



The Goddard Association of Europe

NEWSLETTER

No. 87 – August 2008

DNA STUDY

Y Chromosome Testing

In May 2007 a study into the DNA supplied by male members of the Goddard Association was started. A number of individuals supplied mouth swabs for analysis and in each case the Y chromosome was investigated. This chromosome is very useful in relationship studies. It is patrilineally inherited which means that all paternal relatives (brothers, fathers, sons, paternal uncles etc) share the same Y chromosome types (known as a haplotype). The areas of the DNA examined are not involved in the functioning of the body. This fact means that any variation between individuals can be exploited purely to distinguish between those people and are not in any way deleterious to health.

The initial study was performed by Kara Gaffing, a research student who worked with us for 4 months. She completed this work as part of her Masters degree. Since completion of her placement, the project has been integrated into the research program run by the department, with Catherine Thacker performing the analysis and producing the final reports.

In May 2008, Denise Syndercombe Court presented the initial findings of our research. She highlighted the fact that the genetic information gathered from studying the Y chromosome does have its limitations. Information gained reflects a very small part of our family history and is concerned only with the direct paternal line. There is the tendency to concentrate on this link to our ancestors as the common surname gives us an easy route to trace back through the generations, but it must not be forgotten that these individuals are in fact only a very small part of

our background. There is a wealth of further information that can be gleaned!

The reports that Catherine had provided to the participants were briefly explained at the AGM. Each individual had been provided with a copy of the Y chromosome haplotype from their personal sample and these had been compared both to the UK Goddard results and to the worldwide database (which does not contain any samples processed as part of this study). In some cases, identical profiles were present in the worldwide database. In these instances, a map was provided with areas highlighted where matches were found. This does not mean, necessarily, that these people are close relatives, or even have Goddard as their surname, but probably indicates someone who shares the same paternal ancestry, with the common link likely to be within up to fifteen generations in the past. If there are

a substantial number of worldwide matches within a geographical region that is likely to mean that the person's paternal ancestors were from that part of the world. Historically, males have not moved, geographically, as much as females.

When samples were compared within the UK Goddard dataset, differences between individuals were noted. The number of differences can be used to infer the degree of relatedness. Differences are explained by mutational events, which can happen at any time, even between father and son. While the word 'mutation' is sometimes associated in people's minds as something that is 'bad', in this context it is simply used to describe a usually small genetic change of no medical consequence. Although mutations are fairly rare, occurring in about 1 in 400 generation steps in each area tested, because we are looking at many areas then differences, particularly 'one step' involving a change of one number, will not be uncommon within the same family. For example, if there are 16 tested markers then there is about a 4% chance that one difference will be seen between a father and son. More markers and more generations offer more opportunities for differences, but it is unlikely, however, that those with a high number of differences are genetically related. In the people we tested there were a number of examples of very similar profiles, indicating a high level of genetic similarity between samples. There were, however, some samples that exhibited distinct differences to the rest of those tested.

The areas of DNA that have been looked at by our laboratory are the same as those used by the American Goddard Association (who have also performed genetic

analyses in their members). Denise talked about the comparisons made between the UK and the US data and the results were presented as a series of cluster diagrams. Samples most alike in terms of genetic make up were grouped together. The US data clustered together reasonably tightly whereas the UK data appeared more diverse. This would fit with the longer history and greater diversity of the UK population and a 'founder' effect, where only a small sample of the diverse UK Goddard population provided the seed for the US Goddard population. There were some UK samples grouped closely to the US data, which could prove an interesting avenue for further investigation.

Denise also used the concurrent testing being performed by ourselves and the US laboratory as an illustration of the importance of laboratory accreditation and quality control. It would appear that one sample had been processed by both institutions and differing results obtained. The US laboratory has been contacted to verify whether this is the case but no reply has yet been obtained. Denise finished her talk with thanking all participants, without whom this research would not be possible.

When considering the results generated to date, it should be remembered that it is not genetics alone that makes a person. Mutations may cause differences to occur between related individuals. Persons living in the same geographical area may also share genetic characteristics; mutations in these persons could result in them appearing more related than they actually are. Cases of non-paternity may result in a breakage in the blood line but not a change in surname. These instances may not necessarily be scandalous. The use of surnames in Britain did not begin until the 1200s. Adoption, children being born out of wedlock, or taking on the male family name while still being of female stock can all explain apparent genetic unrelatedness in the face of the same surname. And of course there may be several different starting points for the root name.

