

Exmouth Explorer

with Simon & Alison Roberts • June 2025



Banner Image: Vlamingh Head Exmouth

Circle Image: Simon & Alison

Side Image: Michael Baines (Broome) climbing a Chanel marker in Port Hedland during our Diocesan get together

It was encouraging to have good numbers at our Easter services and a steady stream of tourists join us on Sunday mornings recently. Some weeks, there have also been extra kids in the children's church, and it's been helpful for our two regular girls to see that they aren't the only kids who follow Jesus!

There are some Christians who are working in town for a few months over the tourist season who are also coming along on Sunday. An American engineer (Zak) who is working on the VLF towers in Exmouth over the next 18 months (two months on and two months back in the States) has also joined us. Zak attends a Presbyterian church at home and plays guitar in their church band. With his assistance, we've formed our own church band, who are slowly adding songs to their 'playlist'

Give thanks for our newly formed church band and pray that it continues to enthusiastically serve on Sunday mornings.

Please also pray for our church weekend away at Bullara Station in August.

"Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?" Matthew 16:24-26

As we have been working our way through Matthew's gospel, Jesus says many challenging things. This must be one of the more confronting statements he makes,

"For whoever wants to save their life will lose it". Jesus speaks of a life built on our priorities and desires, a life that seems full and well-lived and abundantly satisfied, and yet Jesus says this kind of life will amount to nothing in the end. He contrasts it with the person who gives up selfish ambition and self-reliance to follow Jesus. The person who takes up their cross and denies themselves will find real life in Christ. The Christian person looks for their reward in the kingdom of heaven, in the new creation.



ANZAC Day

For most people, Exmouth is the gateway to an abundance of experiences. Swimming with whale sharks, turtles, mantas, boating, fishing, camping, hiking, restaurants and cafes, beaches and turquoise water – the options are endless. People come here not to deny themselves, but to fill their quota of experiences to the brim.

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So we need the stark words of Jesus, "What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?"

Please continue to pray that the Lord will grant the people of Exmouth and Onslow faith and repentance.

So often, the gospel soil here seems very rocky, and the word just seems to bounce off people without making any real impact.

Please pray for mature Christians to move to Exmouth and join our church.

Our youth Bible study has continued this term, and at their request, we've been reading through Genesis with the boys. It's been a real encouragement to see their interest in the Scriptures and their growing confidence to pray in the group. There are many challenges facing the teenagers of Exmouth, and so many destructive pathways that tempt them. Please pray that the youth in our area might find real purpose and hope in Jesus.

Women's Bible study continues on Friday afternoons. We regularly have six women in the group. This term, we have been looking at women in the NT and have had some great discussions. One lady in the group has started helping out with leading the group and will

take over while we are away.

Bishop Darrell Parker and his wife, Liz, joined us for church at both Exmouth and Onslow in May before we headed to Port Hedland for a couple of days to catch up with the ministers from the Pilbara and Kimberley.

It's always an encouragement to meet with fellow workers & spend time praying for each other and the churches of the North West.

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Each church feels under pressure in various ways and there are many challenges. The fact we share in a common struggle to proclaim Christ definitely helps us all to press on.

We are thankful for the time we spent with our daughters over Easter. While their husbands were off doing a 4WD trip in NSW, they



Hiking with our girls

spent about 10 days here with us. We went looking for some whale sharks to swim with, but didn't find any (there is a reason the paid tours use spotter planes to find them, it's a big ocean). But it was great fun just to have them around and do some walks and go snorkelling.

As you read this we are probably on our way back to Exmouth after a holiday in the Kimberley. The Lord willing, we will get to enjoy swimming in lots of water holes and seeing all the amazing landscapes. We'll be doing the Gibb River Road with Michael & Karen Baines (from Broome Anglican Church) as well as spending some time in Kununurra. This is a much-anticipated and needed break, so please pray that we will return refreshed and energised for service.

Give thanks for the holiday we can enjoy in the Kimberley.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers,

Simon & Alison

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