

REVEREND PHIL BAKER — RIVERVIEW CHURCH

Statement by Member for Victoria Park

MR B.S. WYATT (Victoria Park) [12.56 pm]: I offer my thoughts for, and support to, Reverend Phil Baker of Riverview Church, which is based in my electorate. On the weekend of 30 and 31 May, while on holiday in Bali, Phil fell ill. Since that time he has had a tumour removed from his brain, which was done on 12 June 2009. Riverview Church is based in my electorate and is attended by people from all over Perth and Western Australia. Approximately 3 500 people attend the church each week. The church has been very supportive of me and all the local members' community activities, such as providing assistance for the homeless. The church has a car program whereby used cars that are donated to Riverview Church are then repaired and passed on to eligible recipients, who are mainly women fleeing domestic violence. The Just for Kids program is a workshop aimed at preteens. The PowerHouse Youth Services Initiative—PHYSI—roadshow raises the awareness of high school students of drug abuse, violence, suicide, peer pressure and personal responsibility. It is a testing time for the church. However, it has responded admirably. I offer my support to and commend the leadership team of Hayden, Kelly, Alison, Paul, Dwayne, Penny, Amanda, Adam. My thoughts are with Heather Baker.