

*"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 28 April 2024

### Sunday 28 April

Joint service at All Saints Church at 10.30am

for the Annual Church Parochial Meeting (APCM) 2024

Please arrive early and ensure you have parked considerately and not on the double yellow lines in Church Road, The Glebelands or Gordon Road. Cones will be in place as an extra reminder. Please consider walking or using the church carparks. Thank you."

Ephesians 2:1-10

Steve Rees preaching, Mark Rapley leading and others from St Richards taking part

## Notices!

- **The Annual Church Parochial Meeting (APCM)**

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. If you would like to nominate someone for the position of Churchwarden or PCC Representative, please do so by 24th April using the correct form, sending either the paper form (via the All Saints Church office pigeonhole) or a scanned signed copy, to the PCC secretary Suzanne Hall [suzanne.hall@allsaintscrowborough.org](mailto:suzanne.hall@allsaintscrowborough.org) If you would like to ask a question at the meeting, please submit it in writing by Sunday 21st April to Suzanne Hall. Notices of the meetings, together with copies of forms and the revised Electoral Roll are on the board and desk in the entrance hall of S Richard's.

- **Church Family Prayer Meeting – change of date**

With Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May being polling day our building will be used as a polling station, which means our monthly Church Family Prayer Meeting will be **held instead on Thursday 9 May** at 7.15 for 7.30pm start.

## • **FEST 2024 – Date for your diary 28<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 BOOKING NOW OPEN**

Over the weekend of 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June the church families of St Richards and All Saints are invited to relocate to a campsite near Halland for Fest 2024. Enjoy a weekend away under canvas or in a caravan to worship, share fellowship, play games and get to know people. You don't have to camp though, "day visitors"

are also welcome, but booking is essential! Oh, and meals are included in the price.

Bookings are now open [here](#). This year we are also giving people the opportunity to make a donation so that we can offer either partial or full subsidies. Donations to support the event can be made [here](#). See the flyer or check out ChurschSuite for further details.



## • **BBQ lunch with The Beehive - Saturday 11th May 12-3pm**

We are all invited to a BBQ/Lunch at Andrew & June's to meet Alan & Jane Hutt from The Beehive when they will be able to update us as to what is happening at The Beehive,. There will be the usual **sign-up sheet in the hall** and **June will have invitations with their address and time**. There will be no charge for food, but we hope you will make a **donation for The Beehive our `mission partners**.



## **Financial Update from our SRMT**

**St Richard's management Team would like to thank you so much for your generosity as a congregation.**

Through God's grace, we as a church have given so generously over the years. Between 2017 and 2023 our giving has increased by £32,000. This is an increase of 320%. However, as you know, you all know, the cost of living has risen substantially. So gas, electricity and wages have all increased significantly. As a result of these increases, we are looking at a deficit budget of £7,000 for this year, with a further deficit expected to come in 2025.

With this in mind we are asking you as a congregation to prayerfully consider whether you might be able to increase your regular giving. It is, according to scripture, a healthy thing to give financially to support the life and growth of church ministry. But, giving should be done willingly and based on what each believer is convinced they can afford and are happy to provide.



***"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor 9:7)***

If you do not currently give financially to St Richards, and would like to know how, then please speak to Fay Smith after a Sunday service, or contact the church office on 01892 611318.

**Giving can be done in a variety of ways.** The preferred method is for people to give a consistent amount regularly online via standing order, as this helps us to budget for the year ahead. However, if this method is not best for you, giving can also be provided with cash or cheque in an anonymous envelope. There is a collection box by the door as you leave church.

**Finally, we just want to say thank you so much once again for your generosity and continued support.** If anyone has any questions, **please feel free to come and find Fay Smith, Dave Lattimer or Stuart Smith after a Sunday service.**

# What's on this week...

- **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.  
**Why not bring a friend along!**
- **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:  (F-Y2)  (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 Thrift [sarah@allsaintscrowborough.org](mailto: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**  
An hour together to grow in faith and enrich our bible knowledge. Speak to Trish if you think you'd like to join us!
- **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.

## Other resources:

### Southern Women's Convention

8<sup>th</sup> June at All Saints - 9.30am – 4.15pm

**Please book soon to avoid disappointment!**



**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

### Crowborough Pantry

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



### Crowborough Community Pantry Open Day!

Friday 10th May 10am – 2pm.

*We would love you to come along and find out how we reduce food waste. Have a chat with our volunteers and (the best bit!) sample some rescued food one of our volunteers, who also happens to be a chef, has prepared. Look forward to seeing you! Jo Stonebrook*

### Crowborough Foodbank

St Richard's is a Foodbank collection point.

For their full list of acceptable items check out their [website](#)



**Next Sunday 5 May**  
**Morning service at 10.45am**

Know God's plan: Peace between people  
(With Creche, Sunday Club & lasers!)

(Mark Rapley preaching & Andrew Gibson leading)



# For our Prayers

## Going for Growth and Side Expansion (temporary) Projects

Project “**Going for Growth**” is the name given to the joint project between St Richards and All Saints churches to provide robust building facilities to meet the growing needs of our church community and the community of Southern Crowborough. The project started in 2021 with the purchase of the Hawes bungalow (next door) by the Crowborough Weald Gospel Trust (CWGT). There have been many twists and turns along the way, yet we **give thanks** to God that we have seen every hurdle overcome.

The latest stage in the process is getting the land titles for the bungalow and our current site under single ownership. As part of this process All Saints and St Michaels and All Angels PCC’s need to sell their stakes in the land and buildings we occupy to the CWGT. To achieve this a suitably qualified and agreeable surveyor is required to comply with Section 119 Charity Commission rules which cover the sale of Charitable assets. **Give thanks** that such a surveyor has been approached, and subject to their initial checks and acceptance of the invitation to create the valuation this important stage will go ahead.

Project “**Side Expansion (temporary)**” is the name given to the joint project between St Richards and the Crowborough Weald Gospel Trust to utilise a section of land between the side hall and the bungalow to provide temporary additional space while the Going for Growth project progresses. This will enable us to create a third teaching space essential for our Sunday youth work, office accommodation for our minister, massively increase our “kerb appeal”, increase parking, increase the flexibility in how our site is used by the community, and with two staff on site the increased security allowing for an 'open building'. **Pray** for the meeting with the Crowborough Weald Gospel Trust on Monday to discuss the proposals

