

The Goddard Association of Europe

NEWSLETTER

No. 156 - October 2025

Science fact – Science fiction

stories about Dr. ROBERT H. GODDARD

Dr Robert Hutchings Goddard, the American rocket scientist was, as a boy in the 1890s, inspired by fictional stories of travel in space using rocket propulsion. As a teenager his various scientific interests had become centred on flight, using kites and balloons, and then developed into the real possibility of leaving earth by means of rockets.

Through High School, college and university he continued to experiment on the mathematics and propulsion of rockets, applying for the first of many patents in 1913.

A paper written in 1916 titled “A method of reaching extreme altitudes” led to him receiving research grants from the Smithsonian Institute and other sponsors enabling him to continue his work on rocketry.

This paper was published late in 1919, its 69 pages mostly concerned with the physics and mathematics of rockets. But a few lines on the next to last page suggested the possibility of sending a rocket to the moon and viewing the flash of its explosion through a telescope. This one idea caught the attention of the press, appearing on the front page of the *New York Times* which followed up the next day with an editorial which ridiculed the suggestion.

Forty-nine years later and the day after the launch of Apollo 11, taking men to the moon for the first time, the paper published a short retraction! The American government and his peers had been critical and showed little interest, but in Germany his ideas



resulted in the V1 and V2 rockets used against London in 1944 / 45. Despite this lack of interest in the USA, he continued to experiment until March 1926, when he launched the first successful flight of a liquid fuelled rocket.

After this launch and followed by more, writers quickly saw the opportunity to popularise his work and a spate of quasi-scientific stories appeared in the late 20s and 30s in American magazines such as ‘*Amazing stories*’ and ‘*Astounding stories*’. One of the first to appear was in the August 1927 edition of ‘*Amazing stories*’.

The author was said to be Cecil

B. White and the story ‘*The Retreat to Mars*’ was of an advanced civilisation from Mars who came to explore earth, their spacecraft propelled by Goddard’s rockets.

In April 1928 he followed this with ‘*Return of the Martians*’. Surprisingly the author was actually an American astronomer and physicist, William H. Christie, who worked at the Mount Wilson Observatory and later for the Atomic Energy Commission.

In May 1929 a short story in the same magazine by Ullrich J Rogers entitled “*The Moon Strollers*” was set in the near future after Robert Goddard’s rocket had landed on the moon.

This was followed in July 1929 by ‘*The Superperfect bride*’ by Bob Olsen. This was not set in the physical world of space travel but in the metaphysical world of human emotions. Dr. Goddard has perfected an artificial woman (Eve), built from organ transplants, who is available for marriage.

