



The Goddard Association of Europe

NEWSLETTER

No. 115 – July 2015

GODDARD GATHERING

From Kent to Canada

It has been a long time coming; my family have had a gathering on the other side of the pond from me in the UK. John Goddard, the first son of Samuel and Jane (née Rayner) Goddard was born in Bilsington, Kent, on 12 October 1842 and baptised in the local church six days later. It was Samuel Goddard's second marriage, his first wife Elizabeth née Newman (member Karen Hawker's 'grandmother') having succumbed to consumption in April 1839 leaving Samuel with three children. John's sister, Catherine, was only nineteen months old when he was born and this went on to be a large family of twelve, most of whom made it to adulthood.

With the help of Cathy Goodwin and 'cousins' here and in Canada and Australia who were also researching this branch of the family, huge inroads were made over the years. However, I could make no progress with John who is seen in the 1851 census for Bilsington. He is with his parents, sister Catherine and another three younger brothers, Thomas, William (from whom member Janet Berkman descends) and Frederick, my great great grandfather Frederick Steed Goddard. We next hear of John in March 1854 when he would have been eleven years old. His parents Samuel and Jane are accused of stealing two lambs from farmer William Sillingbourne of Sevington, and John has been trying to sell them to William Crunden of Aldington for 1s 6d [c. 7p] (see Newsletter 101 for January 2012). John is never seen again so I assumed, even though I didn't have a record of the event, that he had died.

Can you imagine my delight

when a few years ago I came in contact with a man in America. He descended from John Andrew Goddard whose parents were Samuel and Jane Goddard from Bilsington in Kent. At a very young age John had gone to sea, settled in Allegheny, Pennsylvania, and had fought in the Civil War. As you can imagine I was thrilled, but at the back of my mind there was always a nagging doubt. I have John's birth certificate and have seen his baptism in parish records. He is John, not John Andrew Goddard.

Now fast forward to last year. Googling, Tom Goddard in Canada managed to get in to the 'members only' section of the GAE website and within moments had my e-mail address and made contact almost on the eve of his journey to Kent to visit his roots. Now we really have found John Goddard; he had gone to Canada as did some other of his siblings, Catherine and William. Feeling a little inadequate as a researcher I quickly found that

John had married Hannah Collins on 6 September 1862 in the parish church of Burmarsh in Kent. I swiftly ordered a copy of the certificate. The fathers of the bride and groom are James Collins and Samuel Goddard who are labourers and both living. I will never know how that passed me by! I will now hand over to cousin Tom Goddard:

"Have you ever had the wonderment of how your family got to be where you are and where you come from? For me, Thomas Roy Goddard, living in north eastern Ontario, Canada, an area in which, in comparison to most of rural Ontario, our surroundings have been newly settled. Our township of Brethour was surveyed in 1887, but no one settled a homestead until around 1900. I grew up here from birth knowing that my grandfather, John Goddard jnr. had moved his new family to Brethour Twp from the Barrie area near Toronto in the spring of 1909. John and his wife Harriett (Clute) cleared some



acreage, built a log home and increased their family to thirteen children. Most of them stayed in this area and had large families as well – so lots of cousins of whom I happen to be the youngest. I was

barely into my teens when John and Harriett passed away. Although I figured I knew them well, I had no idea of who their parents and siblings were. No one ever spoke of where they came from, and seldom were there visitors from the south. When there were visitors, I had no idea nor cared much at the time who they were. Now that I happen to be the older generation and curious about my heritage, there is no one left with much of that knowledge.

In 2007 to my total surprise, I get a phone call from a lady, Mrs Lillian Bowdrey. She randomly picked my name out of our local telephone directory and asked me if I was related to John Goddard who had moved his family to northern Ontario? Lillian explained that she was doing the Goddard family tree and had lots of information on most of the family, but had little on John. That was a WOW!! moment for me. Lillian sent me pages and pages of detailed information. I learned that John was one of thirteen siblings and that his father's name was John. There was no information as to where John snr. had come from. We learned that our folks were buried at Craighurst not far from Barrie. My wife Joy and I found several of Grandpa John's family members there. In my curiosity I posted a note to the Simcoe county heritage message board asking for information about our Goddards. About four years

