



THE PRINCE CONSORT'S WINDSOR ASSOCIATION,
for improving the condition of Labourers and others.

Presented,

IN MEMORY OF THE ROYAL FOUNDER,
TO

James and Sarah Gifford

who received a Prize of £3.1.1 at the

Show and Meeting held at Windsor the 11th day of July 1864

the having brought up their family in honest and virtuous habits

Richard W. G.

THE PRINCE CONSORT'S WINDSOR ASSOCIATION

I have in my possession a photocopy of a certificate from the above association which reads

"The Prince Consort's Windsor Association
for improving the condition of Labourers and others

Presented

in memory of the Royal Founder
to James and Sarah Goddard

who received a prize of £3 0s 0d at the
Annual Meeting held at Windsor the 14th day of July 1864

For having brought up their family in honest sober and industrious habits
[Signed] Victoria"

I wonder if anyone can shed any light on this association.

Julie Goddard
Member 1403F



15 August 2000

Dear Mr Gurnett,

Prince Consort's Windsor Association

Thank you for including my request for information in the June *Historian* and thank you also to those who wrote to me; Mrs Mary Martin for revealing that she had sent the certificate to me in the first place and that James and Sarah Goddard were her ancestors; Mrs Patricia Gilbert, who tells me that one of her ancestors received a certificate and Mr Ronald Boyle of Windsor for having kindly searched the local newspapers of the 1850s and 1860s; and Mrs Margaret Goddard who wrote to the Royal Archives at Windsor Castle and the Prince of Wales in a quest for information. The Royal Archives write that this is one of their most often asked enquiries.

The following is a summary of what we discovered:

The Association was founded by Prince Albert in 1850 "for the encouragement of the labouring classes on or about the Royal demesne". It was originally called the "Windsor Royal Association", but was changed, after Prince Albert's death in 1861 to "Prince Consort's Windsor Association". The association was run by a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Ranger of Windsor Park and supported by the subscriptions of local residents.

To begin with there was an annual award, but after 1883 it became every two years and award ceremonies were always attended by a member of the Royal Family. The award ceremony took place at a big flower and vegetable show in Windsor Home Park where there were competitions for the best of each class, and also, it appears, competitions in "the people's industrial exhibition" - a hobbies section maybe.

From newspaper reports of the time it can be seen that prizes originally were given to "encourage the labourers and their families and domestic and other servants, habits of morality and good order, providence and industry". prizes would be given "to the labourer who has brought up his family in honest, sober, and industrious habits and without parish relief except in case of sickness; to the widow of a labourer who has done the same; to families distinguished for cleanliness in house and person; to well conducted servants; to servants, male or female, who have lived for the longest period of service in the same situation; to young persons, male or female, who have done as above; to the best cultivators of gardens or allotments, being also persons of honest, sober, and good moral character; to winner of best vegetable collection produced from his or her own garden; best ploughman, in various classes." Not all the prizes, or medals, were awarded every year; sometimes no one was felt good enough.

By 1852 the Prince Consort appears to have enlarged the scope of his association and wished to encourage "Better Domestic Accommodation for the Industrial Classes". He designed, or had designed, model cottages for families, model lodging houses for the single

working man, and communal baths and washing houses. The model cottages for families appear to have been a great success and in advance of their time. No doubt some of B.F.H.S. members live in them still. However, the lodging houses for single men met with mixed fortunes, were not entirely successful and were eventually made into family lodging houses.

In 1875 the then Chairman suggested that the association should be wound up but Queen Victoria wished it to continue and it did so, until 1904 when Edward VII decided that it had served its purpose and it was wound up. The balance of money was handed to Windsor Royal Infirmary.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Goddard

In a previous Newsletter I asked for information about "The Prince Consort's Windsor Association" as I had in the files a certificate awarded by this association in 1864 to James and Sarah Goddard. I also had the enquiry published in the June copy of Berkshire Family Historian.

