

Garden Tomb Newsletter: July 2017

The Garden Tomb News:

After an amazing first 6 months of 2017 (we welcomed over 163,000 people to the garden), we are now into the long hot days of summer when visitor numbers fall sharply. Ramadan is over and Nablus Road has returned to its normal, though not necessarily quiet, activities. Street traders hide from the heat of the day whilst visitors, escaping from the noise and heat of East Jerusalem, find their way into the quiet and shade of the Garden Tomb.

Shop Renovation



The Shop Renovation: is well under way, and we aim to reopen the shop by September. Through the summer we continue to serve Garden Tomb visitors from our temporary shop, set up in one of the meeting areas

Temporary shop



Garden Tomb Volunteer Team:

With us at the moment we have **Alison Laing** - until 11th July, **Andrew and Chris Haines** – until 14th July, **Bob + Jenny Lillyman** – until 17th July, **Roy + Evelyn Turkington**, **Kieran Ryan**, **Yani Albee**, **Christina New**, and **Sharon Poon**. They will be joined by **Mark + Nicola Aldridge** on 9th July, **Hersey Heng** on 12th, and **David + Sybil Curry** on 25th.

We give thanks for:

- The people whose lives have been changed and enriched by their visit to the garden
- Our team of permanent local staff, and the volunteers from around the world who serve for 2-3 months at a time.
- The opportunity to welcome local people to the garden - sharing with them the good news of Jesus the Messiah.
- The wonderful team of tradesmen who are on-site every day carrying out renovation work to the bookshop

Please pray for:

- **Paul Weaver:** the new Chairman of the Garden Tomb, and the **Trustees**, as together they oversee the Ministry of the Garden Tomb. Following Clive Mather's retirement, Paul was appointed Chairman at the June Trustee Meeting
- The Garden Tomb **Management Team:** Stephen Bridge (Director), Phillip Ben Shmuel (Operations Manager) and Chin-Won Lee (Business Manager)
- Health, strength and Holy Spirit power for our team of **Guides** as they lead people around the garden, sharing their faith and explaining the good news of the Messiah's death and resurrection to the visitors; and for our **Shop and Reception staff** as they welcome people on arrival, and serve them as they leave
- The **Gardeners, Housekeepers, Cleaners and Maintenance Staff**, who do such a great job in maintaining the beauty and safety of the Garden Tomb site; and for the **Administrators** who work behind the scenes to make sure the ministry runs smoothly
- **Transformed lives:** as people encounter the Risen Christ whilst they tour the garden and view the Empty Tomb.
- **Financial and Spiritual resources** to meet every need

Remember: you can find out more about the ministry of the Garden Tomb by visiting the **Garden Tomb Website** www.gardentomb.com. You can discover how to join our **24/7 Prayer Network**, and can sign up by following the instructions one step at a time. This should be straight forward, but please email bookings@gardentomb.com if you encounter any problems registering. Once registered, you will be able to choose one or more 15 minute prayer slots a week. Every week you will receive an email reminder of your prayer slot, along with prayer needs and praise points.

Psalm 2: 7-8: *I will proclaim the Lord's decree: He said to [Jesus], "You are my Son; today I have become your father. Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession".*

Blessings from Jerusalem!
Stephen and Sue Bridge

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