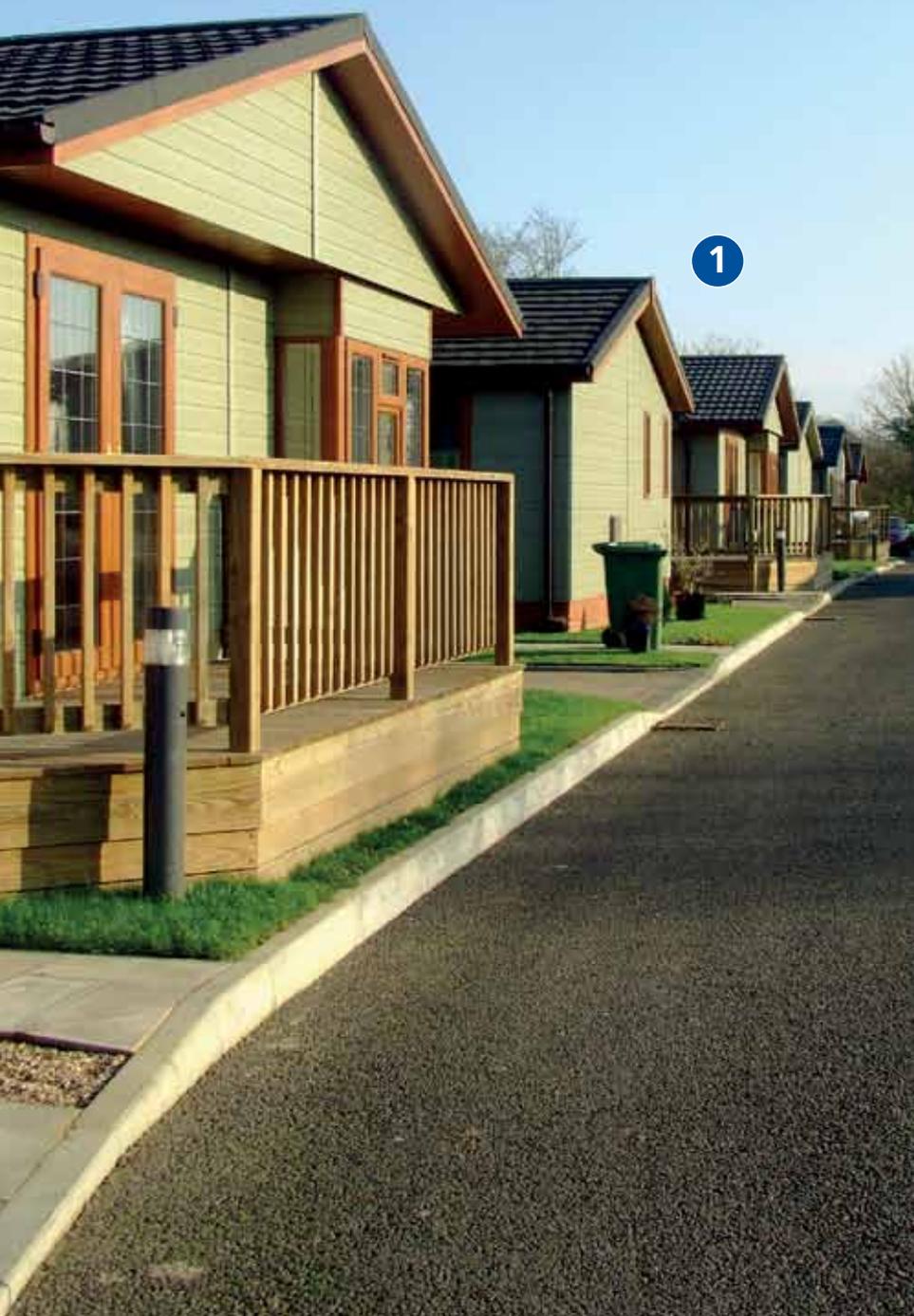


A happy community

After running the rule over the new homes for sale at Worcestershire park Hanbury Wharf in our March issue, **Lynne Pedley** meets the residents



Visiting new parks is quite an adventure. They all have their different styles and personalities and from entering Hanbury Wharf, through the satisfyingly heavy wrought iron gates, the feeling was one of quality and luxury. The first thing we noted was the block-paved roadway and the impressive landscaping with easy parking for each of the mainly Omar and Advent residential lodges. The lodges are of matching colours but each has its own unique design and has quality decking added along with ample gardens.

