



The Goddard Association of Europe

NEWSLETTER

No. 131 – July 2019

MOTHER AND SON

And a String of Remarkable Coincidences

I first saw these two portraits in July 1979. They were hanging in the drawing room of my first cousin Rosemary Paget's house at Gilletts in Natal just outside Durban. I had been sent to South Africa on behalf of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and took the opportunity to spend a few days with my relation. The top portrait is of Rose Sealy-Allin (née Goddard), Rosemary's mother and my aunt; she was my father's favourite sister. She was born in London on 19 January 1870 the seventh of ten siblings, married Auriol Sealy-Allin of Youghal, County Cork, on 20 July 1899 and died in South Africa on 20 September 1947. The portrait looks as if it may have been painted in the late 1930s.

The lower one, probably done posthumously, is of Flying Officer Patrick Nelson Sealy-Allin, Rosemary's brother and thus Aunt Rose's son. Whereas Rosemary was born on 2 September 1901, Patrick was younger being born on 11 November 1905. He emulated his first cousin Victor (later Air Marshal Sir Victor) Goddard by joining the Royal Air Force, but tragically was killed in a flying accident on 1 March 1929. He was at the time a Flying Officer of 23 (Fighter) Squadron based at Kenley Aerodrome, Coulsdon, Surrey. Flying a Gamecock 1 fighter plane, he had a mid-air collision at 1800 feet with Sergeant James Guy Freeman flying a similar machine but, whereas the latter parachuted safely to the ground, Patrick was killed. He is buried nearby in St Luke's Churchyard, Whyteleafe, Surrey, where there is a memorial stone. He also has a memorial plaque in the Chapel of St. George's School, Harpenden, which my wife quite by chance



spotted (see last Newsletter) when we went there to present his and my first cousin John Lister Goddard's victory medal. Until that moment I had been unaware that Patrick had been educated there.

Change the scenario to Malvern College where I spent my entire working life from 1965 to 2006. When I first went there as an assistant master in September 1965 I overlapped for their last year two boys who were particularly prominent in the school: Patrick d'Arcy Mander and Peter Begg. Apart from a host of other achievements, they succeeded in winning the prestigious Public Schools Rackets Doubles Championships at Queens Club, London. For those of you who don't know – which is, I suspect, 99% of you! – Rackets is an esoteric racket game best described as playing an enlarged version of Squash Rackets but with a golf ball, which results in the ball flying round the court at prodigious speeds. It is only played in twelve public schools and about a dozen other venues in this country and North America. Sadly in July 1967, just a year after he left school, Patrick was killed in a car crash. He had been a member of House No.6 (Malvern College houses are, unusually, not named), the house next to the Rackets courts; and to perpetuate his memory his father, Colonel d'Arcy Mander, put up some money to endow a racket to be presented annually by the Housemaster to the most promising Colts (under 16) Rackets player in the house.

Roll on a dozen years to 1979. Just before going to South Africa I had been appointed the next Housemaster of House No.6, and thus became directly involved in the presentation of the 'Mander Racket' as it had become known,

an event which usually took place just before lunch on a Sunday in March. My cousin Rosemary died on 25 September 1986, and a few weeks later I received a package out of the blue. It turned out to be the portrait of my Aunt Rose which, unknown to me, Rosemary had left to me in her will having no children of her own. We hung it in our private-side dining room opposite the door. By chance the winner of the Mander Racket for March 1987 was Richard Keep, d'Arcy Mander's grandson by Patrick's sister, and I resolved to ask d'Arcy to present it in person. This he agreed to do. Aware that it would be a doubly emotional occasion for him and his wife, I decided to hold the lunch party in our private-side dining room. As I led him over the threshold he stopped dead in his tracks and uttered two words: "Aunt Rose!".

Taken aback, I said that she was also my aunt and that I was unaware we were related. "We are not," he said; "she was my honorary aunt. Our families were neighbours in Ireland and we children – Rosemary, Patrick, myself and my siblings – used to play in and out of each others' houses. I named my Patrick after Rosemary's dead brother, never dreaming he would suffer an equally premature fate. Rosemary left me his portrait in her will, and I received it just before Christmas." When Richard Keep was brought back by his parents at the start of the autumn term in September, they brought me a package and a note from Richard's grandfather: "After much deliberation over the summer I have decided that mother and son should be reunited. Please accept the portrait of Patrick. He is, after all, your first cousin and no blood relation of mine. d'Arcy." So mother and son now hang together on our staircase.

