

GIBBONS

— SOLICITORS —



Howard at The Ipswich Hotel, Copdock

My dear readers: you are so lucky to have a firm of solicitors such as mine right on your doorstep. I hear of so many horror stories of people using some on-line legal service or an enormous combine where the person that one deals with is not a solicitor and may not be qualified, one never speaks to the same person twice and cannot meet with them face to face.

Our clients will deal with me all of the time and can come and see me and have the benefit of 31 years of experience. That is a very good deal and at a reasonable fee. Into the bargain, I fight for the interests of our clients. Naturally business is largely conducted electronically but we provide a good old fashioned service for those who are not happy about E-mails and such like. Whether you are buying and selling a house, taking a lease of an office, writing a Will or wanting to grant a Lasting Power of Attorney then please contact us. As you will know, my office is on the corner of the High Street as one goes round towards the Council Offices.

The amount that one can leave following one's death without paying Inheritance Tax will increase from 6 April 2017. The additional nil rate band for a residence (fully effective for a value under £2 million) and left to direct descendants comes into play. In the first place, the additional allowance will be £100,000 and one can carry forward £100,000 for a spouse or civil partner that has predeceased at any date. I had a lovely lunch at The Ipswich Hotel formerly known as The Cameo and on the old A12 at Copdock, now under new ownership. You will all remember the hotel, well it is being rejuvenated with substantial renovation in hand. Why not try the hotel for Sunday lunch, a function or a stay. The restaurant was light and airy. There is a large banqueting suite and vast car park so it would be excellent for weddings, classic car events, meetings and conferences. As you know, I am not in the habit of dining with my household staff and there is a super bar where my chauffeur Frank could get a ploughman's.

I am pictured with Rameth Kurdi, the Manager who has many years of hotel experience and learnt his trade on the QE2. Telephone the hotel (Tel. 01473 209988) to enquire and mention my column.

It is my birthday on 11 November. Frank will deliver locally a bottle of champagne to the person who correctly guesses my age by my birthday (a draw will take place if more than one).

Howard Gibbons

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