



No. 391 9/8/22

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: **3,793**

Prayer

1. Considering the number requests for volunteers in this newsletter, let's pray for more workers.

Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:37-38 (NRSV))

2. Let us praise and glorify God in unity.

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 15:5-6 (NRSV))

Illawarra Church News

1. **CatholicCare** is seeking volunteers to provide friendly visits to isolated older people in our community. Visitors are needed in Wollongong, Tarrawanna and Unanderra. If you are able to give one hour a fortnight to provide a friendly visit to someone experiencing loneliness, please contact the CVS Coordinator, Melanie Jennison on 0436 403 936 or email melaniej@catholiccare.dow.org.au. Volunteers may come from any church background.
2. **Ross Johnson** emailed the following appeal for volunteer drivers.

"**Operation Christmas Child** has three vans that operate to deliver Shoe Box resources and collect filled shoe boxes in NSW. We have been blessed over the years with some wonderful volunteer drivers, but due to health reasons we have recently lost several of those volunteers.

Is anyone interested in becoming a volunteer driver? The vans are relatively new and are automatic. The vans can be driven on a car licence. Some trips are for one day, while other country collection runs can be two or three days.

Please contact myself Ross Johnson if you are interested to become a volunteer driver for Operation Christmas Child at 0448 299 549 or email rjoh3344@bigpond.net.au."

5icm News

1. **Wollongong Gospel Choir** wants more singers. They hold rehearsals on Tuesdays from 7pm. You can see their repertoire [here](#). If you are interested in joining (no audition is required) just turn up at a rehearsal. Choir bookings are free and they perform at fund-raising events, weddings, nursing homes, etc. For further information, see the WGC [Facebook group](#) or [website](#).

2. Gary Hetherington had an encouraging reconnaissance visit last week to Canowindra (located between Orange and Cowra). He was offered rent free accommodation for himself and up to six members of his team at a farm close into town. Gary still needs more volunteers for his upcoming long-term outreach at Canowindra. In particular, he needs a driver/s to get him to Canowindra each week for the next six months and outreach team members to go with him as they are able.

Gary is holding weekly Zoom prayer meetings with team members and Christians from the central west of NSW. Visit [Gary's Facebook page](#) for details and contact him via Facebook messenger if you are interested in helping. Gary's Zoom meeting details are on the [Sicm website](#).

3. The next issue of the monthly ***Clearing the Way for Jesus*** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 13th September**. Please email me any items for the next newsletter prior to that date. Regular events are listed on the [Sicm website](#). 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 | 

*If you want to unsubscribe from this newsletter, or you are changing email address, please email us.
This message was sent to !*EMAIL*!*

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

Saturday 20th August, Wollongong Women's Conference

An event of the Gospel Coalition Australia - Illawarra
Speaker: Ruth Schroeter will be speaking on "The Will of God"
Details: 9:30am - 3:30pm (Doors open at 9am) University Hall, Wollongong University, Northfields Avenue
Cost: \$55 Standard, \$45 Concession, \$35 High-schoolers. Includes morning tea and lunch.
Register at [website](#).

Saturday 27th August, Keith Green Tribute

Graeme Hush and Gordon Barr present a musical celebration. [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, 4-10 Gibsons Rd Figtree.
Cost: \$40 / \$30 concession. See [website](#) for details.

Saturday 17th September, National Grandparent Conference

Details: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. online and in person at Figtree Anglican Church, 4-10 Gibsons Rd Figtree
Cost: \$48 Early Bird to 12/8/22, then \$55 (\$20 online). For more information and to register online go to ngmlegacy.com.au or phone 4272 1322

18-25 September, [UCI World Championships](#)

This major cycling race is an opportunity for the Illawarra to come together in support of an international event.

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

