

Assumptions

Assumption – a thing that is accepted as true or as certain to happen, without proof.

Do you ever make totally unfounded assumptions? During our recent travels, Tina and I made wrong assumptions.

We assumed we both knew which London Premier hotel had been booked, only to turn up at the wrong one. In Singapore, we assumed English tea would come with cold, not hot, milk. We assumed we would have the same type of seats on our return trip from Malaysia, only to find we had been downgraded.

In Bible times assumptions were made.

Matthew 1:18-20 Joseph assumed Mary had slept with another man. Being a just man, and unwilling to put her to shame, he resolved to divorce her quietly.

John 9: 1-3 When the disciples saw the man who had been born blind, they assumed that his blindness was caused by either his own sin or his parents' sin.

Luke 24:18 On the road to Emmaus, the disciples assumed they were meeting with a stranger, not Jesus himself. They asked, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days? We had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel".

In all three instances, assumptions were made that were wrong. In the first, it took an angel in a dream to put Joseph right. In the second, Jesus put the disciples right. The blindness was not due to the man's sin nor his parents' sin but that the glory of God could be seen in his healing. In the third, beginning with Moses and all

the prophets, the risen Jesus, interpreted to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. They all had to be given the correct picture.

People who do not know God make assumptions, some based on what they have been taught: the world came about by a big bang, that by being good and going to church you are a Christian. People assume that because they have never really been that bad, that God will accept them. They do not know that they have broken the commandment to 'Love the Lord with all your heart mind and strength'.

Part of our mission is to break down these assumptions and to give the truth. We do this through KYB studies and events organised in our various countries.

As an International Board we have met online for the past two years. Meeting in person has helped break down assumptions - how we look in the flesh, tall, short etc! But more importantly, having the opportunity to share our life journeys with one another enables us to be more effective as a team. We are not individuals doing our own thing, we are a group of women brought together by God. We are to fulfil his purposes in our generation, in the places he has put us, but also globally as we seek to take his word out into the wider world.

We need to communicate by our words and example the real picture, so that assumptions about God are broken down and truth is spread.



Sandra Gilbert

Online Versus In Person – IB meet in Sydney

IB usually meets online six times a year. However, the lack of engagement on a personal level has meant that IB members have missed catching up with each other, and getting to know each other better. The looming end of the Board term prompted the decision to meet in person so the incoming President and Finance Director could attend, and Sandra and Cecily, as outgoing President and Finance Director, could be farewelled. And of course seeing each other and spending time together would be a blessing.

The venue chosen was the Castlereagh Conference Centre, near Penrith in outer western Sydney. This proved to be a delightful place to spend a few days in a rural setting. Gathering women from across the globe turned out to be problem free, so Sandra and Tina (from the UK) and Sue and Susanna (from NZ) met with the Australian members of the Board on Wednesday 3rd September at Castlereagh.

After two days of IB Meetings, it was time for the KYB production ladies to shine! KYB writers, editors, proofreaders and vetters were invited to attend on the Saturday. Those who could, attended in person, while others joined an online meeting scheduled for later in the day. It was wonderful to see the excitement of the women as they arrived and met up with those they knew, or had only seen on a screen. Morning tea and lunch were provided and the chatter never stopped! In the afternoon, everyone gathered in the meeting hall and the wonders of technology allowed those from other places to be involved via a large screen. KYB Production Director Lyn introduced everyone in turn, explaining their role. The joy that the women feel being part of KYB production was infectious and the whole event was very uplifting and encouraging.

Sandra led a short worship service on Sunday morning, and then it was time to part ways. The time together had been very special, and IB is grateful for the effort both Sandra and Tina have made to be present. Sandra may not miss the arduous travel, however IB will miss her! Tina continues as UK President for another year.



CWCI International Board



KYB Production Team Meeting Online for Encouragement



Lunch and Morning Tea for the Production Team



Visit to Malaysia

On our journey from the UK to Australia, the UK KYB President Tina and I made a detour to Malaysia. We were warmly greeted at the airport by Sian Li and Fan who are the instigators of the current KYB ministry in Malaysia. At their home on the Sunday afternoon we joined their KYB group, who were completing the Tabernacle and Temple study. It was wonderful to see all their study books filled with writing and to listen to them discussing the study. Four people had come as observers that day as they were interested in the studies.

