

### Use of Proposed New Building

Ridley Hall was designed in the Victorian era for no more than forty young, single men. It was designed so that, eventually, it would be a complete quadrangular court. By the onset of World War One this plan was about 75% complete. Times have changed, as has the size of Ridley's student body. Not only are there now 140+ students, some of whom are single, some couples and some families, but Ridley is also part of the Cambridge Theological Federation, which involves the mutual sharing of facilities.

Ridley has put off improving its facilities for a long time, but several years ago the point was reached where there were no other options. Ridley is not looking to significantly expand its operations. Ridley is more like a family that is adding to a home out of which it has already grown. In essence, we are catching up with ourselves.

The proposed building has several functions:

1. To provide additional en suite study-bedrooms for twenty resident students. This will also enable us to house overseas clergy appropriately, along with other students who come to study in Cambridge's world class learning environment. In addition, for a small number of older students this is their only home during their period of study. These rooms will serve our existing sabbatical, seminar, and small conference work during vacations, while during term time will ease some of the doubling up that necessarily takes place. These rooms will also facilitate an extension to the overcrowded dining hall by allowing us to extend the dining hall into two existing study bedrooms.
2. At present 50+ students train for youth, children's, and family work on a staircase in what was formerly a small one-bedroom flat. The space is completely inadequate for teachers and students alike, with a significant lack of privacy for those in adjacent offices. Part of one floor of the new building will provide a home for the Centre for Youth Ministry and its staff.
3. There will be some additional office space in the building, relieving substantial overcrowding among employees of the college.
4. The current style of education where there are multiple learning streams requires a multiplication of 21<sup>st</sup> Century teaching space in which this can take place. The proposed lecture theatre, seminar and breakout rooms will meet Ridley's needs and will also help to meet some of the Federation's needs. This will also enable existing spaces within the College to be released for other uses. For example, our current library is inadequate and development will allow us to convert the current lecture theatre into a bigger and better library.
5. The auditorium will be a multipurpose facility that will be used daily for a variety of activities. In any one week it is likely that we will see several lectures, worship services, activities for children, music practices, etc, taking place. Occasionally the

auditorium will house activities like the annual alumni/ae gathering and such like which currently take place in a marquee on the lawn.

6. There is no social hub for Ridley's life, and the new, larger Common Room would be just that. The present Common Room quickly gets overcrowded and is unable to serve its purpose for the present student body.
7. In the basement of the Pavilion will be the usual facilities like toilets, a laundry area, and a recording/sound studio whose primary purpose will be training students in preaching and public speaking.

This building is primarily designed to ease pressure on the college's facilities and its common life and to enhance the learning experience at Ridley which currently does not have the facilities that would be expected from a world leading institution. The size of the staff and the shape of our college year does not allow for a vast expansion of events and activities. We also encourage and will continue to encourage those visiting Ridley to walk, cycle or travel by public transport whenever possible.