

Court Circular

Autumn 2005



AUDLEY COURT
Gracious independent living

Our success continues to grow

One of the abiding principles of Audley Court is that we choose beautiful locations for our developments, many of which are based around restored historic houses. The resulting high quality apartments and cottages offer fine surroundings and first class facilities for discerning retirees to enjoy at their leisure. We are delighted to announce our proposals for three new additions to our portfolio:

Mote House, Mote Park, Maidstone, Kent

Completed in the reign of King George III, Mote House is set between two valleys against a majestic backdrop of trees and woodlands. Mote Park is a haven of wildlife and tranquillity, while



nearby Maidstone offers lively leisure activities. Explore acres of open parkland, join the many boating clubs, stretch your legs on the putting greens and enjoy open air summer concerts. Maidstone has excellent transport links to London and beyond and is a mere stone's-throw from the south coast.



Inglewood, Kintbury, nr. Newbury, Berks

A former luxury spa and health hydro once owned by the Champneys Group, Inglewood nestles in the beautiful Berkshire countryside surrounded by rolling hills and open meadows. We will be returning the main house at Inglewood to its former glory and creating a range of unique apartments in landscaped gardens, with leisure and sports facilities on site. Subject to planning, the construction and restoration work is likely to begin in summer 2006.



Audley Court comes to the Peak District

Welcome to the autumn edition of our newsletter. I hope you all enjoyed the summer and in particular took pleasure from the gardens surrounding your Audley Court home. Welcome too, to everyone who has recently joined us, including two new staff members who are working hard to ensure that life at our developments fulfils and even exceeds your expectations.

I am delighted to announce our acquisition of the former St Elphin's School in Darley Dale, near Matlock. It's always a thrill to rescue an historic building that's at risk of falling into disuse.



St Elphin's is in a beautiful location on the edge of the Peak District, with magnificent Chatsworth on its doorstep.

We are conscious that St Elphin's has a place in the hearts of the local community, as it was a successful school for 100 years. Any new buildings will preserve its character, blend in with the surroundings and remain within the existing development 'footprint'. We aim to keep local people closely informed of our plans – which include new independent living apartments and cottages, with the main house converted for communal use. As usual this will house our excellent facilities and experienced staff.

In the South, our plans for Mote Park, Maidstone are beginning to take shape. The handsome 18th century building is set within its own country park – an ideal centre for a Audley Court development.

With best wishes to you all from my colleagues and myself.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Sanderson'.

Nick Sanderson
Chief Executive, Raven Audley Court PLC



...the expansion continues

St Elphins, Darley Dale, Matlock, Derbyshire

St Elphin's, a former school and Victorian health spa, enjoys spectacular views across the Dales and open countryside of the Peak District national park. The nearby bustling market town of Matlock on the River Derwent, retains its charm as a Victorian spa-town and is a perfect centre for shopping, entertainment and leisure activities. Other delights include Chatsworth, the Heights of Abraham and Gulliver's Kingdom. Subject to

planning, St Elphin's is likely to incorporate a number of one and two bedroom apartments, as well as more traditional cottage style dwellings. The first units should be available by Autumn 2006.



Regular events at Willicombe Park

During the summer we enjoyed our usual programme of keep fit classes, restaurant meals, social evenings, discussion groups and Holy Communion – plus a lunchtime lecture on Hypnotherapy.

In July we hosted our own VE Day celebrations with a delicious buffet lunch. Residents created a display of their own photos, identity cards and other mementoes, and listened to a special recording of music and news broadcasts of the time. Some of us also shared in the August VJ Day commemorative celebrations in town.

On Sunday 4th September there was a special lunchtime barbecue for

residents and their guests and the following day – no connection! – a physiotherapy session in the pool.

Our Movie Afternoons started on Monday 26th September in the Activity Room.

In July we hosted our own VE Day celebrations – with a delicious buffet lunch.



