How we can help you

We are pleased to have provided specialist legal advice and services to the local Orpington community and further afield for over 40 years.

When you team our years of experience with our personalised service, you get something really quite unique. That's why we have the reputation for being approachable, realistic and understanding.

Our solicitors are here to talk to you about even the most complex legal matters, to listen to your needs and offer practical solutions. Whatever legal assistance you require, please get in touch to discuss how we can help.

Here to help with all of your legal requirements:

- Wills & Probate
- Conveyancing
- Personal Injury
- Employment
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Business services
- Family & Children
- Disputes

Solicitors Regulation Authority

Contracted with the **Legal Aid** *agency*

This guide is not a full statement of the law. Individual advice should be taken before taking any action. The information in this leaflet is of a general nature and may not reflect your individual circumstances. Please also note that details may change.

www.thomasdunton.co.uk

THOMAS DUNTON SOLICITORS

We are independent solicitors with a wealth of expertise and experience to assist with all your legal needs. Here are just some of the things our clients have said about us...

"You have been utterly brilliant when we needed you most."

"Wonderful and understanding. Guided me through the process and presented all the options in a way I could understand."

"Extremely helpful and efficient. Service provided was faultless from start to finish."

"Been a customer for years. Wouldn't go anywhere else."

"In this day and age of impersonal internet services, we feel lucky to have dealt with a firm which operates at the human level."

reviewsolicitor

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THOMAS DUNTON SOLICITORS

Your guide to

Second Marriages

LOCAL PROFESSIONAL TRUSTED

Second time lucky?

Around a third of all marriages in England and Wales involve couples where at least one party has been married before. Marrying for a second time requires careful consideration. Entering into new romantic relationships later in life can often raise concerns about inheritance, financial security, or blending assets, and can also complicate estate planning and pension benefits.

Here our family lawyer, Ruchi Keerth, outlines some key considerations when entering into a second marriage, and offers advice on how to protect both yourself and your assets.

Family tensions

If a remarriage brings two sets of children together, it will inevitably require sensitive handling. Careful planning, particularly around inheritance, will help avoid most family tensions and disagreements.

Protecting your assets, including your home, pensions and investments

Worrying about protecting your assets, especially if you have suffered financially from your first divorce, is not uncommon. Before making any significant financial commitments, consider consulting a family solicitor about how to protect your assets if things go wrong. This is especially important if you have children and would like to leave an inheritance, including your pension, which will also be at risk.

If you are planning on moving your new spouse into your home, it is also vital to be aware of the risk of losing your home should your marriage break down. The life you have built for yourself may drastically change if your home has to be sold in divorce proceedings.

The financial orders made following a divorce will depend on your individual circumstances. It is best to discuss your plans with a solicitor to understand where you stand if things go wrong before taking the plunge.



Prenuptial Agreements

("prenups")

Prenups can help protect the assets built up by both parties entering into a second marriage. They can also preserve family harmony by removing the 'uncertainty' for children. While the conversation may feel awkward, it can prevent lengthy and expensive legal battles and ensure both partners feel secure about their financial future. By approaching the subject openly and with professional guidance, you can create a solid foundation for your marriage while safeguarding both parties' interests.

It is essential that you and your partner work with solicitors you trust to draft a robust agreement, setting out appropriate protections for both parties, for example, excluding chosen assets from any future divorce settlement.

Not signed a prenup? Don't worry...

If you do not sign a prenup before your wedding, it is possible to create a postnuptial agreement afterwards. This, too, will set out how you intend to manage your finances, and clarify what assets could be excluded from distribution in the event of a breakdown.

Don't leave legal issues too late: seek advice at the earliest stage.

Why Thomas Dunton?

Our experienced family law team at Thomas Dunton Solicitors LLP are fully accustomed to dealing with family financial matters and the legal issues that can arise in these situations. We will listen carefully to your needs, and can often help to plan for situations you may not have even considered.

Rest assured, all of our family financial-related matters are dealt with by very experienced family financial solicitors who have been qualified for over 30 years. No financial matters are dealt with by trainees or paralegals.

We also offer a confidential fixed fee no-commitment consultation with an experienced solicitor, which is a great way to discuss your current situation and/or where you stand should things go wrong, before you make any final decisions.

But our help doesn't end there. We also have an established team of lawyers who can help you make a new will to review the financial provision for your spouse and children after your death (your new marriage invalidates any previously made will), can offer guidance and suggestions when it comes to inheritance tax planning, and who can help avoid and/or help solve any family disputes to name just a few examples.

For more information, please contact us on **01689 822554**, via email at **family@thomasdunton.co.uk**, or visit **www.thomasdunton.co.uk**