

THE BODDINGTON FAMILY OF LONDON & HANLEY

1. My mother **JOYCE MILDRED BODDINGTON**, born on 3 March 1922, was the wife of James Cyril Bostock and was the youngest of two children born to Stuart Ward Boddington and his wife Ellen Louise Carol Brookes.



Her elder brother was **The Reverend Canon Douglas Ward Boddington, MBE, KT.Chap.OTJ, SSC, OSB.**

Douglas was born on 6 November 1920 and became interested in joining the church when he was 19 years old but it was not until he was 52 years old that he became ordained as a priest by the Bishop of Southwark

On leaving school he studied engineering for a diploma at Wimbledon Technical College and then worked as an engineering draughtsman with Babcock & Wilcox Ltd. With the outbreak of the Second World War he joined the RAF Volunteer Reserve and subsequently served with the first squadron of the RAF Regiment to be trained as a fighting army unit and between from 1942 to the end of the war he saw action in North Africa, Italy and Austria.

After the war he decided to study theology and began a diploma course at Kings College, London University. Ill health meant he had to give up his studies and he entered a religious community for a brief period of time before beginning work as Regional Organiser and public speaker for the NSPCC in 1949.

In 1957 he returned to the occupation of engineering design draughtsmanship with Pye Electronics at Newmarket and after three years became Chief Draughtsman and then five years later Publicity Manager.

His love of the church and his desire to serve led him to join the international ecumenical organisation at Taize in 1964 and became a professed monk and organiser of the Coventry Retreat. A short time later he left Pye to join a college course in Southwark to study for a career in the church maintaining himself during his three-years of study by working as a production manager for a series of trade journals.

Following his studies he was made a deacon in 1972 and ordained priest the following year. He then began work with the South London Industrial Mission and was one of a team of ten chaplains, of various denominations, who explored the relevance of the Christian Faith to men at work. He was also curate of Christchurch, Blackfriars. Five years later he went out to the Algarve as chaplain of St Vincent's Anglican Church where he was well received and proved

to be a popular minister. For a brief period in the late 1980s Douglas returned to London to serve as Vicar General of the Diocese of Gibraltar where he again made his mark as an active and committed Christian priest. Following this position Douglas returned to the Algarve for a few years before becoming Chaplain of the British Church of St James, Oporto in 1989 – a position of semi-retirement.

During his time in Portugal Douglas' pastoral concerns were with all British people – residents and tourists, church members or not. His concern was always with people as individuals regardless of rank or position. He was always ready to help those in distress and even ministered to British subjects in Portuguese prisons by taking in food, books and providing other comforts. In 1988 his services in Portugal were recognised when he was admitted as a Knight of the Supreme Order of the Temple of Jerusalem. Then, in 1997 the Queen invested him with Membership of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in a ceremony held at Buckingham Palace. Douglas also became an Oblate of the Order of St. Benedict – whose watchword is “work and pray” and was admitted as a monk at St John's Abbey, Alton, Hampshire, in 1982. He was also a member of the *Societas Sanctae Crucis*.

On final return from Portugal in 1997 Douglas retired to the College of St. Barnabas, Lingfield, Surrey, a home for retired Anglican clergy, where he remained for a year before taking a post as Chaplain to the Convent of St Peter at Maybury Hill, Woking. Following a serious operation and removal of a leg, he moved in 2002 to the almshouses in Hawley Green, Blackwater, but continued to serve Christ by assisting with services and occasionally officiating in the local parish church of Holy Trinity.

Throughout his life as a priest Douglas was true pastor and shepherd of his flock. open-minded and straight talking, yet quiet and self-effacing. He died on 26 March 2009 at a nursing home in Blackwater. His funeral service was held at Hawley Green Parish Church, where the vicar of the church and the Abbot of Alton officiated: his ashes were taken for to the Garth at Alton Abbey.

2. STUART WARD BODDINGTON, was born at 79 Patshull Road, Kentish Town, in the St Pancras area of London on 11 March 1893. He was son to Walter Beresford Hope Boddington and his wife Louisa Armstrong. He was educated at Hillmartin College, Camden Road, North London, and began work as a junior clerk. As a boy he was involved in the Boy Scout movement and as a seventeen years old became an assistant scoutmaster. Between 1910 and 1915 he served in the 9th County of London, Queen's Voluntary Reserve. He then transferred to the 29th Battalion the Machine Gun Corps when it was formed in October of that year and finished his service as a Sergeant (regimental number 42188). He saw service in France. At the end of the war he applied for a commission in the regular army but for one some reason this was not followed up.



