

1-2 KNOLL FARM COTTAGES



JOHN & CHLOE HAYWARD

Map Reference North End



My parents-in-law, Buster and Irene Hayward came to Knoll Farm in 1947 with their five children. The Earl of Radnor had just acquired the West Park Estate from the trustees of the Eyre-Coote family and Buster took the tenancy of both Knoll and South Allenford Farms. His brother Sydney Holloway managed the farms. In those days both farms ran a dairy. During the war (39-45) Buster was selling insurance and he and the

family lived in Bournemouth. One of his clients was Hubert Jerrard of Channel Hill Farm, and by a strange quirk of fate, it was he who mentioned to Buster that Knoll Farm had become vacant. He and Buster traded insurance for black market eggs! John Hayward, Buster and Irene's eldest son, took over the tenancy in the early eighties after Buster's retirement. He married me, Chloe, nee Neaum, from Ringwood, in 1961, and we are still living and farming at Knoll. We have three daughters, the

elder two Jenny and Fiona living at Farnham and Tollard Royal in Dorset with their families. The youngest, Justine, is married to William Wallis, and they live at Down Farm, Rockbourne. John, at the age of 64, still has both parents alive, and we currently have seven grandchildren

In 1947 the farms employed 26 people, nearly all from Damerham, They bicycled or walked to work via the Back Lane above West Park

Lane. Some names that I can remember are as follows:

Bert Waterman (Shepherd), Ralph Colbourne Algie Baverstock, Reg Bailey & brother Jack Baverstock, Jack Rebbeck Charlie Baverstock, Earnest Loader Gerald Baverstock, Bert Ambrose Clifford Baverstock, Joe Baverstock Anthony Baverstock, Percy Waterman Sally Baverstock (nee Dobbs), Ken Sims Peter Hooper, Peter Hooper and his late wife Barbara lived at Knoll in one of the cottages. Ken Sims came in the late forties I think, as a tractor driver, and became keeper in the eighties. Bert Dibben, with his thrashing gang, Steve and Jessie Poore, agricultural contractors, and Bill Butcher, GFW, all came from Martin. I apologise to those I have left out.

Finally, I must mention John Attle. He was with us for forty-seven years and lived in one of the cottages with his wife, Vi, and two daughters, Joan and Ellen (now Witt). John and Vi recently moved to Fordingbridge after John retired. They still regularly come up to Knoll, John Attle to give a hand to John Hayward, and Vi to have a coffee and a natter with me. It is a long and valued friendship.

The cottage where we have lived since 1961, (except for ten years at the farmhouse in the eighties) was originally two. Built sometime before 1876 it pre-dates the farmhouse and most of the farm buildings. In the 1970's we converted into one dwelling. It stands at the crossroads of lanes half a mile from the road just past the farmhouse.

CHANNEL HILL FARM



GERALD & SHEREE WOODVINE

Map Reference North End

We are the Woodvine family, Dad Gerald, Mum Sheree, Morgan and



Georgina. We have lived at this address since 1990. Sheree was born in the Mill House. Gerald came all the way from Tidpit. Gerald and Sheree were married in the Parish Church in 1980. Gerald works full time on the farm. Sheree helps out. Morgan is 12 and goes to Burgate School. He is a keen football player and Manchester United supporter. Georgina is 9 and goes to Western Downland School. She

plays trumpet and cornet and is keen on horse riding.

The house is probably of Tudor design and construction. Some parts have been added. It may look idyllic with a thatched roof and lattice windows but try living here in winter. No double glazing or central heating for us!

The village has not changed dramatically since my childhood. The facilities have lessened and despite the new village hall, which is an asset, there is really nothing for older children. I think Damerham has had its fair share of new development - let's keep it a village. There is

far more traffic racing through the village which makes it frightening to walk safely. Despite these drawbacks, we would not want to leave Damerham. On the whole, Damerham is quite community spirited, e.g. there are discos, The Duck Race and the compiling of the Domesday Book - not many places are celebrating the millennium at all.

