

fittings up of his surgery” and that value was to be paid by him to his mother. His specific bequests were £50 to his wife, his gold watch to John Bryer, his Harp to daughter Fanny, £20 to daughter Sarah Bryer on her attaining the age of twenty-one, £20 to son Samuel Thomas also on his attaining the age on twenty-one and his pianoforte to daughter Mary Ann. He also directed that the sum of £200 be used for an apprenticeship for his son Samuel Thomas in some business or profession.

His properties were left in trust for his wife to receive the income and on her death or remarriage for the benefit of all his children. The properties comprised of Weech Farm, a house in Bothenhampton, and six acres of land. Later in a codicil he has purchased the freehold of the property he rented for most of his life. This was the two houses that made up Magnolia House in Christchurch. This was also left in trust for Sarah’s use during her lifetime and than to all the children.

They had seven children, two of whom died within twelve months – Sarah Edith born 16 October 1812 and Henry Styles born 20 November 1816. The eldest son, John Bryer we have already met and there was Fanny born 16 January 1814, Sarah Bryer 22 June 1818, Samuel Thomas 26 January 1820 and Mary Anne 14 December 1911.

Samuel Thomas was the victim of romance, a disease not often detected in the family. The worthy Samuel, of the Indian Army, had married a Fanny Jane Jackson of doubtful extraction, under the influence of tropic heat perhaps. Fanny Jane returned to England with her husband but was not “acceptable” to the family. She therefore returned to her at least “partly native” soil informing her husband that if his interest had not cooled in this more temperate climate he had better follow her. Interested he was and follow her he did and into oblivion as far as the family was concerned. It is supposed that he died in India still under the influence of his Fanny Jane.

Their only known child, Florence, was born in 1873 and was brought up by Mary Anne, her aunt. Mary Anne had become a legendary figure in the family living in considerable state at Cheltenham. The bulk of her estate passed to her Ward whose providence failed to match her good nature and who narrowly escaped the doubtful honour of being the second member of the family known to have entered a better life through the medium of the “work house.” Fanny Jane was a little in advance of her time, if complete penury of the family would have made her more “acceptable” she had only a few years to wait.

### **Magnolia House, Bridge Street, Christchurch**

There is no doubt that the Goddard family lived in Bridge Street for three generations. Bridge Street was in an area known at one time as Rotten Row, which is included in their address in the Census Returns between 1851 and 1891. It is also referred to as Rotten Row in a newspaper article in 1902. Rotten Row is possibly a corruption of Royal Route. What is not clear is whether they lived in what became known as Magnolia House throughout this period.

The earliest record found reveals that John lived in Bridge Street in 1821. In that year a property which he rented was auctioned and is described as “All the commodious dwelling-house, excellent garden, orchard. coach-house and stable, brick wine vault, under-ground cellar, with a lawn and close of land adjoining about one acre and a half pleasantly situated at the entrance of the borough of Christchurch, extending to the river Avon, fit for the reception of a respectable family.” In 1831 he was a tenant of Mrs. Elizabeth Jeans so she may have been the purchaser 10 years before. The property is described in the Rates and Assessments

Records as "Mrs. Jeans House and Garden and Meadow adjoining". Mrs. Jeans herself owned and lived in the property next door. Around that time a number of the properties near by were retailers.

On 4th June 1836, just 14 months before his death, John purchased from Thomas Jeans, for £260, what appears to be the Leasehold of a property described as "all that mesuage or tenements and gardens now used as two mesuages or tenements and gardens situated in Bridge Street". The properties were let to a Joseph Clarke and a George Scott. Also purchased was a strip of land adjoining extending from the gardens to the River Avon. John, at the time, occupied (presumably as tenant) the property next door (to the East or left as you looked at it) which was also owned by Thomas Jeans. This property is referred to in the deeds as a Barn. A John Bursey of Milton also joined in the Deed. It is not clear why but he may have had some form of life tenancy. The fact there were two properties which were presumably occupied by the family later may explain why there were various numbers related to the Rotten Row address in the Census Returns.

John died 6th August 1837. The Codicil to his Will refers to Freehold property in Bridge Street, Christchurch - two properties used as one - purchased of Thomas Jeans which was left in trust to his wife Sarah, his son John Bryer and his daughter Fanny with income to his wife Sarah until her death or re-marriage and then to his children as Tenants in Common. Sometime after 1838 the two properties were sold to John Bryer. Prior to the sale he paid a rent to the Trust of £7-10. p.a.

