



bridgemead

Bridgemia Newsletter April 2023

**MAY YOUR EASTER BASKET BE FULL OF JOY,
HAPPINESS AND PEACE TODAY AND ALWAYS.**



Common and Uncommon Pets

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

CATS
GOATS
GOLDFISH
HORSES
SNAKE
KITTENS
GEESE
CANARY
DOGS
CHICKS
LAMBS
DONKEY
FOALS
KIDS
PARAKEET
PUPPIES
PONIES
MARE
SHEEP
COLT



Sadly we say goodbye to:

Edward H

Our love and thoughts go out to his family and friends.



Happy Birthday to:

Resident: Mary B

Audrey C

Day Club: Shirley S

Alan Dickson - Chaplain

Our Father: (Matthew 6 v 9-15)

This, then, is how you should pray:

*"Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one".*

I'm sure that all of us recognise these words as the "LORD's Prayer" – we have repeated it many times in schools' assemblies and in church. Sometimes it's easy to forget its significance - what it's about – due to its familiarity. I know myself that I have been guilty of that.

The prayer is in two parts – in the first part we worship God and in the second part we make our prayers to God.

Our Father

Jesus introduced God to the disciples as "*Our Father*". Never before, had human beings been able to address God as Father – and not just "Father" as a high title – no, we know from the original language that this was a really contemporary intimate name that a child would call his father. Jesus was introducing the disciples to the possibility of a new kind of relationship with God, different from what they had previously known, no longer a distant one, but now a very close relationship with God – a father and child relationship.

One of Jesus's disciples, John, explained in a letter (1 John) which he wrote to a church probably more than 50 years after Jesus was on earth - "*See how very much our Father has loved us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are (Chapter 3 v1).*"

We know now from that this only became possible because of Jesus dying on Calvary's cross that very first Easter to take away our sins. The same John, explained in the following Chapter 4 (v 10) of 1 John what real love is (NLT translation) "*This is love - not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins*".

This is our God, this is our Heavenly Father – Loving so much, giving His Son Jesus to be the sacrifice for our sin, to make us his children – to become our Father.

If you would like to read this 1 John chapter 3 for yourself, the internet link is below.

1 John Chapter 3:

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+3&version=NLT>

News at Bridgemead

At Bridgemead we are very fortunate to have regular visits from Freya a Therapy Dog. Her owner Jane enjoys introducing Freya to our residents and is able to see the benefits for both the residents and Freya. These are just some of the photos of Freya with our residents at Bridgemead. We always look forward to her next visit. "Thank you" to Freya.



We had a 'Magical Mersey Beats' show one afternoon with Emily, from Mini Concerts. We had a great afternoon and also the Students from King Edward's School, who visit us weekly, had fun!!!





ENTERTAINMENT AT BRIDGEMEAD APRIL 2023

Saturday	1st	2.30pm	Friends Easter Fayre
Wednesday	5th	2.00pm	Danny Guest - Singer
Wednesday	12th	1.45pm	Gavin Lazarus - Guitarist/Singer
Wednesday	19th	2.00pm	Mini Concerts - Kings of Swing
Wednesday	26th	2.00pm	Shannon Kitchen - Singer
Friday	28th	2.00pm	Mike Renton - Sing-a-long

Trustee Message

Although I joined the trustee group in March 2021, this is the first time that I have had the pleasure of writing this piece, but as I am looking to move back to my native Cheshire this year, this will likely be my one and only *Trustee Message!*

As a child I was very close to my maternal grandmother, Alice. She was someone who always saw the glass half full and who, despite the vicissitudes of life (and there were a number) always had a positive outlook. She would often tell me to enjoy every minute of every day because the days would pass faster and faster the older I got. As a child I used to wonder what on earth she was on about, but in recent years I have come to realise that, strange though it is, she was absolutely right. The years do seem to pass ever more quickly!

In her later years, after she was widowed and her youngest child had died in his early forties from longstanding health complications, Alice moved from Cheshire to Stroud to be near my mother and continued her enthusiasm for life, first in her own flat in a retirement complex and then in a care home. I would visit her regularly and was always struck by her ever optimistic outlook, the real sense of community that she found in these places and by how much she valued the friendships she made and the care she received. Indeed, it was very much my appreciation for the care that she found in her last years at her care home in Stroud that made me want to get involved with Bridgemed when I was asked to become a Trustee, even though I knew then that my time as a Trustee would be limited by my already nascent plan to move to Cheshire.