There are some people who are still waiting for their report and we apologise for this delay. I can assure you that you have not been forgotten and that your cases will be completed as soon as possible. Our workload is very high at the moment and consequently our research has had to take a back seat – we hope that this will soon change. In the future, it is hoped that additional Goddard samples can be tested to increase the UK sample size. It is also hoped that additional areas on the DNA can be tested to help improve the clustering of data. Maternal lines of inheritance can be studied using mitochondrial DNA

and this is perhaps another area of research that could be considered.

I would like to conclude with thanking all of those who have contributed samples to this study. If anyone has any questions regarding this work or would like to participate in this research, please contact us. We will continue to process samples for those who are interested.

Catherine Thacker Denise Syndercombe Court
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Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry
4 Newark Street
London E1 2AT

Ed. – The Association owes a great debt of gratitude to Denise and Catherine, for undertaking the testing, for speaking at the last two AGMs, and for producing this article. We are most grateful. Please note that this project is on-going for the foreseeable future.

INTESTATE

I am grateful to Julie of Newbury for spotting in the Times of 12 June the following Public Notice: "Douglas Charles Goddard late of Hertford, Hertfordshire died there on 21 November 2007.....The kin of the above named are requested to contact the Treasury Solicitor BV.....One Kemble Street, London WC2B 4TS. Failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate."

GODDARDS

I have hitherto in these pages featured Goddards, the fine country house near Abinger in Surrey designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens at the end of the nineteenth century and regarded as one of his best creations (see Newsletters 23, 36, 38, 40 and 57). I am indebted to Association member Richard Goddard-Jones for sending me an article from the Sunday Times of 11 May written by Stanley Stewart in which he names Goddards as one of the ten best houses in Britain to rent either for a week or for a three-day week-end. Sleeping twelve, it would cost you £2,225 or £1,545 respectively. Don't crush each other in the rush!

WILTSHIRE DANCING

A new group promoting dance in Wiltshire for all age groups has received a funding injection of £45,000 from Arts Council England's Grants for Arts funding scheme, plus another £2,000 from councils in Wiltshire. The regional head of performing arts at Arts Council England is a Paul Goddard. I am grateful to Jennifer Walker for this information from a Gazette & Herald article of 7 February.

PETER OF TORONTO

Members will be deeply saddened to learn of the death of our Research Co-ordinator, Peter of Toronto, who has finally lost his courageous battle against cancer. He made an enormous contribution to the Association, especially in his last difficult months, and in tribute I can do no better than to quote the announcement from Malcolm of Brisbane:

“Dear cousins and friends,

It is with the greatest sorrow and extreme heavy heart that I have to tell you that Peter E. Goddard, Research Coordinator of the Goddard Association of Europe died after a 12 month battle with cancer on August 6th in Toronto Canada. My deepest sympathy and wishes go to Peter’s wife, Sheila, and her family and Peter’s two sons, Simon and Nick, and their families.

Although I never met Peter in person, he and I were constant correspondents via email (I just had a look in my email logs and we have exchanged over 500 emails) and we also spoke on the phone numerous times during the last 6 years, especially during the last 12 months where we had the joint project of getting a new Goddard Association of Europe website up and running. The Goddard Association will be very much poorer for Peter’s loss as I have never seen a more dedicated, meticulous and accurate genealogical researcher who was always willing to go that one step further to help someone find their long lost relative.

I’ve been very proud to work with him in getting the website to the point it is at today and you will be happy to know that both Peter and I had great plans to continue to expand the databases and Goddard information that is available to Goddard researchers via this medium, work that I will very willingly continue to pursue. Peter knew before he passed away that we have recently started to build a new network of dedicated people within the Goddard Assoc. of Europe all over the world who are giving of their time freely to aid this cause.

I will miss Peter and know that anyone whose life has been touched by this wonderful and generous man will too.

With sadness,
Malcolm L. Goddard of Brisbane,
Website Co-ordinator.”