According to the Tithings of 1844 a property in Bridge street occupied by John Bryer comprised of House and Garden, Garden, Stable and Garden, Rough Piece and Meadow.

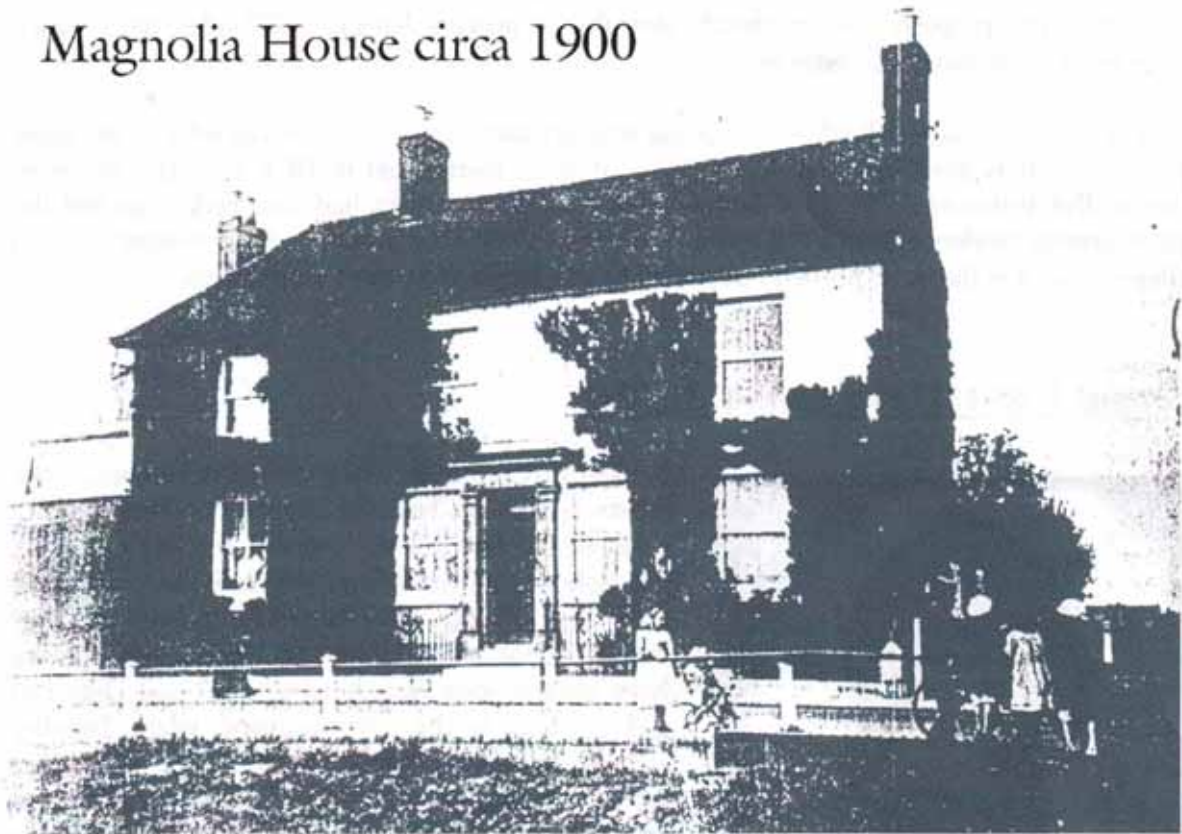
The following advertisement appeared in the Christchurch Times of November 15th. 1862, which seems to refer to Magnolia house. The J.B.Goddard is John Bryer:

*SELL BY AUCTION - Christchurch - A capital Freehold Property for Positive Sale MESSRS ABBOTT & SON are instructed by the Trustee under the Will of the late S. Treasure, Esq., to SELL BY AUCTION at NEWLYN'S HOTEL, Christchurch on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH, 1862 at Three o'clock in the afternoon, - All that ELIGIBLE FREEHOLD PROPERTY, situate at Purewell, Christchurch, in the occupation of J.B.Goddard Esq., consisting of an excellent Residence, brick built and tiled, containing 5 Bedrooms, Drawing and Dining Rooms, Kitchen, Pantry, under-ground cellars and other convenient Offices, with a capital walled kitchen Garden. Also, a Building adjoining the Residence, having a frontage of 47 feet to the high road, being formerly a Dwellinghouse, but now converted into a Surgery, Coach-house, Stable and other Outbuildings, with enclosed Yard at back. Printed particulars with Conditions of Sale may be obtained by Charles Wilkins Esq., Solicitor, 10 Tokenhouse Yard, London E.C. or of Messrs. Abbott & Son, Christchurch.*

This sale appears to relate to both properties. One can only presume that John Bryer sold the Freehold but then acquired a leasehold from the new owner.