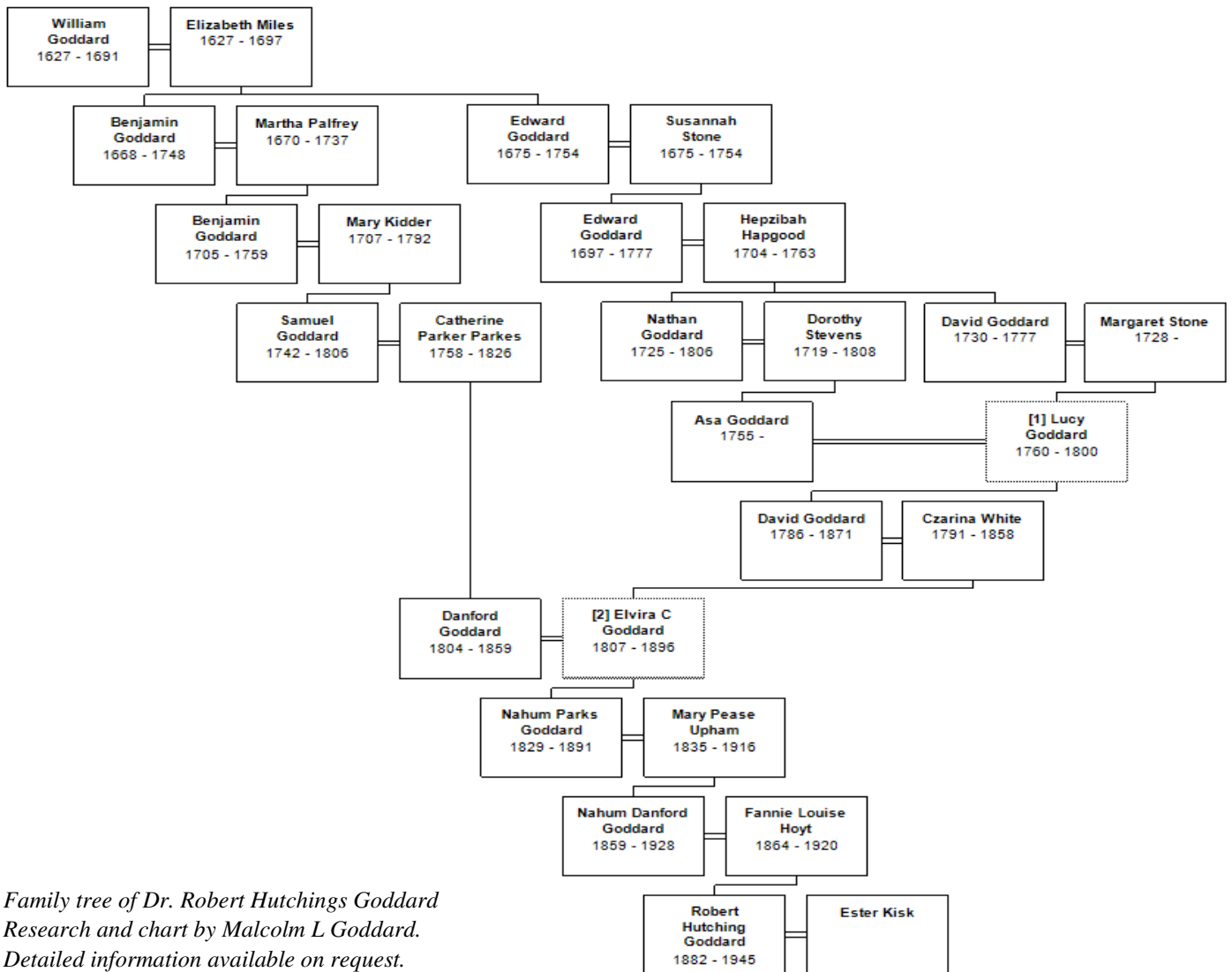
The selected groom must agree to similar organ donations, beginning with a leg. He agrees, but no operation takes place and it is revealed as a hoax, meant to prove that the man loved her enough to make sacrifices. Eve reveals that she selected him, not her father Dr. Goddard, and that she had met him years earlier.

Another short story, by Ed Earl Repp, appeared in May 1930 with the title “*Sky Ruler*” and featured a large anti-gravity vessel improved from Robert Goddard’s rocket.

Thomas Calvert McClary, a prolific author of several styles of writing, also tried his hand at science fiction. His story “*Rebirth*” in 1934 featured Goddard, the greatest scientist of all time who, outraged by corruption in finance and politics, invented a death ray as the ultimate deterrent. But it only spurred competition to possess the ray for use against enemies. Sounds familiar?

(See newsletters 31, 65 & 138 for more regarding Dr. Goddard)

John of Accrington



Family tree of Dr. Robert Hutchings Goddard
 Research and chart by Malcolm L. Goddard.
 Detailed information available on request.

American aerospace engineer, professor, physicist, and inventor Dr. Robert Hutchings Goddard was born on October 5, 1882 in Worcester, Massachusetts, the only child of Nahum Danford Goddard (1859–1928) and Fannie Louise Hoyt (1864–1920). He descends from William Goddard (1627-1691) and Elizabeth Miles (1626-1696) who immigrated to Boston then Watertown, Mass. USA in 1665 from London, England.

In fact he descends from them three times, once through son Benjamin (1668-1748) and twice through son Edward (1674-1754), as the chart above demonstrates. Dr. Goddard died August 10, 1945.

GODDARDS Music Shops in Buxton (2)

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In 1886, George moved from the relative grandeur of Hamilton Villa to a house on Dale Road. He was now facing financial problems and had to appear at Stockport Bankruptcy Court. According to an article in the Derbyshire Times, from Dec. 1886, he was supporting a wife and nine children, aged 1 to 17, and whilst his income was revealed as £75 a year, his annual expenditure was £156.

I think it is called living well beyond one's means! The article also said he had been a violinist and the conductor of the Buxton Pavilion Concerts until about three years earlier. He had been paid 36 shillings a week for the winter season and £2 per week for playing cornet in the outside band, in summer,

but had to give up this position because he had injured his wrist in a fall. As is still often the case today, the life of a musician can be very precarious. I have not been able to find out what the bankruptcy court's verdict was, and how George managed to get out of the financial predicament he faced, but the shop at the Devonshire Colonnade did not close and continued to do business.