NEW RESEARCH CO-ORDINATOR

I am pleased to announce that Colin Goddard of Brackley in Northamptonshire, who liaised with Peter of Toronto over the last few months, has kindly agreed to take on the role of Research Co-ordinator. His contact details can be found on the back page.

HERALD OF LEICESTER

Newsletter 85 carried a very brief mention of the death of Association member Herald M. Goddard of Leicester, who had died on 31 December 2007. I am grateful to Rachel of Leicester for sending me the following appreciation, which appeared in the Newsletter of the Friends of Leicester and Leicestershire Museums:

“With the passing of Herald Goddard at the grand age of 92, Leicester has lost a distinguished and erudite figure who played a significant role in its cultural life for over half a century. His family firm, of which he eventually became the managing director, was established in Leicester in the early nineteenth century and his family were very much part of the cultural scene throughout this time. Herald and his late wife Joan [who died on 23 December 2005 and whose obituary appeared in Newsletter 73] were well-known benefactors and patrons of the arts, most especially supporting Leicester Museums, Leicester Theatre Trust, Leicester University and the Richard Attenborough Centre. In 1968 Herald was co-opted on to the Arts and Libraries committee as a special adviser on the arts, a role in which he was both knowledgeable and enthusiastic. Herald gave many gifts to the Museum both as a private donor and through the Goddard Charitable Trust, including ceramic pottery and works which now enrich the museum collection of German Expressionist Art. In 1997, when the city became a unitary authority, Herald was delighted to continue to serve as a Trustee on the City of Leicester Trust, which purchases items for the collections funded from donation boxes. This tradition of family involvement began when his father set up the Trust in 1930. He will be warmly remembered and much missed by all who knew him, and his lifetime’s service to Leicester will not be forgotten.”

The family firm, to which the earlier part of the article refers, was founded in 1839 by Herald’s great-grandfather Joseph and developed the famous Goddard’s Silver Polish. Before the First World War it also branched out into a number of other areas, particularly typewriters, woodworking machinery, knitting machines and lawnmowers. For a full history I refer you to Herald’s own article in Newsletter 17 of September 1990.

OBITUARY

The Association is also saddened to record the death of one of its members, Mrs E. Goddard of Purley on Thames near Reading. We offer our sympathy to her immediate family and relations.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee held its 42nd meeting as usual on the morning of the AGM, minus Peter of Toronto and Joan Dibble through illness. Apart from routine matters, consideration was given to the possibility of collecting dues by electronic means should members so wish. It was decided to go ahead, provided that Treasurer John could be certain that such payments would identify the payer – always a problem when the vast majority of the membership have the same surname! The new website was roundly applauded, with Peter of Toronto and Malcolm of Brisbane warmly thanked for their on-going hard work and expertise. Warm thanks were also accorded Jim of Egham for his sterling work on the previous website. No new publications were currently ready, and discussion of an eventual replacement for series editor Brian of Newbury was postponed to the next meeting. Is there any member prepared to volunteer for this role?

THE GODDARD ARMS HOTEL

In the Newsletter before last I wrote of the demise of the Goddard Arms Hotel in Swindon when it was sold to property development company George Wimpey South West and has remained closed since last summer. Now, in an article from the Swindon Advertiser of 8 March kindly sent me by Jennifer Walker, the news is that it has been bought by Barracuda Bars who intend to inject more than £1,000,000 for refurbishment purposes and re-open it later this summer, retaining the hotel rooms. The company claims to have considerable experience in transforming buildings of local interest and character, and regards the Goddard Arms as an excellent opportunity.

NEW MEMBERS

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

Mrs Maureen Davies, 31 Gwenbrook Avenue, Chilwell, Beeston, Nottinghamshire, NG9 4BA.
Mr William W. Wilson, 106 Cardigan Street, Oxford, OX2 6BW.

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:

Maureen Davies descends from George Brown Goddard, who was born in 1843, married in 1868 and died on 4 September 1915. He moved to Buxton from Ilkeston.

William Wilson is descended from the Clyffe Pypard branch, being the grandson of the last Goddard to live in the manor there.

