

The Goddard Association of Europe

NEWSLETTER

No. 129 – JANUARY 2019

THE UNVEILING OF A BLUE PLAQUE Two Hundred Years of Freemasonry in Swindon

When I unexpectedly took over the editorship of the Association's Newsletter in 1986 I made it an unwritten rule that I would not write about myself. However, two recent things have caused me to set this rule temporarily aside. The first has been the unfortunate dearth of copy sent me by members for the Newsletter (which is why the last one came out three weeks later than it should have done); and secondly, because the event I am about to describe is, I suspect, unique in the annals of Goddard family history.

On Saturday 17 November I had the great honour of unveiling a blue plaque affixed to the Goddard Arms Hotel in the heart of old Swindon. (For those of you unfamiliar with the UK's blue plaque scheme, they are promoted by local heritage groups and are attached to buildings where famous people once resided or where important events took place.) This particular plaque commemorates the bicentenary of the foundation of the Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation No. 355, the first Masonic lodge to have been consecrated in Swindon and which held its meetings for its first fifty-seven years in the Goddard Arms, from 1 May 1818 to 23 April 1875. There were, I think, three reasons why I was selected for this privilege: my membership of the lodge, my position as one of the most senior freemasons in the country but, above all, my Goddard connection. It is the latter, of course, which concerns the Goddard Association.

Although there were no



Goddards as founders of the lodge, seven have subsequently become members during its two hundred years, between them coincidentally having collectively served the lodge for just over two hundred years in total. Two of the seven come from the Clyffe Pypard (or senior) branch of the family and five from the Swindon branch. These two branches descend from the Aldbourne (Upper Upham) line, the common ancestor being a wealthy sheep farmer, John Goddard, who died on 10 March 1545, having previously bought the manor of Clyffe Pypard in 1540 from Laycock Abbey at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries.

Unusually, his eldest son John inherited Clyffe Pypard, while his second son Thomas bought the manor of Swindon at the beginning of the 1560s, the youngest son eventually inheriting the original estate of Upper Upham.

The two members of the Clyffe Pypard branch to have become members of the lodge were/are my grandfather and myself. (Although a very senior freemason in his own right for over forty years, a Past Deputy District Grand Master of Gibraltar, my father appears not to have joined the Lodge at any stage.) My grandfather Thomas (1811-1880) was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Indian Army (44th Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry) when he joined Royal Sussex in 1854, his address being given as 14 St. James Square, London. He had been initiated in the Lodge Himalayan Brotherhood No. 673 at Simla in 1847, but on returning to this country quickly made his mark in Wiltshire, holding several senior active ranks between 1855 and 1859, the last being Provincial Senior Grand Warden. I started visiting the lodge in 1994 and was elected an honorary member in 2001. Initiated in 1971, I was Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire from 2004 to 2013 and have been a member of the Grand Master's Council (i.e. an adviser to HRH the Duke of Kent) since 2005.

The five members of the Swindon branch cover three generations. The first, Ambrose, was born on 12 October 1779 and died on 29 November 1854. He was an Oxford BA, a Captain in the 10th Hussars, a JP, a DL for Wiltshire, High Sheriff in 1819-20, and MP for Cricklade 1837-41. He was lord of the manor of Swindon, known from 1830 as

The Lawn. He became a member of the Lodge in 1846. He was followed by his eldest son Ambrose Lethbridge, who was born on 9 December 1819 and died on 15 November 1898. He was also lord of the manor, a JP, DL for Wiltshire and MP for Cricklade from 1847 to 1868 and again from 1874 to 1880. He was a member of the Royal Sussex Lodge from 1853 to his death. His youngest brother Frederick Fitzclarence, who was born on 4 April 1836 and died on 28 October 1924, was also a member of the Lodge, being initiated in it in 1854 and thus serving it for an astonishing seventy years. All I know about him is that he was a Colonel in the late 80th Regiment of Foot.

