



Sent: 03 January 2005 22:00
Subject: Grom Joan Dibble

Dear Julie and Brian.

A friend in Kent, and I, are working on a database of Goddards in Kent. At the moment it contains over two hundred names with separate databases for births, deaths and marriages back to the 1500's. There are just a few additional surnames that are relevant to my tree. It is very much work in constant progress. I have added the three marriages you recently gave me for Rye as they may one day be significant to my tree.

A thought.

How easy would it be for you to send me every Kent, Goddard BMD you have on file to add to the database? It would bring every BMD the association has for Kent in to one document and would be very beneficial to the members searching in Kent.

If that is not feasible, or maybe it already is one document, I will send you what I have so far and update you periodically.

Happy new year to you both,

Kindest regards

Joan

MERSHAM

'A Court Baron is regularly held for this manor by the Dean and Chapter, but the demesne land are demised from time to time on a beneficial lease. Samuel Goddard is the present lessee and resides in the Court Lodge, in the walls of which are several Gothic arched windows and doorways of Ashlar stone and other marks of ancient appearance."

THE MANOR OF BONNINGTON ALIAS KENNETTS.

'In the reign of James I the estate was alienated to White, whose son seems to have purchased of the heirs of Valentine Knight Gent. of Sellinge, son of Thomas Knight of that place. Those lands in this parish mentioned before as having been held in Edward III's time by Richard De Otford, which afterwards came into the possession of a family named Kennett in which they remained for some time in so much that they at length gained the name of Kennetts from whom they passed to the Knights descended from those at Aldington and from them to White. White became possessed of the manor of Bonnington and the estate of Kennetts likewise, the whole of the manor of Bonnington alias Kennetts and the house of that - the Pinn Farm or Bonnington Pinn, situated on the Kennetts estate became the manor house. In the name of White this manor and estate continued to Thos. White Gent. who in 1690 married Grace sister of John Lynch Esq. of Groves, by whom he had a son, Thomas and three daughters who married Goddard, Beake and Hawkins. On his death it descended one moiety to the son and the other to the three daughters. Thomas White, the son, alienated his moiety to Goddard who purchased the remainder of the other moiety of the children of Beake and Hawkins, both deceased, and became possessed of the whole of it, which he afterwards sold to his nephew Mr Samuel Goddard of Mersham the present owner of it."

KENT
BONNINGTON



25th January 1994

Dear Julie,

please find enclosed details of Bonnington Registers as requested. The Registers are on microfilm and are hard to read in parts due to poor writing and over-crowding of entries. As I only had a reader for 2 hours I just had to get on best I could.

I also extracted the few Spain entries that were there for your enquirer. Bonnington is on the edge of Romney Marsh and in Mediaeval times before the Marsh was reclaimed, would have been a coastal town. During the course of the late 1700s the Royal Military canal was built in case of invasion by the French and the later part of the register includes deaths of men working on the canal not natives of the Parish. There are also several accidental drownings of soldiers recorded.

The odd names of some of the Goddard children are explained by the fact that most are names of other families in Bonnington, although not all with a direct connection. The Parish registers of Mersham are also held at the Centre for Kentish Studies, so perhaps next time I shall look at them.

Anyway I hope they are of use to you. We have booked our room for the A.G.M. so I will see you then.

regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "L. G. G.", followed by a long horizontal line.

BONNINGTONGoddard. Ref P 34-1/1 1681 - 1812

Baptisms.

1702 May 24 Edward son of John & Mary Goddard.
 1704 Dec 10 Jane daughter of John & Mary Goddard.
 1707 Apr 15 John son of John & Mary Goddard.
 1709 Feb 5 Samuel son of William & Anne Goddard.
 1711 Apr 29 Jane daughter of William & Anne Goddard.
 1711 Sep 23 Samuel son of John & Mary Goddard.
 1714 Sep 12 Mary daughter of William & Anne Goddard.
 1716 Apr 8 Sarah daughter of John & Mary Goddard.
 1718 Sep 7 Edward son of William & Anne Goddard.
 1719 Jan 29 Ann daughter of William & Anne Goddard.
 1723 Aug 29 Elizabeth daughter of William & Anne Goddard.
 1725 Feb 20 Will (?) son of William & Ann Goddard. (not clear)
 1736 May 30 John son of John & Elizabeth Goddard.
 1740 Aug 3 Catherine daughter of Samuel & Catherine Goddard.
 1742/3 Mar 13 Elizabeth daughter of Samuel & Catherine Goddard.
 1744 Feb 19 Elizabeth daughter of John & Elizabeth Goddard
 1754 Elizabeth daughter of William Goddard and his wife baptise
 May 12.
 1756 Dec 12 Ann daughter of William & Elizabeth Goddard.
 1766 May 25 Susannah daughter of William & Anne Goddard.
 1769 Oct 22 Salutha daughter of William & Anne Goddard
 (could be Tabitha but written quite clearly as above)
 1771 May 12 Catharine daughter of William & Anne Goddard.
 1776 May 1 Robert son of Robert & Mary Goddard. Bapt
 privately May 1st brought to church 19th.
 1777 Sept 5 Susannah daughter of Robert & Mary Goddard.
 1801 Oct 26 Sarah Elizabeth daughter of Steed and Elizabeth
 Goddard.
 1812 Jul 30 Elizabeth Battlebery daughter of John & Mary Goddard.