ANOTHER ARTIST

I am grateful to Association member Francis of Cardiff for alerting me to the existence of another artist Goddard – or, as it happens, Godard – this one a Michael Godard of America, whose paintings he came across when on a recent cruise on the Arcadia. He has also kindly supplied the following information:

“Michael Godard has known since childhood that it is paint which runs through his veins. He attended the University of Nevada in Las Vegas, earning a Fine Arts degree, and later attended the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena. After college he began working as a freelance illustrator for such clients as Coca Cola, Dodge, Saks Fifth Avenue and numerous other well-known corporations. Since then he has created many incredible series, collected worldwide, including ‘All the Vices’, cigar and gambling art, and ‘Don’t Drink and Draw’ featuring wine, fine liquor and martinis....As is evident from his many radio, magazine and television interviews and over a dozen art shows, Godard is widely recognized as one of the most versatile artists of our time. His work is collected by celebrities such as Arnold Schwarzenegger, Bill Gates and Madonna, and can be found in art galleries, homes and businesses throughout the United States and Japan. In addition, the double platinum rock band ‘Dishwalla’ commissioned Godard to create the cover for their album ‘Opaline’. He was also commissioned to paint a life-size cow sculpture as part of the New York and Chicago ‘Cows on Parade’, an exhibit which has appeared both on the Today Show and Oprah. His latest series ‘Don’t Drink and Draw’ has exploded into the art world. These photo-realistic works are fun, with just a touch of surreal humour – the type of art that makes you laugh and keeps you in a light mood. Although the themes vary, Godard’s art changes the face of even the most traditional subjects. He has an ability to create mood and mystery on canvas that is, at times, painted so realistically that you feel the subjects could reach out and touch you. His works find and maintain a delicate balance of texture, colour, technique, realism, humour and imagination – a balance that never fails to create drama and evoke emotion.”

MISSING BOOK

Denise Syndercombe Court brought back to this year’s AGM a book, The Burke’s Peerage World Book of Goddards, which she had been lent last year. Unfortunately she cannot remember by whom, and the lender appeared not to be at this year’s meeting. If you are the owner, please get in touch with Richard of Malvern (details on back page) as he now has it.

VETERINARY PRACTICE

Newsletter 70 carried a brief mention of the Goddard Veterinary practice, asking for information; and responses from several members enabled me to write a much more informative article in Newsletter 72, outlining the history and expansion of this sizeable practice in the south eastern part of the country. At the end of this April member Margaret Turnbull spotted that the practice was involved in the rabies scare relating to imported dogs from Sri Lanka. Julie of Newbury also sent me an article in which the same practice was mentioned.

LEICESTER BUILDING

Joseph of Leicester was from the other branch of the Leicestershire Goddards, the six generations of prominent architects in the city (see Newsletter 16). One of his buildings, the grade II listed former HSBC bank in Granby Street, has been vacated and there is concern that it will deteriorate if not purchased soon. It was designed in the early 1870s and is described as "nationally important" and "a masterpiece". Several suggestions for its use have been made, but at present no substantial interest has been shown in it. I am grateful to Rachel of Leicester for sending me a cutting from the Leicester Mercury of 23 April.

JUDGE ANN GODDARD

Ann Goddard, aged 72 and the only lady judge at the Old Bailey, retired on 14 March according to a report in the Daily Mirror for the following day and kindly sent to me by Jennifer Walker. Mentioned several times in these Newsletters, thanks to Ronald Knight's excellent biography of Weymouth's Second World War mayor John Goddard (Newsletter 85), we now know that Ann is his granddaughter. Her male colleagues heaped praise upon her as she left.

LIFE TRUST FOUNDATION

An article in the Daily Mirror of 23 April kindly sent me by Jennifer Walker details all the technological improvements over the next twenty years that will enable old people to lead independent lives for longer than they do now without needing to go into care homes. The information was supplied by the Life Trust Foundation, whose director is Fay Goddard. Does any member claim her as a relative?

REFEREE

I am grateful to my son Edward for spotting that the referee in the recent New Zealand v South African game in the Tri Nations rugby football series was an Australian called Matt Goddard. Is he related to any of our Australian members?