'The Goddard Association of Europe'. Digging further I find 'The Goddards of Kent' by Cathy Goodwin and Joan Dibble. On page 161 I find my Goddards in Simcoe county, Ontario, Canada. I emailed Joan (Squibs) Dibble in Wales explaining what had been found. At this time Squibs had introduced me to Janet Berkman (also a GAE member) of Toronto via email who had just discovered our Goddards' graveyard and claimed them to be her family as well. Upon cross referencing info from Janet's side, what Beth Bishop found, and what Squibs had, we were able to plug our Simcoe Goddards into the Goddards of Kent dating back to 1639, making me, Squibs and Janet cousins. All this happened within a matter of hours. Our biggest WOW!! so far. I can even say it backwards: WOW."

Joan takes up the story again: So they had a Goddard gathering. I say 'they' as I, very sadly, was not there; but they shared some wonderful pictures with us all on our dedicated Facebook page. In Tom's words "Gathering of the Goddard clan 4 April 2015 in Haileybury, Northern Ontario. Descendants of John Goddard jnr. and Harriett Clute who settled in Brethour Twp, Northern Ontario in 1909." Janet Berkman and her husband Zouheir are front left kneeling, and Tom is behind the lady in the wheelchair.



go by, and then in May 2012 I get an email from Beth Bishop claiming to be a distant cousin. She had done some research and linked John snr. as coming from Kent, England, on the *SS Nestorian*. With him were his wife Hannah and four children. Also were Hannah's parents, James and Sarah Ann Collins. WOW again.

With a long overdue vacation from the farm, Joy and I booked a flight in February 2014 to England to see what we could find in the Kent area. About two weeks before departure I discovered on the internet

The man in America? Sadly I don't remember his name and no longer seem to have his contact details, so he will never know that he has barked up the wrong tree, as so many do!
Joan Dibble

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Birthday greetings to long time Association member Daphne Goddard who will be 95 on 26 August. Daphne has not been wonderfully well recently, but her niece, member Barbara Goddard, assures me she is on the mend
Joan Dibble

CAN YOU HELP?

Brian Victor Goddard of Lyndon Cottage, Oxford Street, Evercreech, BA4 6HT to trace his forebears. He writes: "I have managed to trace my great grandfather George Goddard, who I think is buried in a cemetery in Camberley on the right hand side going away from London (my father showed me this grave when I was about 9 years old some 68 years ago!). My grandfather Alfred John Goddard lived with his wife Ellen and my father, Edwin Alfred, in Goddard Cottages in London Road, Farnham (I have tried to find it on google but it appears that the area has all been redeveloped). George had two daughters, Charlotte and Elizabeth, and two sons, George and Alfred (my grandfather). My daughter has a picture of a man standing outside the Goddard furniture emporium in Guildford, who must be related but I do not know where – possibly my grandfather's brother."

I naturally put Joan Dibble on the case, and from the censuses between 1841 and 1881 she has come up with the following: George Goddard, a bricklayer who was born about 1800 in Guildford, Surrey, and his wife Harriet aged some five to nine years younger (two of the censuses do not agree) lived in Farnham. They appear to have had nine children all born in Farnham: Charles (born about 1825), William (c.1826), Elizabeth (c.1829), John (c.1832), Mary (c.1835), Daniel (c.1837), Dinah (c.1839), Sarah (c.1840), and Frederick (c.1842). Like their father, the four elder boys were bricklayers. Of these the eldest, Charles, married a Harriet (not yet determined which) in 1852 in Farnham and had the following children: George (born about 1854), Elizabeth (c.1856), Henry (c.1858), twins Alice and Mary (c.1863), Hannah (c.1865), and Harriet (c.1868). Of these the eldest, George, is the great grandfather to whom Brian refers.

Joan is continuing the research and hopes to add more descendants to this large but geographically pretty static family. If any members recognise this branch, Joan and Brian would be delighted to hear from you.

BIRTHDAY HONOURS

The Goddards are a worthy clan – well, most of them! Once again we have featured in the Birthday Honours. This time the decoration is the MBE and the recipient is Robert James Goddard, a foster carer from the Brighton and Hove area, for services to children and families. Many congratulations to him. As always, I wonder if he is related to any of our members?

