



The Goddard Association of Europe

NEWSLETTER

No. 78 – MAY 2006

SUBMARINER EDMUND GODDARD, C.G.M.

The Attack on the Tirpitz

One of the most daring operations carried out in World War II was undoubtedly the attack by midget submarines on the giant German battleship Tirpitz. The Tirpitz along with her sister ships Lutzow and Scharnhorst posed huge threats to the Atlantic convoys supplying Britain in those dark days. At the same time the sinking of the Bismarck had demonstrated that they too were vulnerable to a concerted attack by smaller ships and by aircraft and so they sought the protection afforded by Norwegian fjords. There, sheltering behind minefields, anti-submarine and anti-torpedo nets, they were virtually immune to attacks from the sea, while the steep cliffs of the fjords made them a very difficult target from the air. Several air attacks had failed and many aircraft were lost in the attempts.

Even so, holed-up as they were they presented an enormous threat, and a large number of Royal Navy ships had to be kept on stand-by in case of an attempt by the German ships to leave their lairs.

Obviously the mission envisaged was going to be extremely hazardous and so a call went out for volunteers for an undefined 'special mission'. One of the men to step forward was 21-year-old Edmund Goddard, an Engine Room Artificer. Edmund had been educated at St. Edward's School, Oxford and prior to joining the Navy had been apprenticed to a Coventry engineering firm.

The crews were trained in waters around the Isle of Bute and by September 1943 they were considered to be ready for action. Six X-Craft were to be used, two of them numbered X-6 and X-7, specifically to attack the Tirpitz. The miniature submarines were to be towed, manned by a crew of three, by full size submarines for



the more than 1,000-mile trip to the entrance to the fjords where a four-man attack crew would take over. Then they had to proceed under their own power 50 miles to where the German battleships lay. Edmund was the helmsman in the attack crew of X-6. His fellow crew members were the Commander, 27-year-old Lt. Donald Cameron, 20-year-old Lt. Richard Kendall and 22-year-old

Lt. John T. Lorimer. Haddon's task was to leave the X-6 and cut a hole through the steel nets large enough for the submarine to get through while Lorimer's job was to keep the vessel on an even keel while submerged. Cameron was the 'eyes' of the X-6 using the periscope to sight the target and to give instructions to Edmund to manoeuvre the craft.

Following a series of mishaps on the North Sea crossing only two of the original six miniature submarines – the X-6 and the X-7 – actually made an attack on their targets. As the X-6 approached the Tirpitz it was spotted by the crew who attacked with rifle fire and grenades as it was too close to use its heavy guns. The X-6 succeeded in getting under the behemoth and deposited its two 2-ton explosive charges. The X-7 had already dropped its explosives and was making its escape – there was a one-hour time fuse – when it was holed and sank. Churchill ordered that these three German battleships must be sunk, or at least disabled and it was decided that the only way to do this was to build miniature submarines whose task would be to lay explosive charges right underneath the battleships as they lay at anchor. The miniature submarines, known as X-Craft, were designed and built in two halves in different places and then assembled in a third place, all in conditions of great secrecy.

Two of its crew managed to escape the sunken submarine. Meanwhile the X-6 surfaced so close to the Tirpitz that it scraped it and Cameron, realizing there was no hope of escape ordered his crew to surrender while he himself opened up the valves to scuttle his craft. A launch was sent out from the Tirpitz to pick up the crew and to take the submarine in tow not realizing that it was about to sink,

nearly pulling the launch down with it.

Taken aboard the Tirpitz Cameron and his crew were immediately separated for interrogation but while this was under way the mass of explosive detonated lifting the stern of the battleship six feet out of the water, holing it and starting a fire. Considering the damage they had done it is surprising that the X-6 crew were not shot on the spot, but they were treated with the respect that mariners have for one another and eventually shipped off to POW camps. The damage to the Tirpitz took six months to repair and when it eventually put to sea it was attacked by Lancasters from the Dam-Busters squadron who scored a direct hit with a Tall-Boy bomb sending it to the bottom with the loss of nearly 1,000 of its crew.

