

Hemyock

Telephone

Saturday, Janua

Dear Mr Goddard,

With regard to your request for a list of GODDARD to be found in the 1642 Protestation Returns - Devon, I have searched and found the following :-

Hemyock Hundred - Hemyock Parish

Goddard	James (senior)
Goddard	James (junior)
Goddard	Nicholas
Goddard	Samuel

Tiverton Hundred - Tiverton Parish

Goddard	John - shown as Churchwarden
---------	------------------------------

Teignbridge Hundred - Kingsteignton Parish

Godard [sic]	Henry
--------------	-------

The 1642 Protestation Returns for Devon were transcribed by Dr. Stoaate from originals held at the Houses of Parliament and Edited by A.L. Howard and printed in 1973.

Some 63,000 names of male persons over 18 years of age were recorded in 412 parishes of 468 that were included in Devon - the remainder are missing.

Recusants and others refusing to affirm the Oath of Protestation were listed elsewhere, only a few have been noticed so indicated in the returns.

Hope you find those Goddard's listed of interest.

Yours sincerely,

G. J. Youatt,

G.J. Youatt.

FLOATING TREES AND ONE-NAME STUDIES ARMCHAIR RESEARCH (ALMOST)

My brother Jim joined the Goddard Association of Europe in 1989 and came back from his first AGM with certain claims about the infamous Wadard, Domesday Book and Devon, which I did not believe. I was still of the opinion, at this time, that family-name groups were not entirely credible with their research and were too quick to assume connections with the rich and noble and push their lineage back to the Norman Conquest when family names were not in common usage until the later middle ages. I remind you again that the earliest Goddard I have seen reference to as a surname is 1208, and until someone finds anything earlier therefore, before this date all Goddards were just personal names, not members of any hereditary Goddard family.

So it was that I found myself in the local history section of Exeter University Library checking Domesday Book records, and it was here that I spotted a collection of parish registers, published by the Devon and Cornwall Record Society. This discovery was to prove pivotal in my subsequent association with the GAE: I joined, and even served on the Committee.

The first parish register I took from the shelf was one for Topsham, once a busy little port on the Exe estuary, and I flicked its pages open and could not believe my luck when it fell open on pages with two Goddards. "This is easy", I thought, "nothing much to this family history business ...it's all been done for me". But had it?

I work as an archaeology technician at Exeter University and my library card allowed me to take the two volumes for Topsham out. I took them home where I eagerly plodded through their pages looking for Goddards. I was hooked from that point, as much by the excitement of discovery, as by the ease of that discovery from published sources. My brother Jim is tracing our own family and I was well aware of the hours he'd spent looking at a microfilm reader for almost nothing. My first trawl through the pages was not thorough enough. My excitement at finding one Goddard entry on a page seemed to make me blind to others. As you can imagine, I became very much more diligent after this discovery.

I had a three generation floating tree for Topsham Goddards beginning in 1652 with the birth of John, son of John and Elizabeth, and ending in 1724 with the baptism of James, son of my second John and Elizabeth, after which the Goddards seemed to have moved on. Not everything in the records made sense and some discontinuity was obvious: certain marriages and births didn't take place here so my entries had to be guesses. The records for Topsham survive from 1600 so it might be fair to assume that John and Elizabeth were married elsewhere. But where did they come from and where did the Goddards eventually go? I had been told that one should spread out parish by parish to find links: poor communications, they said, restricted movement of people until relatively modern times. Never mind, it was a wonderful beginning and there were clearly plenty of others to collect.

I returned the Topsham volumes to the library and

browsed the other published registers on the shelves. And there, in a volume for Falmouth in Cornwall was one of my Topsham Goddards! The only reason I was alerted to this was because of the unusual name of Norris. So much for one parish at a time, these people seemed to have moved to the next county. The link, of course, was the sea. Topsham was a sea port and with Exeter, in its heyday at the end of the 17th century, handled almost 20% of the exports of English woolen cloth—worth between £60,000-£100,000 per week (Devon produced most of England's serge cloth). There had been no hint in the records of any connection with the sea but this was the link. I had been very lucky to find another parish so effortlessly: mariners could easily move almost anywhere. In the early eighteenth century the customs port of Exeter (which includes Topsham), had wider foreign shipping connections than any other port on the south coast. I had found Falmouth by chance but hope of finding others would be much more difficult.

