

## Garden Tomb Newsletter: June 2017



### Nablus Road Open Days:

On 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> May we invited local people to visit the garden as part of the 'Nablus Road Open Days'. Organised by the Palestine Hotels Association, the event ran for 3 evenings, and we were overwhelmed by the response and interest of local people. In total we welcomed about 2,800 local people to the garden, most of them Arab Muslims. On Saturday evening alone we welcomed about 1,350 people. One of our staff members, Fadi, along with 3 other local Christian workers, gave tours in Arabic; and we handed out over 2,000 Arabic leaflets explaining the life death and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah.

**Garden Tomb Visitors:** over 36,000 people visited the garden in May. We continue to see increasing numbers of people coming from China and Indonesia; and have noticed a very significant increase in people from India. Though less busy than May, June numbers will still up on June 2016. We now open all day from 8:30am to 5:30pm without closing for lunch, in order to best serve all our visitors. We thank God for testimonies of lives changed, and people coming to faith.

The **Shop Renovation** work is well under way, and will continue through the summer. We plan to open the new shop at the beginning of September. A temporary shop has been erected, and around the middle of June we will move the shop here until renovation work is completed. This will enable the work to continue safely, whilst continuing to run the shop.

The **GT Volunteer Team:** on-site at the moment we have Joe Armstrong, Peter and Yvonne Attwood, Anthony and Anne Keast, Bob and Jenny Lillyman, Paul and Jenn Weaver, Alison Laing, Andrew and Chris Haines, Carol MacKinnon, Bob Maddox, and Katie Evans. We will be joined soon by Roy and Evelyn Turkington, and Sharon Poon

### Prayer Pointers:

- The **Garden Tomb Trustees** meet on 12<sup>th</sup> June. Join us in praying that together we make good, faith-filled decisions.
- The Garden Tomb **Shop Renovation** continues through the summer. Please pray for Simon Sa'ad and his wonderful team of tradesmen who will be on-site until the beginning of September. Praying that visitors will not be distracted by the noise that inevitably accompanies the building work, and that their time at the garden will be a blessing.
- **Ramadan:** started on 26<sup>th</sup> May and will continue until about 24<sup>th</sup> June.  
The Garden Tomb is situated in East Jerusalem, and most of our neighbours are Arab Muslims. Hundreds of thousands of Muslim people from Israel, the West Bank and beyond will be passing the entrance of the garden every week as they go to the mosque on the temple mount to fast and pray. Our prayer is that many will also visit the garden, and that they will hear sense and respond to the love of The Father revealed in Christ Jesus. We pray that those who earnestly seek God will find Him in Jesus the Messiah.

**And finally:** could I ask you to consider joining with us in praying for the ministry of the Garden Tomb. One of the ways you can do this is by going to the Garden Tomb website [www.gardentomb.com](http://www.gardentomb.com) and clicking on the **PRAYER** icon, which you will see on the right hand side of the web page, near the top of the page. Click this button and you will go to the **Prayer Page** where you can find more information about how to join our **24/7 Prayer Network**. You can sign up by following the instructions one step at a time. This should be straight forward, but please email me at [stephen@gardentomb.com](mailto:stephen@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 an update on 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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