OBITUARIES

It has been a bad three months as we have been notified of the death of no fewer than six members. The Association is saddened to record the passing of all of them and offers its sympathy to their relatives.

John Goddard of Wellingborough last August. But we are delighted his niece Gillian is taking up his membership and warmly welcome her.

Ian Goddard of Paraparaumu, New Zealand, and Shaftesbury, England, on 22 February. Our New Zealand Co-ordinator, Julie of Christchurch who had stayed with Ian and his wife Helen in both countries, writes: "He was so interesting and knowledgeable on so many subjects especially history and travel. There are few countries in the world they had not been to... ..He wrote when they returned from travelling and I loved getting his letters.....His father and grandfather were both born in India, but he was English; Helen is Australian. His last contribution to you was in July 2013 – Newsletter 107 – on Captain William Goddard, which you attributed to Ian of Balcatta" [corrected in the next Newsletter]. I apologise for omitting this obituary from the last Newsletter.

Eva Martha Goddard Knapp on 20 June in Florida.



She was born in 1935 and was a cousin of our webmaster, Malcolm of Brisbane.

David Goddard the younger son of one of our first Patrons, Sir Victor Goddard, on 30 June. David was born in 1927 and served in the army before retiring to run the maritime museum near Exmouth.

David Care of Broadstairs, Kent on 1 July. David was cousin to our Research Co-ordinator Joan Dibble and also to Richard Goddard of Llanivet in Cornwall.

Clyde Goddard, aged 89, on 16 July after battling cancer. Brother of our Australian Co-ordinator Ian of Balcatta who writes: "he had a good innings and played it extremely well".

WATERLOO

The bicentenary commemorations of the Battle of Waterloo in June failed to mention the part played by Goddards in this decisive turning point of European history. As in most wars the lower ranks bear the heat of battle and their leaders make the headlines. So it isn't surprising to find the only mention of 'Goddard' involvement in this campaign is among the privates and non-commissioned officers who were awarded the Waterloo Medal for their role, however small, in the defeat of Napoleon's army and their future pride of being known as 'Waterloo Men'.

Cpl. Jeffery Goddard, 1st Battn. 79th Regt. of Foot

Pte. John Goddard, 1st Battn. 40th Regt. of Foot

Sgt. Samuel Goddard, 3rd Battn. 14th (Buckinghamshire) Regt. of Foot

Pte. Thomas Goddard, 10th Battn. Royal Regt. of Hussars

Sgt. Thomas Goddard, 2nd Battn. 3rd Regt. of Foot Guards

Quartermaster Thomas A.A. Goddard, 3rd Battn. 14th Regt. of Foot

Pte. William Goddard, 3rd Battn. 14th Regt. of Foot

Other probable members of the wider family are:

Pte. Benjamin Godward, 2nd Battn. Grenadier Guards and of Stoney Middleton, Derbyshire

Sgt. William Gothard, 2nd Battn. Grenadier Guards

Pte. Charles & Pte. Lorenz Gotthard of the 1st Light Battn.

Kings German Legion

Of the above Sgt. Samuel Goddard is best documented. In an obituary a friend recorded this account of Samuel's participation: 'On June 18th 1815, Waterloo Day, Samuel was with an advance party of skirmishers of the 14th Foot and about 4 o'clock the reflux wave of some French cuirassiers passed through them. They were, of course, fired on by the 14th skirmishers and several bit the dust. One poor wounded Frenchman was thrown from his horse and a comrade nobly returned and offered the soldier the help of his stirrup. An infantryman of the 14th who had shot one cuirassier, having reloaded, was about to fire at the mounted Frenchman, who was then rescuing his comrade, when Goddard interfered and said, "No, don't fire, let him off, he is a noble fellow". At the time of his death in January 1869 aged 75 Samuel was a Military Knight of Windsor Castle where he lived in the Lower Ward with the honorary rank of Captain, an honour awarded to quartermasters of long and distinguished service. He had been the originator of this honour and his fellows had for this presented him with a handsome testimonial. Samuel had served in the Napoleonic Wars, including Waterloo and the storming of Cambray; in India in 1817 at the siege of Hattrass and in the Deccan; at the storming of Bhutpore in 1826 and was with the regiment in the West Indies in 1840.