Spreading the good news

In order to let the property market know we are actively looking for sites suitable for our unique brand of retirement housing, Raven Audley Court Plc recently hosted two business breakfasts.

Anton Bilton, Executive Chairman hosted the first briefing at the Berkeley Hotel, Knightsbridge, in March. The guest speaker was Jeremy Porteus from the Department of Health who gave a presentation on the government's plans for more sympathetic housing for the elderly.

The second breakfast was held at the Hotel du Vin, Bristol, in June and was hosted by Jeremy Osborne, our New Land Acquisitions Director in the South West. Nick Sanderson, Chief Executive, addressed a packed room of property professionals and described the concept of Audley Court, explaining how it works and outlining our plans for the future.

Due to their resounding successes, similar events will be held in different regions over the coming months.



Audley Court around the country

Current

Flete House, South Hams
Hollins Hall, Harrogate
Willicombe Park, Tunbridge Wells

Devon
Yorkshire
Kent

Forthcoming

Inglewood, Kintbury
Mote House, Maidstone
St Elphin's, Matlock

Berkshire
Kent
Derbyshire

New strength for head office team



David Wild
Sales & Marketing Director

We welcome David Wild as the new Sales and Marketing Director of Raven Audley Court Plc. David brings with him a wealth of property sales experience from Savills and Swan Hill Homes.



Jeremy Osborne
Regional Land & Planning Director

Jeremy Osborne joins our team as Regional Land and Planning Director. His extensive background in design, planning and architecture will help us fulfil our mission to develop historic properties that blend in with local surroundings.



Kerenza Tremaine
Office Manager

Kerenza Tremaine is our new Office Manager. She will ensure the smooth running of the Audley Court office and we'll be calling on her strong background in marketing, PR and events, as well as her extensive recruitment experience.

"This is a fantastic opportunity to work within a highly driven, fast moving team. We are developing projects for a largely under-supplied market and our ability to make swift acquisition decisions has already secured some stunning, high profile projects." David Wild

Appointments

Aaron Pearce is now General Manager at Flete House. Aaron was brought up in Devon but joins us from Jersey where he worked in the hotel trade. He's looking forward to getting to know the new residents. One of his main interests is catering and sharing ideas with the catering staff for menus. Aaron, his wife Nadine and their three-year-old son Ethan live in Newton Abbot. He says: "This is a new turn in my career and I am really loving it – being in such beautiful surroundings is a bonus."

Amanda Greenwell has been appointed Sales Manager for Flete House and she too is thoroughly enjoying her new position. Amanda started her career with British Airways and spent 12 years travelling the world before leaving to sell properties at a newly built village in West Sussex. "It was a great experience" she says, "but I decided I wanted real, traditional English countryside and a slower pace of life for myself and my three golden retrievers." The move has brought her new friends and she is now engaged to be married.

David Otteson has been appointed Manager of Willicombe Park. David's career started in hotel management, at several of London's top luxury hotels. He then progressed to board level for International Telecoms, managing the food and beverages in internet cafés. David lives near Folkestone, where his wife is front-of-house manager for the local theatre. He has two sons aged six and eight.

"I am loving every second of my new role, it's a real pleasure getting to know our clientele, all of whom have led interesting lives". David Otteson

A stylish way to champion the over 60s

Always keen to champion achievements, Audley Court recently teamed up with the Elderly Accommodation Council (EAC) for the Art Awards.

The exclusive competition for artists over the age of 60, drew over 1000 entries, giving the judges a hard time in making their selection. Just 70 lucky finalists had their work displayed at a special exhibition in the prestigious Mall Galleries, London.

The winning artworks ranged in style and subject matter from delicate watercolour landscapes



and handsome portraits to vibrant swathes of modern colour and texture. The common thread was extraordinary talent, skill and creativity, proving that these attributes frequently flourish well into old age. Indeed some of the country's leading artists are over the age of 60.

