



EDGAR EVENTS

**Researching and sharing Edgar family
history No. 12, January 2008**



DNA Update

by James Edgar (Editor) (jamesedgar@sasktel.net)



There have been rumblings that we should hold off the DNA testing until after the Relative Genetics data get transferred to DNA.Ancestry.com. That way, there will be fewer chances of a screw-up.

I say, let's get on with it! At the rate that glaciers move, we could be here for a long time waiting for something to happen! I've spoken on the telephone with Darlene Odenwalder, who used to be the head geneticist at Relative Genetics and now she works for DNA.Ancestry.com, heading up the team that will transfer the data from one to the other. She is also responsible for the overall coordination of matters genetics at DNA.Ancestry.com.

Her slant on things is that there's no need to delay; they can accept requests for kits and testing is ongoing as I write. She even offered a 15% bonus discount for people starting the test right away. She hinted that, even though the bonus program ended on 2007 December 31, it would probably be honoured in the New Year.



So, if any of you out there who haven't yet been tested, and you would like to find out your DNA type (or have a male Edgar relative you'd like to have tested), go to dna.ancestry.com/welcome.aspx and click on



Enter as the EDGAR Project and use the discount code "DNA_S5FRP" at the appropriate spot.

The procedure now is that you pay up front for a kit to be mailed out at the already reduced rate of \$149 US for the 46-marker test. This is the one to get; for our purposes, it's the most definitive test and will give the best results when comparing our DNA to others. This is especially true now that we have the much larger database for comparison at DNA.Ancestry.com.

What are you waiting for? In the immortal words of Larry The Cable Guy, "Git-R-Done!"

I received this email on December 10: *...that the Warrington, Lancashire, Edgars have joined the DNA study. Kit is ordered, and on way to my uncle. Results should be ready in 4 to 6 weeks!*

Happy Holidays to you and yours!

Jennifer (Edgar) Detta

Kimberley, BC

[Good on you, Jennifer! Note: See her tree on p. 7 below.]



SteveUK (of Crewe) (banjos@edgarhome.fsnet.co.uk) says:

I was trawling the internet the other day and I was looking at the Menzies Clan. It's pronounced 'Mingis'. The Z and the G are a Scottish 'thing' and are interchangeable. The correct pronunciation is sort of in between Z and G, a bit like GH.

I then saw a reference to Edzar and Edzer as another example of this use. It refers back to Edgar as well. The point is that the Edzar is softer than Edgar, and gives the

Adair variation. Eggar, Agar are a hard pronunciations and are from Edgar.

The gist of this is that Adair is an old Scottish derivation and Eggar and Agar are more recent. The Adairs will be related (if they are) back about 500 years or so.



More to come
in a later issue...

I received many positive comments about the photo gallery of “Old Geezers.” This letter from Keith Bloomfield included a photo that just missed the deadline. Please send me any pictures you have – they don’t have to be too old to make the cut!

Dear James

I had intended to send you another Old Geezer for your Newsletter but just missed out. Anyway here's my contribution and I'm sending it direct to you because there seems to be a resemblance between your ancestor James (b 1800) and our Robert Jnr(b 1836). What do you think? The photo was taken about 1882 and shows Robert Jnr with his wife Alice Mitchell and, from L to R, their children Robert Richard (b 1862), Alfred James (b 1864), Joseph Nathaniel (b 1874) and either Annie or Alicia (not sure which).

There has always seemed to be some sort of link between the Argentine Edgars and North America. My wife's mother and sister were educated at an American school in Montevideo and her grandfather's brothers were sent to the USA for their education - Alfred James died at the age of 19 in Illinois in 1883, probably not long after the photo was taken. So maybe Robert Snr did visit North America before going on to Argentina. We just don't know.

You will realise that it's my wife's family we are working on. The attachment will put you in the picture.

With very best wishes

Keith Bloomfield

[Editor's note – See Keith's story below, “The Edgars of Argentina.”]



Making Sense of it All!

by Steve Edgar of Crewe, England (banjos@edgarhome.fsnet.co.uk)

I've been mulling over the recent DNA results and am getting a little confused by the Celtic R1b members not having any matches.

Why is this? Well, the data simply do not match, these are different families of the same "tribe." The Celts go 'way back in European history. The original British were Celts, Stonehenge was built by Celts, all of our pre-Roman history is Celtic. They are mostly misunderstood as to their travels and movements. New evidence is showing just how developed these people were, in that they did move about a lot in the latter years before the Romans. Evidence is being found of extensive trade. Analysis of copper spear heads in Britain show many origins for the copper. North Wales and Switzerland being two of them. Axe heads, beads, and trinkets come from all over Europe, some even from Africa and China.

