

BRIDGEMEDIA

“Remember, remember”

Jesus said, “Do this in remembrance of me.” Luke 22:19-20

There are many things that we remember as a nation. As I am writing this it is the fiftieth anniversary of the Aberfan disaster when so many children were killed as their school was buried in coal slurry in 1966. This year, and this month in particular, we are remembering the hundredth anniversary of the Battle of the Somme during the First World War.

Each November we remember November 5th, the anniversary of the Gunpowder plot in 1605, when the Houses of Parliament were threatened. On the 11th November, Armistice Day, we try to remember all those on whatever side who lost their lives during the two world wars and in all other conflicts since. It is good to “remember” – to “bring to mind” other peoples’ sadness and sacrifice.

On the day before Jesus died he shared the Last Supper with his disciples and said to them, “Do this in remembrance of me” – “eat the bread to remember that my body was nailed to a cross so that you can be reconciled to God, and drink the wine to remember that my blood was shed so that you can be forgiven and receive the promise of eternal life.” A little bit later Jesus said, “Greater love has no one than this that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.” This applies to those apostles then, and to all his followers since. The reason that we share in the Communion Service is so that we do “bring to mind” just how much God loves us and what Jesus did for us on the cross. However, God’s love for us is so great that remembrance of it and gratitude for it ought to be something that we are doing all the time.

Alan Ashworth

A Message from the Chairman of the Trustees

Hullo Bridgemedians

By the time you read this the clocks will have changed and we are, yet again, into Greenwich Mean Time. It doesn't make a lot of difference to most of us, except allowing us to enjoy (or endure!) an extra hour in bed for one night in the year.

It is interesting to realise once more that the seasons are always changing and we are now well into autumn. This reminds me that life is constantly changing for us, but God never changes – he remains the same.

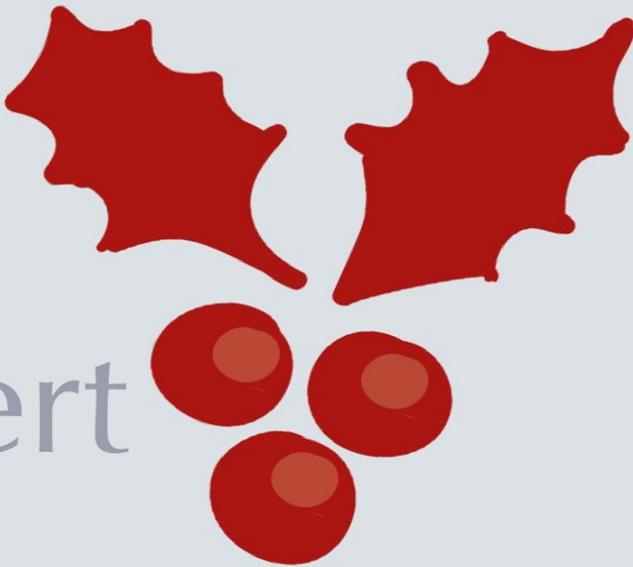
Talking about change leads me to share with you that our outline plans to update Bridgemedad and improve our flood resilience. The Trustees have submitted their selected scheme to the planners for early consultation. This is not planning approval – that will come later. The planners are looking at our proposals and we attended a meeting with them to discuss this. We wait until 9th November for their comments, after which we can continue with the detailed design phase. We have a team of architects, engineers and a quantity surveyor working on this. Please pray about this process.

Wednesday 9th November is also an important date for your diaries because this affords an opportunity for you to meet the design team and view the plans that are currently being considered by the planners. There will be two meetings that you can choose from – either 1.30pm or 6.30pm. The meetings are at Bridgemedad and are open to relatives, 'Friends', volunteers, staff, trustees – in fact anybody with an interest in Bridgemedad – especially readers of Bridgemedad. This will be an opportunity for you to ask questions and make any suggestions you have.

I do hope as many of you as possible will come on 9th November. This will be a good time for you to see the result of months of hard work and, hopefully, feel excited about the next phase of Bridgemedad's 'remarkable story'. I am excited that, even as we read the story of what God has done in past years, we can be part of the story of what he is doing today. Please come and be part of this story.

We have encouraged ourselves from accounts of God at work in the lives of people in the Old Testament. The main thing that encourages me is that, unlike us, God never changes in his faithfulness to those who trust in him. Aren't you encouraged by this as well?





Carol Concert

Free Carol Concert with popular local choir The
Silver Ring Choir of Bath for residents, friends,
and family.

Monday 5 December 2016
18.30

Mulled wine and mince pies

This is a free event in the main hall of Bridgemead,
but please let us know you are coming by emailing
bridgecare@outlook.com or calling 01225 484904.

