



SWOT REPORT

Message from Margaret Pittuck

Greetings Praying Friends,

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." Isaiah 43:18-19

There is a sense God is wanting to do something "new" in us, and in SWOT. How we love the familiar. How humankind just want to keep on doing the things of "old", what is familiar and what we know. I love how God works things out and challenges us to work outside our way of thinking to see a bigger picture and to embrace what he has chosen for us in the "new".

"And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns."
Philippians 1:6

What is SWOT?

The **South West Outreach Team (SWOT)** is 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 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



KULIN, Wednesday, 22 May, 2019

We made a rendezvous for 9.15 am at the service station at Karragullen before setting off in convey for the 250kms to Kulin. In one car was Pastor Joe O'Donovan, Eternal Life Ministries and his visitor from Sydney, Pastor Jim Peters from Jim Peters Ministry. In the second car was Pastor Brian Lownes, Mustard Seed Fellowship Community Church and Pastors Geoff and Margaret Pittuck as passengers.

KULIN, Wednesday, 22 May, 2019 (Cont'd)

It had been pre-arranged that we would join the fellowship in Kulin for lunch following their morning bible study. What struck us most about our journey to Kulin was how dry the countryside looked. It was just as brown and barren as it had been all summer long. The much anticipated autumn rains had not eventuated. We made good time despite a few comfort stops along the way, reaching Kulin at midday.

The fellowship made us warmly welcome. There were some new faces and once we had made our introductions, we commenced a homemade feast of flavoursome food.

Following lunch, Jim Peters gave us an awesome testimony of his life. We learnt that Jim is a writer and songwriter who uses his gift to sing and speak to inspire, and bring the message of Jesus. He longs to see people in relationship with Jesus Christ and fruitfully involved in the local church. We discovered that he has released a number of albums, and his books are read, and his music broadcast, around the world. He is contracted to ATA Records. Jim's field is contemporary inspirational music with an emphasis on worship. Jim's songs have been recognised internationally and he has won several Australian Gospel Music Awards. One song was ten months in the NCM Euro charts and reached number three. Jim's desire is that his life be a living testimony of God working in and through him. From this philosophy flows hundreds of songs based on scripture and biblical principles. (paraphrased from Jim's website: <https://jimpeters.com.au>) God's goodness and faithfulness to Jim throughout the seasons of his life to the present, greatly encouraged and inspired us.

Playing on the piano in the hall, Jim sang well-known hymns to lead us in worship. Although the piano was in need of a tune, Jim made it sound tuneful in compliment to his amazing

voice. Jim also treated us to one of his relatively newly published songs, Take Me To The Cross. And to the cross we were, indeed, transported. We were brought into the very presence of the Lord. The fellowship did not know what to expect from the SWOT visit but at the conclusion of the meeting we were exchanging emails and contact details. One lady was challenged to write a report on Jim's visit as a point of interest for possible publishing in the Kulin newsletter.

It was hard to drag ourselves away. However, the shadows were growing longer and time was ticking. Mindful of the long return journey to Perth ahead, we bade farewell to our newly formed friends. We took Jim on a quick tour of a 20 km stretch of the Tin Horse Highway before taking the route via Wickepin to Pingelly.

Reaching Wickepin as the sun hung low in the sky, Joe informed us that as they were tired and because they were expected in Pingelly for a 6.30pm bible study, decided they would billet in Pingelly for the night. We reached Pingelly in tandem and therein said goodbye to Joe and Jim. It was pitch dark for the remainder of the journey home and it was exactly 8.00pm before we turned into our driveway. It had been an exhilarating day. Our loving Father God had filled us superabundantly, and despite the long day we felt afreshed and anew.



WILLIAMS, May, Thursday, 23 May, 2019

We had agreed to meet Joe 'Donovan and Jim Peters at 10.00am in Williams. They had stayed in Pingelly overnight. Geoff drove his vehicle, collecting Brian Lownes in Armadale just after 8.00am. Again, we were blessed with beautiful weather and excellent driving conditions. We turned into the driveway of the Anglican Church having made good time at about 9.45am. It looked like a good turnout for there were already a number of cars in the car park.



It was good to see old friends and renew acquaintances. Jim was introduced and following a quick time of fellowship Vern lead the meeting with insights from Psalm 81. This was followed by a message from Jim Peters beginning with Exodus 3-5.

God appeared to Moses in a burning bush which wasn't burning.

