

Dear Friends,

"The next stretch of the river is in our reach"

Phase 2 venue project – Feb. 2016 update



It only seems like yesterday that we were celebrating Christmas, and now as a result of an early Easter, we're in the season of Lent. We continue to be so thankful for what the Lord is doing in our church & communities:

- we're excited by the regular stories of people "being Jesus in the world", everyone, everyday, everywhere. If you have a story to share, we'd love to hear from you.
- we're continuing to hear regular stories of people saying yes to Jesus for the 1st time
- we're thankful that some non-churchgoing friends of ours came along to the evening carol service & absolutely loved it!! We bumped into them last month and without us asking, they said they want to come to an Easter service!
- we're very excited about the #LiveCompassion initiative that's just starting, and praying that hundreds of people experience God's compassion & love through people like you & me



As well as these & many other things, the phase 2 venue project continues to progress well. (If you're not familiar with the project, please go to riversidevineyard.com/venue-project).

Here's an update summary:

- We're delighted that Doug Neal has joined the project team. Doug has 20+ years project management experience with commercial building extension & refurbishment projects.
- The structural, M&E (mechanical & electrical) & landscaping plans have been prepared, and tendering underway for the first phase of the build
- A financing plan for the project is now very close to being finalised
- We aim to start building in April 2016 – that's only a couple of months away!!

Using the Vineyard Centre during building works

Having builders on site will inevitably be disruptive. It's vital that we keep everyone safe. And we need to keep doing ministry and serving our communities. You may already be wondering how the church centre will operate during the building works, and you will be pleased and I hope unsurprised to know that we have a plan!

One significant impact will be the loss of the “front door” for the duration of the project. There will also be fewer on-site car parking spaces. So here’s the way we’re planning for things to work once the builders are on site:

On Sundays:

- Entrance to the auditorium will be via the side door close to the books & music desk. For those at Riverside in 2005, this is the door we used before the current lobby was built!
- Continue to park at Leisure West or next door at IDL premises for 9:30am service. For 11:15am & 6pm services, please use on-site parking, IDL or neighbouring roads. If you’re able to, please share lifts, cycle, walk, get a bus, etc.!
- Given the less visible entrance, we need to increase the car parking team by ~25 people (6 extra people per week). Could you commit to serving once a month for the next year on a car parking team? Please email heather@riversidevineyard.com to say yes!!

During the week:

- In general, entering the church centre will be via the East Wing door from the car park, into room G18 (youth room)
- Front desk reception during office hours will be located in G18

What can we be doing now?

Here’s some ideas:

- Pray!! For the project team, the tendering process, builder selection & project finances. Pray also that we’d all do really well amidst the building disruption!
- Join a Sunday team if you’re not already part of one – we’re going to need a lot more people involved so that we can go on welcoming people really well.
- If you’ve not yet given to this project, we’d love you to ask the Lord how He wants you to be a part of this. Do pick up a project brochure for more details.
- If you have thoughts, ideas or questions, please do chat to one of the project team, a trustee, or one of the pastoral staff

As we said at the start, these are exciting times. We continue to be very encouraged by what we see the Lord doing as we reach for the next stretch of the river.

With every blessing,

Andy + Bethan

Andy & Bethan Chapman, Senior Pastors