



The Goddard Association of Europe

NEWSLETTER

No. 57 – FEBRUARY 2001

CHRIST CHURCH, SWINDON

Sesquicentenary

The year 2001 marks the sesquicentenary of the consecration of the new Swindon parish church, Christ Church. Visitors to The Lawn, the park in Old Swindon where the Goddard family mansion formerly stood, are often surprised that no more than the chancel of the old adjacent parish church, Holy Rood, remains. This article from the *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette* for Friday 7 June 1850, kindly sent to me by Mr Brian Bridgeman of The Swindon Society, explains:

“With arrival of the GWR in 1840 and decision to build the railway’s principle establishment near Swindon, the population of Old Swindon, as well as New Swindon, was increasing, and old church was not large enough to accommodate the resident members of her communion parishioners. In 1847 the new incumbent, the Revd. H.G. Bailey, looked to ways of adding extra accommodation, including plans to enlarge the old church. It was found, however, that the ‘ancient edifice was so inconveniently constructed that any attempt to alter its present arrangement, so as to meet the requirements of the parish, would fail’. Mr A.L. Goddard offered £1,000 towards building a new church, his father offering a site for it and the burial ground, the rest of the money was raised by the Vicar by voluntary subscriptions, and by the time of the laying of the foundation stone he had raised £5,000, a sum which, although far short of the total needed, was considered enough to justify the commencement of the building of the new church.

The laying of the foundation stone took place on Friday, 7 June 1850. Many houses in Old Swindon were

bedecked with flags and banners, garlands were hung across the streets and there was a general air of festivity about the town. Shortly after 11am the bells at the old church were rung to summon people to Divine Service. A large congregation gathered to hear the Vicar and the Revd. Mr Mansfield (Vicar of St Marks) lead the prayers and readings to bless the project, and the baptism of the latest daughter of A.L. Goddard Esq. MP, added interest to the occasion.

After service at Holy Rood a procession was formed to march to the site of the new church. On arrival the procession formed a square and was addressed by the Vicar. After this a hymn was sung, the words having been written by the wife of the Vicar. More prayers followed, finishing with the Lord’s Prayer. After this, Mrs A.L. Goddard was presented with an elegant silver trowel and with the following words laid the foundation stone: “To the sole honour and glory of the Holy, Eternal, and Undivided Trinity, we lay this foundation stone, in faith and hope that the building to be erected hereon will be a house of prayer and praise. Thee, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, one God, be blessed for

ever – Amen”. A very handsome level and mallet were then handed to Ambrose Goddard Esq. who checked the accuracy of the work. A speech by A.L. Goddard Esq. MP followed and proceedings ended with three cheers for the Vicar, three for the Queen, and three more for Mr Goddard.

A brass plate with the following description in old Roman letters was deposited under the corner stone together with a bottle containing a set of coins of the current Queen’s reign: “To the Glory of God; this corner stone of the new parish church of Swindon was laid by...the site was given by Ambrose Goddard Esq and one thousand pounds by his son the above named Ambrose Lethbridge Goddard. The remainder of the cost (£7000) is to be raised by voluntary subscriptions, aided by a grant of £200 from the Incorporated Society for Building Churches and Chapels. Henry George Bailey...Vicar. James Bradford & Robert Reynolds ...Churchwardens. George Gilbert Scott...Architect. George Myers ...Builder.”

The festivities ended with a ‘Fancy Bazaar’ in a large room at the Goddard Arms Hotel to raise funds for the new church.

The current Vicar, the Revd. Simon Stevenette, intends marking the anniversary with several events throughout the year, culminating in a service on 7 November, the anniversary of the consecration. He also hopes to raise funds for urgent repairs and the building of a new parish hall. In keeping with our desire to help preserve monuments of Goddard significance – and Christ Church is full of them – the Association is hoping to contribute to this fund. Please send any contribution to Treasurer John (address on p. 8), made payable to the Goddard Association of Europe and making sure that he knows it is for the ‘Swindon Appeal’.

CAN YOU HELP?

New member **Derek Sayer** of 75A Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, London SE5 0NJ, to trace his ancestry? His great grandfather was William Goddard, who was born about 1861. He married Sarah Turner about 1883 and they lived in Broadwell, Gloucestershire until his death in 1889. Family tradition has it that he was a farm worker and died from being kicked by a horse. The widowed Sarah moved to Sydenham, Kent with the children Joseph William, Edmund and Florence Sarah. Sarah went into domestic service to keep herself and the children till she married William George Sayer in 1912.