N.B. Steed and Battlebury were the names of two families in the Parish.

Baptisms

No baptism of Thomas Spain in register.

- 1804 William Deal ? son of William & Ann Spaine. Feb 10.
? ? son of William & Ann Spaine. May 12. Unable to
read, item written in late among other entries.
1807 Mark ? son of William & Ann Spain. Aug 23.

Marriages

- 1737 Nov 27 ?
William Spain to Sarah Goddard.
1775 19 Oct
John Steed of Bilsington to Catherine Spain.
1800 March ?
William Spain of Bilsington Bachelor to
Anne Earle.
Witness Thomas & Mary Spain.

Register very difficult to read during certain periods due to poor handwriting and late entries being added.

Burials.

- 1782 June 17 Ann Spain, Infant buried.

Marriages.

- 1709 June 8th
William Goddard to Anne Cock
- 1737 November 27 ?
William Spain to Sarah Goddard.
- 1739 Date ?
Samuel Goddard to Catherine Sladden.
- 1761 17th November
William Burton of the Parish to
Catherine Goddard of the Parish
(both signed)
Witness Samuel Goddard
Richard Saunders.
- 1762 Stephen Chapter of Sevington to
Elizabeth Goddard of the Parish
(both signed)
Witness Samuel Goddard
William Saunders.
- 1765 William Goddard of the Parish to
Anne Carpenter of the Parish By Licence 14 Nov
(he signed)
Witness Samuel Goddard
William Saunders
- 1800 September Banns only called. No marriage in Parish.
John Fagg Goddard* and Mary Battlebury both of
the Parish.

* Fagg - a family in Bonnington.

Burials

1711 Sept 29 Jane Goddard Infant.
1718 ? Sept 13 Mary daughter of William & Anne Goddard.
1719 Apr 7 Edward infant of William & Anne Goddard.
1719 June 12 Jane daughter of William & Ann Goddard.
Affidavits sworn for all.
1731 June 6 Sarah daughter of William & Anne Goddard.
Affidvt sworn.
1742 Nov 2 Elizabeth Goddard was buried.
1745 May 13 John Goddard was buried.
1755 Feb 16 John Goddard buried.
1765 May 3 William Goddard Senr. buried.
1767 Apr 20 Anne Goddard Widow, buried.
1772 June 29 Catharine Goddard , Infant buried.
1776 Feb 16 Sarah Goddard buried.
1784 Oct 24 Anne Goddard.
1785 May 21 Catharine Goddard.
1796 March 7 Samuel Goddard.
1801 Nov 5 Sarah Elizabeth daughter of Steed & Elizabeth
Goddard. Infant.
1804 Dec 6 Anne Goddard , Single Person.

9th June 1993



Dear Julie,

thanks for your last letter and sorry for the delay in my reply. I have at long last been to look at Hasted's history of Kent ! I have typed it on a seperate piece of paper. I have only copied out the parts relevent to the Goddards, but if you would like the whole transcript for your records then I can have them photocopied.

Hasted's history was compiled between the years 1778 - 1799 so the date of the Goddard's occupation would be between those dates. The card index to Hasted at the Centre for Kentish Studies also mentions Robert Goddard occupier of Bonnington Pinn Farm. I could find no reference to him in this copy of Hasted. However a second revised edition of Hasted was compiled between 1797-1801 and he was probably the son of Samuel Goddard in residence earlier. (or other male relative) As you will see, Samuel Goddard was indeed at some time resident in Mersham Court Lodge as the lessee and later inherited Kennetts Bonnington Manor from an annoyingly un-named Goddard uncle. Do you have the I.G.I of Kentish Goddards ? Perhaps he may be named on that. Further investigation will be required I expect. There is a member of the Kent family history group who lists the Goddards of Mersham as one of her interests. I will write to her and ask for any further info and a copy of her tree if she is descended from them. I have a spare Goddard Assoc. leaflet to sent her as well.

We have just returned from our week in Fovant. Talk about culture shock, such a small place, very rural and peaceful. We stayed in a converted cow shed which was very nice and the villagers were all very friendly and chatty. None of us wanted to come home. We did manage a small stop in Easton on the way home for an hour which was nice as my dad hadn't been there before.

Anyway, that's it for now, hope to hear from you soon.

