

VILLAGE NEWS

NEWS FROM MIDDLETON HALL RETIREMENT VILLAGE

SUMMER 2025

NEW SUPPORTED RETIREMENT APARTMENTS UNVEILED

The first of the newly refurbished rental apartments have been unveiled offering supported accommodation at the historic heart of Middleton Hall Retirement Village.

The Middleton Grove apartments are designed to offer a unique lifestyle for anyone who enjoys their independence but would benefit from living in a small friendly community offering care support, companionship and security.

Featuring a sitting room, bedroom, fully equipped kitchen and an accessible bathroom, the attractive and spacious apartments are within easy reach of the retirement village's extensive facilities and amenities.

Residents live surrounded by the beautiful 45-acre Middleton Hall estate which features woodland walks, water and wildlife areas and community allotments. Along the corridor are the Orangery bistro, the Health & Wellbeing Centre with swimming pool, jacuzzi, gym, hairdresser and personal therapists, a resident-run library and an art studio with its own pottery kiln.



Life in Middleton Grove is designed to provide a comfortable lifestyle with a choice of service packages, including housekeeping, laundry and transport services and meals, available to suit a range of lifestyles. For further details visit our website to register your interest.



STUNNING NEW LOOK AND EXCITING NEW MENU IN THE ORANGERY BISTRO

The refurbished Orangery bistro reopened in early June boasting a stunningly restyled décor and an exciting new menu.

Offering elegant daytime dining with classic British flair, the bistro is open every day for residents and their guests, Middleton Hall Retirement Village's co-owners, Health & Wellbeing Centre members, visitors and members of the public.

The opening was marked with a series of events including a drop-in drinks reception with live music from a string trio.

Adam Wardale, Operations Director at Middleton Hall Retirement Village said: "The newly reopened Orangery bistro has been very positively received by everyone who has visited. It's been wonderful to see residents, families, and guests enjoying the refreshed space and



menu featuring our elevated take on British favourites. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive."

The Orangery is open Monday to Saturday 8:30am to 6:00pm, Sunday 8.30am-4pm. To view the menu visit the What's On page of the website.



MIDDLETON HALL
RETIREMENT VILLAGE

MIDDLETON HALL'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR LAUNCHED IN STYLE

Middleton Hall Retirement Village marked the start of its 125th anniversary year with a vibrant week of events. Residents, families, and Co-owners enjoyed concerts, a fireworks display, Victorian-themed activities, carnival games, and a 125-mile bike challenge.

A giant tipi on the estate's bowling green was the hub of the celebrations, hosting performances by Alistair Griffin and Ignite Concerts, along with a quiz, coffee morning and talks.

Highlights included history talks, a Stockton & Darlington

Railway presentation, talks including a presentation of historic metal detecting finds and guided estate tours. A time capsule burial captured today's life at Middleton Hall for future generations.

Founded in 1900, Middleton Hall has grown into an award-winning, employee-owned village offering independent living and luxury care services. Care Director Colin Inglis said, "It's quite a feat to mark 125 years - our teams created an incredible week that will last long in everyone's memories."



VE DAY COMMEMORATED WITH CRAFT, CEREMONY AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Residents and co-owners took part in heartfelt celebrations to mark VE Day.

Ahead of the day the village's talented Needlecraft Club residents stitched beautiful handmade tributes, while the Royal British Legion Shildon branch led a moving service in honour of the day. The day wrapped up with a classic street party - complete with music, flags, and plenty of cake.



MIDDLETON HALL
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AROUND THE ESTATE



HERE COMES THE ESTATES TEAM!

The fab four (plus more!) enjoyed themselves when a photographer was visiting.



NATURE IS THRIVING

The newly re-developed wildlife area is a flourishing haven full of vibrant wildflowers, buzzing bees and birdsong.



WINTER GARDEN GETS A MAKEOVER

Residents in Middleton Oaks are enjoying the Winter Garden which has been given a makeover by the team with re-potted plants, grapevines and a fresh gravel base.



VOLUNTEER ESTATES GROUP DIG IN TO HELP

A group of green-fingered residents lend a hand every week around the estate by the group.



BIRD BOX PROJECT TAKES FLIGHT TO BOOST BIODIVERSITY

A project creating bird boxes to support wildlife on the Middleton Hall estate has been a great success.

Launched with workshops for residents and co-owners, the initiative aimed to house 40 bird families by the end of 2025 and concluded with an awards ceremony for those who had adopted boxes.

This year, 32 boxes sheltered 211 chicks, including 18 Blue Tit and 11 Great Tit families. Over winter, boxes will be cleaned, repaired, and repositioned to boost future occupancy and biodiversity.

NORTHERN ECHO SPOTLIGHTS MIDDLETON HALL'S 125-YEAR STORY

Chris Lloyd from the Northern Echo visited Middleton Hall Retirement Village to explore the business's remarkable 125-year history for the Echo Memories pages. During his visit, Chris met residents and co-owners who generously shared their stories.

Featured articles included the 125-year history of the Middleton Hall estate and business and residents Mary Burgoyne's trajectory from her family's garage business to high society fashion, Sonia Wade's incredible wartime survival story and Jean Barr's reflections on being one of the UK's first agony aunts. To read all the stories visit News at www.mhrv.co.uk



ADVENTURING OUT AND ABOUT

Recent trips have included a range of excursions, exploring local attractions, gardens, cafés and even to have tea with a pony.



EVENTS IN MIDDLETON HALL'S CARE SERVICES



Residents and pupils connect over games

A very enjoyable afternoon was spent playing board games with pupils from St George's Primary School in Middleton St George. Everyone paired up for some fun games of dominos, and the children were pros at teaching Connect 4!



