



No. 440 26/11/24

## Clearing the Way for Jesus

The newsletter of **Five Islands Christian Ministries** links Christians and churches from Helensburgh to Gerroa to facilitate church unity. A printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF file of the newsletter may be downloaded from [www.5icm.org.au/resources.html](http://www.5icm.org.au/resources.html).

Distribution of this edition: **3,733**

### Church of the Week

[Austinmer Uniting Church](#) at 48 Moore St, Austinmer. The senior minister is Rev. Roselin Fisher. Services are held at 9:30 a.m. on the first and third Sunday of each month. The church celebrated its 101st anniversary last year. The church's centenary couldn't be celebrated in 2022 due to repair work to the foundations. The building is available for community events (free for not-for-profits) and is regularly used for musical events due to its excellent acoustics.

### Church of the Week (next week)

[Grace Church, Shellharbour City](#) meets at Unit 12a, 75 Cygnet Ave, Shellharbour City Centre on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. The senior ministers are Angie & Eugene Martinez. Grace Church is affiliated with CRC Churches International. Angie wrote,

"Grace Church is a community of believers with a passion to see the Grace of God renew, restore and transform people's lives in our city and our world. Our prayer focus is to continue experiencing the fullness of God; the manifestation of the Holy Spirit through miracles, healings, signs and wonders; and reaching our community through the saving grace of God."

### Church News

1. A gold star goes to **Carols in the Burgh** as the only combined church Christmas carols in the Illawarra that has been advertised so far. Individual churches or Local Councils are hosting all other carol-singing events.
2. The **Lumina 2024 Carol Competition** hosted by **St Osthathiose Jacobite Church** was won for the third year in a row by the "Angels Voice Sydney" team led by Vimal Vinodan.
3. **A Memorial Service** for the late **Ps Barry McMurtrie**, will be held at NewDay Church at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday 7th December.

### 5icm Matters

1. Due to a crash of my PC's solid-state C: drive, it is possible that some errors may occur in the distribution of this edition.
2. The final issue for the year of the **Clearing the Way for Jesus** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 10th December**. If your church has any events for sharing with Christians of the Illawarra, please email me and I will add them to the 5icm Events page. 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 on the third Tuesday of each month from 10.30 am at the Port Kembla Senior Citizens Community Hall. *Contact: [Jill White](#), the Secretary.*

**Saturday 30th November, Dapto Uniting Church Christmas Lunch - BOOKED OUT**

**Saturday 7th December, Illawarra Seniors' Band playing at the lighting of Jamberoo Christmas Tree Lights**

*Details: 7:00 p.m. Jamberoo*

**Saturday 7th December, Carols in the Burgh**

Combined Churches carols – carols starting at 7:30 p.m.

*Details: 6:00-9:00 p.m. Helensburgh Park, cnr Park Ave & Blackwell St.*

**Sunday 8th December, Carols & Markets**

*Details: open 4pm, carols from 6:30pm Bulli Anglican Church, 66 Park Rd. Bring your own picnic rug or folding chair. See [Facebook event](#)*

**Sunday 8th December, Carols in the Street**

*Details: 4:00 p.m. Corrimal Community Church, 9 Augusta St, Corrimal. See [Facebook group](#).*

**Sunday 8th December, Fairy Meadow Community Carols**

*Details: 4pm kids activities, 6pm Carols, 8pm movie "Home Alone" on outdoor screen. See [Facebook event](#).*

**Sunday 8th December, Carols by the Sea**

Hosted by Austinmer & Thirroul Anglican Church

*Details: 7pm Austinmer Beach Park. See [Facebook event](#)*

**Tuesday 10th December, Illawarra Seniors' Band Concert**

*Details: 10:30 a.m. HammondCare, Shone Ave, Horsley*

**Tuesday 10th December, Illawarra Seniors' Band playing at Jamberoo Carols**

*Details: 6:30 p.m. Jamberoo*

**Wednesday 11th December, [Carols in the Park](#)**

*Details: 5:50 p.m. in Hindmarsh Park, Kiama*

**Thursday 12th December, Carols in the Park**

*Details: 7:00-8:30 p.m. in McCabe Park, Wollongong*

**Saturday 14th December, Figtree Community Carols**

Hosted by Figtree Anglican Church - free entry, family carols & fireworks. [figtreecarols.com.au](http://figtreecarols.com.au)

*Details: 5:30-9:30pm Figtree High School*

**Saturday 21st December, [Carols at Corrimal](#)**

Hosted by St Michael's Cathedral Wollongong & Corrimal.

*Details: 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. 121 Princes Hwy, Corrimal*

**Sunday 22nd December, Christmas Carols at Port Kembla**

Hosted by Port Kembla Baptist Church

*Details: from 5:30pm children's activities, free sausage sizzle, Santa visit, Carols from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at 81 Illawarra St, Port Kembla*

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