



No. 415 31/10/23

## 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

[Shellharbour City Anglican Church](#) at 25 Wallaroo Dr (cnr Wattle Rd). The senior minister is Rev. Jon Thorpe and Services are on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. (casual family service), 10:45 a.m. (traditional) and 5:00 p.m. (young adults and families). Peter Stacey emailed the following.

"We give thanks to God for significant growth and are adjusting ministry (not message) accordingly. Just finished a very fruitful series through Mark's Gospel and now looking at the book of Proverbs."

Rev. Jon Thorpe sent the following prayer points:

- We have recently moved our 6pm service to 5pm and added a children's ministry. Please pray this restructure will create new opportunities to share the gospel with more families in our Shellharbour area.
- We oversee teaching 700 SRE students in 8 schools. Please pray we might be able to raise up 4 new teachers for 2024.
- We distribute toys and Christmas hampers through the local schools. Pray we might be able to raise our target commitment of \$5000.

### Church of the Week (next week)

[St Clement of Ohrid Macedonian Orthodox Church](#) (consecrated 1989) at 60 Keira St (on the corner with Charles St), Port Kembla. The senior minister is Fr Radmil Josevski. Most Macedonians are of the Orthodox Christian faith. The suburbs of Port Kembla (20.9%) and Cringila (32.8%) have the largest proportion of Macedonian speakers in Australia.

### Church News

#### 1. Phyllis Coulstock emailed on behalf of **Warrawong Anglican Church**:

"St Andrews Anglican church Warrawong [cnr Cowper St and 1st Ave South] is celebrating the 20th anniversary of the "new" church on Sunday 12th November 2023, commencing at 9am. Bishop Reg Piper will be speaking. The service will be followed by a potluck morning tea and lunch and a walk down memory lane display. All welcome. For information: Phyllis Coulstock 0403 207 573 or Rev. Michael Turner 0448 844 336"

#### 2. **St Osthathiose Jacobite Church, Wollongong** advised they will not be relocating to Unit 55/401 West Dapto Road, Horsley this week because the new building is not yet complete.

#### 3. Last Sunday, **Kiama Presbyterian Church** celebrated 160 years of worshipping the Lord.

### 5icm News

#### 1. The **Five Islands Christian Ministries 18th AGM** was notable for the change of ministries in the group. The cost of our public liability insurance has increased considerably, as it has

for the churches of the Illawarra. The [Illawarra Seniors' Band](#) needs a saxophonist, a drummer and additional trumpet players. They rehearse and hold one concert each month. The [Illawarra Christian Choir](#) only has 7 members and has no tenors. The choir presently rehearses at the [Illawarra Vocal Academy](#), but if prospective members find the stairs to the first-floor studio challenging, other arrangements can be made. Gary Hetherington's wife, Kim, is in hospital suffering with cancer. Gary's [Revival Ministries'](#) planned outreaches in Canowindra will be delayed. [Emmanuel Bakenga](#) has been ministering in Africa but 5icm is unable to help him outside of Australia. His **Illawarra Christians Connect** ministry was aimed at building unity between African refugees and churches in the Illawarra.

2. The next issue of **Clearing the Way for Jesus** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 14th November**. Email me your church news for sharing with Christians of the Illawarra. Please let me know of any church or Christmas events that are open to the community and other churches. To subscribe to this newsletter, 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 vary, [contact ISB](#)) at the Port Kembla Senior Citizens Community Hall.

### [Illawarra Christian Choir](#) Rehearsals

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

### Wednesday Lunch Time Bible Talks - to 29th November

*Speaker:* Bishop Reg Piper on King & Kingdom, Mt 8:23-9:8

*Venue:* St Michael's Church Hall Cnr Church & Market Sts

*Times:* 12:45 to 1:15pm sharp, doors open 12:30pm.

*Contact:* Reg Piper, [regpiper@bigpond.com](mailto:regpiper@bigpond.com) [Download flyer](#)

### Thursday 2nd November, CMS Illawarra Mission Connect

*Speakers:* Missionaries Ian and Narelle Hadfield will speak about what God is doing in South East Asia.

*Venue:* 12:30-2:00 p.m. Fairy Meadow Anglican Church. BYO lunch, tea and coffee provided.

### Saturday 25th November, [One Music Festival](#)

A music and arts Festival run by local churches and Scripture Union on the South coast.

*Details:* 2pm-9pm Kiama Showground and Pavilion

*Cost:* [tickets available online](#). *Contact:* [onemusicfestival.sc@gmail.com](mailto:onemusicfestival.sc@gmail.com)

### Saturday 25th Nov, Masquerade Ball

Keiraview Uniting Church fundraiser for Agape Children's Home in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Ballroom dancing, music, auction, nibbles, BYO snacks.

*Details:* 6pm to 9pm, 34 Fisher St, West Wollongong. [Download flyer](#)

*Cost:* \$15 per person / \$50 per family

### Saturday 2nd Dec, Illawarra Seniors Band Concert

*Details:* 7:00 p.m. Jamberoo rotunda, main street Christmas Tree Lights

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