



**bridgemead**

**Bridgemia  
Newsletter  
May 2022**

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**LILY OF THE VALLEY**

**MAY BIRTH FLOWER**

# Songs from Musicals

S	M	R	M	R	R	E	V	I	L	O	E	T	E
T	A	O	O	O	M	B	E	E	I	O	L	E	E
T	M	O	N	E	O	E	H	F	M	Y	E	S	D
O	M	D	M	M	U	H	N	E	E	R	M	N	E
M	A	Y	B	F	L	B	Y	E	R	O	A	U	L
O	M	R	U	O	I	N	U	D	O	M	S	S	W
R	I	E	A	K	N	M	B	T	D	E	Q	E	E
R	A	V	A	N	R	A	L	H	O	M	U	S	I
O	A	E	M	I	O	R	L	E	G	R	E	I	S
W	O	E	E	H	U	I	I	B	T	Y	R	R	S
E	O	S	R	T	G	A	W	I	I	A	A	N	I
I	E	O	I	R	E	W	O	R	T	S	D	U	L
I	H	L	C	R	C	S	H	D	E	A	E	S	S
W	O	C	A	B	U	C	W	S	L	O	M	O	E

FEED THE BIRDS  
 MAMMA MIA  
 CLOSE EVERY DOOR  
 DO-RE-MI  
 TOMORROW  
 EDELWEISS  
 MARIA  
 MASQUERADE  
 MOULIN ROUGE  
 SUNRISE SUNSET  
 WHO WILL BUY  
 MEMORY  
 AMERICA  
 THINK OF ME  
 LET IT GO  
 OLIVER



**This photo is of Tim Dewes, one of our Trustees, and Mary Woodman, who has been a resident for three years. They knew each other well for a number of years as fellow churchgoers at St Michael's Without. Tim remembers being a new father in 1988 and going to a coffee morning with his one-week-old daughter at Mary's - the main topic of conversation apparently was breast cancer! Anyway after a twenty year gap they have recently met again at Bridgemean, where they both enjoyed chatting and reminiscing. They each commented that "neither had changed a bit!"**

## **“Easter was and is all about new life!”**

*“Why do you look for the living among the dead? Jesus is not here; he has risen, just as he told you that he would.” Luke 24:5-6*

One of the obstacles which people find to the Christian faith is that they say, “I find that hard to believe” or “I cannot understand that”. I know exactly how they feel as that was how I felt before I became a Christian; I was from an engineering background and I was not satisfied with not having an explanation to things. That was over forty years ago and it was only recently that I came across a quote from Thomas Aquinas: “For a person of faith, no explanation is necessary; for a person of no faith, explanation is impossible.” That describes some of the struggles Jesus’ disciples had. From the very moment that the disciples realised that Jesus was the promised Messiah they could not understand when Jesus said to them: “I am going to be betrayed, suffer at the hands of the religious leaders, be killed and on the third day be raised to life.” They were expecting a political leader who was going to free Israel from Roman rule and make it into a great nation again. They couldn’t understand that Jesus would be crucified and then rise again from the dead. Even on the first Easter Sunday the disciples didn’t believe that Jesus had actually risen from the dead. There is a lovely account in Luke chapter 24 of Jesus walking along the road to Emmaus with two of his disciples. They didn’t recognise him and told him all about his own death and how much they had lost hope. Jesus explained how all this had been predicted in the Jewish scriptures but they still did not understand. It was only when they sat down for a meal with him and he prayed that they realised that he was Jesus and that he was alive. After that Jesus appeared to many other people and they too believed. Today, Jesus wants us to trust in him and come to know his living presence in our lives!

## **Covid 19 – Update**

I want to start by thanking all families and visitors for supporting us to ensure all of our residents and staff were kept safe during a very difficult time.

I am happy to say that we have been three weeks clear of any individual contracting Covid 19. Due to this development, we are looking to remove as many restrictions as physically possible, with the support of BANES Social Services.

### **New changes**

#### **Families/Visitors:**

- Will no longer need to do an LFT when they come into the building unless they plan to provide personal care.

#### **Personal care: Feeding, Washing and Dressing, Toileting**

- Two visitors can go into a resident's room or family room. If more than 2 visitors are visiting together, they can meet in the conservatory or the garden. – We plan to revisit this at the end of May.
- Residents can go out – but we will be asking families to ensure good hand washing and where viable social distancing. Residents – do not have to isolate if they leave Bridgemoor to go out with visitors or to medical appointments.
- We will only be testing residents if they become unwell and show multiple signs.
- We are asking families to still please call to inform when you plan to come in – this is to monitor the traffic of people within the building. This will be reviewed at the end of May.

#### **PPE:**

Families and visitors will only need to wear masks unless carrying out personal care.

Thank you again for all your support

**Ryan Iyavoo**

**Registered Manager**

## Trustee Message

Greetings everyone at Bridgemead and fellow Bridgemedians

**ALL CHANGE** - Pam has now left Bridgemead and started her very well earned retirement. Sadly some of the celebrations with Residents had to be curtailed because of Covid but will be held later in the year. We were able to go ahead with an evening out with past and present trustees; a meal at a rather nice restaurant. Past and present trustees, our Patron and Chaplain also gave Pam a stay at the Balmer Lawn hotel in the New Forest for her and her husband; which she will be enjoying later in the year. Do think of Ryan and Heather, our new Home Manager and Head of Care, stepping into very big shoes.

