



## The Goddard Association of Europe

NEWSLETTER

No. 103 – July 2012

### A few loose ends – A Voyage to Australia No. 5 of an infrequent series of notes

*The Passengers* From 1844 the Australian State Governments of New South Wales and Tasmania (then known as Van Dieman's Land) had forbidden outside authorities to land convicts in their States. This was promptly countered by the political answer of the British Government giving prisoners of good behaviour, such as one James Goddard of Hawley, Hampshire, a conditional "Queen's" pardon for any misdemeanours, instantly converting them from 'convicts' to 'exiles'.

James Goddard, born in Hawley in late 1822 the first son of James and Jane (née Coffee), had fallen foul of temptation by breaking into the house of John Edgell of Hawley (an agricultural labourer and a Methodist Local Preacher) on 16 May 1845, stealing a clock. He was tried at Winchester on 30 June 1845, found guilty and sentenced to ten years transportation. He spent a further three weeks in Winchester Gaol before being transferred on 23 July to Millbank Prison, London, where he remained a month before being sent to Pentonville Prison. He stayed here until 26 March 1847, after which he returned for a few weeks to Millbank Prison before being given a royal pardon along with 164 fellow prisoners and embarked on the ship *Joseph Somes* at Woolwich which then sailed via Cowes on the Isle of Wight to Australia on 4 June 1847. He arrived in Geelong, Victoria (75 kilometers south west of the state capital Melbourne) on 24 September. This and all James's Australian story, in detail, has been published by Association member Russell Hudson on his website: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~russellhudson/hud-jamesgoddard.htm>

However, there are several other facets which add colour to this mundane and common story from

the mid-nineteenth century. James landed in Australia as an 'exile not a 'convict' – a free man but not allowed to return to England until his ten year transportation order had expired. He, like many others, found that Australia had far more attractions than his old life in England, so he never returned to Hawley. He had been trained as a carpenter while in prison, but he was employed as a general servant when first in Australia. Apparently most of these exiles were given a complete free pardon within four years of their arrival in Australia if they had no further transgressions.

The Australian life story of James, as narrated by Russell Hudson, his great-great grandson, includes his marriage to Mary Askew on 6 January 1853, the birth of four children before his death on 11 February 1860 and his burial the following day. The big problem is that both the Millbank

and Pentonville prison records show him as a married man with two children, but when he married in Geelong his marriage certificate shows him as a widower! However, at this stage in the research no wife, children, suitable marriage, births or deaths can be found in England. In the March 1841 census he is apparently unmarried, but by the time of his trial in June 1845 he, according to his prison records, is married and has two children – that is if the information he provided for use in the prison records can be believed. But there is no mention of a wife in the Winchester prison notes. Did they ask the question? Or was he going for the 'sympathy vote' when he got to Millbank Prison in order to better his chances of a pardon, and then did he have to live the lie when he got to Australia?

This voyage in the *Joseph Somes* was typical of many. After a refit at Deptford the guard and 165 exiles embarked, 81 from Millbank and 84 from Pentonville, at Woolwich. On 18 May 1847 the ship sailed for Cowes on the Isle of Wight where a further 84 'Parkhurst Boys' embarked from Parkhurst Prison, giving a total of 249. A royal pardon was also granted to these exiles on 28 May 1847, and on 4 June the ship set sail for Port Philip, Geelong, via Hobart Town. It continued on to Point Henry when on 24 September a Lt. Addis boarded the ship and read to the convicts the conditions of their freedom, at the same time advising them to head for the bush, as the residents of Melbourne and Geelong would not welcome them in the towns.

The Parkhurst Apprentices ('Parkhurst Boys') were juvenile prisoners between twelve and seventeen years old sentenced to "transportation beyond the seas" and transported to Australia and

New Zealand. Either before leaving England or on arrival at their destination they were pardoned on condition that they be “apprenticed” to local employers, and that they not return to England during the term of their sentence, usually for either seven or ten years. In the ten years between 1842 and 1852 nearly 1,500 boys aged from twelve to eighteen were transported to Australia and New Zealand from Parkhurst Prison. The ‘Parkhurst Boys’ were trained to a much higher skill level than the ‘Pentonvillains’ who had spent the first eighteen months of their sentence in silent solitary confinement, followed by a brief period of hard labour on public works before they were considered to be fit to be transported to Australia.