I think it is about time we saw some photos of George and Frederick. The photo on the next page has been dated 1891. However, the brothers look younger to me, so perhaps the photos may be from a bit earlier than this. I believe that it is George in the centre of the photo, with possibly Frederick on the left and someone, who could be another Goddard family member, on the right.



The 1891 Census reported George Goddard as aged 48 and living at Dale Terrace, 5 Dale Street with his wife, Emma, and eleven children, aged 0 to 21. Of the children, Lydia was 20 and worked as a 'Music seller assistant' and George Reginald was 18 and a 'Musician'.

At the same time, Frederick Goddard was aged 46 and living at Market View, 5 Ash Street with his wife, Gertrude, and four young sons.

In 1893, as well as the shop at the Devonshire Colonnade, George had premises in Higher Buxton at 62 South Street. There is a description of his Music Warehouse at the Devonshire Colonnade in an 1893 business directory, as follows:

'It is now more than twenty eight years since Mr. Geo. B. Goddard commenced in Buxton as a professor of music and during this long period he has maintained an eminent position in musical circles.

Twenty eight years ago he opened the establishment which is the subject of the present notice. The premises are admirably located and comprise a spacious and handsome shop and show-rooms, with a very fine plate-glass frontage. The interior is admirably appointed. All the best productions of the leading English and Continental makers are well represented. They include pianofortes, organs and harmoniums, as well as a great variety of stringed instruments. All the instruments shown are characterised by the best qualities of power, tone and action, as well as by exquisite workmanship and beauty of design.'

'Mr. Goddard has also a very large and varied stock of sacred and secular music by all the leading composers, which is continually replenished by the addition of the newest and most popular songs, ballads and musical compositions, which are sold at the lowest price. Mr. Goddard's exceptional facilities and business connections enable him to give his customers special advantages in purchasing instruments; he has also a very extensive tuning connection and keeps an efficient staff of experienced men regularly employed. Repairs of all kinds are executed with the least possible delay consistent with perfect and reliable workmanship, and on the most reasonable terms.'

And there is even more:

'Mr. Goddard gives his strict personal attention to the business in all his branches. A very large business is done in letting out pianos and on hire. Mr. Goddard is in great request for balls for which he supplies a band, which is justly celebrated throughout the district. Mr. Goddard is well known and highly esteemed in Buxton as a musician of great skill and ability, and enjoys the patronage and support of a very extensive and high-class connection.'

That is a rather glowing testimonial. I wonder if George wrote it himself or paid someone else to do so. Either way, shopping at Goddards was probably a very exciting experience, in stark contrast to browsing the internet.

In the late 1890s and early 1900s, George continued to run his shops on the Colonnade and at South Street, as this 1901 newspaper advert shows.

P I A N O S O N H I R E .

Pianos returned from hire Cheap for Cash, or on the
Hire Purchase System.

**1, DEVONSHIRE COLONNADE,
62, SOUTH STREET.**

Old Instruments purchased or taken in exchange. 53

G. B. G O D D A R D,

PIANOFORTE TUNER,

**1, DEVONSHIRE COLONNADE,
BUXTON.**

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This was a period of change in Frederick's personal life. His wife, Gertrude, died in 1892, aged just 39. In 1897, when he was 50 years old, Frederick married Edith Hobson who, aged 22, was 28 years younger. Edith's father, George Hobson, was a builder and also the owner and landlord of the Queen's Head Hotel and Inn on High Street in Higher Buxton in the 1890s.

Maureen Davies, of Nottingham

"To be continued"

[Ed]

Janet Berkman
HOWARD GODDARD-JONES AWARD



The Howard Goddard-Jones Award for 2025 was awarded to Janet Berkman, retiring North American Coordinator. This is her response.

I was thrilled to be the recipient of the Howard Goddard-Jones Award at the AGM this year. I had recently stepped down from the Executive Committee after about 10 years of service as the Canada/US coordinator. The beautiful engraved coasters arrived carefully packed in layers of bubble wrap from our President Karen Bell. So thank you to the Committee for awarding me this honour.

