# Platinum Skies

**HEALTH • WEALTH • HAPPINESS** 





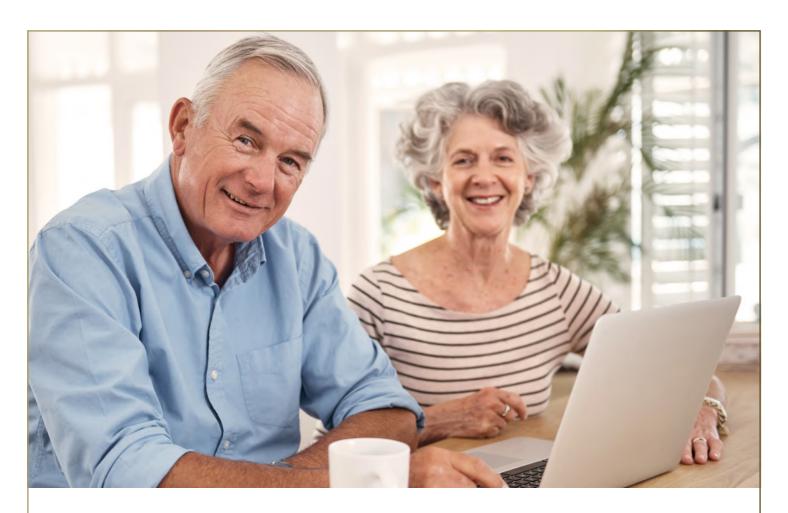
Health & wellbeing PG



Nutritional advice P9



Staying active P12



# EXPLORE HOMES

WITH OUR VIRTUAL TOUR!

Our sales office is now closed, but you can still enjoy a virtual tour of our retirement communities. It's so easy to use. Simply visit us on platinumskies.co.uk to book your tour now!

O12O2 O12571 @ platinumskies.co.uk

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# The April Platinum Life magazine is packed with tips for a better retirement!

# 4 Help for now and the future

Platinum Skies make luxury retirement affordable for all.



# 6 You are what you eat

We have a closer look at the best healthy options for the mind and body that'll keep you feeling great.



## 12 Activities and events

Stay on your toes with an action-packed programme of optional lifestyle events and classes we have on offer.

# 14 Making money work

Free up your money for the things that matter, so you can live life to the full and enjoy it with the people that you care about.



## Platinum Skies life ART & LAYOUTS: Bob Kemp

**EDITOR:** Pat Gough PICTURE EDITOR: Charlotte Rhind-Tutt

8 Healthy

eating tips

Our bistros are the perfect

haven for eating with friends, and

the heart of our Platinum lifestyle.

If you would like to find out more about any of our properties or services, please feel free to get in touch.

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# With a little reup from my friends

Platinum Skies is here to help you now and in the future. Affordable retirement living should be available to all.

**EAMWORK MAKES** the dream work, as they say. Retirement living specialist Platinum Skies know this better than others. It's why they make beautiful new homes truly affordable through their Government backed, Shared Ownership scheme.

They achieve this by allowing customers to buy a new home outright, but only paying half of its full market value.

With a share in one of the new homes, you then only pay a monthly rent and service charge. Here comes the really clever part - they also buy and sell your previous

property at full market value.

This leaves you with a lot more cash unlocked to invest or use to enjoy life to the full. When you compare this with traditional ways of releasing money from your old property, such as equity release. It's easy to see why so many retirees are choosing to make their move with them.

#### Affordable and accessible

The beautiful apartments start from as little as £99,500 and are available on a shared ownership basis. Platinum Skies have worked hard to establish this accessible

and affordable financial route by working with Homes England who regulate the scheme.

Lower Parkstone

It's aimed squarely at those over-55 who are fed-up with the usual isolated locations and high costs of the average retirement developments.

Part of the Affordable Housing and Healthcare Group, they've been creating vibrant, affordable, secure communities for elderly residents for over 20 years.

Working in close partnership with the NHS and Government and working hard to solve the housing and healthcare challenges that face our ageing population.



#### PLENTY OF **LOCATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM**

We only pick the best locations in the most sought <mark>after areas</mark> close to amenities and natural beauty.

