

LUROT BRAND



MEWS NEWS

www.lurotbrand.co.uk

SUMMER 2009



MEWS COMPETITION

A mews warmly tucked away,
Beautiful and quiet all day,
I freely play around,
On the bumpy funny ground,
At night when the mews is lit,
You stand there stunned a bit.
A mews called Clarendon Close,
With houses in rows,
One is very special to me,
With its bench near the olive tree,
I sit outside,
With my grandmother by my side.
Jonathan



If your child would like to write about his/her mews or just draw a picture of it, we would be very happy to receive your entries. We will feature the best poem and/or drawing in the Autumn Mews News issue and the winner will receive a £20 voucher from Hamleys. Good luck!

Please send: **by post:** 5 Kynance Place, SW7 4QS or **by email:** mewsnews@lurotbrand.co.uk;

to arrive before the 1st September 2009; with name of the mews, child's Christian name, parents' telephone or email on the back. Sorry, but originals will not be automatically returned.



REECE MEWS, SW7 | £1,495 PW UN/FURNISHED



EATON MEWS NORTH, SW1 | £5,500,000 FREEHOLD

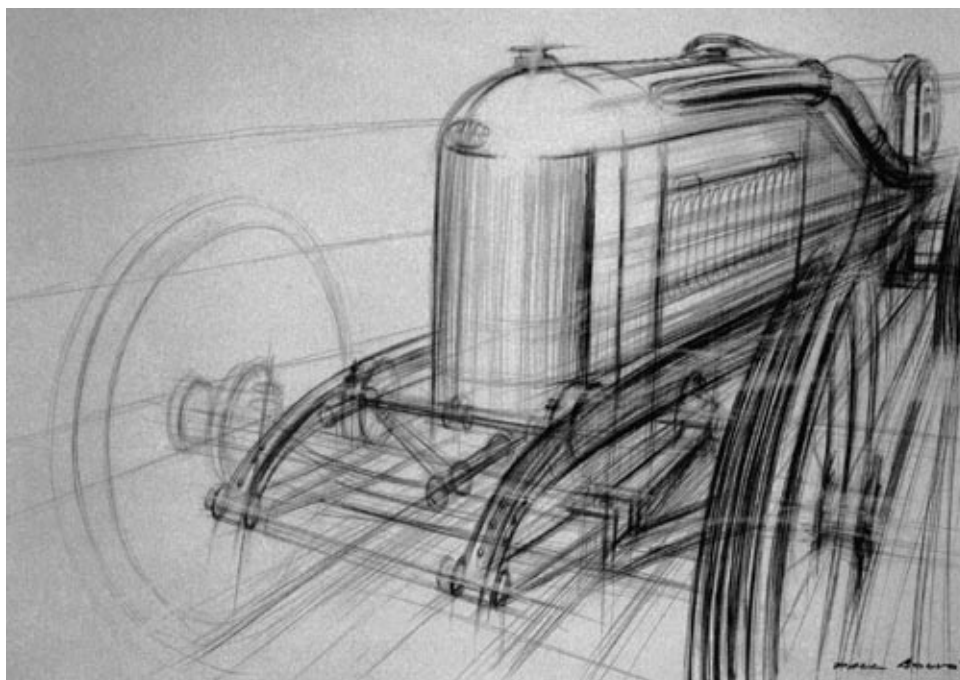


LEDBURY MEWS NORTH, W11 | £825 PW FURNISHED



BATHURST MEWS, W2 | £895,000 LEASEHOLD

ALADDIN'S CAVE IN A MEWS



When you think about businesses run from mews properties, it possibly conjures up the images of working garages and other enterprises involved with motor cars. Whilst this is true, you will also discover that there are many other non vehicular businesses run from mews.

To start our series, we contacted Graeme Hunt and Bettina Spurrell in Radley Mews, W8. We met them last year when they very kindly donated a beautiful watch to our charity raffle at the Lexham Mews street party.

What we originally thought was a car showroom filled with exotica, turned out to be that and so much more!

When we first stepped foot inside, it felt every bit like the fantasy grownup playroom of my dreams. Rooms too clean and bright to be considered garages, stunning cars everywhere, wonderful motoring paraphernalia artfully scattered around, beautiful car inspired paintings and drawings on the walls and then unexpectedly in one nook some display cases full of gorgeous watches and in another a collection of amazing and intricate jewellery boxes and some very pretty handbags (well I thought they were pretty, but not being an expert

on these things, I asked my wife Peggy to confirm, which she did!)