John of Accrington

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FUNERAL COINCIDENCE

Sadly having recorded already in this issue no less than six obituaries, I almost hesitate to mention attending another recent funeral in Oxfordshire – were it not for the fact that an extraordinary coincidence occurred. It was at a smallish church and seats in the nave were somewhat at a premium. My wife and I occupied a space that looked comfortable for three, but something of a squash for another couple. However, another couple duly appeared, fortunately of the thinner variety, and we sat cosily waiting for proceedings to begin. Chatting casually, as one does, we discovered they were from Somerset, and they learned we were from Malvern – at which point the gentleman leaned across to me and asked if I was a Mr Goddard. On assuring him that I was, he replied: "So am I!" and identified himself as a longstanding member of the Association. In fact, we already knew of each other by repute, as their daughter was married to the son of the person whose funeral we were attending, and there was a strong Malvern connection with which they were familiar. But of all the pews in the church.....a delightful coincidence!

POWERWOMAN

John of Accrington recently spotted the following in the *Lancaster Community Magazine*: "Louise Goddard, chosen for the GB team at the 2015 Duathlon European Championships in the Netherlands, came second in the GB team and seventh in the overall placings. The Duathlon event is similar to the better known Triathlon but omits the swim; a 60 kilometer cycle race is sandwiched between two 10 kilometer runs. Louise, a 47 year old mother of two and Lancaster business woman, took up running in her thirties and moved up to Triathlon in her forties. She has now competed in several long distance events, including the Ironman UK in 2014, but had never ventured further than the London Marathon, and this was only her fifth Duathlon. Louise had eight weeks to hone her fitness and confesses to eating healthier, being nervous as to how she would look in the GB kit. A thirteen hour car journey to the venue, combined with a severe cold and stress, left Louise feeling not at her best, but once into the race these were forgotten. A personal best in the cycling and the support and camaraderie of the team members enabled her to finish faster than she'd hoped; but she thinks she can better her performance next year, having already qualified for a European race in 2016." Does any member claim kinship with this redoubtable lady?

AN OUT OF COUNTY MARRIAGE

In the Goddard section of my computer I have a large file of Goddard related newspaper cuttings. Looking for something to share with you in a Newsletter, I came across this marriage of a Goddard bride from Dorset marrying in Salisbury Cathedral in Wiltshire. It appeared in *The Salisbury & Winchester Journal*. “Dorchester, June 19th 1819. On Tuesday morning last was married at the cathedral of Sarum, by the Rev. J. Greenly, Capt. John Fawson, of the late 2nd Batt. 59th Regt., to Emma Goodenough Goddard, youngest daughter of the late John Harvey Goddard, Esq. of West Woodyates in Dorset.”

I thought to see if I could expand on Emma’s family and, thankfully for once, I was able to proceed easily thanks mainly to some very distinctive second Christian names, Dorset OPC (Online Parish Clerk) and my Dorset Goddard BMD database. Emma’s parents, John Harvey Goddard, a bachelor of West Woodyates Extra Parochial in Dorset, and Sarah Gilbert, a spinster of the same parish, were married on 17 August 1789. The witnesses were Walter Goddard and Ann Gilbert. I found four children born to this couple. In 1791 Jane Harvey Goddard was baptised on 22 June in Pentridge in Dorset, as were all of the other children. In 1793 Emma Goodenough Goddard was baptised on 5 May, followed in 1794 by Fanny Maskelyn Goddard who was baptised on 7 September. Sadly this little one did not survive and was buried six weeks later on 22 October. The last child and only boy, William Gilbert Goddard, was born on 18 June 1795. The following year tragedy struck the family. John Harvey Goddard died, aged 28, leaving Sarah a widow a little less than seven years after they were married. He was buried on 17 June 1796 in Pentridge, and his son William Gilbert Goddard was baptised the next day on his first birthday.

I was able to push Emma’s family back another generation. On 9 February 1763 William Goddard of Pentridge and Jane Harvey were married in Pentridge. I think it is safe to assume that these are her grandparents. Four children were found for the family but, sadly, only John Harvey Goddard was to survive. Their first child, Mary Goddard, was baptised in Pentridge on 12 June 1764 and buried on 30 November of that year. William was born on 16 September 1765 and buried on 14 April 1766. John Harry (?Harvey) was baptised on 7 June 1768, followed by another William who was privately baptised on 16 September 1770. Sadly this William also died after six weeks and was buried on 28 October. I have a baptism for William Goddard

in Pentridge on 1 August 1732, the son of Walter and Sarah. Given that the name Walter is used often in the family, I feel it is safe to assume that Walter and Sarah are Emma’s great grandparents.

