



## The Goddard Association of Europe

### NEWSLETTER

No. 98 – May 2011

## HER HONOUR JUDGE ANN GODDARD Only Woman Judge at the Old Bailey

Members will be saddened to read of the death from cancer on 23 March of Senior Circuit Judge Ann Felicity Goddard QC. Though never a member of this Association, she featured in these pages on quite a number of occasions, most notably in Newsletter 85 where it was established that she belonged to the same branch of the 'family' as the distinguished war-time Mayor of Weymouth, John (Joe) Thomas Goddard, who was her grandfather. I am grateful to several members for drawing my attention to her long obituary and picture in the *Times* on 5 April.

Ann was born on 22 January 1936, the only child of Graham Elliott Goddard and Margaret Louise Hambrook Goddard (née Clark). Her father was a senior officer in the Metropolitan Police, and in 1973 suffered a severe stroke; Ann and her mother cared for him for his remaining eleven years. She then looked after her mother in a most selfless manner until the latter's death in 1995.



She herself neither married nor had children, but lived on her own with her somewhat obese Burmese cat D'Israeli or Dizzy.

She was educated at the Grey Coat Hospital School in Westminster and read for her undergraduate law degree at Birmingham University. She then read for an LLM and secured a diploma in comparative legal studies at Newnham College, Cambridge. She came joint

seventh in her Bar finals and was called in 1960 by Gray's Inn where she was a Holkar scholar. After pupillage in the chambers of John Buzzard QC in King's Bench Walk, she secured a tenancy in 3 Temple Gardens where she remained for the rest of her life at the Bar. She began to specialise in criminal law and often represented the Metropolitan Police Solicitor in the Divisional Court, "where her scholarship and 'feel' for the

criminal law allowed her to shine". She was admitted to silk (became a Queen's Counsel) in 1982 and "went on her inexorable way up the ladder of success". She became head of chambers in 1985, a demanding position which she held until 1993. It was said that no member of her chambers ever went to her with a professional or personal problem and left without feeling supported. Made a Bencher of Gray's Inn in 1990, in 1993 she accepted an invitation to join the Circuit Bench and in 1997 became a Senior Circuit Judge at the Old Bailey. For a few years she was one of only two and for many years the only woman judge. Her range of skill and experience made her a natural choice as director of the induction course at the

Judicial Studies Board, the training ground for Recorders (members of the profession sitting as part-time judges), where she taught and supervised the teaching of courtcraft and the development of a judicial cast of mind. She was an outstanding success. She became a liveryman of the Worshipful Companies of Clockmakers and of Gardeners. She retired from the Bench with reluctance in 2008

when she reached the compulsory retiring age.

She compensated by looking forward to more time for travel, particularly to South Africa which she loved and where she had cousins, and to seeing her many godchildren. She was much loved and respected, and the legal profession began its traditional mourning with a brief tribute to her in Court One at the Old Bailey; hundreds packed into the room.

## NEW ZEALAND EARTHQUAKE

A few days before the latest major earthquake to hit Christchurch, our New Zealand co-ordinator Julie had written to me: "I wish with all my heart I could say 'yes' to your query about whether the 'earthquakes and aftershocks have settled down'. Through November, December, January and February they continued, admittedly with free days in between; but Boxing Day was terrible with a 4.9 at 9.45am just when the shops opened for the sales. Of course everyone had to be evacuated and about twenty buildings were added to the 'damaged' list. Another eleven shocks occurred during the day. The Boxing Day shock became an earthquake rather than an aftershock and hence claims could go in afresh. Today [12 February] was 'Boxing Day Replay' when all the city shops held their sales which didn't happen on 26 December. It was a huge success – rather like a festival – in 26° and no quake. I didn't go in myself, but TV and the papers were full of it. The city businesses are struggling. Many can't open, not because of their own problems, but because their neighbours have falling masonry etc. and the whole area is cordoned off. We are up to 3.7 billion dollars worth of damage and about 5,000 aftershocks. My fence has now been assessed but no cheque yet, but the bathroom hasn't been. Tony [Julie's brother] has been paid out for all his china and house damage. The commission does whole areas of the city and my area (least damage) is put down for last which is fair enough; it could still be eighteen months away. Some is being assessed by phone by people in Wellington or even Australia! However, enough of that....."

