

## Professional biography

# Mark Sanders

MA (Cantab.) MRICS ACI Arb



### Contact details

Acorn Rural Property Consultants  
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### Year of birth

1964

### Professional expertise

- Expert witness & litigation support, arbitration and Lands Tribunal referrals
- Dispute resolution including arbitration and mediation
- Partnerships and other business structures
- Banking and other business and property disputes
- Agricultural insolvency and financial restructuring
- Law of Property Act and Court appointed receivership
- Planning and development
- Agricultural tenancies including end of tenancy compensation
- Valuation

### Expert witness experience

Numerous expert witness instructions including County Court and High Court cases, Public Inquiries, Lands Tribunal, Agricultural Lands Tribunal, Valuation Tribunal and Arbitration Hearings. Expert Witness instructions accepted on behalf of both claimant and defendant. Cases include issues relating to banking matters and loan security; agricultural insolvency; farm partnerships; agricultural tenancies; milk quota; boundaries; professional and medical negligence damages claims; valuation issues; common grazing rights, agricultural tenancy disputes. Most cases settled by negotiation, but evidence given in the Agricultural Lands Tribunal (Wales) *Phillips v Davies* (December 2006 – application for a certificate of bad husbandry – instructed by Burges Salmon); High Court *Owen v Blathwayt & Others* (October 2002 – quantification of unregistered grazing rights on a private common - instructed by Clarke Willmott) *Denton v Denton* (October 2002 – valuation for divorce purposes - instructed by Burges Salmon) *National Westminster Bank plc v Jones* (May 2000 – valuation of agricultural tenancies for banking and insolvency purposes - instructed by Burges Salmon); Public Inquiry (June 1998 – grazing capacity of an SSSI - instructed by Clarke Willmott)

Registered with [UK Register of Expert Witnesses](#) (click or copy link to view)

#### Career details

From November 2010

Managing partner Acorn Rural Property Consultants, a successor business to Carver Knowles  
[www.acornrpc.co.uk](http://www.acornrpc.co.uk)

1997 to 2010

A founding partner of Carver Knowles, a multidisciplinary firm of Chartered Surveyors with three offices: Taunton, Somerset; Cheltenham, Gloucestershire; Strensham, Worcestershire. Six partners/directors and twenty staff. Was based in the Taunton office and operated nationally.

1991 to 1997

Bruton Knowles, Cirencester (1991 to 1993) & Taunton (1993 to 1997)

1988 to 1991

Bidwells, Cambridge

#### Qualifications and membership

**Associate of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (1994)**

**Member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (1990)**

**MA (Cantab.) Land Economy (1988)**

**MA (Cantab.) English Literature (1986)**

**Chairman of the RICS Agricultural Tenancies Monitoring Group**

**RICS representative of the Tenancy Reform Industry Group (TRIG)**

**Member and former committee member of the Agricultural Law Association**

**Member of the Farmers' Club**

**Member of the National Farmers Union**

#### Other interests

Director of several financial services companies in the agricultural and rural business sector.  
Founder member of a local business group.

#### Personal

Married with four children. Lives and farms in Somerset.