



RESIDENT NEWSLETTER – MAY 2018

MH CHOIR HEADS UP A GREAT CARE HOME OPEN DAY



"I don't want to go home!" commented a visitor on Care Home Open Day.

What a day ... what a week! The theme for all care homes in 2018 was 'Linking Communities' and we chose to focus on the topical subject of the Commonwealth. Each of the care services – Middleton Court, Gardens, Oaks and Grove chose a different Commonwealth country to feature in their activities throughout the preceding week. It was busy, busy, busy ...

Thank you to the Middleton Hall choir (photograph on the top row), whose rousing performance of 'Songs from the Musicals' touched hearts. You were brilliant!



There was also ... indoor curling and bowling, a Commonwealth quiz, some arty-crafty Indian collage and bejazzelling elephant sessions, screenings of The King and I and Slum Dog Millionaire, and an array of tasty goodies such as Sri Lankan curry, Quebecois maple taffy apples, and Australian and French style cupcakes. The decorations were spectacular – in fact it was hard to tell Middleton Oaks from the real Australian outback.

It was obvious to all our guests that we don't just have some impressive facilities but a great lifestyle within them.

RESIDENT BRIEFINGS

Thank you to those who gave their time to attend one of the recent briefings. We hope you found the information beneficial. It was certainly useful for us to present details directly, to take questions and gain additional feedback.



For those who were not able to attend, a summary of the briefing is attached.

BOWLING AND GOLF NEWS

It's time! Good news – the bowling and golfing greens will soon both be open and ready for action. Remember that the Pavilion key is at Reception if you would like to use it.



Bowling: From 2nd May, every Wednesday and Thursday 2.00pm

Golf: From 7th May. All are welcome to use the greens.

This is a good time to mention future dates to add to your diary. Not just for the sporty types among you. This makes a fantastic spectator sport too.

Residents Sports Day 16th August
Staff v Residents Sports Day 30th August

STOP PRESS!

FLOWER ARRANGING DEMO

Ladies from Darlington Flower Club have offered to give a flower arranging demonstration to residents on **Friday 4th May**. If interested, go along to the **Vision Room at 10.30 – 11.30am**. There is no need to book, all are welcome, and the event is free.



"Music has the power to bring people together like no other art form" Michael Franti

FOODIE NEWS

MONDAY NIGHTS ARE TAPAS NIGHTS



**Beginning Monday
7th May and every other
Monday thereafter,
7.00 - 9.00pm in the
Orangery**

We have combined many of your favourite things in a regular event, beginning very soon.

You are obviously sociable, can be very adventurous and many like smaller, tempting dishes! Not to mention interesting wines to accompany the culinary themes.

The first Tapas Night on **Monday 7th May** will showcase Spanish dishes and wines; these have proved very popular on previous evenings. Sam Wilkes, usually found hard at work in the kitchen, will be playing guitar. On subsequent evenings, the world is our oyster! No two evenings will be the same and the kitchen team is raring to go

Strictly speaking, there is no need to book but it is advised if you would like a particular table spot.

“I WENT SHOPPING AND I BOUGHT ...”

What would you like see being sold in the new shop?

The farm-style shop is due to open in **June 2018**. Your views on what should be stocked are important. Please let Reception or the Orangery know what you would buy if available, including freshly prepared food in a 'grab and go' chiller section.



AN EXCELLENT VINTAGE

Thank you to those who kindly donated crockery to add a special little something to afternoon teas at Middleton Hall.

It does look the part!

REFRESHED ORANGERY MENU

The new Orangery menu will be out for you to sample and enjoy from **Monday 14th May**.

MUSIC TO OUR EARS

Many thanks to local Middleton St George resident John Bright, who has volunteered to play guitar as diners arrive for the **Fine Dining Evening on 13th June at 5.30 – 7.00pm**.

OOH LA! LA! COFFEE MORNING



Lovely to see residents enjoying a French café-style coffee morning. Lots of work went into the morning, hosted by Middleton Gardens. The raffle went down a treat too.



TRADE ENTRANCE NEWS

Progress is being made on the works that are necessary to complete the surfacing work at the trade entrance.

We await the final schedule of works from Virgin Media, who will lower their service ducts and re-locate a service chamber. This work will take place during the next 8 weeks and once begun will take between one and two weeks.

Once this work has been completed by Virgin Media, Wearmouth Construction will be able to complete the surfacing works to the entrance and footpaths. This is expected to take approximately another two weeks.

It is hoped there will be no road closures during Virgin Media's work. The expected schedule from Virgin Media will confirm the situation and we will advise on any limitations of access as soon as they are known.