Is this your family? I would love to hear from you if it is.

Joan Dibble (contact details on back page)

CLERGY NEWS

Under this heading in the *Daily Telegraph* for 25 June came the sub-heading ‘Lay Appointments and Others’ followed by: “Mrs Madelaine Goddard has been appointed lay chairman, Derby North Deanery (Derby) and will take up this post with immediate effect.” Does any member claim this lady as a relative?

And Peter Hagger has kindly flagged up from the *Church Times* of 19 June the following appointment: “GODDARD. The Revd Harold Goddard, formerly Team Rector in the Kidderminster Team Ministry, and Hon. Canon of Worcester Cathedral, now Assistant Curate (Associate Priest) of Christ Church, Great Malvern (Worcester).” Harold is a former member of the Association.

JUSTICE LOWELL GODDARD

After three months’ silence Dame Lowell Goddard has surfaced again. At a recent press conference she outlined the extensive scope of the enquiry into child sex abuse, which she thought would last five years and cost £100m. She described the project as “the most ambitious public enquiry” ever undertaken in England and Wales, and said that no one however privileged or powerful would be immune from its scrutiny. Four days later it was announced that she would probably earn in the order of £2.5m over the five year period – considerably more than the highest paid judge in the country.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES – A PLEA

As an organisation with several hundred members, we repeatedly experience problems over e-mail addresses, when members change theirs but forget to tell us, so that each time a new Newsletter is sent out our webmaster, Malcolm of Brisbane, gets some two dozen rejections. Malcolm has many admirable skills, but I have not yet noticed clairvoyancy as being one of them! So this is a plea to make life easier both for you (who sometimes wonder why you have not received the latest Newsletter) and us (who have to spend many extra hours trying to find out what has happened to you). If you change your e-mail address **please let us know.**

NEW MEMBERS

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

Mr Thomas P. Goddard, 36a Grove Avenue, Twickenham, London TW1 4NG.

Mrs Patricia S. Huck, 1A Blenheim Place, Aylesbury, HP21 8AH.

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:

Thomas Godard is the elder son of our Patron Peter and thus a member of the Clyffe Pypard branch.

Patricia Huck traces her branch back to William Hobbs Goddard born c. 1789 at Grove, but who farmed at Chilton until 1871. His son Robert, also a farmer, moved between Chilton, Bristol, Wiltshire, Pembrokeshire, Suffolk and London, marrying twice, Jane and Jessie, and having several children by both wives. Patricia is descended from his Jane's son Robert W.H. who married and lived in London.

NEWBURY CEMETERY

The Friends of Newtown Road Cemetery, Newbury, will perform their latest historical production on 30 & 31 October at the Phoenix Centre near to the cemetery. The performance will be several monologues about their lives by people who were buried in the cemetery between 1850 and 1950 – amongst them being thirteen Goddards. One monologue will be about Richard Goddard, the innkeeper of the New Inn in Newbury's Cattle Market. He will tell the story of his life and how he has just been ordered by the court to maintain his wife – although she has left him and gone to live in the house of George Goddard, his cousin and the Borough policeman. For further information look at the website of the Friends of Newtown Road Cemetery, or contact me at 2juliegoddard@gmail.com

Julie of Newbury

FIBREX NURSERY

Newsletter 108 carried a brief article on Fibrex Nursery near Stratford-upon-Avon, which was founded by Hazel and Dick Key and is now run by son Richard Godard-Key and his two sisters, Ursula and Angela. My elder daughter Diana recently spotted that they (Goddard-Key spelt with two 'd's this time) had won two gold medals at the Hampton Court Show, two at Malvern and one at Chelsea. She thinks that the Goddard part of the name may come from Richard's wife, though I suppose it could equally well be from his mother.