Mr Keith Partridge of 33 Woggle Street, Jamboree Heights, Queensland 4074, Australia to trace his ancestry back in England? His grandfather was Alfred Lionel Goddard, born 8 March 1888 at Parramatta. But the earliest ancestor he can find is John Goddard, born in 1822 or 1823 at an unknown town in Hampshire according to the death certificate. He joined the XIth Foot North Devonshire Regiment at Devonport on 2 August 1840, and married Ann Mullins while serving in Northern Ireland about 1842 or 1843. He embarked for Van Diemen's Land on 12 June 1845 and was employed by the Barracks department, his son John A. being born and christened in Victoria Barracks in June 1850.

Luis Henrique Dias Goddard who has e-mailed from Brazil? His grandfather was named Randolph Scott Goddard and he died, probably in Brazil, in 1942. Randolph's father was named Walter Ernest Goddard and it is thought that he came from London. Without dates it is difficult to trace Walter Goddard; there are several in the 1881 census of Middlesex of various ages, but does anyone recognise the name and description? Please reply to Julie of Newbury.

Denis Johnstone of Australia who has also e-mailed? His wife is a descendant of Henry Moore Goddard, married to Elizabeth Bright, who arrived in Australia on the *Estonia* in 1854. Denis has a large family tree of their family in Australia and would like to share it with any relatives from the home country. Please reply to Julie of Newbury – address and e-mail on the back page.

ROBERT GODDARD

Robert Goddard flourished 1536-60 and was a French organist and composer of some nineteen chansons most of which were published in Paris between 1536 and 1559. He is known to have resigned as organist of Beauvais Cathedral in 1560, but the suggestion that he was a tenor at the Sainte-Chapelle in Paris between 1541 and 1568 has never been substantiated. His most popular chanson was *Ce moys de May*, subsequently reprinted in Antwerp and Lyons, which secured a place in Phalèse's 7th book of chansons, the most reprinted anthology of the late 16th and early 17th centuries.

GODDARD AUTHORS

I have occasionally published details about various Goddard authors; and I have now trained our College Librarian to spot any in the course of her duties. She has recently come up with three and a poet. The authors are Dr Harold C. Goddard of the University of Chicago who published a book in 1951 called *The Meaning of Shakespeare*, though he died before naming his book and the title was supplied by the publisher; L. Goddard who wrote *Philosophical Problems*, published by the Scottish Academic Press in 1977; and E. Goddard who produced *Young Teenagers and Alcohol* in 1996, published by the London HMSO. The poet is Roz Goddard, who appeared recently at the Ledbury Poetry Festival; unfortunately I was too busy to go and accost her! And I have recently come across another author, hitherto unknown to me. A catalogue I was sent out of the blue from Ambra Books in Bristol had a book advertised on *Newquay, The Vale of Lanherne and Perranzabuloe* by a Fannie Goddard. It appears to have been first produced in 1902-3 as one of the Homeland Handbooks. Can anyone shed any more light on any of these?

DIY SPECIALIST

I am grateful to Margaret of Worsley and John of Accrington for spotting an article in the *Manchester Evening News* of 8 December last, and Ann Hockaday for noticing the same story in the *Daily Express* the following day, on DIY specialist Paul Goddard from Glossop in Derbyshire. Having spent ten years on projects in his own home, he has now turned his attention to the local bus shelter opposite and has gained council approval to replace the metal structure with one built in stone; he also intends to landscape the surrounding area. The new shelter will have hardwood benches and a window so that people can look out over the garden. Civic pride is important to Paul; apparently he is already well known in the area for his daffodil planting programme, which turns local river banks and roadsides into a colourful backdrop in spring.

SNIPPETS

Once again Jennifer Walker has kindly sent me a variety of items from various Wiltshire or Gloucestershire papers, and one from *Amateur Gardening* in which a letter from a B. Goddard of Norwich talks of the advantage of growing vegetables in raised containers because of a back problem. Three of the other items mention a Mark Goddard in a successful Bromham football team, a B. Goddard who won a raffle at a Calne flower arranging demonstration, and a Mr & Mrs Goddard whose request for planning permission to build a bungalow at a Sherston kennels to replace their mobile home has been turned down.

A ROOTIN', TOOTIN' SON OF A GUN

Arizona isn't the only place to have had rootin', tootin' sons of guns. Hartley Goddard, a late Victorian pork butcher in Accrington, was one of several prominent local men who formed a club in Burnley, popularly known as the Root and Toot Club but properly called the Burnley Social and Controversial Club. Quite how the club acquired this nickname isn't known, but there is a suggestion that it came from the way they debated the problems of the day. A photograph of them on an outing shows them in heavy suits with waistcoats, watch-chains and top hats and bowlers.

