

## Richards Ramble:

We live in strange and worrying times. We have the prospect of an escalation of war in the world; we have, in the last month, experienced a lot of extreme weather - wind, rain, storms, etc.; we have the confusion, backstabbing and disillusionment in politics. This is all while we are, as a society, still recovering from two years of lockdown, rising heating bills, and a cost of living crisis. There is no disguising the fact that the world is in turmoil in a way that I cannot remember in my previous sixty one years. Some are even suggesting that we are nearing the End Times.

Whatever the truth of that statement, time and again in the New Testament, the Apostles encourage the church not to be alarmed but to trust in God and to encourage one another in the midst of difficult times. Peter ends his second letter with the following words: 'Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.' Let these be days in which we press into God increasingly so that, indeed, we may grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus and find comfort in times of trouble.

God bless, **Richard**



# ESCAPE BEVERLEY MEMORIAL HALL!



**FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2024.**

DOORS OPEN 7PM, STARTING AT 7:30PM.



**"The Right Honourable Lord Beverley invites you to join him for a reception at Beverley Memorial Hall."**

**Except... this might be your last party if you don't work out how to ESCAPE!**

**The evening will test you to solve puzzles in various rooms. Will you crack the code and find your freedom?**

**This fundraising event is FREE!**

Nibbles and soft drinks will be provided.

However, if you fancy something with a little more 'content', please bring along your own choice of tipple.

Please let Carolyn know if you are coming so there's enough nibbles!

For information on further events, visit our website:

[www.beverleycommunitychurch.org](http://www.beverleycommunitychurch.org)

## The Pre-Marriage

Course is a series of five sessions to help engaged couples or those exploring the possibility of marriage, build strong foundations for their future together.

The Pre-Marriage Course is for couples

who are exploring the idea of getting married and for those who are already engaged. It's designed for those who want to give their marriage the best possible start, whether they're exploring marriage for the first time or have been married before.

The course is based on Christian principles but designed for all couples with or without a church background. You do not need to be getting married in a church to come on the course.

Over the five sessions you will explore:

**Communication  
Conflict  
Commitment  
Connection  
Adventure**

Every session includes food, a practical talk, and a time for discussion between you and your partner. You will have your own private space which ensures that you can chat in complete privacy. You will never be asked to share anything about your relationship with anyone other than your partner.

Time: 6:45pm- 9:30pm. Dates:

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

We look forward to facilitating the course for you.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Blessings

**Andrew and Maxine Chubb**

Please book your place with Helen Bashford

[helenb@beverleycommunitychurch.org](mailto:helenb@beverleycommunitychurch.org)