LEICESTER ARCHITECTS

Membership Secretary John of Accrington has had a message from newly joined Leicestershire member Tony Goddard to say that he still has some copies left for sale of *Men of Property – Six Generations of Leicester Architects* (see an extensive review in Newsletter 16). The booklet of 116 pages was published in 1990; the cost is £15. Please contact John (details on back page) if you are interested.

AUTHOR BOB GODDARD

Remember author and Association member Bob Goddard (Newsletter 119)? John of Accrington tells me that, apart from his two motorcycle travel books, he has written a sequel to his first novel *Mother Moon*. This one is called *The Dark Side of the Moon* and early reviews suggest that it is even better than the original. Buy a copy and find out for yourself!

HOLLAND GODDARD

Association member Ernest Goddard writes: "Help needed from a Classicist about the possible derivation of Holland Goddard 1570-1626 Aldershot and North Hampshire. My best guess is that this is derived from the traditional Welsh name 'Hywel' that was common in the Middle Ages and has been anglicised as 'Howell'. Hywel was originally a byname from a vocabulary word meaning 'eminent, conspicuous'. In the Middle Ages Blackwater, near Yateley, Hampshire, situated at the end of the Welsh Drive, an old Drover's Road, hosted a very important livestock market. Dealers from London would come and make their purchases and then drive their stock, on the hoof, back to the city. The more important Welsh stockmen would, indeed, have been eminent in their communities. This would, also, fit with the broad band of Goddards who settled (en route as it were) from the Severn Valley up through Wiltshire and across the Berkshire downs. Equally important early written records, e.g. parish records, would have relied upon the priest's interpretation of how a name was spelt phonetically in Latin; once established it would then have become the norm. The fact that by the mid eighteenth century we start to see 'Howell Goddard' in parish records lends weight to this, e.g. Howell Goddard who married Mary Calloway at St Peter's, Yateley, in 1786."

Ed.: If you think you can help, please contact Ernest direct by e-mail at ernest.g@zen.co.uk

WILTSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY – 22

The Wiltshire Record Society's volume 29 for 1973 is the *Abstracts of Feet of Fines Relating to Wiltshire for the Reign of Edward III*. A foot of a fine was a legal document recording a final agreement made in a court of law concerning a land dispute between two parties. The word 'fine' has nothing to do with a financial penalty such as a speeding ticket, but is a technical word meaning a dispute has been settled. This final decision was written out three times on a single sheet of parchment, two head to head and the third across the bottom. The top two thirds of the document was then cut in half with a wavy line and one part given to each of the parties; the bottom, or 'foot' was kept by the court for future reference in case the dispute should unfortunately recur. There is only one reference to a Goddard, one Simon Godard a chaplain, settled on the 'Morrow of All Souls' [3 November] in 1331. He was in dispute with Robert and Denise Swotyng over a small amount of property near Warminster, claiming Robert had given it to him. The court clearly disagreed and returned it to Robert.

HUNTING GODDARDS

Goddards who took part in foxhunting, or searching for Goddards? In a previous article (*Newsletter 66*) member Sue Taylor presented details of her Goddard family who for several generations worked for various fox hunts throughout the length and breadth of the country. In this article Goddards are the hunted not the hunters.

In the earlier article Sue mentioned three hunt servants about whom she knew nothing: Jack, John C., and the third with the initial J. An internet search quickly revealed that they were related to each other and were also part of an extended family of Goddards, all working as hunt servants in various capacities.

