



bridgemead

BRIDGEMEDIA

Bridgemead Care Home Newsletter

February 2018

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning, new every morning; great is your faithfulness, O Lord, great is your faithfulness.”

For most of us things sometimes happen in life which we wish had not happened. This may come in the form of bad news about an illness ourselves or perhaps, similar news about a loved one. It may be something around us in the world which is going on which we wish with all our heart wasn't going on. These things can really affect how we feel and how we respond to those around us. There are lots of examples in the Bible about people who experience things like this and look to God, and find a way through.

The prophet, Jeremiah, wrote two books which have earned him the name “The Weeping Prophet”. In his first book Jeremiah warns the people of Israel who have turned away from God that Jerusalem is about to be destroyed and that many of them will be taken into captivity in Babylon. His second book, Lamentations, expresses sorrow over the plight of Jerusalem and its people. It is an intensely sad book about how he and others feel and is filled with statements like, *“All the splendour has departed from Jerusalem”, “The people weep day and night”, “Is any suffering like our suffering?”*

Then in the middle of the book, amidst all the doom and gloom, in a few short verses there is a burst of hope and confidence in their God: *“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness”* (Lamentations 3:22-23). Some years ago a songwriter, wrote the words of the song at the top of the page based on these Bible verses. Whatever we are going through in our lives we can hang on to these words because we can be confident that God never changes, that God loves and that God will never let us down.

Alan Ashworth

A Message from the Chairman of the Trustees

Hello Bridgemedians

I finished off my piece last month with a quotation by the late King George VI at the outbreak of WW2 in which he encouraged the people to "... *put your hand in the hand of God.*" Mary and I went to the cinema last week to watch *Darkest Hour*, the portrayal of Sir Winston Churchill as newly appointed Prime Minister of the coalition government in May 1940.

Churchill was portrayed as a single-minded man - determined, against all odds, to follow his convictions and drive through his policies. He did not always follow the advice of his colleagues but always found the courage to act on his convictions (sometimes by digging deep). One thing that struck me was the difficult choices he made and the way in which, humanly impossible, barriers were overcome. This was brought into stark focus with the evacuation of over 300,000 allied soldiers from the beaches of Dunkirk by a flotilla of small craft requisitioned for this purpose. This became known as the *Miracle of Dunkirk*.

What also struck me most was the way in which careful planning and courageous action combined with, what many believed to be, the hand of God, brought about a miraculous intervention. I think this applies to us at Bridgemed as we face our own difficulties. This applies to us as individuals as well as a team. We all have a part to play but as we '*... put our hands into the hand of God*' we begin to see amazing things happening.

Yesterday we sang a modern song in church which has these lyrics:-

*"By faith this mountain shall be moved
And the power of the gospel shall prevail
For we know with Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name"*

When we are faced with obstacles it is easy for us to be faint-hearted and give up too soon. This is true for all of us and it is good for us to be reminded that we are not on our own. We need careful planning and good strategies. But, as a Christian home, we also know that we have a God who is far more powerful than all the obstacles that present themselves. Let's continue to trust Him.

One final piece of news in closing – the Weston Townswomen's Guild have chosen Bridgemed to be its charity of the year for 2018. That's great news don't you think!



Shrove Tuesday

Tuesday 13th February 2018



Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day is the traditional feast day before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Lent – the 40 days leading up to Easter – was traditionally a time of fasting and on Shrove Tuesday, Anglo-Saxon Christians went to confession and were “shriven” (absolved from their sins). A bell would be rung to call people to confession. This came to be called the “Pancake Bell” and is still rung today.

Shrove Tuesday always falls 47 days before Easter Sunday, so the date varies from year to year.

Shrove Tuesday was the last opportunity to use up eggs and fats before embarking on the Lenten fast and pancakes are the perfect way of using up these ingredients.

A pancake is a thin, flat cake, made of batter and fried in a frying pan. A traditional English pancake is very thin and is served immediately. Golden syrup or lemon juice and caster sugar are the usual toppings for pancakes.

The pancake has a very long history and featured in cookery books as far back as 1439. The tradition of tossing or flipping them is almost as old: “And every man and maide doe take their turne, And tosse their Pancakes up for feare they burne.” (Pasquil’s Palin, 1619).

The ingredients for pancakes can be seen to symbolise four points of significance at this time of year:

Eggs ~ Creation

Flour ~ The staff of life

Salt ~ Wholesomeness

Milk ~ Purity



February Birthdays

Residents

23rd February - Elizabeth Moore

Day Club

20th February- Joan Redman



February Activities

Monday 5th February - 'John-on-me-Tod' sings and plays

Tuesday 6th February - Mike Renton and friends 'sing-a-long'

Wednesday 7th February - Songs & music picture quiz with Holly Marks

Thursday 8th February - 'Kiddleydivey' Musical interaction with Alyson

Monday 12th February - 'Golden Toes' seated dance class with Lauren

Tuesday 13th February - Phil Smith entertains

Wednesday 14th February - Music, anecdotes and song with Bing Lyle

Tuesday 20th February - David Kniveton's flute performance

Wednesday 21st February - 'Music & Memories' with James Hogg

Friday 23rd February - Alive! History and music with Colin

Monday 26th February - Terry & Jenny Ballroom Dancing

Wednesday 28th February - John Holcombe sings and plays guitar

Friends of Bridgemed

Hello Bridgemedians,

As you read this I shall be in (sunny?) Italy awaiting the start of the England/Italy Six Nations rugby match – come on England!

