



No. 429 25/6/24

## Clearing the Way for Jesus

The newsletter of **Five Islands Christian Ministries** links Christians and churches from Helensburgh to Gerroa to promote church unity. A printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF file of the newsletter may be downloaded from [www.5icm.org.au/resources.html](http://www.5icm.org.au/resources.html).

Distribution of this edition: **4,252**

### Church of the Week

**Kiama Presbyterian Church** on the corner of Shoalhaven & Terralong Streets, Kiama with the mission statement: "To know Christ and make Him known to the world" The minister is Rev. Andrew Satchell assisted by a team of elders of which we are adding a new elder on the 7th of July. Our regular Services are on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. as well as bible study/growth groups during the week. Our Op-shop is open from 10am-3pm Monday to Friday and our Christian bookshop has reopened on Monday & Wednesday from 11:30pm-2pm.

### Church of the Week (next week)

**St Joseph's Catholic Church** at 48 Park Rd, Bulli. The Parish Priest is Fr Patrick Vaughan. From their website, "St. Joseph's Bulli is the oldest of the four parishes that make up the Northern Illawarra Cluster, which includes Holy Cross Helensburgh, St. Michael's Thirroul and St. Columbkille's Corrimal." The church has a Catholic Parish Primary School also called St Joseph's, Bulli.

### Church News

- Hillsong Church Wollongong** has leased and moved into 15 Burelli St, the building previously owned by Lifeway Lutheran Church and purchased by Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church earlier this year.
- The 2024 Winter edition of "**Vision**", the official newsletter of **Vision Christian Media**, contains an error, which is unfortunately becoming more common, the word "ecumenism" was used where "pluralism", I think, was intended. The result is to criticise the effort of Christian churches towards greater visible unity, the work of the World Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches in Australia, the various state ecumenical councils, and the desire of Jesus Christ for unity among his followers (John 17). Christianity is exclusivist in the sense that it does not accept the ideology of religious pluralism, which accepts the views of diverse religions as equally valid. My forthcoming video, "Which God", will cover this topic and be added to the [gospelfacts.au](http://gospelfacts.au) website in coming weeks.

### Sicm News

- Gary Hetherington** of **Revival Ministries** is back in Wollongong from his week in Wagga Wagga. He wrote, "God opened the doors of people's hearts. So many new friends. Including, the three people who gave their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ, during this last week. And the others that I shared King Jesus and His Kingdom! Praise God!"
- The Illawarra Seniors band** has secured an alternative venue for July. They will be performing at Blue Haven Kiama on Tuesday 2/7/24 at 10:30a.m. New brass and percussion players are always welcome to join.

3. The next issue of the ***Clearing the Way for Jesus*** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 9th July**. Please email me your church's ecumenical events for sharing with Christians of the Illawarra. To subscribe to this newsletter, please [email](#) or message me on Facebook with your email address.

God bless,  
Derek Thompson,  
*Five Islands Christian Ministries Inc.*, a registered charity.

Website: [www.5icm.org.au](http://www.5icm.org.au) | email: [ficm@spin.net.au](mailto:ficm@spin.net.au) | phone: 4256 5780 | 

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## ***Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra***

**Illawarra Seniors Band rehearsals** are on the third Tuesday of each month from 10.30am at the Port Kembla Senior Citizens Community Hall. *Contact:* [Jill White](#), the Secretary.

### **Sea Sunday, 14th July, Support the Port Kembla Mission to Seafarers**

Information for use in church services is found [here](#).

### **Friday 26th & Saturday 27th July, Chaplaincy Australia - Empower 24**

Two day gathering for pastors, leaders, and chaplains.

*Speakers:* Ralph Estherby, Deb Kuhna, Susan Marcuccio

*Details:* Fri 9:30am-1pm; Sat 9am-3:30pm at Lighthouse Church, 1 Railway Station Square, Wollongong.

*Cost:* \$150 for both days.

### **Saturday 27th July, Christmas in July**

*Details:* 12 noon at Dapto Uniting Church hall, 122 Princes Hwy.

*Cost:* \$35 each. No walk-ins. Booking essential, by emailing Janet at [exercisecare@gmail.com](mailto:exercisecare@gmail.com) for bank details

### **Wednesday 7th August, Illawarra Seniors' Band Concert**

*Details:* 10:30 a.m. Marco Polo Aged Care, 11 Watergum Way, Woonona

See the [5icm Events page](#) for **more events** and the **Regular Events** list.