The R1b haplogroup origins are pretty diverse and date back to approx 12,000 years ago



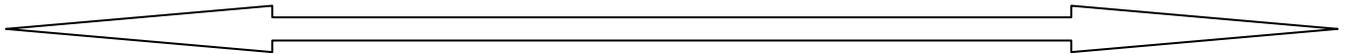
Within the overall spread there were certainly "pockets" of Celts that did not move out of a particular location for maybe some thousands of years. This being the case, sub-tribes within the R1b group would certainly have formed. They would not show close connections with each other, certainly not the 70%-plus value we want for a "hit" in our research.

As trade developed the traders may well have traveled with their goods and settled in another location. We do this now, family businesses send other family members to another country as their agent. Someone they can trust. Why couldn't the Celts have done the same? This will show as a DNA imprint as we see now in our own results.

The Romans started the replacement or relocation of the Celts, they certainly got some to integrate, some were killed in battles if they didn't conform, and others were pushed out west. The Saxons and Vikings completed the process. Certainly the Welsh, Irish, and SW Scots are ethnically Celts.

My next question now concerns Richard Edgar's "Clan" theory. I don't dispute this theory at all, it is entirely plausible. But, based on the location of the Edgar Clan formation in SE Scotland in AD 1200 or so, surely any people with Celtic origins would have been pushed out to the north and west 500 or 1000 years earlier and settled by the Saxons, Vikings, and remnants of the Roman army of occupation. There may have been some remaining, but would there have been as many as showing in our DNA result? I think that this points to other origins for some of these Celtic origins. When the Edgars left Wedderlie and settled in Dumfries and Galloway the history states they settled in an area where the "Edgars were already numerous." Dumfries and Galloway is SW Scotland, where you would expect Celts. King Edgar of Scotland is suspected of having Celtic origins. There was an English King Edgar as well. We have Peterson, Williamson, and why not Edgarson? Peterson is shortened to Peters, Williamson to Williams — surely Edgarson to Edgar is possible?

Steve Edgar



This ancient church was one we located last year across the street from a pub called Genie Mac's (Drinking Consultants) and up a wee hill in Camlough, South Armagh. It was interesting in that the churchyard had been neglected for so long that the fallen headstones (what was left of them) were

hidden under a thick cloak of grass. It looked like a hummocky field, until we stumbled over a stone or two; then we realized what we had.



Probably the parish dissolved during the potato famine, when so many people either died or left that there was nobody to tend the yard. The church walls remain, but the roof is gone, and trees grow where the altar once stood.

We didn't find any Edgar graves!



THE EDGARS OF ARGENTINA

by Keith Bloomfield (keith@knabloomfield.fsnet.co.uk)

My wife's mother, Lillie Edith EDGAR, the eldest child of Joseph Nathaniel EDGAR and Bessie Elmslie Leys MOORE was born in Olavarria, in the Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 10th November 1905, and died on 11th April 1983 in Lomas de Zamora. Alfred EDGAR, whose DNA has been studied, is the son of her brother, Edward (1912-1987).

Her father, Joseph Nathaniel EDGAR, was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina on 5th January 1874 to Robert EDGAR and Alice MITCHELL. His working life was spent as an engineer with the Argentine Railways and it was at the little railway settlement of Las Flores that he married Bessie MOORE in 1904. He died in Temperley, a suburb of Buenos Aires, in 1951. He had two brothers, Robert R and Alfred (both of whom were, unlike him, educated in the USA), and three sisters, Annie K, Alicia B, and Elizabeth J. Alfred died in Aurora, Illinois, USA, in 1883 at the age of 19, and Robert R in Lomas de Zamora, Buenos Aires in 1945.

Robert EDGAR, Joseph Nathaniel's father, was born in Montevideo, Uruguay, in January 1836 and baptized in Buenos Aires about four months later. His family may have moved from Uruguay to Argentina at about that time but there was much coming and going across the River Plate in those years. In any event he married Alice MITCHELL in Buenos Aires in 1861. He died in Lomas de Zamora, a suburb of Buenos Aires in 1915. Robert had a brother Richard who, like him, was born in Montevideo (in 1838) and baptized in Buenos Aires two months later. We have no further information.

Robert Edgar's parents were Robert EDGAR Senior and Ann KEYS. We have few details of Robert Senior's life apart from the fact that, like his wife, he was born in Ireland. It is known from an item in the local British community newspaper *'The British Packet'* that he married Ann in the Scots Church Buenos Aires in 1835. He died in Montevideo, Uruguay in 1846 but his origins are uncertain. He may have arrived in the River Plate with the 1825 wave of immigrants. However, although most Irish immigrants seem to have sailed from the port of Liverpool; a group arrived via New York in 1832, so that is another possibility.

