



## Hilfield Volunteers

There are currently 26 people in our community. The 'still centre' are the six SSF brothers and the long-term lay volunteers, people who are committed to being with us for some years. They form the bedrock of the community.

And then there are volunteers who come for less than a year. All very different, from a range of countries, here for a variety of reasons, and for different lengths of time. We value and enjoy them hugely.

Since May, Debbie, Hee, and Nathan were joined by Yakup, Eva, Thamar and Sam. What do they value about their time with us? They come from very different contexts, and every one will have a different story. To give a flavour, here is something which Thamar wrote for this Update. She spent 3 months with us this summer, and is now back in Germany. She writes:



Hee (South Korea), Yakup (Turkey), Eva (Germany), Nathan (USA)

"I needed a new breath for my soul. I found a fabulous scenery, big old oaks, hedges between the fields, a secret garden. I met a robin in the kitchen garden. And I felt a reverence for life.

I looked for a renewal for my faith. I found rest in the morning and evening prayer. I got the Eucharist every day. I rediscovered the great love of God.

I searched for a re-organisation for my life. I found people who confided in me. I found some responsibility and became more and more self-confident. I had good conversations with guests and members of community. I had fun, I laughed, I danced, I was surprised (about English competitions, foot /bridle paths, and traffic!)

I had an intensive time with more heights than depths. I can be as I am. And I'm alright. That's what I take home.

Thank you for this wonderful time. Thamar Schaarschmidt

If you, or anyone you know, would like to consider joining the community as a volunteer for a few months or a year, do be in touch.

## From Brother Clark, Hilfield Guardian:

This summer at Hilfield brought an impression of abundance. There was a bounty from the garden and the joyousness of children at Families Camp. Youth Camp, according to Brother Ethan "Was really great!" In terms of programmes, we were blessed to have Sir Ghillean Prance lead us September 6-8 in reflection on Science and care of creation: calling us to an ethical, moral and spiritual revolution in the way we live on the planet. For the Stigmata festival September 14th the weather was bright and sunny. A beautiful Mass was celebrated in the courtyard.



In the afternoon, Br. Clark, and Hilfield volunteers Lynn Fry and Nathan Beall, inspired by the wounds of Francis in the Stigmata, spoke on woundedness. Lynn spoke on woundedness in family and society, Nathan spoke on the woundedness of the Church, Clark talked about the wound of addiction and what the Church can learn from the recovery community. This year is the 800th Anniversary of the meeting between St. Francis and the Sultan. Hilfield celebrated this landmark event in inter-religious dialogue with a retreat starting on St Francis Day, Oct 4th, led by Br. Philip Bartholomew and Br. Clark.

## News of the Land

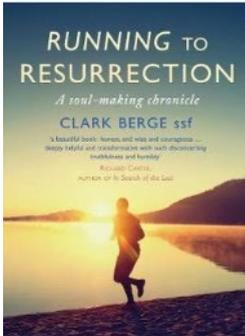
**The kitchen garden** has been full of abundance all summer. Crops were abundant, salads of all descriptions, runner and French beans, courgettes, and vibrant crops of flowers too, sweet peas, cosmos, marigold and nasturtium to 'confuse the pests' as Tony put it., and some to contribute to colourful salads.

**On the Land**, haymaking produced an abundant 1000 bales. Some of our wildflower hay was spread on the Dorset County Council land to increase their range of species. Richard encouraged community members to take part in a butterfly count over the summer— see results of this and other wildlife sightings the website and conservation cloister ...



# Other news

On September 20th, Brother Hugh took part in the Global Climate strike in Canterbury. Other brothers from other friaries attended similar rallies in Alnwick, London and Oxford. Hugh, Jonathan Herbert and brothers from other friaries hope to be involved with Christian Climate action at Westminster in October.



Hilfield Friary is excited to announce the publication by Canterbury press of Br. Clark's book 'Running to Resurrection'. It will be available after October 30.

Jonathan headed a team this summer to renovate the whole of the Chapel roof ... last done 70 years ago. Quite a task.

**Harvest Thank You to supporters ...** Hog roast, (one of our own hogs, of course), and Harvest Show ... a wonderful evening with great entertainment compered by Chantal.



**Hilfield Friary  
2020 Calendar is  
ready now!**

In the shop, or  
ring the office  
£5



**There are currently spaces available on the Craft Week, 24th—27th Oct , and on the Pre-Advent Quiet Day Sat 30th October. Please see details on website.**

## **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.

# Comings and goings

Since the last edition in May, the Community has welcomed ....



**Brother Ethan**, who became a Novice at Christmas 2018 while at Alnmouth Friary. Before SSF he'd qualified as a Librarian, then worked as a Pastoral Assistant in a team of 22 churches in Herefordshire.

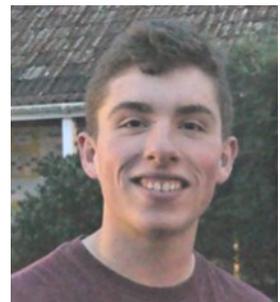


**Eva**, a volunteer from the Evangelische Kirche in Rheinland, Germany. She is enjoying the community, the other volunteers, working outside on practical tasks, and learning English.

**Brother Malcolm** has arrived from Glasshampton. He writes: "I joined SSF in 1967 and am very pleased to be back where I started all those years ago. I look forward to some new challenges and opportunities and feel very at home already. Thank you for making me so welcome as I settle in".



**"My name is Yakup.** I am a member of the Syrian Orthodox Church in Turkey. My mother-language is Aramaic. I came here to experience a different culture, and life in a Christian community."



Sam, who arrives in early October, having visited on a University retreat.

## And we said farewell to ...

**Brother Raymond** who has moved on to the SSF house in Alnmouth, after being at Hilfield for 8 years.

**Katie**, who helped wonderfully in many different roles for 2 years. She now lives and works in Oxford. We wish her well.