November Birthdays

Residents

8th November - Marjorie Bryant

21st November - Eileen SurrIDGE

Day Club

8th November - Jean Holden



November Activities

Tuesday 1st November - 'Myathon' entertains

Thursday 3rd November - Monkton Farleigh Singers

Monday 7th November - 'Forget-me-Not' sing and play

Wednesday 9th November - 'Now & Then' sing

Thursday 10th November - Storytelling group with Janet

Friday 11th November - Mike Renton's afternoon 'singalong'

Tuesday 15th November - David Kniveton plays the flute

Thursday 17th November - Storytelling group with Janet

Friday 18th November - Phil Smith plays the guitar

Monday 21st November - Gavin Lazarus sings and plays

Tuesday 22nd November - Holly Marks music and songs

Wednesday 23rd November - Ann and visiting dogs Lewis & Lacey

Farewell

Mrs Betty Pearce passed peacefully away at Bridgemead on 20th October 2016. Our prayers and thoughts are with her family at this time.



Friends of Bridgemead

Hello Bridgemedians,

I've just returned from a glorious couple of weeks in Northumberland and Yorkshire..... excellent weather and stunning scenery! Probably my favourite day was when we went to Lindisfarne. It was very early in the morning when very few people were around – it was so spiritual and peaceful – a magical experience! The seals on the Farne Islands were also wonderful to see.

Our first event is Pam's Residents' Coffee Morning on Thursday November 17, 10.45am at Bridgemead. We have asked Clare Wilson to bring Phoenix Cards to this event. She will have a large selection of seasonal and general greeting cards on view, together with wrapping paper and gifts. Please come along and bring your friends.

The Christmas Fayre is on Saturday 3 December 2.30pm at Bridgemead. We shall be offering the usual attractions, cakes, cards, books, tombola, £1 stall, gifts and this year two stalls of jewellery! In addition we shall be holding a hamper raffle and 'Guess the Weight of the Cake'. Refreshments will be on sale - £2 for coffee/tea and a mince pie! Please support this important fund raising event.

Two other dates for your diaries – Friday 3 March 2017 a Beetle Drive with Ploughman's Supper. 7pm at Bridgemead cost £8. Bring your own tippie. Friday 12 May 2017 will feature our ever popular Quiz and Fish & Chip Supper. 7 pm Bridgemead cost £12. Bring your own tippie. We hope to see many of you there!

A few annual subscriptions are still outstanding, our Treasurer, Wendy, would love to take £5 from you!

Una

The Remarkable Story of Bridgemead

Part 5. The Vision Grows

The loss of the property that the Trustees had hoped for was the first of a number of disappointments that they were to experience. Through their tenacity and the conviction that they were being led by God the group persevered. Gerald Ryan recalls that through their disappointments they grew stronger – it was as if they were being tested and, through the testing, were being tempered. They needed to prove to themselves and others that this enterprise would work and they would meet their objectives.

March 1987 proved to be a turning point in our story. This was only some six months after the group had discovered they could not raise £250,000 to purchase a house. Yet by March they were able to make an offer for a plot of land in Bathwick and were contemplating a project that would eventually cost £2million! How did these event transpire in such a short space of time?

The first encouragement to the trustees was the inspirational account of the regeneration of St Nicholas parish church in Durham. Its story was told in a book entitled 'The Church in the Market Place'. This small church's building was in a strategic location in the town market-place and was transformed by its small, praying congregation which raised £350,000 from its own resources in just two years. The building had been an unwelcoming but was adapted to meet the needs of its community. The then vicar of St Nicolas was none other than Rev George Carey who was to become the Bishop of Bath & Wells; later the Archbishop of Canterbury. George Carey's book was an inspiration to our group and helped to raise its vision. Bishop George was also to become a friend and support to Bridgemead during its development. As Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey formally opened Bridgemead in 1992.

The second encouragement was a partnership with 'Help the Aged'. The trustees had approached 'Help the Aged' for financial support in August 1986. Meetings were held with them in October 1986 and subsequently in January 1987 during which it was became clear that this organisation was interested in supporting the trustees.

Both of these events enabled the group to contemplate the construction of a purpose built property on a beautiful site with a river frontage in Bathwick. But there was a long way to go before this vision became a reality and, at times, it was to be a difficult journey.

We will encounter some of these difficulties in next month's instalment of our 'Remarkable Story'.

Bath All Comers Orchestra

After coming to play for the residents of Bridgemead in July, Bath All Comers Orchestra are coming to play again on Wednesday 23rd November from 6pm. Friends and family are welcome to join us for a delightful evening's entertainment.



Can you help?

We need volunteers to lead a short daily devotion for residents. It starts at 11.45am and lasts approximately fifteen minutes and usually consists of prayer, a bible reading and hymn singing. If you feel you could support the residents of Bridgemead with this spiritual activity, please contact Michelle Jenner, Activities Co-ordinator. Telephone 01225 484 904.



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

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Give us a call for more information about our services.

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