The DNA analysis of material provided by Robert Edgar's 2xgreat-grandson, Alfred Edgar, shows a 97.7% match with that of John Edgar of British Columbia whose ancestors are known to have come from the Saintfield-Boardmills area of County Down. This very close match, albeit restricted to just one sample, indicates a common ancestry three to five generations ago in the late 1700s or early 1800s. It is therefore fairly certain that Robert came from County Down.

Keith Bloomfield

(Admittedly, he says, there are a few omissions — the partial family tree shown below is supplied by Keith Bloomfield.)

ROBERT EDGAR Snr

bd. ?? 1810-1815, ? County Down, Ireland

dd. 1846, Uruguay

| Robert EDGAR Jnr

| bd. 27 Jan 1836, Montevideo, Uruguay

| dd. 11 Jul 1915, Lomas de Zamora, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Robert Richard EDGAR
 bd. 11 Feb 1862, Buenos Aires
 dd. 27 Mar 1945, Lomas de Zamora, Argentina

Alfred James EDGAR
 bd. 20 Feb 1864, Buenos Aires
 dd. 19 Mar 1883, Aurora, Ill., USA

Annie Keys EDGAR
 bd. 18 May 1866, Buenos Aires
 dd. 24 Mar 1936, Chichester area, England

Alan HICKEY
 bd. 19 Jul 1893

Daniel Edgar HICKEY
 bd. 1895, Adrogué, Bs As, Argentina

Alicia Blinkhorn EDGAR
 bd. 20 Oct 1869, Buenos Aires
 dd. 28 Aug 1942

Mabel MITCHEL

Joseph Nathaniel EDGAR
 bd. 5 Jan 1874, Buenos Aires, Argentina
 dd. 13 Oct 1951, Temperley, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Lillie Edith EDGAR
 bd. 10 Nov 1905, Olavarria, Buenos Aires, Argentina
 dd. 11 Apr 1983, Lomas de Zamora, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Norma Alice DODDS
 bd, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Arnold Edgar DODDS
 bd, Belgrano, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Jane Alice EDGAR
 bd. 19 Apr 1908, Empalme Lobos, Argentina
 dd. 1 Sep 1979

Edward Albert EDGAR
 bd. 16 Jan 1912, Tolosa, La Plata, Argentina
 dd. 16 Oct 1987

Alfred Edward Guy EDGAR
 bd, Buenos Aires

Maureen Ana EDGAR
 bd, Buenos Aires

Gladys Frances Leys EDGAR
 bd. 1 Mar 1919, Las Flores, Argentina
 dd. 26 Nov 1924, Lomas de Zamora, Argentina

Elizabeth Julia EDGAR
 bd. 31 Mar 1884, Buenos Aires
 dd. 8 Jun 1916, Lomas de Zamora, Argentina

Richard EDGAR
 bd. 20 Apr 1838, Montevideo, Uruguay



Frankie Sawyer (docnhim@infionline.net) says:

“My great grandfather Hugh Edgar (pictured in the No. 11 newsletter) was said to have switched his shoes back and forth. He would change them left to right and vice versa so ‘that they would wear out evenly.’ Now that is a real Scotsman, wouldn't you say?”

This comes from Jennifer (Edgar) Detta of Kimberly, B.C. (jjdetta@cintek.com)

[Note, what follows is a very truncated version of her tree, since her letter went on for six pages! But with her kind permission, we publish this tantalizing bit.]

My EDGAR Roots

The earliest reliable record found for my line of the Warrington, Lancashire Edgars is the marriage certificate for Thomas EDGAR to Ann DRINKWATER on 30 May 1838 at St. Paul's Warrington. The certificate states:

"Thomas Edgar, of full age, Bachelor, Glazier, Bridge Street, father Thomas Edgar, Brazier
Ann Drinkwater, of the same (age), Spinster, Lythgoe's Lane, father Joseph Drinkwater,
Gentleman, in the Church of St. Paul, Parish of Warrington. Witnesses: Ann Edgar (could be
Thomas' mother) and E Hall"

Thomas EDGAR, born 1784, place unknown:

Working from the marriage certificate, I have been searching for Thomas EDGAR, Sr., Occupation Brazier. There was a significant glass industry in Warrington, but I have not found Thomas Edgar listed in any of the directories for that time. He was likely an employee, and therefore not listed in the directories.

I recently found a burial record in the Lancashire OPC for Warrington, this could be the father of Thomas:

Burial: 25 May 1821 St Elphin, Warrington, Lancashire, England
Thomas Edgar - