

GIBBONS

— SOLICITORS —



Howard enjoying tea at The Savoy

I was so sad to hear of the death of Margaret Thatcher and dismayed at the behaviour of some in society. Margaret Thatcher was in the unassailable position of being

one of the greatest leaders of the 20th Century and whether or not one agreed with her policies her death should be handled with respect. I did a lot of work with the Conservative Party in the 1980s and 90s. I met Margaret Thatcher at the Earls Court Motor Show in 1976 when she was Leader of the Opposition and I obtained her autograph. I was also present at the Brighton Conference the day after the dreadful Irish bomb at the Grand Hotel.

I have had a busy few weeks. My principal chauffeur, Frank and house keeper, Maria went to Clacton for Easter and as far as I can gather played Canasta for most of the weekend. My junior chauffeur Christof does like the long runs and whisked myself and house guests to Eltham Palace. The Palace was built by the wealthy Courtauld family and is a testament to the 1930s Art Deco period. At the time it was the very essence of chic. What a glamorous world it was.

I went to hear the Hadleigh Choral Society's concert at Snape Maltings; the acoustics there are wonderful. The Society had clearly achieved a high standard and I much enjoyed their rendition of Elgar's Sea Pictures. John Lill gave a spirited performance of the Beethoven "Emperor" piano concerto. I think though that Vaughan Williams' "A Sea Symphony" was testing for the Choir and audience alike. My view is that a pleasant light programme would be more in keeping of the occasion. A friend of many years invited me to join a small party for tea at The Savoy. The picture shows me engaged in that activity. The piano played and it was a delightful afternoon albeit that I found the service somewhat perfunctory. We enjoyed a drink in the American Bar, a glance at the drinks menu showed one cocktail at £5,000 for the glass! I ran a Driving Day for a group of my motoring friends. The Ipswich Transport Museum opened especially for us and it was very interesting indeed. My readers may enjoy a visit; the Museum is in Cobham Road which is on the Warren Heath side of Ipswich.

There seems to be quite a lot of interest in the housing market at present. If you are thinking of selling or buying then do get in touch so that we can handle the conveyancing process for you. Beware of quotes that you may receive from some conveyancers which have various extras bolted on to the headline fee that is given (such as for completing a Stamp Duty form)

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