So even though the development is open plan it is not a cramped and nor does it lack privacy as some sites do. The 34-plot park is backed up by wonderful views across open countryside that give the feeling of being tucked away in the sticks.

Amazingly though, the park is just a few minutes away from the M5.

Meet the residents

We couldn't help but notice the sense of satisfaction that all residents seemed to have in finding this haven of excellence. Hanbury Wharf residents come from all over the country including the depths of Cornwall. Although it is true to say that many people move to parks to downsize from bigger bricks-and-mortar accommodation, at Hanbury it is more a case of buying into a new and more relaxed lifestyle. Indeed, when we met one of the first residents to move onto to the site we noticed that he found it hard to keep the smile off his face when describing his lodge and all of the benefits that go with it.

Alan and Diane Bourne moved into their 50ft x



- 1 The brand new lodges on this part of the park look fantastic
- 2 All homes are well spaced out and boast good sized decking
- 3 Adrian and Rosemarie Dumbleton are all smiles after buying at Hanbury
- 4 Hanbury Wharf is a safe and secure development and the attractive new entrance lends the park a private feel



22 open plan Advent Valerian that Alan helped design in 2009 when there were just two residents on the new site. Alan and Diane also have a beautiful 10ft x 22 deck where they do most of their summer entertaining. In fact, not only in the summer time because of the all-year-round sunshine. Also, being sheltered Alan recently recorded a temperature of 22C: you can't beat a winter barbeque!

Alan and Diane opted for an open plan design so that the view could be enjoyed from all quarters. Alan also had a hand in deciding where the plugs and points went when visiting Omar's factory to help with the planning. This is something that seems trivial but, from living in a park home, your author can testify that it is far from that! You need plenty of plugs and points in reachable positions.

Alan and Diane love the fact that they had no problems with nuisance callers and the low-maintenance living that park home life has given them is a fact that was re-emphasised by the other residents that I spoke to.

Bespoke home

Like the Bournes, Adrian and Rosemarie Dumbleton also got involved in the design of their luxury Omar Sheringham home. The couple were taken to Omar's factory by the younger Henry Morrison to help pick fabrics and make other changes. We believe this is essential as there are always some small (or even larger) changes that will add to your enjoyment of the property. Adrian and Rosemarie chose fabrics, picked kitchen units, added storage - always needed - and created a separate small utility room for two appliances.

Originally from Coventry, the Dumbletons



- 5 Inside the a bespoke Omar Hanbury home designed especially for the park
- 6 Outside one of the new lodge homes on the park: there is ample parking space



5

**Quick chat
over a cuppa**



ADRIAN & ROSEMARIE DUMBLETON had a hand in the design of their Omar home and were taken to the factory by Henry Morrison Junior before buying.



ALAN BOURNE and his wife Diane moved into their 50ft x 22 Advent Valerian three years ago. Alan helped design the home when their were just two others on site.



MAGGIE AND DAVID FIELD This couple moved to Hanbury Wharf all the way from Cornwall. They prefer life here because it feels less cut off than their former home.

explained that taking early retirement and, knowing the area through having a caravan locally, convinced them to take the plunge at Hanbury. The fact that it was a small residential site attracted them too. The couple also liked the attention to detail evident on site. By way of example, the couple pointed our attention to their brick built shed, complete with power supply; something all Hanbury residents benefit from. But this isn't the Dumbletons' only great space-saver: we were also impressed by the couple's walk-in wardrobe back inside their property.

Adrian and Rosemarie are not short of things to do either. There are canal walks up to Droitwich and Hanbury Hall, where they have got to know some of the people with narrowboats, a golf course and no end of days out can be planned into the Cotswolds or across to the Malvern Hills. There are also many quality pubs in the area for eating out. They also have the added advantage of being able to have shopping and food deliveries made which is not allowed by some sites.

We could see Adrian and Rosmarie are very happy with their lifestyle choice and was very amused when Rosmarie told me that the development "feels lucky" and since moving there in 2010 they have been very lucky with their premium bonds with a win almost every month. On hearing this, yours truly rushed off to buy a lottery ticket from the local store before meeting some more residents!