Edmund's war however, was not over yet. Early in 1945 while being marched from one camp to another he escaped and made his way back to the advancing Allied armies. All three of Edmund's shipmates survived the war and upon their return to England, Donald Cameron was awarded the Victoria Cross, Richard Kendall and John Lorimer the Distinguished Service Order and Edmund the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal – the highest award for gallantry for non-commissioned officers other than the Victoria Cross.

Edmund became manager of the Reading branch of the C.W. Glover engineering firm and died in 1993. He is survived by his wife Eileen, a son and a daughter. Edmund was the great grandson of Edmund Goddard the shareholder in the Royal British Bank (Newsletter No. 74, April 2005) and the nephew of Eugene Goddard mentioned by Julie in the February 2006 Newsletter.

Peter of Toronto Ed: By one of those strange coincidences that sometimes occur, a few days after I received this article the obituary of Lieutenant Commander Richard (Dicky) Haddon Kendall appeared in the Daily Telegraph for 8 April. Needless to say, it mentioned Edmund Goddard.

WHALEY BRIDGE CC

Whaley Bridge Cricket Club is moving to a new ground with a new pavilion this season. Albert of Chapel-en-le-Frith tells me that the new pitch "has been levelled (well nearly) on the hillside above the village and roughly three fields below the old one. Brother John, a retired joiner, is very busy fitting out the pavilion with ceilings, cupboards in the kitchen etc., with other help of course. The other Goddard contribution to date is a metal 'Father Time' weather vane for on the roof just like Lords." Both Albert and John were themselves very keen and skillful players.

EARL G. GODDARD

Members will be very sad to learn of the death of Earl Gascoigne Goddard, who was particularly proud of his Goddard heritage, was a frequent visitor to this Association's AGMs in its early days, and was a very generous benefactor. Despite the fact that he died last year, both the American and this Association have only just become aware of the sad news.

Earl was born at Las Cruces, New Mexico, on 10 November 1917 and died at Concord, California, on 24 May 2005. A memorial service was conducted at sea off the Golden Gate, San Francisco on Saturday 20 August 2005. After service in the US Navy during the Second World War, he completed his graduation in Electrical Engineering at Stanford in 1947. He then taught at Duke University, the Naval Post Graduate School in Annapolis, and finally at Monterey. After leaving academia he worked for several commercial companies up to his retirement, and was then free to indulge his many hobbies of yachting, world travel, family genealogy, historical radio, music and environmental issues. His wife and one son predeceased him, and he is survived by another son, Jim, to whom we offer our sincere sympathy.

FAMILY BUSINESS

On my daily jaunt to our local Waitrose I passed a small white van with A&L Goddard's Family Business written boldly on the side. I could not resist knocking on the door to find out more! I was welcomed by Lee Goddard, paint brush in hand. He was interested to hear about the Goddard Association and told me that the firm was that of his father, Anthony, and himself. They are based at Rayleigh, Essex, as Decorating Specialists and as well as decorating houses, which is what they were doing in Buckhurst Hill when I met up with them, they also do a lot of TV and film work. I am sure their TV and film work must have resulted in many tales that would interest our members if they can be persuaded to put pen to paper! Their firm is based at 35 Eastcheap, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 9JY, tel: 01268 – 642661.

Stephen of Buckhurst Hill

CENTENARIAN

One or two members spotted and sent me the obituary in the Daily Telegraph of Ethel May Goddard, who died peacefully and in her own home at Constantine Bay in Cornwall on 6 April aged 106. She was widow of Wilfred Goddard M.C., but they appear not to have had any children as she is described as a much loved aunt, great aunt, and great great aunt. She is said to have "remained a hugely independent spirit and positive in extreme old age".