Jack, baptised as John in Stratford-on-Avon in 1817, was the third son of Zachariah Goddard and Hannah Parmenter who married at Castle Hedingham, Essex, in May 1807. Zach was the fourth generation of a Great Waldingfield, Suffolk, family and had moved to Stratford about 1813 where he found work with Lord Middleton's Warwickshire Hunt. He had five sons and three daughters, four of the sons becoming huntsmen or whips and one of the daughters marrying into another hunt family. The fourth son, Ben, was the ancestor of Sue Taylor who wrote the original article. Jack was well known in hunting circles. Accounts in the press refer to him as smart and intelligent, a cheery huntsman and a hard rider. He was first whipper-in for the Heythrop Hunt for fourteen years and for a short period in the 1850s was landlord of the White Hart Inn in Chipping Norton. (The Blue Boar Inn in the same town is on Goddards Lane, *Newsletter 76*). Missing the excitement of hunting, he returned to the field with the Billesdon Hunt before going to the Quorn in 1862. As his physical capacity worsened his duties were restricted, but he still rode as second whip. He moved to the South Nottingham Hunt in 1871 and finally became a stud groom at Lowdham, Nottinghamshire, where he died aged 63 in 1880. Jack married Mercy Elizabeth Goddard in June 1844. She was the 28 year old widow of his older brother James who had died aged 35. The marriage somehow bypassed Canon Law which prohibited the marriage of brothers and sisters-in-law. Mercy had three children by James and a further nine by Jack. All the sons, six of them, became huntsmen.

The J. Goddard of Sue's article cannot be definitely identified. It may have been either James Henry or John C., both sons of Jack; or John C., Jack's grandson. John C. was John Christopher I, born at Heythrop in 1848 and died at Davenham, Cheshire, in October 1928. He was whipper-in and huntsman with the Cheshire Hunt for twenty years until the 1890s.

In February 1896, prior to a meeting at Oulton Park, he was presented with a framed illuminated address and a purse of gold valued at £223 in appreciation of his services. The address bore the names of the subscribers, headed by the Duke of Westminster. The Master of the hunt, in making the presentation, commented that John was a worthy successor to his father and grandfather with whom the Master had hunted many times with other hunts. John thanked the members heartily but briefly, saying that what he had done in the field had always been to the best of his ability. After his retirement he became a pub landlord, a common choice with huntsmen.

John Christopher II was born in 1877 at the kennels of the Cheshire Hunt, the only son to follow his father into hunting. Before World War One he was with the Grafton Hunt in Northamptonshire. Not surprisingly he married into another hunt family, to Violet Pope in the spring of 1911. The Pope family served the Grafton for several generations. John C. joined the artillery in 1915 and later served with the Shropshire Light Infantry. After the war he returned to his trade, probably with a Worcestershire hunt as his third daughter was born in Kidderminster in 1919. By 1939 he had retired to his native Cheshire and settled into the local community, joining the British Legion, the Conservative Association and the P.P.C. In August 1957 the *Cheshire Observer* reported the death of John Christopher Goddard of Bunbury, formerly huntsman to the Grafton Hunt and survived by his widow Violet and two daughters, Ellen and Hilda. His children were all girls so the hunting connection ended with them.

Over four generations Zachariah and his descendants provided eighteen servants to hunts, mainly in the Midland counties, but as far afield as Cornwall, Ireland, Lincolnshire and Northumberland. Fuller details of these hunting Goddards can be found on the website of the Gent family, <gentgoddard.lizgent.co.uk> one of whom married a daughter of William, brother of John Christopher I.

John of Accrington

POLICEMAN

Watching BBC regional news the other evening, I was interested in an item concerning improved policing methods in the face of increasing countryside crime. I was even more interested when Chief Inspector 'Daf' Goddard was interviewed, he being the officer running the Warwickshire section of the West Midlands initiative. Do any members claim him as a relative?

THE CASE OF THE CORRUPT COPPER

In January 1929 Sergeant George Goddard of the Metropolitan Police was found guilty of accepting bribes and conspiring to pervert the course of justice. Exactly ninety years later Membership Secretary John was contacted by a Mark Norris who had been researching this George Goddard, a cousin by marriage of his grandfather. During his research he had come across an article in our Newsletter 69 quoting from the book *Brewer's Rogues and Villains* in which George appeared. Mark generously sent copies of his research and agreed that, since there were no direct living descendants, a re-telling of the story with additions would not be embarrassing to anyone. He was also able to correct some factual inaccuracies in the book.



