

# LUROT BRAND



## MEWS NEWS

[www.lurotbrand.co.uk](http://www.lurotbrand.co.uk)

WINTER 2009



# CHRISTMAS ALL YEAR ROUND



This morning, while watching the news, there was a piece about today (Monday 1st December) being “Mega Monday” of the online shopping calendar, the busiest day of the year for internet shopping. It is true that each year, more and more people are turning away from traditional shopping methods and embracing the convenience of online shopping. Estate Agents and Lettings Agents have been equally innovative with many “virtual” methods of marketing

and selling/letting property. With everyone having unprecedented access to information, the market has opened up and made information the domain of the many, not the few. The one downside has been a loss of interaction with your agent. At Lurot Brand we do our utmost to keep the personal touch ever present! With Christmas approaching, we have decided to give away some fun and tasty gifts to our buyers and tenants. This will carry on for the

foreseeable future. We want to give a little something back.

From now on, all buyers of mews houses will receive a personalised edition of Lurot Brand’s Mewsopolis with the most expensive street being named after the mews in which they have just bought.

All new tenants will receive a beautiful breakfast basket full of delicious foods to welcome them to their new home.

*Merry Christmas! Oliver Lurot*

## WHICH MEWS?

Tell us which mews cultivates this wine grape and the first correct entry out of the hat will receive a bottle of wine and a Mewsopolis.

Entries by post by 31st January 2010: Peggy Lurot, 5 Kynance Place, London SW7 4QS or by email: [mewsnews@lurotbrand.co.uk](mailto:mewsnews@lurotbrand.co.uk).

*Clue: Could Tiltridge vineyard possibly be related to these grapes?*



## COMMERCIAL MEWS DEPARTMENT



Lurot Brand has established a specific commercial mews department to build upon the knowledge that we have acquired in this sector. Led by John Boydell MRICS, a Chartered Surveyor, the department focuses on offices, workshops, garages, studios and live-work units, which over the years have formed the majority of commercial uses within mews. John was previously employed by DTZ for a number of years, where he had experience within sales & acquisitions, valuation and landlord & tenant matters.

We are conscious that our clients have various requirements and, whilst we would be delighted to sell or let your property, we can also offer a range of services including acquisition searches for freehold and leasehold properties and professional services including valuation.

*We really can help you with ALL your mews needs.*





# THE POPULARITY OF MEWS

During the course of this year, we have come across three glossy fashion catalogues where the models have posed in mews.

The first one we found was the Boden catalogue which had several photographs taken in Bathurst Mews W2, one of them right outside a house which belongs to – oops, I'm not allowed to say!

The second was for the famous US brand Gant. Again... shot in Bathurst Mews.

The last one is actually a commercial - appearing on television as we write this piece – for Marks and Spencer and featuring Twiggy in Holland Park Mews.

Another advertisement, which we believe featured in the Evening Standard a few years ago was for Volkswagen and guess which mews was used? Bathurst Mews!

Talking about Volkswagen, in 1987 one of the most iconic commercials ever made, was also in a mews. Ennismore Gardens Mews, with a phoney parking meter installed, was the scene of Paula Hamilton obviously dumping her boyfriend, posting her ring through his letterbox, ripping off her pearls and discarding her fur coat but keeping the keys to the Volkswagen Golf. You can still see this commercial on YouTube.



[www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKQIUJOr1GA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKQIUJOr1GA)

## MRS MEWS' MEWS – NEXT STAGE



Stage one was simply painting the “prison cell block”. Stage one was putting in new sash windows – see second picture. Stage two has just been completed – getting rid of the garage doors and creating a completely new front elevation.

Interestingly, Mrs. Mews has had to repeatedly chase her architect to get the District Surveyor's “completion certificate”. This certificate is a vital part of any works. It is far too frequently missing when we are instructed to sell houses where works have been completed. It invariably creates delays in exchanging contracts. If it happens to Mrs. Mews, it could happen to you. If you have recently completed works to your property, which involved the District Surveyor – make sure that you have the certificate.



