

## **Uniting Church Surf Coast Camino Sunday 21st January 12 noon Split Point Lighthouse – Airey's Inlet**

**Camino:** What is a Camino? "Camino" is a Spanish word for 'path', 'trail' or 'way'. Every year, there are numerous different Camino's undertaken by Christian pilgrims from all over the world, but the most famous is along the "Way of St James" commencing from various parts of Spain, France and Portugal and concluding at the Cathedral of "St. James the Great" in Santiago De Compostela in Spain. The Cathedral is named after St. James, one of the twelve apostles of Jesus. St. James' remains are celebrated to be buried at the site of where this elaborately ordained Cathedral now stands. Each year the Camino attracts over 200,000 pilgrims formally registered/completed one or more of the St. James Camino pilgrimages.

The first Ecumenical Surf Coast Camino was undertaken by 50 RAAF Chaplains from Urquhart's to the Split Point Lighthouse. Last year we walked the same Camino – but in the opposite direction! We plan to do the same this year 2024 and invite you to join us.

### **The UC Surf Coast Camino is essentially completed in two parts.**

Part I: Lighthouse to Sunnymeade Beach (2.74 Kms: 40 – 50mins). The Camino walk will start with a short devotion at the Split Point Lighthouse precinct and some music. We will follow the Cliff Walk to Sunnymeade Beach. The degree of difficulty of this part of the walk is classified as "easy" and the travel advisories give it a 4-star rating. It is approximately 2.74 km. We will then go down to Sunnymeade beach for a refreshing stop – time for a snack if you wish (BYO) and some spiritual input and more music.

Part II: Sunnymeade Beach to Urquhart's Bluff (3.8 Kms: 50 - 60 Mins). The difficulty of the walk from Sunnymeade to Urquhart's Bluff along the beach is classified as "intermediate". While most of the walk is along the sand there are several low-level rocky rises along the way to navigate – always wise to work with a 'buddy'. Circumstances permitting, we may then rest briefly at the "Mermaid Pool" for relaxation and additional spiritual insight before journeying further along the beach to Urquhart's Bluff. At Urquhart's Bluff there will be an opportunity to join together to have a late lunch or an afternoon tea. A final devotion will be delivered at the picnic ground and we will sing a few Christian songs.

Cars will be stationed at Urquhart's Bluff to transport drivers (if required) back to their cars left in the Lighthouse area.