CHILDSWICKHAM AGAIN

Association member Mrs Margaret Cornwell of New South Wales, Australia, has joined the Childswickham correspondence. She writes: "Allan, my husband, is the son of Alice Maud Goddard of Gloucester, a sister of Florence Eliza Goddard, who is listed in the article on Childswickham Goddards in Newsletter 77." And she encloses a photocopy of a much folded front and back page from the *Cheltenham Chronicle and Gloucester Graphic* of 30 January 1915, containing several pictures from an 'impressive military funeral at Gloucester', which was that of Bombardier Charles Henry Goddard, brother of Alice and Florence. Charles of 44 Park Street, Gloucester, served with the 87th Battery R.F.A., had been severely wounded on the Western front, and died of his wounds in Manchester Hospital on 19 January. The funeral, in Gloucester Cemetery, was on Monday 25 January. One of the rather indistinct pictures, reproduced here, shows his "father, mother,



sisters and brother George" following the coffin from the Church to the graveside. His family were subsequently presented with the fine bronze medal,



also reproduced here. Margaret also writes: "It is good to know that the medal is still around ninety years on."

SNIPPETS

Margaret Young of Reading has noticed three Goddards in recent papers: On 21 July last year the *Newbury Weekly News* described the visit of illustrator Clive Goddard to Parsons Down Primary School; he is a renowned cartoonist and best known as illustrator of the *Dead Famous* series of books. On 17 October 2005 the *Daily Telegraph* announced that Oliver Etienne Goddard, a member of the Middle Temple, had been called to the bar. And the same paper one week later announced that David Goddard of Southburgh, Norfolk, was one of the runners-up in the weekly crossword competition.

And the ever watchful Jennifer Walker has come across several: The main story in the *Swindon Advertiser* for 10 December 2005 concerned Peter Goddard, aged 30 of Farringdon, a driver for Stagecoach in Swindon, who had been killed in a car crash on 28 November; his girl friend, Annemarie Higgins, is expecting their son, and they had planned to get married this summer. Singer Charlotte Church's step-father has had an affair, according to the *Daily Mirror* of 13 December 2005, with Anna Goddard, aged 30, a trainee chef at the Robin Hood pub he helps Charlotte's mother run in Cardiff. The *Farmers Weekly* for 10 February indicated that a Berkshire farmer had bought 118-acre Windmill Farm near Cricklade, Wiltshire, from Nick Goddard who had farmed it for fifty years 'for well over its £895,000 guide price'. Broome Manor Golf Club has a new captain, according to the *Swindon Advertiser* of 18 February: Swindon caterer Chris Goddard. Ellen Goddard, a student at Bath University, was recently interviewed on TV about 100% loans from a local estate agent for house buying. And Joy Goddard, daughter of Brian and Elizabeth of Cornwall, had rung her local radio station to announce her parents' 45th wedding anniversary.

YORKSHIRE GODDARDS

Marjorie of York has spotted two Goddards in her area and wonders if anyone claims them as a relative. One, Christian name not given, is a cancer specialist at Hallam Sheffield Hospital. The other, Rachel Goddard, works for the York based public relations and marketing company, Intandem Marketing & PR.

OBITUARY

The Association is very sorry to record the death on Christmas Day of Avis Goddard, wife of member Alan in Ormond, Victoria, Australia after over sixty years of marriage, and offer Alan our deepest sympathy in his sad loss.

JOURNALIST JACQUI

Regular readers of the Newsletters will be familiar with my practice of inserting small items mentioning a hitherto unknown contemporary Goddard and requesting information. Nine times out of ten this appeal produces no response. But just occasionally the proverbial jackpot is hit. Such has just happened following my publication in the last Newsletter of the column inch mentioning three journalists spotted recently. The Newsletter was passed to the father of one of these and he, in turn, contacted his daughter and suggested she contacted me, which she kindly did. Not only does the Association possess two potential new members, but we have some interesting information into the bargain.

John Goddard of Croydon writes: "My cousin, Ken Goddard of Shermanbury, Horsham, passed the Newsletter to me.....The Jacqui (Jacqueline) Goddard who contributed to *The Times* (etc.) is my daughter. She lives in Florida but travels considerably for news and features. She was brought up in Croydon and has worked on the provincial and national press in GB."