In the late 1870's John Bryer Goddard had two studios built for Eliza and Amelia where art classes were held. After their father's death in 1880 their mother, also named Eliza, put up a student's room as well. The studios may have been a conversion of the adjoining residence.

## Magnolia House circa 1900



Sometime after 1891 the sisters let the house and moved to Lark's Gate in the New Forest. Around 1907 the house was described as possibly of Georgian era but in all probability much older at the rear. The windows opened onto water-meadows, the Creek and the salmon - run. The Goddards had occupied the house for three generations and they were said to be the oldest living family in Christchurch. The three-storied house was tall and white with a thick-hedged , high walled and old fashioned garden. Inside, it had many rooms, spacious entrances and long passages with dark oak floors and panelled wainscots, blue willow-patterned china, red damask curtains and oaken settles. It was situated down Purewell Street close by Stony Lane. From "The House of the Open Door": "Tis the one with the green bushes about'n close by Stony Lane. Bushes along the railing bars it off from Purewell's narrow street".

Most of the contents were auctioned on 10th. September 1907, and the property was purchased in 1907 by Mr.Claude Hayes, also an artist, who founded a watercolour school there. The final contents of Magnolia House, 82 Bridge Street, were auctioned on 8th. October 1968. The property had 4 Bedrooms and Bathroom, Drawing Room, Dining Room, Kitchen and Lower Sitting room.

Joseph Bedloe visited the House in 1953 and he records that, apart from the installation of running water, Magnolia House appeared to have been little touched either inside or out since the days of the first doctor. The magnolia still flowered, the house itself was a rambling building with many additions not making for character as a whole and age would seem its only merit. For luck Amelia bestowed a penny on a string upon the owner of the house about 1920. It still hung there in 1953. According to a newspaper article the property was auctioned in November 1968 and the Council were hoping to purchase it for demolition to widen the road and the corner into Stony Lane. However, a Mr. Chitty purchased it for £5250 (£50 more than the Council was prepared to pay) with the intention of altering it into two flats and a doctor's surgery. He then decided to offer it back to the Council presumably hoping to make

a profit. The property was eventually demolished around January 1970 after the Council obtained a compulsory purchase order.

As can be seen it is difficult to be certain whether these various references refer to the same property. It is described in 1907 as being of three stories and in 1836 the main house as having five bedrooms. The 1968 auction paper indicates it then had four bedrooms and the photographic evidence from 1900 onwards pictures a two-storey house. Most evidence would suggest that it is the same property occupied by our family over three generations.

### **Samuel 1755-1829 and Edith 1751-1811**



**Samuel Goddard**

Samuel and Edith are the great grandparents of the artists and as far back as anyone has been able to research the family line. Samuel was born in 1755 but nobody knows where, which is why we have come to a full stop. He married Edith Style and they had two sons named John and Daniel. John, as we have already seen, was born in 1779 and Daniel in 1781. This is the only occasion when Timothy John's research differs from John Edward's. According to his "Notes...", Edith's father is named William Styles although there was a question mark over that part of the pedigree. The more recent research suggests that her parents were Daniel and Sarah Style and he traded as a butcher. His father was Daniel Still and was buried in 1754 at Fordington St. George. The change in the spelling was not unusual at that time when many people were illiterate. Samuel's son Daniel was married three times. More about him later.

Samuel was a landowner and farmer. He first appeared in Bothenhampton, Dorset in 1788 aged 33. In that year, according to the Bothenhampton Land Tax Records, he paid £3-16s-6d. for the privilege of owning three properties known as Davis, Rownhams and Greenings. At that time he did not own Weech Farm at Bothenhampton, which was to become the family home. It appears that Samuel came into money in the ten years to 1798 because by then he owned Weech Farm and had an interest in no fewer than twelve other properties although many of these would have been parcels of farmland. Might he have inherited money from his father or could it have come from successful foreign trading from nearby Bridport?

It is interesting to note briefly the properties that were identified in his Will. Weech Farm described as Dwelling house, Outhouses, Barns Stables and Commons, several closures of arable meadow and pastureland and a cottage occupied by his second son Daniel. Then there was a leasehold dwellinghouse and shop in Bridport, a Farmhouse in Stockland, six properties that were tenanted and five separately identified pieces of land at Bothenhampton. A wealthy man by most accounts.

