



No. 413 3/10/23

## 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: **4,075**

### Church of the Week

**All Nations Christian Fellowship** meets at 59 Collins St, Corrimal on Sundays at 4:00 p.m. The church sent the following. The senior minister is Ps. Michael Joseph Vuetivugalei.

"We have just planted a church in Corrimal and we see that there is a need for Christ in this small community. We would love to see a move of God in this community, especially homes in Collins St, Corrimal where our church is located. We are just praying that God will open up a door that we can minister to these families that are our neighbours. Thank you."

### Church of the Week (next week)

**Lighthouse Church**, at 1 Railway Station Square, Wollongong. Services are at Wollongong on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. & at the Yallah Woolshed at 4.00 p.m. The senior leadership team consists of Andy Flaherty (spiritual formation and teaching), Elyse Flaherty (generations and gatherings), and Josh Hammann (community engagement and business). The church runs a Community Kitchen which provides a free two-course meal every Tuesday and Thursday night to those who are doing it tough.

### Church News

- 1. Northern Beaches Church of Christ** has changed its name to **Illawarra Church of Christ**. Their [website](#) will be updated soon.
- 2. Testimony Church** has presently ceased meeting due to a mix of circumstances. Ps Adetayo Adebawale said he intends to resume meetings and will keep us informed.
- 3. Fr Drago Prgomet**, who ministered at the Wollongong Croatian Catholic Church 1993-2002 and 2010, has died in Novi Selo, Northern Macedonia. Fr Drago served the Croatian community in Australia as a priest from 1977. He returned to his homeland earlier this year.
- 3.** I am presently updating [the lists of Illawarra Churches](#). Please check the current list for your church and let me know of any changes. The number of churches in the Illawarra has dropped to about 150 from the pre-Covid high of 165.

### 5icm News

- 1. 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.
- 2.** The **Illawarra Christian Choir** is practicing Christmas carols for end of year events. This would be a good time for new members to join. Choir rehearsals are at 3/10 George St, Warilla. The all-age choir meets 4-5pm Saturdays and the youth choir follows from 5-6pm.

- 3. Emmanuel Bakenga** reports from Africa: "I have a report about the sewing project that has been established in the D.R. Congo during my stay. The Province of South Kivu - Bukavu City. This project aims to help marginalised individuals fight poverty by learning sewing skills for free. We established a sewing training centre where 10 people will be trained for one year."
- 4. Gary Hetherington** is planning another outreach in Canowindra. Anyone interested in volunteering to join the team should apply by email to [revivalministries@outlook.com.au](mailto:revivalministries@outlook.com.au).
- 5.** The next issue of ***Clearing the Way for Jesus* newsletter** will be sent on **Tuesday 17th October**. 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.

Website: [www.5icm.org.au](http://www.5icm.org.au) | email: [ficm@spin.net.au](mailto:ficm@spin.net.au) | phone: 4256 5780 | 

If you want to [subscribe](#) or [unsubscribe](#) from this newsletter, or you are [changing email address](#), please email us. This message was sent to !\*EMAIL\*!

## ***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](#)

### **Monday 23rd Oct, Five Islands Christian Ministries AGM**

This is for member ministries, supporters and anyone interested in ecumenical ministries in the Illawarra.

*Details:* 7:30 p.m. 1 O'Gorman St, Albion Park

*Contact:* [Derek Thompson](#) 4256 5780

### **Wednesday 25th Oct, Illawarra Seniors Band Concert**

*Details:* 10:30 a.m. Warrigal, Shellcove

### **Saturday 28th October, Word in Song Conference**

Practical seminars presented by Emu Music to help leaders, musicians and sound technicians grow and develop their skills and gifts.

*Details:* 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Figtree Anglican Church, 4-10 Gibsons Rd, Figtree

*Cost:* \$80 (earlybird until 2/9/23), BYO lunch. [Register here](#).

### **Saturday 25th November, One Music Festival**

An interdenominational music and arts Festival for all ages; run by local churches in partnership with Scripture Union on the South coast.

*Cost:* [tickets will be available online](#).

*Contact:* [onemusicfestival.sc@gmail.com](mailto:onemusicfestival.sc@gmail.com)

See the [5icm Events page](#) for more events and the **Regular Events** list.