



The Goddard Association of Europe

NEWSLETTER

No. 74 – APRIL 2005

ROYAL BRITISH BANK SCANDAL

In the February 2005 Newsletter Julie of Newbury invited readers to help identify the writer of a letter to *The Times* in March 1857 and the other Mr. Goddard to whom the letter referred.

Peter of Toronto writes:

“I remember a while ago that Séan of Exeter confessed to us that he had an irresistible desire, whenever he came across any kind of reference book, to turn to the index to see if there were any Goddards listed. I have a similar problem. Whenever anyone mentions an old-time Goddard, I just have to discover who their present day descendants are.

So who was L.M. Goddard, M.R.C.S., the writer of the letter? A quick delve into my database and he is immediately identified as Leonard Morse Goddard, a surgeon who died in 1872 and who, in the 1851, 1861 and 1871 censuses was living at St. John Street Road, Clerkenwell – the address given in the letter. The Probate Index for 1872 showed that he left effects valued at less than £4,000 and probate was given to his son Eugene, also a surgeon. However, a little more delving revealed that another son, Ernest, who married Mary Tresillian Brown named one of his sons after his father. This younger Leonard Morse Goddard became a captain on the Canadian Pacific Empress liners, married Emma Frances Anson-Cartwright and had just one son, Morse whose widow, Jane Goddard, I discovered living in Grafton, Ontario. Jane is just completing a biography of her father-in-law's incredibly adventurous life.

But who was the Mr Goddard who was petitioning for bankruptcy? The article in *The Times* referred to by Leonard



Morse Goddard provided no hint of Mr Goddard's given names but describes him as “a hard working and industrious tradesman”.

Up until 1869 an insolvent debtor could be thrown in gaol at the whim of his creditors and kept there for the rest of his life. Bankruptcy was therefore a preferred option but was only available to tradesmen and dealers, not to the professional

classes or to farmers, for example. A shareholder of a bank could be held liable for the debts of the bank and that, no doubt, was the cause of both Leonard Morse's and the other Mr Goddard's problems.

The Times of 29 January 1857 contained a report of the bankruptcy hearing again giving only the petitioner's surname but did describe him as “the proprietor of eating houses in London-wall and elsewhere”. His debts (exclusive of liabilities as the holder of 36 shares in the Royal British Bank) were under £200 but his assets were around £1,000.

In the Post Office Directory of 1852 there is an Edmund Goddard, a ham and tongue dealer with premises at 161 Fenchurch Street, 103 London-wall, 17 Aldgate and 71 Chapel Street, Pentonville. In both the 1851 and 1861 censuses Edmund is resident in London-wall and there are no other Goddards living on that street. Despite the “eating house proprietor” description, I conclude that Edmund must be the mysterious Mr Goddard. By 1871 he had moved to Dorking, Surrey and in the census of that year his occupation is given as “living on joint income”. Edmund died on 3 September 1873 leaving an estate valued at under £25,000. I have yet to find any report that Edmund was granted the bankrupt status he sought in 1857.

Edmund had a son, also named Edmund who died in 1901 in Croydon and his son, yet another Edmund died in 1940, again in Croydon. This Edmund had a daughter, Mary Grace, and two sons, Edmund and John, and as all three were born in the middle to late '20s I thought there was a reasonable chance that one at least of them would still be alive. Consulting my death index I found that this Edmund had died in 1986 but there was no sign of John, neither could I find a record

of a marriage for him. Mary, however, had married a Michael Tutt in 1949 and it did not take me long to trace her to Welwyn Garden City in Hertfordshire. An extremely pleasant and interesting telephone conversation with her followed during which she told me that her brother John lived – guess where – Toronto!

John, it turned out, had an interest in family history and was able to find the photograph shown here of his great-grandfather the Edmund Goddard who had suffered so grievously as a result of his shareholding in the Royal British Bank.

It must have given Leonard Morse and Edmund Goddard some satisfaction when, shortly afterwards, the entire Board of Directors of the Royal British Bank were arrested and tried for fraud at the Guildhall. What happened to them I have yet to find out.”

