

PRESS RELEASE



The Old Dairy
Winchester Hill
Sutton Scotney
Winchester SO21 3NZ

14 September 2009

Favourable Market Comment from BCM

Telephone: 01962 763900
Fax: 01962 763901
Email: info@bcm.co.uk
www.bcm.co.uk

Increasingly there are predictions that we have reached the bottom of the recession, with house prices increasing and the banks apparently beginning to provide support for property lending. However the property world as a whole is still flat and the effects of a liquidity drought are being felt far and wide in all markets, though of course some areas in the rural world are proving extremely resilient and others are flourishing.

At the top end of the market, rural houses, farms and land are continuing to find buyers, commanding values that are not far off their peak. However other properties which do not tick all the boxes are falling behind.

BCM, rural property consultants based in Sutton Scotney, has had an exceptionally busy twelve months with sales and purchases topping £75 million. These include the successful sale of Stockbridge House at auction, the purchase of Woodside farm in Privett for a client and towards the end of the year, presiding over the private sale of one of the most valuable and prestigious estate packages sold in Hampshire in 2008. 2009 has continued to see considerable activity in the land market and the estate market remains strong.

In the past few months alone, BCM have helped clients in purchasing the 500 acre Crouchstone Farm in the chalk valley south of Salisbury, a 250 acre farm east of Winchester and a substantial country estate in Kent. They have also sold a 200 acre farm near Andover, a 300 acre farm near Bentworth, and 400 acre farm in Oxfordshire. It is interesting to note that BCM continues to prepare and complete many off-market deals including a number of farmhouses and cottages.

Henry McCowen, partner at BCM, said "BCM continues to help clients with the opportunities and challenges which present themselves in these volatile times. We concentrate on the rural market and are excited by the prospects in our chosen area of speciality. That is why it remains our focus."

Partners: Iain Curry Andrew Bays Henry McCowen Ros Foreman Alastair Wilson James Fraser