The third generation of the Swindon Goddards to be members of the Lodge were Ambrose Lethbridge's sons Ambrose Ayshford and his younger brother Fitzroy Pleydell from 1877 and 1887 respectively to their deaths. Ambrose Ayshford was born on 7 May 1848 and died at Malta on his way back from India on 25 May 1885. He was a Lt.-Col. in the Grenadier Guards. His premature death meant that his next brother, Fitzroy Pleydell, inherited The Lawn on his father's death in 1898 but, sadly dying childless, was the last male Goddard to live there. He was born on 29 August 1852 and died on 12 August 1927. In the family tradition he was an Oxford BA, a JP, a DL and High Sheriff of Wiltshire in 1907. He was a Major in the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry, and a Queen's Foreign Service Messenger from 1885 to 1895. He had the most distinguished Masonic career of any of the Swindon Goddards, and his large collection of jewels are exhibited upstairs at The Planks, the current Masonic building in Swindon, coincidentally built in 1973 on the former Goddard estate a stone's throw between both the Goddard Arms Hotel and the site of The Lawn. Freemasonry in Swindon may thus be said to have come almost full circle in two centuries.

FILM PRODUCER ANDY GODDARD

There was great interest on local social media during the summer. Dame Judy Dench had been spotted in Carmarthen eating Joe's ice cream. It soon became known that she and Eddie Izzard were filming *Six Minutes to Midnight* in Llanstephan just across the Towey Estuary from where I live, and I noticed that the director was Andy Goddard. I hadn't noticed the name before, but I soon learned that Andy was born in Pembroke Dock, Wales, in 1968 and grew up on the Isle of Skye. He is a screen writer and director, having amongst other things directed multiple episodes of *Downton Abbey*. How did I miss that?! Are any of you related? *Joan Dibble*

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

Those of you who are devotees of the BBC programme *Masterchef* will have noticed in early December the mention of a Goddard. No, not a chef himself, but the recipient of some of the fine cooking as one of the guests of the then President of The Royal College of Physicians at a lunch to celebrate the five hundredth anniversary of the College. Since that occasion (obviously recorded earlier in the year) Professor Andrew ('Bod') Goddard has himself been elected as the 121st President, at age 50 the youngest President for four hundred years and the first to come from the East Midlands. The election was described as 'close-run', although Dr Goddard polled 2,313 of the record 5,082 votes cast, 597 more than his nearest rival. He succeeded Professor Dame Jane Dacre (who hosted the lunch) on 26 September 2018.



After gaining an MD at Cambridge, Andrew trained in Nottingham before being appointed in 2001 as a consultant physician and gastroenterologist at the Royal Derby Hospital. His speciality is bowel cancer screening, H. pylori, iron deficiency anaemia, and inflammatory bowel disease. He was Director of the Royal College's Medical Workforce Unit for five years until his appointment as the College's Registrar in 2014, which saw him oversee professional and clinical affairs both in the UK and internationally. As President for a four-year term he will be responsible for some 35,000 physicians, and has stated that his priorities will be three 'w's – workforce (the need to double the number of medical students), wellbeing (the need to improve the morale and working conditions of doctors, particularly trainees), and worldwide (the need to increase the RCPs international membership and to support training for doctors in countries that have very few physicians). He intends continuing in clinical practice, including being on call at weekends, as well as continuing in clinical research, the first President to do so. He is married with two children. Does any member claim him as a relation?

RETURNED SAFELY

Not many families can say this of loved ones who fought in the First World War, particularly not when three members of the same family were involved for the majority of the hostilities. I am grateful to our Australian co-ordinator, Ian of Balcatta, for sending me a cutting from his morning paper of 11 November,