And then a second major catastrophe, 6.3 on the Richter scale as opposed to the original 7.1 of last September, struck the city centre on 21 February. Less powerful maybe, but much more damaging to both people and property as the epicentre of the quake was both nearer the surface and nearer the centre of the city. I immediately wrote again to Julie (she is not on e-mail), but before she could have received it she telephoned to say she was all right, as was her house, but that she was temporarily staying with her brother as there was no electricity, water or sewage disposal.

Simultaneously Malcolm of Brisbane e-mailed: "It seems that Mother Nature has definitely been angry at those of us who live in the South Pacific these last 3-4 months. Floods in Brisbane (our home was unaffected by flooding but my work went under 2m of muddy water and silt) and Victoria, multiple cyclones in Queensland, the North Territory and Western Australia, and terrible bush fires in Western Australia

and two enormous earthquakes in New Zealand. Julie in Christchurch had minor structural damage to her house caused by the September earthquake, but has had to move in with her brother following the latest episode, as her home now has no power, water or sewage. I also have three siblings (brother Warren and two half-sisters Joan and Dixie) and their families living in Christchurch and all have sustained damage to their homes; and in the case of my niece her car was destroyed in the Christchurch Central Business District when a building collapsed on it and she and her husband had to walk 10km home, as did many others on the day of the second big quake as no transport was available. My brother Warren has no water or sewage, but has a swimming pool intact and so is able to wash etc. Water for drinking is being supplied by the council via a tanker at every school in Christchurch; you turn up with whatever you can carry it in and take it home. Bits are still falling off buildings at every after-shock; it is very frightening and doesn't seem likely to stop any time soon. 33% of the Christchurch Central Business District is being demolished this week. All my family is unharmed and this is the important thing; buildings can be rebuilt and this series of quakes will stop one day in the future."

Some ten days later I received a letter from Julie: "I've just come back from school which is re-starting with a half day on Thursday, not a normal working day for me [she works part time now] but I'll go as I think it's important in the circumstances. It's 1.50pm and at 12.51pm, an hour ago, we had a nationwide two minutes silence for our beloved city and those who lost their lives. I know it probably sounds melodramatic but I feel I am grieving for the city I've always known and never will again. I don't want a modern new city, I want the historic one with its old buildings and beautiful gardens. This time last week it was lunch time at school and we had 300 children who needed our care. I got home just after 3.00pm to find the house still standing albeit minus power and water and sewage. The former came on at around 8.00pm and the latter, while in the street, has so little pressure it won't reach the holding tank in the roof of my two storey house and consequently no showers, clothes washing, cistern filling for me yet. No worry; I sleep at Tony's; he has all amenities. He lives 15 minutes out of the city; I live less than half that time away. From here I could walk to the Cathedral. The aftershocks are terrifying. I have so much broken china this time – the cupboard doors flew open and everything landed on the floor. I have cleaned it up,

put it in supermarket bags (to claim on later), but during an aftershock it all shakes and rattles together, making a din. The shocks themselves are very noisy and are accompanied by a big bang. It feels as though the house is picked up and dropped. I had to go to the vet with Riley [her dog] to get tranquilizers for him – ‘Petcalm’ herbal pills – as he’s a nervous wreck, but they work which is good. He is better at Tony’s with their two dogs, Macy and Doobie. Today it’s 154 dead and 50 missing. I personally don’t know anyone, but I do ‘know’ three of the dead through school. All of my family and friends have been lucky and for that I am grateful. We are inundated with liquefaction and in the heat of today’s lovely summer’s day it is drying – tonight gale force winds are predicted. Needless to say breathing masks are recommended.”

And a few days after receiving that, Japan.....

### GODDARD AS A FORENAME

In response to the article in the last Newsletter by Brian of Newbury concerning the name Goddard when used as a forename, Association member Gillian Edwards writes: “I don’t know whether it will be of interest to you but my great grandmother, Anne Wright (née Goddard), gave her third daughter the Christian names Edith Joan Goddard. Both my father and brother were also given Goddard as a second and third Christian name respectively.” Curiously, the day before I received this information, I attended a big meeting in London at which various people were being honoured; I could not help but notice that one member from London was Edward Goddard Holding. So it would appear that the practice mentioned by Brian in earlier centuries is still alive and well!

