

BRIDGEMEDIA

'Do something extra for Lent'

"She has done a beautiful thing to me." Matthew 26:10 & Mark 14:6

March 1st is the first day of Lent, which follows Shrove Tuesday when we traditionally eat pancakes. The reason that people made pancakes in the past was that they used up all their sweet ingredients before Lent started and then "gave up" such luxuries until after Easter. Today we eat such a variety of good food that for most of us this doesn't really happen, but it has left behind it a practice which some people have of "giving up something for Lent". This might be chocolate or going to the cinema or a variety of different things. I think that a better option is that we "do something extra in Lent".

Three of the gospel accounts record the incident of the woman who anointed Jesus with precious perfume during the last days of his life. You might say that she was giving up the perfume, but the important thing was that she was doing something positive for Jesus; when people criticised her Jesus said that she had done a beautiful thing to him as he waited for his crucifixion.

Our something extra in Lent could be like that as we wait and ponder Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. We are called to love God and to love each other, which immediately points us to things we could do. Spending more time reading the Bible, giving thanks and praying should draw us closer to God and help us to think of the significance of Easter for us and how much God has done for us. Being more loving to one another is a very practical way of showing our gratitude to God. We can do this by being grateful to each other, by encouraging one another, by simply listening and talking to others more. I'm going to try! How about you?

Alan Ashworth

A Message from the Chairman of the Trustees

Hullo Bridgemedians

This month we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the opening of Bridgemed. We welcomed our first two residents to Bridgemed on 9th March 1992. What a great occasion this was and what an amazing 25 years this has been! I am sure that the Home will mark the occasion appropriately.

As we continue to serialise the *Remarkable Story of Bridgemed* we can see strong similarities between the experiences of the team 25 years ago and our own experiences in 2017. This month's edition of *Bridgemed* focuses on the application for planning approval in 1988, which is very timely because we will have reached precisely this point by the time you read this, and we await the outcome of this process. Let's pray that this will go smoothly.

As the *Remarkable Story* unfolds it will be clear how much the design process and the fundraising effort proceeded hand in hand. I am sure this will be the same for us and will be a significant challenge as it was 25 years ago. We are in the process of appointing a fundraiser to work with the Trustees and I am sure you will hear more about this in due course and will, I hope, want to get behind this. It has been a real encouragement to learn that a local charity has already promised a generous donation towards the project.

So we have reached a very exciting stage and are more conscious than ever of the need to depend on God to provide the resources we need at every stage, not just to make a good start but to bring to completion what we believe God is calling us to do. He has provided so far. Please join us in prayer that we will keep our eyes fixed on Him continue to trust him.

Blessings as ever.



Farewell

Miss Leslie Corp passed peacefully away at Bridgemoor on Thursday 2nd February 2017. Leslie will be much missed by all those who knew and cared for her.

Mrs Betty Newton passed quietly away at Bridgemoor on Sunday 5th February 2017. Betty will be much missed by all those who knew her.

Mr David King passed peacefully away on Wednesday 8th February 2017. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends. David will be much missed by all those who knew him.



Night

Sweet eyes that looked in mine,
How long, how long ago!
And still today I see you shine,
And all your love I know.

Dear eyes that look in mine,
How sweet, how sweet and true!
When all is dark and no stars shine,
I have no light but you.

So when the last long end shall be
And darkness calls my heart,
Ah! Look dear eyes, your last on me,
And let me thus depart.

Fred. E. Weatherley

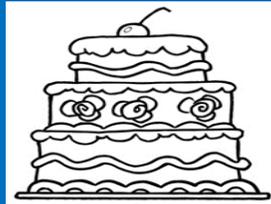
March Birthdays

Residents

2nd March - Jean Kemmery

10th March - Marion Williams

17th March - Doris Scullard



March Activities

Wednesday 1st March - Kennet & Avon Handbells

Wednesday 8th March - Holly Marks sings

Friday 10th March - Phil Smith entertains

Monday 13th March - 'Forget-me-Not' sing and play

Wednesday 15th March - 'Now & Then' sing

Friday 17th March - Bing Lyle plays the accordion

Monday 20th March - 'Musica' musical variety with Ella

Tuesday 21st March - David Kniveton plays soothing flute music

Wednesday 22nd March - Ann and visiting dogs, Lewis & Lacey

Friday 24th March - Mike Renton & Friends 'Singalong'

Monday 27th March - Christian Cox plays the piano

Tuesday 28th March - James Hogg's 'Music & memories'

Friends of Bridgemead

Hello Bridgemedians,

Is Spring really around the corner? – I think so – I have saffron, snowdrops and daffodils in my garden so I think we're getting there! I hope so, because as I type I am also deciding what to pack for my half-term holiday in Devon with my children and grandchildren...and I'm taking my husband along too! Very generous of me!! We are usually very lucky with holiday weather so I hope this one is no different.