#### Amazing communities

Another important factor to their success is that each of the Platinum Skies locations (Christchurch, Poole, Salisbury and Sherborne) are well placed near to amenities and beautiful scenery

Couple this with a diverse selection of lifestyle activities in their communal lounges and an ever-changing menu of delicious, healthy cuisine being served in their bistros - then you have a dream retirement.

### Simple and stress-free

As if the process wasn't seamless enough, Platinum Skies enables you to move into your new home, even before you have a buyer for your old property. Taking the worry out of moving, they manage the sale of residents' previous property and assist with packing, removals and unpacking.

Importantly, they also manage and maintain all elements of their developments.



architecture of Platinum Skies retirement living community, Vista.

A montage of the photos were displayed for residents to enjoy

to Carolyn Jenkins who captured the winning image.

in the communal lounge.

The Mayor of Poole greeted members of the Parkstone Camera Club

**PLATINUM SKIES LIFE 5** 

who had spent the day taking photographs of Vista. Congratulations

To find out more about shared ownership, visit platinumskies.co.u

or call us on 01202 012571



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# All you need is love

# You are what you eat and we offer healthy options to keep you on the go.

UST BECAUSE you're moving to a new home, it doesn't mean your lifestyle should change. Each of Platinum Skies locations are well placed to offer you a happy, healthy and wealthy retirement.

What sets them apart is how they create a truly welcoming and inclusive atmosphere.

It's why they work hard to offer all their owners a widerange of lifestyle services that bring the best in activity and nutrition. This can be seen in the diverse activities on offer in the communal areas and the everchanging menu of delicious, healthy cuisine to enjoy.

#### Our Head of Wellbeing

Barbara Cox. specialist health consultant and Head of Wellbeing at Platinum Skies, says: "Our ethos at Platinum Skies is health, wealth and happiness and this is at the very core of our lifestyle offering. As the Head of Wellbeing, I overlook our different bistro sites

#### **RETIREMENT IN MOTION -**WHEEL OF WELLNESS

Above: The Wheel of Wellness focuses on the key factors of the Platinum Skies retirement lifestyle.

and the menu options making sure that they are nutritious and delicious and to your liking. We have a massive variety of food on the menu, as well as great seasonal produce from local suppliers."

Barbara added: "We also plan events throughout the year that our all connected to health, wealth and happiness.

# Revolution!

BARBARA COX takes a 360° view of your health and wellbeing. In order to create a lasting balance and order in your life, we look at the holistic ways of living that reflect on our mind, body and spirit.

#### **Fitness**

We make sure that we offer fantastic fitness classes. We need that physical activity to release the right hormones and make us feel good, as part of our mental wellbeing and physical fitness.



# Family & Friends

We create beautiful, supportive communities at Platinum Skies. Any form of social interaction is highly beneficial and can be vital in combating feelings of loneliness and depression. This is a very important part of our Wheel of Wellness.

#### Wealth

Our ethos here is health, wealth and happiness. It's a really important area and Platinum Skies could help you to unlock your wealth. Being able to provide for your family and loved ones, could help to give you peace of mind.

### Romance

Love enhances our lives. Whether it be in a relationship, friendship or a courtship.



## Personal Growth

We offer many social activities that are aimed at improving skills, potential and ability. Our residents have the opportunity to try new experiences at any age.

## Environment

The environment is stunning here, and we'd recommend that you come and visit us. Walk into any of our Platinum Skies homes and you'll immediately notice the abundance



of natural light that will put you at ease and make you feel instantly at home.

### Fun and Recreation

When was the last time you put in your diary to have fun? Here at Platinum Skies we love having fun and find that it brings staff and residents together. Why not

give yourself the opportunity to enjoy yourself at one of the many events that are centred around recreation.



# Learning

We're always learning about you.

The importance of positive mental health is something that we embrace at Platinum Skies. We include everyone in everything that we do.

## Community

We have created the most wonderful, independent living communities here at Platinum Skies. The atmosphere and camaraderie are what makes it come alive. It's a real home.

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There's nothing more sociable than gathering around the table to eat and drink. It's why our bistro and communal lounge facilities are at the heart of the Platinum Skies lifestyle.

