

July 2007

Bathgate is big draw for househunters

With a long and rich history dating back hundreds of years, Bathgate is no stranger to new settlers. With a flurry of new homebuyers recently, the town is set to take back its title of one of Scotland's property hotspots.

Home to Walker Group's development, The Hedges, Bathgate's popularity has helped properties at the estate sell out quickly leaving only three homes left for purchase, including a five-bedroom detached home, The Buckingham, and two, two-bedroom Tantallons.

The town itself is well equipped for the modern family with ample leisure and retail facilities as well as numerous schools and a wealth of local amenities including restaurants, pubs and cafes. Its close proximity to Edinburgh is another obvious selling point of the charming locale but just why do people keep flocking to this centuries old town?

Sales Director at Walker Residential, Sandy Casey, said: "Bathgate holds a tremendous attraction to househunters, not least due to its fantastic location on the central belt with easy access to Edinburgh, Glasgow, Stirling and Falkirk. However, the town's great history provides added appeal coupled with a thriving, friendly community ready to welcome new homeowners."

Celebrating a royal heritage, the town was once home to Robert the Bruce's daughter Marjorie after the King gave her a castle, the ruins of which can still be found on the site of a local golf course. This began the Stewart dynasty, which went on to rule Scotland until 1689.

A popular stop between Edinburgh and Glasgow as far back as the 1700s, Bathgate hosted many a weary traveller. Whilst in the 19th century Bathgate built up a strong reputation for industry and engineering with renowned scientist, James Young, developing the world's first oil refinery in the town resulting in an economic boom for the town.

However, perhaps a bigger claim to fame is the town's reference in The Proclaimers hit, *Letter from America*.

What's more, if some reports are to be believed, it's not only humans who are drawn to the pleasant area, with repeated UFO sightings suggesting an intergalactic interest for settling in Bathgate!

Sandy added: "We have certainly noticed a strong attraction for homebuyers at our development in Bathgate. With only three properties remaining, The Hedges has proved extremely popular attracting homeseekers from across the country. We expect that the final homes will be snapped up quickly by those eager to secure a dwelling in the town."

The Buckingham, a superb detached family home featuring five bedrooms, one of which is located downstairs providing the option of being used as a study or additional family room. Spacious living areas throughout the ground floor of this property include a front facing lounge, dining room and a spectacular, airy kitchen. This stunning home is available for £237,500.

The popular terraced Tantallon properties are ideal for first time buyers with two bedrooms, a bright lounge and sunny kitchen offering the perfect accommodation for busy, modern life. These properties are available from £133,000.

For further information contact Edith at the Marketing Suite on 01506 650620 or alternatively contact Walker Group's head office on 01506 413 101