



bridgemed

# BRIDGEMEDIA

Bridgemed Care Home Newsletter

January 2018

## **“A Wonderful Journey!”**

*“On seeing the child the Magi bowed down and worshipped him, and presented him with gifts of gold, incense and myrrh.” Matthew 2:11*

For most of us January signals the end of Christmas and the start of a new year. For some Christian groups the celebration of Epiphany is celebrated in early January. This focuses upon the alerting of the Magi to the birth of a new king many hundreds of miles away in Judea, their journey to find him and their adoration of him. Although we don't know that Jesus was born “In the bleak midwinter”, I do love the carol of that name by Christina Rossetti. I think that it is the last verse that I really like:

*“What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my part; Yet, what can I give Him? – Give my heart.”*

I am sure that at times we have all asked that question about friends or relatives when we have been trying to buy them a present. “What can I give them, they seem to already have most things!” If we are honest, that is probably true for many of us – we do have most things that we need and it takes quite a bit of ingenuity to buy something different. When it comes to asking the question about God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit the question is even more stark. “What can I give to God? He is the Creator of all things, everything belongs to him and everything comes from him. He has given us life itself; he is our Father. What can I give Him – give my heart!” That sounds very easy and yet it is the most difficult thing of all. Acknowledge God's goodness and love to us, surrender ourselves to Him, give Him our hearts in the same way as we would give our hearts to the person who becomes “the love of our life”. God created us, died for us on the cross and wants us to be His own, and give him our heart!

***Alan Ashworth***

## A Message from the Chairman of the Trustees

### Hello Bridgemedians

It's 2018! A Happy and Blessed New Year to everybody. The New Year naturally affords us the opportunity to reflect on the year that is past as well as look forward to the year that is ahead.

2017 was extremely demanding for the management, staff and Trustees as we have had to respond to many demands and consider plans for the future. I have been encouraged by the teamwork as we have worked together to meet the challenges and for the support of families, friends and volunteers during the year. One of the most heart-warming experiences was the supporters' event that took place on November 23<sup>rd</sup> attended by so many of you, a number of whom have supported Bridgemedad for many years. It was also a joy to have a get-together for volunteers just before Christmas and to chat with some who have been volunteering for decades as well as talking with two schoolgirls from Monkton Combe School who are more recent members of the team.

As we looking forward to 2018, the Trustees are considering the vision for Bridgemedad for the next 15 to 25 years. How should we respond to the many challenges that face Bridgemedad and the sector as a whole? As an independent care home with a Christian ethos we face particular challenges and want to continue to provide first rate loving care to vulnerable older people in our churches and community that both meets their needs and takes account of the financial pressures faced by the sector. In addition to this we have to respond to the potential for flooding.

As we look forward however we are not daunted – far from it in fact, not least because, as a Christian community we are able to rely on God's wisdom which is always far better than our own. As I started writing this column some words came to my mind which were used by HM, the late King George VI, in his Christmas message in December 1939 soon after the outbreak of WW2. What the late king quoted was:-

*'I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year,*

*"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."*

*And he replied, "Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God.*

*That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way."*

His Majesty concluded with the words *"May that Almighty Hand guide and uphold us all."* I for one think there is great wisdom in this.



## **From Fitzroy House to Bridgemead**

Doris had been interested in Bridgemead ever since Dr. King spoke of his desire to create a home for elderly Christians where they would feel at home when they needed residential care. Obviously, Doris didn't need it whilst she was still able to look after herself. Doris also managed to get around to visit those older than herself and continued to lead an active life.

A time came when a site had been found and purchased. A meeting was arranged in the middle of the site when the first stone was laid and Doris attended. When Bridgemead was built, Doris went to the opening ceremony and helped Winnie one of the first residents, to move in. Doris visited Winnie most days and read the Scriptures to her, prayed with her and sang hymns. Doris helped Winnie to join in with special activities too.

Eventually, Winnie needed nursing care and moved upstairs to the nursing floor. While she was there she celebrated her 89th birthday. Winnie said that Bridgemead staff made a fuss of her when they assisted her to get up on the morning of her birthday, other staff visited her during the day and she also received visitors from Manvers Hall. Winnie recalled her 89th birthday for months afterwards and described it as, "Wonderful" and said that "she'd never known anything like it."

### **Doris Scullard**

Bridgemead Resident

## **January Birthdays**

### **Residents**

**6th January - Sylvia Cook**

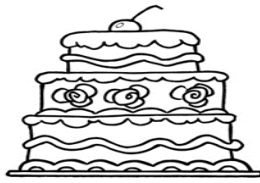
**23rd January - Bridie Duff**

### **Day Club**

**4th January - John Harrison**

**19th January - Eugene Gimson**

**23rd January - Evelyn Wilczek**



## **January Activities**

**Thursday 4th January - 'Musica' musical interaction with Ella**

**Wednesday 10th January - 'Now & Then' sing and play**

**Thursday 11th January - Chris Griffiths entertains**

**Monday 15th January - Alive! 'Making Pals' fun, conversation and recollections**

**Wednesday 17th January - Mike Renton and friends 'sing-a-long'**

**Tuesday 23rd January - James Hogg's 'Music & Memories'**

**Thursday 25th January - Danny Guest sings (2.30pm)**

**Monday 30th January - Alive! 'Making Pals' fun, conversation and recollections**

## Farewell

Mr Peter May passed peacefully away at The Royal United Hospital on Tuesday 12th December 2017. Peter will be much missed by friends, family and all those who knew and cared for him.

Mrs Marjorie Bryant passed quietly away at Bridgemead on Wednesday 13th December 2017. Marjorie will be missed by all those who knew and cared for her.



## Friends of Bridgemead

**Hello Bridgemedians,**

A very happy 2018 to you all – health and happiness!

I'm delighted to report that the Christmas Fayre was an especially good one this year! We enjoyed great support and made a wonderful profit of a tad over £780!! Thank you all so much! I really must mention the mince pies, which I understand were made by Mark this year.....we have had so many compliments for them so a very big thank you Mark!!

So many people make this the success it enjoyed – you know who you are – we so appreciate all the work you do!

The committee meet early in January so I will be able to give you details of our activities for 2018 in the February edition.

I'm off now to be 'Mother Christmas' at Lacock, I expect that all the little children will be so excited...I hope not too excited to listen to my story!

Enjoy this lovely seasonal weather.

**Una**

# Wordsearch



## HAPPY NEW YEAR

### Wordsearch



Search for the words going up, down, left and right.

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

CELEBRATION  
FIREWORKS  
JANUARY  
PARTY

COUNTDOWN  
GATHERING  
MIDNIGHT  
RESOLUTION

EXTRAVAGANZA  
INVITATION  
NOISEMAKER  
TRADITION



## Baubles Please!

Do you have any plain baubles to spare? We are hoping to create some craft activities using baubles.



## 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](http://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](mailto: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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