the centenary of Armistice Day. Sent in to the paper by O'Driscoll descendants, the article reads: "Kirrup boys Frederick and Harold Goddard were both born in the South West and worked as sleeper hewers in a timber mill before enlisting. Frederick, the younger brother, was the first to join up on 24 July 1915 as a nineteen year-old. He was assigned to the 11th Battalion – the first recruited in WA – and spent the majority of his service engaged in bloody trench warfare on the Western Front. Frederick was on the Western Front at 11am on 11 November 1918 – the day the guns fell silent – and returned home on 28 February 1919. His older brother Harold was also there that day, having followed Frederick to Europe in March 1916. He served first in the 16th Infantry Battalion and then the 4th Machine Gun Battalion. The 16th Battalion spent most of 1917 advancing to the Hindenburg Line and suffered heavy losses at Bullecourt in April when promised tank support during an attack failed to materialise. Harold returned to Australia in June 1919 and was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal after his service. The boys' father, George William Goddard, also served with the 16th Battalion in WWI, embarking for the conflict aged 44 in December 1915. He, too, returned safely to Australia."

Does any Association member recognise these Goddards as their forebears?

ANOTHER AUTHOR

Agatha Christie has already been mentioned in these pages. In Newsletter 49 her extraordinary eleven day disappearance in December 1926 was first mentioned, together with the fact that the policeman leading the hunt for her was a Superintendent Charles Goddard. Newsletter 50 saw a response to the article from Association member Malcolm Simpson of Didcot who was great nephew to Charles; and he gave us a good deal more information about him. Then in Newsletter 57 another member and relation, Dawn Smalley of Wokingham who had just read the previous articles, added further details. Now another Association member, John Goddard of Wimbledon, has just had published a book called *Agatha Christie's Golden Age*, which can be obtained via Amazon. Subtitled 'An Analysis of Poirot's Golden Age Puzzles', the Goddard interest lies in the author rather than the book. But for those of you who are avid Agatha Christie devotees, part of the Amazon publicity states: "The book is unofficial in the sense that it has not been sponsored by Agatha Christie's estate, but is the culmination of an extensive independent critical study of her work by the author. He brings to this challenge not only the enthusiasm and warmth of a lifelong Christie fan, but also the forensic skills of a former lawyer who was for many years a partner in a major City firm in London."

CHURCH BUILDING IN FARNHAM

The *Guernsey Star* of 23 November 1875 reported the laying of the foundation stone of the Sumner Memorial Church in Farnham, Surrey. A further two lines in an Edinburgh paper mentioned its dedication in 1877. This church was the now closed St. James' in East Street. How interesting would this have been to their readers? Probably not very but, like many editors, they needed to fill a space. Our interest is that the church was built by Messrs Goddard & Sons, also of East Street, Farnham. The item goes on to say that the firm had already built or restored about 30 churches in the Diocese of Winchester. Dr Sumner, the bishop since 1827, had begun a building and renovation programme in the Diocese in the 1830s. The firm did not only work on Anglican churches, however; one of their other contracts was for Wonersh Congregational Church. Their output of public buildings must rival or exceed that of the Leicester Goddard family of architects. Some details of the family tree appeared in Newsletter 76 in an article by former member Audrey Goddard of Plymouth. Can any member provide more details of their work.

John of Accrington

NEW MEMBERS

The following new members have joined the Association since the last Newsletter was distributed. They are, of course, warmly welcome and, as usual, the outline family information below is given to enable existing members to contact new members who appear to belong to the same branch. Please do so via the Membership Secretary whose details are on the back page.

Gill Barber is from a Cheshire / south Manchester family. The earliest so far found are John and Hannah Goddard whose son Joseph was baptised in October 1753 at Disley. Other children were John baptised in June 1743, Hannah in August 1745, and Mary in April 1755. The family moved to Burnage where Joseph's son John was born in 1783. John's daughter Mary, born in 1815, married John Hulme in Manchester Cathedral in 1835.

Paula Berge descends from the Leicestershire family of Joseph Goddard who was born in 1770 at Ratcliffe-on-Wreake, the son of Joseph and Ann. He moved to Pytchley, Northamptonshire, before 1816 when he married Mary Clapham (both of them widowed). Their son Stephen, born in 1817, married Hannah Sturges in 1841. Joseph, born in 1845, was the father of Alfred, born in 1880, who was a police constable in Raunds, Wellingborough, before emigrating to the USA. Paula is his great granddaughter. There may also be a connection with a John Goddard / Gothard who was born about 1718 and immigrated to Pennsylvania sometime around 1750-1750 and died there in 1797.

