

GIBBONS

— SOLICITORS —

Howard at Long Melford Hall

I wanted to thank you, my readers, for your concern after I mentioned to you that I had been in hospital. So many of you have been in touch. I am pleased to say that I am now feeling very much better and I am glad to put my time in hospital behind me. It was with such great sadness that I received the news of the death of Rodney Burt. Rodney died on 4 August quite suddenly and what a shock it was for his wife Anne.

Rodney was a great character in Hadleigh and used to live opposite my office; he was an



expert in wine and even invented a board game on the subject which was a best seller. Rodney was known to very many of you and I am sure that you will wish to join with me in sending heartfelt thoughts to Anne. There will be a Memorial Service at St Mary's in Hadleigh on 5 September at 12 noon.

I was pleased to see a number of you at the Classic Car Festival at Helmingham Hall. There was a splendid gathering of classic cars from across the spectrum. The picture shows me at Long Melford Hall after a classic car mystery tour. The weather was lovely and I enjoyed a picnic on the lawns and a tour of the house which was a favourite of Beatrix Potter who used to visit her relations there. The house was requisitioned by the army during the Second World War and sadly part of it was destroyed by fire in 1942 but was subsequently rebuilt. The house is run by the National Trust. One so often finds that parcels of land (such as a part of a garden) are sold off with a view to erecting a house. Many issues arise. One needs to consider rights that may be needed and as to how future contribution towards the cost of jointly used services and roads is to be structured. Obligations for the payment of money do not automatically run from one owner to the next. Planning Consents and planning conditions need to be reviewed. The sale plan has to be properly drawn and comply with Land Registry requirements. You should consider whether the house to be built is going to have the benefit of an NHBC policy. There are many issues that can trap the unwary. Do get in touch if you have something of this nature in prospect.

One is always reluctant to get a Will drawn up. Somehow one feels one is confronting one's destiny. I hope that we can make the process relatively painless. So again do ask us to prepare your Will.

As you read my Column we will have started to tread the road to Christmas!

Howard Gibbons

133 HIGH STREET HADLEIGH SUFFOLK IP7 5EJ

TEL 01473 822488

E-mail: HowardGibbons@gibbons.tv