



SWOT REPORT

What is SWOT?

The South West Outreach Team (SWOT) is a team of Christians who travel by car to the south-west agricultural towns once or twice a week to encourage and pray with local believers. SWOT began some seven years ago when Pastor Brian Whitehurst retired from pastoring churches and was “nudged” by God to ministry in the Great Southern. SWOT's vision is to light a small fire in each of the south west towns and then to call upon the Holy Spirit to fan these flames into one large flame, engulfing the south west in the fire of revival. The vision is reflected in the Team's logo.

Ps Brian Whitehurst
SWOT Founder

Message from Margaret Pittuck

Greetings Praying Friends,

“Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest” (John 4:35).

The crops in the field cannot harvest themselves for labour is needed to bring in the harvest. Paul wrote about the importance to preach the gospel:

“How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things’” (Romans 10:14-15).

The SWOT team did not travel much to the south-west at the commencement of 2018. This was for reasons of health, medical appointments and procedures, and general unavailability. However, wherever we find ourselves, we continue to sow seeds into people's hearts, seizing every opportunity to tell the Good News of Jesus Christ, believing that it is the power of God unto salvation for anyone who believes.



BEVERLEY, Wednesday, 7 March, 2018

We set out from Perth for our monthly meeting in Beverley on a cool overcast morning, accompanied by Mavis Shadbolt from Eternal Life Ministries. Once we were clear of the jarrah forest the cloud lifted and we entered a dry rural landscape. The temperature quickly rose and by the time we reached the Beverley Real Life Church at 9:45am it was noticeably hot.

It was good to see familiar faces once again and to hear testimonies of the Lord's goodness for the work being undertaken in His name in and around Beverley, Northam, Quairading, Yoting and Gidgegannup.

Glory was given to the Lord for the growth in the church that was currently enjoying an average attendance of 17.

Further, it was reported that:

A bible college was running on a Tuesday.

Money being sent to Yarloop and Seeds of Love for Africa.

Food parcels from Foodbank.

Jo Rose writing an article for *The Blarney* in Beverley regarding the outreach in Northam and Beverley, headed by Claire and Jo.

BEVERLEY, Wednesday, 4 April, 2018 by Brian Lownes

It was foggy when I left home at 8.30am but by the time I reached Karragullen the fog had lifted to reveal a beautifully bright, clear day. It was a blessing to travel the road to Beverley, arriving at Glenda Ferris's house to an excuberantly warm welcome from a tiny puppy full of sharp teeth.

The meeting commenced at 10.00am with a time of prayer and worship. Claire, Annie and Tim (on the harmonica) lead the group in six songs.

I began my message with a question. What does Easter mean to you? What have you heard from the Spirit and what blessings have you received. This lead into speaking about the five classes of blood that was shed for humanity, as preached by Pastor Robin John at Eternal Life Ministries on Easter Sunday, 1st April.

1. **Garden of Gethsemane:** His blood was shed in the Garden of Gethsemane. *"And being in agony He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground"* [Luke 22:44].

2. **Scourging:** Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him (John 19:1; Matthew 27:26). The Roman scourge was a whip with multiple leather strips, each fitted with metal balls and sharp pieces of bone, designed to rip flesh from the body with every lash.

3. **Crown of Thorns:** They put a crown of thorns on His head (Matthew 27:29). These were not just the short thorns of a rose bush, but several inches long, and jammed down on Jesus' head.

4. **Nailing on the Cross:** They crucified Christ by driving nails through His hands and feet.

5. **Piercing of His side:** *"One of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately there came out blood and water"* (John 19:34).

Through the blood of Jesus we have *forgiveness* (Hebrews 9:22), *cleansing* (1 John 1:9), *redemption* (Ephesians 1:7); *we are justified* (Romans 5:9), *made holy* (Hebrews 13:12), *have peace with God* (Colossians 1:20), and *have confidence to enter into God's presence* (Hebrews 10:19).

Someone read from Isaiah 53.

1 Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

2 He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

3 He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

4 Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted.

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished.

9 He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

10 Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.

