



# Fit, active and young at heart!

**Jack and Margaret Paling** have embraced park home living with the same enthusiasm and 'get up and go' they've adopted throughout life and 63 years of marriage...

Jack, aged 85, and Margaret, 80, are an inspiration! They moved to their first park home in Dorset four-and-a-half years ago and they are very contented. Jack and Margaret were keen to stay in the village of Crossways and looked to downsize to Oaklands Park. They moved to their previous bungalow because of the plentiful garden of lawns, flowers and vegetables... only to sell it because the garden became too much to manage!

Now they enjoy a slightly less demanding plot but can relax and savor their pretty shrub-adorned front garden, decked patio and rear courtyard replete with roses and potted tomatoes and runner beans.

The home is elegantly presented with a large lounge area with an archway to the dining room. The home boasts two double

bedrooms and a recently installed wetroom and new kitchen.

Jack and Margaret married at 22 and 17 respectively in Nottinghamshire. Jack came out of National Service where he was an aircraft wireless mechanic – the start of his lifelong passion for aviation – and 'rescued' Margaret from hard graft working within her family market-gardening business. Jack's family retail dairy business was started by his father with horse and cart, which later grew to running four milk vans – seven days a week in all weathers. Margaret even did a round herself once the children had grown up! It was a hardening experience that spanned 32 years.

### By the seaside

In 1983 the business was sold and Jack and Margaret realised the promise they had always

made to live by the sea. They originally moved to Torquay where they managed a few holiday lets before moving to Dorset. Their real enjoyment has been running their collectable business where they attended various antique and trade fairs throughout the country. Jack also sold books on aviation at airshows. They no longer trade but they have made so many friends and acquaintances who they value and still see.

It's a marvel how energetic Jack and Margaret are. Once keen ice skaters (they are from Torville and Dean country after all!) and

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ballroom dancers in which they still occasionally partake, they now walk at least a mile a day (unless it's raining!). Margaret said, 'On a sunny day we have been known to do seven or eight miles. We have some lovely places nearby and we love walking by the sea.'

Margaret enjoys cooking and being around the home. They have been thrilled by the charming, friendly spirit on the site. She said, 'Although privacy is respected, there is always a lending hand. There are coffee mornings on site for people to socialise.

'It was when our neighbour opposite was having a service check underneath his home by Park Home Chassis Services (PHCS) that he recommended we ask them to look at our home. The surveyor explained that our home was not totally stable due to the supports under the home. They were very rusty which compromises their strength and performance. The PHCS team were fabulous – very courteous and professional – and have now given us the confidence that the home is fully supported and robust. We recommend them to others.'

### All that jazz

The other main hobby in Jack and Margaret's life is jazz. Margaret said, 'We love it and belong to several jazz clubs.

'The styles of jazz that we follow are Traditional and New Orleans.'

Jack and Margaret show no signs of slowing down. Jazz breaks are already booked and they are looking forward to their grandson's wedding next year which is being held in a chateau in Bordeaux, France. Another excuse for a few days' holiday and exploration! 🌸

## In a nutshell



1. Jack and Margaret downsized to a local park home site so they could stay in the area they loved and were familiar with.
2. Their experience has been totally positive; everything they had before but more manageable.
3. Their secret to good health is keep active, interested and eat well.
4. They recommend Park Home Chassis Services to all park home owners to have the underneath of their home checked for rust corrosion and supporting, especially if the home is over 10 years old.
5. For further information on Park Home Chassis Services: [www.parkhomechassis.co.uk](http://www.parkhomechassis.co.uk)  
E: [info@parkhomechassis.co.uk](mailto:info@parkhomechassis.co.uk)  
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- 1 Jack and Margaret Paling are an extremely active couple who enjoy gardening and jazz music
- 2 A lovely family photo of the couple



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