I hope to welcome many of you to the Beetle Drive on Friday 3 March 7pm at Bridgemead. Tickets are on sale from Rosemary on reception, the price includes a Ploughman's Supper. £8 per ticket, please bring your own tipple.

Bridgemead Easter Coffee Morning is on Saturday 8 April. We are sticking to the same formula as last year – Phoenix Cards will be there and a couple of other stalls including one selling cakes. Please come along and support this happy event, 10.30am at Bridgemead. Coffee and cake will also be on offer at £2.

May 12 is the date for our very popular Quiz and Fish & Chip Supper, 7pm Bridgemead - £12 - please bring your own tipple! Tickets will be on sale from Rosemary very soon.

Other dates for your diary July 11 is the AGM 7.30pm at Bridgemead. It would be lovely to see some of you there!

July 22 we will be holding our Strawberry Tea, this is always a very happy afternoon so we shall be delighted to see you there – 2.30pm Bridgemead.

Una

The Remarkable Story of Bridgemead

Part 9. Towards Planning Approval

The Appeal Launch in June 1988 paved the way for the submission for planning approval. A planning group was set up to manage this process and the fundraising process. At one of the first planning meetings the Trustees were reminded, from Psalm 127 v. 1 that:-

“Unless the LORD build the house, its builders labour in vain.”

This verse was to become a guiding principle for all that followed.

At the first meeting it was decided to aim for submission for planning approval in September 1988. It was also suggested that a model of the scheme would help the planners and the supporters of the scheme to envisage the final building. Architectural models were expensive to produce and the Trustees turned to Grace Bratton, a supporter of the project and a well-known local artist, for assistance. This presented a new challenge for Grace, but she set about the task with her usual efficiency.

Having obtained advice of which materials to be used (and having purchased a micrometer especially for the purpose) Grace translated the Architect's plans and elevations into a lovely model which continues to take pride of place in the Quiet Room at Bridgemead to the present day. The model was submitted as part of the planning application in September 1988. Grace's time and effort, given freely, greatly assisted the process of obtaining planning approval and was to be an inspiration in the future fundraising campaign that was to follow. Many years later Grace was welcomed as a resident.

The planning process did not go as smoothly as the Trustees would have wished due to various objections; one in particular which described the scheme as:-

“... an appalling design ... it is a 1960's monstrosity that rises from the riverside like a giant concrete shoe box on stilts.”

Immediately on completion of the project a more informed commentator wrote to the local newspaper in more enlightened terms:-

“This building is both intellectual and emotional, positive but modest, functional but artistic. Fortunately the planning committee understood its merits. I'm reserving my place now.”

Planning approval was granted on 30th November 1988 but many further challenges needed to be faced – not least in the area of fundraising. More of which next month.

Keep on running!

We have a runner for the London Marathon on 23rd April who is running to raise funds for Bridgemed. His name is Stuart Weekes and he has set up a '*Just Giving*' page. If you want to support Stuart you can enquire at reception; alternatively visit his '*Just Giving*' page which is:-

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserProfilePage.action?userUrl=StuartWeekes>

Stuart visited Bridgemed on Tuesday 14th February to meet the residents for afternoon tea. He talked with them about his marathon training and the 26 miles ahead.

We'd like to thank Stuart for choosing to run the marathon for Bridgemed and to wish him all the very best for race day!



Virgin Money Giving

Bridgemead has a Virgin Money Giving Page set up. If anyone would be interested in giving, the link to it is: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/finalCharityHomepage.action?charityId=1007255>

Please note that Bridgemedica can now be found on our website. Go to www.bridgecare.org.uk, click on Bridge-media and you will find the latest issue. We also now have a page for Staff Vacancies on the website.

If you would prefer to receive your copy of Bridgemedica by e-mail, can you please let us know on admin@bridgecare.org.uk

All contributions to this newsletter are welcome from residents, relatives, staff and volunteers. If you have something you think would be of interest, anecdotes, personal recollections, news events, short poems or anything relevant would be welcome. Published by Bridge Care Ltd, Bridgemead, 81 St John's Road, Bathwick, Bath BA2 6PZ. Bridge Care is a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity under number 299400. Limited Company registration number 2001246

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services.

Bridge Care Ltd

Bridgemead

81 St John's Road

Bathwick

Tel: 01225 484904

Email: admin@bridgecare.org.uk

Visit us on the web at
www.bridgecare.org.uk