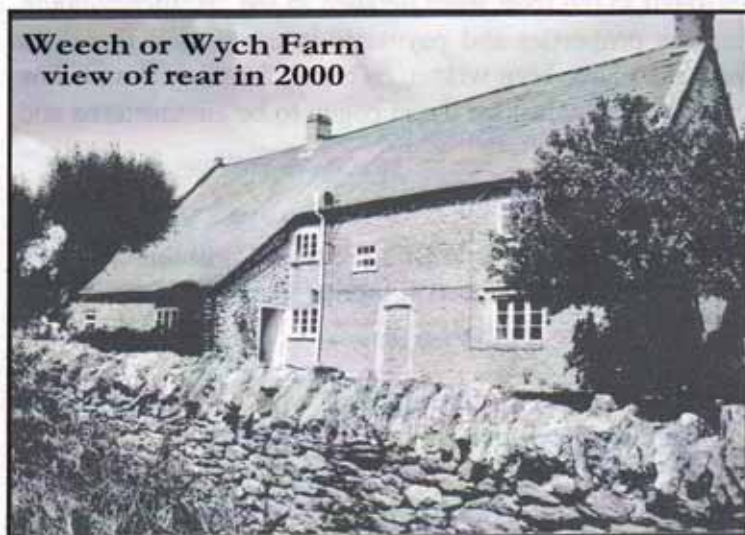
Samuel and Edith were married on 12 August 1777 at St. Peters Parish Church of Shaftsbury. His wife was baptized at Dorchester All Saints in 1751. Although not much is known about Samuel, he was certainly a churchman for he owned three pews out of a total of nine at

Bothenhampton Parish Church in 1807 and he was Churchwarden for the years 1809/1811. Samuel acted as Overseer of the Poor of the Parish in the year 1809.

Edith died 22 December 1811 aged 60 and Samuel died at Weech on 27 September 1820 aged 65. They are both buried in the family tomb at Bothenhampton Old Church as is their second son Daniel and his first wife, Susannah Bartlett, who died 30 March 1812 at Lyme Regis just 24 years of age.

Samuel wrote his Will in 1818 leaving Weech Farm, parcels of land and a cottage in Bothenhampton (then occupied by his son Daniel) to his eldest son, John, together with properties in Bridport and Stockland and all other assets apart from a tenanted dwelling house and 15 acres which went to Daniel. The favoured son certainly appeared to be John.

### **Wych or Weech or Wyche Farm, Bothenhampton, Dorset.**



**Weech or Wych Farm  
view of rear in 2000**

Samuel became the owner of Weech Farm or Wyche Farm some time before 1798 because Hutchins "History of Dorset" describes the property as "a farm near Bridport Harbour containing fifty acres was possessed by the ancient lords of Hide and passed as that farm." In 1790 it belonged to Mr. Thresher of Corton by one of whose ancestors it was purchased of the Earl of Danby or his Grantees. The farmhouse bears the date of 1705 over the

doorway. Samuel was possessed of considerable other property in the district as already recorded. The farm remained in the family until 1877, fifty years after the death of Samuel Goddard, when it was sold during the lifetime of his grandson John Bryer, realising £5150.

A copy of the sale notice in the press at the time was as follows: -

*Bothenhampton, Dorset.  
Valuable freehold estate for sale.  
To be sold by Auction  
by Mr. Cornick.*

*At the Bull Hotel in Bridport in the County of Dorset, on Monday February 19th. 1877 at three for four o'clock in the afternoon (subject to the conditions to be then and there produced) the undermentioned valuable freehold farm, lands and premises, consisting of a messuage or dwelling house and out-houses and several closes of excellent arable, meadow, pasture and orchard land, situate in the Parish of Bothenhampton, in the County of Dorset, called Weech Farm, containing 66 acres (to be the same more or less).*

*The premises have been for many years and are now in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Matthews as tenant thereof, who holds the same under a lease, which will expire on the 11th. Day of October 1878.*

*The above farm and lands may be viewed by application to the said Mr. Matthews, at the farmhouse and any further particulars may be obtained of Mr. F.W. Gundry, Solicitor, Bridport.*

*Dated Bridport 17th. January 1877.*

On the death of Samuel his first son, John, received all of his estate apart from one property that was bequeathed to Daniel. John was bequeathed this property because in John's Will dated 27th. February 1836 he leaves, inter alia, his wife Sarah, all copyhold property in Bothenhampton, Dorset, held of the Lord of the Manor of Loder and Bothenhampton, absolutely. Also all Freeholds at Bothenhampton, including Weech Farm are left to his wife Sarah, his son John Bryer and his daughter Fanny, in trust for themselves with income to his wife Sarah until her death or re-marriage and then to his children as Tenants in Common.

