



bridgemead

Bridgemia Newsletter December 2023



BATH ABBEY

Nativity

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

NATIVITY
 DONKEY
 BETHLEHEM
 WISE MEN
 SON
 SHEEP
 JESUS
 SHEPHERD
 MYRRH
 STAR
 MANGER
 STRAW
 ANIMALS
 MARY
 GOLD
 GIFT
 INN
 JOSEPH
 GOD
 STABLE



Happy Birthday to Resident: Naomi B



Sadly we say goodbye to Residents:
Marian A

Jill L

Our love and thoughts go out to their
families and friends.

Alan Dickson - Chaplain

Matthew 1 v18-24

Mary pregnant? It's *"certainly not my baby"* Joseph must have thought – *"I'm going to have to divorce her"*. But that night he dreamt - and an angel of the Lord spoke: *"Do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.... He will save his people from their sins."*

But immediately after the account of Joseph's dream, Matthew says something quite strange.

"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet (Isaiah 7 v14) : "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"

A prophecy made some 700 years previously, was going to be fulfilled in Jesus. Immanuel means, "God with us."

But what is its significance? What does it tell us about Jesus'? What does it mean to "us"?

These 8 verses in Matthew 1 tell us the story how Joseph learnt about his "special baby" and Luke 1 v 26-38 tell us how Mary learnt about the baby.

After the angel told Mary that she would have this baby, *"How will this be, Mary asked the angel, since I am a virgin"?*

The angel Gabriel answered, *"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God."*

Immanuel, "God with us," is to be understood *literally*. Although Jesus was Mary's human son, but, He was also God's Son - begotten by God himself – and He still is.

So, a few months later, when the shepherds and wise men worshipped Jesus in Bethlehem, they were worshipping the Son of God. Jesus was God and is God, and will be God forever.

Although we all may enjoy our festive celebrations, the real Christmas celebration is that God took on human flesh when Jesus was born. Jesus — God Himself — is Immanuel, God With Us.

John 1 v14. *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

News at Bridgemean

The Residents are enjoying their weekly Musical Chair Exercises with Patricia. Once a month our Day Club members are able to join in with the exercises and at 3pm they all deserve their tea and cake!!!



At Bridgemean we had a well-attended bonfire night. The residents enjoyed a BANGER, mash and beans supper!! The Conservatory was the venue for watching the fireworks in the garden.



This week our Day Club members and Residents have been busy making Christmas Cards. The cards will be added to our collection of other items for sale at the 'Friends Christmas Fayre'.



FRIENDS OF BRIDGEMEAD

Hello Bridgemedians,

How did we manage to arrive at December – surely it was only a couple of months ago that we were welcoming in 2023 !

I would like to remind you that our Christmas Fayre is being held in Bridgemead on Saturday 9 December at 2.30pm. We have stalls selling Books, Cakes, Cards, Crafts, Christmas Tombola, Pick a bag and a special one selling items made by our residents, Our Raffle will be on display a week prior to the Fayre and tickets may be obtained at reception – thank you Rosemary.

Refreshments of tea/coffee/mince pie will be on sale.

I do hope that many of you will be able to attend, this is always a happy occasion so please come along and enjoy a pre Christmas get together!

I look forward to seeing you all!

Una

Trustee Message

Why are there workmen around Bridgemoor?

Bridgemoor is over thirty years old, and the building and equipment are getting worn. The Trustees intend to keep the home, your home, a pleasant and safe place to live. Over the last few years, we have replaced the boilers, redecorated the outside of the building, and refurbished the lift. This year we have modernised the fire alarm so if the alarm goes off, we will know exactly where it is **. The dining room has been poorly lit for many months, so we are going to replace the lights which have proved very unreliable. With advice from the fire service and our fire consultant, Fred Chappell has been improving the fire protection in the building so that in the unlikely event of a fire we will have more time to ensure everyone can be kept calm and safe. We've been busy!!

We would like to thank Fred who has been maintaining Bridgemoor for the last 16 years. He has tackled many jobs, large and small and he knows the building and all its quirks well. Fred will be retiring when the fire protection work is complete. We do wish him a long and happy retirement.

Last month you may have seen a team around with clipboards and cameras poking into every corner of the building. They were doing a survey for planned maintenance over the next thirty years so we can maintain high standards and know when we will face big bills like replacing the windows. Yes, maintenance can be a bit annoying, but it keeps the home safe, homely, and attractive.

Planning projects can be quite challenging. What must be done? Do we have the resources? When is it needed? Will this be ready in time for that to be done? And so on. This made me think of God's plan for Christmas. Millennia ahead – the stars had to be in the right place to guide the astrologers to Bethlehem. Centuries ahead – His servants, the Old Testament prophets, had to prepare the people to receive the Saviour. Years ahead the Roman governor had to be appointed to issue the decree that sent Mary and Joseph trudging off to Bethlehem. Months ahead the angel had to be dispatched to make the announcements to Zechariah and Mary, and an elderly woman well past the menopause and a young woman without a husband both had to become pregnant. That week the generous-hearted inn keeper had to be ready to welcome an exhausted couple from a derided place up North (their accents would have given them away!) and let them use the animals' shelter. I could go on to talk about the plans for the rest of Jesus' life, they are amazing. Yes, Jesus' birth was no accident, it had been planned for the beginning of time. It was a major step in God's plan for salvation, so we have good reason to celebrate this Christmas!

The Trustees wish you a happy Christmas and pray that you will draw nearer to Jesus as you celebrate His birth.

John Todman.

**** For those who are technically minded – we have installed an addressable fire alarm system using new technology which meant that we did not have to rewire the building. When a detector is triggered it sends its location to the display in the reception, unlike the old system which just indicated a zone containing several rooms.**

**John Todman
Trustee**

ENTERTAINMENT AT BRIDGEMEAD DECEMBER 2023

Monday	4th	-	Mike Renton - Sing-a-long	-2 pm
Wednesday	6th	-	Shannon Kitchen - Singer	-2 pm
Friday	8th	-	Amanda Aston -U3A Violin Ensemble	2pm
Saturday	9th	-	Friends Christmas Fayre	-2.30pm
Monday	11th	-	Silver Ring Choir	- 6.30pm
Wednesday	13th	-	Now & Then - Group	2pm
Wednesday	13th	-	Carolean Choir	- 6.30 pm
Thursday	14th	-	Nurry Lee - Classical Pianist	
Tuesday	19th	-	Amira Amor Chocowen- Carol Singing	
Wednesday	20th	-	David Kniveton - Flautist	- 2pm
Thursday	21st	-	Danny Guest - Singer	2pm
Friday	22nd	-	Trustees/Friends/Chaplain – Carols	– 6.00pm



**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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