



Idyllic Surroundings  
Lower Somersham | Ipswich | Suffolk

EH  
EXQUISITE HOME



*“ We wanted a larger kitchen and adjoining room when we remodelled the property. There’s a gas hob, double electric oven, built-in microwave, dishwasher, Karndean flooring and lots of deep drawers for storing utensils efficiently.”*



## Idyllic Surroundings

Lower Somersham, five miles north west of Ipswich is a delightful place to live. With an early fifteenth century church, a Baptist Chapel, village school, tennis club, community pub and garage. The village hall has a badminton court, an active ladies club and also a community shop; it's a thriving and close-knit community. The historic market town of Hadleigh is only six and a half miles from Lower Somersham, while two AONBs, Dedham Vale and Suffolk Coast and Heaths are also within easy reach. Ipswich station, which is only 6 miles from Somersham, offers regular services to London Liverpool Street, Norwich and Cambridge.

### A Labour Of Love

Sitting on a quiet lane near the village centre is this detached bungalow in a generous plot of just under 1.5 acres. The present owner and her husband bought it in 1996, spotting its huge potential. "The original bungalow was tiny and in dire need of updating and extending. We put on a significant extension and moved the kitchen. We rewired, replumbed and replastered installed a new water softener, solar hot water (which has a great saving for hot water from March to November and a Photo voltaic panel with 15 years feed in tariff) as well as turning the wild meadow around the house into a beautiful garden." The L-shaped property is approached via a long drive bordered by lawn. Standard roses, geraniums and daffodils have been planted, giving the approach a delightfully bosky feel. To the right is the new garage with electric up and over door and between this and the house is the new Japanese garden that the owner built in 2020. "There's a huge pond with a waterfall and solar fountain surrounded by gravel. It's safe for children as there is a fence and a gate lock around it." There is plenty of room for cars to be parked at the front of

the bungalow. To the left is a small outdoor shower and WC. A door leads into the utility room which houses the new water softener, a sink and draining board, washing machine and fridge freezer. From here, a doorway takes you into a compact study with views out over the front drive and garden. The front door leads into a long entrance hall with laminate flooring and useful storage. "We deliberately made it wide. It's four foot wide, so it's ideal for prams, or indeed wheelchairs." Leading off to the left is the large and spacious lounge with its open fireplace, sliding doors out on to the pergola in the back garden, oak flooring and generous living space. Straight ahead in the hall is a shower room and WC used for the good-sized guest bedroom which sits to the right, with brand new window blinds, a new built in wardrobe and views out over the front garden. The kitchen, pantry and breakfast room lead from the lounge, occupying a large, light space to the rear of the bungalow. The dual aspect breakfast room is light and sunny with delightful views out over the garden, ideal for informal dining and entertaining.

### Space And Light

The owners put in a wide, long class corridor with a laminate floor with deep windowsills, which are ideal for bringing on seedlings and young plants. With delightful views to the left across the extensive gardens, to the right can be found the remainder of the accommodation. "It's got a lot to do with my Australian heritage. Corridors in the UK are often wasted space, but at home, we use them a lot and our tradition is to fit film over the windows so that the sunlight doesn't fade the floors and furnishings. We had film professionally installed on the corridor, lounge and kitchen windows. We also installed sliding doors to the rooms so that we didn't lose any space."