HERE IS no better feeling than sitting down with good company and tucking into first-class cuisine and beverages. What's better you don't have to worry about slaving over a hot oven or doing the dreaded washing up! The bistro restaurants that are available at many of the Platinum Skies locations are geared up for any occasion.

glorious landscaped gardens or sea views from the alfresco communal terrace. The bistros and communal

lounges have sumptuous interiors and provide a relaxing and pleasant environment.

What's more, you can take in the

You can also entertain quests outdoors at one of the many communal areas, nestled amid idyllic green open spaces. They can even cater for that special occasion, be it birthday, anniversary, or celebrating an important milestone.



#### An appetite for life

The menu is reflective of the varied tastes of the residents. You can find reassuringly homecooked favourites sat alongside exotic meals for the more adventurous. The dishes are healthy, nutritionally balanced and Platinum Skies provide options for those with special dietary requirements such vegetarian, vegan and coeliac.

### Food for thought

There's always something going on in the kitchen. With an ever-changing menu that uses seasonal ingredients and local food producers.

There are also regular cookery classes to give residents a chance to try something new. The bistros are also open to the public, which creates a valuable social hub in the heart of the local community.

# Mindful snacking

EATING HEALTHY and mindfully isn't about resistance or restriction. It's about enjoying the food you're eating. Barbara's tips We all eat unhealthily and

mindlessly at times, whether we're on the go at a service station, out having coffee with

friends, in a hurry, watching TV or finishing all the food on our plate just because it's there.

We might be eating to handle stress like snacking on some comfort food but not really tasting it after the first few bites. I've seen people "inhale" snacks when they're feeling stressed within just a few chews, which isn't healthy for your digestive system either!

Mindful eating is a powerful way to bring balance into every aspect of how we eat, not just snacking. So, here's some healthy snacks to try that will increase your energy much better than grabbing the biscuits, crisps and chocolate bars.

# Snack smart with these...

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Eggs are easy, quick, cheap, tasty and nutritious. Try making omelettes with the veg you like or serve with salad. Can be eaten cold as a snack or hot as a meal.

Nut and seed mixes can be great as a snack on their own or added to soups and casseroles. You can make a super mix by adding 1 tsp of each of the nuts and seeds and keep airtight in a container

Dairy-free or plain yogurt with fresh fruit (10 black grapes with 2 tbsp dairy free yogurt)

Fruit smoothie (banana, berries, non-dairy milk) Enough to make 1 small glass

Edamame (whole Japanese soya beans steamed). These normally come frozen in the pods so about 10 pods

**Plain popcorn** (use coconut oil to pop popcorn) 1 small bowl, no butter, no salt, just plain!



# Healthy diet benefits

HEART DISEASE, which includes heart attacks, angina and stroke are now one of the leading causes of death in the UK.

That's the bad news, but there is some good news..... it's nearly all preventable through adopting a healthy diet. So, here are some tips on reducing your risk of heart disease:

Cut your consumption of 'bad fats'. That's saturated fats found in animal products such as red meat, cheese and butter; and 'trans-fats' in cakes, biscuits and margarine.

Go for 'essential fats' instead. Like Omega-3 and Omega-6, available in fish oils, nuts and avocados. So, what's a recipe that's good for your heart?

 $Why\ not\ try...$  Roasted Vegetables with Baked Salmon & Herb Sauce

#### **Ingredients:**

- 4 Salmon Fillets
- Olive Oil for brushing
- 8 thin slices of lemon
- Pepper to taste
- Herb Sauce
- 4 tbsp olive oil
- 1 garlic clove crushed
- 2 tbsp chopped parsley
- 2 tbsp chopped coriander
- 1 tbsp chopped mint
- 1 tbsp course grain mustard
- Juice of lemon

#### **Directions:**

- Preheat oven to 200°C.
- Brush salmon with olive oil.
- Top each fillet with 2 lemons and add pepper to taste. -Cook for 20 minutes or until cooked through.
- For herb sauce put all the ingredients into food processor and blend.
- Spoon herb sauce over salmon and serve.



# Boosting your immune system



to help meet the challenge of viruses

# Maximising your body's ability to heal and protect

WE'RE ALL naturally concerned about the recent spread of the coronavirus. At Platinum Skies, we're working hard with our staff and residents on effective hand washing. But it is also of fundamental importance to have a healthy diet - for more information please see www.platinumskies. co.uk.