Stuart Ward and Carol Boddington



Stuart married Ellen Louise Carol Brookes who was born on 27 December 1892 at Grays Inn Lane, London: she was the daughter of William Brookes, a silver polisher, and Eliza Hubbard. Their marriage took place on 9 October 1918 at All Saints Church, Tufnell Park, Islington. The couple initially lived at 36 St Johns Park, Tufnell, but eventually made their home at 43 Park Gate Road, Wallington, Surrey, and lived there for most of their married lives. Eventually they moved to Great Abington, near Cambridge, to be closer to their son

Douglas who at that time lived and worked in the Cambridge area. For much of his working life Stuart was employed as an accounts clerk by Esso Petroleum at their headquarters in London until his retirement in 1958.

Stuart Ward Boddington died in a hospital in Cambridge on 21 May 1967. Carol died on 31 March 1976.

3. **WALTER BERESFORD HOPE BODDINGTON** was born on 12 August 1864. The given name 'Hope' is interesting as there are no known connections with a family of that name, however it may refer to the parish of Hope in Shelton, Hanley, Stoke on Trent, and therefore his birthplace, though the 1871 census gives Swatham, Stafford as his birthplace. At the time of that census he was living with his parents and siblings at 13 Hamilton Street, St.Pancras, London. Ten years later, when the family were at 134 Camden Road, St. Pancras, his age is given as 21. Clearly this is a mistake made by the enumerator for he has the brother Alfred Ward wrong as well – in fact their ages, 16 and 21 ought to be swapped! Walter's occupation is given as that of 'iron founder' which is somewhat surprising given his later career.



He married, in the summer of 1886, Louise Armstrong, who was born on 23 February 1866, daughter of William and Jane Armstrong. The couple and their family lived on Parliament Hill Fields, North London, and then by 1891 at 79 Patshull Road, St Pancras. By this time Walter and his wife had a daughter Violet Mildred aged 4 years who had been born at Hamstead. Ten years later the family were at 61 Lawford Road, St. Pancras, London, by which time their son Stewart Ward Boddington was 8 years old. According to the 1911 census the family home was at 22 Lawford Road, a house with nine rooms (not including the bathroom). Walter was recorded as being a self-employed musician; twenty-four years old Violet was working as a telephonist and eighteen years old Stuart was working as a warehouse clerk .

Despite his occupation in 1881, Walter was by 1891 a musician - he was an accomplished flautist, a 'Professor of Music', and was a musician in King Edward VII's private orchestra. In fact the king's 'band' was comprised of a group of players from the London Symphony Orchestra who were known as 'Musicians in Ordinary under Royal Warrant to the King'. His wife Louise was blind by the age of 40 due to diabetes and was looked after by her daughter.

In his later life Walter resided in Bournemouth where he was the parish clerk of St Peter's church.

He died on 3 January 1945 at 125 Richmond Park Road, Bournemouth and is buried at Highgate Cemetery London, with his wife who died on 21 December 1936..

Walter's children were: Stuart Ward born at St Pancras on 11 March 1893 and Violet Mildred who died during a bombing raid on London on 26 September 1942 and is buried at Highgate .

4. **WILLIAM COCKSON BODDINGTON** was born in the pottery manufacturing town of Etruria, Hanley, Stoke on Trent, on 3 April 1828. On 31 October 1852, he married Hannah (Annie) Maria Ward in Manchester Cathedral. According to the 1881 census, she had been born in Wakefield, Yorkshire. A Hannah Maria Ward, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth, is recorded as having been christened at Wakefield on 6 September 1828. Her father was a well known architect Henry Ward (see below).

Initially the Boddingtons lived in Hanley, at Mill Terrace in 1854 and then 119 Snow Hill, Shelton, in 1861, and then 119 Broad Street Hanley a few years later. According to the 1861 census whilst living at Snow Hill the family employed Elizabeth Talbot a 19years old general

servant, Mary Gould a 16 years old nurse, and Josiah Thomas a 16 years old errand boy. In this census the wife is named as 'Anne M.'