As I ploughed through the Falmouth records I noticed they were happily more reveling in the detail they offered, and here I discover that William, brother of Norris No. 2, was described in the register on his marriage in 1773 to Elizabeth Retallack, as, 'Gentleman, Commander of His Majesty's Packet Boat *Duncannon*'. I found out later that the back of volume two for Falmouth had an index, unlike Topsham, and my job would have been easier if I'd looked there first (I would like to offer my sincerest thanks to all book indexers everywhere).

The Falmouth Packet Service was started in November 1689 with just two boats when the war with France prevented mail to Mediterranean countries going overland. The natural harbour of the Fal estuary rivals Sydney and Rio but without the trading demands of its hinterland and poor roads, was not exploited until the seventeenth century. By the 1760s sixteen boats were being used with new lines to North America. There were eventually more than 40 Packet Boats operating out of Falmouth.

At this point I wrote to Lt. Cdr. John Beck, one of the curators and trustees of the Falmouth Maritime Museum, and whom, I was told, knew all about the Packet Service. He replied with wonderfully detailed information about my Goddards, and not just William. For example, Norris Goddard was appointed to command the Packet Boat *PITT* in April 1761 on the New York run and made round trips of between 93 and 155 days. The *PITT* was replaced by the *LORD HYDE* in 1764 and he was superseded in his command in December 1773. William was appointed to command the *DUNCANNON* in September 1770 on the West Indies, Florida and South Carolina run. Cdr. Beck went on to tell me that a John Goddard was also appointed to command the *DUNCANNON* in February 1771 and may have been for one trip only while William was not available and suggested that John may have been a relation normally serving as second in command. But who was John? It is possible that he was an uncle, brother of the first Norris, but I couldn't be sure.

So I had a family of ships' commanders but incomplete accounts of their births and marriages. Where would they turn up next?

Well, luck was with me for Julie, our research coordinator, had sent me a copy of the Goddard wills compiled and abstracted by Rainald W K Goddard, mostly from the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, and published in 1910. I was by this stage collecting all Goddards in the five south-western counties, and began to separate out all the local wills from this book. On one of my casual browses I noticed a will dated 1774 for the first Norris, now in Falmouth, where he mentions the names of his children—I had no baptisms for these and now had the next part of the tree.

There was more luck to come! I was intrigued to see a number of other wills made by mariners, presumably away from home, laid low by illness and unlikely to return. One of this type I spotted, dated 1738, was by a John Goddard, Master of the ship *Theophila* lying at anchor at Fistula near Venice. And guess what, his son Norris was one of the witnesses. This was John Goddard who married Elizabeth Winter at Topsham in 1709. I had no baptism record in Topsham for this man but was convinced he was the son of John and Prissila. In the will John is described as being "... of St. Mary, Rotherhithe, Surrey". Rotherhithe is an ancient port on the Thames, just down stream from Tower Bridge. Was this the missing link? Should the route now be Topsham - Rotherhithe - Falmouth?

Even more luck I'm embarrassed to say, for yet another will caught my eye which was to reveal the next part of the story. Because of my own Irish connections, I began to read an Irish will for a William Goddard of Dublin whose eldest son is called Norris Matthew and the family is involved in the Packet Boat business—this time Dublin to Holyhead. This was the same William who was commanding the Packet Boat *Duncannon* in Falmouth and may have moved to Dublin after the birth of his second son William in 1775. The will names his other seven children, so I had the next part of the tree. This will also confirmed the Rotherhithe connection, it says: "My tenement in Elephant Lane, Rotherhithe, Co. Surrey, left me by Miss Elizabeth Winter, late of Rotherhithe, ... to 4th son John Shippard Goddard". William's grandmother was called Elizabeth Winter, but may not be the testator in this instance.

I had completed this five generation floating family tree (six if you include the first John and Elizabeth) spanning 160 years from the comfort of my own home, but this is where I deviate from my armchair research. I got my London street map out and looked up Elephant Lane: it was still there! So on my next trip to London I made my way to Rotherhithe expecting to see the original eighteenth century houses and street pattern. Well the developers had beaten me to it by about five years. Never mind, there were enough warehouses left standing (now converted into trendy dwellings) to get a feel for this old London port, and at least the Church was still there. I was happy. But what about all those loose ends in my tree, could they be solved by a trip to the Greater London records office and a search of the Rotherhithe parish registers? Yes, I went to the records office on my next trip to London, but only had two hours to spare. Once I'd found my way round the self-help microfilm

