

# Ian Firth

## CURRICULUM VITAE

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### Family info:

Married - Rebecca  
Daughter - Emily

### Nationality:

English

### Driving:

Full UK Licence

## SUMMARY

A Chartered Surveyor (Rural & Planning & Development faculties) since 2005. An entrepreneur and self-starter.

Since leaving the comfort of 'employment' with a national firm in 2007 I have spent several years enjoying the highs and lows of running and growing a small practice. I am a stickler for design and have a keen belief that 'Good design = fit for purpose' – however good design should also include open consideration for not only purpose, but also the effects on others that may be affected – both during construction, on completion and throughout the life of the design.

## EXPERIENCE

### Chartered Surveyor | Founder / Managing Director | Bondstones (1990) Ltd. | 2012...

Planning & Building Design

Chartered Surveyors (Regulated by RICS) & Chartered Architectural Technologists (a CIAT Registered Practice)

- Specialist rural change of use planning consultancy
- Traditional Farm Buildings & Listed Buildings Services – alterations, restoration, extension, etc.
- Delivery of Planning & Strategic property consultancy / advice to various private clients
- Company Leadership, Brand growth and business development

### Chartered Surveyor | Shareholder / Director | Keith Farmer Associates Ltd | 2010 – 2012 (Now closed)

Building Design & Planning Consultancy

- Business Development - achieved revenue increase of 300% in <2 years
- Brand Development, Sales, Marketing, Promotion.
- Delivery of Planning & Strategic property consultancy / advice to various private clients

### Retained 'Creative Director' | Optinto Limited | 2009 - 2010

Developed and launched the Inbound Marketing business for Optinto; Retained as Creative Director to develop and deliver brand strategy and online services; boosting online presence and social interaction for SME & Blue-Chip clients.

### Freelance | 2007 - 2010

Professional Services, Design & Consultancy

- Planning & Building Design – Technologist
- Photography - Aerial, Location & Studio (Architecture, Products & Portraiture), PR / Press / Events etc.
- Design & Graphics; Corporate Identity, Logos, Packaging, Signage, Brochures, Flyers, Web Design.
- Consultancy - System development, Diversification advice, Marketing, Branding, E-Commerce, Business Systems & Process Development

### Surveyor / Technologist | Acorus Rural Property Services | 2002 - 2007

Rural Property, Farm / Rural Business Diversification & Planning Consultancy, Estate Management & Procurement.

### Supervisor / TSEO | MAFF / DEFRA | 2001 - 2002

Project Management of FMD clean-up operations, later ESA management scheme delivery to stakeholders across Devon and Somerset. Duties included site / team supervision, costs control, project management & contract administration. Within the ESA delivery team (Rural Development Service), I later provided delivery of traditional buildings restoration advice within the wider regional team as well as undertaking environmental surveys and site assessment for ESA scheme stakeholders.

### IT Support Assistant (P/T) | University of Plymouth | 2000 - 2001 (also 1997 - 1999)

### Assistant Agent to Sir Edward Dashwood Bt. | West Wycombe Estate | 1999 - 2000

Role included property management & letting, sporting & general rural estate management.

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## CURRICULUM VITAE

### KEY INTERESTS

- Rural Change of Use Planning & Design
- Farm & Rural Business Diversification
- Economic Development
- Listed & Traditional Buildings
- Permitted Development
- Social Inclusion & Broad Spectrum Community Involvement
- Local Distinctiveness
- Modern & Alternative Thinking
- Sympathetic & Adaptive Design
- Timber construction (Modern & Traditional methods)

### OTHER CURRENT COMMERCIAL / NON COMMERCIAL INTERESTS:

Constructing Excellence – South West – Member

B4RDS – Faster Broadband For Rural Devon & Somerset – Founder / Committee Member

STRIVE – Networking Club - Founder / Group Chairman

TCPA – Town & Country Planning Association – Member

Churchstanton OSMG (Open Space Management Group) – Vice Chairman

### QUALIFICATIONS

MRICS | Professional Diploma (RP) | Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors | 2003 - 2005

BSc (Hons.) Rural Estate Management | University of Plymouth | 1997 - 2001

Certified Inbound Marketing Professional | IMU, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA | 2010

A-Levels (4) GCSEs (10) | City of London Freeman's School | 1987 - 1997

### SKILLS & ATTRIBUTES

An advanced user of: AutoCAD, Sketch-Up, Corel Graphics Suite, Microsoft Office.

I work well under duress and thrive on pressurised situations and deadlines.

I am a team player and have a pragmatic / empathetic approach to management and diplomacy.

### PERSONAL INTERESTS & LEISURE

Family | Photography | Design | Computing & Technology | Travel & The Great Outdoors

Adventure sports | Cycling (Cross Country / MTB) | Shooting | Networking & Business

### REFERENCES / TESTIMONIALS AVAILABLE BY REQUEST