I have noticed the first flowering crocus and snowdrops, so Spring IS just around the corner!!

The committee had its first meeting of the year in early January and agreed on the following programme:

The Easter Fayre will be on **Saturday March 17**, Bridgemed at **2.30pm**.

We shall offer the following stalls – Easter egg tombola, cakes, modern paperback books, crafts, jewellery, smellies and a raffle. We have decided to re-introduce the £1 stall at Christmas! Other stalls may be added but only with the consent of the committee. Refreshments will be on sale at £2 for tea/coffee and an Easter biscuit.

On **Friday 11 May** we shall be holding our ever popular **Quiz & Fish & Chip Supper** at Bridgemed. **7pm** start. The cost will be £12, please bring your favourite tippie!

The Strawberry Tea will be held on **Saturday 28 July, 2.30pm** Bridgemed. More details to follow.

A supporter of Bridgemed, although not a Friend, has offered to run a **Musical Consequences Quiz** this year and also a **Walking Treasure Hunt** of Bath – watch this space for details, or look out for posters appearing at Bridgemed.

Just one last date for your diaries – the **'Friends' AGM** will be held at Bridgemed on **Tuesday 17 July at 7.30pm**. Over the last couple of years we have enjoyed a better attendance from the Friends but would love to welcome more this year – please try to attend – we would love to see you!

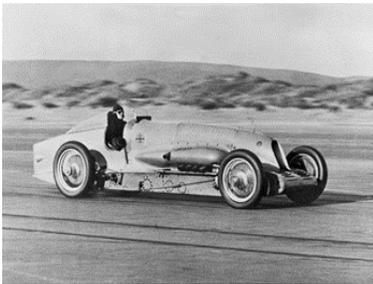
Keep warm

Una

Early February in History



1st February 1901 - The royal yacht *Alberta* brings the body of Queen Victoria into Portsmouth harbour en route to her funeral in London tomorrow. The Queen, aged 82, died on January 22, at Osborne on the Isle of Wight.



4th February 1926 - Malcolm Campbell sets a new world land speed record of 174 mph (278 kmph) in Wales.



11th February 1975 - Margaret Thatcher, becomes the first woman leader of the British Conservative Party.



15th February 1971 - Pennies, bobs and half-crowns all disappear as Britain goes decimal.

Source: www.historic-uk.com

Farewell

Mrs Maggie Drew passed peacefully away at Bridgemoor on Saturday 20th January 2018. Maggie will be dearly missed by her family, friends and all those who knew and cared for her.

The Glory of the Garden

OUR England is a garden that is full of stately views,
Of borders, beds and shrubberies and lawns and avenues,
With statues on the terraces and peacocks strutting by;
But the Glory of the Garden lies in more than meets the eye.

For where the old thick laurels grow, along the thin red wall,
You'll find the tool- and potting-sheds which are the heart of all
The cold-frames and the hot-houses, the dung-pits and the tanks,
The rollers, carts, and drain-pipes, with the barrows and the planks.

And there you'll see the gardeners, the men and 'prentice boys
Told off to do as they are bid and do it without noise ;
For, except when seeds are planted and we shout to scare the birds,
The Glory of the Garden it abideth not in words.

And some can pot begonias and some can bud a rose,
And some are hardly fit to trust with anything that grows ;
But they can roll and trim the lawns and sift the sand and loam,
For the Glory of the Garden occupieth all who come.

Our England is a garden, and such gardens are not made
By singing:- " Oh, how beautiful," and sitting in the shade
While better men than we go out and start their working lives
At grubbing weeds from gravel-paths with broken dinner-knives.

There's not a pair of legs so thin, there's not a head so thick,
There's not a hand so weak and white, nor yet a heart so sick
But it can find some needful job that's crying to be done,
For the Glory of the Garden glorifieth every one.

Then seek your job with thankfulness and work till further orders,
If it's only netting strawberries or killing slugs on borders;
And when your back stops aching and your hands begin to harden,
You will find yourself a partner In the Glory of the Garden.

Oh, Adam was a gardener, and God who made him sees
That half a proper gardener's work is done upon his knees,
So when your work is finished, you can wash your hands and pray
For the Glory of the Garden that it may not pass away!
And the Glory of the Garden it shall never pass away !

Local Giving

Bridgemead has a Local Giving Page set up. If anyone would be interested in giving, the link to it is: <https://localgiving.org/charity/bridgemead/>

Please note that Bridgemedial can now be found on our website. Go to www.bridgecare.org.uk, click on Bridgemedial and you will find the latest issue. We also now have a page for Staff Vacancies on the website.

If you would prefer to receive your copy of Bridgemedial by e-mail, can you 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. Published by Bridge Care Ltd, Bridgemead, 81 St John's Road, Bathwick, Bath BA2 6PZ. Bridge Care is a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity under number 299400. Limited Company registration number 2001246 (England).

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