RESEARCH WEBSITES – 3

This is a brief note for members who have connections with Yorkshire. One good site, especially for South Yorkshire, is www.sheffieldindexers.com. If you enter this website a substantial amount of information is on line. Selecting parish records and, say, baptisms will open a query. Entering the surname Goddard and then selecting 'search' will make 211 records available. The first record is for Agnes Elizabeth Goddard who was born on 14 April 1899 and baptised on 19 July 1899. The baptism was performed by Edward Hicks at St. Stephens, Netherthorpe, and her parents were John Henry Goddard, who was a file cutter, and Elizabeth Goddard. Selecting marriages and the surname Goddard will make 101 records available. Typical records will yield the names, occupation, residence and status of the bride and groom, the marriage date, the church and presiding minister, the parents and their occupations, and witnesses. It will often show if the participants signed or made marks. It will also indicate if the marriage was by banns or licence.

Another useful genealogy website is www.freereg.org.uk (now also available as FreeREG2). This has a similar appearance to the well known freebmd web site, but permits multiple county search. If you select Goddard, baptisms and West Riding YKS but no dates you will have 92 records available. Selecting record No. 1 yields the baptism of Martha Goddard on 16 September 1657 at St. Peter, Sheffield. Her father is listed as John Goddard. Later records may give father's occupation, abode and date of birth.

John of Fareham <johnogoddard@gmail.com>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee held its 55th meeting on the morning of the AGM. Malcolm of Brisbane sent apologies, but keeps in regular contact by e-mail. There were the usual reports from the Treasurer and Research Co-ordinator, the latter lamenting the fact that her services were underutilised, so if you have any research queries or problems, do ask her for help. As Editor of the Newsletter I would also be pleased to hear from you with items of Goddard interest for subsequent editions. Once again we discussed the need for younger members to volunteer for the Committee; this problem gets more acute as each year goes by, as existing members are mostly in their seventies or eighties. It would be such a shame if the Association were to founder after all the hard work that has been put into it over the past thirty years.

RESEARCH CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

Every year since I took over the role of Research Co-ordinator our President, Richard Goddard, has asked me to prepare a report for the AGM. There was a lot to report the first year. After my late husband and I collected the Association's archives from Colin Goddard's widow I scanned them all and they were added to the website. This took all of one winter and they are now available under the title of 'Raw Research Files'. Now every year I have to report that I have 'nothing to report'! This is so sad, even to the extent that I am tempted to ask 'is my role redundant?' I hope not as I really enjoy researching. So if you are researching, please don't hesitate to get in touch as I am happy to help. I can be contacted on JDbbl@aol.com or telephone 01554 890641. Finally, please could you share your research with me so that I can scan it and add it to the website for the benefit of other researchers.

Joan Dibble

WEBSITE CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

I took on the GAE website co-ordinator role with the late Peter Goddard who lived in Toronto. I was working at a university then and had a bit of time to devote to this, my hobby (my lunch time of 45 minutes each day), and I also worked a nine day fortnight as well so had a full day every two weeks to fit things in. Sadly this has now all changed.

Along with thousands of others in Australia during 2013 my job was downsized out of existence from the university after nineteen years, and so I sought a new job and was fortunate to be unemployed for only six weeks when I gained the role of State Safety Manager for the PCYC (Police Citizens Youth Clubs). We are a not-for-profit organisation that gets no government funding, but we have 54 branches all over Queensland as well as 150 childcare centres. I work with a lot of police to help kids stay away from the justice system; my job is highly rewarding from this perspective. I get to travel all over the state to audit, advise, guide, train and manage safety in addition to building a team of staff to assist in this process locally on the ground where we are based. Last year I was away from home for eighteen weeks, and this year so far it has been nine weeks already [Malcolm was writing this on 23 May]. Last week I worked 70 hours and the week before did 47 hours between Tuesday and Thursday whilst being approximately 2200 kilometers from home in the far North Queensland town of Cooktown. We have three teenage/adult children who attend university/work/coach and play sport and my wife has the significant load of running the house, ferrying the kids places as well as working

three days a week herself. I try to take this load as much as I can when I'm at home. So what I am really saying is I'm time poor, and apologise if this has frustrated anyone.