Unlike a traditional car showroom, Graeme Hunt Ltd is spread over the ground floor of a number of interlinked mews buildings so you end up with multiple rooms each housing different treasures, in one were two Bentleys with pedigree, a stunningly restored S Series Continental Fastback previously owned by Elton John, and next to that, a Turbo RL that used to belong to HRH The Prince of Wales.

By now I was wandering around oblivious to our hosts and whilst being a bit of a car buff, I did need some help with a very funny looking little car from the 1960's called an OGLE. Amongst many others, there was a stunning Ferrari Dino that looked like it had just left the factory and was being skillfully maneuvered by Graeme through an improbably small door. I was very glad that I didn't have to do that!

While I had been salivating over cars, Peggy had disappeared with Bettina to admire watches and handbags. When I finally made it over there, the watches certainly caught my eye. Two Italian makes one called EmaS and another called Anonimo, They wouldn't look out of place on your wrist while driving one of the classic cars!

The Italian watches, jewellery boxes and handbags certainly gave another appealing dimension for those not obsessed by cars and means that there is something for everyone in this Aladdin's cave!

Funnily enough, even though I loved the cars and watches, it was the large Charcoal and red chalk drawings by Paul Bouvot (see left) that left me with a lasting impression. These amazing pictures of classic cars seemed to be moving even though the artist drew them without wheels on! There was other fabulous art but Bouvot's in particular left me desperate to find some spare cash – if only the children had left school...

As we were leaving, our conversation was cut short by the roar of a 12 cylinder Ferrari engine. On asking Graeme, I was informed that it was a rather rare 365 GT4/BB that was being added the stock list.

What did Graeme and Bettina most like about working in Radley Mews?... Geographic convenience, security, peaceful and friendly environment...

I think these comments may be repeated in other articles in this series!

Oliver Lurot



STABLES IN LONDON

An extract from "Hyde Park For Horsemanship" which is in the Lurot Brand library:

The 1939 edition of the Horse Owners Reference Book, published by the National Horse Association for Great Britain, provided an interesting list of establishments which were either approved by the Association, held membership of the Association or were in correspondence with the Association. Relevant stables for the Hyde Park area were the Cadogan School with two hundred horses and sixty ponies at Cadogan Lane, Belgrave Square; the Connaught Riding School at

HYDE PARK FOR HORSEMANSHIP



WHAT LONDON CRUSHES ARE COMING TO.
"BY THE BY, LADY CHURCHILL, HAVE YOU MET THE FASCINATING LADIES?"
"NOT FOR AN AGE!" "TWO WEEKS AT NO. 10! - AND STABLE, BUT I DON'T REMEMBER." "BY THE WAY, DID YOU REMEMBER TO GO TO THE LADY CHURCHILL?" "O, YES! - REMEMBER OTHER LADIES!" "O, YES!"

JOYCE BELLAMY

12 Orsett Mews, Gloucester Terrace, with twenty horses and three ponies; the Kennard Stables at 34 Queen's Gate Mews with six horses; Mr. Douglas Stuckle's stables at 6 Somers Mews, Radnor Place, with fourteen horses and twelve ponies and the Marble Arch Riding School at 11 Connaught Mews, Marble Arch with twenty-five horses and five ponies. Of these establishments, three stables, the Cadogan, Connaught and Marble Arch schools, offered training facilities in covered riding halls to supplement the conventional provision of lessons and hacking in the Park.

ELVASTON MEWS – GOODBYE TO THE STABLES

Lurot Brand opened its doors on the 6th June 1971 and very quickly became fascinated with mews. Number 11 Elvaston Mews, built in the 1830s is rumoured to have been a stables for 170 years. Certainly, in all the years that we have specialised, there have been horses there.

Although at the moment we cannot find the evidence, we are sure that the Rothmans' Shire horses were stabled there - we used to see them pulling the Rothmans' carriage around South Kensington (more investigation being carried out). Capital Carriages were next and offered for hire "an Elegant Victorian Landau Carriage harnessed to a fine pair of Dapple Grey Horses and driven by a highly experienced Liveried Coachman". This was followed by a period of "liveried stables" although it had riding school facilities.