I joined the association in 2009 and was immediately contacted by research coordinator Joan Dibble. She kindly informed me that I was one of the Goddards of Kent, that we were family, and as such I was invited to call her by her pet name "Squibs". She had meticulously completed our communal Goddard ancestry back to the mid 17th C which she very kindly shared with me. This was certainly worth the tiny membership that I had submitted! Little did I know that I would be drawn into the association's inner works to serve on the executive committee. In the meantime, I managed to fill in some branches on our tree, especially for those Goddards that had emigrated to Canada.

My emigrant ancestor was William Goddard (1846-1929). He came to Barrie, Ontario, Canada in 1871 with his wife Hannah Jane Drury and their son Samuel. Hannah gave birth to my maternal great-grandfather, Stephen, in Barrie, Ontario in 1873. This was followed by the birth of two daughters in 1876 and 1881 who sadly only lived for six months

each. As it turns out, William was a bit of a cad. Squibs had suspected this but Ancestry DNA testing confirmed it by unearthing some cousins that I didn't know I had. William left Canada in 1886 for Minnesota with a young woman from Barrie. Although not married, they lived as man and wife, had three children, and he died there in 1929. His first wife Hannah was left in Toronto, with two young sons. She died of cancer in 1903. Samuel married and had four daughters. Stephen worked on the Grand Trunk Railroad as a section man and had six children with his wife Minnie Price, the fifth being my grandmother, Eva Daisy Goddard.

Two other full siblings of William also came to Canada: Catherine (1841-1886) died three years after she arrived with her husband Thomas Jackson; John (1842-1898) went on to have a large family. He arrived in Canada in 1870 with his wife and four children and they went on to have nine more!

In 2015, I attended a reunion of this family in Temiskaming Shores, northern Ontario and met many cousins! I visited a sheep farm in Brethour belonging to Tom Goddard and his wife Joy, and he showed us Goddard Road nearby. It was a great weekend and featured a large family tree spanning much of the gym wall!

In 2017 I made a solo trip to England to visit my brother and his family on sabbatical in Oxford and timed it to include the GAE AGM in Meriden. It gave me a chance to finally meet Squibs in person, some cousins, as well as other committee members who were equally lovely. I have enjoyed working with the committee via email and on our quarterly calls. I've loved meeting association members through research, membership help, and moderation of the Facebook page. I am always open to enquiries about my family history so please feel free to contact me through my email address:

Janet's email address: jeberkman@gmail.com

**GODDARD physicians of the English
Civil War, from Oxfordshire**

Francis Goddard (1611-1644) was the son of Sir Edward Goddard of East Woodhay, Hampshire, and his second wife Constance. He matriculated at Exeter College, Oxford, on 2 December 1631, aged 20, and served as a fellow of the College from 1631 to 1642. Goddard graduated with a BA in 1634, an MA in 1637, a B Med in 1640 and MD in 1641.

At the outbreak of the civil war, he was appointed as one of the physicians to the royalist garrison at Oxford. Goddard's tenure was beset with problems. Constantly underfunded, Goddard pressed the royalist Council of War to provide proper support and

funds to care for the sick and wounded soldiers. In particular, he requested that the Council provide larger and more appropriate facilities than the cramped quarters that Goddard was forced to endure at Newnham Courtenay. And he begged for help from the local clergy whom he believed might be able to supply clean linen and clothes for his patients.

All the time, Goddard continued to request unpaid salary which was urgently required given that he had been forced to neglect his own practice 'for the furtherance of His Majesty's service'. Goddard's final recorded plea was for an augmentation to his staff. He asked for two extra assistants, both of Bachelor of Medicine standing, 'because the number of the sick are beyond all expectation and too many for the care of one man'. Nothing further is heard of Goddard, and it is highly likely that he did not survive the wars.

Francis Goddard married Frances Goddard, the daughter of Mr Richard Goddard of Clatford in the parish of Preshute sometime before the outbreak of the civil war. A son, Richard was baptised at Preshute on 3 January 1643. It is possible that Dr Goddard was practising at nearby Marlborough. His widow Frances was living there when she married John Hearst, gent, of Marlborough at the parish church of St Mary's on 18 May 1658. She was buried at Preshute on 2 January 1665.

Jonathan Charles Goddard (1617–1675) was an English physician, known both as army surgeon to the forces of Oliver Cromwell, and as an active member of the Royal Society. He is known for "Goddard's Drops," a popular medicine whose ingredients included dried viper and human skulls. Users of the drops included the MP Edward Walpole, who died after consuming them, and Charles II.

