and then to see the baby chicks hatch. Growing up in Brisbane, Dad and I showed our bantams at the Royal Brisbane Agricultural Show, or the “Ekka” as it is fondly known. As soon as the Show was over in August, it was time to set the hens on their eggs. The timing coincided with spring, and usually we would have baby chickens by the end of September. Watching the mother hen protect her chickens and teach them how to fend for themselves, filled me with joy. She would be so brave if anything threatened her babies – and she would spread out her wings and call them to herself, to protect them. This is unconditional love.

The book of Ruth gives us a beautiful picture of the love of God. In Ruth 2:12, Boaz replied to Ruth, *May the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge, reward you fully for what you have done.* Here Boaz is depicting the God of Israel as a bird, spreading out his wings to protect his people, and in this case, protecting Ruth.

As we bask in God’s unconditional love for us, He also wants us to love others. In John’s gospel, we read the words of

Jesus: *By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another,* John 13:35. From the first letter of Peter, we read: *Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.* 1 Peter 4:8.

What about the people that we find difficult to love? What if there is somebody in our church, our KYB group, or in our family that we just find unlovable? Does this mean that we are excused, and that we don’t have to love them?

Of course not! This is precisely why God has given us his Holy Spirit. Jesus tells us to ask for what we need. We do this as we come to God humbly in prayer. After all, God already knows what is in our heart, he is not going to be surprised. But we do need to confess to him our inability to love as he has loved us. We can ask him to give us his love for that particular person with whom we are having trouble loving.

God does answer! This has been my prayer on several occasions, and I can testify that he has helped me to see someone in a different light. God has opened my eyes, to see a gentler side which I may have missed before.

The way to promote unity within our churches, KYB groups, and families, is to love one another and forgive one another.

Narelle McLeod
Vice President Prayer
National Management Board



Promotional Pens

CWCI Australia offers promotional pens that you can purchase in bundles of five for \$7.50, including postage.

These pens are a great way to promote our ministry at your upcoming events.



A GIFT THAT LASTS

Your gift to CWCI Australia makes a lasting impact.

It helps others grow in Christ through sharing the Bible. If you would like to honour a loved one in memoriam, or leave a bequest in your will, our helpful Head Office staff will gladly assist you



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BOND

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