**ALL CHANGE** for my garden birds as we have put up another 2 nesting boxes. The old one which I can see from the study as I type this. That thought tempts me to stop typing and look up and to the right, hoping my glance coincides with one of the blue tits coming or going - not this time. Don't they work hard nest building and even harder once they are feeding. One of the new boxes is down the end of the garden under the eaves of the shed. I first noticed activity there as I sat up in bed drinking my first cup of tea - but I was too sleepy eyed to be sure. I need my binoculars to hand to identify the mystery. When the weather warms up and tempts me to sit still in the garden, I might position myself closer to the box and keep watch - that's a polite excuse to sit in the sun and do very little. The other new box has an entrance suited to the robins who are constantly in the garden singing delightfully and taking my worms when weeding and planting. Sadly it appears still uninhabited. Location, location, location - we might need to try another spot next year, more to their liking.

**ALL CHANGE** in the garden as spring at last seems to be making itself felt. I've been sowing seeds early this year using a new heated window sill propagator that was a Christmas gift, then bringing them on in the greenhouse. All was going well until that warm and sunny spell mid-March when I planned to be away from home for a week. So before I left home I plunge-planted them so they didn't get too hot in the greenhouse but covered by cloches or fleece so they didn't get too cold at night. That worked well until we had a late spell of frosts so back they came into the greenhouse. What a palaver! I took a risk with some of them staying covered outside. Happily most have come through these trials and I can risk them outside uncovered at night while keeping a close eye on the weather forecast. Sadly I've learned the hard way that runner beans do not like cold weather; so I've started again with them. Never a dull moment when you are a gardener.

**ALL CHANGE** in the Bridgemead garden too. Since late last year a charity called Grow for Life has been coming with a team of 12-15 volunteers to help us give the Bridgemead garden a new lease of life. They are only able to come every month or so but with a large team and great enthusiasm they have been making huge progress on each morning visit. Some of our residents have enjoyed time with the team outside. Two of the team have now started working for us one morning a fortnight to help get the garden looking nice all the time. This week they spent the morning planting 500 snow drops "in the green" along the top bank overlooking the river; very generously donated by James, one of our residents. Resident Tom has also

generously offered to buy a tree for the garden. Speaking of which we are developing a planting plan to reinvigorate the borders and would be delighted if any Bridgemedi readers, residents, family or friends were able to donate a plant or seeds for this project (please contact Hilary at Bridgemed for more details or see the next issue of Bridgemed).

**ALL CHANGE** for the Bridgemed Roof Garden as well; as mentioned by Una in the March Bridgemed. The Friends of Bridgemed, who have been so supportive and generous over so many years, have offered to help fund the revamp of the Roof Garden. We can now put the enforced neglect during the past 2 years because of Covid behind us. We hope it will once again be a delightful haven for Bridgemed Residents.

**ALL CHANGE** in my life nearly 45 years ago when I became a Christian! I'm writing this just before Good Friday and glorious Easter Sunday when we remember the events of Jesus death on the cross for us and His coming alive again 3 days later. Opening the way for all who put their trust in Jesus to know their sins are forgiven and we too will be raised from death to join our Saviour in heaven. I'll say hallelujah to that. Jesus is the one who changes all for us, but thankfully He never changes "Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever" Hebrews 13:8.

I hope you have been able to enjoy the very best of celebrating Easter this year.

Tilly Wood

Trustee



**Sadly we say goodbye to:**

**Resident: John K**

**Day Club: Ivor A**

**Our love and thoughts go out to their family and friends**



**Happy Birthday to:**

**Residents: Madge N**

**Mary S**

**Rosemary G**

## News at Bridgemean

**Great News! We have some kind of normality back at Bridgemean with the new Covid rules in place and thankfully no further cases of Covid in the home. We have been able to welcome entertainers into Bridgemean and the residents have thoroughly enjoyed this. We were all entertained with Mini Concerts - Various songs from a variety of musicals and also the 'Smithy Singers' a choir singing a variety of songs. Many thanks to both organisations and we look forward to more visits in the future.**



## FRIENDS OF BRIDGEMEAN

**Hello Bridgemeanians,**

**Well here I am again – don't the month's fly by! My Mother told me that once I reached 21 the months and years would fly by but of course I didn't believe her - once again she was correct!**

**Can you imagine that at my drama club we were talking about Christmas – and we haven't even had a Summer holiday yet!!**

**The Friends committee 'dined' Pam out in April to mark her retirement. We were sad to say goodbye to her as Manager but in the next breath it was hello again, as she intends to join the 'Friends' committee, she will be very welcome!**

**We have had a positive response to our letter explaining that we have increased the**

'Friends' subscription to £10 annually and asking members to consider paying by standing order. Thank you to everyone who has already responded, it makes the Treasurer and Secretary's work so much easier.

We are still hoping to hold our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 19 July, 7.30pm at Bridgemed, when we hope to see as many of you as possible. Refreshments will be served.

Again, subject to the Covid conditions at the time, we will be holding our popular Strawberry Tea at Bridgemed on Saturday 23 July, 2.30pm. This is always a happy occasion so it will be so good to welcome as many of you as possible. It will be a scaled down event with just refreshments to enjoy, plus a card stall and raffle.

Two dates for your diaries!

Keep safe and well – when will all this uncertainty end!

Una

### **Giving**

*Find out how to give to support different aspects of what we do on <https://www.bridgcare.org.uk/volunteer/how-do-i-donate/> or by giving online at <https://www.bridgcare.org.uk/donate/>*

*We continue to retain a Local Giving page the link for which can be found at the bottom of <https://www.bridgcare.org.uk/volunteer/how-to-fundraise/>*

### **Bridgemed**

*Find Bridgemed on our home page at <https://www.bridgcare.org.uk/>*

*If you would prefer to receive your copy of Bridgemed by e-mail, please let us know on [admin@bridgcare.org.uk](mailto:admin@bridgcare.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.*

### **Jobs**

*We also now have a page for Staff Vacancies on the website.*

*<https://www.bridgcare.org.uk/about/staff/vacancies/>*

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