The son of a wealthy shipbuilder, Goddard was a student at the Magdalen Hall, Oxford, he qualified in medicine at the University of Cambridge. He joined the College of Physicians in 1643 and became physician to Charles I of England when he was held captive by Parliament. In the 1650s he was made Warden of Merton College, Oxford (1651), and was one of the 'Oxford club' group around John Wilkins. He was also a Member of Parliament for Oxfordshire in the Barebone's Parliament of 1653. He became Professor of Physic at Gresham College in 1655. He performed some experiments here with chemist Johannes Banfi Hunyades that constitute the

first extant example of temperature measurement in distillation.

He was one of five doctors attending Cromwell when he died and on the English Restoration of 1660, he lost his position at Merton. But his early position in the Royal Society was solid (he became a founding Fellow in November 1660), and at the beginning of 1661, when the Society was homeless and moved to Gresham College, it met in his lodgings. He was buried in the chancel of Great St Helens Church, London.

A living Jonathan Charles Goddard is a Urological Consultant Surgeon in Leicester and Curator of the Museum Urology BAUS and has written an interesting article about Goddard's Drops. www.urologynews.uk.com/media/11033/uroso15-history-2.pdf
Karen Bell, Oxfordshire

Previous articles on Dr Jonathan Goddard appear in newsletters 11, 75, 95 and 109 [Ed]

Is this your family?

Oliver Barton posted this photograph in our Facebook group, pointing out that this isn't his family.

The picture, taken in Worthing, Sussex is titled Maiden ladies of Stanhope House, Warwick Gardens, Worthing, Sussex and written faintly in pencil. Emily and Aggie Goddard.

Linda Ogilvie-Goddard came on board with her findings. Agnes Sarah b.1875 and Emily Rebecca b.1877 were both born in Lancashire, their mother was Priscilla Goddard nee Blackmore?. In 1911 the house seems to be a boarding house and Priscilla was listed as Boarding Housekeeper.

Oliver was able to add a little more. The 1881 census for 14 Houghton Street, Southport, Lancashire. Benjamin Goddard aged 36 a chemist born Yorkshire. Priscilla Goddard born Manchester and their children Samuel 12, Agnes 5 and Emily 4 who

were all born in Southport. Does any member recognise this family?

This is the sort of discussion that happens on our Facebook group. If you would like to join the group search facebook for, "The Goddard Association of Europe", it's a great way to keep up with all things Goddard and a really friendly group.

Joan Dibble



HENRY HOLT GODDARD

*From Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, Ireland
to the Nepean District, Penrith, NSW Australia.*

Duke of Sutherland				PASSENGER LIST							
NO.	SURNAME	CHRISTIAN NAME	AGE	ARTICLES		CURRENCY		DEPARTS		OCCUPATION ON CALLING	
				Wool	Other	1 and 2	3 and 4	5 and 6	7 and 8		
4932	Goddard	Henry	25	1							Postmaster
		Kathleen	21	1							

Above is an excerpt of the log from the immigrant ship the *Duke of Sutherland*, an iron screw steamer under the command of Capt. James McDuff, which sailed from London on 4 Mar. 1886 and arrived at Moreton Bay, Queensland, on 7 May 1886.

Henry Holt Goddard and Kathleen (née Young) emigrated to Australia on the part sail and part steamship called the *Duke of Sutherland*. They set out from Ireland journeying first to London and then sailing via the Suez Canal. They took on coal at Colombo. The journey took two months, and they arrived in Australia in 1886. Their first home was in Maryborough, Queensland where Henry set up shop and prospered as a barber. By 1897 Kathleen had borne seven children, six boys and one girl.

In 1898 they decided to sell up and went to Sydney, where Henry rented premises from a Mr Saunders who was a local quarry owner. From the Pyrmont premises Henry ran a newsagency along with a barber's shop. The children attended school in Pyrmont. Tragedy struck the family twice before they move to Springwood when their eldest child Walter died of pneumonia and then son Bertie drowned accidentally in Black Wattle Bay. Kathleen bore another son thereafter.

These very sad events affected Henry and made him consider retirement. In 1909 the lives of the family changed when Henry saw 50 acres of land for sale advertised in the *Sydney Morning Herald*. The property was located at the end of Whitecross Road, adjoining land owned by St. Columba's College. In 1910 they purchased the property, which contained the cottage Aberfeldy which had been built by H.C.L. Anderson. The Aberfeldy property contained an orchard with English Mulberry trees and persimmons, as well as a lovely flower garden. Henry sent to the Richmond River for Cecil, his surviving and now eldest son, and Stanley.