George Goddard came from one of the numerous families in Compton, Surrey, where ten Goddard families are listed over three consecutive pages of the 1861 census. He was born in August 1879, the son of William and Maria (née Eagle). Two other sons died as children. George married Amelia Kelsey in late 1913 and an only son, George Kelsey Goddard, was born in July 1915.

George joined the Metropolitan Police in May 1900 as Constable 86412 in D division. By the 1920s he had been promoted to Sergeant and specially appointed for plain-clothes duty to inspect and report on clubs and licensed premises in the West End and

Soho. In 1922 a fellow sergeant, Horace Joslin, had reported him for corruption but had been disbelieved and dismissed from the force. During the following six years Sgt. Goddard had earned a good reputation, receiving several commendations. He had become well-known on his patch and was on friendly terms with some of those he was inspecting. Numerous complaints had been received from the public about the activities of Soho clubs; many had been watched, raided and owners prosecuted, Goddard taking part in over a hundred of these raids. But on other occasions he had made satisfactory reports on some clubs despite evidence to the contrary from independent organisations concerned with morals and decency which were also watching these clubs. In September 1928 an anonymous letter sent to Scotland Yard accused him of accepting bribes, informing proprietors of imminent raids and contrasting his living style with his wage of £6 a week. The C.I.D. made enquiries and found that Goddard had three safe deposit boxes, owned a detached house at Streatham and ran a luxury Chrysler car. When asked to account for these possessions he stated that he had saved a few hundred pounds by being thrifty in addition to successfully betting on horses, speculating in currency and that his wife had money. However, when the safe boxes were brought to Scotland Yard, one was found to be empty, a second contained £470 and some foreign notes; but the third, which had been rented using a false name, was stuffed full of bank notes to the sum of £12,000. Faced with the fact that the C.I.D. had found this third safe, Goddard is reported to have staggered saying, "I am done for".

Summarily dismissed from the force in October 1928, he was tried at the Old Bailey in January 1929 accused of accepting bribes, false reporting and conspiring to contravene the Licensing Acts. Two others, Luigi Ribuffi and Mrs Kate Meyrick, both of whom owned a succession of clubs in the 1920s, were accused of bribing Sgt. Goddard in the sums of £260 and £155 respectively. Mrs Meyrick, well-known in high and low London society as 'Queen of the night-clubs', was also accused of selling liquor without a licence. Another person involved, Mrs Gadda, keeper of a 'disorderly house' in Greek St., was said to have paid him £500 but had left the country. Most of these payments had been in relatively small amounts and dated from about 1923 onwards.

Most of the case for the prosecution concerned Goddard's financial affairs. In addition to the safe deposits he had a bank deposit account containing £2,249 and a current account into which small

amounts had been paid but had never been drawn on. This contained almost £700. His car had cost £400 and his detached house in Streatham had been bought in 1925 for £1,875, both apparently for cash. Moreover the house had been bought in the name of a friend who owned a restaurant at which Goddard lunched freely several times a week. This friend and others regularly changed small denomination notes for large Bank of England notes which were less bulky for Goddard to keep in his safe deposit. Crucially the prosecution proved that many of the notes in the safe deposits had been withdrawn from Ribuffi's, Meyrick's and Gadda's banks and were still in numerical sequence. It was also shown that the safe containing £12,000 had been rented in the name of a relative, Joseph Eagle, the day after Goddard found out that the C.I.D. were making enquiries about his car. The defence mainly consisted of all three denying any involvement, but in cross-examination Goddard admitted to making money in business activities not allowed by police regulations. The evidence of sequential numbered notes was also the downfall of Ribuffi and Meyrick, both of whom had previous convictions for misconduct in operating clubs. All three were found guilty, Ribuffi and Meyrick being sentenced to fifteen months imprisonment with hard labour. George was sentenced to eighteen months along with a fine of £2,000 and costs. A side effect of the conviction was that Horace Joslin, his accuser in 1922, was awarded £1,500 compensation and offered re-instatement, which he refused.

During Goddard's time in Wormwood Scrubs two incidents seem to show he was still a policeman at heart. He foiled an escape plot by a convict who was attempting to loosen the bars of his cell, and he helped to overpower an inmate who was attacking a warder. These efforts earned him the thanks of the Governor and three months remission from his sentence.