*The Guards* In addition to the exiles and the crew, each ship had a military escort party to ensure the exile passengers complied with rules and regulations. This military escort was comprised of retired soldiers who were recruited and encouraged to accompany convicts on their voyages to Western Australia, to provide the discipline and entertainment for passengers and crew. Typically, an exile found gambling on board was subject to a flogging of 100 lashes for a first offence!

Life in the mid-nineteenth century British Army was harsh. Soldiers were mainly recruited from the rural working class and often enlisted under dubious circumstances. Their barracks were squalid and overcrowded. Daily army rations consisted of a pound of bread and coffee for breakfast and three quarters of a pound of boiled meat for lunch. They earned a basic wage of a shilling a day, but little was left after money was deducted for food, laundry, haircuts and medical treatment.

With that in mind, a free passage to a new land, six months employment and a grant of land would have been an attractive choice for many service pensioners. The pensioners were not retained as permanent convict guards after the voyages and in many cases their families travelled with them. Generally they sought work among the free settlers in the colony, but were always on hand to help in case of an outbreak among the prisoners.

To encourage them to stay in the colony, service pensioners were offered an allotment of ten acres of land which they could select and lease for seven years and then own freehold. As an extra incentive a gratuity of £10 was given to each of them and they were promised the use of convict labour to help clear the land.

*The Ship* The *Joseph Somes* was a barque of 774 tons, a three masted vessel, the fore and main masts

square rigged and the mizzen mast rigged fore and aft, with Captain George Thompson in charge in 1847. The ship probably had a different name and owner prior to her refit at Deptford in 1846-7. She was owned by Joseph Somes, a most interesting character. He had begun life as a lighterman apprentice on the Thames, became one of the originators of the Lloyds Register of Shipping, and by 1842 was reputed to be the largest private ship owner in England if not the world, his empire embracing some forty ships registered at Lloyds. He specialised in chartering ships to the government for the transport of convicts, stores and troops.

*The Annual Register of World Events: Vol. 99 Page 96 1857* reports the demise of the ship *Joseph Somes* thus: “On her final voyage the *Joseph Somes* left London for Melbourne on 15 December 1856 with 23 passengers. On 25 February 1857, at the island of Tristan da Cunha, the captain and some of the crew went ashore for water and additional supplies. The captain, Eimston, had gone ashore in a boat, and on his way back discovered that the ship was on fire. Calling on the men to pull for their lives, he leapt on board as soon as the boat touched the ship’s side. It seems that the fire had been discovered and an effort made to quell it had been apparently successful, but this appearance was found to be a delusion. Mr Stokes, the chief officer who, in the captain’s absence, had the command of the ship, seeing the increased danger, gave orders for all hands that could be spared from the working of the ship to open the magazine and throw the gunpowder overboard. The third officer, Mr Pye, got to his cabin where three barrels of powder had been stowed for want of room; and these, with the remaining 249 barrels in the magazine under the main hatchway, were handed from hand to hand and thrown overboard. The fire had disappeared from the store-room as soon as the main hatchway was opened; there being then a new and greater draught, the fire was making rapid strides to this deadly mine, charged with about 18 tons of gunpowder. At last the lower tier of barrels was actually hot – almost too hot to hold. This was no fancy. Every man was intent upon his work. These were minutes of agonising suspense. The weaker sex never seem to have lost their presence of mind, and it was a remark of admiration made subsequently by the crew, that not a scream was heard from any one. The pinnace being lowered, the captain stood guard, and saw all the women and children handed down before he admitted others to jump in to make up her complement. The remainder of those on board escaped by the life-boat, in which the captain had returned from the island.

The satisfaction that was felt when the last barrel of gunpowder went overboard gave all on board that comparative coolness, and belief that the worst was past, without which feeling in all probability many lives would have been sacrificed. After all the crew were in the boat, the captain had a struggle to get a large Newfoundland dog of his over the ship's side; but, finding it impossible, he sized a rope and swung off into the boat. He was the last to leave the ship. Fortunately all the boats reached the island. To find the landing place was no easy task, for the cliffs are 8,000 feet perpendicular, and the surges break upon their base with terrific violence, for the rock is 1,800 miles from the nearest land. From the summit they could see the flames spreading up the masts, yards, and rigging of their ill-fated ship; and on the next day they perceived her hull to be one mass of fiery charcoal. Suddenly she seemed to break up, and sank beneath the ocean in a cloud of smoke and steam. The portion of the island susceptible of cultivation is very small; the population, which is traced to a soldier who deserted in the last war, is almost in excess of the means of subsistence. They managed, however, to furnish food for the castaways, until the *Nimroud* (burthen 1,000 tons), bound for Kurrachee, happened to arrive, her captain volunteered to carry the crew and passengers to the Cape. It was a piece of good fortune, for hardly any ships except whalers run into 'Tristan', as the sailors call this huge rock."

