



bridgemead

Bridgemia Newsletter October 2024



A BLOOMING AGAPANTHUS TWISTER

Words with -er -est Ending

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

EASIER
 KINDEST
 HAPPIEST
 SMALLER
 SLOWER
 HARDER
 SOFTER
 LOUDEST
 GOOFIEST
 SADEST
 DARKER
 SMALLEST
 LIGHTEST
 SWEETEST
 TALLER
 FASTER
 UGLIER
 FUNNIER
 FASTEST
 LOUDER



Sadly we say goodbye to Resident - John S
 John P

Our love and thoughts go out
 to their family and friends



Happy Birthday to Resident: Christine I

Dayclub: Veronica K



Alan Dickson - Chaplain

Hello everyone,

Autumn has arrived – no doubt. Rain, rain and more rain. Just when I had decided that there was enough garden rubbish for a bonfire, the rain came last week, and now it's completely soaked. No hope of a fire now!

I have always quite liked autumn – although I can't remember when I started feeling that emotion, but the nice feeling includes the colours of the trees, the crunchy carpet underfoot, and the enjoyment of the tractors and combine harvesters behind the house, cutting down the fields and producing the bales.

I have two Biblical reflections on autumn, which for me, are a stimulus to tell others about the Good News (Gospel) of Jesus.

We call this season "Autumn", but when I meet my American friends, they call it "the Fall". The "Fall", in the USA, describes the season when the leaves on the tree die, and then fall to the ground. The "*Fall*" in Christianity is the term used to describe the "*fall of man*" and its consequences - death. The "*Fall*" is what happened to mankind when Adam and Eve sinned in Genesis 3, the very first sin, when they rebelled against God's goodness, perfection and his love, by eating the forbidden fruit. They chose to do their own thing, rather than to obey God. As a result, sin and death came into the world, and the rest of humanity have inherited these problems ever since. As the New Testament tells us - [Romans 5](#): "*Through one man sin entered into the world. And by this one man, death was brought into the world.*"

Jesus, however, also had something to say about the autumn – "harvest-time". He said: "*The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few*". We know from the context that Jesus was not talking about the harvest of crops in the autumn, but the gathering of individual people at any time, the harvest of people into his Kingdom, through responding to the Gospel – repentance from sin, and faith in Jesus and his death. So, for Christians, although the "*Fall*" signifies the loss of mankind's relationship with God and death, "*Autumn*" signifies the coming of Jesus and the Gospel, and the opportunity to be forgiven, and to be gathered into his kingdom.

Jesus didn't finish after "*The harvest is abundant*". He went on to say, "*but the workers are few*". So for Christians, "*Autumn*" also signifies a call by Jesus to tell others - family, friends, neighbours, colleagues, about Jesus and his Kingdom.

Trustee Message

This will be the final article in Bridgemedica from the present group of Trustees. We have been a dwindling number in recent years but still have some who have been a Trustee for very many years.

We all wish all readers of Bridgemedica and in particular the staff and residents every good wish as we move into a new phase with PFS. We are totally confident that PFS will ensure that Bridgemedica has a very bright future as well as a very bright past.

I am sure that you will continue to see us in the future perhaps coming along to events run by the Friends and in other ways.

We are delighted that Tilly Wood is continuing as a Trustee under the new arrangement.

So a very fond farewell – but actually more of an “au revoir” and we hope to see you soon.

Paul Booth on behalf of the Trustees.

Becoming part of the Pilgrims' Friend Society group of care homes

Since April 2024 Friederike Hamilton and myself have worked alongside Ryan, Jay, Bev and all the staff within the home to support the transition of Bridgemedica Care into the family of Pilgrims' Friend Society homes (PFS).

It has been a joy and pleasure to have the opportunity to meet with many of the residents, and their extended loved ones, in different meetings, activities and times of devotion within the home.

Everything has moved forward to enable the successful date of October 1st to be the first day of joining with PFS and I am pleased to see the hard work behind the scenes of Pilgrims' Friend Society staff and the Bridgecare Trustees coming together to assure the continuation of excellent care within the home.

Friederike will be supporting the home in her role of Operations Manager and I will continue to work with everyone to support the continued transition. Whilst there have been some changes, it is wonderful to welcome into the home Vinnie as the new Maintenance Officer and Sarah as the Administrator. We are busy recruiting to the Business Manager position who will be working alongside Jay to continue strong leadership within the home and I look forward to sharing whom that is as soon as possible.