Tracie Goddard is descended from a Suffolk branch commencing with Joseph who married Maria in Great Linstead in 1793, but whose forebears are not yet identified. Their nine children were baptised in Clatfield, Francis baptised on 5 October 1800 being Tracie's ancestor via his son John 1839-1907 and his grandson James 1871-1944.

Erica Grealy descends from a family settled in London in the mid 19th century with possible origins in Berkshire. John Goddard, born in 1898 in Fulham, was the son of John born in 1861 in Hammersmith and who married Helen Walsham.

Paul Peters' branch appears to have moved west and south from Theale, Berkshire via Ibthorpe and Andover into Hampshire. His grandfather Frederick George 1903-1965 was the son of George who was born in 1874 in Hurstbourne Tarrant, whose father John was born in 1821 in Theale. Frederick married Ethel Marsh in Portsmouth in 1926. In 1939 the family were in Havant with three children including Paul's father George.

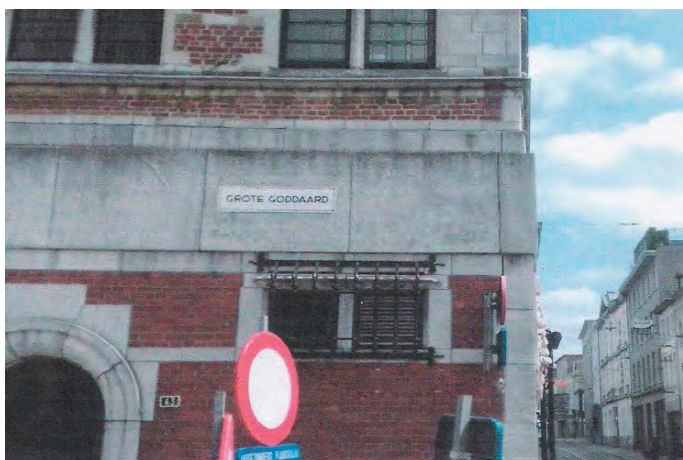
FRENCH GODARDS

Noticing a reference on television recently to the celebrated French film director, Jean-Luc Godard, reminded me that we have still not made progress with contacting any equivalent Goddard Association in France – if one exists. We have long established the connection with Normandy in general and Goderville in particular, and over the years isolated references to French Godards (always spelt with a single middle 'd' as was the original spelling in this country until about the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries) have featured in these pages; but, so far as I am aware, no concerted effort has been made to locate them en masse. Back in the early days of our Association, member Gillian Goddard of Andover wrote to the Mayor of Goderville to enlist his help. He replied that he was currently unaware of any Godards in the vicinity, but suggested a couple of possible lines of enquiry. Gillian did not pursue them as she had no French, having to get a colleague to translate her original letter into the language, and feeling diffident about asking for his services on a regular basis. I have also just been reminded of this since, very sadly, I have recently been informed of Gillian's death. A very active member in the early days of the Association, she suffered a stroke some dozen years ago and had been confined to a nursing home. We offer our sincere condolences to her sister and family.

Perhaps the time has now come to make another attempt. So are any of our members fluent, or at least comfortable, in French? If so the two lines of enquiry suggested thirty years ago by the Mayor of Goderville were, firstly, an article / advertisement in a local newspaper seeking to make contact with anyone of the name of Godard. The Mayor suggested writing to the editors of three local papers: 1). Monsieur le Directeur du Courrier Cauchois at Rue Edmond Labbé, Boite Postale 129, 76190 Yvetot. 2). Monsieur le Directeur du Journal Paris-Normandie at 112 Boulevard de Strasbourg, 76600 Le Havre. or 3). Monsieur le Directeur du Journal Havre Libre, Monsieur le Directeur du Journal Havre Presse at l'Agence Havraise de Presse, 19 Avenue René Coty, 76600 Le Havre. The Mayor's second suggestion was to contact the Chief Archivist of the area: Monsieur le Conservateur en Chef des Archives de la Région de Haute Normandie, Directeur des Services d'Archives de la Seine Maritime at Cours Clémenceau, 76036 Rouen Cedex. A third possibility occurs to me: to make contact with the French equivalent (if there is one) of our Genealogical Society and/or Guild of One Name Studies.

