

## The Goddard Association of Europe

### NEWSLETTER

No. 96 – October 2010

## THEODORE GODDARD Solicitor to Mrs Wallis Simpson

I am grateful to Julie of Newbury for drawing to my attention a book *The Last Dance: 1936: the Year of Change* by Denys Blakeway, which mentions the role played by Theodore Goddard in the major event of that year: the abdication crisis. Brief references to his legal practice have twice before appeared in these Newsletters, namely numbers 41 and 68, and it is perhaps time that a fuller account of the company was given.

The legal firm of Theodore Goddard & Co was founded in 1902 in offices in Clement's Inn near the Law Courts in London by a young lawyer aged 24, John Theodore Goddard, pictured here in later life. Working hard as a litigator on the London court circuit his reputation and practice grew, and in 1917 he moved to new offices in Sergeant's Inn nearby. A direct hit by a German bomber in 1941 completely destroyed these premises together, unfortunately, with most of the firm's records and clients' papers, and the company had to move to New Court immediately behind the Law Courts. It was from here that John Theodore Goddard retired as Senior Partner in 1950, dying two years later.

The practice continued to develop, amalgamating with other City firms in the 1950s, and in 1963 became involved in a second national crisis when the then Senior Partner was instructed by John Profumo. By this time the firm's company and commercial practice had expanded enormously, and in 1965 it was decided to concentrate



on this aspect and to move offices once again, this time to St Martin's-le-Grand in the City. By the end of the 1980s there were over forty partners and more than 300 staff and in 1990 a further move took place to 150 Aldersgate Street. Finally, in 2003 as mentioned in Newsletter 68, the firm merged with the northern practice of Addleshaw Booth & Co to become Addleshaw Goddard with offices in Leeds and Manchester as well as London. The move has been described as "the most successful

law firm merger since the year 2000".

But, despite all the many high profile and celebrity cases handled by the firm over the years – John Profumo, the Rolling Stones, David Bowie, Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta Jones, Michael Jackson – the one that it and its first Senior Partner will be mostly remembered for was the unprecedented central event of 1936. In his book Denys Blakeway refers to Theodore Goddard as 'a workaday solicitor, a bit-player quite out of his depth in the unfolding drama'. This judgement may be somewhat harsh, but it is probably equally the case that the solicitor came to wish that Wallis Simpson had never instructed him! At a late stage in the crisis it became necessary – at Prime Minister Baldwin's insistence – for Theodore to visit his client in the south of France, whither she had fled from England, to discuss her divorce and to ascertain whether she was prepared to give up Edward VIII for the sake of the country and commonwealth. Unfortunately he had never flown before and, in addition, he had a weak heart; he therefore took his doctor, who happened to be then resident in a maternity hospital, together with his clerk. Putting two and three together, the press came up with the story that he was accompanied by a gynaecologist and an anaesthetist to determine if Wallis was pregnant. In fact, Wallis was prepared to give Edward up, but by this time it was too late; the king had already made up his mind to abdicate.

One important question remains to be asked: to which branch of the Goddard tree does John Theodore belong? If any member claims him as a relative or knows the answer, please let me know.

## WHOSE BLACK SHEEP?

On Thursday 13 June 1867 William Goddard “a middle aged well dressed man, wearing a moustache, was placed in the dock” of Newbury Borough Police court “on a charge of obtaining 20s 3d from the 16th to 23rd May from Mr O’Brien by false pretence – that false pretence being that Mrs Lawrence of Plough Cottage, Marlborough, had authorised him to go to the Three Tuns Hotel, and run up an account at her expense, pending his procuring a situation which she was looking out.”

At first the hotel keeper had been suspicious of William’s claim that Mrs Lawrence was going to pay his bill, because William had previously stayed under the same arrangement and Mr O’Brien had had difficulty in getting the money from Mrs Lawrence, the 68 year old widow of an Alderman of Marlborough. However, William had been so plausible that he had relented and let him stay.

