

# GIBBONS

— SOLICITORS —



## Howard at Bower House Farm

Hello my loyal followers: my heart sinks when I see the combine harvesters at work. I know that the better part of the Summer months have gone and cold dark evenings are on their way. It was a lovely sunny day when a call came through from the Estate Office at Bower House Farm. The Lord of the Manor that surveys the rolling hills, fields and woodland wondered if I would like to see the combine harvester in operation as the Barley was ready to cut. I was pleased to meet Richard Morton who farms the acres and masterminds the operation of the combine harvester from an enormous air conditioned cabin which was almost as big as the Drawing Room at the Gibbons' residence. We were at Cox Field which is about 32 acres. The combine harvester is one of the largest in the area with a swathe of 30 foot and Richard skilfully cuts up to 60 acres a day without a stalk to be seen. Richard is assisted by navigation sensors on the outer wings of the combine. 1000 litres of fuel is used a day. It was fortunate that Frank my chauffeur had delivered me to the Estate in a lovely new maroon Range Rover which had been loaned to us by Land Rover. The Lord of the Manor took us on a tour across the farm which took a good part of the afternoon as we navigated country tracks from Kersey to Boxford and back to Polstead. There were enormous grain stores with dryers and massive heaps of rape seed. I happened to mention that Maria spent many an hour when relaxing stroking Frank's rabbit who is called Flopsy. I was slipped a lovely bale of straw and Flopsy will enjoy stretching out and rolling in it. Frank will also pop some under his strawberries – it does wonders to extend the growing season and to keep the fruit pert.

I had a very interesting day at The Imperial War Museum at Duxford. Frank delivered us and we were given special parking very close to the Control Tower and the runway. Cheese scones and coffee, a picnic lunch of home made sausage pie followed by ground rice and jelly. The Household continues to function wherever it moves! I well remember in 1977 when Concorde was flown into Duxford before the runway was shortened by the M11.

Meanwhile the office functions with alacrity. No matter who the estate agents recommend to you, come to us for certain independent advice for your property dealings. We have practised in Hadleigh for fourteen years and I have been qualified as a Solicitor for 31 years so do take the benefit of all that experience. Don't put off doing that Will – make an appointment to come to see me. A Lasting Power of Attorney is an important document to have in hand so that your affairs can be handled even if you should lose mental capacity.

*Howard Gibbons*

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