In addition, when I am away I do not have access to the file server where the GAE website lives. I get e-mails, but some of the places (thousands of kilometres from a major city) do not have decent access to the internet, so I have to leave this to when I get home. I try to action any new members access to the website, send out the Newsletters and add them to the website, send Richard articles of interest for the Newsletter, assist in searches and forward members' requests to Joan, monitor the Facebook page (with Joan taking quite a bit of the load on this front) within 24-48 hours of receiving the notification. I know I don't always meet this target and, yes, I too get frustrated by this; but I know how much time I have put in over the years and in the end it's all voluntary, so I feel sure that people will understand.

New website tools that I have enabled allow me to glean better user data from the GAE website, and so I now know that the website is used far more than earlier data showed. Since 24 May 2015 (21 days) the GAE website has had 3496 hits from 344 unique visitors. So each visitor looked at approximately 100 files. 51 of those visitors stayed logged into the website longer than 30 minutes, and five stayed longer than an hour. The files people downloaded or viewed most included:

Downloaded:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Goddard Wills 1606-1809 | 342 |
| Goddard Wills 1417-1605 | 141 |
| Goddards of Somerset | 134 |
| My Goddard Family of Kent (J. Dibble) | 110 |
| The Goddards of Kent | 93 |
| Somerset Marriages | 29 |
| Leicester Goddard Families | 22 |
| Goddard Alumni Oxonienses 1500-1886 | 7 |
| GAE Membership Application | 7 |
| Kent Parishes | 5 |
| Extract from Current Newsletter | 5 |

Viewed:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| WW1 British Goddard Service Records | 121 |
| WW1 British Goddard Pensions | 77 |
| WW2 Australian AIF Nominal Role | 75 |
| WW1 British Goddard Medals | 70 |
| Origins of Goddard Name | 36 |
| Australian WW1 Soldiers Database | 31 |
| Goddard Marriages Kent | 30 |

This is very useful data because it tells us what people are looking at.

Malcolm of Brisbane

29th AGM

The 29th AGM was held on Sunday 17 May 2015 in the Clyffe Pypard and Bushton Village Hall near Royal Wootton Bassett in Wiltshire, and was attended by some two dozen members. The President welcomed all present, congratulating those who had managed to arrive without getting mixed up with the 3,000 bikers riding in the vicinity to raise money for Help for Heroes. A number of apologies were recorded, in particular from the stalwart trio of Eileen and Mary Horne and Averiel Owen who, it was generally reckoned, were missing only their second AGM. The Minutes of the last AGM were approved and signed; there were no matters arising. Treasurer John presented his Accounts, duly examined, and these were accepted; should you wish to inspect a copy, please contact John direct. Joan Dibble reported a quiet year as Research Co-ordinator, but John of Fareham said he had made further progress on his births, marriages and deaths database.

Next came the election of the Association's officers. Richard of Malvern, Denise of Solihull and John of Shrewsbury were re-elected as President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively; and Joan Dibble and Margaret McAlpin were returned for a further three year term on the Executive Committee. There was no other business. The date of next year's AGM was agreed as Sunday 15 May 2016 at a venue yet to be determined (but see below). The presentation of the Howard Goddard-Jones Memorial to a surprised John of Accrington, Membership Secretary and Committee member for twenty-five years, was made by Howard's son Richard whom everyone was delighted to see at the meeting (photos kindly supplied by Brian of



They had also very generously brought with them three cases of their wares as raffle prizes, the raffle then being conducted over tea and biscuits; my thanks to other members who had also donated prizes.

NEXT AGM

The 30th AGM will take place at 2.00pm on Sunday 15 May 2016 at The Railway, Station Road, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6QU. This pub is run by Association member Shaun Jackson, who has most generously offered to host the event. Sunday lunch is available and can be booked nearer the time by ringing Shaun on 01572 722015 or contacting him by e-mail enquiries@therailwayoakham.co.uk If anybody can suggest a speaker I should be glad to hear from you. Should anyone need to stay overnight, Shaun recommends The Whipper In in the market Place.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Association web page: www.goddard-association.org.uk
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Newbury). Then followed an interesting talk on the Goddard brewery on the Isle of Wight given by its Managing Director, Patrick Birley who is married to Henrietta Goddard, the founder's daughter whom we were also delighted to meet. The President presented him with a Goddard plate as a token of appreciation. 8