

1 ST. GEORGE'S COTTAGES



MAURICE & CYNTHIA SIMS

Map Reference D13

Maurice David Sims, Cynthia Jean Sims, Jason Druid Sims, Damien John Sims, Eloise Alice Sims.

Born/bred in Damerham, lived here 49 years,



married Cynthia 1972 (Cynthia is a Salisbury girl). Pets, 2 dogs, Bill/Ben.

Parish Councillor/Village Hall Committee member.

1 of 4 cottages. named St. George's Cottages built during the reign of "George VI", hence name. Lived here since 1986, situated in a more secluded part of the village. Large garden, and good views across green fields.

Village changed in my life-time from a well-knit community to more that of a commuter belt. Village used to be self-supporting in my early life, now you need to go out of village for work and to shop, whereas in the fifties most of what you required could be bought locally. Many farms have gone, nurseries have all gone, all the then allotments gone, many of which have been built on to house the present occupiers.

2 ST. GEORGE'S COTTAGES



CLIVE & SARAH BEALEY

Map Reference South D13

Clive, Sarah, Ross and Ben Bealey live at 2 St. George's Cottages, South End. Clive, Sarah and Ross moved to Damerham from Downton in April, 1996, and Roy their dog came too! Ben was born on 1st August, and so is the only true "Damerham-grown" Bealey. Ben was baptised at St. George's Church. Clive works as a scientist on a U.K. - wide environmental monitoring project. He is based at Porton Down, and the children attend a crèche there. Sarah works part-time for Salisbury and District Community Health Council based in the centre of Salisbury. Ross and Ben will be going to Western Downland C. of E. School in the village. Ross starts in September, 1999.

The land on which the house stands was bought by Hants C.C. in August 1920. The house was built some time between that date and 1948 by the Council, and was three bedroom semi-detached house with a downstairs, single-storey bathroom extension. We have changed the house (in 1996) by moving the bathroom upstairs and building another bedroom on top of the extension. Clive and Sarah have lived all over the U.K.



but this is the first house they have owned together so it's always going to be special.

Damerham, particularly South End, is very quiet - something we like very much. We hope it will be a wonderful place for our children to grow up and that the whole family will enjoy being part of the village community.

We wish there was a kiddies' playground somewhere in the village (on a corner of the sports field perhaps), and better public

transport. One lovely memory was the beautiful, sunny day in late May, 1997, when Ben was christened at St. George's. We all walked to the Church and back, and everyone said how lovely the day had been. Thank you neighbours and others in the village who have made us so welcome.

3 ST GEORGE'S COTTAGES



RAY & CHRISTINE LEAKEY

Map Reference D14

I came to Damerham in 1952-53 from London and married a village girl in 1973.

We have two children, Robert, now 26 and Isla, 16. We as a family are looking forward to our first grandson. My wife helps with British Legion activities and jumble sales. Our son is very interested in football - Man United of course. Isla enjoys music, dancing and is also looking forward to becoming a young mum. I enjoy painting, calligraphy and walking.

We live in a semi-detached house in Southend. A very pleasant and quiet part of the village. We have lovely views of Ashridge and Cornpits. There is a group of four houses and they were built in the 30's.

There have been many changes in Damerham over the years. Once we used to have four churches, a cobblers, bakery, pub, school, three shops, a garage and it was basically self-sufficient. Over the years, other places have grown larger. The car has taken over and with change to the way things were, the village has altered. We have lost the local bobby which made the village seem more secure. Many of the characters have passed on, but they have left many memories of which some of us can remember. The summer fetes, the dressing up,

the village dances. Sundays we used to wear one's best and attend church or chapel. When as kids the days seemed longer and we could play in woods and go scrumping etc.

Damerham has given us all very happy days.

My wife Christine has lived in Damerham all her life. She is involved in several activities, helping with jumble sales and the Royal British Legion. She is also with a local group (Nutty



and friends) entertaining old folk etc. I enjoy painting landscapes, cartooning and working with children. We have a son and daughter who are part of the village.

During the years, Damerham has seen many changes, some good and others may be not so. There have been a lot of happy times in the village. Past summer show days when it seemed everyone took part. Dressing up and travelling round in Gerry Hockey's lorry to the

sound of a wind up gramophone, tug of war, pillow fights and the local policeman keeping an eye out. Sundays people used their difference places of worship as their thanksgiving. As youngsters many used to go scrumping apples from well known gardens. Again some of us used to receive a good clip around the ear from the local copper.

Damerham has been blessed over the years with an excellent cross-section of people and if you need help there have been many who will continue to help with that special need. Years ago, Damerham was basically self-sufficient. Four churches, post office, garage, bakery, blacksmith, cobblers and of course local farming. In a troubled world we have a lot, I think, to be thankful for. Damerham is a good place to be.

4 ST. GEORGE'S COTTAGES



JOAN PHILLIMORE

Map Reference D14

My name is Joan Marguerite Phillimore. I was born in Earlsfield, Wandsworth. When I was six I went on a Sunday School outing on a coal cart, drawn by horses. The destination was a small grassy area where we ran races. At the edge of this small field, I found a violet growing in a ditch. I prayed to the Lord. Please if you can hear me, my hopes are to move to where violets are growing in ditches, and bring my children up there.

I came to Damerham just after the war. Married George Edwin Phillimore, a local of Damerham, in the Church of England church. Had a girl and boy, and brought them up in Damerham. The Lord certainly heard my prayer, and does still.

This house has two bedrooms and bathroom upstairs, large kitchen, lounge and dining room downstairs. I have a greenhouse and large garden in which I try to grow as much veg as I can, and flowers. Shop vegetables do not taste half as nice as own grown.

When I first came here cows, and horses and sheep were more likely to be seen in the High Street than cars. The milk was delivered by horse and cart. We used to take our milk jug to the cart to have it filled. My husband had to

pushbike to Fordingbridge to catch a bus to get to work. He was a bricklayer. I was a dressmaker. Joined the Land Army for four years with my friend Mary Colborne. We had a cottage in the High Street in Damerham. It was demolished to make way for car parking. I milked cows at Grays Farm, used to cycle down Cornpits Lane, get the cows in for milking, by hand of course!



I think Damerham is the loveliest place on earth.