

## **Middleton Hall and Gardens, North Warks**

Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020

By coach departing at 10 am

Organised by Pauline Springett

Supporter required

Middleton Hall and Gardens is a little-known site located on the North Warwickshire border, between Tamworth and Sutton Coldfield. The estate covers 42 acres which encompasses a historic manor house, an eighteenth-century Walled Garden and the oldest man-made lake in North Warwickshire. The Hall has a long history spanning over 900 years. It has been home to many interesting characters including a commander of the Battle of Hastings, a Tudor explorer and two extraordinary naturalists. The medieval stone building is the oldest domestic building in Warwickshire.

The Hall is run by an independent charitable trust that was founded in 1980. A lived-in family home up until 1966, the house was bought by Amey Roadstone who used the estate for gravel extraction. The company had no use for the buildings and grounds and it was left derelict for ten years. In 1977, a group of ramblers came across the Hall and were dismayed by the sorry state. They approached North Warwickshire Borough Council for funding but the application was rejected as they deemed the Hall past repair. Undeterred they founded Middleton Hall Trust in 1980. Amey Roadstone granted them a sum of £25,000 per year for ten years to be spent purely on materials. Middleton Hall was saved by an intrepid volunteer army and it would not be standing today without them.

We will depart St Mark's car park at 10 am arriving at Middleton Hall by 11 am. We will be served tea/coffee followed by an Introductory talk lasting 20 minutes. We will then be split up into groups of 15 for a guided tour of the Hall. A buffet lunch will then be served consisting of

Selection of sandwiches

Selection of savoury sides

Salad and tortillas

Tea and coffee.

Members with special dietary needs please indicate.

cont...

After lunch members will be free to explore the gardens and independent shops in The Courtyard.. We will leave Middleton Hall by 4 pm arriving back at approximately 5 -5.15 pm.

Special Note Please indicate on the booking form if you are a HHA member and a refund will be payable on the day of the visit.



The Jettied building Photo from Wikipedia