Exodus 3:7-10 NASB

"The LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and have given heed to their cry because of their taskmasters, for I am aware of their sufferings. So I have come down to deliver them from the power of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Amorite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite. Now, behold, the cry of the sons of Israel has come to Me; furthermore, I have seen the oppression with which the Egyptians are oppressing them. Therefore, come now, and I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt.""

God's way is often to say He'll do something and then send a person.

This is the case in the New Testament where the great commission is the spiritual fulfilment of what Moses did physically in bringing the Israelites out of Egypt.



We are called to bring those who are in slavery to sin into the light and freedom of The Christ, Jesus. Will I obey?

Exodus 3:13-14 NASB

"Then Moses said to God, "Behold, I am going to the sons of Israel, and I will say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you.' Now they may say to me, 'What is His name?' What shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM"; and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

Ehyeh Asher ehyeh

Most translations say "Am Who I Am". And that's

fine. However, in the Hebrew this is a verb form that can speak about continuing repetitive action. Therefore, speaking of Yahweh who always was and always is and always will be, it's quite probably more accurate to translate "I will continue to be who I continue to be."

Like Moses, we might not want to go but we have the command from our loving Father...I will continue to be who I continue to be...mighty, compassionate, merciful, the way, the truth and the life, Saviour, healer, baptiser in the Holy Spirit and Soon coming King (to name just a few.)

WILLIAMS, Thursday, May 23, 2019 (Cont'd)

God is always there. He will never leave you nor forsake you. We will be unfaithful but if we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Question: Am I going to trust Him?
It does always go to my plan.

Exodus 5:4-9

"But the king of Egypt said to them, 'Moses and Aaron, why do you draw the people away from their work? Get back to your labors!' Again Pharaoh said, 'Look, the people of the land are now many, and you would have them cease from their labors!' So the same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters over the people and their foremen, saying, 'You are no longer to give the people straw to make brick as previously; let them go and gather straw for themselves. But the quota of bricks which they were making previously, you shall impose on them; you are not to reduce any of it. Because they are lazy, therefore they cry out, 'Let us go and sacrifice to our God.' Let the labor be heavier on the men, and let them work at it so that they will pay no attention to false words.'"

Sometimes things just don't seem to be going the

way we think they should be going.... despite God doing miracles, which He did.

There maybe affliction, persecution, sickness, relational difficulty, financial hardship or the like, but God is in control.

I believe we must keep in mind that God brought Israel out of Egypt.

Through Jesus, we've been brought out of our sin, saved from the sentence of eternal separation from God AND we can be certain that whatever we're going through now, our God has it under control and He will deliver you from every situation.

Having been blessed from the Word, Jim lead us in a profoundly beautiful time of praise and worship followed by prayer for the community and individual needs.

Once more, we bade our friends in Williams goodbye. We made our way to "Boraning" for lunch, a property owned by Kelly and William Newton-Wordsworth located half-way between Williams and Quindanning.

BORANING, Thursday, May 23, 2019

It only took fifteen minutes to get to the property that Kelly and William Newton-Wordsworth have farmed biodynamically for over 25 years. We were not expected so early. However, their friendly dog "Crystal" welcomed us with great enthusiasm and continued to express joy at meeting us as we walked around the homestead trying to find someone. Finally, we found the front door and gave the bell a loud ring. Kelly greeted us with surprise at our early arrival, ushering us into a front room where we discovered a welcome open fire.



BORANING, Thursday, May 23, 2019 (Cont'd)

Just after 1.00pm William Newton-Wordsworth came in from working on the farm accompanied by their son, Vincent. In the homely Newton-Wordsworth kitchen we were blessed with a hearty meal, all biodynamically farmed and sourced, of lamb and barley stew and Thai chicken curry and rice, and homebaked bread. There was much laughter and banter, especially between Joe and Kelly who had us all in stitches with their repartee.

It was great to meet Vincent, a lovely young man, who after eating lunch returned to his work on the farm. Herein, the conversation turned serious and we learnt, in part, some of Kelly's life testimony. This led us into a most profoundly holy time of worship with Kelly playing the guitar and singing her own song "*Jesus*". It had been a busy few days. How utterly reviving to put aside everything and just bask in the presence of Father, Son and Holy Spirit as Kelly's voice transported us into the very throne room of God. Kelly was so anointed. We did not want to leave His presence. We lingered long, praising and worshipping the King of Kings.

Brian Lownes had an appointment at 6.30pm in

Perth and we had promised that we would get him back to Perth in time for his appointment. Being mindful that it was now nearing 4.00pm we made a move to leave. However, Kelly and William had not yet heard Jim's voice and before we departed we so wanted them to be blessed by his ministry. Jim, always humble, succumbed to our persuasion and took to the piano to worship.