Nick Sanderson, Audley Court's chief executive, said: "Negative notions about older people persist in Britain, despite their obvious role in innovation, decision-making and the economy. We are committed to helping create more positive perceptions and the Over 60s Art

Awards, in partnership with the EAC, are a valuable avenue."

The exhibition ran from July 12-16 and the opening night and was attended by the artists, friends and families, together with members of the Audley Court and EAC teams. Live music and drinks were laid on and richly deserved prizes handed out.



The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Book review

Our reviewer is Sheila Strachan of Willicombe Park. She is a retired teacher who spent much of her career abroad. She was Junior School Head Mistress of the International School in Geneva and the British School of Brussels. When she first retired she went to Spain, but then decided she would rather be in England and near relatives in Kent, which is how she came to Willicombe Park.

This is a memorable, powerful and fascinating book. It tells the story of Amir, the son of an influential and successful merchant and

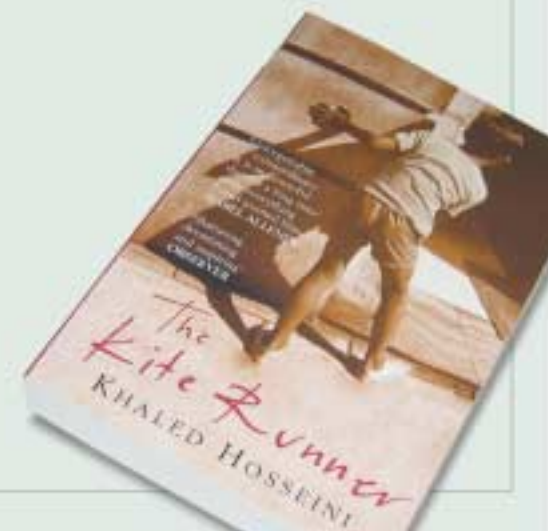
Hassan, the son of his servant and is set in Afghanistan, the author's home country.

Amir is desperate to win his father's approval and resolves to win the local kite flying competition to prove his worth. The description of this, a reminiscence of childhood, paints an exciting, colourful picture. Amir's betrayal of his friend in the aftermath of the competition is to influence him for the rest of his life.

The novelist tells the story of Amir's privileged childhood sympathetically, and in contrast portrays powerfully

and memorably the tormented country of Afghanistan and the horrors of life under the Taliban.

I shall return to this book again and I recommend it to you.



Favourite recipe

Mock Oyster Soup

Change in the weather, change in the menu. Hollins Hall residents are swapping soup recipes. One found her wartime Ministry of Food cookbook, tried out this economical fish soup, an old favourite from those days and declared it a winner.



Ingredients to serve 4 – 6 people

- 1 1/2 lb fish trimmings
- 1 pint salted water
- 1 blade mace, 6 white peppercorns
- 1 clove & 2 teaspoons mixed herbs (tied in a muslin bag)
- 1 small onion or leek, sliced
- 8oz root artichokes, peeled and sliced
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1/4 pint milk
- chopped parsley to garnish

Prepare

Wash the fish and cook in the salted water with the muslin bag of spices and the onion or leek for 30 minutes. Strain off the stock and make up to 1 pint with extra water. Cook the artichokes in the stock for 30 minutes. Add the pepper and sieve. Blend the flour with the milk, add to the soup and stir until it boils. Cook gently for a further 5 minutes. Sprinkle with chopped parsley and serve.

Summer of culture at Hollins Hall

In June, Sprite Productions performed selected scenes from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' on the front lawn at Hollins Hall. The scenes were extracts from the company's ground-breaking promenade production at Ripley Castle.

'A Midsummer Night's Dream' on the front lawn at Hollins Hall.



In August, residents enjoyed a talk on the history of hats and hat making by a member of staff from Get Ahead Hats, Leeds.



We are now looking forward to a visit from Bonhams Auctioneers who will give a talk and value residents' special treasures.

Contact us

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