

## Wordsworth's Newsletter

Words of Wisdom from The Words Workshop



### **Ask Wordsworth ... If I have a mortgage on my house am I a *mortgagee*, as I would expect, or a *mortgagor*?**

If you mortgage something it means you are offering an asset as security to guarantee a debt. So if a building society gives you a loan with your house as security, you are in fact the *mortgagor* and the building society is the *mortgagee*.

### **Wordsworth's words of the month ...**

#### **Flounder/Founder**

As a verb to 'founder' means to fill with water and sink. It is also used metaphorically to describe failures of various kinds. The business 'foundered' during the recent recession. 'Flounder' on the other hand means to thrash about in the water like a fish. It is also used metaphorically to indicate a struggle. If you're sunk you've foundered, if you're still struggling you're floundering.

#### **Foot/Feet**

You can use four-foot panels to build a fence but the use of 'foot' is only correct when used in this kind of adjectival phrase. The panels are four feet (not foot) long. Something is always x feet away, not x foot away.



### **Wordsworth's quote of the month**

"We are all apprentices in a craft where no one ever becomes a master."

#### **Ernest Hemingway**



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