strichardscrowborough.org
Tel: 01892 611318

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." Eph 3: 20-21

WELCOME to St Richard's News update 17 Mar 2024

Sunday 17 Mar 2024

Morning service with Lord's supper - 10.45am

(with Creche & Sunday Club! Lasers will join the main service.)

Romans 5:6-11.- Justified by the blood.

(Steve Rees preaching & Lord's supper, & Trish Scobell leading.)

Important notices!

- **The Annual Church Parochial Meeting (APCM)** for 2024 will be held at All Saints Church on Sunday 28th April at 10.30am, as part of a service combining the 9.15, 10.45 and 10.45 St Richard's services. It will begin with the Meeting for Election of Churchwardens, open to all residents of the parish, and continue to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, open to all on the church Electoral Roll. **Please see attached documents (either with this newsletter email or if a paper copy newsletter then at the back of this newsletter.)**

- **A request from the church office:** With increasing numbers of groups and private persons hiring our hall & facilities both during the week and at weekends, it is essential to check with Trish, before planning any events or room use, to make sure that the building is not already being hired out.

What's on this week...

- **NEW FOR MONDAYS: Southern Crowborough "A Walk in the Park"- 9.30-10.30am**
  Reaching out to the community with fitness & friendship. We meet in Adam's close cul-de-sac.

- **MONDAYS: Men's Sausage Roll Club**
  If you're free on Monday mornings and would benefit from good company and conversation, then why not join this group. They meet in various places so for more information and the latest rendezvous have a chat with John Wayte.

- **MONDAYS: Southern Crowborough Craft Group - 2-4pm every Monday.**
  A craft group for anyone who likes to chat over coffee and crafting - meets in the lounge at St Richard's. Why not bring a friend along? For more info chat to Rosemary Longley.

- **TUESDAYS: Little Seeds Toddler Group 10am – 12pm**
  Our toddler group meets at St Richards during term time from 10am till 12noon. A welcoming meeting place for parents and carers to socialise and bring their little ones to enjoy playing and organised activities. For more info chat to Sarah Bell and Laura Rapley.

- **TUESDAYS: Youth: HEROES (F-Y2) ADVENTURERS (Y3-Y6) at All Saints**
  During term time we partner with All Saints in their youth groups. Meeting from 4:30pm to 5:30pm. Hero's meets in the Parish Halls Adventurers in the downstairs hall accessed from the back of All Saints church. For more info email **sarah@allsaintscrowborough.org**

- **WEDNESDAYS: Midday prayer at St Richard's – 12noon to 1pm**
  Join with us as we think through what we heard on Sunday and to pray for our church, the community of southern Crowborough, the churches in Crowborough, the CofE and the world.

- **FRIDAYS – Ladies bible study at St Richard's from 10:15am**
  Speak to Trish if you think you'd like to join us! An hour together to grow in faith and enrich our bible knowledge.

- **Pastoral Surgery**
  A key aspect of church life is our spiritual health and wellbeing. As part of this Mark has set up our "Pastoral Surgery" where we can book a slot via Trish. Slots are available Monday evenings from 7.45pm and Thursday afternoons 1.45pm and 4pm at St Richard's lounge. A time to chat through things, share time in prayer and fellowship, whatever may be helpful for you.

Opportunities to learn and grow in your faith!

Bible overview course

What can really help our bible study is a framework that covers the whole bible. One way of creating that is through being part of an interactive course group.
At St Richards we run The Bible Course created by the Bible Society it is an eight-session course helping us explore the BIG story.

"Big, complex, old … just some of the words people use to describe the Bible". Sound familiar? That's where *The Bible Course* comes in. The course will increase your confidence, equip you to read the Bible better and help you to see its relevance to daily life. The course provides a birds-eye view of the world's bestselling book.

Over eight interactive sessions, it combines video teaching, group discussion and personal reflection and daily readings. If you would like to be part of our next course have a chat with Trish or Mark.

Conferences

Being part of a large community of believers can be a huge encouragement

Southern Women's Convention - 8th June at All Saints

9.30am – 4.15pm

A better Story, Talks from Hebrews with speaker Kimberly Davis. In a day of teaching, fellowship, worship and seminars, we will be taken through the book of Hebrews; seeing how God's story was fulfilled through the person of Jesus Christ. Even in the midst of life's storms, God reminds us that His story is perfectly written for us! For more info and to book, click here, or contact Trish at the church office 01892 611318

Bible by the Beach - 3rd–6th May 2024

"God has Spoken."