Between the Rothmans period and the Liveried stables, Lurot Brand were interested in buying it to house their South Kensington Office thereby being able to retain all the original features of the stables and perhaps even create a "Museum of Mews". It became too complicated because of planning regulations.

Now that the credit crunch has forced the owners of the stables out, to our great sadness planning permission has been granted to convert the property to

residential use and the new owner will be converting it into a home complete with basement extension.

This leaves only 2 working stables in central London – both of them in Bathurst Mews W2.





Kynance Mews, SW7

Morris Dorfër, Swedish photographer, who works with an old Rolleiflex camera, took this beautiful photograph of Kynance Mews. If anyone would like a copy, please let us know 020 7479 1999. Alternatively, you can contact Morris on his mobile: 0798 562 7922 or by email: rolleiflexphoto@hotmail.com to discuss any requirements.

THE CURIOUS CASE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

THE CURIOUS CASE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir,—As the harmless enthusiast who originally suggested a Sherlock Holmes exhibition to the Marylebone library authorities, I naturally rejoice to find the idea so resoundingly vindicated. One of your correspondents recalls that York Mews South was renamed Sherlock Mews some years ago. There is also a Watson's Mews, off Crawford Place, in the borough. On the way to it from Baker Street one passes Knox Street. Remembering the great Sherlockian labours of Jay Finlay Christ, the United States author, it is similarly appropriate to find the name Finlay over a tobacconist's shop a few doors away from one of the reputed sites of 221b. Incidentally, if the Marylebone Borough Council wishes to make a double gesture of recognition during the Festival year, it might consider putting up a tablet on the walls of No. 2, Devonshire Place, a short distance from Baker Street. In this house in 1891 young Arthur Conan Doyle set up rooms as an aspiring oculist, but, as no patients came, he began to write the immortal adventures instead.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES EDWARD HOLROYD.

Press Club, E.C.4, Nov. 4.

(Extract from *The Times*, November 6, 1950)



SHERLOCK MEWS, W1 | £815,000 FREEHOLD

THE LIBRARY

Over the years, we have collected many books on the history of mews and also of property in Central London. We have now placed all these books in the reception area of our Hyde Park office.

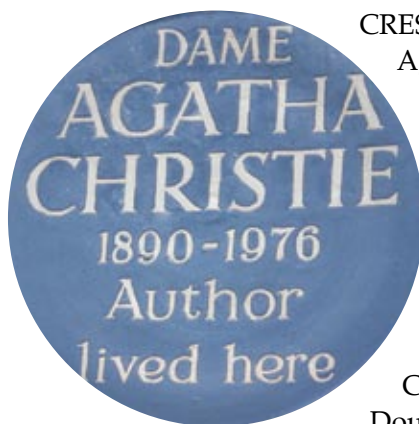
Do please feel free to come and look, research or simply enjoy our small library.



BLUE PLAQUES

Did you see?...

We know of six blue plaques in Mews and we are hoping to find more! Can you help us compile an accurate list? Please let us know by telephone on **020 7479 1999** or by email at **newsnews@lurotbrand.co.uk**



CRESWELL PLACE SW10: Dame Agatha Christie, Author; ALBION MEWS W2: Dame Lucie Rie, Potter; QUEEN'S GATE MEWS SW7: Sir Jacob Epstein, Sculptor; QUEEN'S GATE MEWS SW7: Terry Thomas, Comedy Actor; RUTLAND GARDENS MEWS SW7: Dame Margot Fonteyn, Prima Ballerina Assoluta and Jacqueline du Pré, Cellist; PETERSHAM MEWS SW7: Sir Douglas Bader, RAF Fighter Pilot.

A SLICE OF PARADISE

In 1935, you were able to get a slice of paradise for £140 pa, now you would have to pay roughly £90,000 pa (Source: Primelocation May 09)

**SMALL MODERN
HOUSES IN CHARMING
CHELSEA
TO LET
at £140 per annum**

These newly built houses, situated in Paradise Walk, near Cheyne Walk, are complete with all modern domestic requirements. Close to buses for the West End and City, they can be viewed at any time by applying to the caretaker at No. 19, Paradise Walk, S.W.3, or write for a very fascinating little brochure, with full particulars.

7, PALL MALL EAST, LONDON, S.W.1. Phone: WHItchall 2022

Extract from The Times, November 7th 1935

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