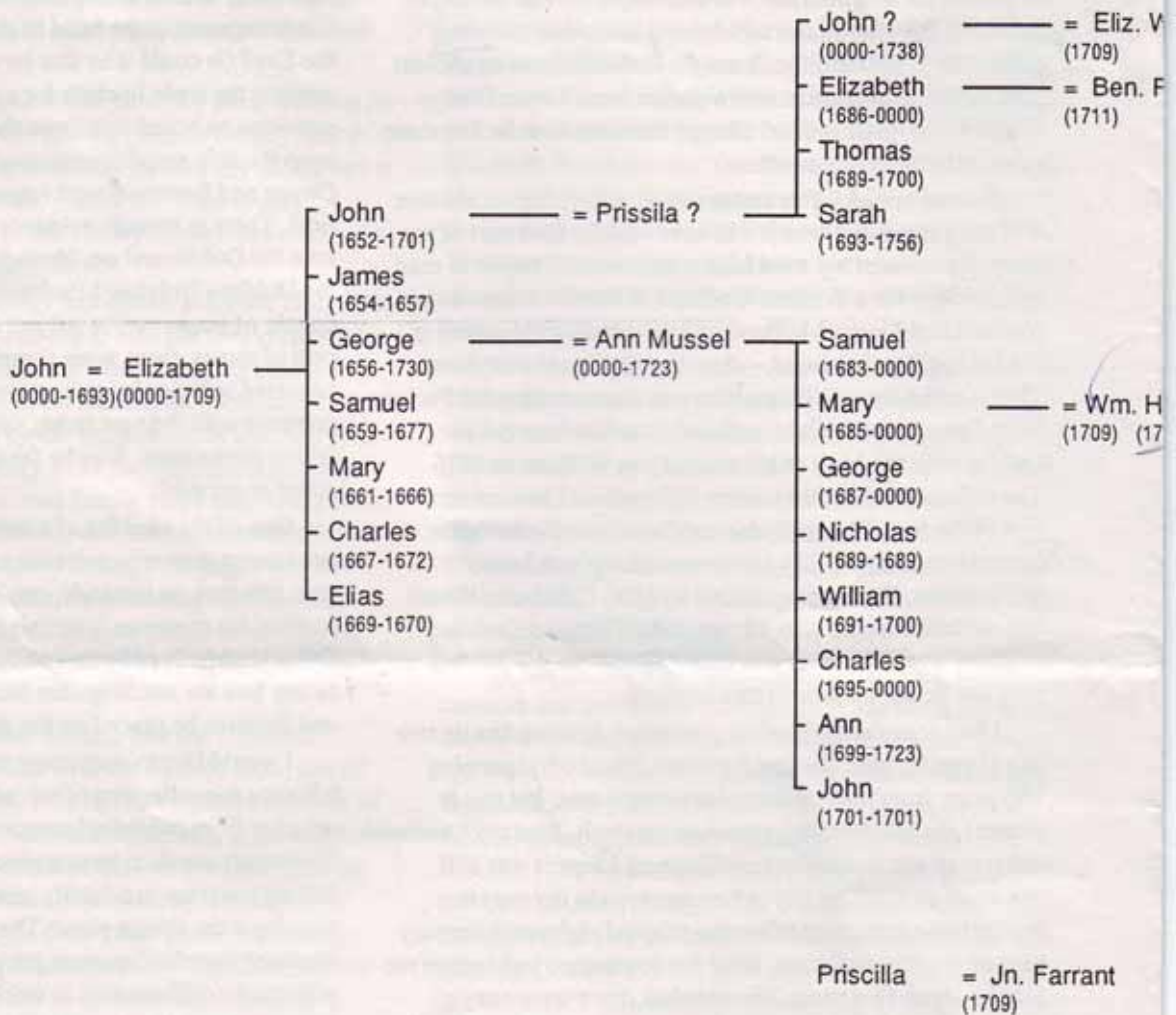
records (obvious I'm sure to all those active researchers, but not to me) I was able to confirm some of my Goddard uncertainties. I ought to go back again to be meticulous but find it hard to make the time. I returned to Rainald Goddard's published wills to see if there was anything else of use there. There was. I noticed one for a John Goddard, a sailmaker from Rotherhithe. Could this be Norris's younger brother? Well, yes it could but it is confusing because one of the Goddard baptisms I found for Rotherhithe was, James, son of James and Anna Maria. The will of John the sailmaker leaves all his estate to *his* wife Anna Maria. Is there some confusion between these two, or did they both marry an Anna Maria?