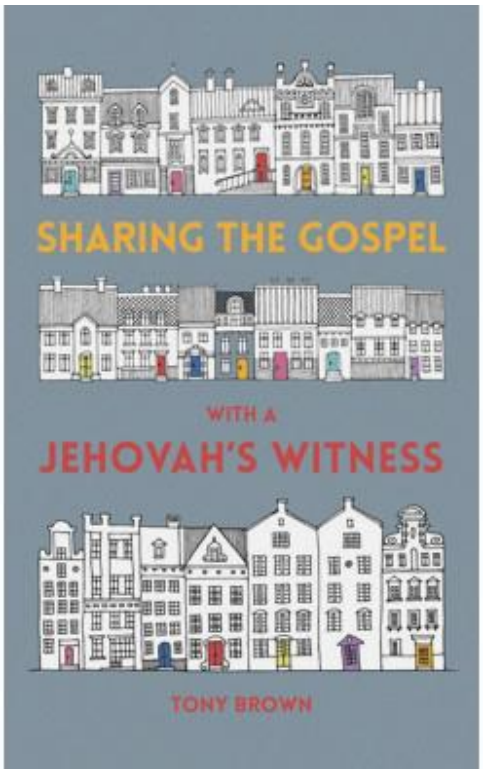
Speakers include Richard Pratt, Tim Ward, Helen Thorne, and a full Faith in Kids young people's programme.
For more details see their website:
Weekend tickets £120 adult, £39 children,
Please contact Suzanne Hall if you are interested.

Suggested reading from St Richard's lending library

Sharing the Gospel with a Jehovah's Witness

Tony Brown

If you've ever wanted to share the gospel with a Jehovah's Witness, but not known where to start, then this book will give you the practical knowledge you need to come out from behind the sofa and open the door.



Opportunities to serve our local community

As a church we like to encourage, engage and be a benefit to the communities around Southern Crowborough. With the potential for many new people moving into our area, our desire is to create ways in which they can connect and network. Below are the upcoming opportunities we are all encouraged to get involved with and if you've got an idea let us know!

Crowborough Community Pantry

Crowborough Community Pantry is open to anyone, the food is free although a small donation is appreciated as it which helps towards the rent and running costs of the premises.

Located around the corner from St Richards **Beechview Parade, Walshes Road, TN6 3RA.**

Mondays: 10.00am until 11.00am, **Tuesdays**: 2.30pm until 4pm,
Thursdays: 6pm until 7.30pm, **Saturdays**: 10am until 11.30am

Foodbank

If you would like to bring items along the current Foodbank wish list is below, and for their full list of acceptable items check out their website

This week's Top 10 items

Nappy Pants sizes 5,6,7	Tinned soup - meat	Shampoo & conditioner
Baby wipes	Instant mash potato	Rice and pasta
Packets of microwave rice	Tinned cooked meat	Wash pods Bio/Non-Bio
Cat biscuits	Toilet rolls	Children's toothpaste
Razors	Tinned tomatoes	Tinned corn/carrots
Bio washing pods	Tinned fruit	Bleach

- **Nora Paine** – It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Nora Paine (a former member of St Richard's) on 11 March.

Next Sunday 24 March

Palm Sunday

Morning service - 10.45am with Adult Baptism (Nick Powell)

followed by a light lunch provided by St Richard's to celebrate with Nick and his friends and family.

(with Crèche, Sunday Club & Lasers!)

Matthew 21:1-11 Easter with Matthew – The King arrives.

(Mark Rapley leading and preaching)

NOTE: The room will be set up differently with the baptismal pool in the centre and chairs facing towards it. We will supply paper orders of service containing all the words to the songs, readings and liturgy.

Opportunities to partner with other churches

CIRT Our annual holiday club reaching around 160 children in the community with the good news of Christ is running from 2nd-5th April (set up day on April 1st) and we need your help! We need help in the kids groups, as 1-1s, craft team, creche, music, drama, AV, parents cafe, prop making, cutting out - there are loads of ways to get involved and serve. Contact Sarah Thrift (sarah@allsaintscrowborough.org)

To sign up to serve at CIRT click here:

To sign up young people to attend CIRT click here:

For our Prayers

Going for Growth

The primary phases in our Going for Growth project are:

Phase 1 the purchase of the Hawes bungalow.
Phase 2 the purchase of the St Richards site.
Phase 3 the design and construction of new facilities.
Phase 4 setting the foundation that springboards our church into the next season of its ministry.

So, we pray…

The prayer for phase 2 will remain the same for now. Give thanks that the path is clear and now mapped out for our site to be sold by its current owners SMAA & AS, and subsequently purchased by CWGT. Pray for the effective fulfilment of the next four next steps in that path.

1) That SMAA will have their queries satisfied
2) A suitable mutually agreeable surveyor can be found to fulfil the "section 119" valuation process
3) The drawing up of a mutually agreeable lease agreement between CWGT and PCC of All Saints and St Richards
4) That this lease agreement will be acceptable to the Disease to grant us a license to worship on our site

With phase 3 being "paused" to allow All Saints to catch up with St Richards in terms of securing a site for their future developments (project "next generation"). Please continue to pray that we would be impassioned for mission focussing on growing the people of God's Kingdom (existing and new) and not our property and projects.

You may remember from the last Take2 Sunday where a proposal to utilise a strip of land of the Hawes to create a third space and office for Mark were shown. Give thanks for Karl and Andrew Steen who have worked on the production of the necessary plans to be presented to the Trust and the planners. Pray that our request to move the telegraph pole will be responded to asap. Pray that the steering team may be able to meet with the trustees asap.