The *Cape Argus*, in its report of the destruction of the barque *Joseph Somes* in 1857, had reported that apparently the passengers had seen the Flying Dutchman with its ghostly captain sail under their bows. Soon after someone dropped a lamp, but they were too demoralised by the ghastly appearance to put the flames out properly, thinking them the flames of hell. (The Cape monthly magazine, Volumes 1-2 Page 258.)

*Brian of Newbury*

### SHOOTING IN DEVIZES

At 3.00pm on the afternoon of Monday 2 July a man strode into a solicitor's office in the centre of the Wiltshire town of Devizes, produced a sawn-off shotgun and proceeded to shoot the senior partner, James Ward who was sitting at his desk, in the head. He then drove off, but was arrested a few miles away and not very long afterwards as he was recognised as a known client. The firm of solicitors was Morris, Goddard & Ward, which was apparently established in 1988; but I have no idea what the Goddard connection is, as none of the current partners appear to bear that name. Perhaps one of our members may know the answer?

### GODDARD AS A FORENAME

You will recall that there have been one or two articles recently on Goddard as a given or forename as opposed to a surname. In Newsletter 98 I mentioned having spotted an Edward Goddard Holding at a meeting in London. I did so again this April and decided to contact him. He sent me a most interesting reply:

"My father was Goddard Samuel Holding, born 30 January 1916 and his birth registered at Willesden District, Sub-district Kilburn on 9 March 1916. He died on 3 February 1975. He was a Printers Warehouseman. My grandfather was Goddard Henry Holding and was a Grocers Warehouseman who I believe lived at one point in Walworth Road near the Elephant and Castle in South London. When my father married my mother, Winifred Emily Bremer, on 7 September 1946 my father and grandfather were living at 100 Ferndale Road, Clapham SW4. Unfortunately a rift occurred between my father and grandfather and I thus have no details as to my grandfather's birth or death dates as my father kept no records. My grandfather died from my own memory in the early to mid 1950s. The only documents I do have are copies of my parent's birth and death certificates and their marriage certificate which is where I was able to locate my grandfather's Christian names. I understood from my father that Goddard had been handed down as a family Christian name for the first-born son of the eldest son of each generation. My mother would only agree to it being my middle name!! I, unfortunately, finally broke this tradition completely by naming my son Neil Robert when he was born in 1975. My wife was not enamoured with the name either!"

This information implies that Goddard was used as a forename in the Holding family at least as early as the late nineteenth century and probably a good deal earlier, assuming that Eddy's grandfather was not the first generation to bear the name. Assuming, also, that the name originally derived from the marriage of a male Holding to a female Goddard, do any Association members recognise one of their Goddard forebears as having married a Holding? If so, please let me know.

### NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to the new members who have joined the Association since the last Newsletter:

Mrs Teresa S. Brett, 10 Blackmore Close, Covington, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN3 5DF.  
Miss Brenda M. Goddard, 13 Dunmow Road, Andover, Hampshire, SP10 2DQ.  
Mr Graham Goddard, 33 Springfield Road, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset, BH14 0LG.  
Ms Maleeta Angelina Goddard, Jamshedpur, India.  
Mr Simon J. Goddard, Flat 6, 21 Partlands Avenue, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 3DS.  
Mr Simon R. Passey, 36 High Street, Over, Cambridge, CB24 5ND.  
Mrs Barbara H. Sleigh, 5 Balmoral Grove, Hazel Grove, Stockport, SK7 4QF.

## NEW MEMBERS FAMILIES

The information below is given to enable existing members to get in touch with new members who appear to belong to the same branch:

**Teresa Brett** is descended from a Suffolk family who moved to Surrey. John Goddard, who was born about 1803 at Southolt, married Elizabeth Eliot at Monk Soham in 1833. William was born in 1847, and Teresa's grandfather John Morton Goddard was born at Carshalton in 1899 and married Winifred Mead in 1924.