Whilst in gaol he was also pursuing a claim for the return of £12,500 which had been confiscated by the police on the grounds that it was all the proceeds of bribes. In a widely reported case in December 1929 further details of Goddard's extra-mural business activities were revealed and which he claimed were the source of his money. Amongst these activities was a half share in stalls selling rock at the 1924/25 Wembley Exhibition. Sticks of rock costing 2d [1p] were sold for 1/- [5p] producing £4,000 as Goddard's share of the profits. Another venture was into music publishing with a half share of royalties and 25% of profits which over ten years produced £5,000. His partner in this business claimed to have given Goddard £2,500 to save for him and which was part

of the cash in the safe deposit. Speculation in French francs through a friend in France had made a profit of about £3,500 from 1920 onwards. His regular betting on horse-racing was so successful that he won more often than not. On two days at Epsom in 1926 he bet £50 and £100 on two runners at five to one. All but one of these business ventures were carried out under false names, all transactions were in cash and none had any accounts. The judge concluded that only £3,500 had been proved to result from bribes and awarded Goddard the remaining £9,000. But after costs it was estimated that he would only have about £3,000.

On his release from prison in 1930 George went on holiday to Somerset with his wife and son, returning to live at his house in Valley Road, Streatham, and working as a used-furniture dealer. George and Amelia later moved to Salfords near Redhill, where George died in June 1958 and Amelia in June 1962. George's estate was valued at £5,642 and Amelia's at £13,146, very little of which had been spent to mark their memory. A small grave marker in Horley cemetery bears their names and death dates only. Their son, George K., had qualified as a solicitor before World War II and was a Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery during the war. He died in Bonn, Germany, on 2 October 2000 after a distinguished career in international arbitration and having been awarded the German Order of Merit, equivalent to our O.B.E.

John of Accrington

PROTESTER AGAIN

Newsletter 129 carried a brief article about a James Goddard who had just been arrested for harassment of MP Anna Soubry during a Brexit demonstration outside Parliament by calling her a "traitor" and a "Nazi". He initially pleaded not guilty and the case was adjourned to a later date. Last month (June), during a case management hearing, he was thrown out of court because he kept interrupting the judge. In mid-July his case was finally heard before a Westminster Magistrates Court. He must have spent some time listening to his legal advisers in the interim, because this time he admitted a charge of harassment without violence and also pleaded guilty to one count of racially harassing a policeman. His guilty plea meant that Anna Soubry did not have to attend the court to give evidence. The article did not record his punishment. But it did contain a variance with the January article in that it stated that he came from Timperley in Altrincham, whereas the previous article said he originally came from Leicester. I wonder which is correct..

LOWESTOFT'S *EXCELSIOR*

I am grateful to Celia Dodd for sending the Association a cutting from the *East Anglia Daily Times* of 28 March concerning Lowestoft's historic fishing smack, the 77ft *Excelsior*, which celebrates its centenary in 2021. Regarded as one of the UK's top 60 most historic ships, it has just acquired a new skipper – Jim Goddard. Jim is a yachtmaster instructor of more than 25 years experience in teaching adults and children aboard modern and traditional yachts, and has himself sailed around most of Europe and completed a circumnavigation of the UK in 2016. Extensive repairs and maintenance have been carried out prior to the new season which began in April, such as painting the hull and the sails – the latter being a job that has to be done every other year to preserve them from all weathers, salt and sunlight. Jim is keen to raise the profile of the ship and has urged the local community to rally round prior to the celebration of the centenary for which occasion many events are being planned. He regards the ship as “living history” and is proud to have been appointed her skipper at such an important period in her life.

DROWNING

Is this your family? Shoreham, Sussex, inquest 1840. “Yesterday September 13 an inquest was held before F.H. Gell, Esq., on view of the body of Charles Goddard, aged 9 yrs, who while bathing in the river with a companion got out of his depth and was drowned. Verdict accidental death.” Does this little boy feature in your family tree? All I have been able to find is a death for a Charles Goddard registered in Steyning in the September quarter 1840, and a baptism of Charles son of William and Margaret Goddard in Clapham (which is about ten miles from Steyning) on 16 July 1831. Not a foregone conclusion this is the same Charles.

