

KWS advise on the sale of Empress Coaches



All change after 83 years in the family



Passing the family business on to the next generation is a challenge many families face. Empress Coaches had been in the Stanton family since its establishment as a Bus Operator in 1923, making it the second oldest coach operator in London. In 2004 current owners and brothers Peter and Trevor Stanton had decided that it was time for them to retire.



Over the years the family had enjoyed a comfortable lifestyle from the business but this came hand in hand with long hours and many 7 day working weeks.

For this reason, Peter and Trevor's sons, Mark and Jason decided that they did not wish to take on the business and the family made the reluctant decision to close the company down.

However, the family came into contact with Daniel Welling and Russell Veitch of KWS who recommended that they consider selling the business rather than closing it down.

After a period of extensive marketing and negotiations, KWS secured a sale for Empress Coaches. Mr Christopher Clark of Brentons of Blackheath Limited, a fellow London-based coach operator, purchased the company. He felt that the Empress brand and vehicles would add value to Brentons and help to grow the business considerably. The sale of the business completed on 21st March 2007.



Although Peter, Trevor, Mark & Jason will be on hand to assist Christopher during the initial few months, they are all now looking forward to fresh challenges. For Mark and Jason, new business opportunities await and for Peter and Trevor, this will be a well earned retirement.

Commenting afterwards, Peter said, "We are very grateful for the assistance provided by KWS. We are all very pleased to see the Empress name continue under Christopher's ownership as it would have been a great shame for the name to disappear. KWS engineered the whole process and saw it through to completion. I for one was very impressed with their professionalism and dedication."



Top (from left) – Christopher Clark (Brentons of Blackheath Limited), Daniel Welling (KWS)

Bottom (from left) – Trevor Stanton, Peter Stanton (Empress Coaches)

