

Essex Record Office e-bulletin November 2012

Welcome to the November edition of the ERO e-bulletin. In this edition:

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News

Stocktaking

The ERO will be closed for our annual stocktaking from Monday 26 November to Saturday 8 December inclusive. We will reopen as normal on Monday 10 December. We will be busy using the time for much needed housekeeping tasks which it would be difficult for us to complete while we were open to the public, so we thank our visitors for bearing with us.



Documents being reboxed during a previous stocktaking

Document of the Month: List of suitors to manorial court of the Abbey of Walden 1492 (D/DBY M151)

A new Document of the Month has just been installed in the Searchroom. This unusual document is a recent discovery in a manorial court roll for the manor of Walden Abbey in Saffron Walden dating from 1492. It lists tenants who 'owed suit' or were obliged to attend the manorial court, so in it we find names of residents of over 500 years ago.



A section of the list, showing John Colle of 'Ferycroft'

In some cases, even the name of the property the person held is given, some of which can be traced to today; John Colle, for example, was tenant of a croft called Fairycroft, which gives its name to today's Fairycroft Road. The

document will be on display throughout November, and can be seen in the Searchroom.

Next steps for Essex Ancestors

This month marks the first anniversary of Essex Ancestors, our ground-breaking online subscription service. So far over 2,800 people, from 25 countries, have signed up to look at images of parish registers and wills. As launched, the service lacked images of post-1837 registers from parishes G-W. Now, thanks to a great deal of hard work by our digitisers and by the Council's software development team, we are in a position to fill the gap. These extra post-1837 images will be published progressively from mid-November, with a target completion date of mid-December. We will be posting updates on our blog, and on the Essex Ancestors home page.

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of <i>St. Peter</i> in the County of <i>Suffolk</i>			
Wife	Child	Parents Names	
Baptized	Christened	Children	Parents
<i>1835</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1836</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1837</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1838</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1839</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1840</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1841</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1842</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1843</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1844</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1845</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1846</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1847</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1848</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1849</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>
<i>1850</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Edward</i>	<i>Ann</i>

Waltham Forest joins the Essex Ancestors project

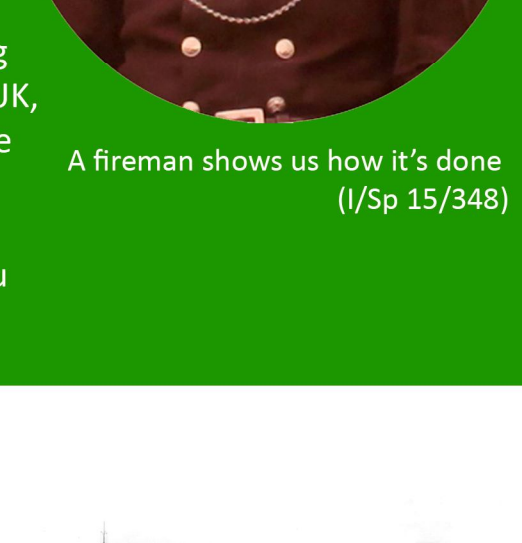
Shortly, Essex Ancestors will include images of the registers deposited by all the parishes that we serve ourselves. The only part of historic Essex to be missing will then be the ancient parishes of Chingford, Leyton and Walthamstow and their modern daughter parishes. Their registers are held separately by Waltham Forest Archives, and so far have been completely inaccessible online. We are happy to say that we have now reached an agreement with the London Borough of Waltham Forest that will allow us to add these registers to Essex Ancestors. Copying will begin shortly, with publication of the images expected in 2013.

Movember inspiration

The Movember campaign takes place each November, with men across the country and around the world beginning the month clean-shaven, and growing moustaches over the course of the month to spark conversation about and raise awareness of men's health issues.

If you are taking part, or know someone who is, then we are here to provide inspiration from the archives. We have been working hard to dig out the very best of our images of men with moustaches, and will be posting them daily on our Twitter profile (@essexarchive), with weekly round-ups on our blog.

