

COME AND VISIT

Middleton Hall Retirement Village has a busy programme of events for residents and those wanting to find out more about life in its friendly integrated community

The estate at Middleton Hall Retirement Village really comes into its own in the summer months. The stunning 45-acre grounds, with sweeping gardens, extensive woodland, lakeside planting and resident-tended allotments have attracted a string of accolades over the years. Last year the Estates Team responsible for its upkeep scooped the Small Village category of the 2021 Northumbria in Bloom Awards and the estate has consistently been featured amongst the prize winners since 2011.

Now garden-lovers are being invited in to view the grounds again this year on Saturday, July 23, as part of the National Garden Scheme. This charitable initiative raises money for nursing and health charities by giving unique access to exceptional private gardens in England and Wales, and lovely grounds, like those at Middleton Hall, that are not normally open to the public.

The picturesque location is a huge draw for people thinking of moving to live at Middleton Hall Retirement Village. Retired botanist Christine Wright, who lives in one of the independent living retirement apartments in Middleton Woods, says the estate is a wonderful benefit for residents. Using her expertise, she has created a series of seasonal printed guides to the wide variety of plant life in the Middleton Hall grounds for use by residents. "Living at Middleton Hall with its spacious grounds - including gardens, woodland with mature trees and fields - brings a sense of calm and peace, as well as ongoing interest in the changes that nature and humans create," she says.

Nestled within the grounds is a wide range of facilities for residents. The Middleton Spa pool, gym and personal therapy services, a sports pavilion with pitch and putt, putting green and boules pitch, The Orangery bistro



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Retired botanist Christine Wright, who will be giving tours as part of the NGS Open Day. Below – Head chef Ian De Hoedt and visitors to the 2021 National Garden Scheme



and shop, plus a library and art studio are amongst the amenities on offer. A monthly schedule of activities - from art to aqua club, bridge to beginners' pottery classes - is organised, as well as trips to local attractions.

Now that life has opened back up again, the team at Middleton Hall is organising monthly Open House Events for people to get a taste of life as an independent resident at the retirement village, with a guest speaker and a chance to talk to current residents. Optional tours of Middleton Hall's independent retirement properties and amenities are also available.

The first event at the end of May featured a cookery demonstration by the Middleton Hall's head chef Ian De Hoedt featuring dishes from the village's very popular Sri Lankan curry evenings. Future events will include practical sessions from the Estates Team, the Healthy Living Team and a talk about the history of the Middleton Hall Estate.

To sign up for regular news about Middleton Hall Retirement Village visit middletonhallretirementvillage.co.uk

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