Lid

P.S. P.T.O.

I found a copy of 'Lord Goddard, Lord Chief Justice' biography by Fenton Bester at a sale of old library stock for the princely sum of 30p! Would you like it for the Assoc Library when I have finished it? or do you already have a copy? He says in the book that he is descended of thought to be descended from the Aldborne Goddards, has any one researched his tree? Also Robert Goddard, the rocket inventor - do you know which line he comes from. Found a picture of Robert G. in a magazine when he was young, he is quite startlingly like my dad in looks! Lord Chief Justice Goddard is also remarkably similar - the old man obviously has more Goddard in him than I originally thought!!

J.D.'s FAMILY.

24th November '98

Dear Mrs. Goddard,

Thank you very much for replying to my letter so promptly.

If I could take up your offer to look up the Goddard families listed in the Census for Folkestone in 1881, I'm certain Francis Jacobs would be interested.

Thank you for your kind thought.

I shall mail the information together with the address you forwarded of Kathryn Goddard Meyer. It should prove to be a topic of conversation when the families come together for their Christmas

Festivities. They are so wide-spread that it appears there maybe cousins all over the place.

Regarding Richard Jefferies book. I appreciate exactly what you mean. My husband has collected all Jefferies first editions apart from the obscure early ones.

Yours sincerely,
Felicity M. Fisher

Charlotte 34 w/o Frederick

1881 CENSUS OF KENT
Folkestone

Goddards

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Head of household</u>	<u>Where born</u>
Ann	50	Unm	Housekeeper	Self	Middlesex, Clapham
Elizabeth A.	25	Unm	None	d/o William	Folkestone
Ellen	02	Unm		d/o Frederick	Folkestone
Emma	25	Unm	Housemaid	house of H.L. Blossé	Wilts., Wootton Rivers
Frederick	39	Marr	Labourer	Self	Folkestone
Frederick	28	Unm	Master Mariner	in house of William Goddard	Folkestone
Frederick	15	Unm	Labourer	s/o Frederick	Folkestone
Frederick G.	3	Unm	s/o William D. Goddard		Folkestone
Gertrude R.	2	Unm	d/o William D. Goddard		Folkestone
Herbert W.	1 month		s/o William D. Goddard		Folkestone
Jane	58	Widow	Charwoman	in house of Thomas Jackson	
Katherine	12	Unm	sew	Emilia GREEN	Kent, Ruckinge
Katherine	8	Unm	d/o Frederick Goddard		Folkestone
Louisa	4	Unm	d/o Frederick Goddard		Folkestone
Martha	20	Unm	Housemaid	in house of Anne Milen	Berks, Finchampstead
Mary	56	Mar	Wife of William		Folkestone
Mary M.	32	Mar	Wife of William D. Goddard		Essex, Wanstead
Samuel	06	Unm	s/o Frederick Goddard		Folkestone
Stephen	27	Unm	Mariner, brother in law	Thomas Jackson	Kent, Bilsington
Stephen	07	Unm	s/o Frederick Goddard		Folkestone
William	59	Mar	Retired hairdresser		Kent, Rochester
William D.	31	Mar	Railway Clerk		Folkestone

More details can be obtained by consulting print outs of the schedules eg addresses. ask for more information if you wish - costs usually 25p a sheet.

Folkestone 19 Queen St, Kent

Thomas Jackson 38 b. Stockport
Railway signalman

Cathrine Jackson 40 b. Bilsington

Jane Goddard Mo-in-law Charwoman
58 b. Bilsington

Stephen Goddard b-in-law Manner
27 b. Bilsington

Henry Townsend 28 v Railway signalman
b. Chiddingley Sussex

...And all that

NOWADAYS it is a matter of some civic pride, almost to the point of snobbery, to reveal that one's place of residence is recorded in the Domesday Book—the Norman Conquerors' first attempt in 1086 to record exactly what the spoils of their occupation had accomplished. All sorts of misconceptions are held about this book so one has at the outset to say straight out that Kingsdown does not figure in its pages by name, in spite of detailed listings of much else in Axstane Hundred.

The reason why it doesn't is probably even more interesting and a little complicated. Woodlands, too, does not feature but for a different reason. Maplescombe does and if we deal with that holding first it may well illuminate the others.

Whereas today, for both civil and church administration purposes, Maplescombe is included with Kingsdown this has only been so for some 350 years. When in 1086 William the First's surveyors and tax assessors came up from Farningham they recorded that Maplescombe was divided roughly into two and each part was held by a separate person. Thus the short entries freely translated from the Latin say:

V. THE LAND OF THE BISHOP OF BAYEUX

Ansgot of Rochester holds Maplescombe from the Bishop Odo for half a sulung. There is arable land for (left blank in the original). On the demesne is one plough with one villein, four bordars and four serfs. There is an acre of meadow and enough woodland to support eight pigs and valued at sixteen pence. It was formerly worth £4; now it is worth £5.10s. Previously Eustan held it of King Edward...