And Jacqui herself writes: "I thought I'd drop you a line as I gather that I received a mention in the latest edition of the Goddard Association's newsletter, with a note asking if anyone knows me. It seems that someone had spotted my byline on various stories in *The Times*, including coverage of the flood in New Orleans. So, here I am!

I am a British freelance journalist based in Florida, covering US news for various national newspapers in the UK including *The Times*, *The Sunday Telegraph*, *The Scotsman* and *The Daily Mail*. My husband, Richard Luscombe, is also a journalist (formerly a sport sub-editor on *The Daily Telegraph*) and writes for papers including *The Guardian* and *The Observer*. I still work in my maiden name of Goddard - it's too good a name to drop, of course!

I have been a journalist for 18 years, starting in 1988 at what is now the *Southern Daily Echo* in Southampton, and was formerly Foreign Editor of *The Daily Express* before it was sold to a new proprietor in 2000, at which point I quit to go freelance.

Reporting assignments since then having taken me to countries including Iran, Afghanistan, Zimbabwe, Brazil, Malawi, Botswana, Cuba, Haiti, Guyana and all over the US - including, as you know, New Orleans. I was sent there by *The Times* on 28 August last year, as we could tell that Hurricane Katrina was going to be a big story - but we never realised *how* big until after it thundered through the following morning and the levees broke. I remained in the city for a month, reporting on the flood and its devastating

effects on life there and I have been back a number of times since.

My husband and I live in Coral Springs, around 40 miles north of Miami. My parents live in Addiscombe, just outside Croydon, which is where I grew up. I have two brothers - one in Blackheath (London) and the other in Stockton-on-Tees. A third brother died in an accident overseas in 1984. We have many Goddard relatives scattered around Britain, mainly in the south, and in southern Ireland. Other Goddards may be interested to know that one of my great-aunts once did some research into our heritage many years ago and found Harry Webb (aka Cliff Richard) nestling on a distant branch of our family tree.....this was many moons ago and I'm not sure if any of us still have a copy of her work, but it always raises a chuckle when I think of it!

Anyway, I would love to join the Goddard Association and will also send this email to John Goddard (which is also my Dad's name) to apply for membership. Kind regards, Jacqui Goddard."

CYNTHIA GODDARD

In the New Members Families section of the last Newsletter under Cynthia Goddard some of the information was listed as uncertain. Cynthia now writes to tell me that they have "confirmed that Jane Parfitt was married to James Goddard on 17 April 1870 at St Peters Church, Walworth. James Parfitt was born to Jane Parfitt in the Union Workhouse, Christchurch, Surrey on 29 October 1868, though no father was entered on the birth certificate. One can only presume that it was James Goddard, the brewer's son, especially as he was named James. It would appear that when Jane Parfitt married James Goddard her son was then called James Parfitt Goddard." It is from him that Cynthia's husband is descended. Jane (Parfitt) Goddard died on 3 May 1879 and James may have married again. Cynthia also kindly supplied a fairly extensive list of descendants.

