



**bridgemed**

# **Bridgemed Newsletter June 2024**



**Bridgemed Garden on a Beautiful June Day**

# Types of Fruit,

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

PEAR  
 GUAVA  
 POMELO  
 MANGO  
 COCONUT  
 LYCHEE  
 BANANA  
 KUMQUAT  
 POMEGRANATE  
 STRAWBERRY  
 DATE  
 MELON  
 GRAPE  
 LEMON  
 CHERRY  
 PLUM  
 TOMATO  
 ORANGE  
 LIME  
 APPLE



**Happy Birthday to Residents: James E  
 Ron S  
 Dayclub: Morfydd J**



**Sadly we say goodbye to Resident: Ann W  
 Our love and thoughts go out to  
 her family and friends**





Hi, everyone!

My name's Jamie, and I've really enjoyed meeting many of you in activities in the Dining Room, or in your rooms as I wander round Bridgemead!

I joined Alan Dickson on the chaplaincy team a couple of months ago, and love working with him in Quiet Times and Sunday services, and with Hilary and Hayley in the fun events that they organise so well. I have been blown away by the imagination of residents in activities like flower arranging and creative times of all sorts...and by their wit and sharp minded knowledge in quizzes...and competitive spirit in Scrabble! Alan asked me to say a bit about myself...so...born in London, but brought up in Bath, my father was Irish and my mum, from Switzerland. They were both doctors in Bath, and went to St Swithin's in Walcot. I started life as a mechanic, but eventually went to Uni and to my surprise, became a teacher, working in UK, North Africa and Switzerland, returning to Bath to work at Monkton with my wife, who I met in Switzerland!

While in Switzerland, my wife and I, with an American couple, ran a church in the mountains for eight years; and coming back to Bath, we go to St Luke's in Wellsway, a church that does lots in the community, and which we love dearly!

Since 2008, I have worked for a Christian NGO called 'Five Talents', and we have projects in nine countries in East Africa. Do ask me about what we do, because I love talking about it!

I also work at the Bath Foodbank, and love working in the Dorothy House shop in Moorland Road on Tuesdays; as an English teacher, I love reading...so I help with the books in the shop! Do tell me if there is a book that you are looking for, as I might be able to help! Do talk to me about writers who you enjoy!!

I have been a Christian, following Jesus, since university, and he is the most important person in my life. I love reading the Bible, and I know that many Bridgemead residents love it, too; it's a living book. I used to babysit for Dr. Ray King and his lovely wife Veronica, who many of you know! As you probably know, he was the Prime Mover in setting up Bridgemead, and I know *he* loved reading the Bible too, setting his life by it!

One of my favourite verses is John 3:16...you probably know it!

Jesus tells us "...for God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whosoever believes in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life." What a promise...and Jesus, a man who we can trust and love, shows us what his Father God is like! And what he promises, is that the best is yet to come!

I'm around in Bridgemead most Thursdays, some Sunday afternoons and other occasions. I'd love to meet you and hear what you have to say...and get involved in Hilary's activities with you!

God bless you, Jamie.

## News at Bridgemead



At Bridgemead we were privileged to be able to offer Respite for Stan Ford a Normandy Veteran. While Stan was with us, he joined in many a conversation with regard to his amazing life story.

Stan served on HMS Fratton, an escort ship that accompanied ships taking men and supplies across the Channel on D Day and afterwards. HMS Fratton was sunk, believed to be by a midget submarine, off the Normandy coast on 18 August 1944. 38 of the ship's crew were picked up, however 31 lost their lives. The explosion was so severe that the gun platform that Stan was operating was blown off the ship and into the water, with Stan still on it. Stan was pulled from the sea and taken to a field hospital on Gold Beach. The injuries he sustained have meant that he has had to walk with leg callipers for the rest of his life.