COVID has made my two years as a Trustee a unique period in Bridgemed's life and, COVID aside, my time has also coincided with Pam's retirement and Ryan's arrival so it really has been a period of immense change. Yet Bridgemed has come through that change (and will no doubt come through other as yet unknown changes) with a continued sense of optimism about the future whatever that holds. There can be no doubt that the COVID pandemic was a huge challenge for the care sector, but weathering that storm and coming out the other side gives Bridgemed a renewed and enhanced confidence in its ability to succeed whatever the future brings.

Like any organisation, of course, Bridgemed's strength lies in its people and, from what I have seen during my two years as a Trustee, Bridgemed is much blessed in this regard. My fellow Trustees, several of whom have been involved with Bridgemed for many years, remain fully committed to their role of shaping and overseeing Bridgemed's future, whilst Ryan and his team are strongly focussed on delivering care for residents in a way which makes Bridgemed feel like their home and not just the place where they live. There is a wonderful sense of community at Bridgemed and if COVID taught us anything it was surely that being part of a vibrant community is essential to our overall health and wellbeing.

God's provision for Bridgemed has now continued for over 30 years and I have no doubt that he will continue to guide and support its Trustees and staff as they steer its future course. I have thoroughly enjoyed my two years as a Trustee and will continue to pray for Bridgemed when I am safely ensconced in Cheshire.

Nick Olley – Bridge Care Trustee

FRIENDS OF BRIDGEMEAD

Hello Bridgemedians,

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Fish & Chip Supper and Quiz, so much work is put in by Liz Cocks and her family to make this a fun evening – it was gratifying to see it so well attended! I understand that it was a fun and enjoyable evening and I'm delighted to tell you that a profit of £255 was made.

Your committee met on the 13th March to discuss future events for the coming year.

The Easter Fayre will take place on Saturday 1st April so I might just be in time to remind you all that it starts at 2.30pm at Bridgemead. Stalls will include our now famous Easter Egg Tombola – again thank you to Liz Cocks for arranging – a cake stall, cards from Flamingo Paperie, and maybe just one or two craft items. As usual our well stocked raffle will be there and of course refreshments of tea/coffee and Easter biscuits costing £2.

Other dates for your diary – the Annual General Meeting will be held at Bridgemead on Monday 10 July at 7.30pm. This will give all our members a chance to 'have their say' on future events and an opportunity to ask any questions regarding the way that the Friends operate. Refreshments will be provided so please make an effort to attend.

The annual Strawberry Tea will take place on Saturday 22nd July at 2.30pm at Bridgemead. This is always a happy occasion and a time to gather for a good natter with friends. There will also be a chance to enjoy a delicious strawberry cream tea for just £2.50. there will be a stall selling cards and gifts and of course a raffle!

Our Autumn event will be a Soup and Pud evening with entertainment – maybe a musical quiz or a vocalist. Please make a note of the date – Friday 6 October – more details nearer the time.

Lastly just a reminder that your annual subscriptions are due on 1 April 2023. Many of you are now paying by Standing Order – and a big thank you for arranging that.

You may also pay by sending a cheque to the Friend's Treasurer:-

Mrs Judith Roach,
73 Dovers Park,
Bathford,
Bath BA1 7UD

or

by Bank Transfer to:-

Friends of Bridgemead

Account number 03921862

Sort Code 30-90-54

(please include your name as the reference)

Once again thank you to Ryan and all the staff at Bridgemead for all their help over the past year. Also to all the committee for their hard work – a special thank you to our Secretary, Sandra Stephens who undertook my duties whilst I was absent.

Enjoy the Spring!

Una



**Bridgemed would be very grateful for any donations of wool as we are planning on knitting a variety of hats for children and adults. If you are able to please leave any donations at our reception. Many Thanks.
Hilary**



**Come and join Bridgemed Day Club 10am – 4pm
Arrive at 10am and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea
along with a chat and if you would like a challenge
how about a group quiz or crossword?
A lovely lunch will be provided.
In the afternoon we have various activities
ranging from Entertainers, Arts and Crafts, Sing-alongs
and much more.
At 3pm the ‘Grand Finale’ - Tea and cake.
“Thank you for a most enjoyable day”
just one of many compliments from
Club Members.**

Giving

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

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

Bridgemed

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

**If you would prefer to receive your copy of Bridgemed by e-mail, 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.**

Jobs

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

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

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