THE GREAT NORTH ROAD

Marjorie of York kindly sent me a cutting from the *Yorkshire Post* magazine for 5 March, which included on its Bookshop page an advertisement for a new book called *The Great North Road* by a Frank Goddard and sub-titled ‘A Guide for the Curious Traveller’; and then a longer review from the same magazine a week later. The book gives a mile-by-mile account of this London to Edinburgh road through a series of beautifully hand-drawn illustrations and maps, pointing out the fascinating towns and villages, houses and churches, hills, woods and battlefields that motorists speeding along the A1 can easily miss. Furthermore, it is published in the author’s own handwriting to emphasise its personal nature. This, of course, meant that a whole page had to be redone when a serious error was discovered or, as happened on one occasion, when the author’s dog nuzzled up to him and sent an inky smudge across the paper, ruining the work of several days. The book is available in hardback at £14.99. Does anyone know the author, a 71 year old retired deputy headteacher? He is now going to turn his attention from the A1 to the A5, London to Holyhead.

TRISHA GODDARD

I am grateful to Margaret of Worsley for sending me an article from the *Daily Mail* of 19 March, which praised chatshow host Tricia Goddard for saving a diner at a neighbouring table who was choking on a piece of steak. The 47 year old presenter leapt into action when it became clear that her fellow diner was fighting for breath. Performing the Heimlich manoeuvre, she managed to dislodge the offending obstruction at the third attempt. She said afterwards that she had been trained in first aid as an airline stewardess and had always kept her skills up.

CAN YOU HELP?

Mrs Audrey Suthren of 27 The Lawns, Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 4BJ to discover the parents of Stephen Goddard who was born about 1778 and married at Tellisford on 18 April 1808 to Sarah Gunning, stating that he was of Frome. They had six children, probably all born in Frome. He paid Land Taxes at Frome 1812-29 and from 1830 at Lullington where he was found in the Censuses of 1841, 1851 and 1861 and where he died in 1863 aged 85. A Goddard – possibly Stephen’s father? – was paying taxes from 1807 in Frome.

Mr Stephen Goddard of 26 The Meadway, Buckhurst Hill, Essex, IG9 5PG to trace any information about a Frederick Goddard of Buckhurst Hill. He is one of many names of those killed in the Second World War and read out in St John’s Church each year as part of their Memorial Service, but no one has any details about him, particularly as to which Goddard family he belongs.

Marilyn Hume, whose e-mail address is mhume@houston.rr.com. She writes: “I spent most of my childhood (1957-1971) living in a house in Chilton Village, Oxfordshire, called ‘The Goddards’. There are several Goddards buried in the churchyard there; Elizabeth Goddard 1767 is the earliest. I would be very interested in any information about the Goddards who lived in my old home so long ago. Anything that casts light on the history of the house would be of interest. This is a long shot, I realize.”

Mrs Kay Edgeworth of 4 Lindisfarne Street, Carindale, Queensland 4152, Australia who is descended from Mary Goddard (daughter of William Goddard and Ann Nicholls) who married Richard Franklin in Bucklebury, Berkshire on 10 March 1811. There were many Goddards in Bucklebury, but it may be that Mary’s father William Goddard (baptized Bucklebury 1753) was the son of William Goddard and Anne, who had some children baptized in Sulhamstead Bannister, south of the A4 and Bucklebury, before moving to Bucklebury to complete their family. Can anyone help unravel this family? Kay’s e-mail address is kayedgeworth@yahoo.com.au or write to Julie of Newbury (address back page).

FUND RAISING

Association member Anne Hockaday has kindly sent me a cutting from the *Yeovil Times* of 9 February, which relates to a Tony Goddard who is busily raising money for the roof appeal of the church of Sts Peter and Paul in Wincanton. Does anyone claim him as a relative?

THE BROTHERS GODDARD

New Association member Paul of Canonbury has kindly sent me the following article: "Around the turn of the last century there were two brothers living in Kensington, Bernard born in 1896 and his younger brother Charles. Their father, William Charles, had been born some forty years earlier in Axminster, and he now held a very responsible position as Sacristan at 'Our Lady of Victories', the largest Roman Catholic Church in London, which was also known as the 'Pro Cathedral'.

In 1914 Bernard signed up to fight for 'King and Country', joined the London Rifles, and fought with the 18th and 19th Regiments, who did service in France, and in the Holy Land against the Turks. Both boys had been altar servers, and Bernard continued these duties for the Padre while he was in the Army. Around this time the decision was made for 'Charlie', as he was now known, to become a priest, and he joined a seminary to begin his training.