When John died the properties administered in the trust were detailed in the "Bothenhampton Ledger." This was a book recording the properties and payments in connection therewith which, according to John Edward, appears to have been written by Sarah for many years. The first entries appear in the ledger in October 1838 when the Trust began to be administered and the properties shown at that time were: -

#### Freehold

Weech Farm, two Houses in Bothenhampton Lane, House in Bridge Street Christchurch, House in Bridge Street Christchurch & Garden (the latter two comprise Magnolia House).

#### Copyhold

Greenings Living (a farm), Daviss Tenements, Daviss Tenements 12 acres, Knights & Rownhams, Edward House & Shop, Edward House Tenement and Strouds.

The houses in Bothenhampton Lane were struck through some time after 1838 as also the two Bridge Street properties, which are marked "Sold to J.B.G." Prior to the sale of Magnolia House to John Bryer, he paid a rent to the Trust of £7-10. p.a. The consideration on sale to him is not known. Weech Farm was let in 1838 for £145 p.a. The total rental of all the properties shown was £324 p.a. The capital value of the holdings at the time Weech was sold would have been in the vicinity of £12000. The Mr. John Matthews, mentioned in the "sale notice" above, was the last tenant of Weech Farm to appear in the Ledger.

When Sarah died in 1866, twenty nine years after her husband John, the Ledger is kept "in account with Fanny and Mary Anne Goddard" and the last entry appears in 1876 and all the remaining properties were probably disposed of about this time - with the exception of the Christchurch house - and the proceeds divided between John Bryer, Fanny, Mary Anne and possibly though not probably, Samuel Thomas, the date of who's death is not known.

Joseph Bedloe found the farm in the 1950's and photographed it from the roadside including the front door with the date "1705" carved in stone above it. Timothy John visited Wych Farm, now spelled like that, in 2000. It is situated south of the village of Bothenhampton on the Burton road. The current tenant has occupied it for 33 years and the landlord is the Wessex Water Authority which is building a water treatment plant on the farmland. The property had been in the hands of a Mrs Cooper and her family for many generations. On her death it passed into the hands of her three daughters who recently sold it and the accompanying land to the water Authority. The farm looks much as it did in the 1950's.

Up the road toward Burton is a property called Marsh Barn which used to be a farm. There are also a number of properties with the name Rownhams in the area including Rownhams Guest House and Rownhams Gardens. They clearly carry the names of part of the land once farmed by Samuel. In 1788, according to the Bothenhampton Land Tax Register, Samuel owned a piece of land called Rownhams, which was occupied by a John Case, and he paid 9/- tax a year for the privilege. Samuel continued to own this land, which he occupied from about 1798, until his wife disposed of some of the properties in 1866. The Dorset Land Tax register of 1798 also shows Samuel occupying a number of pieces of land variously called Late J Marsh's Halletts, John Marsh Corner and Thomas Marshes all of which were disposed of before 1818.

### **Daniel 1781- 1832 and Susanna(h) 1788 – 1812 and Eliza 1791 – 1823 and Mary Maria ?**

Daniel was the second son of Samuel and Edith and is an interesting character not least because he was married three times but also because he seemed to be regularly on the move.

He was born in 1781, whereabouts unknown. His father did not appear in Bothenhampton until 1788 as far as can be established. Daniel was certainly in Bothenhampton in the latter part of the century because he witnessed a marriage on 24 June 1796 of John Poulder of 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment Dragoon of the parish of Bradpole, a sojourner, to Elizabeth Case. He witnessed another marriage of a couple, both from the parish of Bothenhampton, a James Forsey and Mary Cormick on 4 October 1804.

Four years later he married for the first time a Susanna(h) Bartlett at Hook in 1808. She was 20 years old and he 27. They had two sons, Theophilus Bartlett born 26 November 1809 and John Style born 19<sup>th</sup> October 1808. Both were baptised on the same day, 30 April 1811, somewhere in Lyme Regis.

His wife died at the age of 23/24 after just four years of marriage on 30 March 1812 at Lyme. Four years later Daniel marries for the second time an Eliza James at Lyme Regis. There is uncertainty here about the name of this lady because although she signed her name James and one of the witnesses signed May Ann James (presumably mother or sister), John Edward, in his research, had her surname recorded as Peterson and, as we will see, Eliza's daughter takes the name Peterson at a second christening.