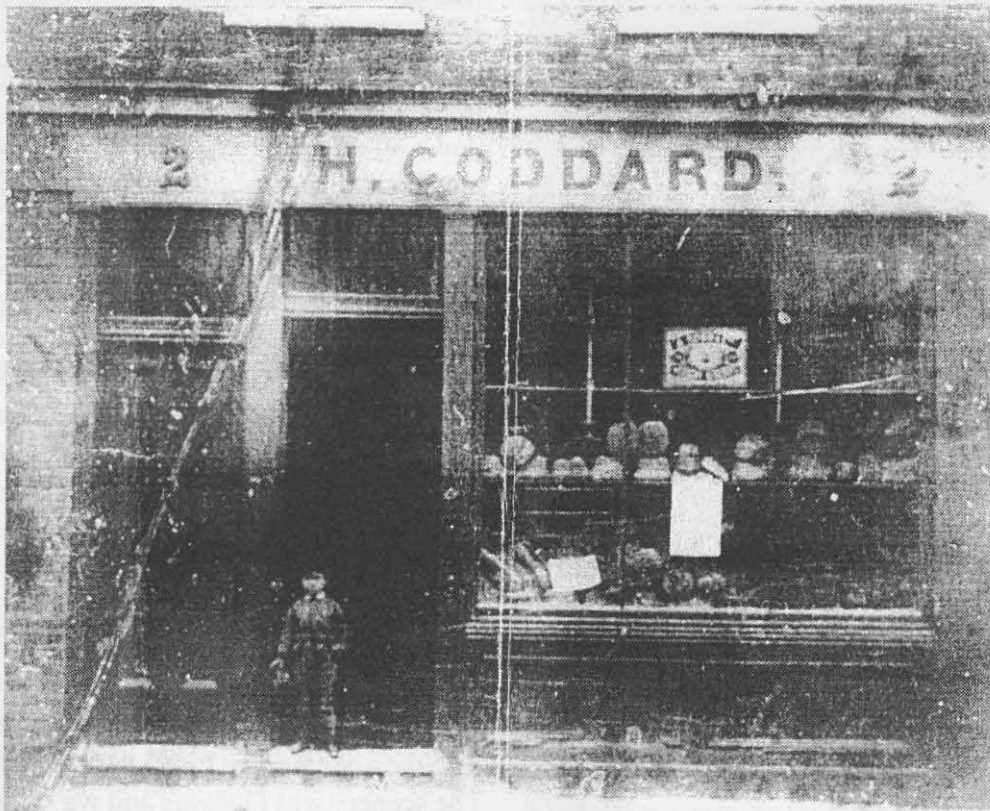
GODDARD'S MILL

An article on a walk in the Scole area, just east of Diss in Norfolk, kindly supplied by Julie of Newbury, mentioned the mill at Billingsford. "The windmill is five storeys with splendid white sails and is a fine landmark in the Waveney valley area. It stands on the site of an old post mill tail-winded, and in a storm in 1860 it was blown over forwards while the miller, George Goddard, was inside attending the stones. He was saved from being crushed by the stout main post which held the debris off him." The mill is now owned by the Norfolk Windmill Trust.

PIE SHOP AGAIN

In his letter regarding his daughter, the journalist Jacqui, John Goddard writes of the coincidence of seeing her name on page 7 of the last Newsletter alongside mention of the famous Goddard pie shop in Greenwich since, as he says, "The original proprietor

published in that direction. There has been a return to that area in the current generation with Philip Goddard (translator) moving in nearby." And in a subsequent letter he writes: "My cousin and his son have done considerable research on the branch from



was my great grandfather and there are links to the nearby H. Goddard baker of a slightly earlier period. I will find out more of what has been researched and

Henry 1843-76, the baker at Greenwich. I attach a picture taken in 1878.....the little boy is his son, Robert Thomas, who was born in 1873."

FIREFIGHTER OLYMPICS

Taking part in the World Firefighter Games held in Hong Kong in February was Chris Goddard, son of John and Eileen of Accrington. The Games are the Fire Service's equivalent of the Olympics, attracting entrants from all over the world. This year more than 3,000 competitors from 49 countries took part in a range of sporting activities. Chris was one of the stars of the swimming events, winning ten medals, surpassing his previous best haul of six medals at the 2004 Games. His four Gold medals were won in the 400m freestyle, 200m medley, 100m butterfly and 50m backstroke. He also won Silver in the 100m freestyle, 50m butterfly, 50m freestyle and a Bronze in the 50m breaststroke. Added to these were two Silver medals as part of the Great Britain relay team which included members of the Manchester Commonwealth Games team. Extra satisfaction came from beating some of the Australian swimmers!

