



ST GILES HORSPATH PARISH MAGAZINE

May 2010

Our Annual Celebration

During April each year we have our annual celebration of the life and worship of St Giles' Church. This year it was held after a service of morning worship on the last Sunday in the month and I want to take this opportunity to share with you some of the highlights of the church's work this year.

To begin with it has been a year of forming closer links with a number of areas in our community, the first being with our school. Due to the inspired thinking of Emma Coleman, the whole school has regularly been walking down to the church for assemblies and I hope you had an opportunity to see the children's work at the *Experiencing Easter* displays which were set up in the church on Good Friday and took you on a meditative journey through the story of Easter. We also came together last year to put on the June fête which successfully raised nearly £3,000 that was shared by the school and church and was a wonderful community event in itself.

Secondly, our links with our Methodist brethren have become even closer as we welcomed them into the community of St Giles, following the sad closure of their chapel and meeting place. In the light of this development and to provide for those who find the communion service rather daunting, our worship on the fourth Sunday has become non-Eucharistic and follows a simple form of morning worship which has been appreciated.

In the course of the past year we have also been reaching out to the young in our community and, under the brilliant and energetic guidance of Clare Hayns, have been holding a Messy Church on the second Sunday of every month. If you have children aged from 3 to 10 and haven't discovered this blessing to a Sunday afternoon, then do look out for the next one on 9th May in the Methodist Chapel. It is simply what it says, messy church, with things to make and cook on a theme, followed by tea and cake. The afternoon ends with a short and very informal act of worship which brings together everything that has been done.

Our church community has also been building itself up with a number of spiritual events in the past year. Every first Sunday at 5.30 pm there is a *Taize*-style act of worship with chants, words from scripture and, most importantly, silence. It is simply called *Time Out*. We also had a *Quiet Day* at Begbroke Priory on the paintings of Stanley Spencer. For Lent last year house groups were set up to think about Faith, Hope and Love through the York course. Finally during August the sermons focused on Paul's letter to the Ephesians and resulted in a booklet, which can be obtained from the church.

Another area in which there has been enormous development is with our sister churches of St Mary's Garsington and All Saints Cuddesdon. Our relationship with one another has been strengthened and enjoyed by a series of significant developments. The first of these is simply getting together. Jonathan and I both enjoyed inviting the joint PCCs to the Rectory for a party in spring last year and we plan to do the same this year. The joint PCC supper in the autumn was also a very valuable occasion to be together and listen to one another's concerns and joys. Secondly, the formation of the Cluster choir from a wonderful Evensong last year has not only brought us closer together but breathed new life into our Cluster services. Finally, we have been coming to grips with the financial situation of the Cluster. At our joint PCC supper, Simon Richards explained the parish share figures and encouraged us to think more corporately about our finances. This was followed by the meeting of the three Treasurers, who then spoke to their separate PCCs, explaining their comparison of the books and its implications for all three parishes. The Bishop spoke to us at a recent joint stewardship service, highlighting our need to reflect the generosity of God. Both Garsington PCC and Cuddesdon PCC have responded to this message and following the advice of the Deanery have used the allocation of clergy time figure in the calculation of the Parish share to ease Horspath's financial burden for 2011.

This brings me onto the finances of the church. None of our important work would be possible without generous financial support. There were a number of fundraising events last year which raised much needed funds for the church. Nevertheless there was a considerable shortfall in meeting our costs which are approximately £454 a week. The work of St Giles' Church is entirely reliant on your generosity. In the last few months the PCC has therefore been seeking to encourage everyone to review their giving in a spirit of generosity. We would be grateful if you would consider the enclosed leaflet and help support your parish church.

Finally, the annual parochial meeting is also an opportunity to thank all those people who give of their time and money to make the church a place of beauty, reflection, celebration and worship. To all who make St Giles a very special place, thanks.