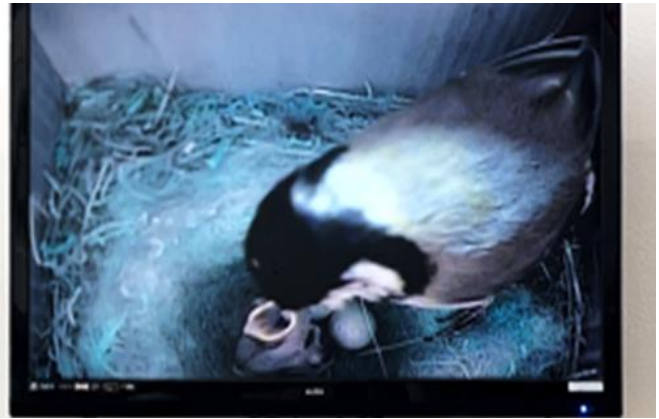
Stan has now joined us for Day Club on Wednesdays and enjoyed his day.

'Now & Then' have signed up a new member for the group!!





During May we had an exciting time with the arrival of a family of blue tits. We have been able to see the progress of the new additions via a Bird Box Camera, fitted in Bridgemead Garden and connected to a tv in the Dining Room area. The Bird Box Camera along with a monitor was donated to Bridgemead by Ray Bennett, one of our Quiet Time Volunteers. Many thanks to Ray for his kind donation, which has given such a lot of enjoyment, to our residents, staff and visitors. The birds have now flown the nest but let's hope for future tenants!!



One hungry chick waiting to be fed - and one busy Blue Tit feeding

Some of our Residents enjoyed a day out to Lowden Garden Centre near Melksham. They were able to enjoy a lovely lunch and see lots of seasonal plants, flowers, and shrubs. Afterwards, they all went to Victoria Park in Bath, for an ice cream. Great day out for all.





**We enjoyed a visit from Shannon Kitchen who sang a variety of songs to our residents. There was lots of singing along with her which the residents always enjoy.**

### **Trustee Message**

**Last weekend the Bath Festival started with its usual Party in the City. Bath was awash with happy punters all flitting from place to place to hear talented local amateurs making music completely free in 39 different venues.**

**We are very fortunate at Bridgemead to have many local talented musicians coming to the home to entertain the residents. I know that they are very appreciated and happily they keep on returning. We also are fortunate in having some residents who have been part of musical groups in the past and they enjoy now being entertained rather than doing the entertaining and telling us tales of what they got up to in the past. We greatly miss Tom with his piano skills which he generously shared with us when he was a resident.**

**Music has the ability to really touch the emotions and communicate in a different way to speech or acting. We enjoy singing old songs that are fondly remembered and also precious hymns that seem to help us remember the words even though memory is not so good in other ways.**

**Bridgemead is indeed very fortunate in having such a good team providing so many different activities including music to the residents. We thank Hilary, Susan and Hayley very much for their efforts which are much appreciated.**

**Paul Booth  
Trustee**

## FRIENDS OF BRIDGEMEAD

Hello Bridgemedians

I hope that you are all enjoying the lighter, sunnier weather.

I've been in the Royal United Hospital for a couple of nights to have my hip joint replaced. I was looked after so well by caring and kind staff that the two nights passed by very quickly! It has made me realise how incredibly lucky we are to have access to such wonderful facilities and skilful people and then to be able to return home and be looked after by our caring families and friends. We have much to be grateful for!

Around 40 quizzers enjoyed a fish and chip supper before testing their knowledge with one of Liz Cock's admirable quizzes – many thanks to Liz, Sarah and Trev for all their hard work – both on the night and beforehand. A profit of £212 was made on the event. A big thank you to all the staff at Bridgemead who helped arrange the room on the night and who helped clear away afterwards. Thank you too to everyone who attended. Three teams shared top spot so we gave our winnings back to Liz for the next Bridgemead raffle!

The Strawberry Tea will take place on Saturday 6 July, Bridgemead at 2.30pm, along with the teas we shall have a card stall and maybe one other. This is always a happy occasion, I do hope that many of you will be able to join us there.

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 7.30pm, we would love to see some of you there!

Enjoy the late Spring sunshine.

Una

### ENTERTAINMENT AT BRIDGEMEAD MAY 2024

Thursday	6th	D-DAY REMINISCENCE with Nick Adams	2.00pm
Wednesday	19th	Johnny Smith - Guitarist/Singer	2.00pm
Monday	24th	Ollie Lee sing-a-long with Guitar/Piano	2.00pm





**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.bridgcare.org.uk/donate/>**

#### **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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