

COMMON FARM COTTAGE



JOHN & CYNTHIA TYLER

Map Reference H15

We have lived and worked here since 1986 when we moved from Cheshire. In 1995 our daughter, Helen, married David Bugler at Ringwood Register Office and we held their reception in a marquee on the lawn here at Common Farm Cottage. They live with their two boys, Tom and Bryn, in Kingsley, Hants. In 1998 our son, Stephen, married Alison Hakes at St George's Church, Damerham with the reception at The



Compasses Inn and they now live in Parkstone, Poole. We are members of Spinnaker Club, Ringwood. where we race our sailing dinghy

The present house was built in 1973, on the site of the original house, by an American, Colonel Dan Brewer, and his English-born wife, Beryl. They now live in the USA but return almost every year to visit Damerham. The house was extended in 1979.

We like the country life and find Damerham a superb place to live. We enjoy the peace and quiet, the abundant wild life and love the sense of community in the village.

CRYSTAL SPRINGS



ROGER & CHRISTINE BRYANT

Map Reference H15

Roger Norman Bryant, manager of Greenleaves Watercress Farm and Mill End cress farm. Greenleaves changed to be a fish farm called Crystal Springs in 1979. Roger finished work in 1990 because of M.S. Christine Jean Bryant, nurse and caretaker of Damerham village school for 19 years. Their son, Tyrone, was married in Damerham's St. George's Church to Nikki and they now have two children, Chloe and Thomas. We moved here in May 1970 from Cranborne.

Bungalow was built in the 1930s from the bricks of two farm cottages which stood in



front of the bungalow. The footings can still be seen in the road. It was first called the Dell because the owner, Tommy Bedford, supported the Saints. He was brought up in Bethany Cottage next door. In 1965, the name was changed to Crystal Springs by Major Fitzwilliams who had bought Mill End cress beds and the cress beds at the Common.

Roger helped put the mill wheel up at the Mill when he was 16. Mrs Manston and Fred her son used to collect water from the spring in the stream for drinking right up to her death at 104 in about 1979-81. When we moved here, our son Tyrone was the only child under one for a mile. One winter it snowed really hard with drifts and the nearest the milkman could get was Goesmere Gardens, where he left all the milk. No one could get to the Common to clear the road because of the high banks. Roger dug it out from the bottom to the top on his own. When he had finished, it started to rain. We saw the lakes dug out and small copses of woods destroyed.

IVYDENE



CHARLES & BETTY MAYCOCK

Map Reference H15

We retired to Damerham in 1983 from Surrey and London. Charles was a professional pianist and also Admin. Officer at County Hall, not very active now. Betty was a buyer at Army & Navy Stores group, now very involved in patchwork and quilting, also walking the dog. Son Daniel lives at Chandlers Ford with his family. Daughter Jane at Bristol. We have Monty, retriever dog, and Barbie the cat - now 15.



Ivydene was built by the Manston family in the 1920s. The Manstons lived next door at

Marshgate Cottage. Bill and Ivy moved here when they married. We have had visitors call who were evacuees with Ivy during the War. We love living at Ivydene, and have tried not to alter it too much.

Now lived here for 16 years, and hope to go out feet first! Damerham is a lovely village just do not wish it to change in any way.

THE LAKE HOUSE



MIKE & GILLY DAVIES

Map Reference Off Map

Mike Davies, Estate Manager, hobby - work. Gillian Davies, Gardener, hobbies - needlework, violin. Holly Davies, School girl, hobbies - swimming, computers, violin.

Reason for living in Damerham - work on Estate and Fishery.

Livestock: 1 million trout (blue)
2 dogs (working)
2 geese (Hinge & Bracket)

House built in 1973. We have been residents for 20 years. The house is by definition called 'The Lego' because of it's American and Swedish design. As it is a timber construction it would appear to lend itself to its position, standing as it does in woodland and astride a chalk stream valley with lakes either side.



MARSHGATE COTTAGE



GORDON & MARGARET SOPER

Map Reference G15

Gordon R.M. Soper and Margaret A. Soper, semi retired finance Director and housewife respectively; three grown up children, son and two daughters and two grandchildren all of whom love to stay at the cottage from time to time. My wife's hobbies include Grand Open and bridge and I am an avid fly fisherman



Between 1980 and 1985 the cottage had two owners; we bought it in 1985. It is believed to date from the eighteenth century and has many fine features including a thatched roof and a ceiling showing exposed beams made from the curved timbers of an old sailing ship probably from Southampton. The huge beam over the large open fireplace shows three diagonal cuts in it's face matching similar cuts in the brick by the original front door. It is believed to have

been the method by which an illiterate haulier could certify that he was delivering the timbers to the right place.

Until 1980 Mrs Manston lived in the cottage in it's original condition for many years. On her death it was acquired by Sherings and a modern wing added. This section has a tiled roof the result, I understand, of a nineteenth century fire restriction placed on new structures within 20 feet of a public highway.

This was intended to prevent sparks from a passing wood burning traction engine from setting the thatch alight! The result is the "pig with one ear" as it became locally known. Since we have been in occupation the only changes we have made are to add two patios to provide outdoor sitting room, and to fire-proof the chimney.

The south end area of Damerham, in which the cottage is situated, purports to have been the original site of Damerham village before the Great Plague, at which time it moved to it's present site as a measure to combat the spread of the disease.

The only modern day observation I would make is to express concern at the failure of our small shopkeepers to run a business profitably in Damerham. I recognise that the supermarket ruins the small business purely on price competition and I don't have an answer to the problem. I would however give strong support to any shopkeeper brave enough to try again, (as we did in the past).

The village, it's church and it's surroundings are a joy. Long may they remain so.

VICARAGE MOOR COTTAGE



MOLLY & HERVEY FISHER

Map Reference G15

We have children scattered both in England and abroad and grandchildren living in Cranborne whose mother is Italian and the children are bilingual. Molly is on the PCC and I am at present a church warden. Our hobbies include riding and sailing.

Our house was derelict and we bought it when it had been partially restored as a Grade II listed building. The garden was a wasteland of rubbish which we cleared and made best use of its natural features including a stream. Parts of the house date from the IVth century. Some of the village people have relatives who remember it from years ago.

It is a good village and we very much hope that enough young people will remain here to keep it alive as a community.