

Royal Haslar: Five great reasons to retire to this historic property on the South Coast

18th September 2021



An aerial view of Royal Haslar waterfront looking towards the Spinnaker Tower in Portsmouth Harbour

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Beautiful seafront views, exclusive amenities and a rich military history make the private historic park in Alverstoke on the Gosport Peninsula the perfect place to call home.

A quiet village atmosphere, close to the sea, surrounded by classical Georgian architecture and exclusive amenities, it is easy to see why Royal Haslar is a great choice for anyone thinking of relocating to a unique historic location in a peaceful part of South Hampshire.

First show homes ready to view at historic Royal Haslar

7th December 2020



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After several years of redevelopment, the first residential and retirement apartments in the prestigious Royal Hospital Haslar have come to the market.

As one of the most historic locations in Hampshire, the former military hospital is undergoing a sensitive restoration and £150 million transformation into a luxury residential and retirement village, providing a unique address for all age groups.

By Deborah Stone

One of the joys of retirement villages is that they offer the chance of a new generation community, but a new development in the south coast is promising a completely different approach.

Residents of Royal Helder, a former naval hospital with 17 acres of grounds including football and tennis, are being able to live for life as well as for the company and facilities of old age.

The 42-acre site in Portsmouth is a former Gosport station that housed the major tank building in Europe when completed in 1942 and has been at the heart of military life ever since.

Now its ground is being redeveloped into a new retirement village and aged care community with 200 beds for care homes – as well as flats.

Royal Helder is one of the first retirement properties in the country that aims to provide everything you need in one place," explains Dominic Collins, director of Royal Helder Retirement Property Services.

"When complete, this will include an assisted building, community centre, a restaurant, medical centre and health and leisure facilities, such as the state-of-the-art swimming pool and gym. The village will continue to develop as a retirement hub for all generations."

The idea behind Royal Helder's redevelopment is to provide options for various stages of your life, so you can live in an apartment at Royal Helder, the assisted care property for people of all



▲ Royal Helder residents Barbara, pictured, worked at the former naval hospital and now enjoys views of Portsmouth and The Solent

Right Royal retirement

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ages. But some have equally fond memories of the site, which has been converted to retirement flats for independent living.

The care homes to be introduced help 20 residents, which is particularly fitting as Royal Helder was built to provide care for soldiers facing the toughest battles who would often live here for good, while others left to die. "This commitment shows that we care for every one."

During the Second World War, 40,000 personnel were housed at Royal Helder and it was still a major hospital at the 1970s when New Zealand-born Johnson was a student nurse there in Queen Elizabeth's Royal Naval Nursing Service.

Now 67, Barbara is delighted to return to Royal Helder. "I have wonderful memories of the time working and living at Helder and had a sense of family around it, as so many people who lived and worked here."

Barbara, who had returned to the area for retirement and to be closer to her family, adds: "It's such a beautiful location. The grounds are beautiful and I see 100 yards



▲ FOR A GREAT Royal Helder's Georgian complex boasts luxury flats for all generations

from the sea. I can see The Solent and lots of other things any morning weather."

Canada House has 90 apartments for people with care requirements available. Prices range from £200,000 for a one-bedroom flat to £350,000 for a two-bedroom flat with a large master wardrobe. The Solent 2022 CC 4000 is available from £200,000.

The site will be available over the next 18 years with 200 retirement apartments and 275 apartments available for all ages.

Canada House has lifts to all floors and a secure and safe entry system plus 24-hour security and CCTV security.

Completed facilities include a lounge and dining room, bar, and landscaped areas, a medical examination centre and 20 free car spaces with secure parking.

With her knowledge of the hospital, Barbara is a key member of the Royal Helder Society and says: "The fact that we'll still have all the old buildings and many memories will mean retirement is the best of both worlds and I don't see other people regretting it."