After eight days had passed no sign of the money supposed to be forthcoming from Mrs Lawrence had arrived, so Mr O’Brien wrote to Mrs Lawrence’s solicitor, Mr Mecey of Thatcham, through whom on a previous occasion money had been supplied. Mr Mecey reported that Mrs Lawrence denied promising to supply money for William Goddard’s stay. Mr O’Brien confronted the prisoner and had said that he was going to send a telegram to Mrs Lawrence to discover the truth, and called to his ostler to go to the Post Office. While he was doing this William Goddard slipped out of the hotel and disappeared. A reply to the telegram arrived, denying categorically that Mrs Lawrence had made any such arrangement. The police were called, and William was eventually arrested at Inkpen, a nearby village, on Monday 3 June by the local policeman there.

At the Borough Police Court on Friday 7 June William made no reply when the charge was read out to him. A summons had been issued for Mrs Lawrence to attend court. However, instead her daughter, Miss Sarah Martha Lawrence, appeared. She explained to the court that her mother was a very aged and infirm woman who could not be left on her own and had not left her house for eighteen months. She had been quite unable to give William Goddard the instructions which he claimed she had without her carers knowing of it. A second Miss Lawrence, Elizabeth Ann, confirmed the statement made by her sister. She explained that the family knew William Goddard well, as Mr Elijah Lawrence, her deceased father, had been executor to William’s Goddard’s father’s will.

The prisoner still said nothing to the charge and

was committed for trial at the Borough Sessions. This was at the time when Newbury had its own police force. Superintendent George Deane put the case against the prisoner. “For two years the prisoner had been on a wild career, he had been to too many inns in the neighbourhood and had fleeced the owners in the same way as in the present case.”

The Recorder said he “was very sorry to see a person in the prisoner’s position, who originally had considerable means and could have supported himself with credit, placed at the bar on this charge. He must be taught that he could not pursue this course with impunity, and it was his (the Recorder’s) duty to pass a mild sentence which would be a lesson and prevent him coming here again.” The sentence was to three calendar months with hard labour. Prisoners sentenced at Newbury served their sentences in Reading Gaol. Serving a sentence in a Victorian prison could hardly be called a mild sentence. A new Prisons Act passed in 1865 was intended to make a prison sentence even more unpleasant than previously. Prisoners had to be silent; beds were hard boards; and they were employed for nine hours a day in summer and six in winter on repetitive employment such as walking the treadmill, picking oakum (unravelling ropes) or cranking a handle in their cell for a stated number of times each day.

One can hope that William did indeed learn his lesson and reform, but as no age, nor place of residence, nor parentage is given in the newspaper reports in the *Newbury Weekly News* we cannot be certain who he was, or to which branch of Goddards he belonged. He was middle aged; thirties onward? Was smartly dressed enough not to appear impecunious and had connections with Marlborough. However a friend, well versed in the intricacies of Wiltshire records, found for me a list of the prisoners in Devizes Gaol in December 1867. On the list is William Goddard who had faced two charges in court “Obtaining money by false pretences” and “Larceny before convicted of an indictable .....” [word unreadable]. He had not been tried on the first charge but had been found guilty of the second. The date of the trial was 31 December and this time he was sentenced to twelve months in prison.

The 1871 census for Marlborough lists a William Goddard who might be the man we seek. He was aged forty, a former licensed victualler, and had been born in Ogbourne. His residence at the time of the census was Marlborough Union Workhouse. Had our William served his sentence, been thrown back into the world penniless and maybe infirm after

harsh treatment in prison, and sought shelter in the Workhouse? No one lived in that place unless they were desperate.

There is a baptism recorded at Ogbourne St George 27 March 1832 of a William son of John and Hannah Goddard. This also could be conman William. Perhaps it will need a descendant of the Ogbourne St George Goddards to realise why no one ever speaks of great uncle William before he can be identified for certain!

*Julie of Newbury*

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## NEW MEMBERS

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

Ms Karen Bell, 32 Staunton Road, Oxford, OX3 7TW.  
Mr Danny Goddaert, Konigin Elisabethlei 12 bus 1, 2950 Kapellen, Belgium.  
Mr Clifford William Goddard, 12 Sorrel Drive, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2YJ.  
Mr Richard R. Goddard, 3 Water Lane, South Normanton, Nr. Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 2DG.  
Mr David L. Hilton, 50 Smallshaw Lane, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, OL6 8PX.