Bernard met and fell in love with Millicent Corbin, who was a cook in service in Kensington. Millicent had been born on Jersey in 1901, and had a younger sister, Cecily, known as 'Sis', who was now living with the Corbin family at Bartestree just outside Hereford. 'Sis' asked Millicent if she could obtain a position in service for her, and arrangements were made for 'Sis' to come up to London on the train. Bernard took Millicent to Paddington Station to meet her sister, and Charlie agreed to go with them. Charlie met 'Sis' and fell head over heels in love.

The story has a happy ending, for in 1924 Bernard married Millicent, and they had four children (I am the youngest). Soon after Charlie married 'Sis' and they too had four children. He eventually became a Head Teacher. The one person who was less than happy was my Grandmother Theresa, who no longer had a priest for a son. It took some time for her to forgive my mother Millicent."

UNKNOWN LADIES

The ever alert Margaret Young of Reading has spotted three more unknown Goddards in newspaper articles in recent weeks – as well as one we have come across before: Stephen, the Ship-of-Fools.com website co-editor. The new names are all ladies and are: Dr Sharon Goddard, who works for the Heritage Lottery; Pauline Goddard, who is county chairman of the Berkshire Womens Institute; and Rev. Elizabeth Goddard, formerly Chaplain of Jesus College, Oxford, and who is now an assistant at the church of St. Andrew, Linton Road, Oxford. Does any member claim them as relatives?

PHILIP OF SWINDON



It is with the very greatest regret that we have to announce the death on New Year's Day of Philip of Swindon, one of the founder members of the Association's Executive Committee when it was established back in 1987. He had been suffering from lung cancer despite the fact that he was not and never had been a smoker; he was only in his late fifties.

Philip was an expert photographer and took many of the early photographs for the Association. In those days he had a studio in Swindon only a couple of hundred yards or so from the Goddard Arms Hotel, which was where the Association was founded and which became one of our regular meeting places. Nothing was ever too much trouble, although in later years time became a factor; meeting at week-ends as we do, Philip found this conflicted with his photographic business, since week-ends were often the busiest time of the week for him. He will be sadly missed, and we extend our sympathy to his family.

ADDICTED TO PLASTIC SURGERY

Margaret of Worsley has sent me a cutting from the *Daily Mail* of 26 February concerning a Sarah Goddard of St Neots, Cambridgeshire, who was so addicted to cosmetic surgery that she resorted to benefit fraud to help pay for some of it. She is a 44 year old mother of three and the owner of a beauty salon; she reckoned she had spent £80,000 over the last ten years on various forms of 'improvement'. She pleaded guilty at her trial; sentence was postponed, as also on her partner who was said to be well aware as to what she had done.

SAMUEL ASPINWALL GODDARD

Malcolm of Brisbane writes that he has been spending some time on research this year, and has recently transcribed the obituary on his great great grandfather Samuel Aspinwall Goddard. This obituary appeared in the *Birmingham Daily Post* for 27 July 1886, three days after his death.

"General regret will be felt at the loss which has just been sustained by the mercantile community of Birmingham through the death of Mr Samuel Aspinwall Goddard, who died on Saturday last, at his residence, The Cottage, Little Aston, in the ninetieth year of his age. Mr Goddard, who had entirely withdrawn from the cares of business for some years past, had lately fallen into a very infirm state of health, and it was evident to his friends and family that his end was fast approaching. For some days past he was obviously sinking, and on Saturday he passed tranquilly away as though falling asleep, after his long and industrious life, like a wearied child. Mr Goddard was the oldest of our Birmingham merchants, the doyen of the local mercantile body, and the story of his life is an interesting and instructive one.

Looking back more than sixty years we shall find Birmingham in one sense to have been more intimately connected with America than at the present time, notwithstanding the increased facilities for trade, and the more rapid and constant communication between the Old and New countries. This must be attributed to the fact that in those days the new country had not begun to manufacture for itself, and Birmingham, as the 'hardware village' and 'toyshop of the world' had a more complete monopoly of the American trade. Consequently, in those days, when Edgbaston was a rural district, abounding in fields and shady lanes, when there were even fields between Bingley Hall and the Five Ways, and Edgbaston Church seemed buried in the country, there were more Americans of standing inhabiting the old town than there are at present. After the peace of 1814 they flocked to the capital of the Midland Counties and, moreover, played a not unimportant part in the more limited and exclusive society of that period. These Americans were, for the most part, men who did not come to the mother country as raw, uncultivated specimens of a New World's training; but were men whose home influences and surroundings, together with a lingering trace of the old courtliness of colonial days, gave them the right to the title their manners had won for them, that of gentlemen.