PLACE NAMES

Coincidentally I have recently received three Goddard (Goddaard / Godard) place name photographs from sites across the Channel. The first was sent me by Association member Thomas of Twickenham, spotted by him on a trip to Antwerp.



Clearly Belgian (?Flemish) spelling of the name, and Tom asks if we have come across that spelling before. Well, yes and no! Some eight years ago we briefly had as a member one Danny Goddaert who came from the Antwerp area of Belgium and told us that there were various spellings of the name (see Newsletter 96). He promised to furnish us with more detail, but unfortunately never did and soon ceased to belong to the Association.

The second offering (actually two photographs) comes from my son Edward. Both the street and



the shop are in Bordeaux and he took the photos on a recent trip there. Readers of earlier Newsletters – numbers 31, 32, 34 and 69 to be precise – will recall that the name Godard is frequently to be found in the Bordeaux region, particularly in relation to local vineyards and wine production. Another reason to try to establish contact with our namesakes over the Channel!

GODDARD'S CORNER

Not to be outdone by France and Belgium so far as place names are concerned, here is another one in this country to add to the ones already mentioned in these pages (Newsletters 9, 34, 36, 37, 60, 62, 65, 73 and 120 for example): Goddard's Corner. My wife and I spotted it on the map when we were over in Suffolk in the autumn making arrangements for this year's AGM. It is just north of the A1120 a couple of miles or so from Framlingham and consists of no more than two houses either side of a corner in the road. Presumably it was named after a former resident, as there are a number of Goddard families who come from this part of the world.

PROTESTER

As I complete the articles required for this Newsletter, I notice that one of the leading protesters of the many hundreds gathered around Parliament during the Brexit debates in recent weeks is a Goddard. James Goddard, aged 29, is said to be a key pro-Brexit activist, and has been using social media to drum up support for his 'yellow vest marches' – copying the recent French *gilets jaunes* demonstrations. However, he has had the wind somewhat taken out of his sails in recent days as he was arrested by police for allegedly breaking the law by harassing an MP. At the time of writing he has been released on bail. He is said to be a former fork lift truck driver from Anstey, Leicester.

BAD DEBT

I am grateful to Celia Dodd of the Guild of One Name Studies for sending via John of Accrington a cutting from the *Essex County Standard* of 5 October 2018 showing how a debt charity turned around the fortunes of a young couple who had got into serious financial difficulties. Both Paula and Steve Goddard



were made redundant while Paula was on maternity leave, and they were unable to make ends meet on Jobseekers Allowance, often having to go without meals so that their children could eat. Paula, now aged 40, was informed by a friend of the Colchester Christians Against Poverty centre, one of 300 similar charitable establishments throughout the country. Although very nervous before the first visit from the centre manager, Paula found her comforting, non-judgemental and very professional. Within six weeks the Goddards' finances began to improve, and within five years their almost £10,000 debts had been discharged. Paula even has a new job – manager of the same Colchester centre herself!

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

I owe profuse apologies to the Association's long standing Treasurer John Goddard and his wife Susan for missing their Golden Wedding anniversary on 7 September last year, and only now hasten to send them warm congratulations on behalf of us all. And while checking in my records to make sure that I had got the date correct, I discovered that I had also missed the Golden Wedding anniversary of his younger brother David and his wife Diana on 3 June 2017. Again my apologies. David has been a staunch supporter of the Association since its inception. John and David have a sister, Annica Leach, who was the Association's second Secretary from 1990 to 1997; she also is approaching the same milestone so I must make a mental note not to forget! Such achievements are, I suspect, a good deal less common these days than they used to be.