If there are any ongoing questions about the way forward please do speak with Friederike or myself, or if no questions please do take an opportunity to connect and say hello.

I look forward to the home continuing to provide excellent care for all of the residents.

Neal Shelton Green

Assistant Director of Operations - Commissioning

FRIENDS OF BRIDGEMEAD

Hello Bridgemedians,

Typing this in haste as I leave for a few days holiday to Guernsey in a couple of hours – I'm hoping that the weather will be kind!!!

On Friday 20th September over 40 intrepid people donned their raincoats for a walking treasure hunt around the Widcombe area – as it happened, the torrential rain stopped and they were able to enjoy the hunt in dappled sunshine. It was good to welcome Ryan and his family, Bridgemead's new receptionist, Sarah and her family, Hayley with Penny and Hayley's family and Hilary with her family and friends – a particularly quiet group – did I mention Sue M!!!

Once their activity was over the treasure seekers returned to Bridgemead for a Ploughman's Supper – and the answers!

It was a tight call and at one point it looked as though we should have to put the tie-breaker into action, but on recount the winners were the 'Droolers' – a team captained by our Treasurer Judith. Winning the booby prize were 'Hayley's Heroes' under their team captain and committee member Hayley! No nepotism here I can assure you!

I have lots of people to thank – Ryan and all the staff at Bridgemead, particularly Mark and Jake in the kitchen who ordered our food and as always supported us throughout the day! To you all a very big thank you! To all the committee members especially Liz for prepping the apples when I was fed up with doing it, but in particular Karen Gibbons - she never stops working and without her I would never have coped!

Also thanks to husband Roy and friends Sue, Helen and Esme for pre-walking the route with me and for taking money and marking the papers. If I've missed anyone my apologies!

The next event will be the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 7 December 2024 at Bridgemead 2.30pm. More details later.

Lastly as we say goodbye to Ryan I would like to extend our very best wishes to him in his new venture. We shall miss him at committee meetings - iPad and phone to hand sorting out what appeared to be a myriad of tasks as well as taking on board what we were asking him to do! Always kind, patient and helpful – we're sure these skills will stand him in good stead in the future!

Una

News at Bridgmead

The Residents and Day Club members have been busy making cards with various designs and greetings. We are hoping to have a good supply ready for the Friends Christmas Sale in December. It's an activity that all enjoy doing apart from some residents who enjoy playing Scrabble. A game that creates a great deal of sportsmanship!!



POEM BY OUR RESIDENT POET

THE MELLOW SEASON

**AUTUMN, "THE MELLOW SEASON" IS COMING REALLY FAST
THE CLOUDLESS SKY AND HOT SUMMER SUN HAD TO GO AT LAST.
THERE IS NOW A COOLER FEEL FLOATING IN THE AIR
TELLING US THAT AUTUMN IS HERE TO SHARE.
AUTUMN IS NAMED "THE MELLOW SEASON"
FOR A CHOICE AND VALID REASON.
NOW THE FRUIT AND BERRIES ON THE TREES
ARE RIPE AND SWEET AND READY TO EAT.
THE GRAPES ARE RIPE AND FULL OF JUICE JUST HANGING ON THE VINE
WAITING TO BE PICKED AND PRESSED AND THEN MADE INTO WINE.
A MISTY HAZE NOW COVERS THE SKY
AS DARKER, COOLER DAYS COME BY.
SOME FOLK CONSIDER THE MELLOW SEASON IS QUITE SUBLIME
GIVING SPACE AND QUIET TO PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS TIME.
MOTHER NATURE NEEDS A REST
AS WE KNOW MOTHER ALWAYS KNOWS WHAT'S BEST!!**

ENTERTAINMENT AT BRIDGEMEAD OCTOBER 2024

Wednesday	2nd	Steve West	-	Singer	2pm
Wednesday	9th	Shannon Kitchen	-	Singer	2pm
Friday	11th	Mike Renton	-	Sing-a-long	2pm
Wednesday	23rd	Danny Guest	-	Singer	2pm
Wednesday	30th	'Now & Then'	-	Singing Group	2pm



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
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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