Thank you to those who wrote to me; Mrs Mary Martin for revealing that she had sent the certificate to me in the first place and that James and Sarah Goddard were her ancestors; Mrs Patricia Gilbert, who tells me that one of her ancestors received a certificate and Mr Ronald Boyle of Windsor for having kindly searched the local newspapers of the 1850s and 1860s; and Mrs Margaret Goddard of Worsley who wrote to the Royal Archives at Windsor Castle and the Prince of Wales in a quest for information. The Royal Archives write that this is one of their most often asked enquiries.

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In 1875 the then Chairman suggested that the association should be wound up but Queen Victoria wished it to continue and it did so, until 1904 when Edward VII decided that it had served its purpose and it was wound up. The balance of money was handed to Windsor Royal Infirmary.

Julie of Newbury

The Prince Consort's Windsor Association.

The Association was founded by Prince Albert in 1850 "for the encouragement of the labouring classes on or about the Royal demesne". It was originally known as the Windsor Royal Association and Queen Victoria recorded in her Journal for October 15th 1852 that Prince Albert distributed the prizes at the annual meeting in the Home Park and "returned very well pleased". After the Prince Consort's death in 1861 the name of the Association was changed to the Prince Consort's Windsor Association.

The Association was run by a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Ranger of Windsor Park and supported by the subscriptions of local residents. The prizes were originally awarded annually but by 1883 they were awarded every two years. After the Prince Consort's death the prize-giving was for many years always attended by a member of the Royal Family, for instance in 1867 Princess Helena, Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, distributed the prizes and on July 7 1870 the Queen herself did so and left the following account of the occasion in her Journal:

".. At $\frac{1}{2}$ p.5 drove down through the Home Park in 2 carriages, the 2 girls and Janie E. with me, the equerries riding in Windsor Uniform, to the tents where there was the Annual Meeting of the Prince Consort's Windsor Association. My beloved Albert had been the President and used to give away the prizes. Lenchen & Christian, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Bishop of Oxford, Gen: Seymour (Chairman) & the Vice Presidents & members of the Committee met me there. I went into the tents in which were exhibited flowers, fruit & vegetables, & where successful exhibitors of former years to the number of 1,300 had dined & were having tea. An Address was presented to me, after which I gave away the prizes. The tents in which the flowers & fruit were, were very prettily decorated, & the people's industrial exhibition was very creditable. Lenchen & Louise helped me by handing me the prizes, while Gen: Seymour read out the names. There were some poor old shaky people & some little girls. This finished we re-entered our carriages & drove back through the Slopes..."

In 1875 the then Chairman, Sir Augustus Liddell, suggested that the Association might be wound up but the Queen wished it to continue and it did so until 1904 when King Edward VII felt that it had fulfilled its object and should be wound up. The balance in hand was given to Windsor Royal Infirmary.



THE ROYAL ARCHIVES

5 June, 2000

Dear Miss Goddard,

Thank you for your letter of 17 May seeking information on the Prince Consort's Windsor Association. As this is a subject about which we are asked fairly regularly, we have prepared a note on it, and I enclose a copy of this, which will, I trust, provide the information you are seeking.

Yours sincerely

P. M. Clark

Miss Pamela Clark
Deputy Registrar

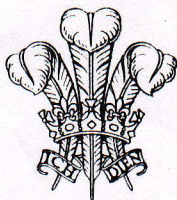


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**ST. JAMES'S PALACE
LONDON SW1A 1BS**

From: The Office of HRH The Prince of Wales

11th June, 2000

Dear Miss Goddard,

The Prince of Wales has asked me to thank you for your letter and enclosures of 18th May.

Your reasons for writing as you did are appreciated, and His Royal Highness is grateful to you for taking the trouble to send him the Goddard Association of Europe's newsletter and to bring the *Prince Consort's Windsor Association* to his attention.

The Prince of Wales has asked me to send you his best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Hilton Holloway

Miss Margaret Goddard

28.6.00

Dear Julie,

I noted your query about The Prince Consort's Windsor Association in The Berkshire Family Historian.

My sister has the actual certificate (+ I have a photocopy of it) that was awarded to our great great grandmother, Mary Ann Harrison. Ours is dated the 6th Day of July 1867, + Mary Ann was awarded 15s.0d.

