

# The Nicol's Update

with Frank & Jo Nicol • June 2025



Banner Image: Sculpture near Roebourne

Circle Image: The Nicol family

Middle Image: Memorial for one of the teenagers who died

Bottom Image: Hope in the Resurrection

*As no one has power over the wind to contain it, so no one has power over the time of their death. Ecclesiastes 8:8*

My phone rang on Friday night while I was at hockey training with Silas. The caller told me the funeral director was about to ask me to run a funeral tomorrow. "Tomorrow?!" You can't plan for these things. I was already committed to night shift on the ambulance but when the funeral director rang, I said yes. The role of a country pastor is to step in at times like this, caring for people and sharing the Gospel.

I wanted to do it. Hundreds of people turned up to bury a teenage boy who had died eight weeks earlier. I didn't say too much. I simply wanted to point the large grieving mass of people to the hope the resurrected Jesus brings us in the face of death. As the funeral came to an end I was asked to lead another one in six days' time.

The two funerals were linked. Two teenage friends had died together in a horrific road crash. Again hundreds of people came. We were able to share the words of Psalm 23 and John 11. I ask you to pray that the Holy Spirit would still be at work, using those texts to bring eternal hope to those who were listening.

As I write we're grieving death again. Another crash on our local roads has claimed the lives of two young people. Others were injured. This one feels closer to home. One of those who died was a member of a local church.

My friends are grieving the loss of someone they loved. She was the life of the party bringing joy to many, myself included. It's been hard watching friends and family cry. It's brought tears to my eyes.

This time however we grieve with hope. The tears are still there but what a joy it is knowing that in Christ though we die, yet shall we live. We are hurting but we will see her again.

Please pray that when the funeral comes, the hope of Christ would be declared and people would come to faith.

I don't like death, and I don't long to do more funerals, but they are a moment in the life our community where gospel hope is declared to many many people.

**We pray that through death God would be glorified.**

While we're reacting to local tragedies this term, we're also proactively planning for outreach. As many of you would be aware the Anglican Church of Australia ran a campaign this year called HOPE25. This campaign encouraged local churches to reach out to their community between Easter and Pentecost.

We're not trying to reinvent the wheel. Some of you will remember that this time last year a mission team from Sydney came and we ran two events. We're repeating some the events again this year.



*Continued from previous page...*

On Friday 20 June, we are going to run a youth faith and film evening in partnership with the local Baptist Church. We're hoping to show the movie *My Girl* and one of our teenagers will give an evangelistic talk.

We're also bringing back our Fire Food and Faith evening. We'll be cooking up a feed in the front yard of the church, inviting all our mates along and one of our crew will share their testimony.

**Please pray that hearts will be changed through these events.**

Just as a little update, thank you to all of you who prayed for us through our property dramas last term. While I wouldn't say that they are completely done with, stress levels in that space are reduced and it would seem we are working towards a better outcome but I am still not sure at this point when it will all be finalised.

How are we going? It's (Pilbara) cold and we're happy. I know I whinged about the heat last update, but summer was massively hot and the whole town struggled.

We didn't use the hot tap in the shower until May. Finally the weather has broken and the whole town is happy.

After our Easter services we were able to get away as a family to Coral Bay and really enjoyed our

time down there. Since returning, the kids are flourishing, they all really enjoy their schools and the Pilbara lifestyle.

Like probably many of you, we struggle with busyness so please pray we are wise with what we say yes to as family. Jo continues to enjoy her netball comeback and the bit of freedom it brings her.

Our prayer point is probably in the space of the ongoing transience of our patch. It's hard to invest deeply into relationships, only to see people you love move on.

**Pray that God sustains us in that space, that He would continue to raise up friends and that we would persevere in putting effort into that space.** That being said, we love serving in Karratha and are thankful to God for the ministry life He gives us here.

As always, Your partnership with us in prayer is much appreciated.



The boys with some of their spoils



The kids during a family fishing trip

**Your family in Christ,**  
*Frank, Jo, Lydia, Eli, Silas & Tabitha*

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