SWOT REPORT



What is SWOT?

The **S**outh **W**est **O**utreach **T**eam (SWOT) are a team of Christians who travel by car to our south-west agricultural towns once or twice a week to encourage and pray with local believers. SWOT began some six 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,

What happens when you pray and there is no answer? What does one do after consistently praying, but seeing no results? Those questions I ask myself when reviewing some long standing SWOT prayer requests. God's Word reminds me to persist in prayer: Matthew 7:7 to: "Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you."

Certain expressions of God's power can only be exercised in response to prayer. God won't do it unless we pray. "We have not because we ask not." James 4.2 God cannot carry out His plans on the earth without the prayers of His saints. If we continue to have a close relationship with Jesus, continue to obey His commandments, then anything we ask in His name, He will do for us. Let's prepare to see the miraculous as we prevail in prayer.

BEVERLEY, Wednesday, 4 July, 2018

Brad Makin, feeling sufficiently well enough to travel to Beverley despite his on-going chemotherapy, joined us and Mavis Shadbolt as we travelled to the Real Life Church in Beverley for our monthly meeting. It was a cold and wet morning but not without its beauty. We witnessed a magnificent rainbow and gave thanks to God for His covenant promise that never again would He send a flood to cover the entire earth.

Bev had opened up the church but she had to leave. It was good to see some new faces and to welcome those now dear familiar faces as well. Claire, Annie and Tim lead us in worship. Brad blessed us with a short message from Revelations 21.1-5 but specifically 21.5 "I am making everything new". The question was asked of each of us how we are to speak/encourage people who are going through a really tough times and not speak platitudes. Brad revealed to us blessings received from his daughters since the news of his Stage 4 cancer. Mavis, having survived Stage 4 cancer and now living years beyond her

life expectancy, was able to encourage Brad.

Following light refreshments and fellowship, we drove over to Glenda and Terry's old house. There was no car in the garage and the place was vacant. The season for Glenda in Beverley had closed. We felt a deep sadness but joy too because Glenda had finally sold the house and was moving forward with her life after the loss of her beloved Terry. An answer to heartfelt prayer. Treasured memories flashed past us as we turned the vehicle and headed out of Glenda's street towards Perth.



Just as we turned into our driveway we received the sad news from Pastor Robin John that following a long battle with cancer, beloved friends from Williams had lost their daughter the previous evening. We prayed the Lord to comfort the family and for all those who are suffering difficult seasons in their lives, that God would in His own time, make everything new again.

BEVERLEY, Wednesday, 1 August, 2018

Brian Lownes travelled to Beverley and delivered the message on our behalf as both Geoff and I were unwell. Brian spoke on Psalm 15. Glenda Ferris attended the meeting. The sale of her house had fallen through and she was still living in town. Brian later comminicated to us that he had enjoyed a good time of ministry.

WICKEPIN, Thursday, 23 August, 2018

After a long hiatus, as a result of unplanned circumstances, we were finally able to travel into the country. Brian Lownes accompanied us as we made our way to Wickepin to pray for the first time in 2018. Geoff took a wrong turn at Pingelly and we ended up on an interesting diversion as we followed our noses, so to speak, in the general direction of Wickepin. Eventually, we found the sealed road to Wickepin and arrived only a few minutes short of our estimated time of arrival. We had hoped Gary Johnson from Narrogin would be there in Wickepin to meet with us but we learnt after a quick phone call that he had been detained, so on this occasion it was just the three of us.

The main street of Wickepin was seemingly devoid of any life. As it was Brian's first visit for many years to Wickepin, Geoff took us on a tour of the town, highlighting the churches that had previously closed. We parked in the car park of the one remaining church in Wickepin, the Anglican Church. In the past we had found the church building unlocked. It was our plan to once again sit and pray inside the church. However, disappointingly, the church building was found, as so many of them are these days, to be locked. Outside of the vehicle we

found the air to be bitterly cold. After deliberation on how to proceed, we decided we would return to the main street and avail ourselves of the facilities and pray sitting in the car.