### FAMILY TREES

Malcolm of Brisbane, our website co-ordinator, has asked me to include the following announcement: “The Association is running a pilot project for publishing complete and incomplete members’ family trees; members should include as much supporting documentation as possible when submitting. The documents will have dates less than 100 years ago removed (eg, anything after 1911) and will only be available to other members via the secure ‘Members Only’ section of the website. If members wish to publish their tree then they should submit them via email to website co-ordinator Malcolm Goddard at <m.goddard@qut.edu.au>. Members will be notified when their tree is published and a notice will also appear in the GAE newsletter.

### NEW MEMBERS

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

Mrs Susanne G. Armstrong, 271 Reading Road, Wokingham, RG41 1LJ.  
Mr Andrew J. Goddard, Brookside Farm, Ederley, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY10 8EL.  
Mr David Michael Goddard, 10 Johnson Close, Winthrop, Western Australia 6150.  
Mr John P.A. Goddard, 23 Parkside Gardens, Wimbledon, London, SW19 5EU.  
Mr Richard S. Goddard, Greenview, Church Road, Lanivet, Cornwall, PL30 5EZ.  
Mrs Christine Jenkins, 1 The Coppice, Miskin, Rhondda Cynon Taff, CF72 8SU.

### 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:

**Susanne Armstrong** descends from a Kent family – Samuel Goddard of Bilsington 1834-1898 who appears on the Kent records on the website. He emigrated to Australia and had later children by his second wife: Samuel Newman Goddard 1875-1940 born Magill, South Australia, who is Susanne’s great grandfather.

**Andrew Goddard** is a Clyffe Pypard Goddard from Wiltshire. He is a nephew of Treasurer John and cousin of President Richard.

**David Goddard** is the nephew of our Australian Co-ordinator Ian, and son of the late Allan Goddard whose death is announced in this issue.

**John Goddard** descends from the Donhead St Mary, Wiltshire, family of John and Mary Goddard who married in 1751, via James 1769-1848, George 1804-1886, Ambrose 1842-1924 whose brother George Bouverie Goddard was a Royal Academy artist, Percy A. 1879-1925 and Peter A.W. 1920-1991.

**Richard Goddard** is also descended from Samuel of Bilsington, Kent, 1834-1898, and is first cousin of Committee member Joan Dibble.

**Christine Jenkins** is descended from John Goddard, 1814-1883, of Muchelney and Huish Episcopi through his youngest son Joseph, 1851-1878. Joseph’s son William Albert, 1878-1934, moved to South Wales where Edwin, Christine’s father, was born in 1920.

### ROBERT GODDARD

Author Robert Goddard has struck again! His latest thriller *Blood Count* appeared at the end of March. This gripping and sometimes violent story is set against the background of the civil war and atrocities perpetrated in the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s. But, as the dust jacket states, it is “not only a brilliant, race-against-time thriller but also a penetrating examination of cause and effect. In this novel every action has a consequence and every question must have an answer.” Read it for yourselves!

## SWINDON GODDARD DEATHS

I have recently been passed by a kind friend copies of two newspaper cuttings on father and son members of the Swindon branch of Goddards, who died within a few months of each other, the son sadly predeceasing his father. The first, probably from the *Swindon Advertiser*, is undated but must have been written in very early December 1854, since its subject, Ambrose Goddard, died on 29 November of that year. It reads:

“Death of Ambrose Goddard, Esq. – We cannot pass over the demise of a gentleman so well known, and so much respected throughout the county [Wiltshire], and amidst a very large circle of friends and acquaintances, without offering a tribute to his memory and recording our own sorrow at the event; more especially as we understand that death was prematurely brought on by an accident of slight nature in the first instance. Mr. Goddard, although 75 years of age [he was born on 12 October 1779] was, only a few weeks ago, in perfect and robust health, with a fair prospect of life being prolonged for many years; but in riding on horseback through a gateway, he received an injury in one of his legs by the falling of a gate. For some time no serious consequences were apprehended, but as the bruise continued to occasion much pain, Mr. Goddard went to Bath for advice. An incision into the wound was deemed necessary, which relieved the leg of a quantity of extravasated [*sic*] blood; but mortification soon afterwards ensued, and the case then exceeded the powers of human skill.