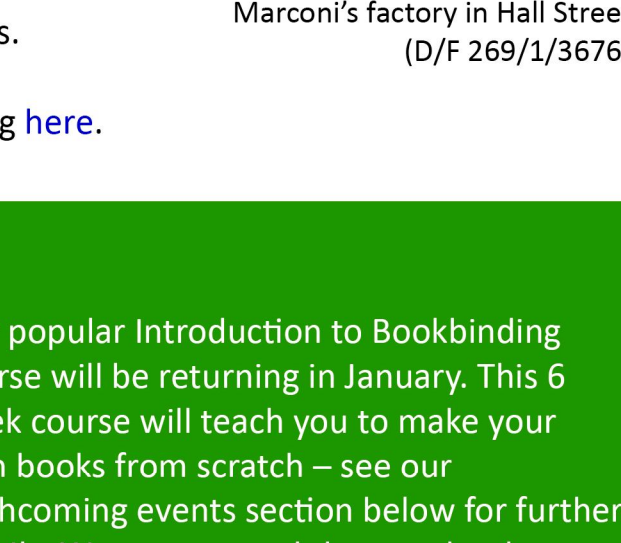
Our very own chaps at the ERO are going to be taking part themselves to raise money for Prostate Cancer UK, and we will be tracking their progress over the course of the month. Some of them have not been seen without beards for many years, so shaving them off in the first place is going to be a sacrifice in itself! You can find their Just Giving page [here](#).



A fireman shows us how it's done (I/Sp 15/348)

Marconi memories event

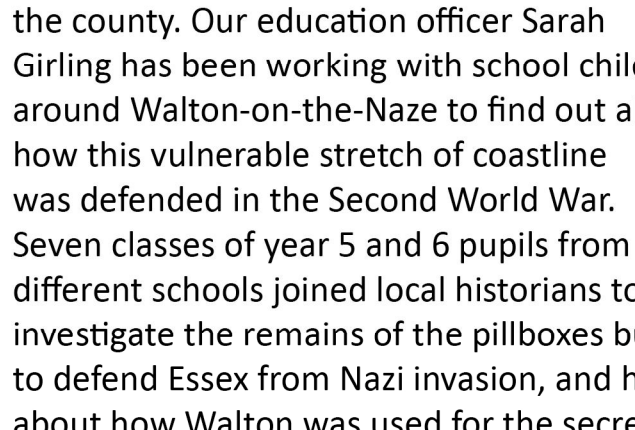
On Wednesday 7 November 2.30-4.30pm, the ERO is hosting a University of Essex event focusing on the centenary of the opening of Marconi's famous Chelmsford factory. This free event is open to all, for people wanting to find out more about Marconi the man and the technological advances he made, as well as those who worked for Marconi, or had relatives who worked there, to come along and share their memories. There will be talks, a small exhibition, and free tea and cakes.



Marconi's factory in Hall Street (D/F 269/1/3676)

You can read more about the event on our blog [here](#).

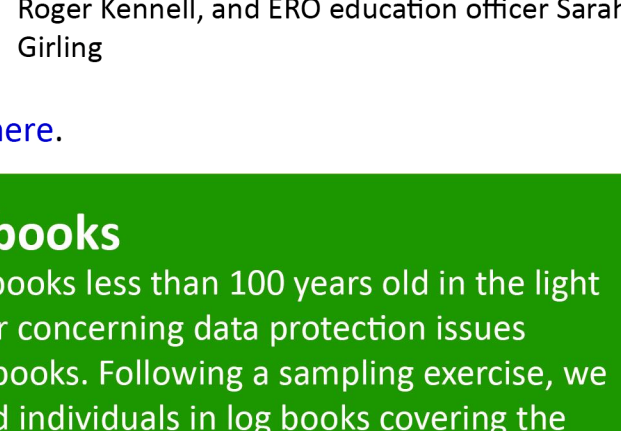
Introduction to Bookbinding



Our popular Introduction to Bookbinding course will be returning in January. This 6 week course will teach you to make your own books from scratch – see our forthcoming events section below for further details. We recommend that you book quickly to avoid disappointment as we can only accommodate 8 participants on each course.

The ERO goes to Walton

ERO staff are frequently to be found not just in our building in Chelmsford, but all over the county. Our education officer Sarah Girling has been working with school children around Walton-on-the-Naze to find out about how this vulnerable stretch of coastline was defended in the Second World War. Seven classes of year 5 and 6 pupils from 3 different schools joined local historians to investigate the remains of the pillboxes built to defend Essex from Nazi invasion, and heard about how Walton was used for the secret testing of guided missiles.