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## 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:

**Karen Bell** is descended from Richard M. Goddard 1797-1875 of the Pineapple Inn, Brimpton. His son Francis 1834-1880 moved to Croydon where son Albert E.H. was born in 1870; he died in 1934. His son Frank B.D. 1894-1947 was also of Croydon.

**Danny Goddaert's** family tree stems from Johannes Goddaert 1693-1733 of St Gillis Waas and is documented through nine generations in the area west and north of Antwerp. Danny writes that some family members have worked for fifteen years on the Belgian branch of all variations of the name 'Goddaert', and now have a database of more than 2,500 persons with various spellings: Goddard – Godard – Godart – Goddaer – Goddaert – and more. "We found also very old historical information and we still search for connections with other branches of the name."

**Clifford Goddard** (actually a rejoining member) is from a London branch descended from John 1766-1850 via William 1814-1898, John 1842-1922, William 1866-1952 and Sidney 1893-1952.

**Richard Goddard** is descended from a Basford, Nottingham family starting with grandfather Benjamin 1876-1946, who was born in Cromwell, Nottinghamshire, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth,

**David Hilton** is one of the High Peak Goddards, descended from Joseph of Chinley and Bugsworth 1695-1719, via several generations settled at Horwich End, to his mother Joan who married Stanley Hilton in 1949.

## SHAKEN BUT NOT INTERRED

When news of the massive earthquake to hit Christchurch on 4 September came through, we immediately thought of the Association's New Zealand Co-ordinator Julie and her brother Tony and family who live there and dashed off a hasty airmail. A couple of weeks later we received the following reply: ".....we are all well and were relatively untouched – our southern area of Christchurch is built on clay (as opposed to sand and swamp elsewhere). Ornaments fell from shelves and broke. Tony lost 40% of his porcelain collection and his boxes of rocks fell onto the two cars; they took some getting out at the week-end! Tony and Carol were in Auckland so missed the main quake on the 4<sup>th</sup>. When it struck at 4.35am I was awake as it happens and it started the worst week of our lives; without a doubt I couldn't go through it again – absolutely frightening. We've now had over 400 aftershocks and, if put end to end timewise, the geologists tell us it's now about four and a half hours' worth. Some, depending on their depth, have been as bad as the original 7.1 in power. Take today, for instance – five during the night, three in close succession 11.16, 11.19, 11.23pm, then 9.04am when school started (we are back after a week of closure) and 12 noon, four or five this afternoon and about three since I started writing this letter. They are eerie, uncanny. Yesterday and today have been half days to ease everyone in. Tai Tapu School [where Julie teaches] was untouched but our next door school lost nine classrooms to liquifaction (where sludgy silt is forced up through the ground, grass, tarseal floorboards and has to be cleared away – it forms like a volcano and are commonly called sand volcanos – up to maybe a foot in height. University students have done much of that cleaning up. They, the police, the army, our mayor and communities in general have been wonderful. You, like me, love the old historic buildings and Christchurch has lost many this last week, condemned from Saturday they have been removed already. Brick buildings fared worst, timber best.....It's been horrendous BUT no-one was killed – same magnitude as Haiti, oh how lucky we live in a first world country. It can only improve – each day further from the initial event means less chance of an aftershock of magnitude 6 or more. Last Tuesday was my 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of teaching at Tai Tapu. Today I had a lovely surprise of a basket of goodies. Time to smile and share with friends. Spring is here, daffodils, lambs, ducklings. We move on....." And a subsequent letter indicates that the aftershocks are still continuing, which makes Julie feel worse than the original earthquake did.