“Mr. Goddard was the second son of Ambrose Goddard, Esq. who represented this county in Parliament from the year 1772 to 1806. In early life he entered the army, obtaining a commission in the 10<sup>th</sup> or Prince of Wales’s Royal Hussars, and was in active service in Spain when that distinguished regiment and the gallant 15<sup>th</sup> Hussars so nobly covered the disastrous retreat of the British forces at Corunna. In consequence of the death of his elder brother in the life-time of his father, Mr. Goddard succeeded, on the death of his father in 1815, to the family estate at Swindon, and in 1819 he served the office of high-sheriff of this county. At the first general election after the passing of the Reform Bill, Mr. Goddard was solicited by an influential portion of the constituency to offer himself as a candidate for the representation of the Borough and Hundreds of Cricklade, and after sustaining a severe contest with the Hon. Captain Howard, he was elected one of the members, jointly with John Neeld, Esq. A better proof of the estimation in which Mr. Goddard was held at Swindon could not be given than by

mentioning the fact that every elector in the town (and there were then upwards of ninety names on the register) recorded a vote in his favour, for even they who were opposed to him in politics gave him their second vote to show their esteem and respect. His career in Parliament was marked by an honourable and independent line of conduct. Mr. Goddard retired from Parliament in 1841, and thenceforth lived as a private country gentleman, acting as a magistrate, and dispensing hospitality and kindness amongst his friends and neighbours, and charity amongst the poor. We are sure we may add, that this unexpected death, under the circumstances we have described, will be deeply felt in the town of Swindon and its vicinity. He is succeeded by his eldest son, Ambrose Lethbridge Goddard, Esq. one of the present members for Cricklade.”

The second cutting is taken from the *Swindon Advertiser* of 8 January 1855, and relates to the above Ambrose Goddard’s second son, John Hesketh Goddard, who was born on 14 September 1821, held the rank of Major in the 14<sup>th</sup> Light Dragoons, and died in India on 31 May 1854. He was unmarried. The cutting reads:

“The Late Major Goddard, – We hear that the Officers of the Regiment in which Major John Hesketh Goddard of Swindon was serving at the time of his death in India, have transmitted a sum of money for the erection of a monument in the church of his native town. Major Goddard was much beloved by the whole regiment, officers and privates, and it is quite certain the country has been deprived of a most promising and meritorious though young officer. It is said a memorial window will be adopted as the means of carrying out the laudable intentions of his brother officers.”

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## SINGER

Today I spotted in Newbury town centre a poster for a choral concert in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care this coming March. The highlight of the evening is to be the singing of young soprano Josephine Goddard. Just over 18 she is highly thought of. “If Charlotte Church’s voice was described as that of an angel, Josephine Goddard’s must rank as an archangel,” writes one critic. Through her singing with Bristol Choral Society since 2005 she is well known in the west country. At present, having left Bristol Grammar School, she has taken up a scholarship at the Royal College of Music in London. She is definitely someone to look out for!

*Julie of Newbury*

## WILTSHIRE RECORD SOCIETY – 2

The first volume of the Wiltshire Record Society published in 1939 covered the Feet of Fines from the reigns of Edward I and Edward II. There are two references to Goddards. The first case is from the twenty-second year of the reign of Edward I, that is to say 1294, and is dated ‘fifteen days from Easter’. The plaintiff is William, son of Ralph Malyne, and the defendants Henry Godard and his wife Alice. In dispute are one and a half acres of meadow and another half acre of land in Stratton ‘Sancte Margarete’ (on the north eastern edge of modern Swindon). The Godards acknowledged the land belonged to William and restored it; it cost them two marks (one mark was worth 13 shillings and 4 pence or two thirds of £1) if I have understood the text correctly. The second case is ten years later ‘eight days after St Michael’ (7 October) and relates to a ‘de Insula’ family dispute over land in ‘Netherworfton’ (south west of Devizes) in which one John Godard is acting – unsuccessfully as it happened – for the defendant Lucy de Insula. These cases are interesting in that they clearly show there are Godards (invariably spelt with one middle ‘d’ at this early date) active in this part of north Wiltshire at this time, other than the ones who have been mentioned in the past.

