



No. 456 19/8/25

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.Sicm.org.au/resources.html.

Distribution of this edition: **3,840**

Church of the Week (for Prayer Support)

"Thank you for your prayers for **Wollongong Salvation Army Corps**. We are located at 11-13 Burelli St and have five areas of ministry including Sunday worship (10am in person and online), community service, hospitality & welcome, discipleship and children & youth. Alongside our ministries, the regular hiring of our facilities is both a financial contribution and ministry opportunity. Our purpose is to partner with God to see the people of the Illawarra flourish in life, relationships, and Christian faith. The Officers are Lt Colonels Lyn Edge and Terry Grey." Emailed by Lyn Edge.

Church of the Week (next week)

I was going to choose **St Bernadette's Catholic Church** at 83 Stanwell Avenue, Stanwell Park but Allison Wallace, the Parish Secretary, informed me that it is now closed. It was part of the Holy Cross Helensburgh parish, so let's pray for **Holy Cross Catholic Church**. Father Paul Clark is Parish Priest. Sunday services are at 8:30 a.m.

Church News

1. **Keiravew Uniting Church** is advertising for a ministry leader. Applications close Monday 8th September. [Download ad.](#)
2. A new 2D animated movie, **Light of the World**, is to be released in Australia from 4th September and locally at **Hoyts, Warrawong**. The movie "Follows Jesus' life from ministry beginnings through crucifixion, resurrection, as seen through Apostle John's eyes." See the [trailer on YouTube](#).
3. **Lyn Brown** of Albion Park Uniting Church has asked to inform everyone who is involved in the packing and collection of **Operation Christmas Child** shoeboxes that Rick George, the state manager, will be coming to the Illawarra on 26th September to give feedback and speak about the upcoming work of Samaritan's Purse to distribute shoeboxes of Christmas gifts to children in need. The shoebox collection weeks are 13th to 27th October 2025. Register your group or church [here](#). See details of Rick George's meeting below.
4. **The First Hymn** documentary has been extended and will be shown again at Hoyts Warrawong at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday 20th August. You can listen to *The First Hymn* official lyric video [on YouTube here](#).

Sicm News

1. The **Sicm AGM** will be held on Monday 20th October.
2. **Emmanuel Bakenga (Illawarra Christians Connect)** will be speaking at a **Multicultural Christian Youth Event** at Green Valley on Saturday 30th August. **Gary Hetherington (Revival Ministries)** is teaching a series at Wollongong Pentecostal Church on the return of Christ.
3. The next edition of **Clearing the Way for Jesus** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 2nd Sept**. If you have any items to share with Christians of the Illawarra, just email me. To

subscribe to this newsletter, or if your email address is changing, please [email me](#) or message me on Facebook.

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

Website: www.5icm.org.au | email: ficm@spin.net.au | phone: 4256 5780 | 
Email me to [subscribe](#) or [unsubscribe](#) from this newsletter, or if you are [changing email address](#).

Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Illawarra Seniors Band rehearsals are on the third Tuesday of each month from 10.30 am at Shellharbour Salvation Army Corps, Cnr Ulster & Leawarra Ave, Barrack Heights.

Contact: [Jill White](#), the Secretary.

Next Concert: **10:30 a.m. Tuesday 2nd Sept**, Marco Polo Unanderra

Saturday 23rd August, Geoff Bullock & Friends

Fundraiser for the Hope & Future Project to provide education and accommodation for refugee children in Uganda.

Details: 7:30 p.m. Port Kembla Baptist Church, 81 Illawarra St, Port Kembla. [Download flyer](#).

Cost: \$20, reserve tickets by emailing gordon.barr@bigpond.com

29th to 31st August, KBECET Book Sale

Kiama Board for Employing Christian Education Teachers fundraiser

Details: 9am to 4pm at Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Parish Hall, Manning St Kiama.

Saturday 13th Sept, Welcome Spring Concert

Featuring the Lamplighters Male Choir. [Download flyer](#).

Details: 2:00 p.m. Bulli Anglican Church, 66 Park Rd, Bulli

Cost: \$10 at the door (includes afternoon tea)

Sunday 14th September, Dapto Musical Festival

Guest Groups: Sing Australia (Wollongong), Dutch Australian Choir, Korean Singing Group, Dapto Uniting G1 group.

Cost: Adults \$15, concession \$10, Children under 14 yrs free.

Details: Dapto Uniting Church, 122 Princes Hwy, Dapto from 2:00 p.m. and followed by afternoon tea in the hall.

Friday 26 September, [Operation Christmas Child](#)

Hosted by Albion Park Uniting Church's Friday Friendship group for supporters of Samaritan's Purse throughout the Illawarra.

Speaker: **Rick George, Samaritan's Purse State Manager**

Details: 10:00 a.m. at APUC (Russell St, Albion Park) for morning tea followed by a talk, slides and video presentation on Operation Christmas Child by Rick George, and concluding with lunch.

Cost: \$10 for morning tea and lunch.

RSVP 24/9/25: Sue Hudson 0421 038 796, or Lyn Brown 0425 219 233, email

ernlynbrown@gmail.com

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