A journey through time

During 'Remember When' sessions, residents explored memorabilia from a Wellbeing Co-ordinator's grandma, who served in Jamaica during WW2, including ration books and photos, sparking cherished memories and nostalgic conversations.



Tail-wagging joy

Residents enjoyed some tail-wagging therapy with a special visit from Lily, one of the friendship dogs from Wag & Co.



CARE HOME AWARDS 2025 FINALISTS

For the fifth year running Middleton Hall Retirement Village was recognised in the prestigious national Care Home Awards. The Middleton Court residential care service was recognised in the Best for Specialist Care category, and the Maintenance team for Best Facilities and Maintenance Team. "A true testament to the dedication and excellence of our teams," said Care Director Colin Inglis.



No rest for the Middleton Grove movers

Staying active, social and smiling all the way at the weekly exercise class for residents in the supported apartments.



Striking up the fun

The perfect way to spend a sunny morning with a friendly game of ten-pin bowling.



Cool customers

Enjoying some delicious ice lollies in the warm weather.



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CHAMPIONING THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD NUTRITION IN CARE

Middleton Hall Retirement Village's Head of Care and Quality, Debby McGinnes, was one of the headline speakers at this year's Care Home Catering Forum.

Hosted by Care Home Catering magazine, the one-day event shares key insight and knowledge from experts in the sector through engaging talks, presentations and cooking demonstrations.

Debby shared valuable insights about how we focus on delivering exceptional catering within our care setting and how we support residents' nutrition, wellbeing and quality of life every day.



ROYAL EXPERIENCE ON THE MENU

A chef who has cooked for royalty and former US Presidents has been appointed as Middleton Hall Retirement Village's new Head Chef.

Seasoned culinary professional Mark Bennett joins the team having spent his career working at some of the UK's most prestigious events and venues.

Mark will use his wealth of experience in his new role overseeing menus across the retirement village, including the newly refurbished Orangery bistro. He is also championing home-grown produce grown by the Estates team in their new kitchen garden and launching themed dining nights to bring residents and guests together.

Operations Director Adam Wardale said, "Mark's vast experience, creativity, leadership and passion for great food with local influence reflect our commitment to delivering the best possible experience for everyone who lives here and visits us. "We're excited for what's ahead."



'GENERATION JOY' CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS THE BENEFITS OF RETIREMENT VILLAGE LIVING

A national campaign supported by Middleton Hall Retirement Village has been launched to reshape perceptions of later life. Led by ARCO, the body representing retirement village operators, and magazine publisher Hearst UK, the campaign highlights the vibrant, independent living offered by Integrated Retirement Communities, with wellbeing, and social connection alongside care support when needed. Executive Chair Jeremy Walford calls it "a better way to live in later life."

MIDDLETON HALL'S INNOVATION SHOWCASED AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Executive Chair of Middleton Hall Retirement Village, Jeremy Walford, was featured as a guest speaker at the prestigious annual ARCO (Associated Retirement Community Operators) conference.



As we mark our 125th anniversary year, Jeremy's presentation focused on Middleton Hall's impressive history of innovation and our plans to continue to innovate to create outstanding retirement living and care.



A THANK YOU FOR CLEANER, SAFER WALKS

One of the Waterside independent residents received flowers and a card from a local couple as a thank you for her regular litter-picking around the village. They wanted to show their appreciation for the cleaner, safer walks that have made a real difference in the community.





FORGET ME NOT COFFEE MORNING BRINGS COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Residents, visitors, and co-owners gathered in Middleton Oaks Winter Garden for a 'Forget Me Not' coffee morning, supporting the Alzheimer's Society's appeal to raise dementia awareness.

The relaxed event offered coffee, cake, and conversation, helping to unite people against one of the UK's leading health challenges. Hand-knitted forget-me-nots from the village's Knit & Natter group and ceramic flowers from residents' art classes added a special touch, highlighting the unique creativity and community spirit of Middleton Hall Retirement Village throughout the morning.

LIVE IN OUR FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

To find out more about living in our residential care services or Middleton Grove independent apartments with care support please get in touch with our friendly team.



All the independently owned Waterside bungalows and Middleton Woods apartments are currently fully occupied but we still welcome enquiries.

Visit www.mhrv.co.uk to learn more or to register your interest.

EVENTS CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Some upcoming dates for your diary are below. The Orangery Bistro also offers regular à la carte evenings and bookable afternoon teas.

Middleton Hall Dog Show

Saturday 16th August | 10:30am - 12:30pm | Free entry to spectators

Déjà Vu Band Evening

Saturday 25th October | 6:30pm arrival | £10 (including a 125ml glass of wine or soft drink)

Christmas Fair

Saturday 22nd November | Time TBC | Free entry

To find out more visit www.mhrv.co.uk/whats-on/



STOCKTON & DARLINGTON RAILWAY 200 CELEBRATIONS

Middleton Hall Retirement Village was proud to take part in the Middleton St George S&DR200 Celebrations Week, as part of the celebrations to mark 200 years of railway history.

The week opened with a talk by resident Professor Alan Townsend, Vice Chair of the Friends of the Stockton & Darlington Railway, who shared insights into the railway's local impact. Visitors also enjoyed a railway-themed exhibition featuring memorabilia, photographs, and a working diorama of Fighting Cocks Station, organised by resident David Gaskell, celebrating the area's rich heritage.

Middleton Hall's Knit and Knatter group also joined forces with the Middleton St George Women's Institute to create vibrant, handmade bunting to be displayed in the village.



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