I did a little research several years ago but my findings might not be completely accurate. My gr.gr.gr. grandfather James Hughes (another family branch) was a gardener at the castle and Mary Ann worked there too, as a laundress.

My great great grandparents + their family were living in one of the Prince Consort cottages (designed by Prince Albert) in a little turning off Alexandra Road, Windsor. I believe these cottages were inspected annually + the certificates + monetary awards were given at a great celebration in Windsor Great Park, each year.

I also have a newspaper article for the event, showing that my gr.gr.gr. grandfather James Hughes was 7s.6d. as a prize for his home grown vegetables.

It also mentioned brass bands, games, contests

& refreshments so it must have been a very grand & special occasion, mainly for the workers in the castle & on the estate.

It would appear that Prince Albert was deeply concerned for the well being of the ordinary people & designed what must have been among the first kind of council house or estate house, in the country. After all, some of the very worst slum dwellings were to be found in Windsor in the 17-1800's.

If you go to the British Newspaper library at Colindale, & search for a report on the Windsor Great Park celebration for your particular date, in one of the Eton & Windsor newspapers of the time, you will get a much better picture of the scene.

I do wish you success & hope you receive lots of replies with better & more information than mine.

Yours sincerely,
Patricia Gilbert.
(Mrs.)

brian goddard



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April 12, 2000

Dear Julie,

I am sending some articles by "snail mail", but wanted to put you out of your misery! Regarding your appeal on p5 of Newsletter 54. I was that owner of the photocopy about the Association. I have little information about the organisation and would be grateful for anything you discover.

I am the voluntary archivist of the Church of the Sacred Heart, Norton Rd, Hove and came across the following in our archives:

7/SACRED HEART/PAR-MAGS/V1-9 June 1946 Captain Gardiner now Scout master of 12th. Hove. District Commissioner Mr Goddard.

22.3.1998 CAFOD's pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation and St Francis at West Grinstead with thr parish priest, Fr David Goddard, who was received into the church at the Sacred Heart.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Martin (Mrs)

29/07/00

GODDARD ASSOCIATION OF EUROPE

Dear Mrs Martin,

The Prince Consort's Windsor Association

europedirect.europa.eu

© 00 800 67 89 10 11

Thank you for identifying yourself in relation to the above association and the copy certificate which had been floating around my desk without the letter saying who had sent it. I sent the copy certificate to Berkshire Family History Society Journal editor sometime ago, maybe two years and had forgotten all about it. The editor changed and the copy certificate was found in some old files and returned to me. I promptly returned it to the new editor with some notes and an appeal for information was duly printed this time. In the meantime one of our members, Margaret Goddard of Worsely, had been working on the subject and had written to the Prince of Wales and Windsor Castle archives.

As a result of the item in the Berkshire FHS journal Mr Ronald Boyle of Windsor very kindly searched through the Windsor newspaper and found the entries relevant to the association and the award ceremonies. Mrs Patricia Gilbert of Romford Essex also wrote saying that one of her ancestors had also received an award.

I enclose copies or précis of the information sent and hope to be able to sit down and write a short article on the subject sometime in the near future. At the moment I am too overwhelmed by enquiries to settle to it.

Thank you for the extracts of Goddard names. The Research Dept has a cut off date of 1900, but I will pass the extracts on to Richard Goddard the Newsletter editor. Incidentally, Richard took all the May Newsletters to Malvern Post Office in a box on May 10th. Some people received theirs around May 22nd (including someone in Canada) but the rest disappeared into the black hole of the Post Office until two weeks ago, when they resurfaced and people began to receive them!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J.R.Goddard
Research Co-ordinator

From Mrs Patricia Gilbert, 121 Shepherds Hill, Harold Wood, Romford, Essex RM3 0NP

Dear Julie,

I noted your enquiry about the Prince Consort's Windsor Association in the Berkshire Family Historian.

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I do wish you success and hope you receive lots of replies with better and more information than mine.

Yours sincerely, Patricia Gilbert,(Mrs)