Foremost among these was the late Mr Van Wart, brother-in-law of Mr Washington Irving. He came to the town several years before his countryman, and

was even at that time a married man. Then there were Mr Gill, who with his family resided for many years in Calthorpe Road, Edgbaston; Mr Thomas Morton Jones, educated at Harvard College, and who prior to his coming to Birmingham had been private secretary to John Quincy Adams when the latter was Ambassador at the Russian Court; Mr Edward C. Delavan of Albany, afterwards the apostle of temperance in his own country, and whose pleasant and persuasive tongue gained him a personal hearing upon the cause he had taken up from some of the crowned heads of Europe; Mr George Eliot and Mr George Wright, of good old Boston families; Mr Joseph Goddard, and afterwards his brother, Mr Samuel Aspinwall Goddard, the subject of our memoirs.

Prior to this gathering in Birmingham there had been two Americans of a still earlier date who had passed their latter days near the town, Governor Hutchinson (Governor of Massachusetts under George III), who lived for some years in a house in the Hagley Road; and Thomas Oliver, the last Chief Justice under the Crown, of Massachusetts Bay, and who removed to England on the breaking out of the American Revolution. The mansion which he built at Cambridge (Mass.) was afterwards the birthplace, as it is now the residence, of the American poet James Russell Lowell. Tablets to the memory of Governor Hutchinson and Chief Justice Oliver are to be seen in St Philip's Church.

Returning from this digression to the later group of Americans, the name of Dr Church may be added to the list. He was a man of high mechanical genius, and though educated for a physician, turned aside from this profession to follow out the inventions of his fertile brain. These inventions, though they brought no profit to himself, have since been turned to gold in the hands of less talented but more practical men. A man of universal information and much social ability, but whose restless genius gave him no time for money-making. We may here mention that Dr Church predicted the time would come when steam should be applied to ordinary traffic on ordinary roads, and that he constructed several steam-carriages for this purpose, one of which made several successful journeys, one of them being along Newhall Street, Great Charles Street, Broad Street, to Edgbaston and back. And now to speak more especially of the one of this group of Americans who survived by many years his friends and fellow countrymen, Mr Samuel Aspinwall Goddard.

Mr Goddard was the son of Mr Joseph Goddard,



J.P., of Brooklyn (Mass.) and Mary Aspinwall, daughter of Samuel Aspinwall, and niece of the Hon. William Aspinwall whose son, Colonel Thomas Aspinwall, was for thirty years American Consul in London. Mr Goddard was born on 4th October 1796 on the old family place, which had seen six generations born upon it since it was purchased from Dorman Marean, the first white settled who owned it, by Joseph, son of William Goddard, the English ancestor of the American branch of the family.

This William Goddard belonged to the Wiltshire family, still holding its place among the English county families. He was the son of Edward Goddard, of Englesham (Wilts.), and Priscilla D'Oyley who went to America in the year 1666 with his wife and several children, and one of the first notices we have of him is in the year 1680, when the town of Watertown (near Boston, Mass.) had covenanted with him to teach Latin to the children; for, says John Sherman (pastor), "he hath those accomplishments which render him capable to discharge the trust committed to him".

In giving an account of a man it is always well to know something of his antecedents and belongings, in order to understand the influences that have had effect upon his character; and in the following passage, quoted from *Historical Sketches of Brookline* relative

to Mr Goddard's grandfather, we may trace the spirit that animated Mr Goddard to the defence of his country during the struggle of North and South, which led to his *Letters on the American Rebellion*.

His grandfather, "Mr John Goddard", says the writer, "was a distinguished citizen of Brookline" during the revolutionary war. He was a Commissary General for the American army in the vicinity of that city. During the siege of Boston, Mr Goddard was entrusted with the command of three hundred teams, which worked in darkness and by stealth in constructing the fortifications on Dorchester Heights, now south Boston. The absolute silence of the men, the promptness and efficiency with which they laboured, and the success which crowned their efforts, were no doubt owing to the firmness, courage, and tact of the sturdy patriot. His son, Captain Joseph Goddard (as he was always called), who at that time was a boy of fourteen, was a driver of one of these teams under his father's direction, and often described the event to his children and friends, now living. Not a whip was allowed among the men on that moonlight March night when the Heights were the scene of such busy excitement, lest some incautious crack might betray them; but the oxen were urged on with goads.