## THE RED ROVER, WEST WELLOW

I am grateful to Association member Anne Offor for sending me information on the Goddard connection with the Red Rover in West Wellow, Hampshire, together with these pictures. Anne writes: "The original part of the building is eighteenth century when it was a small wayside inn. The innkeeper then was Nicholas Goddard. For a considerable part of the nineteenth century the name of Goddard was associated with the inn. By 1837 it was owned by John Petty, who had married into the Goddard family, though he was never himself the licensee, preferring to lease it to James Grayer and his wife. On the death of John Petty in 1863 it was inherited by his eldest son William Newman Petty, the local builder, who leased the inn to Henry Goddard, and in 1875, whilst in the course of building Wellow School, Petty sold the inn to Goddard.

The next change of ownership occurred in 1887 when Georges of the Bell Street Brewery in Romsey bought it for £1,500. It was during this period that the first major extension was added in the shape of the club room, ostensibly to cater for the needs of the local court of the Ancient Order of Foresters, recently established in the village, whose frequent meetings were held at what was then their headquarters. With no village hall at that time, the club room was used for various functions, auctions, coroners' inquests and public meetings amongst them. By 1896 Georges had



been bought out by Strongs of Romsey whose control in turn then lasted until 1969 when Whitbreads were able to obtain a majority shareholding in the company.

Both of the major brewers who have owned the inn have had differing versions of the Red Rover. When introducing illustrated signs to their public houses after the Second World War, Strongs version of the Red Rover was a fox, unlike Whitbreads who saw it as a stagecoach. The latter is the more likely for the stagecoach of that name passed by on its way between Bristol and Brighton. During the Second World War 4

the inn was used as the headquarters of the local home guard, and it is from that time that considerable enlargement was made to the premises."

The first photograph shows the Red Rover in about 1910 with Charles Clark and one of his daughters; his son William subsequently took over the licence, retiring in 1959. The original part of the inn stands to the left. The extension was added in the 1880s, the upper floor being the club room. It was not until the mid 1950s, however, that the ground floor was fitted out as a lounge bar; hitherto the inn had only a small public bar and small private bar. The second



photograph shows a Red Rover outing in 1923. The charabanc has a folding hood which was drawn forward over the passengers as a protection against inclement weather.

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## OTHER EUROPEAN GODDARDS

Longstanding members will know that it has always been my wish when time would permit – if it ever would! – to research into other European Goddards, Godards, Goddaerts, or however spelt, particularly in France and Belgium, each of which country boasts a village called Godarville, the one in France between Le Havre and Rouen in Normandy, and the one in Belgium south of Brussels. As you will also know, such evidence as there is points to Viking or Norman (the Normans were originally Vikings) origins for at least many English Goddards, and presumably also for our mainland European cousins as well.

Imagine my delight, therefore, to be told of the recent membership application of Mr Danny Goddaert from the Antwerp area of Belgium. I immediately wrote to welcome him and received a very quick response in which he told me that his cousin had been working on their family tree for the past fifteen years and that he had joined her in the last two. He also intimated that he was in correspondence with a Bruno Goddaert working in France. I have high hopes of these connections.

## TIFFANY - GODDARD

I am also most grateful to Anne Ofor for sending me the following fascinating information. At the end of September she wrote: "We are in the midst of moving from mainland Australia to Tasmania. The house we have found was built in 1906 by a Magistrate, whose father had been a governor of the island in the 1800s. I looked into the history and found out that, against all odds, the person that built it was related to my husband, being a five x great aunt. It felt as if this house was meant for us.

Today, as my husband is in Tasmania doing work on the house and I couldn't go over at the moment, I was looking at various things on the internet. The house is, of course, right in the Art Nouveau period and still has its decorative ceilings, finger plates, and a typical Art Nouveau outside for Australia. We have found a foundry in Hobart that can replicate the finger plates that are missing, and we have found fireplaces to go in the missing holes. At an auction last weekend I got some wonderful replica Tiffany light shades and lamps. So proud of myself! So this afternoon with Ian away I thought I would look into what the difference between Scessionist and Art Nouveau was. Came across people that designed lead light windows then, as our front door and panels around are missing the original glass. So clicked on the list and went to Tiffany of course!!! I wanted to find out a bit about him and found out he married a Mary Woodbridge GODDARD!!! Well, now the juices were wanting to know more. So have been on all afternoon to see what side of the Goddards she was related to. My Goddards are on the Wiltshire line, so hoping this was my line, so got stuck in. I found out this line goes back to Edward Goddard of Inglesham – my line, Yes!!!