Wadard holds Maplescombe from the Bishop Odo. It is rated at half a sulung. There are two ploughs, one villein, four bordars, five serfs, one and a half acres of meadow, woodland for eight pigs and it is valued at sixteen pence. It was previously worth £3 and now £6. Formerly Ultan held it from Harold.

Ansgot de Roucestre tenet de epō Maplescombe p di
 midio solin. 1/2 sul. In dñio. ē. i. car. cū uno uillo 7 iii.
 bordā 7 iii. seruis. Ibi una acē p̄a. 7 silua viii. porc. 7 xvi.
 denar. plus. Valuit .iiii. lib. 7 m. c. x. sol.
 Ultan tenuit de rege. f.

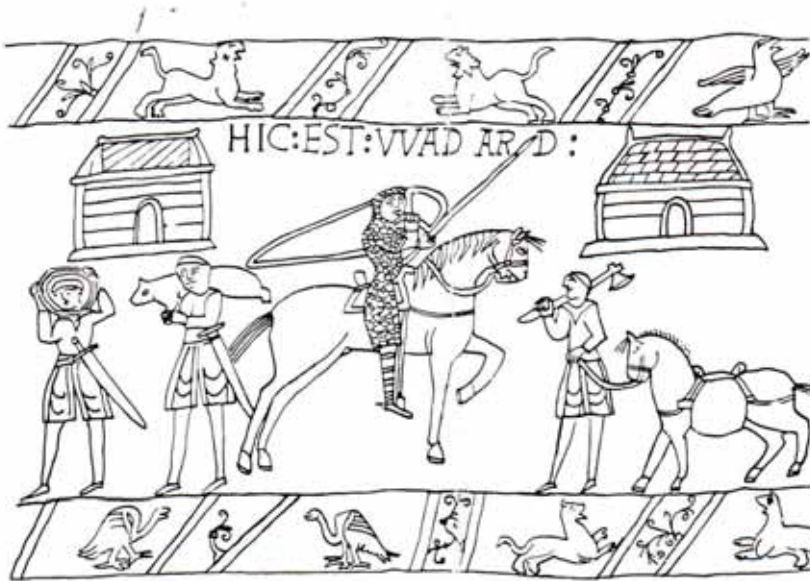
Jfō Wadard tenet de epō Maplescombe p dim solin fe
 defct. 1/2 sul. ē. ii. car. Ibi sunt cū. i. uillo 7 iii. bordā 7 v.
 seruis. 7 una acē 7 dim p̄a. Silua viii. porc. 7 xvi. denar.
 Valuit .iiii. lib. 7 m. vi. lib. Ultan tenuit sub heraldo.

A facsimile reproduction of the two short entries for Maplescombe in the Domesday Book.

Which part of the parish of Maplescombe each feudal lord held is rather difficult to say, particularly as both Ansgot and Wadard also held land in the adjoining parish of Farningham. It is possible to postulate the division by taking the Knatts Valley Road as a boundary but equally likely is a lateral division with one farm where Maplescombe is today and the other to include either or both Knatts and East Hill Farms.

Who Ansgot and Wadard were is also rather difficult to say—Ansgot appears more closely associated with the Church and is, as can be seen, described as of Rochester; Wadard on the other hand is clearly one of William's men as well as a knight of the Archbishop. He holds more land in Kent and is a military man with a claim to fame as he is shown in the Bayeux Tapestry in a quartermaster's function during the Invasion. He is clearly someone of significance to the embroiderers as he is one of the few persons named, apart from the protagonists.

A word on the terms used; the *sulung* is thought to be a unit of assessment peculiar to Kent and not necessarily one of area, although it is generally accepted to be in the order of some 200 acres. The arable fields were measured in terms of ploughs which indicated the amount that one plough could deal with, whereas the woods were assessed by the number of pigs taken as tax. The money values and ownership of the property are recorded both before and after the Conquest and indicate whether the locality suffered or not. Maplescombe did not and in fact, as can be seen, prospered. The new land holders are noted at the beginning of each entry and are more often than not Normans who hold their new property usually by courtesy of the King, his subordinates, or the Church as



An extract from the Bayeux Tapestry, the 230-foot long embroidered linen strip. This picture appears approximately half-way along, soon after Duke William has landed at Pevensey. The Latin caption says 'Here is Wadard' implying he is well-known to those working on the tapestry and to those viewing it. He is in charge of rounding up supplies for the army prior to the Battle of Hastings. In the borders of the work are fabulous animals associated with various fables. More than one authority suggests the work may well have been done in Kent sometime between 1070 and 1090 when Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, was Earl of Kent and the tapestry represents propaganda for him.