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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.

Distribution of this edition: **3,760**

Prayer

1. Pray every step of the way.

2 Peter 1:5-7 (NRSV)

⁵ For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, ⁶ and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, ⁷ and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love.

Illawarra Church News

1. **Ps Peter Watson** and his wife **Linda** will be inducted as senior ministers of **Northern Beaches Church of Christ** at the service on Sunday 17th July and **Ps Jeff and Pam Deuble** thanked for their ministry over the last two and half years which involved them in an hour and a half drive each way to get to Services.
2. **Fr John Stork** of **Lumen Christi Catholic Parish** will celebrate 40 years as a priest on Sunday 15th August. Now that's endurance.
3. **Lyn Brown** (ph. 0425 219 233) emailed the following about the recent **Samaritan's Purse Shoebox** fundraiser at Albion Park Uniting Church.

"Thank you to everyone who came along and supported our Market on 25th June, in so many ways. We had very close to 400 people in attendance. We thank God for the beautiful day that He provided for us. With donations since received, following the market, we are blessed with a total of \$12,403.00.

World-wide, since 1993, 198 million gift filled shoeboxes have been given to children. Since 2009, 31 million children have enrolled in The Greatest Journey, a 12-week discipleship programme. We praise God that over 15 million children in more than 100 countries have already made decisions for Jesus Christ through this programme. When the children graduate from The Greatest Journey they are presented with a New Testament in their own language so they can continue to grow in their faith.

"I give God the glory," said Jenifer, an 11-year-old girl in Kenya, who came to know Christ through The Greatest Journey and shared the materials with her friends at school. "Five of my classmates gave their lives to Jesus after I shared with them the good news of Jesus."

But millions more still need to be reached with the Gospel.

Jesus reminds us that the Kingdom of God is filled with people who have childlike faith. "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven".

Please contact me if you would like to make up a shoebox, or if your Church would like to take part as a Congregation. I thank all those Churches who have taken part, some over many years. You have blessed many children; I thank God for you."

Sicm News

- 1.** The Sicm end of financial year report has to be prepared before the AGM in November. Member ministries are asked to submit their individual reports prior to the AGM. Anyone involved in, or considering commencing a Christian ministry in the Illawarra that is open to Christians of any church background should contact Derek Thompson for a list of benefits of joining Sicm. Membership is free.
- 2. Wollongong Gospel Choir** rehearsals will resume after the school holidays on Tuesday 19th July commencing at 7pm If you are interested in joining (no audition is required) just turn up at a rehearsal. For further information, see the WGC [Facebook group](#) or [website](#).
- 3. Gary Hetherington** holds weekly Zoom prayer meetings for his forthcoming ministry at Canowindra with team members and Christians from the central west of NSW. Visit [Gary's Facebook page](#) for the latest details and to contact him via Facebook messenger if you are interested in helping. Gary's Zoom meeting details are on the [Sicm website](#).
- 4.** The next issue of the monthly ***Clearing the Way for Jesus*** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 9th August**. Please email me any items for the next newsletter prior to that date. Regular events are listed on the [Sicm website](#). Let me know of any changes. To subscribe yourself or someone else to this distribution list please email or message me on Facebook with the email address.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,
Five Islands Christian Ministries Inc.
A registered charity.

Website: www.Sicm.org.au | email: ficm@idx.com.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 pm. At Wollongong Senior Citizens Centre, 192 Gipps Road, Gwynneville.
Contact: [John Sandercock](#) 0499 444 151

Friday 22nd July, Celebrating 50 years of KYB in 2022

Venue: Keiraville Uniting Church, Fisher St, West Wollongong

Details: 10:00 a.m. for morning tea

Speaker: Dr Helen Rienits.

Topic: Relevance of the Bible in 2022 and How it can help with Mental Illness.

Additional Information: 0429 695 209, [download flyer](#)

Saturday 27th August, Keith Green Tribute

Graeme Hush and Gordon Barr celebrate Keith's life and ministry to mark 40 years since Keith Green's death. [Download flyer](#).

Venue: City Diggers, Wollongong

Cost: \$20

Saturday 3rd September, Gong Men's Day

Speaker: Mark Smith, Senior Minister of St Michael's Anglican Cathedral

Venue: Figtree Anglican Church. See [website](#) for details.

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