**Brenda Goddard** traces her descent back to the Carlton Rode and Bunwell areas of Norfolk.

**Graham Goddard** is descended from John Goddard, who was born in London in 1813, moved to Reading and Bray, and died in 1880. His son William was born in Reading in 1840, moved back to London and became a police constable in Lambeth, but tragically drowned in the Thames when on duty in 1882, leaving his wife Sarah and six young children. The youngest son, Ernest John born in 1879, was father to Richard Arthur 1909-1978.

**Maleeta Angelina Goddard** is studying at the Jamshedpur Women's College; she possibly descends from a member of the East India Company.

**Simon Goddard** comes from a London family whose details are sketchy. James John Goddard was born in London about 1890; and John Thomas, his son, is thought to have been born in Hackney in 1920 and died in the Isle of Wight in 1979.

**Simon Passey** is descended from the East Wellow branch, his 5xgreat grandfather being Matthew Goddard who married Martha Jones in 1779 and is recorded in Monograph 13.

**Barbara Sleigh** descends from Thomas and Hannah Goddard of Burnage, Manchester, who moved to Heaton Norris, then in Lancashire now in Cheshire. The fourth son and seventh child James, who was born in 1841, was a coal merchant, as was his son John. The latter was born in 1865 and is Barbara's paternal grandfather via his son Frank.

## BIRTHDAY HONOURS

In the Queen's Birthday Honours published last month I noticed that Mrs Florence Marion Goddard had been awarded the British Empire Medal for services as a fundraiser for Arthritis Research UK and for service to people with arthritis generally. Does any member claim her as a relative? She may well be one of the last people to be awarded this honour, as there was some discussion recently about its replacement on the grounds that the word 'Empire' was now out of date.

## WILTSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY – 7

The ninth volume of the Wiltshire Record Society published in 1953 relates to the *Surveys of Lord Pembroke's Manors, 1631-2*. Two of the Earl's manors, Fugglestone and Flamston which are some five miles west of Salisbury, mention Goddards. The survey at Fuggleston was taken on 14 February 1632 and showed that Andrew Godard, who was aged 38 and a tenant by copyhold [holding land under a copy of the original roll drawn up by the lord of the manor's court steward], had, with two others, held three parcels of land in Quidhampton since being granted them by the Earl on 12 April 1624 under fine [if they broke the agreement] of 22 shillings and 3 pence [some £1.11p today]: "a plot of ground in Speary Ham (20p) [a perch is about 25 square metres], one yard [a quarter of an acre] of meadow in the West Mead and a plot of arable ground in the West Field (20p)". The annual rent was 12 pence [5p], and the value of the ground was assessed at 6 shillings [30p].

The Flamston survey was conducted on 9 March 1632. This showed that Henry Pitchland, a tenant by indenture [holding land under an exact duplicate copy of the agreement], was currently married to a widow, Anne Godard, through whom he had acquired a substantial holding. She had originally been granted the land by Sir John Williams on 1 January 1611 under fine of £90: "a messuage [house and land] in Flamston; to hold to the said Anne for her life, successive remainders to Thomas and William Godard [her sons] for life. Rent 9s 4d [about 47p]. Heriot [death duty to the lord of the manor] the best beast at the decease of any of the parties dying in possession. To which belong a dwelling house of 3 ground rooms, 2 lofted over, well timbered and sufficiently repaired, a barn of 3 rooms, well repaired, a backside [farmyard], [vegetable] garden and orchard adjoining (0.5 acre), a pasture ground (1 yard), 1 yard of meadow in the common mead, and arable ground called the Croft (2.5 acres) and 22 acres of arable in the common fields, whereof in the West Field 6.5 acres, in the Middle Field 7.5 acres and in the North Field 8 acres; with common pasture for 66 sheep, 3 horses, 6 kine [cattle] and 2 runners [calves]. Accounted one yardland and the third part of a yardland [about 40 acres in all]. Worth £11."

## NOT THE DIAMOND JUBILEE!

John of Accrington tells me that in celebration of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887 Samuel and Sarah Goddard of Honiton, Devon named their latest offspring Jubilee George Goddard. But apparently he was thereafter known as George!

## GODDARD PLACE

Association member Margaret Turnbull's brother has recently returned from a trip to Antwerp. He brought with him this photograph of 'Grote Goddaard',



which he thinks translates as 'Goddard Place'. I am grateful to both of them for the information. We already knew from Newsletter 96 that there were Goddard connections in Antwerp as well as a Belgian Godardville south of Brussels, and not to be confused with the other – but French – Godardville between Rouen and Le Harvre in Normandy.