The saplings for the fascines were cut in the woods between Dorchester and Milton and, combined with fresh hay, made a light, though bulky material when piled up. No wonder that General Howe, looking over from Boston the next morning, thought that the Americans had done more in one night than his whole army could do in weeks. He did not know what had been going on in the woods within six miles of his army. Four or five pieces of cannon, which had been concealed under the hay on Mr Goddard's barns for weeks, were on this night stealthily removed to their destination, and placed in position on Dorchester Heights. In a shed or out-building near the house were several hundred pounds of gunpowder stored in the loft. A garrison of several soldiers occupied this building, living in the lower storey, while they and the patriotic heroes of the house knew that one unfortunate spark might at any moment blow them all into eternity. All this time a sentinel was kept on the Goddard place to guard the premises. When the American army removed from Boston to New York, General Washington was urgent that Mr Goddard should accompany them; but his large family was a sufficiently strong reason why he should decline such service. When the Federal Government was established, Mr Goddard was chosen as representative of this town (Brookline) in the State Legislature, from 1785 to 1792.

(To be concluded)

THE NEW DNB

The new Dictionary of National Biography is now available for purchase from bookshops or for consultation in libraries, though as it costs over £7,000 I imagine most people will visit their library. It will be available in due course for consultation on the web to those paying a subscription. The number of Goddards mentioned has greatly increased. The list is as follows:

Arabella Goddard 1836-1922, concert pianist, has an entry under the name of her husband James William Davison, the music critic of *The Times*.

Charles Goddard 1769-1848, Church of England clergyman and politician, who also spent some time in the navy and was at the Battle of Trafalgar.

George Bouverie Goddard, 1832-1886, artist – sporting and animal painter.

Guybon Goddard of King's Lynn 1612-1671, lawyer and parliamentary diarist.

John Goddard 1631-1663, engraver, son of Robert Goddard a citizen of London.

John Goddard son of the above, also an engraver working in the 1660s.

Jonathan Goddard Dr. 1617-1675, physician, chemist and anatomist, son of Henry Goddard shipbuilder of Deptford.

Joseph Goddard architect 1840-1900, younger of two children of Henry Goddard 1792-1868, and one of a dynasty of Leicestershire architects.

Julia Bachope Goddard 1865-1896, children's writer and animal welfare campaigner. Eldest daughter of Samuel Aspinwall Goddard of America and Birmingham.

Mary Goddard Mrs. née Egan, 1717-1752, poet and milliner. Wife of Rev. Valentine Goddard, curate in Dublin.

Mary Catherine Goddard 1738-1816, printer and postmaster of Groton or New Connecticut. Eldest daughter of Giles Goddard, c.1703-57, and Sarah Goddard née Updike 1700-1770.

Rayner Goddard 1877-1971, lawyer and Lord Chief Justice.

Thomas Goddard c.1740-1783, army officer. One of two sons of Henry Goddard said to be of Hartham Park, Wiltshire, and grandson of Thomas Goddard 1673-1731 a canon at Windsor. Mainly served in India and died on homeward voyage just off Land's End.

William Goddard died 1624, soldier and satirist. Served in army in Netherlands. Left four unpublished books.

William Stanley Goddard 1757-1845, headmaster at Winchester College.

The press has been quick to find fault with this new edition because of the many errors which have been noticed. I have not yet spotted any in the Goddard entries, except that the Lord Chief Justice Goddard was christened William Edgar Rayner Goddard, not just Rayner.

Julie of Newbury

WORLD RECORD HOLDER

In 1982 John "Golly" Goddard of Strawberry Lane, Wilmslow, set the world record for the number of buses he leapt over on his motorbike – sixteen. Three years later he set another world record by jumping fourteen articulated lorries, but in doing so deliberately overshot the jump to see how far he could go, to the extent that twenty-one buses would have been a possibility. For one reason or another he was prevented from having a go at that time, but now feels he is ready again despite being a 44 year old and married to Julie with four children. At the age of eighteen John had become famous when he joined the Magnificent Seven stunt team, riding alongside biking legend Eddie Kidd. He toured the world, performing stunts in shows and films and providing technical advice on film sets, and helped teach David Essex and Michael Crawford how to handle their motorbikes for the cult film *Silver Dream Machine*. He has continued to train with the Motorstunt International team based in London, and is trying to set up a three month promotional tour of Australia, rounding it off with an attempt at jumping the twenty-one buses. Although he has kept fit, he says it is not a question of bodily fitness but more of mental preparation and skill, being able to stay calm and manoeuvre the bike by changing gears travelling at 100mph while fifty feet in the air. I am grateful to Margaret of Worsley for sending me this information from the *Manchester Evening News* of 17 February. Australian members please keep an eye open for this, should the tour come off.