GODDARD HOUSE

One of the Houses at St George's School, Harpenden, is Goddard House which, as its web page indicates, "is named after John Lister Goddard, a former pupil at St George's who fought in the First World War and gave his life for his country in 1916". He was, in fact, killed in action in the Battle of the Somme on 15 September of that year. He was the fourth child and third son of Dr Charles Ernest and Mrs Eleanor Lucy Goddard of Wembley, and had been born on 29 October 1894 so he was aged not quite twenty-two. He was the elder brother of Air Marshal Sir Victor Goddard, the Association's first patron, and features in an article I wrote about him on the front page of Newsletter 120 to commemorate the centenary of his death. This article has had totally unforeseen consequences.

Towards the end of last year I was contacted out of the blue by a Dutch collector of First World War medals. He told me that the time had come for him to disband his collection, and that he intended placing the medals a few at a time on *ebay*, but not until he had researched them. Amongst his collection was the victory medal awarded posthumously to Lt. J.L. Goddard and, in the course of his researches, he had just come across the article I had written. He felt strongly that, before he approached *ebay*, he should give the family of each recipient the chance to be reunited with their loved one's medals. Was I or any other member of the family interested? I feel sure you can guess the answer! Neither of us were certain of its price but, after a few enquiries, we reached a mutually acceptable figure. A few days later the postman delivered it to my door under the Dutch equivalent of recorded delivery.

Apart from a mention on the war memorial at Thiepval in France, Lister has no other memorial so I bought it with the full intention of donating it to Goddard House, I then contacted the Headmistress to see if the school would accept it. She was delighted to do so and has invited me to present it in the school chapel on a day yet to be arranged. Watch this space!

NEW YEAR HONOURS

John of Accrington writes: "We don't hear much of variants of the name, so you may have missed this – David Victor Gothard awarded the CBE in the New Year Honours for services to film and drama. Lately Director of Riverside Studios. He was born in 1945 in Wainford, Essex, the son of Alfred and Mabel Gothard. Wainford might be the registration district, but the family kived in Beccles in 1939."

The Wiltshire Record Society's volume 28 for 1972 is the *Wiltshire Extents for Debts Edward I – Elizabeth I*; that is, descriptions, with valuations, of the lands and goods of defaulting debtors who held property in Wiltshire, and are the outcome of various writs issued out of Chancery to the county sheriff. There were two new writs designed to speed up the process whereby merchants could recover their debts: those of 'capias' enabling the sheriff to 'arrest' and imprison the debtor until he paid up, and 'elegit' enabling the plaintiff to 'choose' that the sheriff hand over to him up to half the debtor's land and chattels (excluding his oxen and plough beasts) to the value of the debt; both were introduced by Edward I, in 1283 and 1285 respectively and, although not always successful, are testimony to his desire for good government. Five Goddards are mentioned.

The first case is between, "Thomas Goddard, gentleman, of Alborne", and "Henry Compton, esquire, of Compton Uyniates, Warws," (ancestor of the current Marquess of Northampton at Compton Wyniates). On 3 October 1566 Thomas had acknowledged in Chancery that he owed Henry £200 and was given until "Christmas then next" to pay up. When he failed to do so, a writ for his arrest was issued to the sheriffs of London, but they "returned that Thomas has not been found". Thomas was next given until 18 November 1567 "to make his answer, but failed to appear then in Chancery", so on 4 December 1568 a writ of 'Elegit' was issued, "returnable on the morrow of the Purification next" (26 March 1569). Unfortunately there is no record of what happened after that but, unusually, Thomas appears in a second case as "Thomas Goddarde, gentleman, of Upham". Although the case dates to 1595, it originated on 12 November 1562 when Thomas acknowledged in Chancery "before James Dyer, knight, then chief justice of the Common Pleas," that he owed Luke Bewforest £2,000 "payable at Christmas then next". This was the Thomas who founded the Swindon branch of the family when he bought Swindon Manor at the beginning of the 1560s, and it would appear from these two cases that he borrowed heavily in order to finance the purchase. Luke Bewforest was either more tolerant – or perhaps more lax – than Henry Compton, as he appears to have let the debt ride for thirty-three years, the 1595 case being brought by his widow Anne as 'administratrix' when on 24 July of that year she obtained a writ of 'Capias' against Thomas returnable by 13 October. Once again "the sheriff certifies that Thomas has not been found", so on 11 October 1595 an "Inquisition" 7