These are my personal top ten tips for boosting your immune system:

# Barbara's Top 10 body boosters:

7 Drink plenty of water. As well as being the main component of blood and other body fluids, water plays a vital role in maintaining correct body temperature and flushing toxins out of the body. You should aim to drink

**2** Eat plenty of fruit and veg. Fruit and vegetables are simply the best kinds of food for us, as they provide a variety of essential minerals and vitamins.

### **3** Buy organic produce.

at least two litres a day.

Organic produce is grown without the use of harmful chemicals and therefore much safer. So, if you love apples and eat them daily, then choose organic apples!

**Consume fish and fish oils.** Fish naturally provides oils which neutralise harmful free radicals in

the body. Great choices of oily fish are wild salmon, sardines, mackerel, herring and trout.

### **5** Cut down on dairy.

Some dairy products have been found to contain hormones, antibiotics, toxins and pesticides, all of which can have a damaging effect when consumed over a period of time. Try some great plant-based alternative milks like oat, rice, almond, cashew, hazelnut, hemp and pea.

#### Cut down on sugar and saturated fats.

Sugar can have a devastating effect on health. Equally destructive are saturated fats and oils, such as those in animal fat, as well as processed and fast foods.

#### 7 Avoid food additives.

Especially colouring agents and artificial sweeteners. While some additives stop the growth of foodpoisoning bacteria, the vast majority are only used for cosmetic purposes.

## Reduce your intake of salt.

We get all the sodium we need from the natural ingredients of food. Unfortunately, the extra that we get from processed foods is not only unnecessary, but actually very harmful.

## Strive for an alkalising diet.

Try to cut down on acid-forming food and drinks like alcohol, cakes, chocolate, coffee, crisps, fizzy drinks, eggs, meat, milk, salt, sugar and tea. Instead, try to consume more alkalising food and drinks like fruit and vegetables, herbal teas, millet, fresh cracked nuts and seeds.

#### 10 Take regular minerals and vitamins.

The minerals and vitamins that are present when fruit and vegetables are picked may well have broken down by the time the produce reaches the supermarket shelves. For these reasons it is wise to take a daily supplement.



#### Simply visit platinumskies.co.uk/beatles



Health for mind & body

# Stay on your toes with a thoughtful and varied programme of optional lifestyle events and classes

T PLATINUM SKIES, it's not only about nutrition and the right food choices. Maintaining an active social life has many health benefits.

It's important to remember that loneliness can affect anyone, of any age. This is why at all Platinum Skies locations there is an on-site Lifestyle Manager helping to build a dynamic community as well as offering support to each

#### LIVING IN HARMONY

RESIDENTS are often treated to fantastic live music, such as this recent event with the talented trio, Sodapops.



of the residents.

Many of the sites offer a spectacular private lounge, treatment rooms and an activity studio. Platinum Skies residents can choose to take advantage of a range of exercise and wellness classes organised by their dedicated Lifestyle Manager.

#### Social activities

Mike Lyons, Operations Director at Platinum Skies says: "Every development has a dedicated on-site Lifestyle Manager, who as well as devising a programme of residents' activities, assists them individually on a day-to-day basis. Whether that's organising an introduction with a new neighbour, or setting up Face Time with the grandchildren, they are there to help each resident to enjoy a fulfilled and active retirement."

Mike added: "With a mix of social activities, days out and health related activity, there is

something for everyone. We offer sessions such as yoga, pilates and tai chi, all held in the resident's communal 'studio' or out on to the large terrace over the warmer months."

#### A full calendar of events

One of the most popular events are the dance classes, which are held in the activity rooms and usually accompanied by high-tea in one of the stylish lounge areas.

Lifestyle Manager, Alison LeClerc says: "Many of our residents were keen dancers in their youth, and I am not just talking classic

# 66 Enjoy your fulfilled and active retirement 99

ballroom. Having gyrated their lives away in the 1960s and 70s, rock and roll, salsa, twist, soul, and even hip hop are more often the 'dance of choice' for a number of them. So, in response to overwhelming demand, we have lost no time in setting up informal in-house dance sessions, where both singles and







couples are welcomed.