FANCY A FERRET?

Margaret of Worsley has kindly sent me some addresses of national ferret clubs – not that I fancy a ferret, but because the contact for the Ashfield Ferret Club in Nottinghamshire is a John Goddard tel. 0115 854 8783.

WASHINGTON LETTERS

A group of eight letters written by George Washington to one of his generals, Charles Lee, in the War of Independence are about to be sold by descendants of Lee's literary executor, William Goddard the printer.

NEW MEMBERS

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

Mrs Kay N. Edgeworth, 4 Lindisfarne Street, Carindale, Queensland 4152, Australia.
Mr Gerry F.G. Goddard, 23 Cala d'Oro, 20145 Solenzara, Corsica.
Mrs Margaret A. Knowles, 200 Miswell Road, Tring, Hertfordshire, HP23 4EX.
Mr Clifford Smith, Toron, Weston Lane, Bath, BA1 4AA.
Mr Michael & Mrs Mavis Tazylor, RR2, Site 52, Comp. 9, Oliver, BC, Canada, V0H 1T0.

NEW MEMBERS FAMILIES

The information below is given to enable existing members to get in touch with new members who appear to belong to the same branch. But, firstly, my sincere apologies to the newly joined members in the last Newsletter for the absence of what follows; it was present in the proof, but then mysteriously disappeared before actually going to print. Here, then, are last time's newcomers:

James Beardsley is 4x great grandson of Jonathan Goddard who married Mary Richardson in Ilkeston in 1767.

Derek Goddard has Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire antecedents.

Paul Goddard comes from a staunch Catholic family; his grandfather was Sacristan of Kensington RC Church from 1890 to 1940. The family is thought to have originated in the west country.

Audrey Southren is 3x great granddaughter of Stephen Goddard 1780-1863 who married Sarah Gunning at Tellisford, Somerset 1808. Associated places are Mere in Wiltshire and Limpley in Somerset.

And now here are this time's:

Kay Edgeworth is descended from Mary Goddard (daughter of William Goddard and Ann Nicholls) who married Richard Franklin in Bucklebury, Berkshire on 10 March 1811.

Gerry Goddard is from the Silchester branch and is thus a cousin to Stephen of Buckhurst Hill. For over two hundred years, from 1720 to the mid twentieth century, all members of the family were born within a ten mile diameter in this area of Hampshire and Berkshire.

Margaret Knowles' family is based in the Fens and Kings Lynn from the marriage of Uther Goddard to Frances Sutterby in 1809 at Clenchwarton near Kings Lynn.

Clifford Smith's mother was Amelia Daisy Goddard born in 1895 in Rugby. She had brothers William E. and John born in Bicester, and brother Philip H. and sisters Lillian M. and Margaret L. all born in Rugby.

Michael Taylor is, through his mother, descended from the Wiltshire Clyffe Pypard branch of the family.

SILENCE

This is the title of a recent exhibition at the Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter, where all the paintings are by one man – Seán Goddard, formerly a member of our Executive Committee and author of a number of articles in previous Newsletters. This was his first one-man show, and it ran from 24 February to 15 April. The promotional leaflet, which he kindly sent me, says that he “has chosen the theme of silence, exploring in colour and form instinctive reactions to the apparent absence of sound, which might be benign or malignant. Take, for example, the silence one might experience in a true wilderness such as a desert at the end of the day when the heat abates and the wind drops allowing ear-ringing stillness: to some this silence might bring relief, a respite, tranquillity; to others unease, tension or fear.the challenge of Seán Goddard's exhibition is to attempt a visual response.”