was held "at Marleborowe [Marlborough] before Edward Hungerforde, esquire," which listed and assessed all Thomas's possessions. And there follows a long valuation list relating to property in Swindon, Wroughton, Chisledon, Wanborough, Calne, Upham, Snap and Aldbourne to a total value of just under £600. One is again left wondering what eventually happened and, indeed, why Thomas was not arrested for the Bewforest debt when he appeared before Chancery four years later for the Compton one.

Of the four other Goddards mentioned in the volume, three appear in the lists of assessors at inquisitions: William at Calne on 11 April 1580 and on 23 May 1581; Anthony at Calne on 10 January 1583; and John at Marlborough on 17 May 1598. The last Goddard to be mentioned was another William, although it could be the same William as the two mentioned above since he came from the same geographical area: "William Goddard, gentleman, of Cherill", who had on 27 November 1588 "before Edmund Anderson, knight, chief justice of the Common Pleas" acknowledged a debt of £200 owed to "Anselm Symes, yeoman, of Clatford payable at Christmas then next". William had failed to pay up, so a writ of 'Capias' was granted returnable on 6 October next. The writ was endorsed "William has not been found", so on 2 September 1589 an Inquisition was held "at Cherill before Walter Hungerford, knight ". It assessed William's possessions at a value of £1.75 and led to the issue on 13 October 1589 of another writ of "'capias' against William's body" returnable on 20 January 1590. The writ was delivered on 1 December 1589, but was subsequently endorsed "William has not been found".

MURDERERS HANGED

I am grateful to Association member Mavis Johnson for sending me a news item from the Vernon Street Gaol in Derby, which she had come across by chance: "At midday on Friday 31 March 1843 John HULME aged 24, Samuel BONSELL aged 26 and William BLAND aged 39 were hanged together by Samuel Haywood for the murder of Miss Martha Goddard in the village of Stanley." Mavis checked the 1841 census and found Martha aged 65 and of independent means living in Stanley, together with her sister Sarah Goddard aged 60, and also described 'as of independent means'. Fortunately this snippet rang a faint bell and a search of the Newsletter index confirmed that the details of the gruesome murder and subsequent trial of the culprits was given at length in Newsletter 35.

2019 AGM

This is to inform you that the 2019 AGM will be held at 2.00pm on Sunday 12 May. Please note that this year we have had to change the date from the traditional third Sunday in May to the second, as two key members of the committee have prior engagements on the 19th. The venue will be the village hall at Rendham near Saxmundham in Suffolk, postcode IP17 2AZ.

Shortly after the last AGM I received a letter from one of the three ladies, whom I nickname the 'three faithfuls' because over the years they have only missed attending two meetings, saying that it was becoming too far for them to drive to and from an AGM and that they would very reluctantly have to admit that 2018 would be their last. On the age-old adage that if Mahomet won't go to the mountain etc., it seemed reasonable to move the AGM eastwards on this occasion. It has been held only once before in East Anglia and that was in 2003 in the north of the region at King's Lynn. And there is an additional reason. In the same letter Eileen Horne told me that Juniper Barn, the small village shop and restaurant in Rendham which is right next to the village hall and shares the same car park, was created and is now run by a retired couple, Geoffrey and Katie Boulton, and that Katie is the daughter of a former Association executive committee member, John Goddard of Deddington, and granddaughter of its first Patron, Air Marshal Sir Victor Goddard, and thus a quite close cousin of mine. And Eileen enclosed with her letter a local magazine article giving a glowing report of the Juniper Barn enterprise. So I contacted the Boultons and have arranged for the committee meeting to be held in the barn and for Geoffrey and Katie to give the post-AGM talk in the village hall on how they came to set up the project.