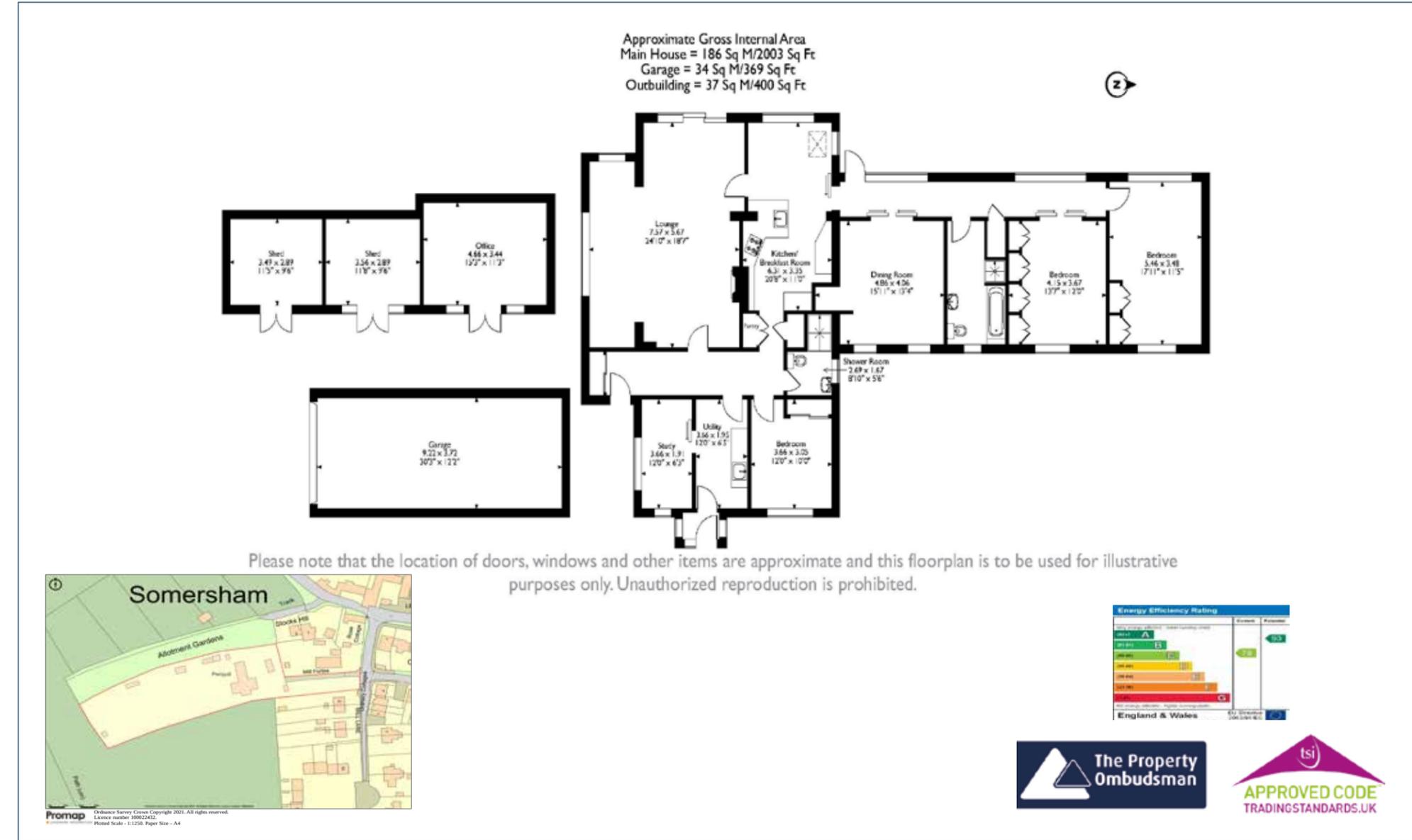
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First on the right is the large, sunny dining room, complete with fully fitted bar for entertaining. "It can comfortably seat fourteen. When our son was younger, we had lots of children's parties and the family all came to us for Christmas, which was wonderful. One year, we managed to accommodate twenty-six people. We remodelled the bungalow in such a way that it's not only the ideal family home but also great for entertaining. The dining room could always be turned into another bedroom – it's certainly big enough."

Decorated in neutral tones, the large family bathroom is fitted with a walk in shower, tiled floor, bath, basin and WC. The second bedroom has fully fitted wardrobes, newly fitted blinds and pleasant views over the rear East and West aspects of garden, while the master bedroom is a large double, also with fully fitted wardrobes, newly fitted blinds and offering equally picturesque East and West views.

### A Fruitful Space

The accommodation does not end at the bungalow. Outside, to the right of the back garden is a large outbuilding comprising a wood store, an insulated sewing room and a storeroom. The garden is mainly laid to lawn and is a veritable cornucopia of fruit, flowers and trees. A majestic walnut tree occupies the middle of the lawn, while a mature wisteria, two grape vines and climbing clematis cluster over the large and beautiful pergola, ideal for al fresco dining. Conifers and two large Douglas firs sit at the end of the garden and the owner has planted roses, perennials and bay trees, plus a whole sweep of daffodils up the entire left-hand side of the garden. Some rather more exotic plants also grow in this beautiful garden. "Just outside of the kitchen and lounge is a large verandah which has a wine grape vine and clematis. I've got a red and a white grapevine. I make grape jelly and last year 30 litres of grape juice. There are four varieties of eating apples, a plum tree, apricot and nectarine trees. We've got beautiful soil, free-draining loam which is ideal for growing plants. It's a lovely space – allotments run along one side of it, and we get deer, badgers and pheasants running around. The neighbours are very friendly and it's a lovely village. I've been very happy here." With flexible accommodation, large and well-established gardens, a thriving village location, and excellent transport links, this bungalow would make the perfect family home.



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