SWIMMER AGAIN

I am grateful to Margaret of Worsley for sending me several cuttings concerning the very successful British swimmer James Goddard of Stockport, who has featured in this Newsletter on several occasions. In an article from the *Manchester Evening News* of 25 February on his Stockport Metro Swimming Club coach Sean Kelly, it mentioned that James had just returned from a winter training camp in South Africa and that he was thought to have a good chance of making the world championship squad for Montreal in the summer. Then two further cuttings, also from the *Manchester Evening News*, this time for mid-March, gave details of his World Championship qualifying attempts. The backstroke specialist won the 100m in 54.90 seconds, equalling Gregor Tait's long-standing British record and guaranteeing him the qualification he was seeking. Then on the final day of the trials he came second to Gregor Tait in the 200m, but only 0.42 of a second behind. James was delighted with the results; his main aim had been to qualify, so to equal the record was a bonus. He admitted that it was a great advantage to be eating his own food at home and sleeping in his own bed; but above all he was particularly happy to be swimming in Manchester which meant that he was performing in front of a 'home' crowd.

ROBERT GODDARD

Robert's next thriller is due out in May and is called *Sight Unseen*. Look out for it; if it's like his others you will not want to miss it nor, once picked up, put down.

AGM

The nineteenth Annual General Meeting of the Association will, as already announced in the last Newsletter, be held at the Portland Hotel, St John's Road, Buxton, on Sunday 22 May at 2.00pm. A buffet lunch will be available from 12.30pm (cost £8), and please book this with John of Accrington (contact details below) as soon as possible, but note that he will be on holiday and thus unavailable from 2nd to 12th May.

The Agenda, which has hardly varied at all over the years, will be:

1. Welcome by the President.
2. Apologies.
3. Minutes of the last Meeting.
4. Matters Arising.
5. Treasurer's Report.
6. Research Co-ordinator's Report.
7. Election of Officers:
 - (a) President.
 - (b) Secretary.
 - (c) Treasurer.
 - (d) Three Committee Members. John of Accrington and Denise of Solihull are due to retire by rotation and are eligible for re-election. There is also the vacancy left by the sad demise of Philip; this will be for the remainder of Philip's term, which is two years. If anyone is willing to stand, will they please let the President know as soon as possible.
8. Any other business.
9. Date and place of the next AGM.

This will be followed by the announcement of the winner of the Howard Goddard-Jones Memorial for 2005, after which John of Accrington will give an updated version of the talk he gave many years ago now on northern Goddards. Tea and biscuits will end the proceedings for another year. The usual raffle will also take place and any offers of prizes will be much appreciated.

ROCHESTER CASTLE

I am grateful to Joan Dibble, whose family of Goddards came from Kent and have several times featured in these pages, for an interesting morsel of information. Ever on the lookout for ancestors from that county, she tells me that Rochester Castle underwent major repairs during the years 1367-69 and that one Robert Godard, a labourer, was paid 3d per day for 132 working days. A friend of hers in Kent came across this snippet when searching at County Hall for family history information; it came from *Archaeologia Cantiana*.

NEW MONOGRAPH

The fifteenth monograph in our series will be available at the AGM and by post thereafter from Richard of Malvern (address on this page). At £2.50 each (£3.00 including postage) – cheque payable to the Goddard Association of Europe, please – this one is on the Midlands area: Banbury, Market Harborough, Leicester and Hitchin. All the other fourteen monographs are also still available, so may I remind you what they are:

North Wilts I – Early History 1200-1600, Aldbourne, Enfield & Mere

North Wilts II – Berwick Bassett, Clatford & Hidden

North Wilts III – East Woodhay & Castle Eaton

North Wilts IV – Clyffe Pypard, Standen Hussey & Purton

North Glos I – Chipping Campden & Quinton

North Glos II – Stanway & the Vale of Evesham

North Glos III – Snowhill & Eckington

Derbys High Peak I – Chinley & Buxworth

Derbys High Peak II – New Mills, Kettlethume & Whaley Bridge

Derbys High Peak III – Buxton, Chapel-en-le-Frith & Dove Holes

South East Norfolk – Bunwell, Aslacton, Carleton Rode & Southwark

Hampshire I – Wellow, Romsey & St. Pancras

Hampshire II – Yateley, Cove & Farnborough

Berkshire – Chieveley, Kintbury, Speen & London

Additionally at £5.00 (£5.50 including postage) a copy of the reprint of *A Memoir of the Goddards of North Wilts* by Richard Jefferies is available.

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