In 1881 Hartley, born in Colne, Lancashire, was 28 years old and had his own business as a pork butcher in Accrington. His wife, Emma, appears to have been married before since the census lists four children, the two younger surnamed Goddard and the two older ones surnamed Smith.

His business premises were a house and shop on a main street in Accrington. It was his practice, in common with most butchers at the time, to slaughter animals on the premises. Every Monday he received about a dozen pigs which were slaughtered over the next two or three days and butchered for sale in the shop. In doing this he fell foul of the Council's public health byelaws because the sty in which they were kept was against the house wall and immediately next to a window. It had a wooden floor and the only drain was a gully in the centre of the floor. On Christmas Eve in 1891 the council served notice on him to discontinue the use of the slaughterhouse. In reply Hartley said that the premises had been in use as a slaughterhouse for over thirty years and that his neighbours had never made any complaint. He had got another place some distance away to store his pigs until required for immediate slaughter and would have used the Council abattoirs if he hadn't owned his own premises. He was willing to make any reasonable alterations thought necessary and asked for a deputation to inspect the premises.

The Health Committee did inspect and presented him with a list of alterations to be carried out to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer. These included the provision of proper through ventilation in the slaughterhouse, the relaying of the flagged floor and the walls to be smoothly cemented to a height of six feet. The chimney from the boiler was to be raised to prevent a smoke nuisance and tubs provided to replace the ashpit at the side entrance. The outside WC was to be fitted with an approved flushing apparatus.

But another side of Hartley's life appears in local newspapers. A popular leisure pursuit of the time was roller skating and in Accrington there were two skating rinks which each fielded a team playing hockey on roller skates in the Northern Counties 5-a-side league. Hartley

played for the Abbey team as a full back, the other team members being goalkeeper, half-back and two forwards. In a report of a derby match between the two Accrington teams in 1910 the reporter commented: "Goddard also did well and his feeding of the forwards was excellent". But his team lost 3-0 nevertheless, and this may have had something to do with the fact that Hartley at this time was 57 years old!

Hartley died in 1928 aged 76, a short time after having had a seizure. His second wife, twenty-two years his junior, died the following year.

That we have both lived in Accrington is a coincidence. Hartley is not a relative of mine but I know a member who is. *John of Accrington*

JUNGLE TRAINING

Pat Goddard, son of a Goring firefighter, has travelled the world with the army. Recently the former Hugh Faringdon pupil was on a 27 day exercise for potential NCOs in the jungles of Belize with the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment – his toughest experience yet. A top temperature of 40 degrees and almost impenetrable jungle were not the only problems; snakes, deadly spiders, scorpions, crocodiles, malaria and a host of other nasties had to be contended with. Live ammunition was used in one exercise, and on another they had to lie still in ambush positions for twenty hours and let any creepies crawl over them. I am grateful to Margaret Young for sending me this information from a November issue of the *Reading Chronicle*. Does anyone claim this intrepid warrior?

PERTH ACTOR

I am grateful to Australian co-ordinator Ian of Balcatta for sending me an article from last June's *The West Australian* relating to 34 year old Perth actor Trevor Goddard, who was a former boxer. In October 1999 when visiting Perth Trevor was jumped by several men and beaten unconscious, causing broken ribs and face injuries requiring seven stitches – all because he knocked a man down for heckling two women.

Aged fourteen Trevor was given eighteen months detention for grievous bodily harm, and some four years later moved to America to further his light-heavyweight boxing career. But his rugged good looks drew him into acting and he is now based in Los Angeles where for the last two years he has starred in the popular serial JAG. Married with two sons, Travis 4 and Danno 2, he has a house in Hollywood Hills which he is partly renovating himself; he considers that fatherhood has mellowed him. He has a contract with the programme for another two years.

NEW BISHOP

Several members have alerted me to the new suffragan bishop of Burnley who was installed in early December 2000. His name? John Goddard, of course. Ann Hockaday had spotted his appointment in the Daily Telegraph for 15 August when he is described as Canon John Goddard, team rector of Ribbleson, Preston, in the Blackburn diocese. And John of Accrington looked him up in Crockfords: "Rt. Rev. John W. Goddard, Suffragan Bishop of Burnley. b. 1947. B.A. Durham. DipTheol. Career—York, Middlesboro', York Minster, Edinburgh Theol. Coll. Team Rector, Blackburn Diocese 1992-2000. Installed Bishop, Dec. 2000."