And so there we were in the parlour - Jim Peters on the piano singing one of his songs and joining in harmony Kelly Newton-Wordsworth. I tell you, the melody of angels could be heard accompanying them.

We felt so cheated having to leave but we had made a promise to Brian and so slipped out as William, Kelly, Joe and Jim continued in worship. Walking to the car it was as if gravity was no longer. We were floating. We had been in the presence of the Lord! Thus, concluded two incredible days of ministry. Two days that would not be easily forgotten. The Lord had once again blessed us tremendously with friendship, fellowship, and His divine presence, and our hearts were not only brimming but overflowing with great gratitude and praise. God is **SO** good!



NARROGIN, Thursday, May 30, 2019

We collected Brian Lownes from Armadale at 8.30am. Geoff drove via the Wandering route, arriving at Garry Johnson's home exactly at the pre-arranged time of 10.30am. It had been a while since we had made a visit to Garry and there was much to talk about.

Garry had baked his amazingly delicious scones. Garry's daughter, Margaret, now graduated from high school and working one shift at the local recreation centre as a swimming instructor, was home. It was a real pleasure to have Margaret join us in our fellowship, coming out of her bedroom when she smelt the intoxicating aroma of the scones coming out of the oven.

Over coffee we embarked on a good catch-up and covered a great many topics, including the results of the recent Federal election and its implications. We were able to advise that our recent guest, Jim Peters, had revealed that Prime Minister Scott Morrison attends his church, confirming Scott Morrison to be a bona fide Christian. This would make Scott Morrison the first Australian born-again Christian Prime Minister.

It seemed incredulous that two hours passed as quickly as it did. We prayed for the Nation, our new Prime Minister, called upon the Lord to pour out His Spirit upon the land, and for Gary, Margaret and his family



Within a short time we were back on the road heading towards Popanyinning. Once again, the same narrative, it had been a long time since we had caught up with the Proprietors of the Popanyinning General Store.

POPANYINNING, Thursday, May 30, 2019

As we rounded the bend into Popanyinning from Cuballing we could see ahead to a police road block directly in front of the General Store. We were all thinking, "What was this?" As soon as we pulled up the police dismantled their road block and within seconds of our arrival the police had collected their cones, returned to their vehicles and driven off in the direction of Narrogin, supposedly for lunch. We discovered Sam reclining in a seat outside the food van quite bemused. The police had been breathalizing drivers but had not made any charges, although Sam did indicate that on a previous occasion they had uncovered drugs.

Although Sam and Jenny had not yet achieved, as planned, to sell or lease their business, they continued to trust in the Lord for His plan and His purposes for their lives and their future. What a joy it was to reconnect face-to-face with dear friends over a lunch lovingly prepared by Sam, interspersed with the comings and goings of customers and telephone orders.

We were happy to see Jenny looking so well. We talked about Sam and Jenny's plans for travelling in their caravan in 2020 and their recent visits to Bunbury.

Sam lead us in a time of prayer but left us to serve a customer whilst we continued to give praise and thanks and offer up our petitions to the Father for this beautiful couple.

It was after 3.00pm before we departed Popanyinning, taking the Brookton route home, and 5.40pm before reaching our drive-way after returning Brian Lownes to his home. It had a been satisfying day and it reminded me that somewhere I had read that *satisfaction cannot be achieved, it must be received*. Indeed, God had gifted us and we had fully received.



Prayer Points

Please continue to pray for :

A powerfully great move of the Holy Spirit to transform Australia and for the establishment of His Sovereignty in every aspect of our Nation.

There is a chronic shortage of water in the south-west. Farmers are dry seeding but without rain the seed will die. Rain is required urgently. Please pray for rain and in the right quantity.

Continue to pray for the church and the communities of Beverley, Brookton, Bunbury, Cunderdin, Kulin, Manjimup, Narrogin, Northam, Pingelly, Popanyinning, Williams, and Wikepin that the Lord extend grace and mercy to the peoples and shepherd them by His loving kindness into the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Please give thanks for Jim Peters his recent visit to the south-west and his ministry, praying for divine favour, wisdom, spiritual anointing, good health and safety in his travels.

Please also remember the SWOT team in your prayers . We give thanks to the Lord with deep gratitude and grateful hearts for your continued support. May God bless you as you partner with us in prayer for this ministry.

Please pray that there will be a release of grace for the prayers offered in faith for these requests, so that like arrows, they will hit the mark. 2 Kings 13:16.