

1 WEST PARK DRIVE



PETER & THALIA BRYANT

Map Reference J4

Peter and Thalia Bryant. Occupations: Farming, hairdressing, gardening, dog walking, D.I.Y., showing sheep. No time for hobbies. Peter has lived here for over 40 years. Thalia for 18 years.

Cedarwood bungalow erected in the 1940s - no known history.

The problems the village faces are the same as the majority of villages and rural communities have. Properties are sold for high prices to incomers and town people who want to change the way of country life to suit them. Also that any farmland is their playground for them, their children and dogs, regardless whether there are any rights of ways, or crops, or livestock.

2 WEST PARK DRIVE



MARY & DAVID YORKE

Map Reference K4

My family go back many generations in Damerham. My father and grandfather and great grandfather owned the village bakery and grocer shop. Providing Damerham and outlying villages with bread and provisions. My great grandfather, Charlie Jerrard, lived at Cressview now Common Farm House, he had thirteen children. Great Uncle Aquila had the mill and would mill the grain brought to him by local farmers.

The four wooden houses at West Park Drive were erected after the war for game keepers working on the estate, they are now owned by the owners of Court Farm. These houses have wonderful rural views of the village - totally private apart from Cows, deer game birds - BLISS!

As a child growing up in Damerham it was a small village community where everyone knew one another - today because of its idyllic setting many newcomers have settled here. More new houses have been built or converted. Tractors have taken over from the usual sight of horse & cart - village life still moves slowly and there is a good sense of village community.

3 WEST PARK DRIVE



DAWN & SARAH HOLT

Map reference K3



The four bungalows here were originally built for the I.C.I. The people living here then reared a lot of pheasants, hence the very large gardens. The Drive at the front of the bungalow is lined each side by large lime trees. These were planted by Sir Eyre Coote who owned West Park Estate. My first recollection of the four bungalows here was being invited to my friend's birthday party when I was 6/7 years old. My friend lived in the fourth bungalow, and her surname was Sommerville.

I also attended a lunch at Court Farm in 1960 and was filmed by Southern Television for the Farm in the South programme.

THE RETREAT 4 WEST PARK DRIVE



ANDRE & CAROLYN ARMITAGE

Map Reference L3



Andre is a Builder and his hobbies are game & clay shooting and fishing. Carolyn is a carer and her hobbies gardening and reading. Our son David is a carpenter and his hobbies are going to the gym. We have three Springer spaniels - all trained gun dogs.

Carolyn previously lived in the village - elder daughter of Gerald & Dorothy Jerrard of Crossways Farm - left the village in 1969. I worked at Goesmere Gardens in the village and at the pig farm in Sandleheath. I was also Flower Show Queen in 1963 - my attendants were my sister Dawn and Gwyneth Wells from

the Garage. I was crowned by my cousin Ann - the previous year's Queen. We had such hot

summers then - I remember cycling back to work one hot summers day in my jeans and a

lime green bikini top on and was stopped by our local policeman and told off for not wearing enough clothes!!

We were lucky to have the opportunity to come back to the countryside to live. We intend to spend our time making The Retreat habitable and comfortable for our old age! We would like to grow our own fruit and veg.

The house was used by people who worked for ICI and was put up about 1948. I know that my late Uncle Arch and Aunt Edith Jerrard used to live in the house and that Uncle Arch spent a lot of time working in the garden.

Refurbishing the house will take quite a while and the garden has endless scope and my ambition is to make it as good as my parents' garden at Crossways Farm and have it open to the public as well!

THE LODGE



MARK & NICOLA MATTHEWS

Map Reference G4

The Matthews family are newcomers to the village, only moving to Damerham from Guildford on 31st August 1999 after Mark moved back to his 'home' area in April to take up a new job in Salisbury.

Mark J H Matthews (37) works in estate



agency for Humberts in Salisbury, brought up in Pimperne near Blandford. Went to school in Somerset and college in Cirencester, after working as a land agent, spent 10 years working for Hamptons in Wimbledon. Hobbies include travelling (spent a year backpacking around the World in 1986/87 and honeymooned in Borneo), gardening and most sports (a keen follower of AFC Bournemouth). Nicky J S Matthews (33) Busy mother with a background in hotel management, estate

agency, conference organisation and management training. Brought up and went to schools in the Weymouth and Poole areas and college in Portsmouth. Hobbies (when time permits) include curtain making and decorating.

Charlotte A S Matthews (3 1/2) Small red haired girl who has just started at St Aldhems nursery and hopes to go to school in Damerham in the year 2000. Hobbies include The Wiggles, Barbie dolls, ballet and anything pink.

Toby J H Matthews Born on Christmas Day 1998, he will have just celebrated his first birthday at the start of the new millennium. Hobbies include eating, laughing and sleeping.

As we have only been at The Lodge for such a short time, we still do not know much about it's history except that at one time it was called West Park Lodge, Damerham (as opposed to West Park Lodge, Rockbourne). We suspect that the oldest part of the house was a modest traditional cob cottage which has been altered and extended considerably over the years particularly around the turn of the century (the 20th that is) and more recently in 1997/8. We would be delighted to hear of more detailed information about our home. Although the house needs a lot of work and more money spent on it than we have, we love The Lodge and feel very much at home.

Again as we are so new to Damerham, we can not recount any interesting stories about the village yet. What we can do is explain why we are so pleased to have moved here. Damerham has the best of everything; an interesting mix of houses of different shapes, sizes and ages, a

great pub, an historic church, a garage and post office, a playing field bordered by beautiful water meadows with a river running through them, a popular village school, a thriving village hall, a friendly and active community and of course lovely countryside all around, In other words our idyllic village - perfect!

THE COTTAGE WEST PARK



JAMES & JENNY BOUSKELL

Map Reference Off Map

There are four of us - only two of whom live in the village. Our son is a soldier and our daughter married and is living in



London. James and Jennifer Bouskell, Major Henry Bouskell, Q.D.G.

The house was converted four years ago - originally built as the Head Gardeners cottage for the main house.

The main West Park estate is owned by Lord Radnor - forming the last of his three local properties, Longford, Trafalgar and then West Park.



The Eyre Coote Monument