

## Local estate agents' board found 40 years after property sold

Tiverton **team** estate agent, Watts & Sons was surprised this week when one of its 'For Sale' boards was found in a garden shed - up to 40 years after the property was sold!



The metal sign was discovered at the house in Tiverton last week by Tony Hendy, owner of A & A Property Services, letting agents in the town. Tony said: "It was only when I was doing the inventory at the property that I came across the Watts & Sons sign in the shed. I was astonished it was made of metal – imagine carrying a van full of those around and putting them up! I had to show my colleague Steve, who disagreed with my idea of holding it to ransom, so we picked it up and headed over to the Watts & Sons' office."

Watts & Sons was established by Len and Dinah Watts in 1966, with premises in St Peter Street. At the time, it was one of only three agencies covering the Tiverton, Bampton, Dulverton and Cullompton areas. Over the years, Watts & Sons moved into its current premises in Bampton Street, other agencies have come and gone and today there are six estate agents in Tiverton town centre. One of the major changes in the town in that time is a reverse in the direction of the traffic in Bampton Street – traffic would then come down the road from the old hospital not up the road as it does now. When the busy and well-respected agency moved into the existing office it was half the size; split in two – the other half was a laundry shop.

Mrs Watts, now 80, is still a partner in the business with two sons, Michael and Robin, and daughter Lynn. Sadly their father died in 1996 but he would have been proud to see three of his five children driving his ship with their mother at their side. There is now a third generation involved in the business, with Robin's son Simon a qualified Domestic Energy Assessor. Jane Reah, Administrator/Sales Negotiator isn't family but is regarded as such having worked for Watts & Sons for 18 years.

Lynn Watts said: "We were so surprised to see the board when Tony and Steve brought it into the office – what a find! It must be about 40 years old and hidden there all that time! We're extremely grateful to Tony and Steve for bringing it in as they really didn't have to and it was such a kind thing to do - I understand most of the thanks should go to Steve though as he was against Tony's idea of holding it to ransom! I think it will take a place on

display in the office as Watts & Sons memorabilia.”

Watts & Sons provides residential estate agency, as well as a whole raft of related services to make moving home easier. Members of **team**, the largest branded network of independent estate agents in the UK, Watts & Sons work alongside tens of fellow **team** agents in the area to provide a multi-agency service for a sole agency fee.

For further information, to view a property for sale or for a free, no-obligation market valuation, contact Watts & Sons, **team** estate agent in Tiverton on 01884 253484 or visit [www.teamprop.co.uk](http://www.teamprop.co.uk).

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**In the photograph, L-R: Michael and Robin Watts with the old sign**

**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 70+ 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:**

Samantha Mason, Bubble Public Relations. Tel: 01869 248524. Mobile: 07957 364179. Email:[bubblepr@mac.com](mailto:bubblepr@mac.com)  
Watts & Sons, Tiverton. Tel: 01884 253484