



Urban Renaissance Villages Limited

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'Topping out' the Clubhouse at Bramshott Place Village

A topping out ceremony took place recently at Bramshott Place Village, the age exclusive development currently being built in Liphook by Helical Bar and Urban Renaissance Villages, when Bill Gair officiated at the 'Topping Out' of the scheme's landmark Clubhouse building. When complete, later this year, the Clubhouse will be a focal point for the Village, offering residents a range of facilities including a restaurant, bar, fitness and games rooms, hydrotherapy pool, library and communal entertaining areas.



Left to right - Mark Ward, External finishing foreman, Ardmore Construction; Andrew Maull, Project Manager; Ardmore Construction; David Highfield, Director, Beth Samuel, James Bryne, Director, Ardmore Constuction, Bill Gair, Chief Executive Officer, URV, Gus Wright, Construction Director, Ardmore Construction.

Bill Gair said: "It gives me great pleasure to mark the topping-out of the Clubhouse. This is a demonstration of our commitment to this development on behalf of our residents, and a positive acknowledgement, in these troubled financial times. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Contractor and his team for maintaining his programme and delivering our clients' quality new homes, some already occupied. I'm sure this Clubhouse is going to be very popular with the

Bramshott Place Village residents. I rather wish I lived here too and could use it myself!"

"Our experience has shown that the property demands of older buyers go way beyond merely improved interior design features. They're looking for a well maintained, supportive community that offers them extra amenities, and this is what we are providing with the Clubhouse at Bramshott Place Village."

A Topping Out ceremony is performed when a building or structure is completed to its highest point. It is a chance to bring together all the people who have been involved

in its construction and thank them for their efforts. At Bramshott Place Village the event was celebrated with a few bottles of beer as is customary nowadays; but the custom of topping out goes back to ancient times when sometimes even human sacrifice was involved! This was how the Romans marked the completion of a bridge over the river Tiber in 621BC, in order to appease the river gods. The ancient Chinese smeared chicken blood on the building, Egyptian pyramid builders placed a living plant on top and medieval Scandinavians hoisted up an evergreen tree, representing new life. There would often be a spiritual element too, with a priest blessing the building and casting out evil spirits. The first topping out ceremony to be photographed was that of the Empire State Building in 1931, when a Stars and Stripes flag was raised by proud workers on the 86th floor.



The Topping Out marks a significant milestone in the development of the over 55s village scheme.

According to Bill Gair, Bramshott Place Village now has three new flags flying following the Topping Out ceremony: "the St George's flag to reflect the recent celebration of England's patron saint; the tricolour to welcome our contractor and the European flag to reflect the diverse home of our builders and operatives," he said.

The Topping Out marks a significant milestone in the development of the over 55s village scheme. The first residents are now starting to move in, as the first phase of luxury apartments and cottages becomes ready for occupation. As well as the Country Club, there will be facilities such as a village manager, laundry, cleaning services and a health centre on the doorstep.

"There is clearly a real demand for this type of lifetime home for the over 55s, which we saw many years ago, and we are creating our age exclusive village accordingly," continues Bill Gair. "It is a way of living that has increasing appeal for independent, busy over 55s who like the idea of a community of like-minded neighbours, with convenient facilities and a little extra security on hand, which gives them the freedom from daily chores to enjoy life to the full."

Phase 1 of Bramshott Place Village is now complete, with prices ranging from £295,000 to £315,000 for the apartments and from £435,000 to £470,000 for the cottages. Each

property is sold with a 125-year lease and ample outdoor parking. Further information about the homes available for sale at Bramshott Place Village is available from sole agents Clarke Gammon Weller, on 01428 722800, or by visiting www.bramshottplace.co.uk

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