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### CAN YOU HELP?

Association member **Dan Barrett** of Canada to discover more information about the Thomas Goddard who married Alice Humphry early in the seventeenth century. Dan writes as follows: "Hi Goddard Folks, I could use some help with the following Goddards. If you can help me I would appreciate your assistance. Firstly, Thomas Goddard married Alice Humphrey on 12 July 1615 at Lydiard Tregoze, Wiltshire. I would like some confirmation of this marriage as I have had difficulty finding records for Lydiard Tregoze, Wiltshire. I would also like to see if this couple had any children at that location. I have them with children, Thomas (1619), Richard (1623), Susannah (1627) and Mary (1631) all baptised at Preshute, Wiltshire. Secondly, I was hoping that the Thomas Goddard above was the son of Thomas Goddard and Margaret Burley, baptised 15 April 1591 at Hungerford, Berkshire; but in the Goddard Association publication *The Goddards of North Wiltshire* Tree M (and preceding notes), Chapter 4, it says that this Thomas Goddard 'died young, probably before the end of 1591'. As a result I would like some assistance to find birth, baptismal information, etc. for the Thomas who eventually married Alice Humphrey." Dan can be contacted by e-mail at <barrettdan@cogeco.ca>

## NEWBURY FARMER

I am grateful to Julie of Newbury for sending me details of the life of John Goddard, a farmer in the Newbury area, who died peacefully on 13 April at Thatcham Court Nursing Home and about whom we have not previously had any information.

A former pupil of St Bartholomew's Grammar School, Newbury, he left prematurely to help out on the family farm at Midgham Manor. After several years with the family business, he bought 190 acres at Colthrop Manor Farm in 1957, and eventually his portfolio grew to about 500 acres. At one point he had 450 commercial cattle, but went on to specialise in a Simmental herd which won him several major awards. He was, like his father before him, a Midgham parish councillor and was also on the board of the Reading Abattoir at the time that he was elected as chairman of Newbury Show (now the Royal County of Berkshire Show) in 1992. He also served a year as cattle committee chairman for the show. He was described as a well respected gentleman farmer and businessman, much liked by the farming community.

One of his other interests was flying. He owned a Cessna 172 and flew all over the country and even went as far afield as Denmark and Germany.

In 2004, John handed some of his land next to Cox's Lane, Colthrop, over to the Westerleigh Group which was looking for land in order to build what is now West Berkshire Crematorium. The crematorium opened in January 2006. It is perhaps appropriate that his funeral service at St Matthew's Church, Midgham, will be followed by a private cremation.

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### SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

Owing to an oversight or 'senior moment', I omitted to include the usual reminder with the April Newsletter that subscriptions for 2012-13 were then due, and have been duly reprimanded by the Treasurer to whom I apologise for making his task harder than it already is. So, if you have not yet renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible. Treasurer John's contact details are on the back page. If you have already done so, or have been contacted by John via e-mail, please ignore this appeal. Equally, those of you who have coordinators in your own countries (Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the USA) will have your own arrangements. Despite the recent steep increase in postal charges, subscriptions remain unchanged for another year (£7.50 or for senior citizens £5.00), though we continue to encourage those of you on the internet to take the Newsletter electronically.

## PROFESSOR DAVID ROCKWELL GODDARD

In the early summer of 1975 my wife and I were hosts for three days here in Malvern to two Americans, Pliny Earle Goddard and his younger brother David Rockwell Goddard. For some years previously I had corresponded with Pliny as we had discovered we were distant cousins. He had done much research on the American side of our family, tracing his origins from the London merchant William Goddard, a descendant of the Wiltshire branch who, together with his wife Elizabeth and children, had emigrated to Massachusetts in 1666. Their visit led to many discussions on the family and, almost exactly two years later, to the founding of the Goddard Association of America with Pliny as its first President. At that time David, while interested in the family's origins, was still very busy with his academic commitments in the USA (see Newsletters 2 and 44).