John of Accrington

BETH GODDARD

I am grateful to Margaret of Worsley for sending me another article on actress Beth Goddard from the *Manchester Evening News* of 30 March. Beth has previously appeared in these Newsletters on four occasions (in Nos. 32, 38, 42 & 44), the last time being in October 1997 when she was living with long-term actor boy-friend Nick Waring. The new article indicates that she is now married to another actor, Phil Glenister who stars in *Life on Mars*, and that they have at least two children; they met while filming the BBC1 comedy drama *Roger Roger*. She herself is appearing in a new ITV1 drama series called *Vital Signs*, playing nurse Maddy, although she admits that her career has now changed and she fits in filming around her family. Her list of other TV credits include *Gimme Gimme Gimme*, *Take Me*, *Frances Tuesday*, *Daylight Robbery* and *Big Bad World*. Beth would dearly like a part in *Life on Mars* so that she can join her husband in Manchester.

MARRIAGE

Association Executive Committee member Denise Goddard has just returned from South Africa, where her sister Irene was getting married on 8 April to Keith Jonker at Sungabala bush camp in the northern Drakensberg. Warmest congratulations to Irene.



Denise met many South African relations and then did a good deal of research. As she writes: "Whilst other people's trips to Cape Town show Table Mountain, my photo of the mountain was from just outside the Municipal offices where I had been looking at burial records, followed by a view of the mountain from the family plot in Maitland Cemetery. Again the mountain was in the background on a visit to the site where the Goddards owned a shop and went to school. Whilst others visit the wine area, I did go to Stellenbosch. Unfortunately I was unable to locate the Goddard's exact house and the Rhenish school, but did find the church on the common where they worshipped, followed by a picture of the beach where they went to on a Sunday afternoon. Altogether a very successful trip."

VISITING NEW ZEALAND

John and Eileen's recent holiday in New Zealand (recounted in the last Newsletter) brought back many memories of my visit to New Zealand exactly sixty years ago.

Having joined the Royal Navy in April 1945, I was drafted in December 1945 to Sydney and then to *HMS Alacrity*, a sloop which was undergoing a refit in Auckland dockyard. I was granted several days leave and travelled by train the length of North Island down to Wellington to watch the first cricket test match to be played after World War II on the Basin Reserve Ground.

New Zealand entertained the Australian Forces XI who were on their way home after playing several matches in England. The scores were New Zealand 42 and 54 and Australia 189 for 8 wickets. After several interruptions for rain, the match ended at 3.35pm on the second day. The New Zealand captain was W.A. Hadlee and the Australian captain was W.A. Brown. New Zealand's first innings went from 37 for 3 wickets to 42 all out. The match was not granted test status by the I.C.C. until March 1948.

When we sailed from Auckland we visited several smaller towns including Gisborne, Timaru, Bluff and also called in Milford Sound, the entrance to which is just like a Norwegian fjord, surrounded by mountains. The scenery was fantastic and we sailed close inshore and dropped anchor, but the anchor chain would not reach the bottom. Lookouts were posted to ensure that the ship did not drift too close to the mountain side during the night. Next morning, after short boat trips ashore, the ship's 4 inch guns were fired out to sea and the echoing sound reverberating round the mountains was tremendous.

In Gisborne the ship's company, probably about 180 strong, were entertained by the Maoris to a lovely banquet in the decorated Long House. This was soon after the war and we hadn't seen food like it since pre-war days. In between the plates of food every inch of the tables was covered with fresh fruit. After the meal we were entertained by the Maoris choirs and the men performed the very special 'haka'. When we sailed from Gisborne next morning dozens of the Maoris lined the breakwater as we left harbour and sailed past them. They sang 'Now is the Hour' and this was their version many years before Gracie Fields made the song popular.

When we left Milford Sound we sailed through very rough seas for five days to Sydney. Not a pleasant trip for my first experience in a small ship!