Their daughter, Edith Stiles, was born on 21 June 1817 and she was baptised two days later at Lyme Regis. They were living then at Hole Farm, Lyme Regis and Daniel is described as a Yeoman. They're second child, a son, Joseph James, was born 28 June 1822 but died just 3 months later in September 1822. He had been baptised in Lyme Regis on 24 July. His parents had moved by then to Middle Mill Cottage still in Lyme Regis and Daniel still described as a Yeoman. Joseph James was buried in the parish of Lyme Regis on 24 September 1822 aged just 2 months 26 days. Eliza James, who was born in 1791, also dies at the young age of 32 years in June 1823 and is buried in Lyme.

The next siting of Daniel is at Hawkchurch on 2 January 1829 when he attends a second baptism of his daughter, Edith Stiles, but at this baptism she adds a third Christian name, Peterson, which is intriguing given John Edwards records mentioned above.

His son, Theophilus Bartlett Jnr., married a Martha Maud Coates just three days before his death without issue on 30 April 1909 at Malvern.

A story about the financial stress of persons of the same generation as the artists would not go amiss. It is told that a hopeful eye had been kept on one Theophilus Bartlett Jnr. – grandson of Daniel, the brother of John. He was for many years without a wife but with money and from time to time various members of the family were taken, at an early age, before the gentleman for his blessing and approval and hopes must have run high. Alas, Theo. found himself a spouse or perhaps it would be more accurate to say that she found him. He married his housekeeper, Martha Maud Coates and left not a penny within the Goddard family but much within the Coates.

The circumstances of his making his Will and its signing are somewhat obscure but of more than passing interest. It was witnessed on 27 April 1909 by Joseph Hill and Ernest Smith, both railway clerks. The ceremony took place, so it is said, on a Cheltenham Railway Station after the Gentleman had had some kind of apoplexy, occasioned perhaps by the excitement of his wedding. He lived three more days and the sorrow of Martha Maud was no doubt relieved to some extent by the sum of £15,000 which he had left her, less sundry small bequests of which most went to members of her own family.

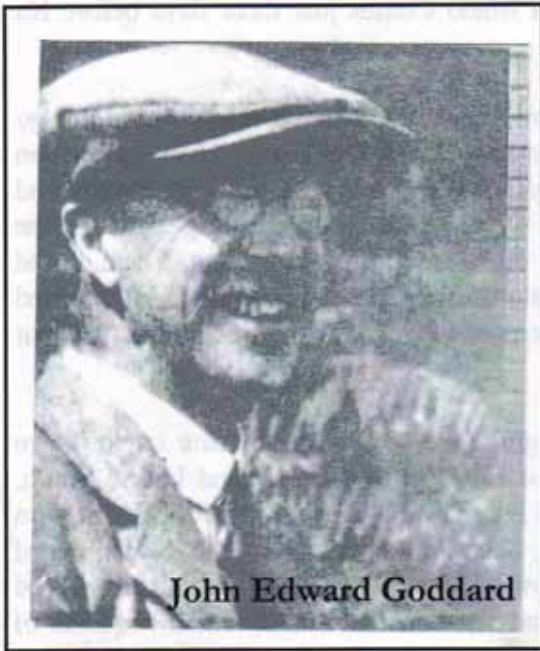
A copy of the Will reveals that his address at the time was 2 Osborne Villas, Cheltenham, Gloucester. He left this property to Martha Maud “together with the whole of my plate, linen, china, glass, pictures, furniture and other household effects.....and the sum of £6000....” He also bequeathed £400 to his brother-in-law, Edwin George Coates, £400 to his late parlourmaid and £1127 to twelve friends. His godson, who interestingly is named Claude Goddard Jacobson, received £10 and his sisters –in- law of just a few days £20 each. He died 3 days later on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1909 and Probate was granted 29<sup>th</sup> July 1909.

His popularity in his own family was not posthumously enhanced and the Christian name of Theophilus has not yet recurred. Martha must have been either over arrogant or under endowed with tact for it appears that she considered it her duty to call shortly after the death of her husband, upon the fabulous Mary Anne, the latter found her “unacceptable.”

