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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](http://www.5icm.org.au/resources.html).

Distribution of this edition: **4,064**

### Church of the Week

**Southern Church** is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Church of Christ plant that meets at Calderwood Christian School. Services are at 9:30 a.m. and a live stream service at 6:30 p.m. The senior minister is Ps Steve Cathcart and the Assistant Minister is Ps Belinda Lakelin.

### Church of the Week (next week)

For prayer next week, is **St Columbkille's Catholic Church**, 99 Princes Hwy, Corrimal. Helensburgh, Thirroul, Bulli (St Joseph's Parish), and Corrimal were combined from Easter 2014. The Parish Priest is Fr Patrick Vaughan and the Priest in Residence at Corrimal is Fr Anthony Crook.

### Church News

1. **Bulli Anglican Church** is looking for a 3-day per week Youth Minister to start in January 2024. Enquiries to the senior minister, [Rev. Michael Williamson](#).
2. **Rev. Mark Beaton**, the Supply Minister for the **Wollongong Mission of the Uniting Church - Wesley Church (the Church on the Mall)**, sent in the following item for prayer.

"We pray for the Wollongong Wesley Community as a way forward for the church is under discernment. May God continue to bless the congregants, adherents, and partners of Wollongong Wesley Church as the church revisits its future and standings in the light of some challenging times. Let us give thanks and praise for how Jesus never stops guiding us through God's Spirit and may the faith of those who serve the church so enthusiastically remain steadfast in the gospel of love."

3. **National Weekend of Prayer, Meditation and Reflection, 8-10 Sept 2023** in the lead up to the Voice Referendum. The 18 Christian denominations forming the National Council of Churches in Australia in conjunction with non-Christian faith communities are calling for congregations and individuals across Australia to focus on the themes of unity, reconciliation, and healing. Register your participation at [Eventbrite](#) to receive further information.

### 5icm News

1. The **Sydney Veterans' Band** have informed me that they still come under the Salvation Army's structure.
2. **Illawarra Seniors' Band**. If you are interested in joining this ecumenical brass band (you don't have to be a senior, just available for day-time performances), please contact [Jill White](#), the Secretary.

3. The [Illawarra Christian Choir](#) will soon start practicing Christmas carols for end of year events. New members are welcome. The choir rehearses at 3/10 George St, Warilla, the all-age choir meets 4-5pm Saturdays, and the youth choir follows from 5-6pm.
4. The next issue of **Clearing the Way for Jesus newsletter** will be sent on **Tuesday 5th September**. Email me your church news for sharing with Christians of the Illawarra. To subscribe, please email or message me on Facebook with your email address.

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

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## Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

[Illawarra Seniors Band](#) rehearsals are once a month on a Tuesday morning at 10.30am (these currently vary) at the Port Kembla Senior Citizens Community Hall.

### Saturdays, Illawarra Christian Choir Rehearsals

Details: 4:00 p.m. at 3/10 George St, Warilla. Contact: [Jessica](#)

### Wednesdays to 14th Sept, Lunchtime Bible Talks

BYO lunch, tea/coffee provided. A 30 minute talk for office workers and anyone else.

Speaker: Bishop Reg Piper on the Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5:1-7-28)

Details: 12:45-1:15p.m. (doors open 12:30pm) at St Michael's Anglican Cathedral Hall.

### Wednesday 23rd August, YWAM Winter Worship Nights

Details: 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm (includes 1hr worship + a cuppa) at Central Church, 4 Fitzwilliam St, Port Kembla. [Download flyer](#).

### Wednesday 23rd August, Lighthouse Women "The Gathering"

Speaker: Susan Marcuccio is the National Supervision Director at Chaplaincy Australia

Details: 7:00 p.m. The Woolshed 601 Princes Hwy, Yallah

Cost: \$35 (includes grazing table) [Register online](#).

### Saturday 26th August, Geelong Salvation Army Band Concert

Details: 5:30 p.m. Wollongong Salvos, 11-13 Burelli St, Wollongong. [Download flyer](#).

### Sunday 27th August, Geelong Salvation Army Band HymnFest

Details: 1:00 p.m. Wollongong Salvos, 11-13 Burelli St, Wollongong [Download flyer](#).

### Sunday 27th August, How to Talk about Jesus without looking like an idiot

Speaker: Andy Bannister of UK Solas Centre for Public Christianity

Details: 2pm to 4pm Figtree Anglican Church, 4-10 Gibsons Rd, Figtree; followed by World Missions Conference 4pm to 6pm. [Download flyer](#).

Cost: free but please register [here](#).

### Wednesday 30th August, Illawarra Seniors Band Concert

Details: 10:30 a.m. Marco Polo Aged Care, Wollongong.

### Saturday 16th Sept, [National Grandparent Conference](#)

Speakers: Ian Barnett, Anne Graham Lotz, Ross Clifford, Karl Faase, Mike Raiter, Jenny Brown.

Details: Figtree Anglican Church, 4-10 Gibsons Rd, Figtree

Register Online at [ngmlegacy.com.au](http://ngmlegacy.com.au) before registrations close on 10th September

Cost: \$6, online \$24.

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