Albert of Chapel-en-le-Frith

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The deputy leader of the Conservative party in Harlow's local council is 24 year old John Goddard, who is passionate about council governance. He believes that only through the committee system – as opposed to the cabinet system – can true democracy thrive. In an article under the regular title "Burning Passion" in the new year issue of *Councillor*, kindly spotted by my printer who is himself a local councillor in Malvern, he argues that there is much more open debate in committee and that issues therefore have to be more fully justified. Also, more councillors are actively involved from the outset, and this is what particularly appealed to John. Does anyone claim him as a relative?

ROBERT GODDARD

An advertisement in this weekend's *Daily Telegraph* magazine has alerted me to the fact that Robert Goddard has just published his next novel. It is called *Never Go Back* and is available in Bantam Press hardcover.

CAVALRY ATTACK

On 19 November 2004 five young Household Cavalry troopers, who had been drinking heavily, set upon a group of Arab students in Knightsbridge, central London. One of the students was hit in the face by a glass and lost his left eye in consequence. The leader of the attack was alleged to have been Mark Goddard, aged 22. I am grateful to Margaret of Worsley for sending me a cutting from the *Daily Mail* of 3 February this year when the case came before Middlesex Guildhall Crown Court. I have not seen the outcome.

THE HON. LADY SACHS

Michael Andrews-Reading recently spotted the following obituary and kindly sent it in: The Hon. Lady Sachs, who died at her home, on 15 December, 2005, aged 96, was the widow of a Lord Justice of Appeal, and a daughter of the Baron Goddard, PC, GCB (1877-1971), Lord Chief Justice of England, 1946-58. She was the Hon. Janet Margaret Goddard, born 26 Oct, 1909, second daughter of Lord Goddard, by his wife Violet Ethel Beatrice Lovesy; she married on 12 May, 1934, the Rt. Hon. (Lord Justice) Sir Eric Sachs, MBE, TD (b. 1898; d. Sept, 1979), a Lord Justice of Appeal, 1966-73. She leaves a son, Richard Edwin Goddard Sachs (b. 1935), and is predeceased by a daughter, Katharine Frances Goddard Sachs, wife of George Pulay. A Service celebrating her life was held at St Anne's Church, Lewes, on 11 January, 2006.

GOLFER GODDARD

Under the heading 'Goddard's win should alert the selectors' in the *Daily Telegraph* of 29 March, 17 year old Luke Goddard of Hendon was praised for winning the South of England Youth Championship at Rye the previous week against some very stiff opposition. His second round score of 66, which would have been even better had he not bogied the last hole, set him up for the early season win. Three weeks later he has appeared in the paper again, having just won the Peter McEvoy Trophy at Copt Heath with a six-under-par 72-hole total of 278. It is reckoned that the England boy selectors will be taking due note and that he must surely be earmarked for a junior England cap this summer. Clearly one to watch for the future. Does any member claim him as a relative?

NEW MONOGRAPH

Brian of Newbury, editor of the series of monographs, has produced another in time for this year's AGM. It is Chapter 5 of the Goddards of North Wiltshire, sub-titled Aldbourne to Australia via America and New Zealand, and details Malcolm of Brisbane's branch. All monographs are available from Richard of Malvern, price £3 which includes the postage, the new one not until after the AGM.

NEW MEMBERS

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

Mrs M.J. Cordon, 58 Tilbury Rise, Cinderhill, Nottingham, NG8 6EP.
Mr Frederick H. Goddard, 18 Roundhay Road, Bournemouth, BH11 9JB.
Mr Hugh Dunsmore Goddard, Nova Care Village, 63/502 Bussell Highway, Busselton, Western Australia 6280.
Mr John A. Goddard, 32 Pagehurst Road, Croydon, CR0 6NR.

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:

Mrs M.J.Cordon's father was John Goddard, who was born in Lancashire, possibly Manchester, in 1906 and died in Nottingham in 1964 or 1965; her mother, Jean or Jane S. Rowan was born in Dundee, Scotland, in 1910 or 1911 and died in 1957.