AID WORKER

I am grateful to Marjorie of Wellingborough for sending me an article from the Northants Evening Telegraph of 18 June, reporting on an Anne Goddard from Kettering who is currently acting as an aid worker in Chad. In February she was caught up in a rebel attack on Chad's capital city, N'Djamena, when she was forced to stay in a guest house until the shooting had stopped. Now the fighting has got to some of the villages where she works, but she has not let the violence curtail her activities. She had arranged a party to celebrate the Day of the African Child and, although some of the events had to be cancelled, she borrowed a motorbike and managed to reach four of the villages to ensure that some of the celebrations went ahead. She was quoted as saying that she was very proud of everyone for not giving in to fear, but she herself deserves much of the credit. Does any member know her?

SKYDIVES

Anne Hockaday has kindly sent me a cutting from Grapevine, the official newspaper of the Bath & Wells diocese, in which Sue Goddard did a skydive for charity. She had been given this unusual present by her daughter Thelma (who jumped with her) and decided to raise money for St Margaret's Somerset Hospice and St Mary's, Taunton, which was celebrating its seven hundredth anniversary. She nearly had second thoughts when the plane door was opened at 13,000ft, but enjoyed it and made a straight-forward landing. Does anyone know this intrepid couple? I am also grateful to Marjorie of Wellingborough for sending me a cutting from the Wellingborough and Rushden Herald and Post for 31 July, which indicated that Trina Goddard of Wellingborough with thirteen others had done a parachute jump to raise £3,000 for Leonard Cheshire Disability, a charity aiming at changing attitudes to disability and to serve disabled people around the world. Trina thoroughly enjoyed the experience, calling it "mind-blowing"; it was the thought that she was helping other people which encouraged her "to jump out of that plane".

AUTHORESS

Newsletter 81 carried an article on member Jane Falloon's new book on the seventeenth century poet George Herbert called Heart in Pilgrimage. Now the Oxford Times has carried a very complimentary review, praising her "lively engaging style" which "beautifully evokes Herbert's world". The book is published by Author House at £10.99.

RESEARCH CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

I attach the Research Co-ordinator's annual report for 2007-08, which I read on behalf of Peter of Toronto at the AGM in May, since he was by that stage sadly too ill to make the long journey to be with us:

1. During the course of the past year there have been a declining number of enquiries coming in from members and non-members. However I always contact new members and offer them my help with their family background and this seems to be appreciated.

2. At last year's A.G.M. I proposed three new initiatives: a) that members be invited to register the details of the birth, marriage and death certificates that they held; b) that we set up an email response group so that any enquiry that we receive is put out to the entire group who would contribute any specialized family knowledge that they might have; and c) that members willing to transcribe parish register entries come forward to offer their services.

3. I have to report that over 500 certificates have now been registered and I express my sincere thanks to all the contributors. However, I feel that there must be many members who have not yet come forward and I would, once again, appeal to them to do so. Even if you have only one certificate it is important that you register it – the more that are registered the more valuable the database becomes. I regret that the other two initiatives proposed have not got off the ground (probably because I have not pushed them hard enough) and I now propose modifications to those ideas, hoping that these will bring some success (see 6 and 7 below).

4. Malcolm of Queensland, Australia, and I have been working together over the past two months to create a new website for the Association and I am pleased to report that this is now on-line at www.goddard-association.org.uk. The site contains sections open to everyone and a Members Only section where access is limited to registered members. We have emailed all those members whose email addresses were known to us and over 50 members have now registered. Registration can be made on the site in the Members Only section. All that is necessary is your email address and Membership Number. Your Membership Number appears in tiny figures on the address label that comes with your Newsletter, but alternatively you could email me, Membership Secretary John or Richard of Malvern or Malcolm (email addresses appear on the site) to obtain this information. In the five weeks that the site has been available on-line over 1,000 hits have

been recorded.