### **John Edward 1866-1933 and Alice 1875-1952**

Bringing us more up-to-date, we turn now to John Bedloe's children's generation. His first born son was John Edward who, as we have already seen, was born in China in 1866. He came home to England with his parents and Chinese nurse, when about five years old, in one of the last of the China Tea Clippers. Due to his nurse his knowledge of the Chinese language as a child was superior to his knowledge of English. He was educated at Framlingham before his parents fell on hard times. His career in the Wilts. and Dorset Banking Co., which later became Lloyds Bank was cut short by eye trouble, which developed not many years after his entry, and he was forced to resign. He was eventually operated upon by Prof. Malcolm McHardy for a cataract of the eye, at this time a delicate operation the result of which was by no means certain. It was however a success and although his eyesight was not completely restored to normal, he was not seriously inconvenienced when aided by glasses.

In 1892 he entered the office of T.E.Gosling, a Bournemouth Solicitor, who was a schoolfellow and lifelong friend. He married, in 1896, Alice Smith who was born in Essex.



**John Edward Goddard**

This was the year his father died. Alice was the daughter of Clement Smith a brick and tile manufacturer of that village and one of a family of twelve, four boys and eight girls. They became a widely scattered and long-lived family, some emigrating to Australia, some to the United States. At this time the daughter of Alice's sister, Emily, who was a Miss Warren had become Mrs. Hoadley Brown and was a resident of Bermuda. Her son Warren Brown, a graduate of Yale University was then 24 years of age.

When Alice married John Edward she was living at 4 Station Road, Gillingham, Kent, and was Manageress of the local shop Spiers & Pond. The marriage it appears did not at the time meet with full family approval. They had three sons, Edward Bryer born in 1897, John

Clement born in 1901 and Joseph Bedloe born in 1914. An unhappy tale is told concerning the death of her father. Having reached the age of about 70 he bought a fair amount of ground on which he intended to build himself a house and have an orchard. As one day he was approaching the site with a load of bricks in a horse drawn cart a fowl flew up from the ditch, the horse bolted upsetting the load and driver into the ditch. Clement was pulled from beneath the debris but died of internal injuries.

John Edward continued with T.E.Gosling until 1920 and afterwards with the newly formed firm of Gosling and Bunton as Managing Clerk. They lived for short periods at 101 Stewart Road, 1(a) South View, Fortescue Road, Gerald Road, all in Bournemouth, and then for the remainder of their lives, about 20 years in the case of John Edward and 40 years in the case of Alice, at Fordington, 5 Leamington Road, Bournemouth.

He was for some years Deputy Clerk to the Winton Urban District Council until the inclusion of the district within the County Borough of Bournemouth. He was presented with a vote of thanks under Seal of the Council at their last Meeting on 6 November 1901.



**Alice Goddard**

He was very fond of Dorset and with the exception of a cruise in 1929 to the Canary Islands and Portugal, with an old friend Gerald Willis, he spent most holidays in that County, often at Dorchester where he carried out much of the initial investigation for this History. He retired in 1932 and died in the following year. His widow continued to reside in the same house until her death 19 years later at the age of 77. By his Will dated 7 November 1904 his Estate of £2,464 was left to his wife Alice.

## Edward Bryer 1897-1980 and Ivy 1903-1993

Edward Bryer, the eldest son of John Edward, was educated at the Bournemouth School, which he left in 1913. In his own words he was "a complete academic failure" but events appeared to prove this a somewhat negative overstatement. However there was no doubt of his success in the realms of scouting, his brother, Joseph Bedloe, recalling a scout shirt, the basic material of which was almost completely hidden by proficiency badges – this garment was jealously guarded through the years by his mother and eventually surrendered, no doubt with reluctance, to the moths and history.



He joined the Southampton Branch of the Capital and Counties Bank (later Lloyds) in 1914 at a salary of £40 p.a. Within two years of entering the Bank he joined the Hants. T.A. Artillery by giving his age as 18 when in fact he was then 16 years old. He was mobilised on 4 August 1914 and served with Coastal Defence Batteries in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight until early 1915 when he volunteered for overseas service and was transferred to the Royal Garrison Artillery and sent to Loos. He was wounded in the Battle of the Somme at Passendale Ridge, when there were 60,000 casualties on the first day, and sent to Military Hospital at Le Treport, returning to the Ypres Sector with the 276 Seige Battery, R.G.A. until the Battle of Vimy Ridge when the German Lines were broken at Cambrai with the first tanks. Surprised at the success of the venture they were forced to retreat to previously occupied positions by lack of organisation, reinforcements and transport. Soon after he paid a return visit to Military Hospital, this time at Etaples, after being

gassed. On recovery he was posted again to the 276 Seige Battery and served at the Ypres and Vimy Ridge Sectors until they were overrun by the German advance of 1918 and were forced to leave their guns behind. The Battery remained disorganised behind the German Lines until the British advance and counter attack when he rejoined his unit at Roubaix, where the Battery was re-equipped. He was awarded the M.M. in September 1918. As a member of the occupying forces and as relief to the Canadians he was posted variously to Mehlim and Godesberg on the Rhine until 1919 when he returned to England as Battery Sgt. Major and was demobilised on July 14 of that year.

