NEW HOME Scottish Daily Mail

Bucking the trend is the Mains thing

N what has been a very fickle property market, it is always heartening to see businesses bucking the trend – and the Mains of Taymouth country estate has certainly been doing that.

This family-owned venture in the Perthshire village of Kenmore, which specialises in holiday homes, is celebrating not just the launch of its latest development but the fact that the properties are selling like proverbial hot cakes off plan.

It helps that they are in one of the most scenic corners of Perthshire - the young Queen Victoria spent part of her honeymoon at nearby Taymouth Castle – and that the estate is easily accessible. But

By Jenny Shields

owners Robin and Irena Menzies, who have been expanding their business over many years, also understand what clients want. The key, they say, is providing consistently high quality.

From working with award-winning architect Eric Strickland to the high spec Roca bathrooms, relid self-floors greatly award-wind to the floors greatly award-wind self-floors.

solid oak floors, granite worktops and private hot tubs, as well as the complete letting service, attention

to detail is everything.
Following the runaway success of the ten mews-style properties in Castle Gardens and three big properties called The Brudairs, the couple went on to develop The Gallong whose eight properties. Gallops, whose eight properties sold swiftly Now their latest project, Maxwells, is well under way. Four



Highland hideaways: The Gallops at the Mains of Taymouth estate

properties will be completed by September, the remaining six by Christmas – and six have already been sold.

At present, a one-bed property is available to buy at £195,000 and three two-bed properties at £265,000. All the properties come fully decorated and furnished to an exceptionally high standard.

Part of the attraction – aside from having a home from home whenever you fancy – is the guarantee that comes with the property of a 5 per cent per annum rental return for five years. Developing is Mrs Menzies' passion. Of Polish parentage, but born and brought up in the area, she brims with enthusiasm. Although she is involved in every aspect of the place, she really comes into her own when the properties are ready to be fitted and

furnished.

They divide nicely into expansive, open plan living/cooking/dining spaces with large windows or French doors and quiet, elegantly appointed en suite bedrooms. After spending a day on the hill or loch – many guests are keen walk-

ers, climbers, mountain bikers or canoeists – she knows that returning to a warm, comfortable, stylish

house will only increase their holiday's feel-good factor.

Mr and Mrs Menzies want to build more large detached properties, for which there seems to be a keen market. They also have plans for a leisure centre featuring an indoor pool, spa and tennis courts, which they see as key to completing the Mains of Taymouth experience.

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