Schoolchildren from Walton Primary School with their teacher, and local historians Fred Nash and Roger Kennell, and ERO education officer Sarah Girling

You can read more about our trips to Walton [here](#).

Change of status for school log books

We have recently decided to close school log books less than 100 years old in the light of a decision by the Information Commissioner concerning data protection issues relating to school admission registers and log books. Following a sampling exercise, we found that there are sensitive details of named individuals in log books covering the last 100 years. Log books where part of the volume is over 100 years old will have that part which is less than 100 years old taped off so that the whole volume can be produced. Individuals who have reason to think that they are mentioned in a log book will be able to make a subject access request but any other enquiries will need to be dealt with under our closed records search procedure.

Tell us what you think

The Public Services Quality Group (PSQG) Survey of visitors to UK archives 2012 will be taking place at the Essex Record Office during the week of 12-16 November. This is a national survey and is your chance to comment on the service and services that are provided by the ERO. If you are planning a visit to us in the next few weeks then please do consider this week and take the opportunity to make your voice heard.

Forthcoming Events

Unless otherwise stated, all events must be booked in advance – please telephone

01245 244620. You can also keep up with our upcoming events at

www.essex.gov.uk/EROevents.

The work of the Thames Sailing Barge Trust

An informal talk from David Gibson for the Essex History Group. All welcome.

Tuesday 6 November, 10.30am-11.30am

Free, small charge for tea and coffee, no need to book

Searchroom Tour

This forty-five minute tour will show you how to get the very best from the ERO's Searchroom – it's ideal if you are just starting your research or perhaps want to go beyond using microfiche and microfilm. We will also offer some tips on how to use our online catalogue, Seax.

Saturday 10 November, 9.30am-10.15am

Free, please book in advance on 01245 244620

Discover: Family History Sources (1837-present)

Get to grips with the basics of family history in a session for beginners. Discover what civil registration documents and the census can reveal about your ancestors. We will also look at Internet sources.

Saturday 17 November, 10.30am-12.30pm

Tickets £10, please book in advance on 01245 244620

Christmas Traditions

A talk from Claire Driver for the Essex History Group. All welcome.

Tuesday 4 December, 10.30am-11.30am

Free, small charge for tea and coffee

No need to book

Introduction to Bookbinding

This 6 week course in the ERO's Conservation Studio will introduce you to the world of Bookbinding. Learn how to make your own books from scratch starting with a simple pamphlet style binding working up to a sewn hardback book using traditional methods. This course will give you a good grounding from which to pursue this traditional craft.

Classes take place on Monday evenings from **28th January to 4th March 2013, 6.00pm-8.00pm**

£120 per person, including all materials. Please book in advance on 01245 244620

The archaeology of Syria – a vanishing heritage?

A talk from Miriam Stead for the Essex History Group. All welcome.

Tuesday 8 January, 10.30am-11.30am

Free, small charge for tea and coffee

No need to book

Discover: Family History Sources (1837-present)

Get to grips with the basics of family history in a session for beginners. Discover what civil registration documents and the census can reveal about your ancestors. We will also look at Internet sources.

Saturday 26 January 2013, 10.30am-12.30pm

Tickets £10, please book in advance on 01245 244620

The Bethnal Green Tube Disaster of 1943

A talk from Derek Spicer for the Essex History Group. All welcome.

Tuesday 5 February, 10.30am-11.30am

Free, small charge for tea and coffee

No need to book

Discover: Maps

Join members of our Searchroom team for a practical session that will explain how to use some of the many different kinds of maps that can be found in the Essex Record Office.

Wednesday 6 February 2013, 10.30am-12.30pm

£10, please book in advance on 01245 244620

Discover: Your Criminal Ancestors

Did one of your ancestors find themselves on the wrong side of the law? This session will explain what records can reveal about criminals, their crimes and the punishments they suffered.

Tuesday 26 February 2013, 2.30pm-4.30pm

Tickets £10, please book in advance on 01245 244620

Keep up with ERO

We welcome your comments on this e-bulletin and all other aspects of the ERO's service. If you have a comment or a suggestion about how we could improve, please e-mail us at ero.enquiry@essex.gov.uk.

If you no longer wish to receive the ERO e-bulletin, please reply with 'Unsubscribe e-bulletin' in the subject line.



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