So the line goes like this:

Edward Goddard married Priscilla D'Oyly.

son William Goddard married Elizabeth Miles. William was a member of the worshipful Company of Grocers, and ended up in America due to bad fortune.

son Hon. Edward Goddard married Susannah Stone in 1697. He was a town member of Framingham, Massachusetts, Town Moderator, Town Clerk, Representative to the court and member of the Governor's Council.

son Edward married Hepzibah Hapgood in 1723. He was one of the first proprietors of Shrewsbury.

son Daniel Goddard married Mary Willard m 1756. He was a lieutenant in the American revolution.

son Calvin Goddard married Alice Hart in 1794. He was a member of the Connecticut State

Legislature, member of the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Congress, Judge Superior, District Attorney and Mayor of Norwich.

son Levi Hart Goddard married Mary Woodbridge Perkins in 1837.

daughter Mary Woodbridge Goddard married Lewis Comfort Tiffany.

All this is recorded on the internet from a book from the USA called *The Landed Gentry*.

So what an exciting afternoon I have had! What are the odds on finding out that you are related to a really famous person like Lewis Tiffany, and putting his design and artistry into your own home?"

And John of Accrington writes: "What an interesting story. We did know of Mary Woodbridge Goddard's connection with Tiffany from reference books over here. I put a short article in Newsletter 36 way back in 1995 about her marriage in May 1872 in Norwich, Connecticut. They had two sons and two daughters, but after the birth of the second child in 1874, a son who died in infancy, she contracted T.B. from which she died in 1884 having had two more children in the meantime. The younger daughter also died from T.B. in 1909 aged 30. I believe Tiffany remarried and Mary W. faded from his story. The surviving son joined his grandfather in the jewellery business. I'm particularly interested because the Art Gallery here in Accrington has the largest collection of Tiffany glass in Europe. I did ask if any of our American cousins could add to the story of Mary W. but we never got any response. Odd that we should eventually get it from Tasmania!"

### WEBSITE

I have been asked by our Website Co-ordinator, Malcolm of Brisbane, to advertise the fact that he has made two important additions to the 'Members Only' section:

\* Peter Goddard's Birth, Marriage & Death Indexes 1837-2003.

\* Rainald Wm. K. Goddard's Will Extracts 1417-1809.

He has also asked me to remind you that, if you have not already registered with him to enable you to access the 'Members Only' section, all you have to do is to send him < m.goddard@qut.edu.au > your membership number and e-mail address.

Our very grateful thanks to Malcolm for all his hard work. And may I continue to plead that more of you access the Newsletter in a similar manner. It would greatly help to reduce ever increasing postal costs and thus enable us to maintain subscriptions at their current low level for far longer.

## A few loose ends – N. Wilts Goddards No. 2 of an infrequent series of notes

The publication of Sir Ranulf Fiennes' family tree (see *A few loose ends No. 1* in the last Newsletter) has shown up associations with the North Wiltshire Goddards which can correct one or two anomalies and queries in the monographs.

Chapter 2 of the North Wilts. monographs, for instance, suggests a possible marriage of 01065 Constance, the daughter of 01024 Thomas Goddard and his wife who in the original document is named as 01025 Alice Fawkner, to Sir Thomas Lucy of Charlecote, Warwickshire. This was based on the information from the Wiltshire Heralds Visitation Pedigrees for 1623 and subsequently the 1930s Goddard family tree by R.W.K. Goddard. This marriage is not mentioned in the earlier Wiltshire Visitations or Warwickshire version, nor has it been confirmed from any of the published Lucy family trees. Did 01065 Constance Goddard exist? Only three young sons are mentioned in 01024 Thomas Goddard's will, proved in 1550, but no 01065 Constance Goddard. The only near contemporary reference to her is this 1623 pedigree entry, which is without any collaborating evidence; however, a marriage for Sir Thomas Lucy to a Constance Kingsmill is well documented. A further complication is that from the memorial to Richard Kingsmill of 1601 and other documents of the time Alice Fawkner, or Faulconer, (five variations of spelling have been found in associated documents) was married to Richard Kingsmill, father of the said Constance Kingsmill, so she could not have been married to 01024 Thomas Goddard. Alice Faulconer is reported in the Post Mortem for her father Richard in 1551 to have had two sisters, Elizabeth who married Thomas Yate, and Margaret of whom there is no further information at present but who could well be the missing link to the Goddard family as the wife of 10124 Thomas.

