

WHAT IS PROBATE AND HOW CAN WE HELP? LET OUR EXPERIENCED TEAM GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE PROCESS



KEITH HOLLAND
SOLICITOR & PARTNER

Probate takes place when a person's estate needs to be collected together and distributed, following their death, whether there is a Will or not.

A person's estate is all of their possessions, money and their property, if they have any. Generally, if the total value of these is more than £5,000 in England and Wales, then probate is required. If a bank or other financial institution has asked for a grant of probate or Letters of Administration, this means

that probate is likely to be needed. Although probate often takes place at a difficult time, we can reduce your stress by helping you gather in the estate, pay any debts and taxes and distribute to the beneficiaries.

We understand that it isn't always easy to get to our offices so we offer home visits and in-person meetings for Wills, Lasting Power of Attorney and Probate matters. These are available in the Suffolk area with one of our qualified solicitors.

Telephone and online video meetings are also available. For more information and prices, please call **01473 226231**.

WHAT'S NEW HERE AT SMITH & CO SOLICITORS



ON HAND TO HELP BY SERVING OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

I would like to start by saying thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. The team at Smith & Co understands how everyone's lives are busy these days so we wanted to let you know just how Smith & Co is on hand to help with any legal services that you may need.

We now have offices in both Ipswich and Felixstowe, making it easier for you to drop off paperwork, have appointments with our solicitors and call in to make enquiries. Our Felixstowe office is on Hamilton Road, in the town centre and we are pleased to be in the heart of both local communities.

Vicky Hosking

Managing Partner

For more information, call **01473 226321** or email vh@smithandcosolicitors.co.uk



PROBATE >



WILLS >



RESIDENTIAL >



IS NOW THE RIGHT TIME TO GET YOUR WILL WRITTEN OR UPDATED?

If you are ready to make your Will, we can explain all the options available to you and will help you find the solutions that are right for you and your family. We offer Wills for single people and also couples.



VICKY HOSKING
MANAGING PARTNER & SOLICITOR

We have experience of tax-efficient ways of preserving your family's assets and an understanding of the complex nature of family dynamics in today's modern world.

You may find yourself facing decisions about your assets where you are in a partnership with children from previous relationships. Let us guide you through the choices that are available to you,

so you can find peace of mind. We offer telephone appointments and 'face-to-face' meetings, either in the office or at home. We can organise witnesses and signing formalities to fit in with your commitments.

Smith & Co is able to offer competitive prices to cover the entire process. A draft Will can be produced very quickly, even by telephone or email, and amendments made if required.

We also recommend that you review your Will regularly and especially if you have a change in circumstances such as a divorce, second marriage,

inheritance or death in your family. We can help you make changes to your current Will to reflect your wishes.

For more information and prices, please call **01473 226231**.

WILL VOUCHER

If you're ready to have your Will written or updated, present this newsletter to receive a discount of **10%**. Terms and conditions – one voucher per person/couple.



ARE YOU A LOCAL LANDLORD LOOKING TO SELL YOUR RENTAL PROPERTY AND NEED TO SERVE NOTICE ON YOUR TENANTS?

At Smith & Co, our Litigation team is experienced in dealing with Section 21 and Section 8 eviction proceedings so you can obtain possession of your property.

With an uncertain mortgage market and unstable interest rates, many private landlords are planning to sell their rental properties. Currently, landlords are only able to regain possession by using a Section 21 notice. This can be used after a fixed term tenancy ends, if there is a written contract or during a tenancy with no fixed end date, otherwise known as a 'periodic' tenancy.



AMBER RAINFORD
LITIGATION AND FAMILY
LAW PARALEGAL

A Section 8 notice is served to a tenant if they have broken the terms of the tenancy. If you need legal advice or support to manage this process, our experienced Landlord and Tenant team are on hand to answer your questions about serving notice and also possession orders. Contact Amber Rainford for more information on **01473 228011**.



LOCAL DAY CENTRE PROVIDING SERVICES FOR OLDER FOLKS IN THE IPSWICH AREA

The Foxhall Centre Lavender Trust is a day centre based in Parliament Road in Ipswich that offers a range of activities to older people in a fully accessible facility including hairdressing, chiropody and assistance with medication.

Activities such as dancing, crafts, gentle exercise, music, quizzes and games are enjoyed by the daily visitors, together with a two-course lunch and friendly, welcoming carers on hand.

Smith & Co Managing Partner, Vicky Hosking, is proud to have been a trustee of the Foxhall Day Centre since 2017 and is always impressed by the high standard of care and commitment shown to all the clients.

If you would like more information about what the day centre offers, call **01473 272038**.



ARE YOU LOOKING TO BUY OR SELL PROPERTY IN 2024?



NATASHA PRICE
SOLICITOR AND HEAD OF
RESIDENTIAL CONVEYANCING

Spring is traditionally the time when homeowners think about buying and selling their property. Keep your costs under control by using our local and knowledgeable team.

At Smith & Co, we understand that buying and selling a property can be a stressful and costly

period in a person's life. That's why we make sure all of our clients are given the direct telephone number and email address of the conveyancer, together with all costs detailed up front. We also give regular updates as your matter progresses and our prices are transparent throughout the transaction.

As a local legal firm, we have positive relationships with estate agents in the area and are familiar with all of the neighbourhoods and villages, which helps us be more efficient and move your matter along in a timely fashion.

If you are you thinking of buying, selling or re-mortgaging your home, Smith & Co Solicitors are giving £100 discount to all clients who ask us for a conveyancing quote and instruct us to act for them between now and the end of April – **simply mention this newsletter!**

You can use our online quote portal on our website www.smithandcosolicitors.co.uk or telephone **01473 226231** for more information.