Margaret of Worsley also sent me information on him. In fact he was consecrated in York Minster on 7 December 2000, and welcomed to Blackburn cathedral two days later where he was greeted with spontaneous applause. His sermon "powerfully applied the message of the Cross to the realities of today's world". Having moved to Dean House, Padiham Road, Burnley, Bishop John has been given a wooden chapel in his garden where he can experience peace and quiet; it has been jokingly called the 'Bishop's shed'.

ECCLES PIKE TOPOGRAPH

On a clear day one can obtain a magnificent panoramic view from the top of Eccles Pike, at a height of 1,213 feet one of the finest points in the Peak District and owned since 1937 by the National Trust [cf. Newsletter N° 28]. But unless you are a native of the area you would not know what you were looking at. All that has now changed, thanks to a Millennium project that was the brainchild of Albert of Chapel-en-le-Frith, one of this Association's former Committee members. He suggested a topograph, and this has now been put in place, set into the rock so as not to spoil the contour of the summit. Designed by Amanda Cirillo of Buxton as a six foot diameter bronze ring with a circumference of twenty feet, it was made by Leander Architectural of Dove Holes and depicts the panoramic view round the outside and local animal and plant motifs designed by pupils of Chapel Infant and Nursery School round the inside. The topograph has been paid for by the National Trust, High Peak Borough Council, Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council, and Chapel Amenity Society of which Albert is a committee member. Unveiled in mid-January, Albert was unfortunately not well enough to attend the ceremony, but hopes to join the scheduled walk of local councillors in the spring.

GARDENER

The 7 January programme *Gardeners Question Time* came from Salisbury. One of the questioners, who lives in the Close, was a Peter Goddard. Does anyone claim him as a relative?

CHRIS EVANS

The *Sunday Telegraph* of 3 December carried an article on the brash broadcaster Chris Evans, who recently paid £6,000,000 for the Lutyens-inspired house Hascombe Court near Godalming in Surrey, a Grade II listed building set in 172 acres. The article mentioned the way the villagers had changed from nervous apprehension to great approval for the various philanthropic acts of Chris in the village - reviving the cricket team, setting up a riding school for the disabled and, in particular, donating the proceeds of the sale of large quantities of yew tree clippings (used in the production of the breast cancer medication Taxol) to the local breast screening centre. But this was not the interest of the article as far as I was concerned. It mentioned that his estate manager was an old friend - Ian Goddard.

CALLED TO THE BAR

Last October Margaret Young of Reading spotted the name of Sharron Christine Goddard of Cave Hill University on being called to the Bar at Gray's Inn. Does any member claim her as a relative?

DUNKIRK

Len Goddard of Hayes spotted the following reader's letter in the *London Evening Standard* at the end of November and kindly sent it in: "As we remember and celebrate the deliverance of the British Army at Dunkirk, we should also remember the man who, it was said, was personally responsible for the idea. The late Air Marshal Sir Victor Goddard [the Association's first Patron] was described as a visionary who was also a supreme man of action. Then a Group Captain, Goddard was ordered to England to obtain help to rescue the troops. He took off at night from a ploughed field near Dunkirk in a wreck of an aircraft with no seats. Reaching England, he got to London where by chance he met an old friend who gained him access to War HQ. He forced his way into a meeting with the joint chiefs of staff and insisted that an armada of small boats should be sent to the rescue, an idea which occurred to him even as he spoke. He was expelled from the meeting, but his idea was adopted and he was commended. Goddard's life was an extraordinary example of achievement that reads like a Boy's Own adventure and his memoirs *Skies to Dunkirk* should be compulsory reading."

ANCESTOR DETECTIVES

The genealogical agency called Ancestor Detectives is offering reduced fees to GAE members. They offer very competitive rates for finding birth, marriage and death certificates, census entries and wills. Write to them direct (mentioning that you are a GAE member) at 139B Fencepiece Road, Hainault, Essex, IG6 2LE or ask for more details from Julie at Newbury.

GHOSTS AND FENG SHUI

As members learnt from the last Newsletter, Gillian Goddard has been having trouble with her ancient thatched cottage at Long Parish, near Andover. The problem with the new thatch seems to have disappeared for the moment, but Gillian has lately been disturbed by odd knockings and rappings in the house, sometimes so loud and frequent that they have roused her from sleep. In fact they have made her ill, and her high blood pressure has caused her doctor to suggest treatment.