The memorial to Richard Kingsmill, erected soon after his death on 17 September 1600, in Highclere church reads: "HERE LIES BURIED THE BODY OF RICHARD KINGSMILL ESQRE, THE SECOND SONNE OF S<sup>R</sup> JOHN KINGSMILL OF SIDE-MOUNTAINE, KNIGHT. A MOST WORTHY PROFESSOR IN THE COMMON LAWS OF THIS REALM. FIRST ATTORNEY AFTERWARDS SURVEYOR OF HER MA<sup>T</sup>S COURTS OF WARDS AND LIVERIES. WHICH OFFICES HE EXECUTED VERY PRUDENTLY UPRIGHTLY AND FAITHFULLY YE WHOLE TEARME OF 25 YEARS. FOR HIS PIETIE, JUSTICE, COURTESIE AND HOSPITALITIE, A MEMORABLE PATTERN TO POSTERITY. DESERVEDLY BELOVED OF ALL Y<sup>E</sup> BETT<sup>R</sup> SORTE WCH KNEW HIM. HIS

ONLY DAUGHTER AND HEYRE (BY HIS FIRST WIFE ALLIS FALCONER OF HUSBOURNE) CALLED CONSTANCE WAS MARRIED TO S<sup>R</sup> THOMAS LUCY OF WARWICH-SHEYRE KNIGHT. WHO HATH ERECTED THIS MONUMET BOTH FOR THE TESTIFYEINGE OF HIS MERIT AND ALSO FOR THE WITTNESINGE OF THEYRE GRATEFULL MINDES TOWARDS HIM."

A copy of *The Kingsmill Records*, written in 1949 by Major W.A. Cook Kingsmill, is held in the Society of Genealogists in London; it has some twelve pages devoted to Richard Kingsmill. This document includes an extract from his will where he names two *nephews*, 01063 Walter and 01064 William Goddard, and also a sister, 01069 Mary Goddard (née Kingsmill). At this time, circa 1600, the term *nephew* meant the *son of a sister-in-law* or, as it does today, the *son of a sister*. This means that it is probable that the father of the said Walter and William, 01024 Thomas Goddard, was married to a *Faulconer*, christian name now unknown, but this Margaret fits the bill as a sister of the Alice Faulconer who had married Richard Kingsmill. Note also, at this time, the term *niece* often meant the relative we would today call *granddaughter*!

01068 Edward of East Woodhay in Hampshire married 01069 Mary Kingsmill in about 1570; she was the daughter of Sir John Kingsmill and Constance Goring. Edward died in 1616 and his will was proved on 20 April 1616. Of his nine presently recognised children, Constance Goddard is known to have married John Flower of Chitterne, Wiltshire, according to the Flower family tree, in 1582. This means that her date of birth shown in the monograph as about 1570 should be revised to about 1560. She was aunt to the Constance Kingsmill who married Richard Fiennes the 6<sup>th</sup> Baron Saye and Sele, in about 1570. The father of this Constance Kingsmill was the Dean of Winchester between 1541 and his death in 1549.

01069 Mary Kingsmill was also aunt to the Constance Kingsmill who was second wife of Sir Thomas Lucy, a son of Sir Thomas Lucy and Joyce Acton. Married in 1584 Constance Kingsmill, the daughter of Richard Kingsmill and Alice Faulconer, was the granddaughter of Sir John Kingsmill and Constance Goring. Sir Thomas Lucy died in 1605; his wife Constance, née Kingsmill, died in 1637; both were buried in Charlecote church near Stratford-upon-Avon.