By chance, we discovered that the Albert Facey House was open. For a small fee we viewed the interior of the house. Here we were reminded of the hardships endured by the early settlers and being grateful for the modern coveniences that make our lives today so comfortable, gave thanks.



POPANYINNING, Thursday, 23 August, 2018

At my request, we took a short detour after Cuballing to see how much water was in the Yornaning Dam. The name Yornaning is believed to mean "land of many waters" in the local Noongar Aboriginal language. The dam had originally been built to serve the steam trains back in the early days. The men, not at all interested, stayed in the car whilst I took a quick walk and photo of the dam. I found the dam full of water. The shire had done a marvellous job of redeveloping the site into a recreational area but there were no people. The only sound to be heard was the wind and the birds chirping.

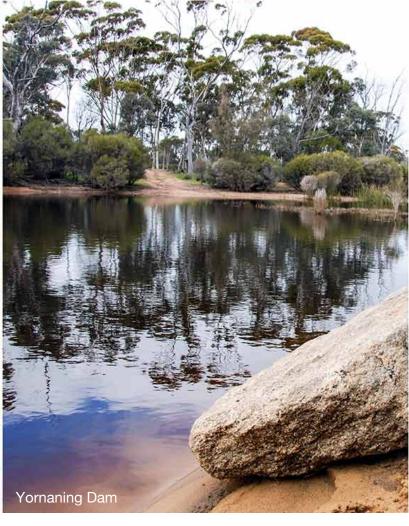
Yornaning Dam is only a short distance from Popanyinning. It was just a little after midday when we parked our car near the Popanyinning General Store and met up with our dear friends Sam and Jenny Maughan. As always, Sam was busy serving customers that seemed to arrive in an unending stream. Both Sam and Jenny seemed bouant. We chatted over our lunch. There was the real possiblity that they had found persons who could manage the shop whilst they took a well earned break. The likelihood of a buyer to enable retirement from the

business on a permanent basis, was discussed. Our prayers centred around those desires of their heart. Brian felt strongly that the Holy Spirit was encouraging Sam and Jenny that their cries had been heard.

In what seemed like no time at all, three hours passed. Confident that we would soon be hearing good news from our friends in Popanyinning, we headed up the road to Brookton and home to Perth, giving thanks to the Lord for his mercies and blessings.







Prayer Points

Please continue to pray for:

A great move of Holy Spirit fire across the south-west. Please pray that there would be unity amongst the brethen as miraculous waves of Holy Spirit fire break across the nation.

Declare victory according to God's Word and His promises against the principalities and powers and the forces of evil in the heavenly realms that aim to destroy the fabric and communion of the Christian Church.

Please persist in prayer for the communities of: Williams, Narrogin, Wickepin, Popanyinning, Pingelly and Brookton.

Please give thanks for the rain and for the crops.

Please pray for Sam and Jenny Maughan that their business is sold, for strength for Sam as he cares for Jenny and manages the shop.

Please pray for Brad Makin's family and Brad's wife, Val, as they mourn the loss of their loved one.

Please pray for the SWOT team for power and strength in the Holy Spirit, for good health and travelling mercies and favour, that the God's Word would be accompanied with signs and wonders, that the Lord's grace be upon each member to fulfil the work of Christ's commission not just to the south-west but in every aspect of life.



IN REMEMBRANCE

Bradly Stephen Makin

Born: 19 September, 1962 in Tongala, Vic Died: 27 August, 2018 in Murdoch, WA Husband to Val, father to Rebecca-Jane, Bianca and Hannah.

With deep sadness we advise that our beloved friend, Bradly Makin, suddenly and unexpectantly, went home to glory on 27 August, 2018. You will be greatly missed but we take great comfort in knowing that you

are with the Lord.

Our deepest condolences to Val and the family.

John 11:25

Jesus said:, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.