Cecil arrived in 1911 and took over the running of the Post Office until Henry moved to Springwood. Each day Cecil took what was known as the

'sociable' into town and met the 10am train from Sydney. He sorted the North Springwood mail from the mailbags and delivered it on his homeward journey. Cecil was not averse to taking passengers on the 'sociable', and also carried the occasional message for residents who lived in the area. In 1912 Kathleen arrived in Springwood with Henry junior, her youngest child, followed eight months later by Henry senior. Following his arrival Henry took over from Cecil and remained as postmaster until 1932 when he was aged 72.

Postal Inspectors visited every month to check the records, which were then sent to Bathurst. Henry issued postal notes, stamps and so on, and at the end of every week the money was paid into Springwood Post Office where a receipt was issued. Henry Goddard senior died in 1948.

Around c1912–13, Cecil (then aged 22) and Stan (aged 18) started a firewood business. Stan purchased land from Hardman the biscuit manufacturer, near the Springwood subway, and the engine was kept there for cutting wood before it was loaded onto the train. They supplied wood to various bakers in the area, as well as to the Ritz at Leura. In 1916 the Goddard brothers expanded their enterprise by buying a timber mill and transporting the equipment from Camden to Springwood. Harry Keenan was employed as their manager. They purchased land near the then nine-hole golf course on Hawkesbury Road from J.T. Wall, who had a reputation for not handing over deeds to their respective purchasers. Percy Pickering and Mr Turnbull were locals employed by the Goddards.

The Goddard brothers used a bullock team, rather than horses, due to their prowess in the bush. The mill supplied timber for buildings locally and across the mountains because the nearest mill in those early days was at Kingswood. An article in the *Blue Mountains Echo* (29 June 1917) reported that Messrs Lacey and Goddard had secured a number of repeat orders for firewood from the upper mountains. Fuel merchants in those regions said that the wood supplied by the Goddards was the finest burning timber. The article said that 'bakers wood' was a speciality, and the firm would also execute orders for 'post and rail' of standard quality. The Goddards operated the mill until 1923 and sold it to Eric Turnbull in 1927.

The 1927 Springwood telephone directory lists Goddard and Nichols as builders. The 1932

directory only listed Stan, with his address given as De Chair Avenue, Springwood. He married Nellie E. Mills, the daughter of George William and Martha Mills, in 1918. George Mills was the chief gardener for the Fels family. Stan and Nellie's daughter Meryl was born in 1921 at Penrith, in a hospital run by a Mrs Pullman, who was related to the Ellison family.

Meryl, who recorded her early memories on tapes held in the City Library, Springwood, could remember being brought up in a close-knit family, and with a community spirit, engendered when anyone needed help. She was taught to swim by her grandfather, who she said was a good breast-stroke swimmer, at Mahogany Swamp.

The family attended the Methodist or Presbyterian Churches for Sunday school, according to convenience, even though they were christened as Anglicans. Meryl attended the stone-built Springwood public school, located in the main street.

Mrs Farnsworth was one of her teachers. Later she went to high school in Penrith before attending Summerhayes Typing College. Meryl related that she was 'horse mad', and as a child used to ride one of the family cows around until her parents finally bought her a horse. She remembered going by horse and sulky, (a light two-wheeled cart), every Saturday night, out to Aberfeldy where the younger members of the family would play 'grab' with their grandfather. Later in the evening the adults would play a game of 7s and before making tea, her grandmother would don a set of headphones to listen to the crystal wireless set. As children they were amused at the facial expressions she would pull and would not be content until she related what



Henry, Stan & Cecil Goddard

she had heard that night on the radio.

Henry and Kathleen Goddard's only daughter Lillie married Charlie Lacey who had the first taxi business in Springwood using a 1910 Oldsmobile. They bought the Whitecross property.

Cecil Goddard died in 1970 at the age of 80. He was survived by sons Cecil and Bruce and daughters Iris and Violet.