So, summing up, we have: John KINGSMILL, died 20 July 1556, who had a contract to marry, dated

7 November 1519, Constance GORING (died May 1581); they had seventeen children.

Their first son, William KINGSMILL of Sidmanton, Hampshire, married Bridget RALEIGH; they had three children of whom the only daughter, Constance KINGSMILL (died April 1587) was married about 1581 to Richard FIENNES (c. 1557-1613) 6<sup>th</sup> Baron Saye and Sele. They also had three children – one son and two daughters. Their second son, Richard KINGSMILL of Highclere, married Alice FAULCONER. The children seen on the 1601 memorial in Highclere church must represent Richard's grandchildren, the then living children of his only child and heir Constance KINGSMILL (died 12 March 1637) who married in 1584 Sir Thomas Lucy (1532-1605) of Charlecote, Warwickshire; they had fourteen children – six sons and eight daughters. Their tenth child, 01069 Mary KINGSMILL (died October 1600), married 01068 Edward GODDARD about 1569 at East Woodhay, Hampshire; they had eleven children.

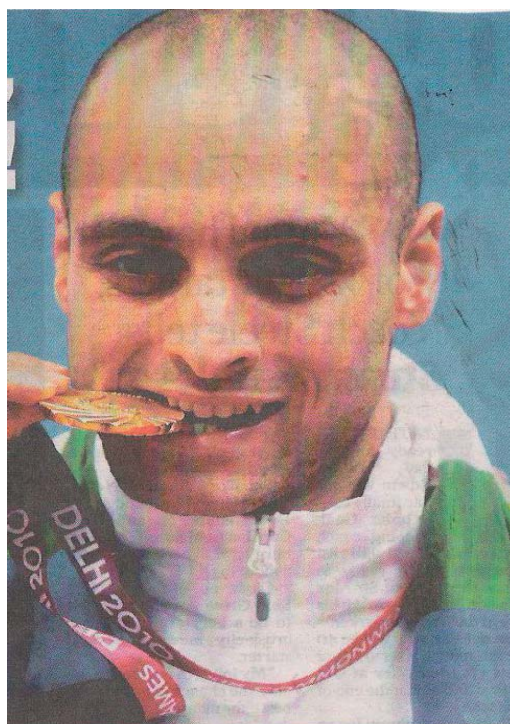
The 'Heralds Visitations' – there were others – were instigated by the College of Heralds on the orders of Henry VIII in 1530 because, by the sixteenth century, abuse of coats of arms and titles was becoming widespread in England. The visitations were not popular with the landed gentry who thought them an imposition when they were required to present proof of their gentility to a herald. The 'witness', who was usually the head of the family, was required to provide information from both personal knowledge and family tradition, to prove the family status and justify their use of their arms and the title of knight, esquire, gentleman, etc. Sometimes the family head decided to delegate this chore, when the information could have been given to the herald by a relative, an attorney, or even sometimes a servant, with decreasing reliability. The errors found in the published trees are to be expected as these trees are derived from the original notebooks of the examining heralds used during their visitations which, following their analysis, were discarded by the College of Arms. These notebooks – many are now in the British Museum – are the documents which have been used, mostly without access to other information, for the trees which have been published by the Harleian Society, or later trees by H.H. Howard and F.A. Crisp and others. The definitive, or College of Arms, version of each family tree has been generated only after comparing these documents with many other sources of information, including other visitations to a particular family or any related family, therefore their trees are very much more accurate than

those published elsewhere. The combined records of the visitations and relevant documents are difficult to examine and very expensive to have accessed as they are the saleable wares of the College of Arms. The Harleian Society published sources do, however, provide a great amount of detail at minimal cost, but they also contain some wild inaccuracies. These errors are derived from the original informant, the herald's interpretation and sometimes imagination, and the publisher's transcription errors, so they must be treated with great suspicion if used without alternative confirming evidence. *Brian of Newbury*

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### GOLDEN SWIMMER

Eight years after he last won the 200m Backstroke at the Commonwealth Games, James Goddard of Stockport has done it again. In a remarkable comeback and after several years of disappointment and injury, James not only won the gold medal by quite a margin, but broke the Games record into the bargain. And two days later he went on to win another gold in the



200m Individual Medley. Warmest congratulations to James and my thanks to Margaret of Worsley for providing the photograph.