With some reluctance but with parental persuasion he returned to Lloyds Bank, at their Shirley Southampton Branch. He was married on 6 July 1922 to Ivy Bagshaw Glover at St. Lukes Church, Southampton. Ivy was the daughter of Alexander Grey Glover, a Chief Engineer in the Royal Mail Steamship Company living at Cranbury Avenue, Southampton and of Minnie Glover, formerly Bagshaw of Brixham, Devon. She was one of a family of nine, three boys and six girls. Her Mother was the daughter of William Bagshaw, a building contractor of Southampton.

After serving in the Portswood, Southampton and Gosport Branches of the Bank Edward Bryer joined the Inspection dept. in July 1931. He was later Sub-Manager at Bury St. Edmunds. In 1934 he was elected to the Royal St. Edmunds Lodge of Freemasons and was raised to the rank of Master Mason in 1935. In 1936 he was promoted to Head Office as General Manager's Assistant and Assistant Manager at Coventry the following year. His house at Coventry was damaged during an air raid in 1940 and he and his family moved to Leamington. From September 1940 he was forced by air raids to sleep on the dining room floor of a friends house in Kenilworth and return to Coventry at daylight each morning. He was Manager at Stafford and Coventry Branches and in 1950 he was appointed Manager of the Colmore Row, Birmingham Branch, the largest of their Branches.

They had six children, the eldest, Eileen Mary Ivy, was born on 9 April 1923 and married John Martin Warren who was in Lloyds Bank. They had two sons – John Paul born 6 November 1950 and Kim Peter. John Peter was born in Gosport on 27 October 1924. He was educated at Culford School and Warwick School and was apprenticed to the Port Line in March 1942. He obtained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Officers Ticket, in due course, and served continuously at sea throughout the War. In 1948 he resigned from the Company and emigrated to New Zealand where he joined an advertising firm but later left to enter the New Zealand Meteorological Service but which he left to train as a schoolmaster. On 30 June 1950 he married Alice Davies of Wellington who had one boy of a former marriage in the name of Thompson, which was dissolved in 1950. He took up his first appointment as a schoolmaster in 1953. They had one child, Edward Bryer born 20 October 1954.

Diane Babette was born 2 February 1931 and after her marriage to D.B.Daniels, lived at Malvern. Her husband was also in Lloyds Bank. They had two children – Catherine born in 1961 and Karin born in 1964. Bridget Daphne, their fourth child, was born 30 January 1939 and she married Jeremy Edwin Brown of Bournemouth and had four children: Sally Alexandra born 17 February 1964, Veronica Jane born 15 April 1965, Wendy Marion born 1967 and Lucy Olivia born 18 January 1972. Then came Edward Alexander on 4 February 1941 and he married Eleanor Adam Sinclair and had two children: Edward Clive born 4 April 1968 and Giles Sinclair born 30 March 1971. The final offspring was Anne Barbara born 22 February 1948 and she married John Vander Horst Rees on 7 January 1989.

### **John Clement 1901-1945**

The second son of John Edward, born in 1901 and educated at the Bournemouth School to which he gained a scholarship. He was known as Jack. The sea was in his blood and in November 1915, at the age of 14 he ran away and endeavoured to join the Port Line in London by signing on one of their ships as a seaman. The company however discovered his real age and he was returned home. His father then went to London and arranged for him to be apprenticed to the Line, which eventually became the Cunard Australian Service, and he was articled on 23 November 1915 for four years. He sailed first in the Port Alma.

He served continuously at sea during the 1914/18 war and was awarded the Mercantile Marine medal and the British War Medal & Clasp. He was 4<sup>th</sup> Mate in 1920, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mate in 1922, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mate in 1927 and First in 1933. He gained both his Master's and extra Master's Ticket. On the 15 April 1937 he married Diana Molly Hone at the London Register Office. The marriage was not a success and a daughter of his wife by a third party was the basis for divorce proceedings in 1941.