



bridgemead

Bridgemia Newsletter January 2024



Jigsaw Piece designed and created by Bridgemead Residents and Day Club Members. Symbolising Bridgemead and presented to St Mary's Church, Bathwick.

Associated with Sport

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

FUN
 WRESTLING
 REFEREE
 ARENA
 ROADS
 CHEERLEADERS
 BLEACHERS
 SEATS
 UMPIRE
 PATHS
 RIVALS
 TEAMS
 TRACK
 FLOOR
 BASKETBALL
 COACH
 SCHOOL
 FIELD
 CYCLING
 RUNNING

ENTERTAINMENT AT BRIDGEMEAD JANUARY 2024

TUESDAY 9TH JANUARY 2PM PHIL SMITH - SING-A-LONG

WEDNESDAY 17TH JANUARY 2PM MIKE RENTON - SING-A-LONG

WEDNESDAY 24TH JANUARY 2PM DAVID KNIVETON – FLAUTIST

TUESDAY 30TH JANUARY 2PM SHANNON KITCHEN -SINGER



Alan Dickson - Chaplain
Christmas gifts: Philippians 2 v 5-11

Christmas is over, tree and decorations down for another year, and presents are either forgotten about, put safely away, or now in practical use.

Every Christmas time, I wonder what happened to the strange gifts that Jesus received from the wise men, the gold, the frankincense and the myrrh. They were very valuable gifts – surely Mary and Joseph took these special presents with them when they left Bethlehem, and kept them safe, and I think of them eventually telling Jesus about them, when He was old enough to understand.

In the Bible, gold was very important, particularly to kings. The Bible tells us that the weight of the gold that King Solomon received yearly was 666 talents, in addition to gold that he received from the kings of Arabia.

Frankincense is a resin that comes from the Boswellia tree. Frankincense is mentioned 15 times in the Bible, primarily in the worship of God. It was very valuable and had a wonderful fragrance.

Myrrh, mentioned 17 times in the Bible, was used for several different purposes, as a perfume, as an ingredient in anointing oil, and as a cosmetic for women. John 19:39 records that myrrh was used in Jesus' burial.

Jesus's gifts were significant gifts, speaking of Jesus's future. Myrrh, because Jesus would die for the sins of the world, but also Gold, because Jesus would rise again from death to eventually become King of Kings, and Frankincense because one day everyone will worship Him. (Philippians 5 verses 5-11).

As we commence this New Year, allow me to encourage you to recognise Jesus as your Saviour and Lord, and to worship Him.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians%202&version=NIV>

News at Bridgemean

The photo on the cover of this Bridgemean is a large piece of Jigsaw that was presented to St Mary's Church, Bathwick. We were asked by Father Peter from St Mary's if we would like to decorate a blank piece of jigsaw. St Mary's was celebrating with regards to the different groups that are connected to St Mary's. During the service, other organisations presented their contributions and the different pieces of Jigsaws were then "Fitted Together". This was to reflect how all the different groups form part of the wider church family.

Below is a photo of some of the pieces joined together by other organisations.



During December the Silver Ring Choir came to perform for us at Bridgemean. The evening was lovely and their performance certainly created a great Christmas atmosphere. Many thanks to the choir.



We had a visit from Stevie Wander the Magician. It was great fun and the staff and residents participated in the show. We even had a snowstorm in the Dining Room during the performance! We look forward to future visits from Stevie.



**Happy Birthday to Resident – Sylvia C
Dayclub - Maria B**



Sadly we say goodbye to Residents:

**Maureen V
Tom C
David P
Hilary H
Irene T**

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

Trustee Message

I'm writing this just before Christmas and you will read it just after Christmas but I am very much still in Christmas-mode. Once again, we will be camping – that sounds very hardy but it will be in our well heated camper van on my sister-in-law's drive with superb facilities and full 'groaning' board. But being a bit independent we can wake up slowly with a cup of tea or two and breakfast in style before emerging to face the world or indeed the family having to face us too early. It also means we can slope off to bed in our personal hideaway without disrupting anyone.