## A SELECTION OF CURRENT MEWS HOUSES FOR SALE AND TO LET



**GROSVENOR CRESCENT MEWS, SW1**  
**£6,500,000 FREEHOLD**



**EATON MEWS NORTH, SW1**  
**£5,300,000 FREEHOLD**



**PETERSHAM MEWS, SW7**  
**£3,500,000 FREEHOLD**



**PINDOCK MEWS, W9**  
**£1,500,000 FREEHOLD**



**PRINCES MEWS, W2**  
**£1,100,000 FREEHOLD**



**STANHOPE MEWS EAST, SW7**  
**£595,000 LEASEHOLD**



**CRAVEN HILL MEWS, W2**  
**£895 PW UN/FURNISHED**



**PRINCE'S GATE MEWS, SW7**  
**£1,650 PW UN/FURNISHED**



**BOURDON STREET, W1**  
**£1,650 PW FURNISHED**



**JAY MEWS, SW7**  
**£595 PW FURNISHED**



**QUEEN'S MEWS, W2**  
**£1,000 PW UNFURNISHED**



**LEXHAM GARDENS MEWS, W8**  
**£795 PW UNFURNISHED**



## LET IT SNOW!



On the 2nd of February 2009 at 7.30am, our photographer Tom St Aubyn, braved the elements to take some wonderful “mews in snow” photographs for us. If anyone would like a printed copy, please contact us on 020 7479 1999.

## MEET THE LOCKSMITH... IN A MEWS



Joseph Bramah (1749–1814) was one of the great inventors of the Industrial Revolution. The Yorkshireman walked 170 miles to London to seek fortune, and was the man responsible for the flushing toilet, the beer pump, the hydraulic press, and the Bank of England’s banknote printing machine. Perhaps most famously, he also invented the ‘unpickable’ cryptic safety lock. He left quite a legacy. In Yorkshire, people still refer to a beautiful piece of machinery as being ‘a real Bramah’.

Amazingly, today you can still buy a Bramah lock from a Bramah: Jeremy

Bramah, a descendent of Joseph, owns Bramah, based in Oldbury Place just off Marylebone High Street. Bramah offers 24/7 Locksmith’s Services, Alarms, CCTV, as well as, naturally, the famous Bramah Locks and the essential Rola Sash window restrictors.

Although the former warehouse in Oldbury Place has been operational for nearly 100 years, in the early days of the firm the Bramah headquarters moved around the West End. When Joseph was granted a patent for his lock in August 1784 he set up the Bramah Lock Company at Denmark

Street, quickly moving to premises at 124 Piccadilly. Joseph’s sons Timothy, Francis and Edward all had a hand in the business, which was sold on in 1860. It eventually returned to a member of the Bramah clan in 1966, when Jeremy’s father Gordon bought it. Jeremy took over the reins in 1986.

*(Source: Marylebone Journal Spring 2005)*

### BRAMAH

31 Oldbury Place, London W1U 5PT

Tel: 020 7486 1739

Email: [jeremy.bramah@bramah.co.uk](mailto:jeremy.bramah@bramah.co.uk)

Web: [www.bramah.co.uk](http://www.bramah.co.uk)





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## MEWS WORLD QUEST

We have started scouring the ends of the earth to bring you traditional mews or modern upstarts.

In this issue we bring you Belford Mews, an attractive cobbled street in Edinburgh, built in 1890. The mews is close to a small river called 'The Water of Leith' and to Belford Road, which was the main road from Edinburgh to Queensferry until 1887.

The mews was formerly home to Whytock & Reid, antique dealers, carpenters and church furnishers, which sadly closed few years ago. The site was replaced by housing. (Our thanks to Peter Stubbs)

If you know of any mews streets outside London and would like to share your discovery with London's mews lovers, please do not hesitate to contact us by email: [mewsnews@lurotbrand.co.uk](mailto:mewsnews@lurotbrand.co.uk) or by telephone: Peggy Lurot 020 7479 1999.



## THE MARYLEBONE OUTPOST

Our timing for opening new offices has not always been fortuitous. We opened our South Kensington office on September 11th 2001! Whilst this period was very dramatic, the property market recovered very quickly.

Our next venture was in Weymouth Street, Marylebone which opened in September 2007 just as the "credit crunch" began. After a bit of a false start due to overwhelming market conditions, we are happy to report that our W1 office has come of age and has achieved some excellent sales of both mews and non-mews properties this year. Under the guiding hand of Neil Cheney our Office Manager, 2009 has shown a marked improvement and has created an excellent platform from which to make even more of an impact in 2010!

## LUROT BRAND

5 Kynance Place, SW7 4QS  
020 7590 9955

37-41 Sussex Place, W2 2TH  
020 7479 1999

57A Weymouth Street, WIG 8NW  
020 7479 1900

[www.lurotbrand.co.uk](http://www.lurotbrand.co.uk)

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