

Clearing the Way for Jesus

The newsletter of the Illawarra Prayer Network links Christians and churches from Helensburgh to Gerroa, promotes prayer and facilitates church unity. A printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF file of this newsletter is available at www.5icm.org.au/index_files/ipn.html. Please send prayer requests and feedback to prayer@5icm.org.au.
Distribution of this edition: 3,550

Prayer

- 1. Brad Colquhoun**, the Principal of **St Columbkille's Catholic Primary School** at Corrimal, sent us a thoughtful prayer request for the homeless.

The cold hard reality of homelessness is never more apparent than during winter's chill. With the arrival of winter, we prayer and keep in our thoughts the 1500 people who are homeless each night in the Illawarra. Over the past decade there has been an 85 per cent increased in homelessness in the Illawarra.

Our Prayer for the Homeless

Hear our prayer today for all women and men, boys and girls who are homeless this cold winter day.

For those sleeping on park benches, in abandoned buildings, in doorways or train stations.

For those who can only find shelter for the night but must wander in the daytime. For families broken because they could not afford to pay the rent.

For those who have no relatives or friends who can take them in.

For those who have no place to keep possessions that remind them who they are. For those who are cold, afraid and hopeless.

For all these people, we pray that you will provide shelter, security and hope.

We pray for those of us with warm houses and comfortable beds that we not be lulled into complacency and forgetfulness.

Jesus, help us to see your face in the eyes of every homeless person we meet so that we may be empowered through word and deed, and through the political means we have, to bring justice and peace to those who are homeless.

Amen.

- 2.** This is the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** celebrated in the southern hemisphere in the week leading up to Pentecost Sunday. The theme for the 2019 week of prayer is "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue ..." which is inspired by Deuteronomy 16:18-20. The [resources](#) for the week have been prepared by members of various churches in Indonesia.

Feedback

- 1. The 5icm mid-year meeting** was held last night. The 5icm member ministries are Wollongong Gospel Choir, Revival Ministries, Illawarra Christians Connect and the Illawarra Prayer Network. Please support their activities and plans in prayer.
- 2.** The gathering of **Illawarra Prayer Network** and Facebook [Illawarra Christians](#) group members at Stuart Park Wollongong last week was an enjoyable time. Another face-to-face meeting is to be organised.

3. **[New Wine Life Church](#)** will be holding its last meeting at Kembla Grange on 23rd June. Their new venue is yet to be advised.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,
Illawarra Prayer Network

website: www.5icm.org.au | email: prayer@5icm.org.au | phone: 4256 5780 |



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Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Wollongong Gospel Choir Rehearsals – Tuesdays during school terms – all welcome.
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm at Wollongong Senior Citizens Centre, 192 Gipps Road, Gwynneville
Contact: [John Sandercock](#) 0499 444 151

Giant Book Sale to raise funds for **Homestead of Hope** and **KBECET**
Saturday and Sunday 8th & 9th June
Venue: Ss Peter & Paul Catholic Church hall, 92 Manning St, Kiama.

Pentecost - Sunday 9th June

South Coast Mental Health Discovery Day - Saturday 15th June
Hosted by C3 Church Shellharbour with clinical psychologist Krystiyna Kidson.
Venue: Albion Park Bowling Club, 32-52 Taylor Rd, Albion Park
Cost: \$19.50 Tickets from www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=475812
Contact: Ps Jason Kent jasonkent@c3churchshellharbour.com.au

Gong Men's Day - Saturday 15th June
Speaker: Sam Chan on knowing and sharing the gospel.
Venue: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Dapto Anglican Church, Moombara St
Cost: \$40 (\$30 concession) includes lunch. Book through <https://gongmensday.org/>

Taizé Prayer - Trinity Sunday 16th June
Ecumenical Service using Taizé prayer and songs. [Download flyer.](#)
Venue: 6:00 p.m. St Paul's Catholic Church, 251 Tongarra Rd, Albion Park.

BWCB Trivia Night with silent auction - Saturday 22nd June
Fundraiser for northern Illawarra school Scripture Teachers.
Details: starts 7:00 p.m. See [BWCB webpage](#) or [Facebook page](#).

Peter Shurley in Concert - Saturday 22nd June
Fund raiser for "Hope & Future Foundation". [Download flyer](#)
Details: 7:30 p.m. Port Kembla Baptist Church, cnr Cowper St & Illawarra Rd, Port Kembla.
Cost: free entry, a love offering will be taken. Contact: [Gordon Barr](#) 0404 828 680

Kiama HymnSing - Sunday 23rd June
Hymn and chorus singing followed by afternoon tea.
Details: 2:00 p.m. Kiama Uniting Church cnr Manning & Bong Bong Sts.
Contact for song requests: Reuben (4233 2490) or Gail (4232 1630)

Friday 5th July - School Term 2 ends

"Images from the Port" Photography Exhibition - Friday 5th July to 2nd August
Commemorating 75 years of the Mission to Seafarers in Port Kembla.
Details: Launch 1:00 p.m. 5th July (RSVP for catering purposes). Exhibition continues to 2nd August. Wollongong Art Gallery.
Contact: tthemisspk@gmail.com, 4274 6498, [download flyer](#).

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