Pamela Smith - The Making of a Mountain Community, A Biographical Dictionary of the Springwood District, Springwood Historians history blog.
<https://springwoodhistorians.blogspot.com/2011/09/early-residents-goddard-family.html>

EDWARD LIONEL GODDARD

Crash victim of NAC flight 441, 3 July 1963

Edward Lionel Goddard, was born 28 Apr 1926 in Pukekohe, Auckland, New Zealand the son of Edward Bernard Goddard and Ruahine Gwendoline Beard. He died on 3 Jul 1963 at the age of just 37 years in the crash of National Airways Corporation (NAC) flight 441, a Douglas DC-3, which crashed into the Kaimai Ranges on that July day, resulting in the deaths of all 23 people on board. Edward had married Patricia Fay Cleaver on 22 Nov. 1952 and they had four young children. He was the General Manager of General Foods in Auckland.

Flight 441 departed Whenuapai in northwestern Auckland at 08:21am for a flight to Tauranga. En route the DC-3 crashed into a face of rock on Mt. Ngatamahinerua in the Kaimai Range at an altitude of 2460 feet, it had encountered severe weather conditions during descent. The crash site, was discovered after a search hampered by poor weather and the remote location.

The accident is considered New Zealand's worst internal air disaster. A memorial plaque was unveiled in 2003, on the 40th anniversary of the crash, near the town of Gordon. Due to the remoteness of the crash location, the wreckage was not recovered but secured on site by the New Zealand Army in 1964. In June 2023, however, one engine and the rear tyre were recovered. In July 2023, the recovered wreckage was included in a display at Classic Flyers Museum near Tauranga Airport, commemorating the 60th anniversary of the crash.

The probable cause of the crash was attributed to a strong downward current in the lee of the Kaimai Range, which forced the aircraft below the designated safe altitude.

Does any member claim Edward Lionel Goddard?

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Goddard-3156>

WILLIAM GILES GODDARD

(1794-1846)

William Giles Goddard was born on 2 January 1794 in Johnston, Rhode Island, the son of William Goddard (1740 - 1817) and Abigail Angell (1758 - 1845).

He graduated from Brown University in 1812 and began the study of law in Worcester, Massachusetts, USA. He turned to newspaper editing as associate editor of the "Worcester Spy", and in 1813 became the proprietor and editor of the "Rhode Island American." He married Charlotte Rhoda Ives (1792 - 1881) on 22 May 1821.



Their children were Eliza Ann Goddard (1822 - 1823), Charlotte Hope Goddard (1823 - 1866), Thomas Poynton Ives Goddard (1827 - 1893), Robert Ives Goddard (1831 - 1835), Moses Brown Ives Goddard (1831 - 1902), Francis Wayland Goddard (1833 - 1889), Robert Hale Ives Goddard (1837 - 1916).

In 1825 he began teaching at Brown University, appointed professor of moral philosophy and metaphysics. He felt he had no aptitude for philosophy, and arrangements were made for him to teach instead rhetoric, the evidences of religion, and the constitution of the United States. He was appointed professor of Belles-lettres in 1834.

He took a more active interest than any of his colleagues in the Dorr Rebellion in 1842, at which time, according to President Wayland, *"His essays for the daily press, during this period alone, would fill a moderately sized volume."* He resigned in 1842 because of his health and died in Providence on 19 February 19 1846. He is buried at North Burial Ground, Providence, Rhode Island, USA.

Wayland wrote further of him: *"The manners of Prof. Goddard were courteous and refined. His personal habits, without being painfully exact, were scrupulously neat, and in perfect harmony with the character of a literary citizen. His conversation, sometimes playful, never frivolous, was always instructive, and at times singularly forcible, captivating and eloquent."*

[Find a Grave Memorial # 21289942](#)

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The next AGM will be held online on Sunday 17th May 2026 at 12.15 noon GMT. A Zoom link will be sent to members closer to the event.

HOWARD GODDARD-JONES Award

2024

I must apologize for taking so long to thank Karen for visiting and presenting me with the Howard Goddard-Jones Award for 2024. The 'little grey cells' work rather slowly these days—or sometimes not at all!

Through her, I would like to thank all members for their support over almost exactly forty years. It is a generous reward for doing something I have loved. (The six engraved glass coasters are already in regular use.)

I had hoped to remain at the helm a few more years (I am only 84), but Parkinson's has caught up with me, and it is time to bow out. We have ensured that the Goddard family research entrusted to me has found suitable repositories, where it will be both preserved and available to others exploring their own branches of the family.

My warmest thanks go to you, Karen, for stepping forward to lead the Association and to all who assist you in continuing its good work—especially in encouraging the next generation to take part.

With my very best wishes to you all,

Richard Goddard of Lechlade, formally of Malvern

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