Frederick H. Goddard's forebears start at the moment with David and Ann born about 1825. Their son Alexander, born in 1859, married in 1884 Mary J Peto who was born in 1859; he had a sister Caroline born in 1879. Alex and Mary had issue: Frederick W. born 1904 married Evelyn Chapman in 1926; and five other children Alex, Harry, Sidney, Horace and Olive. Frederick and Evelyn had a son Frederick H. born in 1927.

Hugh Goddard's heritage goes back as far as 1658 in Leicestershire.

AGM

As noted in the last Newsletter, the next AGM will be held at Holland House, in the village of Crophorne, just north of the old A44 (now B4084) Evesham to Pershore road and almost halfway between the two, on Sunday 21 May 2006. The turning to Crophorne Village is on your right as you come from Evesham (left from Pershore), and Holland House is on your left after you have gone down into a dip, rounded a right-hand bend at the bottom and started to climb up the other side. There is a long stone wall on your left, followed by a cul-de-sac where a sign points to the Holland House car park. The car park is on the right at the top of the cul-de-sac, and you reach the building by a path from the car park.

The Executive Committee will meet in the morning as usual, and a buffet lunch will be available from 12.30. The AGM will start at 2.00pm and the Agenda will follow the normal pattern:

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. Margaret

McAlpin and Leslie of Stirchley retire by rotation and are eligible for re-election; and Brian of Newbury wishes to stand down, so there is a vacancy for the remainder of his term (one year) in the first instance. Any volunteers, please make yourselves known to the President.

8. Any other business.
9. Date and place of the next AGM.

The meeting will be followed by the announcement of the winner of the Howard Goddard-Jones Memorial for 2006, and tea and biscuits. There will be the usual raffle to help defray the day's expenses.

JOHORE PLANTER

I am grateful to member Ronald Knight for sending the copy of a letter in *RAF News* for June 1988. In dealing with other personalities it mentions in passing a Mr Goddard who was a rubber planter on the Johore mainland opposite Seletar at the beginning of the 1930s. He was said to have come from Plymouth and to have served as an officer in Palestine during the First World War. Does anyone know who this Mr Goddard might have been?

RESEARCH CO-ORDINATORS

After some twenty years' hard labour on behalf of the Association, the highly efficient and successful research team of Brian and Julie of Newbury have indicated their wish to retire at this year's AGM. Their major contribution will be greatly missed, and in thanking them for all they have done I know I speak on behalf of the whole Association, not to mention more particularly those whose queries have been answered or lost relations found. There have been many success stories, and I know the union of cousins previously unaware of each other's existence has given Brian and Julie particular pleasure. We wish them both a happy and gradual retirement – they are keen to see as seamless a transfer to their successor as possible, and they will be producing a few more monographs from the material they have already accumulated. Brian also wishes to relinquish his place on the Executive Committee.

Unless one of our current members is itching to take over the role – and if you are, then please make yourself known to me as soon as possible – Peter of Toronto has kindly indicated his willingness to do so. But, although he is an expert at tracing people since 1841, he wishes to gather a team together covering the different branches of Goddards so that a pool of people can assist him. Again, please volunteer your services if you think you can help; the more volunteers we can get, the easier the task should be. We also need a new member of the Executive Committee to take Brian's place, so please let me know if you are willing to serve – only two meetings a year, one on the morning of the AGM, so not too demanding!

USEFUL ADDRESSES

- Association web page:** www.goddard-association.co.uk
Australian Co-ordinator: Ian Goddard, P.O. Box 618, Balcatta, Western Australia 6914. Tel: (08) 9245 4510
Email: franiam@tpg.com.au Fax: (08) 9245 4540
Canadian Co-ordinator: Peter E. Goddard, 716 Hillside Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M4S 1V3. Tel: (416) 481 7132
Email: pgoddard@interlog.com
Membership Secretary: John Goddard, 2 Lowergate Road, Huncoat, Accrington, Lancashire, BB5 6LN. Tel: 01254-235135
Email: jcgoddard@uwclub.net
New Zealand Co-ordinator: Julie Goddard, 2/36 Young Street, Christchurch, New Zealand. Tel: 03-9815175
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