In the end, feeling rather desperate, Gillian asked a local feng shui practitioner to call. This lady brought her rose crystals with her and, having inspected Gillian's bedroom, suggested that she turn her bed round into another axis. By resting her crystal on the bed she showed Gillian that an active energy source was flowing through it as the bed was on a Ley Line, she said. Gillian says that she could see a swirling misty pattern in the crystal and, even more disturbing, could hear her electric meter whirling and clicking away!

Having treated the room, the feng shui lady said that Gillian should get a little more peace from now on and, surprisingly, Gillian's blood pressure has gone down and the disturbing noises have almost stopped. Gillian says that she is thankful for that, but would have wished that the electric meter had not become so active while the lady was practising her art. She suspects that she will have a higher than usual electricity bill next quarter, but cannot think that the Electricity Board would accept her suggested reason for not paying up – that the force of a Ley Line caused the meter to go into overdrive!

Gillian of Andover through Julie of Newbury

DR. GODDARD AGAIN

I hope no one backed Dr Goddard in the 2.35 at Ascot on 13 January. Starting favourite, he came in third as Albert of Chapel-en-le-Frith spotted. He was ridden by R. Johnson and trained by P. Hobbs.

ALTERNATIVE SPELLING

New member Richard of Rotherham spotted an article in the *Yorkshire Post* of 22 December in which a French lorry driver, André Goudard, was accused of causing death by dangerous driving. He wonders if this is a variant French spelling?

OBITUARIES

The Association is saddened to record the death on 1 December 2000 of Frank of Rotorua, formerly our New Zealand co-ordinator who won the Howard Goddard-Jones Memorial for 1997 for the pioneering work he did in that field; our sincere sympathy to his family.

We are also sorry to learn of the deaths of Allen Goddard of Plymouth and Mr A.J. Goddard of Blackpool and offer our condolences to their relatives.

AGATHA CHRISTIE'S POLICEMAN

New member Dawn Smalley had Newsletter N° 50 passed on to her and saw that the subject of policeman Charles Goddard had been raised. Being a distant relative of Charles she knew more about him than had appeared in the account which she saw. She writes:

"Charles Goddard was baptised at Eaton Hastings, Oxfordshire, on 3 February 1861. When he was twenty he entered the Berkshire Constabulary. He was Superintendent at Wokingham Police Station in Rectory Road between 1903 and his retirement in 1932. He had the only car in the Division in those days – a Model T Ford – and his driver was PC Barnett. He had a house in Rectory Road, almost opposite the police station, and many of the official press photographs on his retirement were taken of him outside his house, or in his study, with his trusty Labrador dog.

As you will know, he is mentioned in quite a few Agatha Christie biographies as being one of the two top policemen in charge of handling the case of her disappearance in the 1920s. In Jared Cade's *Agatha Christie and the eleven missing days* (Peter Owen, ISBN 0 7206 1055 9) he is mentioned favourably." Dawn was approached by Mr Cade, via the Police Museum at Sulhamstead, when he was writing the book and gave him many details from her family researches. She was also able to tell him of the famous 'Missing' poster about Agatha Christie in which members of the public are urged, if they see Mrs Christie, to "contact Charles Goddard, Superintendent, on Telephone no. 11 Wokingham". Mr Cade kindly mentioned Dawn in the acknowledgements in the book.

Dawn does not know whether Charles ever married, and our records do not show this either. Her grandfather remembers his great uncle as a very stern man. He saw him, when he was a boy servant at Buscot Park, on duty at Royal Ascot for the races.

The common link to the Goddards of these Oxfordshire / Berkshire borders is the use of the first name Boaz and we have three other members, besides Dawn, who are descended from these Goddards. *Julie of Newbury*

CHURCHWARDEN

An article in the *Sunday Telegraph* on New Year's Eve, talking about a church dispute in the Hampshire village of Ropley, mentioned the fact that a Major John Goddard, aged 74, had resigned as churchwarden four years previously. Any claimants?

LEGAL FIRM

I am grateful to Jennifer Walker for a feature on the Devizes solicitors' firm of Morris Goddard & Ward. Amongst other information it says that one founder, Francis Goddard, left the practice at the end of last July to become a judge. Any claimants?

