



**ILLAWARRA PRESBYTERY NEWS #16**  
**8 November 2018**



***Focused on God's Mission – Providing Leadership – Growing Discipleship***

The Standing Committee is keen for the best possible communications within the life of the Illawarra Presbytery. To that end, the following notices are issued for your information and consideration. We especially want congregations to be aware of significant events and dates. Please circulate this newsheet as widely as possible and do not hesitate to contact me if you require further details. Sharon Hoogland, Secretary ([illawarrauca@bigpond.com](mailto:illawarrauca@bigpond.com))

## **1. REPORT TO CONGREGATIONS FROM THE PRESBYTERY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Presbytery AGM took place on Saturday 3 November 2018 at the Kiama Uniting Church. Reports from all Presbytery Committees were considered and important information was passed to Presbytery members.

**Congregations are encouraged to ask their Presbytery Representative to report on the outcomes of the Annual General Meeting, including:**

- The result of annual elections – Do you know who the new Presbytery Chair is?
- The result of several years of consideration regarding investment of Presbytery Sales Proceeds – have you heard the news?
- The results of a Review of the Presbytery Tertiary Minister position
- The discussion re identifying Presbytery Priorities for 2018 onwards – Have you been consulted or invited to participate?
- Did you know that our Presbytery Property Committee is responsible for 114 properties over 65 sites?
- What's happening with the Lloyd Rees Bequest property at Unanderra?
- **An excerpt from one of the Reports:**

*The role of Chairperson is almost impossible to do as thoroughly as is required by a minister in a congregation as the demands are significant. The Standing Committee and the Strategic Mission Committee will be looking at options for the governance of the Presbytery, and in particular the role of the Chairperson and the expectations and responsibilities which that position entails. We will also consider whether or not it could be a ministry placement position, or how it could operate as a lay leader position. The stewardship of our resources remains paramount and we thank God for the gift of many talented people within our Presbytery.*

- Have you seen the Presbytery Diary Dates for 2019?
- And there is much more...

You are encouraged to become an active participant in the life of the Illawarra Presbytery!

## **2. WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE PRESBYTERY?**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND  
a Service of Closure for the Tertiary Minister  
Rev Phil Newton  
on Saturday 1 December 2018  
at 2.00pm in the Wollongong Mission, Church on the Mall  
followed by Afternoon Tea in the Hall.**

**Please RSVP to the Presbytery Secretary by Friday 23 November 2018.**

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**ANNUAL PRESBYTERY LUNCHEON FOR RETIRED MINISTERS  
will be held on Friday 23 November 2018  
at Corrimal Regional Uniting Church.**

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### **PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR ILLAWARRA PRESBYTERY RETREAT**

Our Annual Presbytery Retreat for Ministers and Lay Ministry Workers will be held at the beautiful Hartzler Park Centre in Bowral on Monday 12 November through to Wednesday 14 November inclusive.

Our Retreat Leader is Dr Deirdre Palmer, President of the Uniting Church in Australia. Deirdre will also speak on the many issues which were included on the UCA 2018 Assembly Agenda.

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**You are invited to attend an afternoon with  
The String Family @ Dapto Uniting Church  
25th November 2018 at 2.00pm –4.00pm**

Dapto will welcome one of our wandering families, the "String Family", for a concert at Dapto Uniting Church. The Moir family were attending Dapto, before they began their great adventure of travelling around Australia by caravan a couple of years ago.

Entry to the concert is by pre-purchased tickets. People who want to attend can pay by direct credit to the Dapto Bank Account: Account Number: 1000 34 099; BSB: 634 634; Account Name: Dapto Uniting Church; Reference: "Strings" and the family name of the person purchasing the tickets. It would also assist if they could send an email to me at: [secretary@daptouniting.org.au](mailto:secretary@daptouniting.org.au) with the details of the tickets (Adult, Concession, Child) purchased.