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### ICE HOCKEY

In the last Newsletter I published a brief article on a Goddard related ice hockey player. Imagine my delight when I received the following e-mail from Association member Daphne Bennett (née Goddard): “Dear Richard, It’s a small World! On reading my January newsletter I was most interested to read about Declan Ryan. My grandson, Liam Chong, was also a member of the England under 18 national Ice Hockey side that travelled to Poland for the World Championships and have known the Ryan family for many years. Like Declan, Liam has often been selected for the national side and most recently was also a member of the England under 20 squad at the World Championships held in Belarus last December. He currently plays semi-professionally for the Invicta Dynamos. I wonder if ‘The Association’ should now have our very own Ice Hockey team just for Goddard descendants???” Whilst I have my proud Grandmother hat on, I would also like to mention that my daughter Elaine (Liam’s mum) has this week had a short story published in the current issue of the *My Weekly* magazine. Please keep up the good work. Kindest Regards. Daphne Bennett (née Goddard).” I am always delighted to receive a follow-up to a story, but what a coincidence this is!

## BANBURY GODDARDS

In the last Newsletter in the Can You Help? column, Wynford Bellin sought assistance with regard to Goddards from Banbury and later South Wales. Brian of Newbury wrote to him as follows: “With reference to you request for information on some of the eighteenth century Goddards in Banbury.....may I suggest that you have a look at the monograph on the GAE members website entitled ‘Some Tradesmen Goddards of the Midlands & the Home Counties’ (‘pdf’ attached). This describes a family of Goddards starting at the Samuel and his first wife, Ann, in Banbury as in your request. As you will see there are some discrepancies between your version and that of the monograph; if you can give me any proved corrections, or further details, I will feed them into the system. You will see how the theme of ‘protestant dissenters of the particular Baptist persuasion’ and other dissenters chapels runs through parts of this family and the monograph.

You expressed interest in the use of ‘Mr’ and or ‘Gent’ in various wills. It is my opinion that this is of little importance; at this period these terms appear to refer to men of virtually equal status. Both Gentleman and Mister/Master, by the eighteenth century, implied that the person concerned was untitled, but he did not get his hands dirty by dint of having staff working for him. Earlier, in the sixteenth century, the gap in the status would have been wider – a yeoman farmer would have been ‘Mister’, but he would have been more like a working foreman of today, getting his hands dirty but also having some labouring assistants. Whereas in the same period the ‘Gentleman’ may have been entitled to bear arms, but also he was more like today’s definition of a ‘Manager’ in that he did not have to get his hands near the soil, or that he had retired from active work and was ‘a man of means’.

I hope this information is of help in your quest – please let me know if I can be of further assistance.”

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### CALGARY DISPUTE

Association member Janet Berkman of Ontario, Canada, has spotted and kindly sent me an article from the *National Post* of 4 February under the heading ‘Fight in Calgary over sale of city lot to billionaire’. Calgary city authorities are planning to sell a small patch of waste land to a wealthy resident of the Crescent Heights area of the city to extend his property. Some of the public, among them Wayne Goddard, think it is a right of way connecting a particular beauty spot and that this deal will block their access. The on-line section of comments, however, did not generally support Wayne’s view.

## GODARD'S CASTLE

I am grateful to Treasurer John for passing on to me the following copy of a cutting from the *South Eastern Gazette* of 1859. It reads: "An interesting discovery was last week made on the estate of Sir George Hampson at Thurnham [just NE of Maidstone in Kent]. Whilst some men were engaged in levelling what appeared to be a chalk mound in a field almost on the brow of Thurnham Hill, after digging through chalk to a depth of between two or three feet they came to the natural soil, and going about a foot and a half lower they found the remains of a number of human beings lying in a circle, in regular order around the mound, with their heads pointing to the centre and the feet of others meeting the heads of those placed in the outside row. The remains of a horse was also lying with them, but there were no relics to indicate to what people of a bygone age they belonged. The bones were in a remarkable state of preservation, considering the length of time the bodies must needs have been deposited there – certainly not later than the earlier period of the Saxon invasion, 1500 years ago, – the perfect skeletons being traced as they lay in the soil, but not admitting of removal in that state. One of the skulls has been placed in the Maidstone Museum. The remains of seven bodies were found in the space of about three rods, and by far the greater portion of the mound still remains undisturbed. This place of ancient sepulture is situated but a short distance below the ruins of the ancient fortification known as Godard's Castle from its having, as some authorities tell us, been built by Godardus, a Saxon; but from the urns found in this locality, and other evidences, there can be no doubt that the Romans had a station there, of which it is highly probable that Godard's Castle is a relic, though it may have been afterwards used and repaired by the Saxons. Some even suppose that it was a British military position before the landing of Caesar – a conjecture which is by no means improbable, from its advantageous site for observing the extensive valley below, and the important stretch of surrounding country which it commands."