The shop and restaurant are normally closed on a Sunday, but on this occasion I have also arranged for a light lunch to be produced for the first two dozen members to apply at a cost of £10 per head. Should you wish to avail yourself of this opportunity, please apply to me, Richard Goddard of Malvern on 01886 823404, on a first come first served basis. While I am fully aware that you 'cannot please all the people all the time' and that the easterly nature of this venue will not be to everyone's liking, it is important to move the Annual General Meetings around the country from time to time to give our widely scattered membership an opportunity to attend. And the Association has quite a number of members to the south of Suffolk in the Essex area, so I hope we will see them out in force for the first time!

THE ZOOTS

I am grateful to Association members Jennifer Walker and Angela Winteridge, who have each spotted and kindly sent to me articles from recent newspapers concerning 'The Zoots'. Who or what are they, I hear you ask? They turn out to be a very successful five-member boy band founded in 2009 to revive the classic sound of 1960s music and later. They have given hundreds of performances up and down the country as well as in thirty other countries worldwide. And the Goddard connection? Well, the lead singer and guitarist is Jamie Goddard, who is a platinum-selling singer-songwriter in his own right, and who was also the founder of the band together with his father Martyn who came up with the name. Even more interestingly their website, in which Jamie describes himself as "band leader, frontman, promoter, manager, website designer and booking agent", indicates that their base is the family home at Ogbourne St. George near Marlborough in Wiltshire. Those of you familiar with the early history – fourteenth and fifteenth centuries – of the Goddards of North Wiltshire will remember that the family spread from Upham on the downs above Aldbourne to the Ogbournes (St. George and St. Andrew), and eventually in the sixteenth century to Clyffe Pypard and Swindon. So the question is: are Martyn and Jamie descendans, or is it pure coincidence that they live in Ogbourne St. George?

USEFUL CONTACTS

Association web page: www.goddard-association.org.uk
Australian Co-ordinator: Ian Goddard, P.O. Box 618, Balcatta, Western Australia 6914. Tel: (08) 9243 8505
Email: australia@goddard-association.org.uk
Canadian Co-ordinator: Janet Berkman, 383 Elm Road, Toronto, Ontario, M5M 3V9, Canada. Tel: 647 637 2721
Email: canada@goddard-association.org.uk
Membership Secretary: John C. Goddard, 2 Lowergate Road, Huncoat, Accrington, Lancashire, BB5 6LN. Tel: 01254-235135
Email: membership@goddard-association.org.uk
New Zealand Co-ordinator: Julie Goddard, 2/36 Young Street, Christchurch 8024, New Zealand. Tel: 03-9815175
Email: newzealand@goddard-association.org.uk
President & Newsletter Ed: Richard G.H. Goddard, Sinton Meadow, Stocks Lane, Leigh Sinton, Malvern, WR13 5DY. Tel: 01886-832404
Email: president@goddard-association.org.uk
Research Co-ordinator: Joan Dibble, 17 New Street, Kidwelly, Carmarthen, SA17 5DQ. Tel: 01554-890641
Email: research@goddard-association.org.uk
Secretary: Denise Goddard, 97 Fillongley Road, Meriden, West Midlands, CV7 7LW. Tel: 07752-165207
Email: secretary@goddard-association.org.uk
Treasurer: John W. Goddard, 7 Radbrook Road, Radbrook, Shrewsbury, SY3 9BB. Tel: 01743-357886
Email: treasurer@goddard-association.org.uk
USA Co-ordinator: Janet Berkman, 383 Elm Road, Toronto, Ontario, M5M 3V9, Canada. Tel: 647 637 2721
Email: usa@goddard-association.org.uk