## February at a glance

<b>Sat</b>	3rd	<b>9.30</b> Men's Breakfast <b>13.00</b> Chosen Women Afternoon Tea
<b>Sun</b>	4th	<b>10.30</b> Slow Cooker Sunday <b>18.00</b> Prayer Meeting Online - see Peter S for link (45 mins)
<b>Mon</b>	5th	<b>10.30</b> Oranges & Lemons
<b>Tue</b>	6th	<b>19.00</b> Homegroups
<b>Fri</b>	9th	<b>9.30</b> Men & Coffee @ Cafe V <b>10.30</b> Ladies Bible Study meet for coffee @ Browns
<b>Sun</b>	11th	<b>10.30</b> BCC Service <b>18.00</b> Prayer Meeting Online - see Peter S for link (45 mins)
<b>Mon</b>	12th	<b>19.30</b> Wider Leaders' Meeting
<b>Tue</b>	13th	<b>19.00</b> Homegroups
<b>Fri</b>	16th	<b>9.30</b> Men & Coffee @ Cafe V <b>10.00</b> Ladies Bible Study meet @ Armstrongs Prayer Room
<b>Sun</b>	18th	<b>10.30</b> BCC Service <b>18.00</b> Prayer Meeting Online - see Peter S for link (45 mins)
<b>Mon</b>	19th	<b>10.30</b> Oranges & Lemons <b>14.00</b> Lindum Outreach
<b>Tue</b>	20th	<b>19.00</b> Homegroups
<b>Thur</b>	22nd	<b>19.00</b> Marriage Course
<b>Fri</b>	23rd	<b>9.30</b> Men & Coffee @ Cafe V <b>10.00</b> Ladies Bible Study meet @ Armstrongs Prayer Room <b>19.00</b> Escape Room!
<b>Sat</b>	24th	<b>10.00</b> Basileia Bible School <b>11.00</b> Up Hill Down Ale Walking Group
<b>Sun</b>	25th	<b>10.30</b> BCC Service <b>18.00</b> Prayer Meeting Online - see Peter S for link (45 mins)
<b>Mon</b>	26th	<b>10.30</b> Oranges & Lemons
<b>Tue</b>	27th	<b>19.00</b> Homegroups
<b>Wed</b>	28th	<b>18.45</b> The Pre-Marriage Course
<b>Thur</b>	29th	<b>19.00</b> Marriage Course
<b>Fri</b>	1st	<b>9.30</b> Men & Coffee @ Cafe V <b>10.30</b> Ladies Bible Study meet for coffee @ Browns
<b>Sat</b>	2nd	<b>9.30</b> Listeners Course
<b>Sun</b>	3rd	<b>10.30</b> Slow Cooker Sunday <b>18.00</b> Prayer Meeting Online - see Peter S for link (45 mins)



Thank you again everyone.  
£85 was raised last Sunday, making Edie's total way over her target of £200!



### CHURCH IS HARD.

Church is hard for the person walking through the doors, afraid of judgement.  
Church is hard for the pastor's family, under the microscope of an entire body.  
Church is hard for the prodigal soul returning home, broken and battered by the world.  
Church is hard for the girl who looks like she has it all together, but doesn't.  
Church is hard for the couple who fought the entire ride to service.  
Church is hard for the single mom, surrounded by couples holding hands, and seemingly perfect families.  
Church is hard for the widow and widower with no invitation to lunch after service.  
Church is hard for the deacon with an estranged child.  
Church is hard for the person singing worship songs, overwhelmed by the weight of the lyrics.  
Church is hard for the man insecure in his role as a leader.  
Church is hard for the wife who longs to be led by a righteous man.  
Church is hard for the nursery volunteer who desperately longs for a baby to love.  
Church is hard for the single woman and single man, praying God brings them a mate.  
Church is hard for the teenage girl, wearing a scarlet letter, ashamed of her mistakes.  
Church is hard for the sinners.  
Church is hard for me.  
It's hard because on the outside it all looks shiny and perfect. Sunday best in behaviour and dress.  
However, underneath those layers, you find a body of imperfect people, carnal souls, selfish motives.  
But, here is the beauty of church—  
Church isn't a building, mentality, or expectation.  
Church is a body.  
Church is a group of sinners, saved by grace, living in fellowship as saints.  
Church is a body of believers bound as brothers and sisters by an eternal love.  
Church is a holy ground where sinners stand as equals before the Throne of Grace.  
Church is a refuge for broken hearts and a training ground for mighty warriors.  
Church is a converging of confrontation and invitation. Where sin is confronted and hearts are invited to seek restoration.  
Church is a lesson in faith and trust.  
Church is a bearer of burdens and a giver of hope.  
Church is a family. A family coming together, setting aside differences, forgetting past mistakes, rejoicing in the smallest of victories.  
Church, the body, and the circle of sinners-turned-saints, is where He resides, and if we ask, He is faithful to come.  
So even on the hard days at church—  
The days when I am at odds with a friend, when I've fought with my kids because we're late once again. When I've walked in bearing burdens heavier than my heart can handle, yet masking the pain with a smile on my face. When I've worn a scarlet letter, under the microscope. When I've longed for a partner to hold, or fought tears as the lyrics were sung. When I've walked back in, afraid and broken, after walking away.  
I'll remember, He has never failed to meet me there.

Poem supplied by John & Mary Metcalfe