This is all quit exciting but what happens next? There are other documents and wills ancillary to this Goddard tree which seem to confirm and sometimes confuse the evidence. There are many on the tree who appear to have survived to maturity and could be pursued further. Taking the tree back further is another obvious goal and it is interesting to speculate about where my first John came from. If he were also a mariner could his father be John Goddard listed in an Admiralty census of mariners in 1619 and coming from Kingsteignton, at the head of the next estuary to the west of the Exe? Or could it be that he was sent to Topsham to oversee the trade in cloth for a relative—better to have someone on board ship from the family when the cargo and even the ship could 'go missing'. There are Goddards in Devon and Somerset with interests in woolen mills at this time. There is enough evidence from the will of William to take the Dublin end on. How did Norris Matthew fare with the Dublin - Holyhead Packet Service? I have looked at a couple of books on the subject and it seems it was not the best of routes, there were complaints about delayed or canceled services by sailing vessels and it eventually had to compete with the new steam ships of the nineteenth century taking over routes. Was he far sighted enough to see this and adapt or get out?

One of the benefits of a one-name study is that it does not always matter in quite the same way as one's own family tree: this tree, as it stands, can be regarded as enough: it is waiting for someone from this family to continue the search. Other Goddards collected on the way and who do not belong to any tree are not forgotten because they will all go to Julie and Brian to be placed on the data-base.

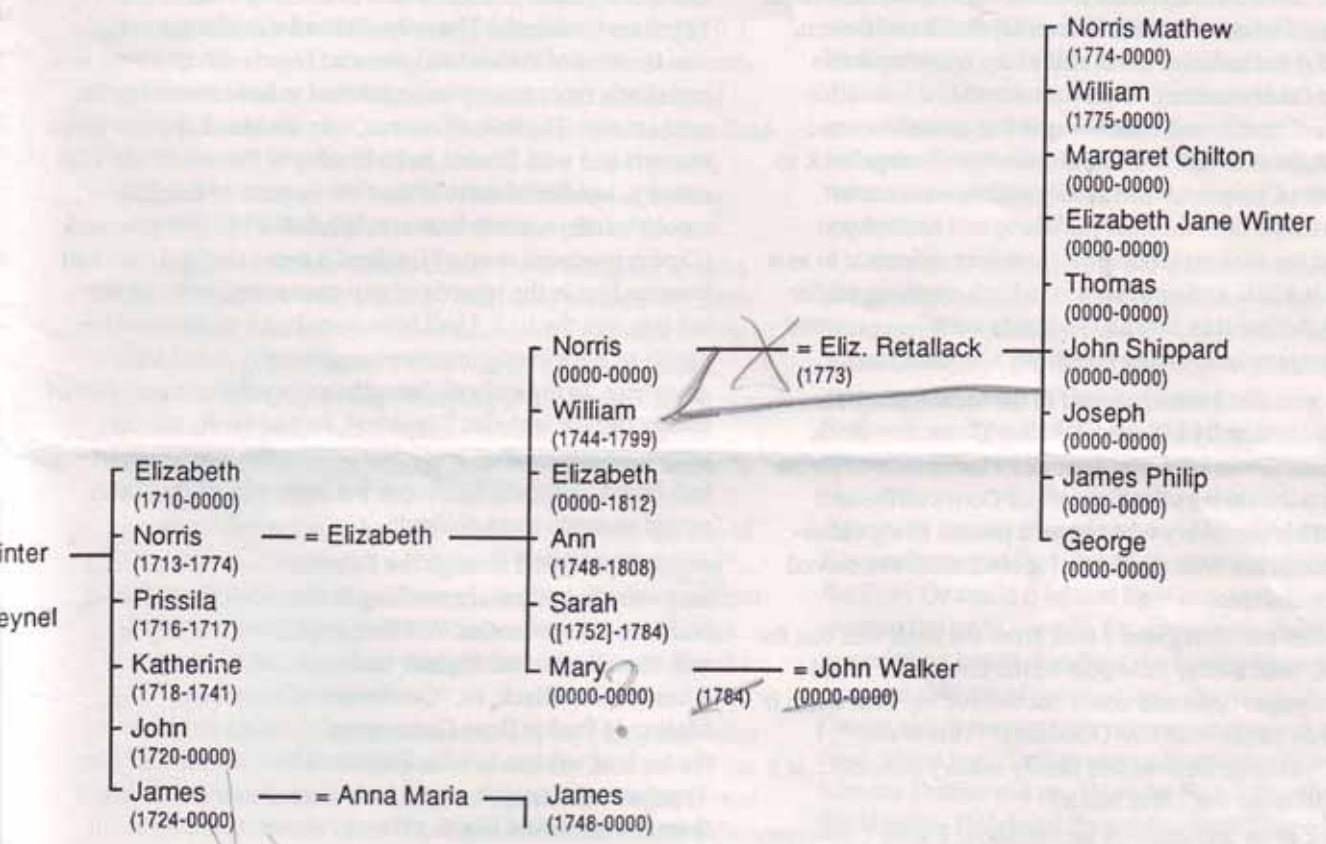
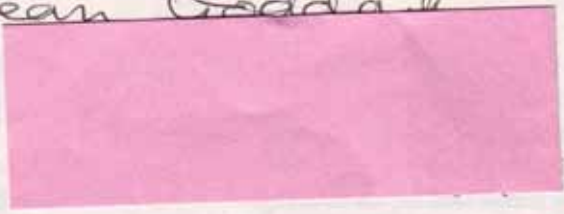
I would like to encourage others in the Association to advance the collection of records, to seek out all Goddards whether from published sources or their area records offices. There only needs to be one piece of the jig-saw missing to halt all progress in a family tree, and some kind member may have the absent piece. The example of this floating tree demonstrates the distances people could move and the potentially difficult task in tracking them down—I was just lucky perhaps. I have come across many published references to Goddards but I do not always have the time to collate them for the data-base. Someone could persue Goddard mariners or soldiers, for example, and I know that there are lots of interesting records for London, Southampton and Portsmouth. One hour a week in your local reference library could yield mountains of potentially useful information. It is also fun, so do try it.

