

MyNotary News

Brought to you by your local MyNotary notary

Winter 2010-11

MyNotary Croydon Takes Off

New to Croydon; **Charles Guthrie & the Notary Co UK** team have arrived in **George Street Croydon**. If you need a **notary**, contact us.

We offer a fast, efficient, flexible and friendly notarisation and legalisation service. We operate an 'open-house' service on Thursdays. At other times we are often available at short notice. However, we do recommend that you phone 0843 289 1705 in advance to save your time.



Amy Johnson - the first female pilot to fly to Australia.

Amy Johnson, below, was the first female pilot to fly to Australia. She set off from Croydon Airport in 1930. Croydon was the first airport in the world to introduce air traffic control in 1921 and it was the main Airport for London before it closed in 1952 to be replaced by Heathrow and Gatwick. Many famous people have set off from Croydon- including Charles Lindbergh who in 1927 made the first solo transatlantic flight. He is also well known for the tragic kidnap and murder of his son, which occurred in March 1932. Winston Churchill, who took extensive flying lessons at Croydon, was nearly killed during a crash at take-off in 1919.

Above right is the De Havilland Heron outside Airport House. Airport House is a grade-two listed building and hosts many businesses, all of which Charles Guthrie and the Notary Co UK team hope to assist with their notarisation requirements, now that we have a branch office in Croydon.

Croydon Gateway

It has often been said that Croydon has developed more than any other city in the country over the last 60 years. Businesses have relocated to Croydon, taking advantage of the forward-thinking council, which was one of the first in the country to bring in the Tram link. But just when you thought it was not possible to have any further improvements, you are in for a big surprise! The development of the Croydon Gateway site, adjacent to East Croydon railway station, and very close to MyNotary Croydon's office site has the potential to provide a new focal point for Croydon, attracting further investment.



Croydon Gateway; artists impression



The De Havilland Heron outside Airport House, Croydon

About MyNotary Croydon:

We provide a fast, efficient, flexible and friendly notarisation and legalisation service. We operate an 'open-house' service on **Thursdays**. At other times we are often available at short notice however we do recommend that you phone **0843 289 1705** in advance to save your time.

Company Accounts Welcome: We also accept payment by credit or debit card, BACS, cash or cheque.

Easy to find: We are centrally located in the heart of Croydon; find us above "The George" at **17-21 George Street, Croydon** - just minutes away from East Croydon train station and many bus and tram stops. Municipal parking available close by.

Our Services:

Apostille service: Same day if required and if the documents received before 1pm.

Legalisation service: We are experts in dealing with the more complex legalisation processes; for example documents for China and the UAE.

Translation Service: If you have been given a foreign language document to be notarised and legalised, we can help. The Foreign and Commonwealth office will not apply an Apostille stamp to documents that are not in English or do not have a notarial cover sheet attached. Contact us for a fast, first class, security cleared international language translation service - or send us a file for language translation; we will give a written fixed price quotation without obligation.

Buying Abroad: Expert knowledge in most aspects of international investment.

Planning ahead: Expert help with Powers of Attorney and what to do when a friend or relative needs legal help with mental health issues. We can also advise about how to include your overseas estate in your Will.

Currency: MyNotaryCroydon have teamed up with Moneycorp to provide up-to-date currency exchange rates on-line at <http://notary.co.uk/money.html>.

Is now the time to buy property abroad?

The global recession has affected most countries and Spain has been particularly badly hit. Property prices have come down by about a half. But any successful businessman will tell you that the time to buy is when things are at their worst.

Many people are showing a great interest in purchasing property in Spain and Bulgaria again and consider now is a good time to buy before prices start going up again. Pauline Sherman of Regency Homes, a Spanish property developer, believes the current issues and pressures in the UK relating to pensions, low money market rates, the stock market and the general investment marketplace are important factors. In addition, a maturing population with greater accumulated wealth has led to investors shopping abroad.

Pauline says: "The love affair between the UK tourist and Spain has been long and endearing and it is currently the top European location for emigrants at 11% and 250,000 are moving abroad each year.

"Spain has been transformed in the last three decades from a rural, agricultural country into a nation with a diversified economy and strong manufacturing and service sectors. Spain, the sunniest country in Europe, and the climate on the Costa Blanca has been described by the World Health Organisation as amongst the healthiest in the world."

"It is also an economically stable member of the EU and the freedom of labour and capital movement has created the right environment for holidaying, retiring, emigrating and investing in Spanish property. Coupled with the warm climate and low cost of living, this makes for a very tempting proposition."

Here's a Novel Idea

Amongst the many interesting people notaries meet are authors. You may well ask - why do they need a notary? When you write a novel and get it published it could come to the attention of Hollywood. It may be that movie moguls will beat a path to your door to buy the film rights. If so the agreement has to be notarised. You should not immediately assume that your book is now going to be made into a blockbuster or television series – it is simply that film industry bosses buy up many books in order to ensure that the opposition don't get them.

Writing can be lucrative business: you could receive up to \$250,000 as a down payment and hundreds of thousands of dollars if they decide to make a film out of your book. Perhaps it's time to think again if you have a good book in you? A number of authors who have come to see us to notarise licence agreements think so.



Are your children travelling abroad without you?

In recent years, concern about parental abductions - where one divorced parent steals the child away from the other one - has prompted border officials to be more cautious when they encounter a child travelling with just one birth parent.

If you're travelling as a solo parent with your child - or if the child is travelling with a grandparent or guardian - at a minimum, the travelling parent should carry a letter of authorisation from the absent parent, giving permission for the travel. It's quite likely that, for most countries, you won't be asked to show any travel consent letter - but better safe than sorry, right?



Country Focus Bulgaria: Changes to Bulgarian Legislation

At the beginning of 2008, the Bulgarian government - in line with other European nations - introduced a central company registration system. This means that anyone who registered a limited liability company in Bulgaria prior to this date had to re-register the company within 3 years.



From 2003 until 2009 there was a huge upsurge in foreign investment into Bulgaria – many Irish and British nationals bought land, old houses and off-plan apartments with "common parts". Owners were obliged to set up a limited liability company (ODD).

This was all relatively easy; however the maintenance of such companies has proved to be problematic and expensive for many investors – particularly those who bought towards the end of the boom who had hoped to 'turn' the property for a fast profit. We have in-house expertise regarding Bulgaria; our conclusion; the property boom in Bulgaria is, at best, on hold, for many it is over. Our advice is not to bail out ...read more at

<http://www.notary.co.uk/NotaryNewsBulgaria.html>