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### Rev. ELIZABETH GODDARD

My brief article in the last Newsletter concerning the movements of the Rev. Elizabeth Goddard and asking if any member knew of her, kindly drew a response from Rachel of Leicester who writes: "Re. Newsletter No. 95, the Rev. Elizabeth Goddard is the wife of my nephew the Rev. Dr. Andrew Goddard". Two clerics in the same household must make for some interesting theological discussions!

## UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE

Our name has again featured on University Challenge – not as a participant this time (see Newsletters 67 & 68 for 2003) but as a question to identify the Goddard Broadside? Sounds like a volley from an eighteenth century man-o'-war. Well, no; though the eighteenth century part is correct. Contrary to popular belief, the United States Declaration of Independence was not 'signed' on 4 July 1776; that was the date that the final draft was approved by all the states with the exception of New York. It was then sent to printer John Dunlap for publishing and distribution, and this version is known as the 'Dunlap Broadside'. After New York had approved a few days later, an 'engrossed copy' was prepared on parchment by a calligrapher and signed by the delegates on or after 2 August – the famous version that is on display in the National Archives. In January 1777 Congress decided the Declaration should be more widely distributed, and printer Mary Katherine Goddard was commissioned to print a version containing the text and names of the signatories. It is these copies – of which nine are known to exist – that are known as the 'Goddard Broadside'. Newsletter 17 contains a lengthy article on Mary Katherine Goddard.

## COMMUNITY CENTRE

In the last Newsletter I wrote about the Goddard Neighbourhood Center in New York. I am grateful to Malcolm of Brisbane, for this follow-up: "The father (Joseph Goddard) of the two brothers (Frederick Norton Goddard and Joseph Warren Goddard) who started what became the Goddard Neighbourhood Center in New York was first cousin to my great great grandfather, Samuel Aspinwall Goddard; it was originally called The Civic Club. They were cousins (and close neighbours in Brookline, Massachusetts) through their Aspinwall line with the Roosevelt family, who provided two Presidents to the USA, and when Frederick Norton Goddard and Joseph Warren Goddard were helping clean up the gangs in New York City during the worst parts of the Tamany Hall period in the 1860s and 1870s they worked closely with the Roosevelts to achieve their goal of making New York safe for everyone. Samuel stayed with his cousins whenever he was in New York. Another interesting fact is that the names Frederick, Warren and Norton continue to this day in my immediate family: Roland Frederick Norton Goddard (my grandfather), Frederick John May Goddard (my father), Frederick Roland Goddard (my brother), John Henry Norton Goddard (my brother), Warren Charles Edward Goddard (my brother)."

## WILTSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Members who are descended from Wiltshire Goddards, but not members of the Wiltshire Family History Society, might like to make a note of the following: A new Parish Register Transcription has been made of Wootton Rivers Baptisms and Burials 1607-1837 (£4.50 + £1 packaging & post). The Society also has a formidable list of previous transcriptions and other publications in microfiche, CD and print. Write for further details to Wilts FHS Publications, Unit 3, Bath Road Business Centre, Devizes SN10 1XA. The Wilts FHS Journal for October 2010 Issue No. 119 has a longer version of my article about Mistress Margaret Brind's will of 1748, mentioning several Goddards.

*Julie of Newbury*

## PUB SURPRISE

Customers at a Somerset pub had the surprise of their lives this summer when Kylie Minogue walked in and treated them to a brief performance. The pub was the Ring O' Bells in Compton Martin, and the surprise had been planned by the publicans, Reuben and Lauren Goddard, together with one of their regulars, Miles Leonard who just happens to be president of record company Parlophone. I am grateful to my elder daughter Diana for spotting this notice in *The Publican* at the end of August. A potential venue for a future AGM perhaps? Does any member know the enterprising couple?

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