On the Monday we visited Betty Tan, who had been part of the original KYB in Malaysia many years ago, and had travelled to Australia to attend an International Board meeting. Betty fondly remembered Jean Raddon speaking at KYB conferences and had scrap books full of photos of KYB in Malaysia to show us. She was thrilled KYB has started again and that they are able to print their own books, which was not possible in her day.

**Fan and Sian Li's
KYB Group**

On Monday evening we were joined for a meal by two couples who belong to study groups. We had a great time of fellowship with them and discussed the way forward for KYB in Malaysia and their possible part in that.

There are now nine groups in Malaysia and it was exciting to be able to spend time encouraging and being encouraged by all that God is doing.



Betty, Tina and Sandra



Changes to IB

At the end of 2025 I stand down as President of the International Board. It will be the end of a long run on the Board because before serving as President for six years, I represented the UK for eight years. It has been both a joy and a privilege to serve God with other women who are dedicated to the work of CWCI. Cecily also steps down after six years as Finance Director, having served a previous six years when she was President of the Australian National Management Board. She continues to be one of the KYB proofreaders and will continue to serve as a member of the Production Sub-committee. The International Board will welcome Susanna West from New Zealand as IB President and Jenny Callar from NSW as Finance Director at the beginning of 2026. Christina Keith will also be leaving the Board as her term as the Australian National Board President comes to an end. Chris's short time on the Board has been much appreciated. IB will welcome Liz Skilbeck who takes over from Chris at the beginning of 2026.

IB has also created a new role of Global Ministry Director on the Board, along with a new role description. This is because there is an increasing number of requests for English study books outside of Australia, New Zealand and the UK. Hard copy books are not usually sent, but rather a PDF is emailed, allowing studies to be printed where they will be used. This cuts down the cost of each study book significantly, enabling people in poorer countries to use them. Translating is still taking place but only within a country where the study will be used; there are still occasional requests for translated studies.

Sandra Gilbert Retiring IB President



**Susanna, Sandra,
Cecily and Jenny**



Liz and Christina

Prayer and Praise

Give Thanks

- that Jenny Callar has agreed to become the new Finance Director from the beginning of 2026.
- for Tina and Sandra's encouraging time in Malaysia, and for the nine KYB groups there. Give thanks that they were able to meet up with Betty Tan who introduced KYB to Malaysia many years ago.
- for enquiries from Denmark, China, the South Pacific, Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia, South Korea and Germany.
- for all the blessing of the in-person meeting: safe travel, good health, precious fellowship, God's direction and guidance in decision-making, gathering of KYB production personnel.



Prayer Points

Sunday

Pray for someone to fill the new role of Global Ministry Director on IB.

Monday

Pray for the provision of more editors for standard and Easy English studies, and for more writers.

Tuesday

Pray that the ministry in Malaysia continues to grow.

Wednesday

Pray for wisdom and direction as all enquiries for KYB studies are followed up.

Thursday

Pray for staff members, Beth, Reda, and Cynthia, as they manage work, family commitments, and health issues.

Friday

Pray for someone to take up translation of KYB studies in Denmark.

Saturday

Pray that the vacancies on many Regional Boards in Australia will be filled; and for more members for all teams in NZ; and for more people to serve on Area Teams in the UK.

KYB STUDIES 2026

Selected Psalms Pt 1: Living in God's world

The Gospel of Luke Pt 3 (17:1-24:53): Trust in him!

Romans Pt 2 (ch9-16): Grafted together in Christ

Ezra ...and the God who restores

If you would like to give towards the production of KYB Easy English or standard studies, here are the details.

Account Name: CWCI International. Westpac Bank BSB: 032167 A/C: 125143

If you would like an acknowledgment of your donation please email Reda at info@cwci.org.au

For any enquiries regarding the content or production of the KYB Studies please email our KYB Production Director Lyn at kybpd@cwci.org.au

