

No 26 September 2018

## HILFIELD'S VISION



It's been a busy summer. In our education programme, with our many visitors, we've woven baskets and reflected on ecology, gone deeper in understanding Islam, considered how Christian hope can underpin action on ecology; reflected on and practiced creativity; and deepened our understanding of Franciscan prayer.

We've enjoyed working cooperatively with our neighbours in the care of our land. We've appreciated the richness of Hilfield's wild flowers, and delighted in seeing the butterflies and moths which share our land. The Families Camp and the Youth Camp joined us in July / August. The guest houses have been bulging, and the kitchen a hive of industry as we cater for up to 50 guests a day.

Underpinning all this is of course our life of prayer. Our spirituality is the bedrock of what we do. This summer we as a community have spent time re-affirming and re-thinking our mission, and have together written our new Vision Statement:

### Hilfield Vision Statement

In our daily living we aspire to be:

**Rooted** – we seek to live simply and gratefully, caring for the Friary land that we have been entrusted with.

**Christian** – Following Christ in the way of St Francis we care for the poor & marginalized of our society and all of creation.

**Family** – An open and inclusive community that welcomes all people and creation.

*Adopted by the community September 4th, 2018*

### The Hilfield Community

Continuing the Franciscan witness, long-established at the Friary, the Community consists of both vowed Franciscan Brothers of the Anglican Society of St Francis and also lay community members who seek to nurture and share the Franciscan values of justice, peace and the integrity of creation. Inspired by St Francis of Assisi, the Community offers hospitality to people of different faiths and no acknowledged faith and works for a more gentle and respectful care for the earth.

## Brother Giles SSF 1934—2018

Br Giles SSF died peacefully on Sunday 19th August in Dorset County Hospital, after suffering from Parkinson's Disease for many years.

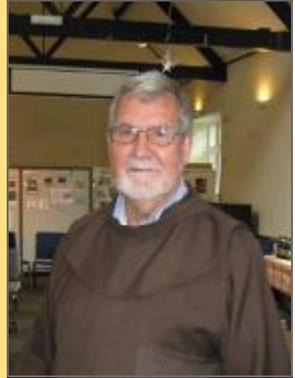
On August 30th the Friary family along with Br. Giles' family and many friends came together to celebrate his life. It was an extremely intimate celebration: fully demonstrating our core values as a grounded Christian family. No undertakers were involved. The community

members dug the grave, Clark, Hugh and Jonathan went to the hospital morgue to bring Giles home. Jonathan made the casket of willow, Suzi lined it with wool from our sheep. Giles' niece Jane created a beautiful floral arrangement of wildflowers to go on the casket. Br. Benedict delivered the homily. Giles' nephews carried the casket from the chapel to the cemetery. Everyone present helped fill in the grave. Our friends Caroline and Louise catered a wonderful luncheon afterward for nearly 130 people. It was heart warming and a touch heart breaking. It was love poured out in honour of a life well lived in simplicity and joy in the service of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

May our brother Giles rest in peace and rise in glory.

**Brother Clark, Guardian, Hilfield Friary**

*The text of the funeral homily can be found on our website under 'sermons'.*



## Upcoming events this autumn

**Seeking Refuge** – Friday 12th to Sunday 14th October. Jonathan Herbert and Br Hugh lead a weekend to explore issues of immigration in the light of the Gospel.

**A Time and a Season for everything: Craft at the Friary** – Wednesday 7th to Sunday 11th November. Suzi Herbert will help you to get creative!

**Poetry Weekend on John Keats** – 16th to 18th November – with Elizabeth Cook.

Please see full details on website. Booking is essential for these events – some are becoming fully booked already. Please contact Suzi at the Friary Office (01300 341741) who will also advise about an appropriate donation to cover costs.

The **Monthly Lunch Clubs** for older people this autumn will be on 9th Oct, 13th Nov and 11th Dec. Please book in good time with Suzi.

# The land and the garden

**From Brother Clark, Garden Manager:** The garden has been bursting with vegetables and fruit: squash, tomatoes, beans, lettuce, all sorts, and much fruit which is fast being made into jam. A bumper harvest.



**From Richard, our Land Manager:** “We continue to nurture and enjoy our animals. The Friary has had 8 lambs this year. In July we mowed the camping field with the ‘cut and collect’ machine of Dorset County Council; the Friary tractor took the ‘green hay’ to the new fields and Dorset Wildlife Trust volunteers spread it out; a way of spreading the wild flower seeds and a great example of neighbourly cooperation. We’ve been monitoring wildlife—at the Big Butterfly Count in July, 170 were counted in all of 14 different species. With the help of friends we’ve surveyed our moths each month —over 600 moths of 60 species on Aug 18th! Full results on the website. There have been nine pairs of House Martins nesting, and one had a second brood – so ten broods in all”.



## Some goodbyes ...

**This summer we said goodbye to 3 volunteers who had been with us for a year.** Our prayers and good wishes for their futures are with them all:

**Luke**—he and Vicky were married on August 17th, and are currently moving to Ripon College, Cuddesdon for Luke to begin his training for Ordination.

**Lei**—has been back in China for a month now, painting, and preparing for the next steps with her Fine Arts studies. She writes that her time at Hilfield helped her grow in skills and knowledge, and started an exploration into Christianity. She ‘feels like Hilfield will always be like a family to me’.

**Sam**—from his home in South India he writes: “ Dear all, my days in Hilfield gave me every day a valuable treasure; I learned the life of simplicity, care and respect for nature, hospitality, silence to wait on God and much more. I consider my days in Hilfield as golden days, and I am taking these teachings to churches in India. I want to thank Brother Clark and the Hilfield Community from deep down my heart for their love and care to me”. Sam married Beryl on Sept 26th, and together they will volunteer in Mother Theresa’s Missionaries of Charity in Kolkata. Then he waits to hear from the Bishop of Kolkata about his placement and ordination.

## ... and warm welcomes to ...



**Hong Kyung-hee** (known as Hee, photo on left with Katie) Hee is staying with us until November. She lives in a village one hour from Seoul, South Korea, and teaches in a free school. She was referred to us by Br. Stephen SSF guardian of our friary in Gangwan-do, Republic of Korea.

**Hannah Kuliga** is with us as a gap year volunteer for a year, and comes from a town near Dusseldorf. She is sent to us by the Evangelische Kirche of the Rhineland. She looks looking forward to new and different experiences from her life at home in Germany, particularly the experience of community.



**Michael Lester** came to us as a volunteer in July for 6 months, to experience life in community and to have some time for discernment. He's very much enjoying taking part in and helping with all the activities and events at Hilfield.

An early welcome also to **Ruby Kennet**, from India, who arrives with us as a volunteer in October.

**And welcome back to Simon Munroe** who has returned from his time at the Pilsdon community in Kent. He is pleased to help in the Friary community again. He says is it 'like coming back home to be among the Franciscans.'

## Many thanks!

... to **Sara**, for being our PA for 10 years. Thank you Sara for all your hard work!



... and to **Katie and Luke** for designing our calendar for 2019—some fresh verses to the Canticle of the Creatures! Calendar on sale in the shop, £5.



A reminder about the **HOST** programme - a programme to offer hospitality to newly arrived international students. There's a particular need for hosts around Christmas time. See [www.hostuk.org/](http://www.hostuk.org/)

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