William Cockson and Annie Maria



William was a merchant and dealer in pottery materials and a broker of china and earthenware. Around 1865 the family moved to Camden Town, London. In 1871 the family lived at 13 Hamilton Street St Pancras. Here William, a 'Commission agent' and 'A Maria' resided with their children. In 1881 the family were living at 134 Camden Road, St Pancras. Here the family retained a domestic servant named Sarah Hicks. The family as listed at that time are unusually referred to in the census by their initials: 'W.C.', 'H.M.', 'A.M.', 'W.B.', 'A.W.'. By this time William was described as a 'Corn Merchant', son Walter was an 'Iron founder' and son Alfred was a 'Clerk in Wine Merchants'. William cannot be found in the census returns for 1891 and 1901.

Anna died on 19 May 1885 at home at 20 Lyme Street, Camden Town. Her estate was valued at £675 11s 4d and her will was proved by her son Alfred on 31 July 1885. William died in Islington Infirmary on 29 July 1904, having been admitted from his home at 400 Holloway Road, Islington. His estate valued at £240 8s 3d was administered on 29 July 1907 by his son Alfred. The connection with Islington is interesting as Joseph William Boddington, a merchant, lived at Newington Green, Islington, in the 1820s and left a will dated 27 April 1826 which was subsequently proved on 10 January 1838. His first names are certainly ones commonly used in the family as we shall see - so what was his relationship?

William and Hannah had five children:

1. William Henry, born at Hanley about 1854. He was an inmate of the Metropolitan District Asylum for Imbeciles at Caterham, Surrey, where he died in 1884. His address in the probate register is given as 134 Camden Road, London: his estate valued at £120 4s 2d was administered on 23 July 1907 by his brother Alfred.
2. Margaret Elizabeth, born in Hanley on 9 June 1855, who died unmarried at 134 Camden Road on 13 December 1882. She was a nun.
3. Annie Maria, born on 9 June 1856 in Hanley, who died at Wallington, Surrey, on 9 January 1937.
4. Alfred Ward, born on 18 November 1859 in Hanley, who married Carolyn Withey of Stroud, Gloucestershire in 1905. They had no children. He worked as a travelling lock and security salesman. In 1891 he lived at 210 Euston Road, St Pancras with his sister Annie, and in 1901 was living at 7 Harrington Square, St Pancras, with his sister.
5. Walter Beresford Hope, born in Hanley in on 12 August 1864.

To return to the Ward family, whose name was used by the Douglas Ward-Boddington. Henry Ward was born in Wakefield on 26 December 1801 the son of John and Margaret Ward. Henry married a lady called Elizabeth but exactly who she was is not certain, but given that Walter Boddington (see above) was given the middle name Beresford one might assume she was Elizabeth Beresford. Their son Henry was born in 1824 and christened at Sowerby,

then in December 1826 the couple had a daughter named Margaret christened in Dewsbury, and then in 1828 Hannah Maria was christened at Wakefield. Sometime during the 1830s the couple moved to Staffordshire having been commissioned to work in Stoke on Trent on houses in Brook Street, and by 1834 on a commission to design Stoke Town Hall, a most imposing building in the Classical style. In 1841 he lived and worked in Glebe Street, Penkhull, Stoke on Trent, and resided with his son Henry, then an architect, daughter Margaret, aged 14, and daughter Hannah Maria aged 13. There is no mention of a wife so presumably she had died or else not followed them to Staffordshire.

Ten years later Hannah Maria Ward is described as having been born in Wakefield twenty-three years earlier and living in Eastwood, Hanley, with her mother Hannah Ward, aged 52, who was born in Dilhorn, Staffordshire: a note records that the head of the house was absent. Indeed, Henry Ward the architect was away visiting a house in Great Crosby, Liverpool, perhaps on business, whilst Henry, junior, was lodging in Stafford Row, Hanley. As Hannah was listed as head of the household it suggests that Henry had married again. Trade Directories for 1851 show that Henry Ward and Son, architects and town surveyors, were in practice at Eastwood Place, Hanley. In 1861 Henry senior was living in Cheapside, Hanley, with Henry junior and married daughter Margaret Hart, who was said to have been born in Dewsbury, Yorkshire. Six years later the family were at Observatory Terrace, Hanley and then from 1871 in Albion Terrace, Hanley.

