



GRAHAM BUTT

— ESTATE AGENTS —

1971 - 2021

Still
Going
STRONG

Graham Butt Estate Agents
celebrate 50 years in 2021 -
here's the man himself to tell
us how it all started...



Graham Butt Estate Agents, synonymous for selling property in Littlehampton and the surrounding villages, is celebrating it's 50th anniversary this year, having opened its doors in 1971.

This unique business has now had FOUR generations of the family name 'BUTT' working within the offices and can proudly say that Estate Agency is certainly in the blood! We hear from the man himself...

"It is difficult for me to realise that it was fifty years ago this February that I opened my very first office in Littlehampton, at 75 High Street where we are still trading from today. We are still as then, very much a Family business, with a history in Estate Agency going back as far as the 1940's when my father Brian Butt (pictured right) and his brother opened their first office in Hove.



Our Littlehampton office opened in 1971, a small office where at first I was working with just one other member of staff. We now occupy the whole building and employ many more staff, with separate departments for Sales, Lettings and accounts, together with sales offices in Rustington, East Preston and Angmering.



“I can still remember the first house we sold in Littlehampton. It was in Seaton Park, which sold for £4,150 - and no, I haven't missed a nought off!”

Graham Butt

In 1971, average UK house prices were only £5500, but mortgage rates were much higher at 7%, with the average weekly wage only £32, a pint of beer would have cost you 20p and a loaf of bread 9p!

If you are considering moving, would like some FREE advice relating to your property or would simply like to discuss the current conditions relating to the property market in our area, please feel welcome to contact us!



50 Years

Graham Butt Estate Agents have four established sales offices in Angmering, East Preston, Littlehampton & Rustington with a dedicated lettings office too.

I have many good memories of those early days in the 1970's. One of the highlights was meeting through the business my wife Clare, who worked with me for many years in Littlehampton and Rustington until our daughter Holly was born in 1988. Clare has continued as an active Partner in the Business throughout the years, and recalls as I do the high and lows of running your own business, including the three day week, and working with Calor gas lighting!

We still meet and remember many of our clients from the early days, but one that stands out in particular was an elderly lady who lived in a semi-detached house in Stanley Road. Whenever I called to see her, she would always ask me to walk into the back garden before she would talk to me. The reason was that she was convinced that her next door neighbour (a local Policeman) had her house bugged and was listening to all her conversations - totally untrue of course!

Over the years we have seen many changes in the property market. From the property crash of the late 1980's, the rise and fall of the Banking and Insurance backed Estate Agency world in the early 1990's, to the eventual Banking crises in 2008, all of which had unique challenges that we had to overcome to be where we are today in 2021.

**ANGMERING
EAST PRESTON
LITTLEHAMPTON
RUSTINGTON
LETTINGS**

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01903 856400
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eastpreston@grahambutt.co.uk
littlehampton@grahambutt.co.uk
rustington@grahambutt.co.uk
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Having sold the business to Abbey National in 1988, I decided in 1994 to re-open my old office in Littlehampton. It felt as if I had never left with many of my old clients kindly coming back to buy and sell with us again. Soon after, we re-opened in Rustington, initially opposite the village Church and then later to a larger and more centrally located office in Woodlands Avenue.

It has been both challenging and rewarding during the last 27 years thereafter, rebuilding the business with new young and enthusiastic staff, including Grant Williams (Company Partner), Peter Gladwell and Peter Burrell, who have all since retired.

My son David Butt, who started his agency career in 1985, joined us in 2003 after a successful career with GA Property Services in Maidstone, Kent. Today, David runs the business as the Managing Partner with Gill Cox (Director) and many other loyal colleagues all helping us to continually build and grow the business. This has included new offices in East Preston and Angmering, plus with Gill's enthusiasm and guidance our now very successful Lettings Department.

So this brings us right up to the present day, and just as at the beginning, we are still very much a family business. Clare and I are still involved, as you know David is the Managing Partner and to complete the family association, David's son James (my grandson) who has worked in agency in London, is now the Branch Partner at the Littlehampton office where it all started 50 years ago. From when my father Brian started to where James is today, our family has over 80 years of estate agency heritage, of which I am very proud."



Estate Agency certainly runs in the blood, with the BUTT family name spanning over 80 years in the industry! From left to right: Brian Butt, Graham Butt, David Butt and James Butt