I must say I do feel a bit sad leaving my visiting garden birds to look elsewhere for winter sustenance, although it is only for a few days (M25 and weather permitting). I did explain this to Phil the pheasant and Jemimah the duck today but I'm not sure they quite got my gist. I'll have to leave the feeders full up before we go.

Tonight, the trustees, Friends, chaplains and some retired Trustees will be singing carols with the residents and enjoying the delicious Bridgemoor homemade mince pies and mulled wine. We will really miss not seeing Tom at the piano.

Yesterday was a red-letter day in my Christmas celebrations. For the first time ever, we put on a Big Interactive Nativity at Widcombe Baptist Church yesterday afternoon. We were absolutely packed out with mums and dads and grandparents and lots of children invited to dress up as shepherds, angels, sheep or stable animals. They looked fantastic. And the WBC adults taking part were also dressed-up for the part. The shepherds were outside in the church park at the beginning to welcome everyone. What made it INTERACTIVE you may ask? As we told the story and acted it out (I was one of the narrators) the children were invited to join in up front. At the end of the scene, we would ask them questions to get them involved in understanding what the birth of Jesus was about. The 'BIG' came in the form of real live donkey for Mary to sit on and ride into the church right up to the stable door. It was wonderful and a first for me. Then later a star shot across the sky/church to rest over the stable on a sort of flying fox. We looked up to the balcony to see the wise men travelling from afar with their camels (not real this time) guided by the star – they really looked resplendent. We sang carols all through and we managed to get all the participating characters young and old on stage to sing Away in a Manager; they were lovely and a great photo opportunity for the proud parents and grandparents. It was a very happy time for all. But especially as we had the opportunity to share the wonderful, good news that God sent Jesus to us as a baby to grow up to become our Saviour. Each year it seems I wonder more at all the extraordinary things that happened that first Christmas. No wonder the world is still celebrating it 2023 years later and the event of Jesus split world history in two - BC and AD.

So belated Christmas greetings and may you know God's Joy and Peace and Love throughout 2024.

Tilly Wood
Trustee

FRIENDS OF BRIDGEMEAD

Hello Bridgemedians,

Well here we are in 2024, I wonder what this year has in store for us? What we do know is that whatever comes our way we shall find a way to cope with it – that's what we do isn't it!

The Friends have had a wonderful end to the year as our Christmas Fayre was an outstanding success. We were so well supported by old friends and many new faces too! We are so grateful to all of you who turned up, it makes all the hard work worthwhile.

I am delighted to tell you that the afternoon raised almost £900 which I think is about the most that we have ever taken. A big thank you to all the stall holders who devote a great deal of time beforehand making sure that everything goes well on the day. I must mention here the Residents' stall which raised £300 – a marvelous result - so our thanks go to them all, and to Hilary, Hayley and Sue who came up with the ideas.

With a very generous cheque received from Ken Allan in memory of our former Treasurer Wendy, and a wonderful donation from the family of former committee member Esther Busby, we have added almost £1500 to our coffers. We shall now be able to discuss with Ryan, the staff and residents what items are needed to enhance the lives of the residents.

I would like to thank all committee members for their support throughout the year. Whenever I ask for their support they never fail to come up trumps.

I would also like to thank Ryan and all the staff for their support, in particular Diana, Mike and Jake for helping us so much at all our events – Mike your mince pies are the best!

Rosemary and Julie - thank you for everything you do to help us.

Your committee will meet in early January to decide on future fundraising events so watch this space!

May I wish you all the best wishes for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year!

Una



Come and join Bridgemean 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
Bridgemean – in particular we have a major flood risk mitigation building project which urgently
needs funding.

Giving

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

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

Bridgemean

Find Bridgemean on our home page at <https://www.bridgemean.org.uk/>

If you would prefer to receive your copy of Bridgemean by e-mail, please let us know on admin@bridgemean.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.bridgemean.org.uk/about/staff/vacancies/>

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

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