Joan Dibble

EDITOR'S REQUEST

It is becoming increasingly difficult to compile interesting Newsletters, as I am not receiving from members nearly as many articles as I used to. Even if you have never tried your hand at writing before, don't be shy; as editor I am here to help you. Within reason the length is immaterial; most Newsletters contain articles ranging between a column inch and two pages and it is part of my job to fit the jigsaw puzzle together. I would always rather have too much copy than not enough, and I can always hold articles over to the next issue if I run out of space, provided that I have enough room for time sensitive contributions.

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.

Tony Goddard is from the well-known family of Leicester architects who have appeared on several occasions in the Newsletter and are detailed in Monograph 20 on the website. His 3 x great grandfather Joseph 1751-1839, the son of Jonah and Hannah, founded the architectural business which produced many notable buildings in Leicester including the Clock Tower and the Old Bank which is under threat.

Pamela Peake is the 3 x great grand-daughter of Daniel Poole Goddard of Ipswich via his daughter Sarah 1812-1897. Sarah married Revd Henry Hollis, a non-conformist minister, who wrote *The Family Memorial: a tribute to Daniel Poole Goddard, his wife Lucy and youngest daughter Lydia* published in 1846. This Goddard family of Ipswich has previously appeared in Newsletters 63, 117, 119 and 123 and has strong connections with Rendham, the venue of this year's AGM. Pamela is thus a distant cousin of committee member Alex Morris.

RESEARCH REPORT 2019

It has been another quiet year, I believe because so much is now available online to aid family history research. It is not an exaggeration to say that what took me years of researching can now be achieved in a couple of days with access to Ancestry.co.uk, Free BMD and many other internet sites. The days of weekly trips to the LDS family history centre in Swansea to read parish records from a microfiche and going many weeks not finding my Goddards are but a distant memory. I think another reason I am not called on for help is because there is now so much information on our magnificent website. There is one research tool that Malcolm and I have to hand, that he is slowly adding to the website: a database that is being built by John of Fareham. It has many, many thousands of entries, so if you are struggling to find information I may have it to hand; please don't hesitate to ask. I am currently helping three members with their research, and also working on another family tree to add to the website. I am sad not to be able to make it to the AGM this year and hope that everyone has a really lovely afternoon. Joan Dibble

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee held a brief meeting before the 2019 AGM at Juniper Barn in Rendham, Suffolk, on Sunday 12 May 2019. For the first time ever and for a variety of reasons five of the nine Committee members were unavoidably absent, so it was decided to defer any topic which needed a major decision to our October meeting. However, during the course of the subsequent AGM two new faces were added to the Committee and I now share them with you, together with a brief résumé of their CVs.

In the first place we have a new Treasurer after 34 years. John of Shrewsbury had indicated his desire to retire (see back page) and he was replaced by Richard Morris. Richard started his career as a trainee



accountant for an engineering consultancy in Bristol. After a couple of years he moved to Canary Wharf to work for an American bank, where he remained for 23 years. Starting off in the financial control department, he moved into the bank's technology department in which he had a variety of roles delivering reporting and control systems. The last ten years of his time there were focused on the bank's treasury and cash management platform. He now works for a software company which, among other products, provides cash and liquidity management solutions for banks. He is married to Committee member Alex (née Goddard) with two children.

Secondly, John of Fareham was replaced by Dr Karen Bell of Oxford. She writes: "Hi, I'm Karen Bell and my link to the Goddards is through my mother (Hazel) Sheila Goddard. She was descended from one of the Brimpton Goddards, Francis, who was the son of Richard Goddard, the publican in Newbury. Francis moved to London around 1860 and then gravitated to Croydon like several of his siblings. My mother and her two siblings were born and



brought up in Croydon and, although she has sadly passed away, her older brother, Douglas Goddard, still lives near Croydon and is determined to make it to 100 in 2021! We've had his DNA checked and he is definitely a Goddard. I live in Oxford, working as a project manager for the National Institute for Health Research at the John Radcliffe Hospital. I'm happy to meet any passing Goddards; unfortunately I'm not closely related to Clive Goddard, the cartoonist, who lives round the corner."