Henry senior was involved in a long dispute with the Tunstall Board of Health from 1848 until 1858 over work done for that authority. Henry and his son designed many Staffordshire churches and other buildings in the Stoke on Trent area as well as elsewhere in the country including parts of St Annes, Soho, which was demolished during World War II. Some of his work is pictured below.



Houses in Brook Street, Stoke



Houses in Brook Street, Stoke



Henry Ward, senior.

The following is a list of some Henry and his son: Houses in Town Hall, Glebe Street, Church Street, Fenton, 1839 [rebuilt 1890]; Hope Church,

of the buildings designed by Brook Street, Stoke, 1828; Stoke Stoke, 1834; Christ Church, Sackville Street, Hanley, 1848-9;

St. Matthew Church, Etruria; 1848-9; Holy Trinity, Hanley, 1853 [demolished 1952]; Athenaeum, Fenton, 1853 [demolished 1977]; St. Luke's, Wellington, Hanley, 1853-4; St. Paul's, Edensor, Longton. 1854 [demolished 1960's]; Chapels in Hanley cemetery, 1860; Cemetery (Sexton's) Lodge, Cemetery Road, Hanley, 1860 and Cemetery (Registrar's) Lodge, Cemetery Road, 1860.

5. THOMAS BODDINGTON was born in November 1806. He lived in Etruria, Stoke on Trent, and was employed as a clerk in a local pottery firm, earning 3 shillings a week in 1818; by 1852 he was a manager with the Wedgewood Pottery Company. On 10 December 1827 he married Eliza Hackwood, who was born on 27 September 1807, daughter of John Hackwood and Matilda (nee Cockson) about 1827. She seems to have been a grand-daughter of William Hackwood the 'ingenious boy' hired by Josiah Wedgewood in 1769 and trained by him as a portrait modeller and finisher. Hackwood was principally employed in adapting antique busts and reliefs, but did much original work: he later became Wedgewood's chief modeller. Many portrait medallions, including one of Josiah Wedgewood, are by his hand and many still survive of which four are signed by him despite such a practise being disapproved of by his employers.

According to the 1841 census Thomas lived at Pall Mall, Shelton, Hanley. He lived with his wife Eliza, and their children: William, Elizabeth, Arthur, Eliza, Thomas, Matilda, and Joseph. Ten years later they were in Clarence Street, Shelton, by which time Thomas was a 'Pottery Manager', and son William was a 'Commission Agent's Clerk'. By 1861 Thomas had died and Eliza was at 53 Market Street, Stoke on Trent, with her four younger children; Joseph and John Hackwood were employed as clerks in a china manufactory, Matilda was a dressmaker and Annie a schoolmistress.

In 1871 Eliza lived at 56 Hanley Street with her son John 'H', his wife Eliza (nee Hughes) and their daughter Eliza Annie Hackwood aged two years.

The parish church of St Matthews in Etruria was consecrated in 1847 and is said to have had a very fine choir of singers which included the brothers Thomas and Joseph Boddington. The leading choirboy was a John Finney who wrote *Sixty Years Recollections of an Etruscan*, an account of the characters living in Etruria and of village life in the late 19th century.

Thomas Boddington's children were:

1. William Cockson who is detailed above
2. Elizabeth Worrell, born about 1829, and married to a George Copeland. (Interestingly an Alderman W.T. Copeland, MP, helped promote the North Staffordshire Railway planned by George Stevenson in 1846). In 1851 she was a dressmaker.
3. Arthur John, born on 2 October 1830. An accountant of Camberwell, London. His son, Francis Nicholas Boddington, solicitor's clerk, wrote a paper in 1892 on his family history for Mr. Robert Slater Boddington of Knutsford, Cheshire, director of Boddington's Brewery, whose papers are lodged with the Society of Genealogists.
4. Thomas, born about 1832. In 1851 he was a 'Book printer'.
5. Eliza, born about 1834.
6. Matilda, born about 1837 and dead by 1892. In 1851 she was a 'Potter Burnisher'
7. Joseph, born about 1840 and dead by 1892. In 1861 he was a clerk in a china manufactory.
8. Annie Barker, born about 1843 and dead by 1892
9. John, born in 1844 who died in infancy.
10. Charles Lewis, born in 1843, who also died in infancy
11. John Hackwood, born in 1846. In 1861 he was a clerk in a china manufactory. He seems to be the same person as the John who in 1891 lived at 4 Bonchurch Road, Kennington, London and was employed as a

