

GIBBONS

— SOLICITORS —



Howard at Shaftesbury in Dorset

Hello all my readers both far and wide. I am glad that my picture of the late-medieval Gothic window frame from Hadleigh at the Victoria and Albert Museum sparked so much interest. I am grateful indeed to Sue Andrews from Bildeston who has written to me to give me much more of an insight into the history of the frame. Sue Andrews tells me that Adolphus Fass who donated the frame to the Museum lived from 1867 to 1945 and resided at Gifford's Hall which had been very run down but was restored by Adolphus Fass. Sue Andrews tells me that there is a strong possibility that the window frame came from the Southern wing of Sun Court at Number 107 High Street, Hadleigh. Apparently, during the period 1927 to 1929, Sun Court was rescued from demolition by the founder of Suffolk Preservation Society, Muriel Schofield who bought the property and had it restored by her architect son Sydney Schofield. Sue Andrews comments that there is no knowing how many more such window frames with beautifully cared tracery are hidden in Hadleigh behind plaster rendering or later brick walls. All of that is miles away from the plastic windows that are so prevalent today but at least they keep us warm and dry.

My chauffeur Frank is always diligently attending to his duties. I know that so few of you now require your staff to iron your newspaper but I do insist and Frank has to rise quite early to have it in order for the breakfast table. His cherries will soon be ripe for plucking. He has tied pieces of tin around them to attempt to keep his birds at bay. Business drew me to Dorset and thus Frank had to navigate us in that direction. The picture shows me at Gold Hill at Shaftesbury. I know that the strains of Dvorak's New World Symphony will come to mind as you will remember that the music was arranged for brass for the 1973 Hovis advert which was filmed here. The Village looks out over Blackmore Vale and the River Stour Basin. The view is reminiscent of our own Kersey. I do try to take you to a variety of places and to save you having to leave your armchair! I was delighted to make the journey to Whetstone to celebrate the 70th Birthday of my good friend Elizabeth Davies at The Haven Bistro. My mother and I had a lovely day and The Mayor of Barnet was present too.

We are living through some difficult and unsettling times, however, I continue to be very busy. It is some fifteen years ago that I opened my practice in Hadleigh and I have never had a day that was not filled to the brim. We are attending to Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney, domestic conveyancing, commercial property matters, mortgages and so on and so forth. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

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