5. The highlight of the site is undoubtedly the Members Only section. These searchable databases that appear there will be added to at regular intervals but already you can view details of the 500+ certificates that have been registered, past copies of Newsletters, Australian WW1 soldiers (some of whom were born in the UK and those details appear) and others. But today, Sunday 18 May, we are putting on-line a most important new database, an index of all the Goddard grants of probate and administration, over 4,200 records, that were made from 1858 to 1957. The index shows the name of the decedent, the actual date of death, the place of residence by town or village and by county and in a lot of cases the same information for the place of death. You can search on any one of these fields or on all of them combined. Searching on Silchester, the site of last year's AGM, will produce 7 results but alas there are no entries for Aldbourne this year's venue. There are numerous entries for nearby Swindon and even the village of Chinley in Derbyshire produces 22 hits. The information contained in this index is but the tip of the iceberg. Against each entry is an invitation to call for further details which despatches an automatic email request to the Research Co-ordinator. In reply you will receive a copy of the actual probate calendar entry which in virtually every case will give you the full address of the decedent at the time of death, the names and occupations (and sometimes the addresses) of the executors and the value of the estate. This mine of information is not available anywhere else on-line and in very few libraries, but even in those libraries no overall indexes are provided. Producing this database has been a very time-consuming undertaking and I hope that members will take full advantage of it.

6. The advent of the new website gives us wonderful opportunities to make the website ever more valuable to members, so much so that I believe that to serious Goddard researchers membership of the Association will become a sine qua non. To bring on-line my 130,000+ database of births, marriages and deaths and to make it searchable over multiple fields so that one could find, for example, the death of someone by entering their approximate birth year, requires some software that presently we do not have, but I am confident that over the next few months we will achieve this aim. But an even more important aim is to expand the number of databases available to members. Last year I called upon members to come forward to transcribe parish registers, which

met with an underwhelming response! So here is a modification. How about a member adopting a county and taking on the transcription of the parish registers within that county. It doesn't matter how long it takes – just one parish a year would be quite acceptable – and we could make the data available as it was produced. Don't be shy, your services are most welcome. And it is not just the parish registers that are required. My hope (perhaps dream) is to see all the Goddard census entries made available, not just for England and Wales but also for Goddards appearing in the United States and Canadian censuses where they are shown as having been born in the UK. And there are many more up my sleeve – such as databases of UK Goddard WW1 soldiers (over 1,600 records exist), Goddard birth, marriages and deaths in India (probably runs into thousands) and many, many more. I will do my bit but to get anywhere in a reasonable time requires the help of many volunteers. Pick a subject of interest to you (doesn't have to be one of those mentioned above) and come forward.

7. Lastly I want to announce our intention to introduce a Forum on the open section of the website, available to both members and non-members, giving everybody the opportunity to air their queries and problems to the entire Goddard genealogical community. As every posting is made, an alert will go out to all registered website members drawing their attention to it so that the enquirer will have the knowledge of at least 50, and I am sure soon many more, brought to bear on the problem. Another feature that we would like to introduce to the website is the ability to make payment for subscriptions and other purchases by credit card, something that we feel would be of particular value to overseas members. This subject is on today's Committee agenda.

Finally, as many of you know, I am not in exactly robust health at the moment and I would like to express my most sincere thanks to all those members who have expressed their concern and good wishes. I really do appreciate it. Peter of Toronto

TRAGIC EXPEDITION

I am grateful in a roundabout way to Pat Bisset of New Zealand via Co-ordinator Julie of Christchurch for recently picking up a newsletter on a visit to northern Queensland in Australia. The Gulf Croaker carried an article on the 1848 expedition to Cape York led by Edmund Beasley Court Kennedy, which it described as ranking "among Australia's most tragic with the loss of ten lives, Kennedy's among them. Only William Carron, William Goddard and Jackey Jackey, Kennedy's faithful Aboriginal tracker and friend, survived to tell the tale." This year marks the 160th anniversary of the expedition, and the organisation Wilderness Challenge plans to retrace Kennedy's route in October. They "contacted Richard Boyle (Great Grandnephew of Kennedy) and Tony Pryce (Great Grandson of William Carron). In an amazing piece of luck Wilderness Challenge's 2007 newsletter found its way to Patrick Goddard (Great Grandson of William Goddard). All three are to join this great adventure along with two other descendants of William Carron, Tony's sister and brother. Sadly, the only survivor not to be represented is Jackey Jackey, hero of the expedition. The group will visit Camp LXXX at Weymouth Bay where six of the party died." On 10 November 1848 Kennedy made the decision to leave eight men to make this camp and await rescue, while he took three others and Jackey Jackey to fetch help. Only the Aborigine survived from that group, and William Carron and William Goddard from the other. Can any of our Australian members add to this tragic story?

