

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: 3,547

Prayer

1. **Rev. Annette Hawken** emailed the below prayer request. Also, continue to pray for Annette as she receives treatment for cancer.

Please pray for **Keiraview Uniting Church** as they seek a new minister at the conclusion of placement for Rev Annette Hawken who has been in ministry with the congregation since 2014. Please keep the Hawken family in prayer as they face changes in ministry and family life.

2. **Beryl Nash** of **Albion Park Anglican Church** submitted the following for prayer:

"I would like to give thanks for the "Tech" people in our local church communities who have taken on the challenge to make sure services are streamed/recorded for community members to stay connected.

Pray for the men of Albion Park Men's Shed, who currently cannot meet and maybe experiencing stress or disconnection at this time."

News and Feedback

1. The prayer network prayed about the **Ruby Princess** cruise ship docked in Port Kembla. **John Kewa**, the chaplain at [Port Kembla Mission to Seafarers](http://www.portkembla.org.au), said the mission saw the arrival of the ship as a challenge to reach out to the ship's crew and posted on its Facebook page "It is not your fault, we hope you're OK", which received a large number of views. The Mission planned to use the \$2,000 they had to prepare care packages for the crew of over 1,000. **Nicole Dillon**, a teacher from Kiama, was planning to do the same thing and she joined with the Mission in preparing the gifts. Then a charitable organisation called [Good360 Australia](http://www.good360.com.au), founded by Illawarra woman **Alison Covington**, offered \$70,000 to \$80,000 worth of goods. The Mission called for volunteers to help pack a "Friendship Gift Box" for each crew member. The boxes contained chips, fruit, Tim Tams, Vegemite and other food and personal supplies which were packed over the Easter weekend. It was not that the crew needed any supplies, but so that they would know they were cared for and not being blamed for the virus. 139 crew members had tested positive to Covid-19. Ruby Princess left Port Kembla last week displaying a large banner saying "Thank you Illawarra". The Mission then turned its attention to the other ships in the harbour. The **Princess Cruise Line** donated \$50,000 to the Mission to Seafarers in appreciation of their help. John said his number one request for the Mission is prayer and, secondly, for more volunteers.
2. **Rev. Rod Harding** has finished his time as the acting senior minister at **Kiama Anglican Church** and **Rev. Steve Stanis** has resumed the position.
3. **Transforming Waters Church** has changed its name to **True Spirit Church, Windang**.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,
Illawarra Prayer Network

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Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

N.B. Prayer is NOT cancelled (Eph 6:18; 1 Thess 5:17-24).

Wollongong Gospel Choir - Rehearsals on Tuesdays during school term times.

Rehearsals **CANCELLED**.

7:00 pm **Due to renovations of the WSC Centre, rehearsals will temporarily be at Cafe Essay at the Salvation Army, 11 Burelli St, Wollongong.**

Contact: [John Sandercock](mailto:John.Sandercock@wsc.org.au) 0499 444 151

CMS Illawarra Meeting CANCELLED - Thursday 7th May

Hear from missionaries about their work. BYO Lunch and mug, tea and coffee provided.

Venue and time: 12:30-2:00p.m., St Mark's Anglican Church, West Wollongong

Contact: [Bev Defty](mailto:Bev.Defty@cms.org.au)

Gerringong/Kiama/Jamberoo Bible Society Action Group

Annual Prayer Morning - Tuesday 19th May

Details: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. on Zoom

Contact: Barb Mathie by [email](mailto:Barb.Mathie@jamberoo.org.au) or phone 4234 1576 or 0411 212 874 for the Zoom link, etc.

Illawarra Prayer Breakfast CANCELLED - Friday 29th May

Speaker: Mark McCrindle of McCrindle Research

Cost: Early Bird \$450 per table before 20/3/20 (\$500 after).

National Day of Thanks - Saturday 30th May

Pentecost Sunday 31st May

Queen's Birthday - Monday, 8 June 2020

Gong Men's Day CANCELLED - Saturday 13th June

Speaker: Rev. Dr Malcolm Gill (SMBC)

Details: 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Dapto Anglican Church, Moombara St

Cost: \$45, \$35 conc. (lunch included)

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