BOTTOMS UP

Julie of Newbury has sent me an article on the Guildford branch manageress of wine retailer Bottoms Up; she is Lisa Goddard – no, not the actress! After taking A Levels, this Lisa started work as a barrister's clerk in Chancery Lane, but disliked it so much that she left after three months and joined the wine trade and Bottoms Up with whom she has now been for ten years, working her way up from sales assistant to manager. She very much enjoys the chance to travel and has been four times to Champagne and once to Rioja; for her next trip she is hoping to go to the Napa Valley in California. Planning even further ahead she would one day very much like to work in a winery in either Australia or California.

FRED GODDARD

Congratulations to Fred Goddard, author of *Battlefields of Life* which was featured in the last Newsletter, on his engagement on 15 December, his 84th birthday. Fred of Haywards Heath met Jean Brice, aged 76, while they each tended the graves of their former spouses which are only a few yards apart in the local cemetery. Currently the wedding is planned for March.

SUFFOLK GODDARDS

To those members who have Suffolk ancestry can I recommend that they read the books of George Ewart Evans, and in particular the one entitled *Ask the fellows who cut the hay*. It is a history of the customs of Suffolk and the methods used in farming in that county, many of which were fast disappearing when the book was written in 1956 and have probably gone for ever by now. Pages 103-107 tell of John Goddard, born at Framlingham in 1855, who farmed on the Rendlesham estate, and was working until six months before his death at the age of ninety-eight in 1953. The book is still in print and can be bought, or you should be able to borrow it from any large public library. *Julie of Newbury*

ADAM ANT AGAIN

I am grateful to Anne Hockaday for sending me another article on Adam Ant. Stuart Goddard, to give him his correct name, is now a 46 year old actor who has featured in sixteen films and appeared at Manchester's Royal Exchange in an adaptation of Joe Orton's *Entertaining Mr Sloane*; but before he became a successful rock star he was a Beatles fan in the mid-1960s and used to accompany his mother when she went to clean Paul McCartney's London home in St John's Wood. But he only saw his hero once; he usually ended up taking Paul's dog Martha for a walk! Margaret of Worsley has also sent me a cutting from the *Daily Mail* of 8 December, which adds the information that Stuart now lives in London and has a wife, Karen, and two-year old daughter, Lily. He is once again writing rock 'n' roll songs.

ROBERT GODDARD

Christmas has come and gone and so has Robert Goddard's latest book *Sea Change*; in other words, once started I could not put it down – another cracking good read. No, don't worry; I will not spoil it for you! There are so many of you who enjoy Robert's books. Take Margaret Turnbull (née Goddard) for example. Only in December she had sent me the following: "A dreary, wet November afternoon and in to Waterstone's to look for a paperback to take on holiday. Scan the shelves to see what my favourite authors have to offer. Seem to have read all their titles. Then I remember that last year, after having heard Robert Goddard's talk at the Association's AGM, I had bought one of his paperbacks and enjoyed it. So, down on my haunches to read the titles of a line of his books on the bottom shelf. Which to choose? Dare I admit to buying *Take No Farewell* because it looked slightly thicker than the others and would therefore give me a longer read?"

For one reason or another, the book is not taken upstairs to sit with the forthcoming holiday paraphernalia. It lies on the coffee table, and temptation sets in. Not the back page – never, never – but just the prologue and then perhaps the first chapter, and so I am hooked.

Pages here and there with morning coffee and afternoon tea and then the serious stuff – whole chapters and whole afternoons – until soon there is more read than unread. Jacket potatoes and casseroles can be popped into the oven straight after lunch, and we won't die if I serve up frozen peas and tinned peaches or ice cream instead of the usual fresh vegetables and home-made puddings. I flick between the prologue and the chapter I am reading, trying to no avail to find a clue as to how this author will be bringing his story to a close.

And at the point when husband says he will soon resemble a jacket potato if I don't mend my ways, the story does finish and I am completely overwhelmed. The book is lent to a friend with strict instructions for its return. Robert Goddard's *Take No Farewell* will sit on my bookshelf awaiting a second reading. Long may he continue to write." Hear! Hear!

GODDARDS, ABINGER

Readers of earlier Newsletters will recall the Lutyens designed Surrey house 'Goddards'. Given to the Lutyens Trust in 1991, they were unable to sustain the cost of running it and called in the Landmark Trust to form a partnership. The latter now has it on a long lease but allows the Lutyens Trust to keep the Library as its office and to open much of the house and the garden by appointment on one day a week for half the year. For the rest of the time Goddards remains a private house where, through the Landmark Trust, people can stay for holidays. So, one way or the other, you can visit Goddards.