KINGFISHER COTTAGE



JACQUELINE & PETER SWINDELL

Map Reference North End

Kingfisher Cottage was originally known as Sheep Wash Cottages, as the village sheep dip was located at the bottom of the garden. It was originally two farm workers cottages owned by the Radnor Estate. In the



early 1970's I bought the cottages renovating and converting them into a single dwelling. During the thirty years that I have lived in Damerham there have been a number of highly

successful social events to raise money either for the local community or latterly to fund the building of the New Village Hall. One of the main events in the village has been the annual Horticultural Show on the last Saturday in July. As a result of Roy Shepherd's enthusiasm it was decided to make use of the marquee on the cricket field in the evening to hold a dance, which has since become an annual event

The Queen's Jubilee celebration was a memorable event. Lisa Drax organised the floats, which were magnificent. A supper of roast beef (four hindquarters) was cooked in Monty Palmer's bread oven at South End. This was served with panache in the village hall car park, followed by a fireworks display and dance in the hall. On another occasion the RNLI supporters group organised a VE night dance. At lunchtime the area around the old hall was surrounded by a number of men walking around with sniffer-dogs. High security, as we were lucky enough to have the Paratroops Regimental Band playing that evening. Everyone dressed in wartime costume and danced with great enthusiasm to this wonderful band. The trombonist was not only a great musician, he was able to play, drink a pint of beer and pursue the ladies with his trombone slide as they danced passed

In the early nineties, Roy Shepherd, came up with the idea that the existing village hall, which was donated to the village by Sir Eyre and Lady Coote in the early nineteen hundreds, had sadly outlived its usefulness. The Village Hall committee instructed a local surveyor to carry out a full survey on the property. It was discovered that there was everything

imaginable wrong with the building; dry rot, woodworm and an incessantly leaky roof, to mention a few. Fired by Roy's boundless energy and enthusiasm it was decided to erect a new Village Hall. A considerable amount of money was needed to fund the project. For several years the village people organised moneymaking events, dances, a donkey Derby, jumble sales, coffee mornings, garden parties, a cookery book, duck races, country fairs and many more. There were a series of dances arranged in a barn at Tidpit carrying a Renée theme. These were immensely popular not only with people from Damerham but the surrounding area.

NORTH END BUNGALOW



JEAN HARRIS

Map Reference North End

I have been in North End Bungalow for nearly two years now. Before me there were Trevor and Ruth (from Switzerland) King and presently Stephanie. Before them, Ron and Audrey Witt had thirty happy years here. Ron grew vegetables and blue flowers that spread themselves over the flints of the river bank, and kept his bit of the river weed-free and sparkling, and put in central heating, and drove a lorry to Romania when that country stopped being Communist, and the dreadful conditions within the orphanages were discovered. Their

Stephanie was born here too, and eventually Ron and Audrey moved to Bear Cross to be near her, and sadly Ron died soon after.

Mr Whitmarsh lived here before the Witts. He was a gardener, through and through and helped to look after the kitchen garden next door. He was getting on in years when I knew him. He wore a brown trilby over a smiling weather-beaten face and bushy eyebrows, brownish/greenish clothes and a blackish gardener's apron and there seemed always to be



raffia somewhere about his person.

All this time the cottage belonged to my mum (Margaret Brown). She died in 1983 leaving it to my sister, Elizabeth, in case she wanted to come South to live, but she had lived and worked in Scotland for many years and decided to stay. Elizabeth died of cancer in 1998. She had joined the WRNS when she was 17 but her life's work was with children beyond the control of their families. Latterly it

was she and Beti Jones who between them modernised the old stark Scottish Approved School system. She remained available seven days a week (except when she was off on her considerable travels) for her kids and their families for the rest of her life. Some of them became our family friends, especially Duncan who is now Coachman to the Queen and drives her around and the Crown Jewels, and visiting Heads of State and other persons in the glittering coaches drawn by the Windsor Greys. She had many friends in Damerham, as she came here often to see our parents. She also saw George Moule often in Cumbria and went plant hunting with him in precarious places, especially as he got old and deaf and needed help.

North End Bungalow used to be two cottages, it is a long brick and flint building with wattle walls and a thatched roof like a tea-cosy. Looking south, it gets full sunshine in winter when the sun is low, and keeps wonderfully cool in summer when the sun is above the eaves. The little brick privy is still in the garden (now a shed!) and the well is covered with a concrete slab. Cliff Baverstock (Allenford) lived here at one time and so did Daisy Nicklen (nee Bush) whose husband, Herbie, presided so cheerfully over Roger's shop, in a white, starched jacket with white starched apron pinned over it.

