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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 facilitate church unity. A printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF file of the newsletter may be downloaded from www.5icm.org.au/resources.html.

Distribution of this edition: **4,021**

Church of the Week (for Prayer Support)

"The parish of [Port Kembla and Warrawong Anglican Church](#) at 111 Military Rd (corner of Church St), Port Kembla and 282 Cowper St, Warrawong respectively have Sunday Services at Port Kembla at 4:00 p.m. and Warrawong at 9:00 a.m. The senior minister is Rev. Michael Turner, assisted by Andrew Russell. Please pray that we would continue to reach the lost, love one another, love growing into Christ who is our head, and love Jesus. Praise the Lord for recent renovations and our upcoming Life Course." Emailed by Michael Turner.

Church of the Week (next week)

"[Grace Church Shellharbour City](#) located at 12A/75 Cygnet Avenue, Shellharbour City Centre, is a member of CRC Churches International. The Lead Ministers are Angie and Eugene Martinez, assisted by a dedicated team of elders.

Our Sunday Worship Service at 10:00 a.m., as well as a number of midweek gatherings are designed to encourage spiritual growth, fellowship, and prayer.

At Grace Church, we are passionate about creating an atmosphere where people can encounter the presence of God, experience heartfelt worship, and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.

Our vision and prayer are to see a mighty revival of salvations, healings, and restorations throughout our city and across our nation, bringing hope, transformation, and the love of God to all." Emailed by Angie Martinez.

News.

1. The [TryPraying](#) booklets mentioned in our earlier editions are currently sold out in Australia. When I tried to order a church starter pack for Albion Park Uniting Church, I was informed by *mainly Ministries* (Melbourne) that there are no copies in Australia but they would send them from New Zealand. TryPraying booklets will be available again in a few months.
2. **Gai Delavere** emailed the following report about last week's fundraising pre-loved book sale at Kiama Catholic Church.

"The book sale fundraiser was a great success. We raised \$4000 over 2 days. Lots of people attended and grabbed lots of bargains. We had the fireplace going which made for a warm welcoming place out of the cold. It was a great community event with both locals and visitors attending and the funds raised support the Scripture teacher at Kiama High School and the upkeep of St Matthew's Catholic Church at Jamberoo."

Sicm News

1. Those who run regular church events advertised on the [Sicm Events webpage](#), please make sure your advertising is up to date.
2. Lesslie Newbigin, in his book *Truth to Tell*, sought to heal the split between the objective and subjective poles of our knowing (p. 45). He suggested that "We indwell the Bible rather than looking at it from outside." (p. 47). It is like our use of language. We don't usually think about the words but their meaning. "Our problem is that most of us who are Christians have been brought up bilingual." The world uses language, which claims to make sense of the world without reference to God. There are not two worlds, one secular and one sacred. "The boundary between two realms runs through each of us." (p. 49). Next time: what to do about it.
3. The next edition of ***Clearing the Way for Jesus*** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 28th July 2026**. If you have any news items or events to share with Christians of the Illawarra, just email me, advertising is free. 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.

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Email me to [subscribe](#) or [unsubscribe](#) from this newsletter, or if you are [changing email address](#)
See the [Sicm Events page](#) for **coming events** and the **Regular Events** list.

Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Illawarra Seniors Band rehearsals are on the first Tuesday of each month from 10.30 am at Shellharbour Salvation Army Corps, Cnr Ulster & Leawarra Ave, Barrack Heights.
Next Concert: 10:30 a.m. Tues 21st July, IRT, Tarrawanna.

Saturday 25th July, Dapto Uniting Church, Christmas in July

Details: 12 noon, Dapto UC, 122 Princes Hwy, Dapto. [Download flyer](#).

Cost: \$40, book by contacting Janet on 0431 410 189 or by [email](#).

Sunday 16th August, Dapto Uniting Church Musical Festival

There will be three visiting choirs plus congregational singing.

Details: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Dapto Uniting Church, 122 Princes Hwy, Dapto

Cost: adults \$15, concession \$10, children under 12 \$5.

Sunday 23rd August, Samaritan's Purse Celebration Event

Speaker: Rick George, Samaritan's Purse State Manager. [Download flyer](#).

Details: 2:00pm-4:00 pm Albion Park Uniting Church, cnr Terry & Russell St, Albion Park

Cost: \$15 at the door, which is the cost of sending a shoebox overseas (afternoon tea included).

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