



THE PILSDON COMMUNITY

Sharing a common life of prayer, hospitality and work

NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN 2017

PILSDON TURNS 59 THIS YEAR!

Who would have dreamed that Percy Smith's Vision of a community, that is a place of rest along the journey, would still be thriving through so many decades of social and economic changes and still be able to declare the same ethos as the founder.



We remain a community dedicated to serving others in practical and transformative ways through the pattern of our day to day lives; our worship and prayer at 4 distinct times throughout the day, and our ethic of work and hospitality.



Please join us for this year's celebration on Sunday 15 October beginning at 10:00 AM. We will be talking about plans for our 60th Anniversary in 2019. And, we are very pleased to welcome the Bishop of Sherborne, Bishop Karen!

COMINGS, GOINGS AND TRANSITIONS

On May 15 we bade a grand and sad farewell to Chris and Jane Renyard. Having spent 5 years as members of the community they both brought much light and love to the community and are dearly missed.

Welcome to Rachel who joined us in July as a volunteer. Rachel has travelled from Scotland to be with us and is fitting in well with the life of the community!



Jimmy Holden, a former volunteer in the community, was ordained Deacon at Salisbury Cathedral on 2 July. Blessings!



70th RUNNING OF THE SHAVE CROSS 5 MILE RACE

Yes! The Pilsdon Community was represented by a team of compassionate yet fiercely competitive runners who were all placed well in the final standings. It was also great fun to be competing with each other and neighbours. The greater

community participated by hosting a water station for the runners right by Bill's Cottage.

OH, THE ANIMALS

We have acquired a boar who has been dubbed Boris! He is proving to be quite quick and keen to take strolls around the yard!



Welcome Dominic!

GARDENING UPDATES -

THE NGG (NEW GIGANTIC GREENHOUSE)

Some very kind people purchased a house in Beaminster which had an 8' x 14' Hartley Greenhouse occupying half of their garden and was of no use to them. With a visit to Pilsdon the deal was done and the greenhouse generously donated. After some construction work at Pilsdon; laying a new slab, relocating compost bins, and working around the muck pile, it has arrived and is a remarkable feature of the garden.

Once complete it will have its own water source and electric which will power the heaters for germination and provide enough space for many projects at once.

We are very grateful!



THE GARDENS

The kitchen garden has been as abundant as usual. Our meals are full of healthy vegetables and the herb garden especially has flourished under Amy's care. A variety of our flowers have been grown by Cheryl which has kept the bees happy and made the garden very decorative.

We have had a bumper crop of apples, shortly to be made into Juice. The tomatoes, grapes, aubergines, peppers, melons, celery, and leeks have been especially noteworthy.

We are enormously grateful to the donors who have given us plants and Garden Centre Vouchers for the front garden bed. This is due to be

planted up in the autumn. So, hopefully there will be pictures in the newsletter early next year!

OTHER EVENTS

In July we enjoyed an outing to the Stoke Abbott Fayre. Games and antiques and books were the order of the day. And the weather cooperated!



POWER CLEANING!

In April we received a very kind and enormous offer from "Dorset Surface Cleaning" to spend a day in the community and to assist us with any projects we may have. During the course of the day both the photovoltaic panels and solar panels were cleaned, dairy winter quarters were mucked out, pressure washed and disinfected, rototilling in the garden was greatly progressed, and the drains were cleared towards the Manor House.



Not only working shoulder to shoulder with people in the community, they also enjoyed the hospitality of morning coffee & biscuits, a hearty lunch, and tea and toast. Their dedication and hard work made our transition from winter to spring much easier. Thank you!!

THE WARDEN WRITES...



As you would have read, we have a new greenhouse which has brought with it great expectations for the future of Pilsdon gardening, or so we think. At the same time we are cutting back long abandoned hedges that no longer need to be so tall as to block the view (and smell) of the old sewerage system, patching together lawn mowers in order to get another year out of them, repairing parts of buildings in hopes of stalling any further erosion by aging, and working on the continual project of removing ivy from the garden walls.

It is always a struggle between the old and the new, the unexpected gift and the reworking of old solutions. And, like everyone else, it is all measured against cost and utilization. The hedge trimming opens up new

light and space in the vegetable garden while the greenhouse has allowed us to rethink our composting situation and created a for purpose solution, incorporated behind the greenhouse. Money saved and money spent and all with the labour of people offering to Pilsdon their best their resources: expertise, sweat and love.

As we approach both this Anniversary and coming up to the big 60th, I am humbled by what happens within this community. Not just the physical work, but the transformation in peoples' lives that accompanies every aspect of Pilsdon's life. We provide a place of safety and daily routines which are healthy and God pulses through our day to day in unseen ways.

Hopefully your hope for Pilsdon will be renewed with this anniversary and in our preparations to continue for many more. We thank you for your support both in prayer and in material support. We would not be celebrating if it weren't for all you provide to the Pilsdon Community!

UPCOMING EVENTS

15 October 2017 – Pilsdon's 59th Anniversary Celebration

Come and join us for our annual Pilsdon Celebration! Coffee will begin at 10:00 am. Everyone is welcome to join us for a fun and informative time!

- 10:00 Arrive and Coffee
- 10:45 Meeting with Trustees and Warden
- 12:00 Eucharist
- 1:00 Luncheon and Cake Cutting
- 3:00 Depart



9 December 2017 – Pilsdon Christmas Stall in Bridport Market

17 December 2017 at 6:30pm – Carols and Lessons

24 December 2017 at 9:00pm – Sunday Eucharist

25 December 2017 at 11:00am – Christmas Morning Eucharist Barn Service

31 December 2017 at 10:00am – Sunday Eucharist