



No. 370, 15/9/20

Clearing the Way for Jesus

The newsletter of the Illawarra Prayer Network and 5icm 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: 3,564

Prayer

- 1. Gary Hetherington** of [Revival Ministries](#) has requested prayer support for his meeting with pastors in Canowindra (between Orange and Cowra) to discuss an upcoming outreach meeting.

"CALLING FOR INTERCESSORS AND PRAYER WARRIORS.

One week of travel, ministry, preaching and visiting pastors, ministers and Christian leaders etc.

A friendly reconnaissance ministry mission.

I believe that the Lord has called me to the town of Canowindra (including other towns and cities), NSW Australia.

Starting Wollongong to Canowindra, finishing in the City of Orange, New South Wales.

From Sunday 13th, through to Sunday 20th.

Back home Monday 21st, September 2020. God willing!

We are breaking the ground for our future planned two weeks Outreach Campaign early next year. Delayed due to the worldwide coronavirus pandemic lockdowns!

Thank you for your prayers."

- 2. The new church plant, Albion Park Community Church**, will be ready to commence meetings from 10th October but Shellharbour City Council community hall hire is limited to events with a maximum of 20 persons even if the 4 sq m rule would allow much more.
- 3. Roberta Vauvert** of **Awaken Church** emailed regarding the [Crossroads Christian Fellowship](#) for people with disabilities:

"Prayer is needed for Wollongong Crossroads positions of Director and Secretary otherwise the Wollongong branch will close down. I can meet up with any Christian that is interested to take these positions.

God bless
Roberta Vauvert
0412 680 141"

Roberta said Crossroads hasn't held its regular meetings since Covid restrictions commenced. They recently started having picnics at Wollongong Harbour.

News and Feedback

- 1. Jackie Haines** from **River of Life Church**, Koonawarra, suggested in response to the recent youth suicides, that the churches set up a prayerline, like lifeline, to offer prayer for people in need. **Ray Robinson**, who now lives in Queensland, suggested that Illawarra churches set up a database of Christian Counsellors that can be recommended by Christians to people in need of their services. *Together for the Illawarra* might like to consider these suggestions.
- 2. [Covid-19 restrictions](#)** relevant to churches as at 14th September.
 - Each Church building must have a 24th July version **Covid-19 Safety Plan** ([download from NSW Government website here](#) or develop your own) and [register](#) as a **COVID Safe venue**.
 - **Religious gatherings and places of worship** are limited a maximum of **100** people in each separate building (with a 20-person limit in a residence). Where there are more than one building on one site, reasonable steps must be taken to ensure congregants of each building do not interact with each other and services have staggered start and finish times. It is highly recommended that the congregation wears face masks. Churches are asked to find alternatives to practices that might spread the virus such as, sharing books and passing around a collection plate/bag. Congregational singing is not allowed. Only one or two (physically distanced) singers at the front, and at least 3m away from the congregation, is allowed. Online giving is recommended.
 - **Weddings** are limited to a maximum of **150** people, including weddings in a place of worship.
 - **Funerals** are limited to a maximum of **100** people.

Note that these guidelines require 1.5m distancing and no more than one person per 4 sq m, good hygiene practices, contact tracing provisions, and if you are at all unwell you must stay at home and if you have flu-like symptoms, get tested.
- 3. Clearing the Way for Jesus** is now a monthly newsletter, but will continue to promote prayer and church unity in the Illawarra.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,
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Illawarra Prayer Network and
Public Officer
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A registered charity.

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