TOWN CLERK

While reading the millennium compilation A History of Wollaston (near Stourbridge in the West Midlands) which has connections with my mother's side of the family, I came across the fact that the Town Clerk of Stourbridge around 1907-08 was a Mr W.W. Goddard. Does anyone know anything about this particular individual?

THE DAILY GODDARD

I am grateful to Jim of Egham for sending me this headline which recently came through his letter box!



AGM

The twenty-second AGM was held in the Memorial Hall at Aldbourne, Wiltshire, on Sunday 18 May 2008 at 2.00pm. Some three dozen members attended. After a welcome by the President, apologies were recorded from several members and the Minutes of the Last Meeting were approved and signed. There were no Matters Arising. The Treasurer gave his Report for the last financial year, indicating a quiet but successful year and a healthy balance sheet. Should any member wish to see an audited copy, please apply to Treasurer John (contact details on this page). Then followed the Research Co-ordinator's Report, which you can read on page 6; this was read by the President as Peter of Toronto's serious illness precluded his attendance. Under the Election of Officers, Richard of Malvern was returned as President, Eileen of Accrington as Secretary and John of Shrewsbury as Treasurer; John of Accrington and Denise of Solihull were re-elected as members of the Executive Committee, each for a further three year term.

There was little other business. It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Sunday 17 May probably in the Leicester area as the Association has not met there before; the precise venue will be announced in a subsequent Newsletter. There then followed a clear and illustrated exposition of the results of the DNA Project so far by Dr Denise Syndercombe Court, aided by her research assistant Catherine Thacker, followed by several searching questions. The President then announced the winner of this year's Howard Goddard-Jones Memorial: Denise Syndercombe Court. Richard Goddard-Jones, Howard's son, was attending the meeting and kindly agreed to make the presentation. Dr



Syndercombe Court is seen here with Richard on the left and the President on the right. Tea and biscuits were served while the raffle was drawn; many thanks as always to all those who kindly donated prizes.

NEWSLETTERS

I would like to make two points about the Newsletters. In the first place, the Committee wishes to increase the campaign to persuade as many members as possible to receive future copies electronically, especially those of you who live outside the UK, in order to combat the ever increasing postage costs. If you are willing to join the currently small number of those who favour this method, all you have to do is to send me (Richard of Malvern) an e-mail (contact details below) indicating your wish and, please, identifying yourself by giving me either your membership number or your postal address. I will then mark my postal list accordingly and send your details on to Malcolm of Brisbane who will do the rest – that is, register you on the new website if you have not already done so yourself and subsequently let you know when the next edition is available in the Members Only section where you can either just read it or download it as you wish.

Secondly, Malcolm of Brisbane is in the process of putting all back numbers of the Newsletters onto the website, together with an index. As a result of this, I intend to reduce my stock of 'hard copy' back numbers greatly, as there is a finite size to my study! Before doing so, however, I wish to give all members a chance to acquire back copies should you so wish. Once again, all you have to do is to contact me, identify yourself and give me the numbers you want; the only cost will be postage and packing.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Association web page: www.goddard-association.org.uk
Australian Co-ordinator: Ian Goddard, P.O. Box 618, Balcatta, Western Australia 6914. Tel: (08) 9245 4510
Email: australia@goddard-association.org.uk Fax: (08) 9245 4540
Canadian Co-ordinator: Following the sad demise of Peter Goddard, this position will need to be determined.
Email: canada@goddard-association.org.uk
Membership Secretary: John C. Goddard, 2 Lowergate Road, Huncoat, Accrington, Lancashire, BB5 6LN. Tel: 01254-235135
Email: membership@goddard-association.org.uk
New Zealand Co-ordinator: Julie Goddard, 2/36 Young Street, Christchurch, New Zealand. Tel: 03-9815175
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President & Newsletter Ed.: Richard G.H. Goddard, Sinton Meadow, Stocks Lane, Leigh Sinton, Malvern, WR13 5DY. Tel: 01886-832404
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