I remember Dan Ambrose living here. He wore a trilby too, striped shirt and waistcoat, real corduroy breeches and hobnailed boots. He was a bit stiff and made "spars" in the garden. We used to call his wife "Queen Ann", and we were a bit scared of her. She must have been a very handsome woman in her day. My mental

snapshot is of an elegant, upright lady in the long full-skirted black dress with tight bodice of other times, and elegant black button-up boots. Her hair, once "carrot" perhaps, was then fairly grey and done in a coil high on the back of her head. Her voice was slightly strange - an accent from somewhere else? I think she wore a straw boater -got it, it had a veil and was a bee- keeper's hat and became her greatly. I am told that she used to grow a big patch of sunflowers, she saved the seed, used the stems to thatch her "tattie" and carrot clamps and what come off there she used for kindling.

OHIO



JAMES & FLORENCE HART

Map Reference North End

Mr James Hart, Southern Electric for 30 years, retired now. Miss Florence Hart, 20 years spent in America, retired now.

The Hart family has lived in the village for 65 years.

Dodger the cat lives with the Hart family.

Our house was originally a farm cottage. Our father worked for the farmer and we were tenants, until 1936 when we purchased the house. We had the house modernised shortly after we bought it. We made major changes by putting in an inside bathroom and kitchen.

Having lived in the village for such a long time we have been able to watch it grow and see all the young families move into the village, but it has always kept its good community spirit and friendliness.

OLD CHANNEL HILL FARM HOUSE



CAROLYN ANDREWS & PHILIP TANDY

Map Reference North End

Sarah Andrews. Taking GCSE's this year. Enjoys horse riding, music and drama. Carolyn Andrews. Enjoys gardening and cooking and Phil Tandy who enjoys gardening



and watching cricket.

We have two black cats and two guinea pigs. We moved into the village in December 1996.

Until 1983 the house was thatched. During a bad storm the house was hit by a bolt of lightning, the thatched was destroyed. This was the second fire; the previous fire was in 1974. The house is several hundred years old, its age is unknown.

In the garden is possibly one of the oldest "Privies" in Hampshire, being of cob and thatch construction and is pictured in a book called "Hampshire Privies" by Ian Fox.

PIXIE COTTAGE



CHRISTOPHER CLUBB & LISA BLACKWELL

Map Reference North End

Christopher Clubb and Lisa Blackwell have lived in Pixie Cottage for three years. Christopher Clubb works locally as a drainage engineer, Lisa Blackwell works in Salisbury as a Claims Assessor. We both moved to Damerham from Downton. We have two cats and our hobbies include gardening and motor biking.

Pixie Cottage is an "Old Style" building. It has very low ceilings and we recently opened up the fireplace, which revealed an old baker's oven built inside an inglenook fireplace.

Damerham is a very peaceful place to live. It is a beautiful village with friendly people.



POUND COTTAGE

an extension, matching existing thatch and windows, new kitchen with bedroom over and lean-to laundry and cloakroom, exposed beams and changed lounge. The inglenook has a bread oven. Despite installing heating we love an open fire on a cold winter's day.



BRIAN AND WENDY GOSNEY

Map Reference North End



We run our own Heating and Plumbing business. We have lived here 14 years in September. We both play lawn bowls and like gardening, reading, photography and travel. We love the countryside and always wanted an old cottage to live in. We have a dog who enjoys the local walks.

The original cottage dates back 250 years - it has a thatched roof and brick walls. We added

SOUTH ALLENFORD FARMHOUSE



ROBERT & AMANDA SHEPHERD

Map Reference North End

Robert Shepherd moved with his family to Bouldsbury Farm when he was three months old. He moved with this family to South Allenford Farmhouse in 1967 where he has lived ever since, excepting a spell in the Army, at Cirencester, abroad and in Hancocks Farm, Tidpit.

Amanda Shepherd married Rob in 1995 and moved into Allenford. Amanda was born in Australia and lived in the Blue Mountains, Sydney.

Matilda and Thomasin were born in 1996 and Beatrice in 1998.

Built in 1893, red brick estate design. Was originally smaller - extended in the 1970's

