

**Bedford and Ampthill Notaries
Established 1905**

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BEDFORD & AMPHILL NOTARIES

Bedford and Ampthill Notaries which is the Notarial Legal Practice run by Anthony Northey and Ian Codrington is a very well established and experienced Notarial Practice. Since 1905 it has and it continues to provide Notarial Services for businesses and individuals in Bedford, Ampthill and Cranfield and throughout Bedfordshire and beyond. Whenever you need a Notary, a Notary Public or Commissioner for Oaths, please do not hesitate to contact one of our Notaries. Our Notaries are members of the Notaries Society. Please see our contact details overleaf.

**NOTARIES: THE OLDEST BRANCH OF THE
LEGAL PROFESSION**

Notaries in England and Wales form the third and oldest branch of the legal profession in the United Kingdom. Their origin can be traced back to the times of the occupation of Britain by the Romans. Just like Notaries in countries with Civil Law jurisdictions, Notaries in England and Wales carry out all kinds of non-contentious legal work. They are effectively Civil Law Lawyers or Notaries practising in a Common Law Jurisdiction and a bridge between the Civil Law Jurisdictions and the Common Law Jurisdiction of England and Wales.

In order to qualify as a Notary one must have a University degree and pass the Postgraduate Diploma in Notarial Practice, Roman Law and International Private Law provided by London University. Once the potential Notary has passed this postgraduate diploma, he or she may petition the Court of Faculties for a "Faculty."

A "Faculty" grants a Notary his/her authority to practice. This is followed by two years supervision under an experienced Notary and only when this is satisfactorily completed is it possible to practice without supervision. Notaries are required to have full professional indemnity and fidelity insurance.

The Faculty Office regulates Notaries. For further information visit their website:

www.facultyoffice.org.uk

**WHAT DOES A NOTARY DO
IN ENGLAND AND WALES?**

A Notary prepares Notarial Acts, including Authentic Acts, mainly being documents executed in England and Wales for use everywhere in the world. This includes drafting, reviewing and explanation of legal documents for use outside the UK.

There are two basic types of Notarial Act; those in private form and those in Public form, which are Authentic Acts/Instruments.

The private form is when a Notary annexes a Notarial Certificate by way of authentication of a document and its contents thus converting it into a Notarial Act.

The Public Form is an Authentic Act/Instrument drafted by the Notary, which will include verification of identity, legal capacity and understanding of the document and awareness of the contents, confirming authority to enter into the transaction eg. in the case of a corporate body and also authenticating the contents after verifying the same.

Notaries are authorised and empowered to carry out and do carry out all types of legal work carried out by solicitors, other than contentious work. This is a similar situation to that of the Notary in Civil Law jurisdictions. Accordingly Notaries deal with conveyancing, probate and Wills and all other types of non-contentious commercial and private legal work.

**THE ROLE OF NOTARIES IN
HELPING BUSINESS AND CITIZENS**

Notaries have had their Notarial Acts recognised worldwide for centuries and this, indeed, has permitted citizens and businesses to circulate freely. In this way Notaries facilitate commerce and the life for the ordinary citizen as Notarial Acts enable them to go about their daily lives and business freely at reasonable cost and without undue delay.

THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE NOTARY

A Notary holds an official seal and Notarial Acts in England and Wales have probative force. Notarial Acts under the signature and seal of a Notary are recognised as evidence of a responsible official legal officer in all countries of the world. The Civil Procedure Rules of the Supreme Court of Judicature of England & Wales – rule 32.20 provide that "A Notarial Act or Instrument may be received in evidence without further proof as duly authenticated in accordance with the requirements of the law unless the contrary is proved"

Notaries Public have been appointed by legal authority in England and Wales since the thirteenth century. The Ecclesiastical Licences Act 1533, created the Court of Faculties of the Archbishop of Canterbury, which is the oldest Court in England. The Court has the power to appoint Notaries Public acting through its president, the Master of the Faculties. The Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 and The Legal Services Act 2007 confirm these powers of the Master. As officers of the law and holders of the Public Office of the Notary Public, the duties of Notaries Public are wide ranging and include the preparation and drawing up of private and public Authentic Acts and Instruments under their signatures and official seals, which are accepted and recognised throughout the world.

The fact that Notaries in England and Wales are public officials is also made absolutely clear by their full titles of Notaries Public or Public Notaries in various Acts of Parliament.

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As a result of recent research, we have ascertained that our Notarial Practice has been providing Notarial Services in Bedfordshire for over 100 years. Our Notarial practice can, in fact, be traced all the way back to 1905, when the late Alfred Tresawna Trethewey was granted a Notarial Faculty. The history of our Notarial practice is best illustrated as follows:-

Alfred Tresawna Trethewey
Faculty issued
12th July 1905
Date of Death
28th February 1929

William Llewellyn Jones
Faculty issued
9th August 1929
Date of Death
3rd March 1955

Leonard John Aylett
Faculty issued
5th May 1955
Date of Death
2nd October 1988

William Sydney
Northey
Faculty issued
18th January 1966
President of the
Notaries Society of
England and Wales
1990 - 1992
Date of Death
8th January 2011

Thomas
Arthur
Barden
Faculty
issued 25th
January 1980
Date of
Death 30th
October 2018

Stephen
Hugh
Cook
Faculty
issued
25th July 1985

Fiona Estelle
Gregory
Faculty
issued 30th
October 1995

Our current
Notaries Public/Notaries

Ian Charles Codrington
Faculty issued
11th July 1974

Anthony William Northey
Faculty issued
22nd January 1978
President of
The Notaries Society
of England and Wales
2009 - 2011

OUR CONTACT DETAILS

Anthony W Northey M.A., LL.M. (Cantab) M.B.A., T.E.P.

and

Ian C Codrington M.A. (Cantab)

Bedford • Ampthill • Cranfield

Principal Office:
The Notarial Chambers
Hassett House
Hassett Street
Bedford, MK40 1HA

Whenever you need the assistance of a Notary, please
telephone or email:-

Bedford : +44 (0)1234 794 007
Ampthill: +44 (0)1525 40 22 44

Email Addresses:

Anthony Northey: AWN@AmpthillNotaries.co.uk
Ian Codrington: coddersuk@BedfordNotaries.co.uk

Website:

www.bedfordandAmpthillNotaries.co.uk

Authorised and Regulated by the Master of the Faculties through
the Faculty Office of the Archbishop of Canterbury
Members of the Notaries Society and the Common Law
Association of Notaries (CLAN)

BEDFORD & AMPTHILL NOTARIES
at Palmers Solicitors Bedford Limited

Notaries • Notaries Public • Notarial Lawyers •
Commissioners for Oaths

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Tel: +44 (0)1525 40 22 44
Tel: +44 (0)1234 794 007

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