



Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2013-26

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<http://torontofhc.blogspot.ca/>



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Announcements

A new list of all the Resources that we have at the Toronto Family History Centre is available to download as a PDF by clicking [here](#).

BIFHSGO Conference, September 20-22, Ottawa – Irish Genealogy

The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa is holding their annual conference in September with a special emphasis on Irish Family History. Four in-depth pre-conference seminars are offered on Friday, and on Saturday and Sunday one can attend up to four 1¼ hour long sessions a day. The early-bird special lasts until August 9th. Have a look at the full conference schedule [here](#).

What's New

FindMyPast.co.uk has just published service records of more than 50,000 officers and ratings who served in the Royal Naval Division from 1914-20. These records have details such as name, address, next of kin, service number, physical appearance, disciplinary record and even swimming ability! The division was formed from men who served with the Royal Navy and its reserve forces. It fought on land alongside the regular army during WWI. It included recruits from the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, the Royal Fleet Reserve, the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines, and the Army.

FamilySearch has added many images to browse of Brazilian Catholic church records this week. There are now nearly four million records to browse from various counties in Washington State 1856-2009; these include vital, probate, school, tax, naturalization and other records. Another browsable collection to which records have been added is Petitions for Naturalization 1787-1931 from New England (Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont).

The Forum:

Questions:

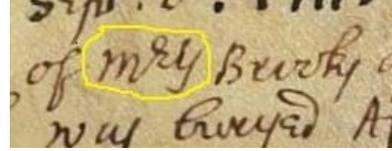
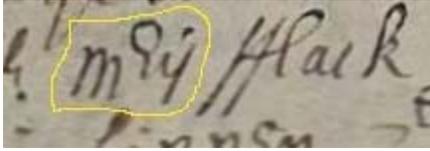
Q1/2013/26. Germany. General.

Do you have any collections of civil registrations, etc. from Germany and what time periods might be available? Also, would you have any information on Russian Mennonites in refugee camps in Germany in the early 1920's? Where in Germany were these set up, etc?

Suggestions:

Q1/2013/24. A Puzzle for Readers. UK.

A reader would like to know what the following item in yellow from an English parish register (1699 & 1712) says:



John Pepper has had another look at the images and writes: "Regarding the "Puzzle": In the name or prefix beginning with "M", I agree that the last two letters in superscript are "is", and my first conclusion was that this is the old abbreviation "M'ris" for "Mistress", a spelling used throughout the 17th century and very common at the start of it (data from the Oxford English Dictionary). It makes sense in both contexts and probably denotes a wife or widow of some social standing, whose husband was or had been prefixed "Mr.", not done lightly in those days. (This idea may be supported by the fact, which you point out -- thanks for that fascinating information! -- that Mrs. Flack was evidently a woman of means and not inclined to be buried on the cheap; and in the second example, "Newland end" looks like the name of a house of the gentry, unless it's known to be merely the name of a neighbourhood or township within the parish.) Unfortunately I have a problem with this, because the more I look at the samples, the less the first letter in superscript looks like any "r" in them, whereas it looks a lot like "e", most tellingly when that is also in superscript, namely in every example of "ye" meaning "the". But "M'eis" doesn't seem to make sense; the OED doesn't mention it as a standard abbreviation and doesn't give a single instance of a spelling like "mistreis", as distinct from "mistress" and "mistres".

"As for the second surname, I add my vote to "Brooks". I don't think the sample gives any instance of an "excess twiddle" at the beginning of a "u", and the example of "Butler" four lines down, which would be strictly parallel, isn't encouraging."

Q1/2013/25. Essex Town.

Many of the records I am looking at in Arkesden, Essex on the [SEAX](http://www.seax.org) website (Essex Ancestors Online) say the person is from Woodhall. Sometimes it is listed as two words and sometimes one. One of my grandparents is listed as a servant from Wood Hall. I've done a Google search and cannot find it. Is it called something else now? I'm assuming it was perhaps near to Arkesden...but ...I'm stuck.

FamilySearch has a wonderful set of maps for English parishes available at maps.familysearch.org. To find Wood Hall, put in the parish name – **Arkesden** and then click SEARCH. It will offer you only one option, **Arkesden, Essex**. Select that parish by clicking on its name. A box will appear that you can look up jurisdictions and nearby parishes, etc. Close that box. In the top right hand corner of the map click **EJ1851** and then **Ordnance Survey**. You will now see a very detailed Ordnance Survey map of Arkesden in 1851. By enlarging the map you can see a few tiny groups of houses, labelled Newland End, Clodmore Hill, Morley Green, Chardwell, etc. In the bottom left hand corner of the parish, there is a collection of perhaps eight buildings labelled Wood Hall. Is it still there in 2013? Yes. Click on the word **Satellite** in the top right hand corner, and in the bottom left there is a collection of buildings with a pond, a tennis court, and a swimming pool! Very posh and just the place in which to have found a servant in the 1800s and early 1900s.



