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NEW NAME FOR AMBITIOUS LOCAL DEVELOPER

After 30 years of developing highly successful conversion and new-build schemes, Berkshire-based Thomas & Co has announced its latest acquisition – a new company name.

The move to become **Thomas Homes Limited** reflects the developer's strengthening position in a competitive industry. With an annual turnover of £20 million, Thomas Homes is now one of the largest private residential property developers in the region, completing around six schemes a year with anything from 5-50 units per scheme.

Thomas Homes' founder and Managing Director, Hugh Thomas, is looking forward to the next stage in the company's development:

"We have grown considerably in the past few years, acquiring the expertise and the resources to line up alongside the national plcs. As we've expanded, our commitment and integrity have stood firm and individuality has remained the distinguishing feature of a Thomas Homes development. Rest assured this will continue to be the case in the future as we look for new opportunities to create high quality schemes that stand out from the crowd."

For a privately owned developer, Thomas Homes has an impressive portfolio in terms of both the scale of its schemes and their diversity. From groundbreaking new-build projects to sensitive conversions of listed buildings, there's nothing standard about a Thomas Homes development.

With a keen eye for development potential, Thomas Homes has been prepared to buy unconditionally and acquire sites that were technically difficult to develop or where planning was a contentious issue. In an unsettled market the company has adapted quickly to the shift in buyer activity, remaining proactive and focused.

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Locally, Thomas Homes is developing a number of residential schemes in and around Oxford including the much-talked-about Parkview development in St Clement's. A contemporary building housing 14 apartments, Parkview's striking design was shortlisted for the 2005 Housing Design Awards, a national competition sponsored by the Government, the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Royal Town Planning Institute. Despite local opposition, plans to build Parkview on the site occupied by The Plasterers public house were approved in March 2005.

Thomas Homes' first major scheme in Oxford was the conversion of the former Morris Motors Works on the corner of Hollow Way and the Cowley Road, which remains one of the most popular developments in the area. The developer also pioneered the new micro-flat schemes in the city centre, the first of which was Stephenson House on Thames Street, a development of 46 apartments, many of them galleried.

Commenting on Thomas Homes' status in the Oxfordshire region, local estate agent, Philip Turner, says, "For a family business, Thomas Homes has always punched above its weight, competing with the big boys and often coming out on top."

To find out more about Thomas Homes developments in and around Oxford, please call Chris Brotherton on **01488 649820** or email **chris.brotherton@thomashomes.co.uk**

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