Pliny and David were the sons of another Pliny Earle Goddard, who had been born in Lewiston, Maine, in 1868. He went to school there and in Poughkeepsie, New York, obtaining his BA and MA degrees at Earlham College before teaching in Indiana and Kansas. He married Alice Rockwell, a fellow teacher, and was then sent by the Society of Friends as a lay missionary to the Hupa Indians in northern California. This was a life-changing move as he became immersed in the Indian culture and earned a PhD in 1904 from the University of California, Berkeley. After five years on the faculty at Berkeley, he was appointed Curator of Ethnology at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, a post he retained until his death on 12 July 1928.

David was fifth of the six children of Pliny and Alice Goddard, being born at Carmel, California, in 1908 but brought up and educated in Leonia, New Jersey after the family moved back east. Not always healthy as a teenager, he spent a good deal of time studying on his own at home, or under the benign influence of his father, achieving excellent grades. He chose to go to Berkeley for his university education, and here he studied many aspects of biology especially botany, going on extremely educative summer field trips. A first rate student, he went on to study for his PhD having been promised a National Research Council fellowship if he obtained it. He stayed on at Berkeley for a year after getting his degree before taking up his fellowship at the Rockefeller Institute in New York.



In 1933, after his two years at the Rockefeller Institute, he was offered a position at the University of Rochester where he was to stay for thirteen years, apart from 1941-42 when he was on a Guggenheim Fellowship at the Desert Training Centre at Indio, California. In 1946 he was offered professorships at several universities, but chose to go to the University of Pennsylvania where the biology department was somewhat run down, thus giving him scope for its revival. His courses in cellular physiology and botany were very well attended, often attracting people from outside the faculty. After four years he was given academic leave following the award of a second Guggenheim Fellowship; this he chose to spend at the biochemistry department at Cambridge University in England.

Back in Pennsylvania he became chairman of the Botany Department in 1952 as well as director of the Biology Division in 1954, and then in 1961 Provost (the senior educational officer) of the University. He had originally left Rochester because he was afraid that he might be earmarked for too much administration when he would rather have concentrated on teaching and research. But his colleagues viewed him as so talented that he could not avoid accepting these posts. It was said that the distinguished reputation of the Biology department at that time was due to his energy and talent for recruitment and administration. He was also an energetic fund raiser for a new faculty building, which is now called the Goddard Laboratory. As Provost he was regarded as the 'right man at the right time' and it was said of him that his many talents "all had a chance to express themselves in one of the greatest nine-year periods the University of Pennsylvania has known".

He retired as Provost at the end of 1970, becoming firstly professor of science and public policy, and then professor in biology emeritus. In 1975 he was elected home secretary of the National Academy of Sciences for four years, also serving on its Council. A writer of numerous learned articles, he also served on many other academic bodies, elected as president of several of them. Sadly, his last years up to his death on 9 July 1985 were affected by Alzheimer's disease. He had also suffered the loss to cancer of his first wife Doris Martin in 1951 and similarly of his daughter Alison in 1984. He was survived by his second wife Katharine Evans and by his son Robert.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee held its 49th meeting at Whittington on Sunday 20 May 2012. Six of the nine members were present, Colin of Brackley having died, Malcolm of Brisbane and Stephen of Buckhurst Hill having sent apologies. The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed. Treasurer John pointed out that the President had omitted to send out the usual reminder for the renewal of subscriptions with the last Newsletter, and the latter promised to do so with the next. The Treasurer then went over the Accounts, particularly mentioning the generous bequest of the late Margaret Young and wondering what we would do with it. A discussion followed on the need to encourage younger members to join the Association, and it was suggested that free membership might be offered to anyone under the age of twenty-five, using the bequest to this end. Further discussion would take place at the Committee meeting in October. The procedure for the afternoon's AGM was run through and, lastly it was decided that the next meeting would take place at Treasurer John's house in Shrewsbury on 14 October.

## RESEARCH CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

Looking back on what previous research co-ordinators have said I also have to say that there haven't been many research enquiries since I took over. I think with the Internet and our website many members can now achieve by themselves, in a very short time, what took me a couple of years with a lot of outside help. At the AGM last year I agreed that I would take on the scanning project. I worked on this until October, scanning most of the paperwork that Julie and Brian Goddard had accumulated over the years. Sadly a lot of member's family trees weren't scanned as they were just too big for my scanner. When I had finished the results were sent to Malcolm Goddard in Brisbane to be added to the website. Most of the counties that I scanned have now been added with just a few outstanding. These are mainly at the beginning of the alphabet and Malcolm will be adding them in the near future. So in the meantime if you need a look up please don't hesitate to ask.