CENTENARIAN

In January William Herbert Goddard celebrated his 107th birthday – despite having been declared unfit for military service in both World Wars! Several members spotted this item. William originally came from Widnes, but is now living at Mount Nursing Home on Watkin Avenue in Old Colwyn. He was a personnel officer for Lever Brothers and, although retired for many years, would like to go back to work again! He married in 1916, but his wife died thirty years ago and he then lived on his own until he was 102. He has a daughter, Edna Varley aged 81 of Abergele, and a grand-daughter and two great grandchildren. He was a member of Runcorn Rowing Club and also played snooker until he was 98.

TELETEXT

As usual, Albert of Chapel-en-le-Frith has kindly sent some items which he has spotted on Teletext, all from Service Pals: “Seeking John Goddard (Slough) and David Shorter (ex reg) ex Royal Signals 1946-48 Egypt and Japan. Does anyone know where they are? Contact John Fryett (Ipswich) 01473 463563.” Also: “Did you serve on Destroyer *HMS Whelp* during WWII. Seeking:- [Eleven names including] F. Goddard. Reg Ayers’ nephew Derek seeks information. Tel. 01558 650125.” And: “There are 77 Goddards in the Portsmouth area telephone book. I seek just one, former aerie recruit no. H8077689 ex RAF Swinderby, July/August 1969. Contact Terry Jones, 30 Dentith Drive, Blacon, Chester, CH1 5HD, or tel. 01244 376856.

MALTA MEMORIALS

I am grateful to new member Richard of Rotherham for sending in information of two Malta memorials. On a recent visit, he and his wife Janet came across the Cappucini Naval Cemetery. One memorial simply said: “17140 L/Cpl C. Goddard, York & Lancaster Regiment, 29th August 1915”.

The other was on an obelisk-shaped pillar standing ten feet high: “In memory of Arthur George Goddard, Private RMLI of HMS Diana who died at Malta 22nd April 1910. Age 35 years.”

Any claimants? Julie, who sent this information on, says that the first is Charles Goddard of Mexborough; the second is unknown as he was not killed in the War.

THE DOME

Whatever anyone may say about the Dome, we enjoyed our visit just before Christmas. In the self-portrait zone, where ordinary people and companies made comments about what they saw as being quintessentially British, lists were printed of those who had done so. One firm so listed was Goddard & Harvey Ltd. Can anyone tell me more about this company?

SUSSEX GODDARDS

I am grateful to Mrs Margaret Martin of Portslade for producing ‘random’ information on Goddards while acting as archivist for the Church of Sacred Heart, Hove.

A local Hove newspaper of 31 July 1880 mentions a Mrs Goddard who won a prize in the Second Grade Drawing Examinations, and another for Perspective. She also obtained a Pass for Model Drawing.

From the *Brighton & District Catholic Magazine* of December 1911 is a report of a concert in the *Brighton Gazette* of 11 November, amongst which it states: “Another singer of promise was found in Miss A.B. Goddard, who gave a light rendering of ‘Two Little Dover Soles’ and was heartily applauded”.

From the Sacred Heart magazine of 9 June 1948 is a mention of a Captain Gardiner as the new Scout Master of the 12th Hove troop, with a Mr Goddard as the District Commissioner.

More recently, on 22 March 1998, there was a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation and St Francis at West Grinstead where the parish priest was Father David Goddard.

Finally, this year there is mention of a Kate Goddard, Outpatient and Medical Records Manager for the Royal Sussex County Hospital; and two nurses, Nicola Goddard specialising in radiography, and Jo Goddard.

Does any Association member recognise any of these Goddards as members of their family?

NEW MEMBERS FAMILIES

Mrs P. Wise of 5 Capadocia Street, Thorpe Bay, Essex, SS1 3AQ is descended from the Suffolk Goddards from the villages of Benhall and Elmswell.

Mr Andrew Long of 8 High Street, Earls Colne, Colchester, CO6 2PA has traced his family as far back as Maxwell Alexander Goddard, born about 1852 in Islington, London. His parents were John Alexander and Emma (née Kent) Goddard.

Dr C.M. Richards of 4 St Ronan’s Avenue, Redland, Bristol, BS6 6EP, is descended from Henry Goddard (1580-1647) the shipbuilder of Chatham by his daughter Abigail.

Mrs D. Smalley of 6 Butler Road, Bagshot, Surrey, GU19 5QF, is descended from the Goddards of Faringdon with Boaz as a first name, and Charles Goddard the policeman in the Agatha Christie disappearance story.