WEBSITE REPORT 2019

The GAE website continues to be popular with Goddard researchers worldwide. The site has on average 4,729 hits per month to the home page (about 168 a day, a slight increase over the previous twelve months) with March 2019 being the peak month, mostly from the UK and USA. Approximately 10% of members stay up to an hour on the site, which is a good level of engagement as the average visit for genealogy sites is less than two minutes. A most interesting statistic that I have noted is that 579 unique visits to the home page have been redirects via the GAE Facebook page, which continues to attract new members to the main GAE site and quite regularly, it seems, onto full membership. The Goddard Wills transcripts seem still to be the most popular files with members, but the British and Australian military databases are also well used. An additional statistic that caught my eye was that our website is listed as ranking 339,416 on the whole internet; this seems quite good as there are over 1.8 billion sites currently on line and growing every day. *Malcolm of Brisbane*

33rd AGM

The 33rd AGM was held on Sunday 12 May 2019 at Rendham Village Hall near Saxmundham in Suffolk, and was attended by some dozen and a half members. Unfortunately five committee members were absent for unavoidable reasons. The President welcomed all those attending, especially Colin and Cindy from Melbourne, Australia. Several apologies for absence were recorded. The Minutes of the last AGM were approved and signed; there were no matters arising.

Treasurer John presented his audited Accounts which were accepted. The President indicated what a sad occasion this was – the end of an era. John had been treasurer for thirty-four years since 25 May 1985, the day of the Association's foundation and had guided its finances with a sure and steady hand. An enormous debt of gratitude was owed him, and it gave the President the greatest pleasure on behalf of the Association and on his own behalf to make a small presentation to John in recognition of his unstinting service.

In the unavoidable absence of Joan Dibble, our Research Co-ordinator, the President read her report recording another quiet year (see page 7). She again stressed her willingness to undertake research for any member if called upon to assist. The President then read the website report, which had been submitted by Malcolm in Brisbane (see also page 7).

There then followed the various officers' elections. Richard of Malvern was re-elected President for a further year. In accepting, Richard stated that this would at the most be his penultimate year and, depending on his health, possibly his last. Denise of Solihull was then re-elected Secretary. Richard Morris, husband of existing Committee member Alex, was proposed and seconded as the new Treasurer and duly elected, being given such powers as he needed to operate the existing or a new bank account. Alex Morris was then re-elected to the Committee for a further three years. John of Fareham had indicated his intention of retiring from the Committee; in his absence the President thanked him for the considerable contribution he had made over the last six years. In his place Dr Karen Bell of Oxford was elected to serve a three year term. This was at variance with the agenda as the proposed nominee, Thomas Goddard, had had to withdraw a few days before the AGM on grounds of ill-health.

There was no other business. It was hoped that the venue of next year's AGM would be the famous Goddard pie and eel shop in Greenwich on either Sunday 10 or 17 May 2020. All being well this will be confirmed in the next Newsletter.

The President then announced the recipient – or, rather, recipients as there were three this year – of the Howard Goddard-Jones Memorial. They were Eileen Horne, Averiel Owen and Mary Horne, or 'the three graces' as we fondly nickname them. Their



support for the Association is unrivalled, having attended every AGM bar two (missing those through ill-health), and carrying on the support of their cousin Kathleen Millicent Goddard who won the Award back in 1988. Then followed a fascinating illustrated talk, given by our hosts, Katie and Geoffrey Boulton, on the challenge of their retirement project of creating a much needed village shop out of the old barn: Juniper Barn. The President thanked them warmly and presented them with a Goddard plate in appreciation. The usual raffle took place, followed by tea and biscuits; my thanks, as always, to members who kindly donated prizes.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

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, 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
Secretary: Miss Denise Goddard, 97 Fillongley Road, Meriden, West Midlands, CV7 7LW. Tel: 07752-165207
Email: secretary@goddard-association.org.uk
Research Co-ordinator: Mrs Joan Dibble, 17 New Street, Kidwelly, Carmarthen, SA17 5DQ. Tel: 01554-890641
Email: research@goddard-association.org.uk
Treasurer: Richard N.U. Morris, 119 Blount Avenue, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 1JN. Tel: 01342-324691
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