While I was scanning the county files I noticed that a lot had very worthwhile amounts of transcribed parish registers in them that had been submitted by members. From the Sussex and Suffolk files I have built databases of births, marriages and deaths. Sussex is now on the website and Suffolk is with Malcolm waiting to be added. Using the county files long time member Barbara Goddard and I are currently working on a BMD database for

Hampshire, her county of origin. If you have an interest in Hampshire and have transcribed parish records, please do let me know so that I can add them for the benefit of future researchers.

My aim for the coming year is to work through all of the county files and build more BMD databases. If you have time to help with this or have transcriptions that you haven't shared with us yet do contact me; I would be more than grateful.

*Joan Dibble*

## WEBSITE CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

The GAE site on Facebook still is attracting a good deal of attention with FB membership now at 105 people, an increase of more than 10% in the last month and a steady growth of about 10-12 people per month since it's inception. It seems to be a popular way to encourage information sharing about our organisation to a wide untapped audience. Quite a few non-GAE members have seen the FB site and decided to join the full association. There continues to be a great level of exchange of views and information, including photos (over 100 on line at this point) and links to online research tools. In addition, a couple of families have been able to link into others' research, and distant cousins have re-established contact after some years without it – a good result.

The databases and literature on the main GAE website continue to grow and there will be more very shortly when Research Co-ordinator Joan Dibble completes her current project on the Hampshire County files. We have also published our latest monograph from Brian Goddard being "North East Hampshire Part 2 (Yateley – Cove – Farnborough)", which is now available for members to download.

The direct emailing of newsletters to members has also proved to be a success (rather than requiring members to download it themselves), with no one reporting that they didn't get the last one. However, it has reduced the number of members going to the website and so I would again like to suggest that between now and Christmas members who haven't done any work on their family trees for some years have a look at the website and see if there is any new information that they didn't know about and see if they can expand their knowledge of their branch of the family. I would also like to encourage any member who has significant unpublished information on a Goddard line to submit it to the Research Co-ordinator for inclusion in our databases; we have recently been able to connect a number of distant families and it was all through someone sending information in who hadn't thought to before.

*Malcolm of Brisbane*

## AGM

The 26<sup>th</sup> AGM was held on Sunday 20 May at The Swan, Whittington near Worcester, at which some two dozen members attended. After a brief welcome by the President, apologies were received and the Minutes of last year's meeting were approved and signed. There were no matters arising. The Treasurer presented his audited Accounts for the year ending 31 March and these were approved and adopted (copy available on application to John of Shrewsbury). Joan Dibble presented her Research Co-ordinator's Report (see p. 7), and the President read out Malcolm of Brisbane's Website Report (see also p. 7). The Election of Officers followed, with Richard of Malvern, Denise of Solihull and John of Shrewsbury being re-elected President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Margaret McAlpin and Joan Dibble were both re-elected to the Committee for another three years, but unfortunately no one had come forward to fill the vacancy left by Colin of Brackley's sad demise, and there thus remains a vacancy for the first time in the Association's history. If any member has a change of heart and would like to play a more active – but not very arduous – role in the affairs of the Association, please will they get in touch with me. There was no other business and the date of the next AGM was agreed as Sunday 19 May 2013 at a venue to be decided later.

The formal business was followed by the presentation of the Howard Goddard-Jones Memorial for 2012. Members were delighted that Howard's widow Janet was in attendance, and the President asked her to be so kind as to present a suitably inscribed



cut glass bowl to Eileen of Accrington in recognition of her role as Secretary for the previous fifteen years (photo kindly taken by John of Accrington, Jan on the left, Eileen on the right). Camilla Goddard of Capital Bee, who was featured in Newsletter 99, then gave a fascinating talk on her work with bees and bee



keepers in London, answering the many questions her talk had stimulated (photo kindly taken by Brian of Newbury). The afternoon concluded with tea and biscuits and the drawing of the raffle – many thanks to those members who contributed prizes.

## YOUNGER MEMBERS

The Association is very keen to attract younger members so as to safeguard its future. Thus it has been decided to offer free membership to anyone under the age of 25. All you need do when applying is to give Membership Secretary John of Accrington your date of birth. As I suspect the number in this category likely to read this paragraph is minute (or non-existent), may I urge current members to encourage their younger relations to join.

## USEFUL ADDRESSES

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