Artist's impression

We found it very interesting that Maggie and David Field had moved all the way up to the Midlands from near Redruth in Cornwall. David felt that, while extremely beautiful, Cornwall can feel a little cut off and also tends to get so busy in the summer. So when they retired they felt they were too young to sit around in slippers. They began looking for a place more central in the country and found Hanbury Wharf from an artist's impression in this magazine.

Their Omar Kingfisher was already sited but they fell in love with its clean modern open plan design so they bought it already sited in August 2011. Sometimes, a property just feels right and it pays off to act impulsively.

The Fields told us their park home is better planned and easier to clean than an ordinary house and among their favourite treats is a body jet shower.



6

"They were taken to Omar's factory by the younger Henry Morrison to pick fabrics and make changes."

As with the other residents we met, the couple said there were numerous places to visit with Stratford-on-Avon and Ludlow being two of the places they've enjoyed up to now. Having not long moved in they are making plans for their garden and patio areas and are looking forward visiting the many garden centres

in the vicinity to get ideas for planting.

We found all of the residents at Hanbury to be very happy with their choice of park. At the time of visiting, there were only two properties left to sell, which probably says it all! All residents talk about knowing more people than you would living in an ordinary house and the sense of community that's being created. Residents also have plans for the Golden Jubilee and have already set up a residents' association. But this sense of satisfaction does not come about by chance...

Well run development

The park is run by the Morrison family: Henry senior, Henry junior and Marc who have a wealth of experience in running park home sites. Each resident spoke highly of the help that they have received in letting them achieve whatever they want for their lifestyle choice. This hands-on approach is very different to what some sites offer and provides an extra incentive to buy. The Morrison family has an eye for detail which I'm sure carries over to the other sites that can be viewed on their website. Henry senior also has many views on the issue of park homes and sites and I'm sure along with his

All you need to know

Hanbury Wharf information at your fingertips

LIVING COSTS



PITCH FEES

£132.44 per month

COUNCIL TAX

Band A: around £970 per year

WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS

All metered direct from provider



VISIT THE PARK

Hanbury Wharf
Hanbury Road, Droitwich,
Worcestershire. WR9 7DX
T: 07802 322979
W: www.morrisonsparkhomes.co.uk

FOR SALE



AVAILABILITY

At the time of our visit, there were two homes for sale: a 50ft x 20 Omar Ashbourne at £219,000, and a 40ft x 20 Omar Ashbourne up for just £189,000. Both are fully furnished including wall mounted TV, integrated dishwashers, dryers, fridge freezers. The homes are also protected by a 10 year Gold Shield warranty too.

OTHER



PARK RULES

This park is for the retired and semi-retired only. Pets allowed after consultation with the park's management.

All prices correct as of 11/4/12

two sons will more than fully answer any queries that you may have about their developments. It was a real pleasure to visit Hanbury Wharf.

Lots to see and do

There are a myriad of places to see and visit close to Hanbury due to its central position and proximity to the motorway.

The Cotswolds with all of its delights such as Broadway, The Cotswold Way and many fetes and farmers' markets are right on the doorstep. The list of places to visit is large but it is probably best just to set off and see where you end up - don't just head for the best known places!

In the other direction are the Malvern Hills that sent Elgar's imagination into flights of fancy and was his inspiration for many of his masterpieces. Further on in that direction is the gourmet town of Ludlow and Herefordshire while to the south is Warwickshire with the Bard's Stratford upon Avon. The town beckons for a visit whether it is cultural with a call to the newly built theatre and its wonderful views over the town or shopping, a meal and a gentle walk or row along the Avon.

We were also told about the lovely walks along the canal to the pretty town of Droitwich or Hanbury Hall with its beautiful gardens. There is also a marina under construction very close by that has two hundred and thirty moorings so you could have your boat anchored at your convenience if you desired.

There is also the Jinny Ring craft centre, which is a very pretty place to spend a few hours. We were told the food is very good and that they excel in their very popular themed nights. Nearby Witley Court with its rambling remains, beautiful landscaped gardens and huge fountain, is another place perfect for a picnic.

On a larger scale, there is the second city of Birmingham in one direction with great shopping and tasty curry restaurants and Cheltenham in the other direction with its exhilarating racing, beautiful architecture and again great shopping. We hope these places give you some inspiration to visit the much under-rated county of Worcestershire and perhaps think of purchasing a park home there...

Below The Morrison family, who own and run the park, have invested a lot of time and money in improving the site for residents

