

News Release

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Lancaster canalside heritage homes completed at Aldcliffe Yard

A small bespoke waterside development of 14 family homes at Aldcliffe Yard in the heart of Lancaster is now complete and ready for new residents.

The development includes brand new three and four bedroom houses, as well as refurbished homes created out of Grade 2-listed, stone canal buildings. Prices start at £295,000. Situated on a superb heritage site off Aldcliffe Road, the stone and wood-clad homes are in a conservation area next to the picturesque Lancaster Canal, only five minutes' walk from the city centre.

Several of the homes were completed using a trail blazing 'custom build' approach to house building. Buyers bought their plot outright and controlled the design and internal layout but the house was constructed by the development project's professional builders - a less daunting version of 'self-build', offering potential savings on the final market value.

Supporting the Government's policy to promote self-build and the conversion of redundant buildings, Aldcliffe Yard was even featured on a BBC Panorama programme in March 2015 as an exemplar scheme for solving Britain's housing shortage.

The developers are H2O Urban, a joint partnership between niche development company *bloc* and the Canal & River Trust which owns the canalside site. House purchasers will have the feel-good factor of knowing that part of the profits from the development will be re-invested in the canal network for public benefit.

Nigel Bell, H2O project manager, said: “Opportunities to buy into such an attractive part of Lancaster canal heritage don’t come along very often. Some residents have the benefit of a private canal towpath and one of the back gardens even includes a small, historic cargo crane. The development has created a huge amount of interest and only six homes now remain unsold. This really is a unique site, providing beautiful contemporary homes in a sought-after heritage setting.”

James Lazarus, Head of Property Development at the Canal & River Trust, added: “This site contains some wonderful historic buildings which have been lying empty for a number of years. It is fantastic to see them brought back into productive use again and transformed into family homes. Everyone using the canal benefits from the area being upgraded and improved.

“Maintaining a 200-year-old canal network is clearly a constant challenge and its upkeep is supported by income generated by development schemes like this one. Nearly two thirds of the profits from H²O developments to date have been re-invested in Britain’s waterways for the benefit of all canal users.”

To make an appointment to see the new Aldcliffe Yard show home, contact estate agent Olivia Baron at Fisher Wrathall, email olivia@fisherwrathall.co.uk. Tel 01524 68822.

Issued by

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On behalf of H2O Urban

Notes to editors:

The Canal & River Trust is the guardian of 2,000 miles of historic waterways across England and Wales. We are among the largest charities in the UK, maintaining the nation’s third largest collection of listed structures, as well as museums, archives, navigations and hundreds of important wildlife sites.

We believe that our canals and rivers are a national treasure and a local haven for people and wildlife. It is our job to care for this wonderful legacy – holding it in trust for the nation in perpetuity and giving people a greater role in the running of their local waterways

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