

Press release – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010

## Fortnam Smith and Banwell expands into Somerset

Long established West Country estate agent, Fortnam Smith and Banwell is expanding into Chard, Somerset, with a new office opening its doors on 1st March.



The new branch of Fortnam Smith and Banwell will share offices with Simon Stacey (Staceys) Property Specialist in a prominent position at 36 Holyrood Street close to the town centre. Working together, they will provide a full portfolio of services - Simon a specialist in domestic and commercial property management and the Fortnam Smith and Banwell estate agency providing residential sales and all related services.

Estate agent, Leah Briant will head up the new office covering Chard, Ilminster and the surrounding areas. Leah is well-known in the town and has a vast knowledge of the area, having been in estate agency in Chard for nearly 20 years. Married, Leah is returning to work after a short break, and is excited to be back as an estate agent in her home town, particularly working with experienced directors, Arthur Banwell and Peter Fortnam. Leah will be assisted by Lisa Marsden, another local girl who has been working at the Seaton branch of the company for the past 4 years

Julie White, director at the Seaton branch, said: "We're all extremely excited about the new office. There are no other **team** estate agents based in Chard or Ilminster so it's in a fantastic location, providing a link in the **team** network right from Seaton, Lyme Regis and Charmouth on the Dorset coast through Axminster and Honiton to Taunton, Wellington and into Avon. We can sell more properties for more clients working together on a multi-agency basis for a sole agency fee. Leah is a liked and trusted, highly experienced Chard estate agent and she has an in depth knowledge of the market and of the people and properties within it."

With its brand new blue sky signage, For Sale boards and full colour brochures with floor plans, Fortnam Smith and Banwell provides extensive marketing both in print and online with newspapers, magazines and some of the top property portals including Prime Location, Find a Property, Globrix , **team**'s own **teamprop.co.uk** and of course **fsb4homes.com**.

- more -

Fortnam Smith and Banwell offices have been established for many years in Seaton, Charmouth and Lyme Regis. The new Chard office joins them in providing a comprehensive range of services for clients, including surveying, HIPs and conveyancing.

For further information, a no obligation market valuation or to view a property for sale, contact your nearest Fortnam Smith and Banwell office or visit [fsb4homes.com](http://fsb4homes.com). From 1st March, the Chard office can be contacted on 01460 68650.

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**In the photograph:** Peter Fortnam and Arthur Banwell, directors of Fortnam Smith and Banwell with Lisa Marsden, negotiator/ administrator (in front) and Leah Briant, branch manager.

**Digital images are available from [bubblepr@mac.com](mailto:bubblepr@mac.com)**

**Notes to editors:**

Westcountry **team** is part of **team** Association, the largest organisation for independent estate agents in the UK, with hundreds of members. Westcountry **team** covers Cornwall, Devon and West Dorset, and consists of 68 members at this time, all of which work together to sell property for clients, and are actively committed to their nominated charity, Macmillan Cancer Support. **team**'s 'blue sky' image, with transparent team logo on a blue sky background reflects the association's and each individual agent's commitment to providing a clear, transparent service to their clients and conducting business in a straightforward, honest and professional way.

**For further information, please contact:**

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