

Dear Friends,

“The next stretch of the river is in our reach”

Phase 2 venue project – April 2016 update



As I write this, I'm watching the rain pour down & then the sun come out – it must be April!

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 – 19 specific stories from the past month and no doubt others as well
- we're encouraged by what the Lord has been doing in Alpha these past couple of months, as well as ministries like Meeting Place & Storehouse that continue to amaze

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

If you've been at the church centre in the past week, you'll have seen a whole lot of activity in preparation for the imminent start of construction work. I'm delighted to also let you know that a financing plan has been agreed and is in place.

Having builders on site will inevitably be disruptive. At the same time, we're called to the work of the Kingdom and that doesn't stop! So we've been planning hard to ensure we can continue to effectively & safely use the church centre during the building works.

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 please read on & take note of how you will be able to use the church centre over the next ~9 months.

Using the Vineyard Centre during building works

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 for 9:30am service. For 11:15am & 6pm services, please use on-site parking, IDL business car park, or neighbouring roads. For the Vida service, please park on-site.

- If you're able to, please share lifts, cycle, walk, use the bus, etc.!
- There is a new pedestrian gate under construction that will enable access from the car park directly onto the Airpark Way pavement. This will be the best way to get from the church centre car park to the auditorium
- Given the "new" entrance and even though the teams have grown recently, we do still need to increase the car parking & welcome teams. Could you commit to serving once a month on one of these teams? Please email heather@riversidevineyard.com to say yes!!

During the week:

- In general, enter the church centre via the East Wing door from the car park, into room G18 (youth room). A new office hours reception area is being located in G19 (prayer room)
- Some "auditorium-based" activities (e.g. Meeting Place, Zumba) will use the Sunday access route - follow the on-site signs

What can we be doing now?

Here's some great ways to be involved now:

- Choose to press through inconvenience! During this season we will continue to encounter God's presence and share His love with those around us. Don't miss out on this exciting chapter of God's story in our lives.
- Pray!! For the project team, the builders, and project finances.
- Join a Sunday team if you're not already part of one – the more people involved, the better welcome we can give to all those coming to the church centre.
- 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 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