News From the Trenches

Baptisms from Jews Chapel, Bethnal Green

I was looking at a couple of baptisms in the parish of Bethnal Green last weekend when I stopped to read the squiggle next to the top three baptisms: "Registered according to certificate from Jew's Chapel". This piqued my interest as I had never heard of a Jews Chapel. I turned to Google and found that FamilySearch had the following description: "Bethnal Green Jews' Episcopal Chapel - Bethnal Green Jews' Episcopal Chapel, located on Old Nichol Street, was the first Episcopal chapel to be built within the boundaries of St Matthew's Bethnal Green Parish, in the year 1814. An episcopal chapel built in 1814 by the Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews. It was closed in 1895 and later became Holy Trinity." Wiki said: "In 1811, a five-acre field on the Cambridge Road in Bethnal Green, east London, was leased as a centre for missionary operations. A school, training college and a church called the Episcopal Jews' Chapel were built here. The society's work began among the poor Jewish immigrants in the East End of London and soon spread to Europe, South America, Africa and Palestine." As I looked more closely at the records of Dec 18, 1842, the missionary nature of the work became evident:

Charles Stephen (born Jan 22 1823), son of William Julius & Henrietta Sander, of Hagrau in Silesia, distiller

William Lewis (born Nov 7 1819) son of Abraham & Rachel Blaut, of Johans in Saxe Weimar, dealer

Paul Prosper (born Jul 17 1786), son of Joseph & Dinah Selevante of Mogadore in Morocco, rabbi

Mogador is now Essaouira in Morocco and had a large Jewish community, starting from the Spanish inquisition and lasting until the 1960s.

ALWAYS stop to read the squiggles – you never know what interesting info you will find.

**BAPTISMS in the Parish of Bethnal Green
in the County of Middlesex in the Year 1842.**

When Baptised.	Child's Christian Name.	Parent's Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1842 Dec 18 th	Charles Stephen born Jan 22. 1823	William Julius & Henrietta	Sander	Hagrau in Silesia	Distiller	James B. Cantwaight
No. 513						
1842 Dec 18 th	William Lewis born Nov 7. 1819	Abraham & Rachel	Blaut	Johans in Saxe Weimar	Dealer	James B. Cantwaight
No. 514						
1842 Dec 18 th	Paul Prosper born Jul 17. 1786	Joseph & Dinah	Selevante	Mogadore in Morocco	Rabbi	James B. Cantwaight
No. 515						
1842 Dec 25 th	Susan born 12 Nov 1841	James & Maryanna	Hampson	17 Pent Street	Widow's Sewant	ER Jones Minister.
No. 516						

Registered according to certificate from Jew's Chapel, E. G.

Were You Aware...

National Archives UK Naval Records – Although not new, the National Archives' July Newsletter has links to service records for Royal Naval personnel, complementing the new Naval records available on FindMyPast. They have several record series to explore including [Officers' service records 1756-1931 \(ADM 196\)](#), [Officers' record cards and files 1840-1920 \(ADM 340\)](#), [Royal Navy ratings' service records 1853-1923 \(ADM 139 & ADM 188\)](#) and [Women's service records 1917-1919 \(ADM 315 and ADM 336\)](#). Other online databases are listed down the left-hand side of the page. Enough information is usually given to determine whether the person is the one you want; you can then download the image (which may be several pages) for £3.36.

Pennsylvania Ancestors

Dick Eastman's blog of June 13th mentions that FamilySearch has updated their Wiki pages for Pennsylvania, with special emphasis on county pages. Read his blog [here](#) and check out the updated guide at FamilySearch Wiki [here](#). By the way, FamilySearch Wiki is an amazing place to look for information about anything to do with family history. Many of your questions can be answered [here](#).

Blog about Oshawa

In her *Genealogy Canada* blog of July 8th, Elizabeth LaPointe writes that there is a new blog about Oshawa, Ontario. It can be found at [Oshawa Journal](#). The site says it "contains timelines, news clippings, birth/marriage/death/grave records, photos and stories of the people I am researching, as well as the history of streets and houses in the village of Oshawa". Many of the links at the top of the page just lead to ads but the links in the body of the blog seem to work. It has some interesting old photos. This is probably a work in progress and those with an interest in Oshawa should keep their eye on it or subscribe to the blog.

Summer Sale for Canadian Books on CD

Malcolm Moody has announced that Archive CD Books Canada has a summer sale on Canadian books that have been digitized and put on CD. The books are up to 50% off. To view the list of CDs, go to [Old Books on CD](#).

Films received in the week ending July 11th and due for return on Sept 5th.

Film Content	Film No
Crouch Family History	1035540
DEU Pedigrees of Immigrants 125134-126010	1796713
ENG BRK East Lockinge BTs 1605-1935	1279462
ENG LAN Liverpool Burials 1844-1857	1564261
ENG LAN Liverpool PRs 1836-1840	1468981
PRU WPRU Bischofswerder PRs 1843-1857	0208014
PRU WPRU Sommerau PRs 1844-1867	0208368

A patron wishing to view a film ordered by another should check first with staff. The description of the film given above may not be a full description but a search in the FamilySearch catalog will reveal the full content. The geographical abbreviations are Chapman codes.

Toronto Family History Centre Current Opening Hours:

(Always phone us if you do not have a booking to ensure that we are open.)

Tuesday 9:30 am to 2 pm (Linda)

Wednesday 9:30 am to 3:45 pm (Ann, Joe am, Helen pm); 6:30pm to 9:30pm (Don & Roberta)

Thursday 9:30am to 3:45 pm (Don & Roberta); 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm (Helen)

Closures: If you do not have a booking, call before you come.

For a copy of a searchable listing of all films, fiche, CDs and books held at the Toronto Family History Centre in pdf format, click [here](#).

[FamilySearch - Search](#)

[FamilySearch - IGI](#)

[Hugh Wallis IGI Batch Numbers](#)

[FamilySearch Catalogue](#)

[FamilySearch OLD Catalogue](#)

[FamilySearch Film Ordering](#)

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