Alison added: "Our friendly dance tutors that includes fellow Lifestyle Managers are encouraging everyone to lose their inhibitions and join in. It is a great way of meeting new friends, and one of the best forms of exercise, keeping both limbs and minds fluid and active."

# FIND OUT

about shared ownership. Visit platinum skies. co.uk or call us on 01202 012571



AT EVERY Platinum Skies location, there are fantastic facilities that allow residents to share their passions and interests.

Staff and residents like to have a good time together and social interaction has the added benefit of helping prevent many of the degenerative conditions that can stifle the enjoyment of retirement.

Afternoon tea is a popular, regular occurrence that brings residents together.

Since opening in July last year, Esprit in Poole has become a popular destination based in the heart of the community.







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# From me ...to you

Free up your money for the things that matter, so you can live life to the full with the people that matter.

ANY OVER 55's are living on low or moderate incomes and often struggle with the upkeep to their homes and access to the care they need. With a sky-high cost of living and uncertain economy, there's never been a more important time to recognise the value in our homes to help improve our lives as we get older.

#### Affordable for all

If you've owned your home for a few years, it's likely you've built some equity in it. Perhaps you'd love to downsize or use a lifetime mortgage product to release equity to pay for your retirement. Maybe you are searching for a property that's more suited to your needs today, or for the future.

Whatever your reasons, with Platinum Skies shared ownership you can afford to buy a brand-new property at a truly affordable price.

Prices can start as low as £99,500, as you only pay half the market price for your new contemporary home.

#### Government backed

If you were considering equity release, then you can access more capital with shared ownership than by using a typical equity release scheme, without suffering high interest rates and financial penalties that may erode your investment.

As a registered provider of the Older Persons Shared Ownership scheme, all rental charges and fees are set by the Government body, Homes England. Everything is transparent, there are no hidden charges.

The low purchase price means that you may be able to invest the released equity to supplement your income, make your budget go much further and afford a better quality property compared to a straight

downsizing move.

Speak to any Platinum Skies resident and you'll soon discover that this

66 We're able to

can enjoy life 🤧

is the smart way to retire. Our residents enjoy a fulfilled **Platinum Skies** life with regular travel abroad, socialising and a vibrant lifestyle.

Platinum Skies resident, Margaret told us: "It's better than taking out all of these equity loans. Doing it this way, you've got the cash released, you've actually sold your house before you've moved. You're not held up on the move, so you haven't got to wait for that chain.

That makes a big difference. And yes you've got that extra cash to spend, you can go and have a

couple of holiday cruises instead of just one!" Take Russ release money, so we and Kim, who also used the Platinum Skies shared

> ownership scheme: "It's the best thing we've done. We're able to release money and enjoy life."

#### **FIND OUT MORE**

To find out more about Shared Ownership, visit platinumskies. co.uk or call us on 01202 012571.

# People are discovering a Platinum Skies life!

Meet our vibrant community of Platinum Skies residents who are enjoying a fun and rewarding retirement



#### **LILIAN & ROY**

"Part-buy, part-rent was the perfect solution for us. Platinum Skies enabled us to move into a brand new home which otherwise would have been out of reach."



#### **RUSS & KIM**

"I would advise anyone who was in our position to seriously think about doing this. It's the best thing we've done.'



#### **GLENDA**

"I just had to make the decision of what to do and my Platinum Skies home made the decision for me. It made it a lot easier."







# HALF PRICE HOMES

# Pay for half, rent half, live life to the full

With a new Platinum Skies home you'll unlock one of life's richest rewards: freedom to live and laugh a little more.

- Choose your stunning new home, pay for only half\*
- Government-approved shared ownership scheme
- Free yourself up to enjoy a luxury lifestyle
- Invest in a home that meets your present and future needs
- Secure your new home without waiting to sell your old one
- Save thousands on stamp duty and agent's fees





HOMES IN SALISBURY, POOLE, CHRISTCHURCH AND SHERBORNE

**NEW SHOW HOMES - CALL TO BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT** CALL 01202 012571 OR VISIT PLATINUMSKIES.CO.UK



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