11 After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

He is Risen! Reply: He is Risen Indeed!

The meeting closed in prayer at 11.30am and was followed by light refreshments and fellowship.



WILLIAMS Thursday, 12 April, 2018

The morning started out cool and fresh and overcast. We collected Brian Lownes from Brookdale enroute to Albany Highway. By the time we reached the forest it was drizzling lightly. What my dear mother called "Scotch mist". Well before we reached Williams the drizzle dissipated. Vern Sattler was waiting for us with the tea and coffee cups ready and the kettle on by the time we pulled into the church grounds.

Although there was only Vern in attendance we managed a good catch-up with each others news. Vern and Suzie's daughter was soon to be married. Vern had been busy on the farm in between travelling from Busselton to Williams and Perth.

Vern spoke about an email that had previously been circulated to us regarding the freshly installed Dean of Grafton Cathedral (NSW). The Deans Good Friday sermons was entitled "*The cruxifixion of Jesus is not about my sins or your sins*". This prompted Vern to request we pray for the appointment of a faithful Bishop to the Bunbury diocese for fear the diocese would splinter otherwise. We were called to pray also that the Bunbury diocese would continue to stand for orthodoxy and that the Laity would have wisdom to understand that they are not appointing a CEO of a cosmic Lions Club!

Geoff read Romans 8. This led us into prayer for the needs of the diocese, the district of Williams, and all the south-west communities, for each of us to have our focus on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, that in all things, at all times, we would be holy vessels until the glory of Christ, and faithful witnesses of Christ's goodness and to make the most of every opportunity to be bearers of light, to bring good tidings to a dark world.



NARROGIN, Thursday, 12 April, 2018

We telephoned ahead to alert Gary Johnson that we were departing Williams and to expect us soon. Gary said he would put the scones in the oven straight away and they would be ready when we arrived. The weather was fine for most of the way to Narrogin but just as we passed the cemetery into town there was a splattering of rain drops.



Gary's friend, Allan Griffith, arrived towards the end of our fellowship. We were pleased to meet Allan and to have him join us as we prayed for the needs of the Narrogin community.

In particular, we prayed for the drug situation that was wrecking havoc on such a large number of souls, many high school children included. We prayed for Gary and his daughter Margaret, and healing for respective individuals. Praise was given to the Lord for the improvement in the health of Gary's mother since her move into the local nursing home.

POPANYINNING, Thursday, 12 April, 2018

On the drive to Popanyinning we noted that some of the farmers, in preparation for seeding, had already burnt their paddocks. We witnessed one farmer dry fertilising. It was good to have Brian along with us for having grown up on the land he was able to explain to us "townies" the different aspects of farming.

It was great to find both Sam and Jenny Maughn in their shop. However, the customers were coming in such frequent waves, Sam and Jenny were unable to grant us much of their valuable time. There was a blessed lull, praise God, and we did get a brief time of one-on-one fellowship.

Sam was bouyant and hopeful that their business propsects were about to pick up. There was talk of lithium mines being opened up in the area. The Pingelly IGA that had recently closed was being considered for re-opening by Woolworths or The Spud Shed, indicitive that business in the area was about to revive. Sam and Jenny's Bed and Breakfast was booked

months in advance, mostly by contractors doing work in the district. This too was seen as another good sign.

Due to the lack of people attending their Popanyinning church and the need to be fed, Sam reported that they had resorted to attending a church in Pingelly.

Just before 3.30pm we eventually managed to get both Sam and Jenny together for prayer. Soon afterwards, we bade our farewells and took the Brookton route home to Perth. It was 5.45pm when we finally drove up our drive. With all praises to God, we had been blessed in our going out and coming back.



Please continue to pray for :

A great move of the Holy Spirit across the country.

Unity amongst the brethen

The communities of Williams, Narrogin, Popanyinning and Wickepin and all the south-west.

Please remember to pray that the Lord would perfect the needs of Gary Johnson and his daughter, Margaret in Narrogin, and Sam and Jenny Maughn in Popanyinning.

For the SWOT team for wisdom, favour, good health and safety in their travels.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ABUNDANTLY