

# *A Potted History of Pear Tree Cottage* *Farm Lane All Stretton* *1898 - Today*

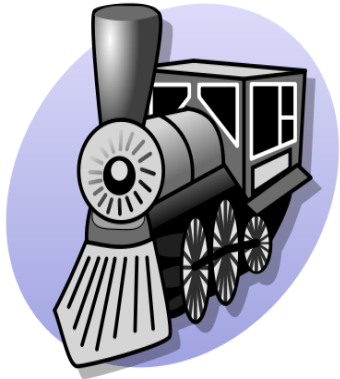


*In 1898 Thomas Paget purchased a plot of land for £20.00 and he built 2 cottages: 1 & 2 Pear Tree Cottage. Number 2 is now known as Glen Haven. He sold 1 Pear Tree to his brother-in-law Mark Donnelly for £50.00 (today's value £6,590). Thomas Paget then lived next door to his sister Elizabeth with his family.*



*Mark and Elizabeth had married in **1866** and had **14** children, **9** of whom survived. The **1901** census showed Mark and Elizabeth living in Pear Tree cottage with **4** of their youngest children; John, James, Lucy and Dorothy. Mark worked on the railway as a Pointsman.*

*Mark Donnelly (Sr) died on Christmas Day **1913** and left the cottage to two of his sons Mark (Jr) and James. Lucy and Dorothy each received a payment of £50.00 as their share of the will.*



*In **1914** James (railway porter) took over ownership of the cottage with his wife Ada. They had **3** children Albert, Leonard and Edith.*

*James died in **1934** and left his estate to Ada.*

*Ada died 11 years later in **1945** but during her time at the cottage she took out several loans;*

*One from the Midland bank which she discharged, and 2 from Alice Wash of Craven Arms.*



*Ada also used the cottage as a base for a Sub Post Office for a while. Quite the entrepreneur. ££££££££££.*

*She bequeathed the cottage to her daughter Edith, but she had agreed to the sale of the cottage to Ernest Briscoe of Yockleton, a milk sampler for the sum of £700.*



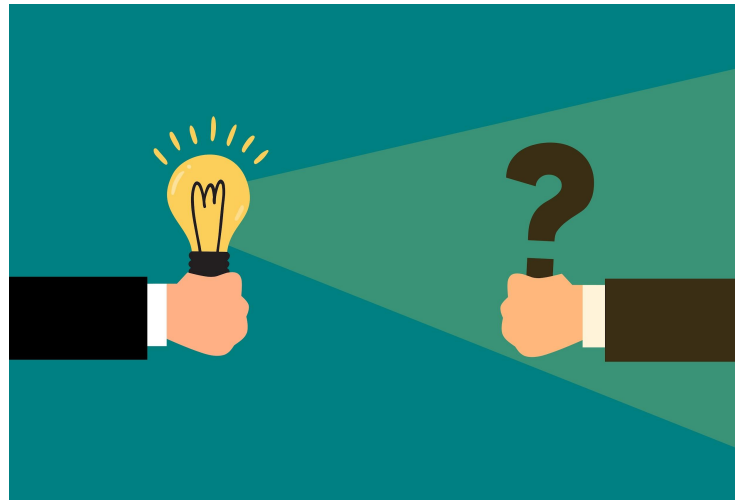
*In 1951 Ernest Briscoe sold the cottage to Fanny Lloyd, wife of William Lloyd, a farmer of Marshbrook. Fanny died in 1956 and left the cottage to a William Meredith of Worcester & Mervyn Morgan of Acton Scott, both farmers.*



*The cottage then moved into the ownership of Thomas Pyatt from 'Heatherbrae Garage' Leebotwood; he lived there until his death in 1974*

*For the next 25 years the cottage was lived in by Roland and Audrey Howells of Olton Solihull.*

*Perhaps YOU remember them ?*



*2000 - 2004 Helen Jones owned the cottage and built a two storey extension on the side that doubled the size of the original cottage.*



*In 2004 Jean Bollom and Seamus lived in the cottage. They made a wildlife pond which attracts dragonflies and a great crested newt was spotted in 2021.*