Seán Goddard, Exeter



28 9-95

Sean Goddard



Norris (0000-0000)

5

GODDARDS
BETHNAL GREEN
1881

Goddard

0421 96 17

A.	30	Bootmaker
A.L.	10	
Elis.	6	

0424 41 60

Charles	25	
Charles	2	
James		
Lizzie	7m	

0428 65 24

Charles		
Mary A.	35	

0413 21 65

Charles H.	28	Woodcarver
Sarah	30	
Charles T.	4	
Thomas G.	2	

0421 7 7

Charles J.	51	dyer	born Coventry
Mary	52		
Annie	16		
Ellen	14		
Henry	10		

0416 57 40

Edward	34	born Ramsbury, Wilts.
Lydia	42	born Salisbury, Wilts
Frank	7	

0417 96 49

Francis	22	Clerk	born Somerset
---------	----	-------	---------------

Arthur	18	Clerk	born Somerset
<u>0424 41 65</u>			
James	41	general labourer	born Shoreditch
Jane			
William F.	15	general labourer	born Spitalfields
Elizabeth N.	37	needlewoman	born Bishopsgate

0417 59 7

John	47	clothiers cutter	
Martha	46		
Mary Louisa	14		
James	8		
Flore Martha	4		

0421 66 21

Maria	7	d/o John	
-------	---	----------	--

0420 13 19

John	35	licensed victualler	born Stepney
Emma	23		born Marylebone

0412 68 32

William	42	Carpenter	born Ely, Cambs.
Eliza	38	dressmaker	born Shoreditch
Arthur	12		

0423 119 34

Sidney	85	hawker	pauper blind
--------	----	--------	--------------

0424 64 24

Stephen	30	carman	born Middlesex
Prescella	23		born Molden, Essex

0425 28 4 9

Thomas	34	fisherman	born St Lukes
Elizabeth	30		born Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
Elizabeth	8		born Great Yarmouth
Hannah	11		born Great Yarmouth
Thomas	6		born Great Yarmouth