Emma

CHURCH SERVICES IN MAY

Sunday, 2nd May

Fifth Sunday of Easter

11.00 am

Parish Communion

5.30 pm

Time Out at the Methodist Chapel

Sunday, 9 th May	Sixth Sunday of Easter 8.00 am Holy Communion 11.00 am Parish Communion 3-4.30 pm Messy Church at the Methodist Chapel
Saturday, 15 th May	2.00 pm Wedding of Mark Maciak and Aimee Green
Sunday, 16 th May	Seventh Sunday of Easter 11.00 am Parish Communion
Sunday, 23 rd May	Pentecost 11.00 am Family Service <i>Come and join the birthday party</i>
Sunday, 30 th May	Trinity Sunday 9.30 am Cluster Service at All Saints Cuddesdon



FLOWER ROTA FOR MAY



Sundays	2 nd	Brian and Carol Lowe	9 th	Janet Madden Rebecca Madden-Waite
	16 th	Gill Gray Carol Cuthbert	23 rd	Muriel Walker Nancy Llewelyn
	30 th	Nell Gray Penny Mercer		

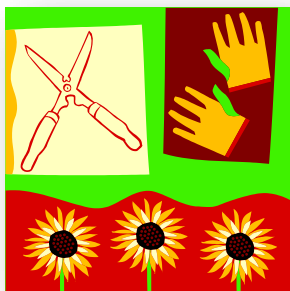
HORSPATH SENIOR RESIDENTS' CLUB

Wednesday, 5th May: Visit to Exbury Gardens. Coach leaves at 9.00 am. £16.00 members, £18.00 non-members.

Wednesday, 19th May: Talk by Daphne Samworth - *The End to End Adventure*. Village Hall at 2.00 pm.

Wednesday, 2nd June: Mystery Tour. Coach leaves at 1.00 pm. Cost is £6.00.

-Sheila Dandridge



HORSPATH GARDENING CLUB

Horspath Gardening Club meets on the second Tuesday of every month. Our summer activities begin this month when we are out and about visiting gardens and listening to expert guides. We usually meet in the village hall car park and fill available cars to travel to evening venues. All are welcome. Please bring a car if you are able to drive but very often we don't need them all, so non-drivers are very welcome.

The next events are:

Tuesday, 11th May: Guided tour of Oxford University Arboretum at Nuneham Courtney with Peers Newth. We will leave the village hall car park promptly at 6.00 pm. The cost is £5.50.

Tuesday, 8th June: A visit to Waterperry for fruit tree care with Chris Lanczak. We will leave the car park at 6.30 pm and the cost is £6.00.

Tuesday, 13th July: A visit to Home Close, Garsington with Monica Waud. Depart car park at 6.00 pm. The cost is £3.50.

For further information, please contact Sheila Frankum on 872793.

Horspath in Bloom – Sunday, 13th June 2010

Planning is now in full swing for our Gardens Open Day in aid of St Giles' Church. A big thank you to all of you who have already offered help to make this another successful event **BUT** we still need more offers. If you would like to help decorate the church, please contact Nell Gray on 872614. Please plant extra seeds and take plants to either Gill Gray or Carol Cuthbert, or leave in the church to be collected. There are three gardens open for teas and they will need cakes and extra chairs and tables. Please bring cakes to the church on the Saturday morning between 10.00 am and 12 noon, or ring Hilary Franklin on 872295.

Two years ago this was a real village occasion – put the date in your diary and come along and enjoy the day. If you can help in any way or have any queries, please contact Sheila Frankum on 872793 or email frankum100@yahoo.co.uk

Horspath Methodist Chapel and Meeting Place

Following the news that the chapel could be sold, we held a Public Meeting which many of you attended. There was considerable support for keeping the chapel open and really imaginative ideas about how it could be used in the future. The local press, radio and TV all gave us publicity and we were able to form a small committee to take matters forward. We submitted a letter for the Methodist circuit meeting in early March, expressing our interest in renting the building. Unfortunately we were advised that, although our submission had been carefully considered, the decision had been that the chapel should be sold. However, they added that they would like to sell it to Horspath Parish Council or another local organisation if at all possible. The Village Hall Committee, which is a charity, asked David Horsley to write to Dr Wellings, the spokesperson for the Methodists, to express an interest in buying the chapel if the price was right. He pointed out that the chapel was built on village green land which could have a bearing on its sale.

So we await further developments. It isn't the outcome that we had hoped for but there is at least a glimmer of hope.

-Anna Radcliffe -Sally Humphrey