‘China dealer’s manager’. His wife was a southern girl having been born in Faringdon, Berkshire, in 1857. Together they had Harold ‘H’, Reginald ‘G’ and Winifred ‘B’ all born in Faringdon. However this family doesn’t seem to square with those who lived in Hanley in 1871 – what had become of Eliza and Eliza Annie Hackwood?

Thomas died on 3 April 1857 in Stoke on Trent and Eliza in 1891.

5. JOSEPH BODDINGTON was born *about* 1769 but where is not known. He lived in Etruria and Hanley and was employed by the Wedgwood factory and according to a paper in the possession of the Society of Genealogists compiled by F.N. Boddington (see above) he invented various colour combinations for painting china. The same document records that when King George IV was Prince Regent (1811-20) he visited the factory and ‘Mr Boddington’ painted a vase for him which later became an exhibit in the British Museum. However, there are some doubts as to the authenticity of this story as although the Prince did visit a number of pottery manufacturers he did not visit Wedgewoods. In 1806 the Prince did visit Josiah Spode’s factory which had been commissioned to manufacture a splendid porcelain vase, valued at £100, as a present to His Majesty from the Middleton Hill Mine Company. If there is any truth in the vase painted by ‘Mr Boddington’ then may be for a time he worked for Spode.

In the Wedgwood Manuscript Collection at Keele University there are many references to family members being employed at the factory between 1810 and 1856, e.g:

- 1810 John Boddington, warehouseman
- William Boddington, warehouseman
- Elizabeth Boddington, apprentice painter
- Mary Boddington, burnisher
- Joseph Boddington
- Elizabeth Boddington, child employee
- William Boddington, child employee
- James Boddington, child employee
- 1811 Joseph Boddington, bold work
- 1813 Joseph Boddington was paid 21 shillings
- William Boddington was paid 10 shillings
- 1815 Joseph Boddington, ‘boy with ornaments’
- 1816 Joseph Boddington, maker of ornaments
- Thomas Boddington, maker of ornaments
- 1849 Frederick Boddington, apprentice
- 1856 Thomas Boddington, presser

Joseph Boddington married a lady called Elizabeth Worrall, who was born on 10 May 1771, at Whitmore, Staffordshire, on 26 March 1793: she died in March 1833 being buried in Hanley churchyard. Joseph’s children were:

1. Marian, born 27 July 1794. Recorded as a burnisher in 1810
2. William, born 22 March 1798. Recorded as a warehouseman in 1810
3. Elizabeth, born 23 April 1800. Recorded as a apprentice painter in 1810
4. Joseph, born 4 December 1802.
5. Thomas, born in 1806 and mentioned above.
6. Charles, born in 1811 and married Emme Taylor in 1830. He was a clerk employed at Wedgewoods and had several children and grand-children.

Joseph Boddington died in Hanley in 1842 and said to have been 73 years old.



Thomas Lovatt and one of his decorated pots



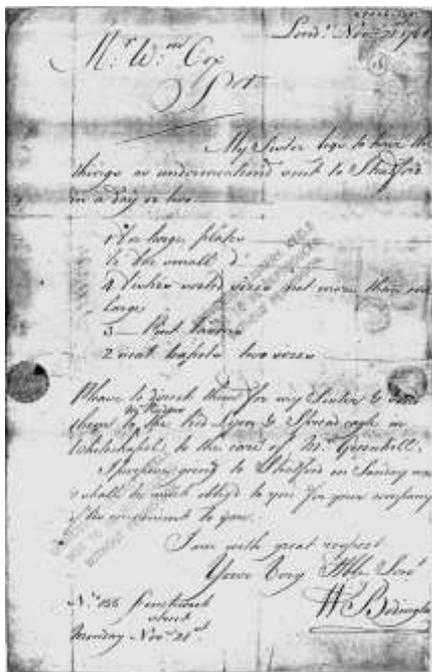
It seems that Joseph married for a second time to a Mary Ann Lovatt on 29 December 1833. According to the 1841 census a Joseph Boddington, then said to be in his late 60s, and his wife Mary, in her late 40s, resided at an address on Snow Hill, Hanley. With them were two daughters: Elizabeth, aged six, and Mary aged two, and a twelve years old Thomas Lovatt. Mary was a widow and Thomas was her son who was born in October 1829 by her previous marriage to Thomas Lovatt. The Lovatts were a well known local family and Thomas Lovatt was one of the most famous decorators to be employed by the Wedgwoods.

