



bridgemed

Bridgemed Newsletter August 2023



Canadian Geese at Chew Valley Lake

Famous Composers

V	E	E	B	S	B	E	E	T	H	O	V	E	N
V	I	Z	A	N	E	T	E	M	S	R	E	I	I
D	N	V	I	I	I	S	D	E	B	U	S	S	Y
V	L	V	A	H	A	Y	D	N	Z	R	R	Z	Z
V	E	S	W	L	C	H	O	P	I	N	E	T	W
S	D	M	C	N	D	A	S	N	E	R	S	O	A
R	N	H	O	C	G	I	P	I	O	I	E	S	G
C	A	A	S	R	G	T	U	W	L	B	M	C	N
O	H	R	R	B	R	C	C	H	P	E	A	H	E
P	H	B	E	A	G	H	C	S	E	R	H	U	R
L	Z	I	Z	G	T	C	I	R	D	L	L	B	U
A	A	O	O	I	W	A	N	E	A	I	E	E	I
N	M	C	E	R	E	B	I	G	Y	O	R	R	H
D	N	R	E	B	E	W	E	M	V	Z	A	T	D

MOZART
 SCHUBERT
 WAGNER
 VIVALDI
 BEETHOVEN
 BACH
 GERSHWIN
 MAHLER
 SMETENA
 LISTZ
 COPLAND
 IVES
 HAYDN
 DEBUSSY
 CHOPIN
 WEBERN
 PUCCINI
 BERLIOZ
 BRAHMS
 HANDEL

ENTERTAINMENT AT BRIDGEMEAD JULY 2023

2nd August

David Kniveton - Flautist

9th August

'Now & Then' - Singing Group

11th August

Mike Renton - Sing-a-long

24th August

Phil Smith - Guitarist and Sing-a-long

30th August

David Kniveton - Flautist

31st August

Justin Daish - Guitarist/Singer

Alan Dickson - Chaplain

Jesus said - "Before Abraham was born, I am" John 8 v 56-59

One of the special features of John's Gospel is the list of Jesus's "I am" statements. He made seven of these statements and I have been going through them at quiet times with the residents at Bridgemed. They constitute what can be seen as a quick guide to Jesus, and to whom he is. They are:

- I am the Bread of Life (John 6:35)
- I am the Light of the World (John 8:12)
- I am the Door (John 10:9)
- I am the Good Shepherd (John 10:11,14)
- I am the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25)
- I am the Way and the Truth and the Life (John 14:6)
- I am the Vine (John 15:1,5)

Over the next few months, I shall go through each one of them in Bridgemed. First, however, it is helpful to look at Jesus's use of "I am" - because it was very familiar and significant to the Jews and their religious leaders, the Pharisees. Also, very important to us!

The Pharisees had asked Jesus the question - "Who do you think you are?" Jesus answered' Jesus answered, "Before Abraham was born, I am".

If Jesus had only wanted to say that He existed before Abraham's time, He would have said, "Before Abraham, I was." But He didn't. He deliberately chose words that he knew that the Jews would understand; that he was claiming to be God. Jesus's words indicated that although Abraham had been born 2000 years previously, he, Jesus, had always existed - eternally. By the use of "I am", Jesus was equating Himself with the "I AM" name which God gave Himself back early in the Bible in Exodus 3 - Jesus was saying that "I am God".

The Jews clearly knew what Jesus was meaning, because they immediately picked up stones to throw at him and to kill him, because they regarded his statement as blasphemy. The punishment in their law for blasphemy was death.

However, Jesus had not committed blasphemy. His claim was correct. He was and still is God, and each of us can know Him as our Saviour and our Lord, by admitting and repenting of our sins and putting our faith in Him and His death for forgiveness.

The "I am" in the seven statements above, about Himself, is exactly the same "I am" as in Exodus 3 and John 8 v 56. Jesus combines the "I am" with impactful metaphors to describe His saving relationship towards the world and indeed to each one of us. As above we shall explore each one over the coming months.

If you would like to read the story, I have referred to it is in John Chapter 8, available on the link below. <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John%208%3A48-59&version=ESV>

News at Bridgemean



**Happy Birthday to Residents:
Caroline M
Hilary H
Olive W
Margaret A**

Over the last few weeks we have had trips to the 'Salt and Malt' at Chew Valley and a picnic at the Botanical Gardens in Victoria Park.



On both occasions the weather has been kind apart from the odd shower when visiting the Botanical Gardens - Thank goodness for the surrounding dens for shelter!!!



Bridgemed enjoy visits from 'Therapy Dog' Freya and owner Jane. A few training tips are carried out which we know Freya enjoys!!! Residents and staff love to see her and she certainly has become part of Bridgemed.



Trustee Message

The Trustees as well as being concerned about the physical and mental health of our residents are also concerned to provide for their spiritual needs.

The local churches have been very helpful right from the start with generous fundraising to create the home in the first place and ever since have been a great support with volunteers, helping lead quiet times daily and lead services. This is very much appreciated by the Trustees.

Bridgemed has also been fortunate for a number of years in having excellent support from our chaplains. Alan Ashworth retired recently and has been ably replaced by Alan Dickson, Jamie Jameson and soon Teresa Merriman. They are keen to meet with the residents to have a friendly chat and also discuss anything else that might be of concern to them relating to themselves and their spiritual needs. So if there is any concern that you feel might be helped by a chat with one of them then don't be afraid to ask.

We are all on our own life's journey and no-one knows what is just around the corner. My wife and I are off soon to Keswick in the Lake District where for over a hundred years Christians have met for some weeks to learn from speakers and share our experiences with others from all over the country. I find it inspiring to learn new things at this event. I am delighted that we can keep on learning through life both from reading, hearing, discussing and experience. Those residents in Bridgemed have a rich seam of experiences to share and those younger than them can benefit from their wisdom. So let's continue to share and talk together about what is important to us and encourage each other in our conversations.

Paul Booth

FRIENDS OF BRIDGEMEAD

Hello Bridgemedians,

Is anyone interested in sport – I'm sure there are a few of you out there! July held a cornucopia of wonderful events, tennis, cricket, both mens' and womens' and of course the Tour de France cycling! I was lucky enough to attend a couple of the games between Australia/England ladies they were so exciting – and we enjoyed good weather too!

Our AGM took place in July when we re-elected your committee, presented the financial statement and made plans for the coming year. We were disappointed to have only three Friends attending but thank you to ex-Chairman Ruth Holbrook and two new members Anne and Tim Clark.

We held a very successful Strawberry Tea on Saturday 23rd July, so many people attended – thank you to you all!. Usually this is a happy afternoon and this year was no exception, everyone who helped with running stalls, served teas, counted money or enjoyed a delicious strawberry cream tea said how much that they had enjoyed the day. I think that we made a tad short of £350 – well done and a huge thanks to you all. We had such fantastic support from the staff at Bridgemead, especially Diana, Mike and the young man whose name I didn't know!

Thank you also to Ryan, Hilary and Rosemary.

Our next event is the 'Musicals' Quiz and Soup 'n Puds Evening on Friday 29th September at 7pm. Cost of tickets will be £12. These will be available at Bridgemead or through any committee member. Please bring your own tittle – glasses will be provided

Lastly it was so good to see Pam Bourton with her family at the Strawberry Tea – we hope that she will be back to full health very soon.

Thank you,

Una



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.

Cost: £31 per visit – payable monthly in arrears

Carers for and friends of Day Club members - please consider contributing to our funding at Bridgemed – in particular we have a major flood risk mitigation building project which urgently needs funding.

<https://www.bridgecare.org.uk/donate/>

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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