0416 88 50

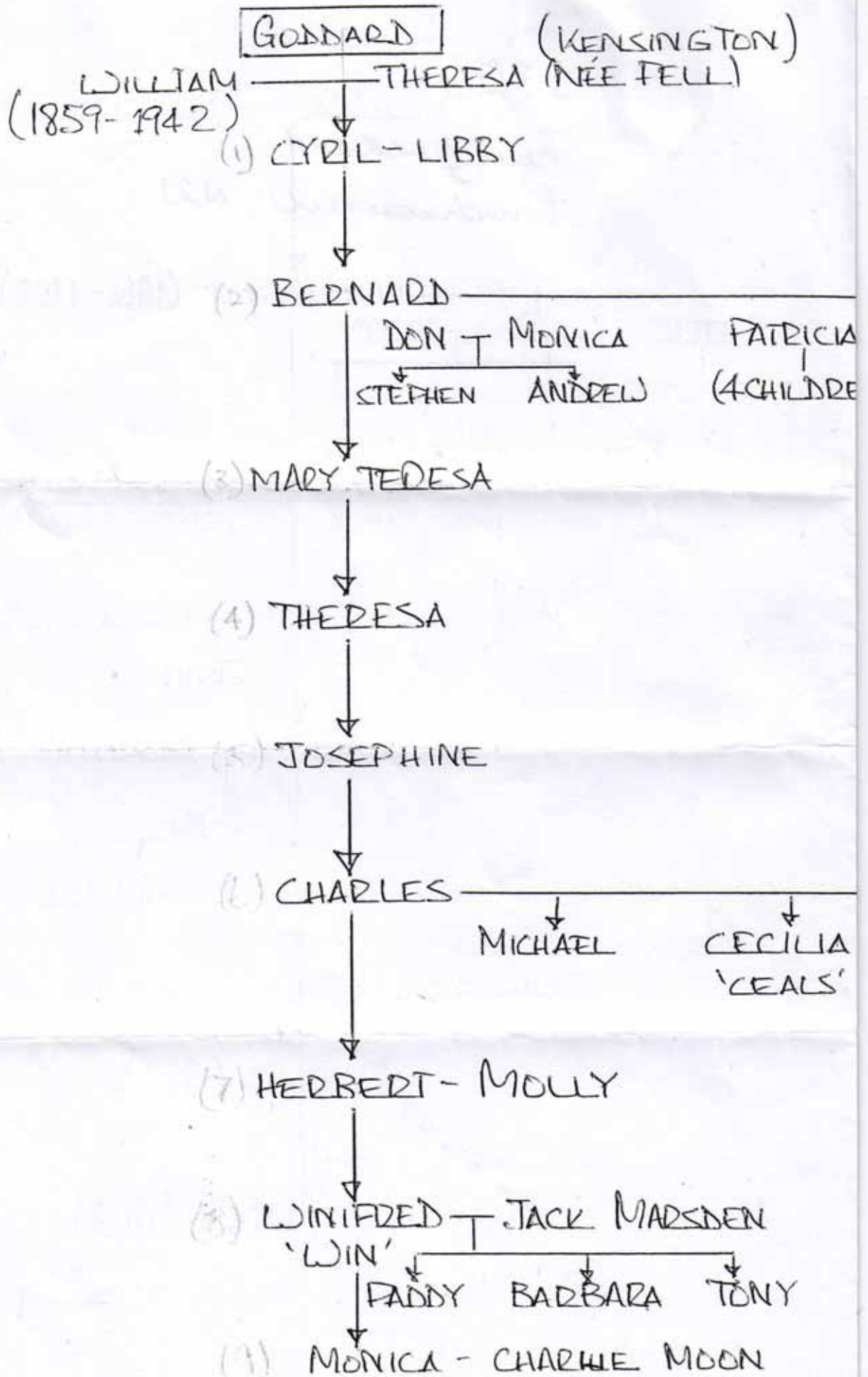
Thomas	52	watch finisher	born Coventry
--------	----	----------------	---------------

0423 05 5

William 78 Pauper sugar boiler born Mile End, Middx.

Alice 20 fur sewer for William Martin Boarder

Charles 25 boxmaker for Edward Nichols born Bishopsgate



(JERSEY) → CORBIN → (HEREFORD)

FREDERICK — MARY (NÉE WELSH)

MILLICENT (1901-1958)

PETER

PAUL — BETTY

(2 CHILDREN)

MATTHEW

STUART

BETHANY

(1904)

BASIL

ELIZABETH

JOE

JOAN

JEDDY

CHRIS

EILEEN

LESLIE WALLIS

JOHN

'JOE' JOSEPH

DOROTHY 'DOT'

ROBIN

CECILY — 'CIS' — CLARE

JOHN

DAVID

(2 CHILDREN)

JENNIE (1906)

KATHLEEN (1908)