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## ADAM ANT AGAIN

As forecast in Newsletter 95, Stuart Goddard (aka Adam Ant) has hit the comeback trail after a gap of fifteen years battling mental problems. He began with a small concert in London at the end of March and starts touring in May. He is also said to have recorded an 18-track album which will shortly be released. Margaret of Worsley kindly sent me this information from the *Manchester Evening News*.

## OBITUARIES

The Association is saddened to record the death of Australian member Allan Goddard, brother of our co-ordinator there. He died in December 2010 and we offer his family our sincere condolences. Also to the family of James Goddard of Cheadle Heath, Stockport; James died in February.

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## FACEBOOK

I am asked by our Website Co-ordinator Malcolm of Brisbane to advertise the fact that another electronic facility is now available to members: "Please advertise the facebook page in the GAE newsletter for April. Those who have a facebook account just need to search for '**Goddard Association of Europe**' and click the join button. If you want to join and do not have a facebook account you can join at <[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)>". Apparently there are already some 40 interested members who use it.

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## SWIMMER AGAIN

I am grateful to Margaret of Worsley for informing me of 26 year old James Goddard's swimming deeds, as he is from Stockport and regularly features in the *Manchester Evening News* or *Stockport Express*. From 5 to 12 March, with the London Olympics in view, he was competing in the British Gas National Championships, a qualifying competition for the World Championships in Shanghai in July. As in the Commonwealth Games in Delhi last year, he again won two gold medals – for the 200m backstroke and the 200m individual medley. The schedule is tight in Shanghai and even tighter in London, so it will remain to be seen if he competes in both disciplines or just concentrates on the backstroke.

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## GRATEFUL THANKS

Following the publication of the last Newsletter, and the article on the front page under the above heading, I received the following from Association member Kim Bell: "On reading a piece in your January Newsletter I was surprised to see a family member mentioned. Gordon Stuart Goddard was a cousin of my father. I know little of his family other than he had a brother Eric who died in 1984, and a sister Jean who I think married William Uprichard in 1952. His father Jack and mother Constance were divorced, I have been told. Sadly my father is no longer with us, but I am sure he would be very proud to know his cousin died fighting for his country. I still have links through my father's sister and brother (also Goddards from Newbury) to whom I will pass on this information."

## GODDARD'S POTATOES

I am indebted to our New Zealand Co-ordinator, Julie of Christchurch, for sending me this picture of her posing in front of a farmers' market stand at Dunedin railway station on 19 March while enjoying



a welcome trip away from the devastation of her home city. She tells that she had a chat with the owner, one Ray Goddard (unfortunately obscured in the shadow serving another customer on the right), whose grandfather together with his Welsh wife had emigrated from England. Unfortunately Ray did not know which part of the United Kingdom he came from and we do not have his grandfather's name nor the approximate year of his emigration; thus it will be difficult for any of the Association's members to help identify this Goddard, but it may just possibly ring a bell with someone.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Once again I must remind you that subscriptions, £7.50 (or £5 for senior citizens), are now due; they have not been increased for yet another year. Indeed, the more members who take the Newsletter electronically, the more we shall be able to keep costs down. But there is a downside to this as it makes it more difficult to collect the subscriptions. Those of you who still receive the Newsletter through the post will get the usual written reminder slip; please act on it before you forget! For those of you who download the Newsletter from our website, this notice constitutes your main reminder; members in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States, please send your remittance direct to your respective co-ordinator, while the remainder are requested to send it to Treasurer John of Shrewsbury (contact details on p.8). We are quite patient and you are likely to get one further reminder; if, however, your subscription remains unrenewed by 31 December your membership will cease which means you will lose access to the 'members only' section of the Association website.

## RUNNERS

I am grateful to Marjorie of Wellingborough for sending me details from the *Northants Evening Telegraph* of 13 January relating to the Northamptonshire Cross Country Championships. In the Under-15 girls 3,500m race Bethan Goddard came third, only three seconds behind the winner and one behind the girl who came second. But in an equally thrilling Under-13 girls 3,000m race Natalie Goddard won by one second, "a massive improvement on her 12<sup>th</sup> place of last year" to quote the article. Does any member claim either of these two potential stars as a relative?