It is expected that there will be a trade entrance closure for one day during the surfacing work by Wearmouth Construction. Your understanding and cooperation is much appreciated. Please do contact Graeme Bell if you would like any further information.

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WHAT IS THE GSF?



Middleton Hall is committed to the Gold Standards Framework, a national initiative to ensure that people live with dignity right up to the end of their life.

Debby Lamont invites all those interested to an information session on

Monday 21st May at 3.00pm in the Vision Room.

Issues covered will include;

- What does the Gold Standards Framework mean?
- Advanced care plans
- Emergency plans
- When does someone have 'capacity' and what are the issues around this?
- What is a DNAR – a Do Not Attempt Resuscitation order?

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES IN THE SHED



As the good weather becomes a feature, Middleton Oaks looks forward to arranging regular **'man shed'** times. Gentlemen from Middleton Grove, Gardens and Court are invited to pursue their favourite activities here together, meet like-minded people and maybe learn some new skills.

Please get in touch with Sheenagh Young at Middleton Oaks if you are interested in joining in. Sheenagh and the Maintenance team are interested to know what kind of projects people would like to be involved in. Ideas on the table are making bird boxes, planters and model aeroplanes or just hanging out with a flask of tea and biscuits. Above all, we'd like residents to be involved with the planning.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A MODEL?

Don't worry, there is no catwalk! We are about to refresh the range of Middleton Hall brochures and plan to build up a stock of photographs to use for this and other promotional purposes. Photos are vital in portraying Middleton Hall, and photos of even the smartest of buildings come to life if they feature real people too.

The first of a series of photography sessions with a professional photographer (Stuart Boulton, who knows us well) will happen on **Thursday 24th May**. Times are not yet confirmed. We would like to take some shots of facilities, mostly with residents in the background, often sideways on.

If you are interested in helping us out or would like to know more, please contact Jan Hargrove, Marketing Coordinator (via Reception).

NEWS FROM MIDDLETON SPA

Well done to Waterside resident Christine Boston and Spa member Marion Sharp for successfully swimming the channel!

Marion said she was absolutely delighted with her certificate and couldn't stop beaming.



MINIBUS



A little reminder to independent residents – the Middleton Hall minibus is available for booking if you are considering arranging trips.

The bus, with a Middleton Hall, takes up to 11 passengers and works out cheaper than a regular taxi service. It can be booked at Reception – please ask David Richardson for a quote.

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CAPTION THIS!



Thank you to Sonia Wade for sharing this interesting photograph, taken recently outside reception. There is an Orangery voucher as a prize for the best caption! Please hand in your ideas to Reception before the end of May!

NOTICE FOR MIDDLETON WOODS

As planned, work to re-coat the roof of Middleton Woods will begin in the **week beginning 7th May** and is expected to take up to a week. Scaffolding will be erected at the bottom of staircase near Middleton Woods' Garden Room, so residents are asked to access the bin store via the Garden Room until work is completed.

WATERSIDE LANDSCAPING CONSULTATIONS

There will be a meeting in the **Vision Room on Friday 18th May at 10.00 - 11:30am** to discuss initial resident ideas on future landscape plans for the Waterside. Please inform Reception before the 14th May if you would like to attend as spaces will be limited. Please forward all ideas to David Richardson by email (dr@middletonwoods.com) or on paper via Reception before the 14th May. Some initial ideas have already been received – thank you.

REGULAR MOVIE DATES

Friday nights are movie nights! All are welcome to the **Vision Room at 6.30pm** to watch films with Middleton Grove residents. The programme for May is as follows;

4th Jersey Boys
11th The Party
18th The Greatest Showman
25th Chicago the Musical

NEW RECEPTION TEAM UNIFORMS



You may have noticed that the Reception team looks a little different! Just as welcoming and smiley, but now in blue, as the previous uniform dresses were discontinued.

HELLO AND GOODBYE TO ...

Chris Mundell, Carer in Middleton Gardens and formerly in Family Living leaves her role but remains on bank to Middleton Grove after five years at Middleton Hall. Gillian Gray, Carer, also leaves the Nights team. Thank you and good luck to both of you.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Holy Communion – 4.30pm on 13th and 27th May in the Vision Room (please note that the original but incorrect date supplied by the church was 20th May)

Chiropody – Ben Hay will next visit Middleton Hall on **21st and 22nd May** then **2nd and 3rd July**.

COMING SOON IN JUNE!

Wed 6th Pie Night
Wed 13th Fine Dining
Weds 20rd Steak Night
Weds 27th Robin Hood BBQ



MEMORY CORNER

Fondest memories, much loved, never forgotten ...

Marjorie Scott
Neville Varley
Mavis Holliday
David Burgoyne
Roscoe Smedley



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