**Some tickets will be available for sale at the door.**



Come and Browse around our  
28<sup>th</sup> and our Final

# Floral Splendour

Celebrating 28 years

ALBION PARK UNITING CHURCH

Cnr. Terry & Russell Streets, Albion Park

see FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

representing BIBLE & HYMN VERSES

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov. 10am - 4pm

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. 12 noon – 4 pm

Stalls Cakes - Plants - craft

Admission \$10 (Includes refreshments)

Proceeds to Mission

ALL WELCOME

## For more information about the AUSTRALIAN FRANKLIN GRAHAM TOUR

- **Graham Tour Events and Locations:** <https://grahamtour.billygraham.org/events/>
- **Prayer Meetings:** <https://grahamtour.billygraham.org/communitywide-prayer-meetings/>
- **Christian Life and Witness Course:** <https://grahamtour.billygraham.org/christian-life-witness-course/>
- To receive updates about the Graham Tour or if you and your church would like to be involved, please register online at [grahamtour.com.au](http://grahamtour.com.au) > TAKE ACTION tab, where you can also register to attend a Christian Life and Witness Class or become a Volunteer.
  - Contact:

**Reginel Datta**

**Billy Graham Evangelistic Association**

E: [grahamtour@billygraham.org.au](mailto:grahamtour@billygraham.org.au)

T: 1300 799 727

[Grahamtour.com.au](http://Grahamtour.com.au) - *Always Good News*

PO BOX 964, Kings Langley NSW 2147

## 3. PRESBYTERY & CONGREGATIONAL GOVERNANCE

### **\*\*\*PRIVACY POLICY**

Feedback regarding the legal requirement of having a Privacy Policy in each of our congregations, reveals that some are struggling with these requirements. The Presbytery adopted the Synod Privacy Policy however in response to recent requests, we

have initiated some further work to be undertaken regarding the language used in the Policy and the implications of the Policy for our members and for those who will volunteer to become the Privacy Policy person. We will keep you informed of our progress on this issue.

It is important to note that a congregation may amend the Synod policy to make it user-friendly and specific for use in their own congregation.

If your congregation has already successfully introduced a privacy policy and you would be willing to share, please contact the Presbytery Secretary as soon as possible.

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## 4. SRE/SCRIPTURE IN SCHOOLS

In response to a policy change from the NSW Department of Education, Uniting Mission and Education (Synod UME) are currently checking and updating Special Religious Education records ready for 2019.

As such, they also need to confirm with Uniting Church Congregations and Faith Communities who currently don't have any authorised SRE teachers on our UME SRE records that this is still the case.

If there is an SRE teacher (or teachers!) at your congregations, it is really important that they are officially Authorised for SRE through an Approved Provider of SRE (In our case Uniting Mission and Education holds this responsibility for the Synod of NSW and the ACT).

**Could you please check and then email back to confirm either way by the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019?**

If there is a teacher/teachers we can assist with the SRE authorisation process, please do alert us sooner so we can help this year in preparation for 2019 school year.

Our Uniting Church information relating to SRE can be found at: [www.childrensministry.org.au/sre/](http://www.childrensministry.org.au/sre/)

**Emma Parr**  
**Religious Education & Safe Church Consultant**  
**Uniting Mission & Education**  
16 Masons Drive, North Parramatta NSW 2151  
Level 9, 222 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
**mobile** 0439 110 065

## 5. TRAINING DATES 2018

### ***Presbytery Meetings***

**Presbytery Celebration Service      Sat 16 February, 2.00pm @ Wollongong Mission**

### **Presbytery Meetings**

Thursday 8 May	4.00pm	venue tbc
Wednesday 14 August	4.00pm	venue tbc
Saturday 16 November	10.00am	(Annual General Meeting) venue tbc

### **Ethical Ministry Training**

#### Round 1

Nowra	Thursday May 9 <sup>th</sup> at 1.30pm
Keiraview	Monday May 20 <sup>th</sup> at 9.30am
Bowral	Thursday June 27 at 9.30 am

#### Round 2

Nowra	Thursday Sept 12 at 1.30pm
Keiraview	Monday Sept 16 at 9.30pm
Bowral	Thursday October 31 <sup>st</sup> 9.30pm

### **Safe Church Workshops for 2018:**

February 23	venue tbc
March 16	Nowra UC
June 15	venue tbc
August 17	Keiraview UC
November 2	Bowral UC

### **Living Our Values**

Keiraview July 27 and 3<sup>rd</sup> August 9.30pm – 4.30pm

**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS NEWSLETTER**  
**AS WIDELY AS YOU ARE ABLE.**

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P O Box 528 BOWRAL NSW 2576      Mobile: 0429 926 962  
Email address: [illawarrauca@bigpond.com](mailto:illawarrauca@bigpond.com)

### **Save the date for Synod 2019!**

**The Synod will meet on the 4-7th July 2019 at Knox Grammar Wahroonga.**

**More details on what to expect as well as keynote speakers, will be announced soon, so keep an eye on our social channels.**