NEW MEMBERS

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

Mrs Ann P. Goddard, 9 Mountain Street, Mossley, Lancashire, OL5 0EZ.
Mr Anthony M. Goddard, 2 Amery Close, Battenhall, Worcester, WR5 2HL.
Mr Brian & Mrs Pauline Goddard, 6 Beaufort Avenue, Leamington Spa, CV32 7TA.
Mrs Susan Horton, Corner Cottage, 111 Trowell Road, Wollaton, Nottingham, NG8 2EN.
Mr Andrew Long, 8 High Street, Earls Colne, Colchester, Essex, CO6 2PA.
Miss Kay Staniland, 22 Ronver Road, South Lee, London, SE12 0NJ.

WAR MEMORIAL

On reading the War Memorial article in the last Newsletter, I was confident that my cousin Mimi Goddard of Woldingham would be able to throw light on the problem, since the person mentioned was her elder half-brother. I was not disappointed; she writes: "Denis Gerald Ambrose Goddard was the elder son of Lt.-Col. F.A. D'O. Goddard (Royal Munster Fusiliers) and Mrs Evelyn Maud Goddard. He was born in Barrackpore, India on 18 January 1898, and was baptised on 6 March 1898 at St Bartholomew's Church, Barrackpore. He was educated at Arnold House School, Chester and Mount St Benedict's, Gorey, Co. Wexford. He passed into the Royal Naval College, Osborne, Isle of Wight on 10 December 1910 and went on to the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth where he was appointed on mobilisation to *HMS Ocean* as acting Midshipman. He was gazetted Midshipman from 2 August 1914.

Denis served in the Channel during the passage of British troops to France and subsequently in the Persian Gulf, Suez Canal and Gallipoli. When the *Ocean* was torpedoed on 18 March 1915 he was rescued with the greater part of the crew and transferred to *HMS Lord Nelson*, being principally on picket boat work. On 5 May 1915 he was in hospital in Malta with a broken wrist as the result of a fall from a defective rope. He returned to England on 24 June and was in the Naval Hospital, Chatham on sick leave. When fit he served for a time at the Admiralty on Intelligence Duties. In May 1916 he was posted to *HMS Queen Mary*, in which ship he was serving when he met a glorious death in the great victory off Jutland on 31 May 1916.

MOTOR RACING PHOTOGRAPHER

Members of nearly ten years' standing will remember a brief article in Newsletter N° 19 which mentioned Geoff Goddard, a motor racing photographer. The motoring section of *The Daily Telegraph* of 8 October carried an example of his work from 1970; clearly he is still highly regarded. Margaret Young also spotted this picture. Does anyone claim him as a relative?

AGM

This year's AGM will again be held at The Fleet Inn, Twynning, just north of Tewkesbury, on Saturday 19 May. Peter Goddard is in the process of selling the pub, as he and Anne are retiring, but he assures me that all bookings will be honoured. This year we are delighted to welcome a party of the American Association, eleven of them to my knowledge so far. They will be staying at the Tewkesbury Park Hotel on the evening of Friday 18th, and it is suggested that as many of us as are able should join them for dinner at the Hotel that evening. This is just advance warning; I will give further details in the next Newsletter.

As far as I know from my father's diary/history (from which the above has been taken) there are memorials to Denis at Westminster Cathedral (St George's Chapel); Our Lady of Victories Church, Kensington (in the forecourt); and the Carmelite Church, Kensington (but this church was very badly bombed in the last war and the memorial there may have been destroyed). It is quite possible that Denis's name is on a memorial in St Brelades, Jersey. His mother's maiden name was Le Gallais, a well-known family in the Channel Islands."

Julie of Newbury also followed up the original article. She writes: "Readers will perhaps recall that in the last Newsletter there was mention of a photograph of an unidentified war memorial with the name of D.G. Goddard upon it. My sister, having analysed the names upon the memorial and found that most of the fallen had died in the Channel Islands, thought that it might be the memorial at St Brelade in Jersey. Denis Goddard's half sister, Miss P. Goddard, confirmed that there was a Channel Island connection as his mother had come from there, though he was killed at the Battle of Jutland. Very soon after, seeing a name and address in a genealogical magazine of someone living in St Brelade, I thought it too good a chance to miss and wrote to ask if the person could confirm that it was the memorial at St Brelade. Mr George Smith answered my letter promptly and did even more; he confirmed that we had the correct one, photographed the memorial from all sides and also the lovely seaside situation in which it stands. I shall send a copy of the photographs to Miss P. Goddard and anyone else who might request them."

USEFUL ADDRESSES

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