Whilst it seems that Joseph and his family were the first Boddingtons to work at Wedgwoods factory in Stoke there are earlier Boddingtons connected with the firm. In the company's archives, now lodged at Keele University, there is correspondence dated 1800 between Samuel Boddington of Mark Lane, London, and Messrs Wedgewood and Byerley of York Street, St James Palace, London concerning shipment of goods for India. He also writes in that same year about an order for some wash-hand basins to be sent to the home of a John Raymond Barker, Esquire, of Fairford Park which were to be sent by the Cirencester Waggon from the Saracens Head, Snow Hill, London. Also there is a letter of 1768 sent to a 'Mr W^m Cox' in London, on 21 November, from 'W^m Bodington' of 155 Fenchurch Street, London, which requests that a number of plates, dishes, basins and '2 neat teapots' be sent to Stratford. It further directs that these be sent on behalf of his sister via Mr Pinders at the 'Red Lion & Spread Eagle' in Whitechapel in the care of Mr Greenhill. William Bodington says he proposes to travel to Stratford and would be obliged if Cox would accompany him, he then signs the letter 'I am with great respect Your Very H^{ble} Serv^t W Bodington'. Some nineteen years later, in May 1787, a Mrs Thomas Boddington of Clapton, Middlesex,¹ wrote to Mr Wedgewood at his Staffordshire Warehouse in Greek Street, Soho, London, requesting that some plates be sent by 'Clark's Leicester Waggon' to James Freemeaux, Esq., of King's Thorpe, Leicestershire as soon as possible. The following month they had not been delivered to the carriers and Mrs Boddington required to know why – it seems that the order was finally delivered in July. This correspondence would suggest that Mrs Boddington and perhaps William Boddington are acting as brokers or agents for the Wedgewood company. Is it possible that a younger branch of their family moves north to join the company in Staffordshire?

Samuel and Thomas Boddington were directors of Boddington and Co., London, a firm of West India merchants based in St Helen's Place, Bishopsgate, City of London. They had a sugar plantation on the island of St Kitts.

Where the Boddingtons originated from is not known for sure though it is believed they came from Warwickshire or Oxfordshire. It may also be that the family originated from the village of Boddington in Northamptonshire, close to the Oxfordshire/Warwickshire border. It is also believed that about this time there was a strong link with the Boddingtons who moved north to Manchester and founded the famous Boddingtons Brewery. Among the Boddington

archives at the Society of genealogists in London there is a letter dated 1892 from Francis Nicholas Boddington of Camberwell (mentioned above) in which he suggests that the family came from Oxfordshire and were cousins of the Manchester family who owned the famous brewery.



W. Boddington's letter of November 1768

ⁱ **Thomas Boddington** (3 June, 1736 - 28 June, 1821) was a political activist in London in the late 18th century. He lived in Clapton, Middlesex. Boddington was involved in the slave trade and active as part of the West India lobby, but also participated in other committees: Committee for the Relief of the Black Poor, and Committees for Repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts. He was a director of the Bank of England (1776-1810) and was on the Board of the London Dock Company. He worked at the Board of Ordnance based at the Tower of London from 1770. Along with others, he was involved in setting up the School for the Indigent Blind, St George's Fields, Southwark in 1799, housed in what used to be the notorious Dog and Duck tavern. Both he and his brother, Benjamin Boddington were West Indian merchants, based in 17 Mark Lane, London. He retired in 1794, whereon his son, Benjamin Boddington (1770 -1854), took his place.