## GODDARD CHURCH CLOSURE

I am also grateful to Marjorie of Wellingborough for sending me an extract from the February issue of the magazine produced for the East Midlands Association of Civic and Heritage Societies. An article from Leicester warns of the closure of the Grade 2 listed St Barnabas Church, designed in 1886 by Joseph Goddard "in his Bedford Park style". Long standing readers of these Newsletters will recall the prominent firm of Goddard architects in Leicester spanning several generations; in particular see Newsletter 16. Leicester Civic Society had been alerted to the probable closure last July following an article in the *Leicester Mercury*, and kept watch for the notice of intended closure being nailed to the door. They were thus surprised in September to discover that the Church Commissioners were already meeting to decide the fate of the church, having only informed the press after the end of the period for the notice to be displayed! The Society has no objection to the building being closed as a church, but wants to be sure that a sustainable future for it is secured.

## BAFTA AWARD

I am grateful to my elder daughter, Diana, for spotting that a John Goddard had won a BAFTA Award for the best video game, one called 'Mass Effect 2'. Does any member know anything about either John or his game?

## CONGRATULATIONS

Margaret Goddard of Worsley near Manchester has been an avid collector of Goddard information over the years, and I am most grateful to her for her many contributions. Recently she has not enjoyed the best of health, so it is a delight to be able to congratulate her and husband Alan who celebrated their ruby wedding anniversary on 20 February.

## AGM

The 25<sup>th</sup> AGM will be held at 2.00pm on Sunday 22 May at Clyffe Pypard and Bushton Village Hall. Bushton is just south of Wootton Bassett, the Wiltshire town a few miles west of Swindon (see below for directions as to how to get there). In keeping with recent AGMs, no collective arrangements will be made for lunch, but if you bring sandwiches you are welcome to eat them in the Hall.

The Agenda will follow the well-worn 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. After sterling work over the last fourteen years, Eileen has finally decided to put the cap on her pen; Denise has kindly agreed to take over if elected and not trampled in the rush of other volunteers.

(c). Treasurer.

(d). Two Committee Members. John of Accrington and Denise of Solihull retire by rotation and are eligible for re-election. However, if the latter is elected as Secretary, there is a vacancy which will need to be filled. If any member feels they would like to play a more active role in the Association's affairs, please contact me as soon as possible.

8. Any Other Business.

9. Date and Place of the next AGM.

The formal business will be followed by the announcement of the recipient of the Howard Goddard-Jones Memorial for 2011. Afterwards we hope to have a talk given by Mrs Heather Sheeley, a Federation of Family History Societies' speaker, entitled "A Brief Look at the Census" which is at least topical! Tea and biscuits will be served and there will be the usual raffle to help defray the costs of the hire of the Hall.

## AGM DIRECTIONS

Clyffe Pypard and Bushton Village Hall is a little off the beaten track if you are not familiar with this particular area of Wiltshire. I am most grateful to the lady who has booked the Hall for me for supplying the following directions:

If you have the modern facility of a 'satnav', the post code is SN4 7PX.

If you are coming from the direction of the M4, take Exit 16 into (Royal!) Wootton Bassett. Carry on

through the town on the High Street. At the end of the town you drive over a railway bridge after which you take a left turn to Bushton and Clyffe Pypard. Two miles later turn left at a T junction. Half a mile later go straight across cross roads, past Trotting Horse pub on the right. The Village Hall is a mile on the right, immediately after Smith's Farm.

If coming from the A4 via Marlborough, leave the town towards Rockley and Broad Hinton. Drive over the downs and some four miles later, at the junction with the A4361, turn right and immediately left into Broad Hinton. Go through the village, round a double bend and take the left turn to Clyffe Pypard. Continue on the same road for about two miles, down a steep hill, round a double bend left and right, past some houses on the right, round another double bend and the Village Hall is on the left – if you get to the Trotting Horse pub on the left you have gone too far!

If coming from the A4 via Calne, continue on the A4 towards Marlborough. At the Beckhampton roundabout follow signs to Swindon and Avebury, the A4361. After some three miles take the left turning marked to Winterbourne Bassett. Go through the village and continue for another mile or so. At the T junction turn left, down a steep hill, round a double bend left and right, past some houses on the right, round another double bend and the Village Hall is on the left – if you get to the Trotting Horse pub on the left you have gone too far!

Bon voyage!

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