

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: 3,546

Prayer

1. The prayer focus is for **Towradgi Congregational Church**. I visited last week and asked the six congregation members present for their prayer requests for the newsletter.

Colin James suggested prayer for more people to attend their church. **Ms Olwen Blaker** asked for prayer for the residents of the IRT Towradgi Park Retirement Village. One of these residents is Colin Chamberlain, a retired Baptist minister, who preaches sometimes at Towradgi Cong. **Mrs June James** requested prayer for two of their congregation who are unwell: **Janice Walker** and **Helga Richardson**. **Lorraine Mahe** and **Marcia Harley** jointly wanted prayer for more young people and upgrades to the church facilities. **Dianne Shiels**, who is a Deacon of the church, requested prayer for her mother and relationships with her sister-in-law.

Dianne said the church, which does not have a pastor, is supporting missions and giving many local preachers opportunity to preach at their church. The church facilities are used by Alcoholics Anonymous and Red Cross and two other churches that do not have buildings of their own. This conversation was reminiscent of one that I had at Coniston United Church a few years before it closed. So, please pray for new members to join the church, for flexibility to accept the inevitable changes and for God to call a pastor to the church.

2. The guest preacher at Towradgi Congregational Church was **Hamilton Gervaise** from CityLife Church, Fairy Meadow. Hamilton and his wife, Susan, have started a charity called **Fresh Start Missions** to minister to the homeless of Wollongong. The charity will soon take delivery of a custom-built caravan that includes 3 showers, washing machines and a kitchen which will be taken to locations where there is need. Hamilton said the caravan will be available for use by any Illawarra church that wants to minister to the homeless in this way. Prayer concerns are for finance, caravan consumables, team members, and Council approvals.

News

1. **Darryl Stewart** is stepping down from his role as Coordinator of **Kingdom Connections Illawarra**, formerly named the *Illawarra Pastors Network*. The position is voluntary and there are some minor expenses involved. The board members are Jeff Stacey, Hengki Widjaja and Warwick Marsh. Direct enquiries to any of the board members or to Darryl.

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

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](#).

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)

Vinnies Wollongong Information Night - Thursday 27th June

for youth and young adults (16-35 yrs) interested in volunteering with Vinnies.

[Download flyer](#).

Venue: 7:00 pm St Therese Parish Hall, West Wollongong.

Peter Shurley in Concert - Saturday 29th June

Fund raiser for "Hope & Future Foundation". [Download flyer](#) (NB date on flyer is incorrect)

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

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](#).

Monday 22nd July - School Term 3 begins

Kiama HymnSing - Sunday 28th July

Hymn and chorus singing, featuring Wollongong Gospel Choir, and 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)

A Training Course in Cross-Cultural Skills - Monday 5th August (Bank Holiday)

The first of six weekly sessions of a course designed to help Australian Christians engage with people from other faith and ethnic backgrounds.

Presenter: Andrew Schachtel, co-author of the book *Changing Lanes, Crossing Cultures*.

[Download flyer](#).

Cost: free but participants are recommended to buy the *Changing Lanes* book for \$18 which will be available.

Venue: 7:30-8:30 p.m. Wollongong Baptist Church, 330 Keira St, Wollongong.

Register: by email or phone to [Andrew Schachtel](#), 0433 827 431.

Training Day for "[Makes You Wonder](#)" - Saturday 17th August

Training in sharing the gospel by Ian Robertson.

Details: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Kiama Jamberoo Uniting Church, cnr Manning & Bong Bong Sts, Kiama. Download flyer.

Cost: free.

Contact: [Michele Broad](#), 0400 324 708.

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