



The Angel Gabriel Appearing to the Shepherds by Alfred Morgan

No. 384, 14/12/21

Clearing the Way for Jesus

The newsletter of **Five Islands Christian Ministries** links Christians and churches from Helensburgh to Gerroa to promote church unity. Printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF files of the newsletter may be downloaded from www.5icm.org.au/resources.html.

Please send news items, prayer requests and comments to admin@5icm.org.au.

Distribution of this edition: **3,683**

For Prayer

1. Scripture Union Family Missions will be held in the Illawarra this summer. See below in the events list for details. If you want to volunteer to help out, contact **Jo Parkinson**, the Missions administrator at Scripture Union NSW (SUNSW), on 0417 284 383 or by emailing missions@sunsw.org.au.
2. Pray for protection on the roads and in the waterways during the holiday season.
3. Pray for a ministry to disabled people to start up in the Illawarra. Wollongong Crossroads fellowships has closed. Shellharbour Crossroads closed a few years ago.

Illawarra Church News

1. **Ps Steve Shooter** has completed his ministry at **Dapto Baptist Church** and is heading off to Wagga Wagga. Steve and his wife Kaye came to Dapto in 2015 from Aria Park Baptist Church in the Riverina.
2. **Rev. Dr Thayil John** and his wife, **Rosy**, have been farewelled from **Keiraville International Church** after 11 years of ministry to overseas students at Wollongong University.
3. **Hope Church 2508 (Port Kembla)**, **Towradgi Congregational Church**, and **Horsley Christian Church** are three more churches that have closed this year.

Towradgi Congregational Church buildings and contents and the adjacent house are for sale. "For sale: 8 Carter's Lane Towradgi (church hall and buildings and land) and 6 Carter's Lane

(house garage and land). Also there are trestle tables and chairs etc. these can't be collected until auction in mid-January. Contact: [Dianne Shiels](#)."

4. The [2021 National Church Life Survey](#) period has been extended until February 2022 due to delays caused by Covid.
5. The **Samaritan's Purse** [Operation Christmas Child](#) shoeboxes of toys hygiene items, school supplies, fun gifts and clothing for children in need around the world may still be dropped off at **Albion Park Uniting Church** by arrangement with [Lyn Brown](#) (4256 1487 or 0425 219 233). A donation of \$10 per shoebox is requested to cover shipping costs.
6. The NSW State Government has relaxed [Covid-19 restrictions](#) so that from 15th December masks will not be mandatory. Contact details still need to be collected in churches. Services are open for everyone to attend regardless of vaccination status, however, anyone who might have Covid-19 symptoms or be a close or casual contact should not attend until you get a negative test result.

5icm News

1. **Wollongong Gospel Choir** will recommence rehearsals in the first school term of 2022. Details will be provided on their [website](#) and [Facebook group](#).
2. [Albion Park Community Church](#) will have Brian Boulton speaking on school chaplaincy on 18th December and Joel Deacon speaking on 29th January. The guest speaker for 22nd January is not confirmed yet. Visitors from other churches are welcome. Services are on Saturdays 5-7pm and include a free community dinner. On Christmas Day we will meet 11:30-1:30 p.m. for a Christmas Service and free Christmas Dinner. We especially invite any people who would otherwise be alone to share a part of Christmas Day with us.
3. **Gary Hetherington's Revival Ministries** now holds five Zoom meetings each week: Two prayer meetings for Canowindra and the central west of NSW, one prayer meeting for the nation, a teaching class on the gifts of the Holy Spirit on Fridays at 7pm, and a supernatural power of Communion service on Sundays at 11: 00 a.m. The Zoom meeting details are on the [5icm website](#).
4. The next issue of the monthly **Clearing the Way for Jesus newsletter** will be sent on **14th February 2022**. Please email me any items for the next newsletter prior to that date.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,



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Website: www.5icm.org.au | email: admin@5icm.org.au | phone: 4256 5780 | 

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Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Wollongong Gospel Choir –Rehearsals are held on Tuesdays during school terms.

7:00 p.m. At Wollongong Senior Citizens Centre, 192 Gipps Road, Gwynneville.

Contact: [John Sandercock](#) 0499 444 151

Scripture Union Family Missions

Location	Directors	Address	Dates
Albion Park	Theo Jolliffe Eden Williams	Albion Park Anglican Church Terry Street & Russell Street Albion Park	27th Dec, 21 - 6th Jan, 22
Bulli	Martin & Martyne Kennedy	Bulli Beach Caravan Park 1 Farrell Road, Bulli	27th Dec, 21 - 6th Jan, 22
Corrimal	Andrew & Rachel Dawson	Corrimal Beach Tourist Park Lake Parade, Corrimal	27th Dec, 21 - 6th Jan, 22
Gerringong	Tim House	Werri Beach Caravan Park Pacific Avenue Gerringong	27th Dec, 21 - 6th Jan, 22
Gerroa	Kate Ryan Luke Hammond	Seven Mile Beach Holiday Park & Discovery Holiday Park 200 & 107 Crooked River Rd Gerroa	27th Dec, 21 - 6th Jan, 22
Kiama Summerlife	Rosie Campbell	Coronation Park, Kiama	28th Dec, 21 - 3rd Jan, 22
Wollongong	Caitlyn Herne Sam Wheeler	Wollongong Surf Leisure Centre 201 Pioneer Road Fairy Meadow	27th Dec, 21 - 6th Jan, 22

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