



ST GILES HORSPATH PARISH MAGAZINE

June 2010

From Caroline King, Vicar of Holton, Waterperry, Albury and Waterstock :

As I write this letter, our headlines are still very much dominated by the aftermath of the General Election. For the first time since the Second World War we have a coalition government. The jury is still out on how successful this will be; we have to wait and see and trust that politicians will indeed put the needs of the country above party politics or a personal desire for power and influence.

As we move into June, the church enters the long season after Pentecost. At Pentecost we celebrate God's gift of the Holy Spirit. Last week our church lectionary gave us this verse from John 14:27: "*peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you*". This seemed especially appropriate in the context of our political situation, resulting in the need for real engagement with people of differing views to compromise perhaps deeply held beliefs. In John 14 Jesus promises to send his Holy Spirit and links this specifically with his promise to give us peace. Peace is Jesus' divine gift to his followers on earth. But what does this mean?

Peace is a word I misuse quite often; sometimes to describe the uneasy truce that occurs if my children have had a difference of opinion over a particular toy and I have removed it. But of course that state is not really peace, it is merely the absence of arguing brought about by physical separation. Their previous dispute could erupt again at any minute. On a larger scale this is exactly the state of affairs that exists in a number of international conflicts once a fragile ceasefire has been negotiated. It is a better state than actual fighting but it is not true peace. Negotiators know only too well that true peace is about a lot more than the absence of war.

When Jesus spoke of peace he used the word *Shalom* - the ancient Hebrew word for peace. There is no English word that fully captures its meaning. *Shalom* means completeness, wholeness; it is used to describe a condition of society in which there is total harmony. In the bible the biblical idea of *Shalom* is summed up particularly well in this glorious passage from Isaiah 2:

*“And they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
And their spears into pruning hooks;
Nation shall not lift up sword against nation
Neither shall they learn war anymore”*

For Isaiah, this time belongs in a glorious future. Here Jesus steps beyond that vision. This peace, this *Shalom*, is the divine gift Jesus leaves for his disciples. In so closely identifying peace with his person, Jesus has added a new dimension to the concept of *Shalom*. The fullness of *Shalom* is God’s gift given to us by his presence in the Holy Spirit. It is God’s desire for us that we experience this peace, this *Shalom*, not in the future but now.

However much we desire peace in our own lives or in the world, it always seems illusive. I know personally how easy it is for my human nature to get in the way of my own best intentions. This should not stop us striving after the peace that is Jesus’ desire for us all. True peace is the presence of God bringing about in us inner transformation. The more we allow the love of God to transform our lives and our relationships through prayer and worship and deeds, the more we will be agents of God’s Holy Spirit, transforming the world and bringing about a long desired peace.

With best wishes,
Caroline

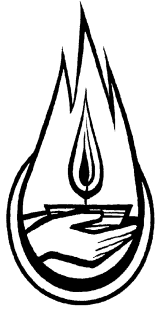
CHURCH SERVICES IN JUNE

Sunday 6 th	(The First Sunday after Trinity)	
	11.00 am	Parish Communion
	5.30 pm	Time Out at Horspath Methodist Church
Sunday 13 th	(The Second Sunday after Trinity)	
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	Parish Communion
	3.00-4.40 pm	Messy Church at St Giles
Sunday 20 th	(The Third Sunday after Trinity)	
	11.00 am	Family Service
Sunday 27 th	(The Fourth Sunday after Trinity)	
	11.00 am	Morning Worship



From the Registers:

Wedding:	15 th May	Aimee Green and Mark Maciak
Interment of Ashes:	14 th May	Alva Peachy



Time Out

Half an hour of music, words and silence on the first Sunday of the month from 5.30 pm to 6.00 pm at the Methodist Church, Horspath

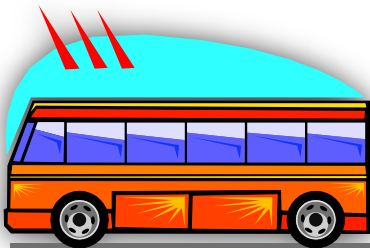
FLOWER ROTA FOR JUNE



Sundays	6 th	Nesta Long Friends of Horspath Churches	13 th	Brian and Carol Lowe
	20 th	Janet Madden Rebecca Madden-Waite	27 th	Gill Gray Carol Cuthbert

Please will anyone who has plants to donate to the Plant Stall at the Gardens Open Day bring them to the church on Saturday, 12th June.

HORSPATH SENIOR RESIDENTS' CLUB



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

Wednesday, 16th June: Entertainment by Horspath Primary School Choir. Village Hall at 2.00 pm.

Monday, 5th July: Christchurch (near Bournemouth). Cost, including cream tea, £13.00 per person. Coach leaves at 9.00 am.

-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 the evening's venue. All are welcome. Please bring a car if you are able to drive but very often we fill cars and many are left at the village hall, so non-drivers are very welcome. The next events are:

Tuesday, 8th June 2010 A visit to Waterperry for fruit tree care with Chris Lanczak, visiting the orchard and talk beforehand. Leave car park at 6.30 pm (promptly). The cost is £6.00.

Tuesday, 13th July 2010 A visit to Home Close, Garsington with Monica Waud. Leave car park at 6.00 pm. The cost is £3.50.

For further information contact Sheila Frankum on 872793.

Horspath Gardens Open Day

Sunday, 13th June 2010

1.00pm until 6.00pm

Floral display in St. Giles; 15 gardens to visit; plant stall; teas and the school garden open

Our Gardens Open Day is in aid of St Giles Church and we would like the whole village and friends to enjoy the day. Buy your programme in the church or at any of the gardens that are open. The village hall car park is available for those travelling any distance. If you have cakes or plants, please bring them to the church on the Saturday morning from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon or before to me at 27 Butts Road. Also, if you have garden chairs or tables that you could lend for the afternoon, please let me know. There are three gardens open for teas and they will need cakes and extra chairs, etc.

For any further concerns contact Sheila Frankum tel: 872793 or email frankum100@yahoo.co.uk

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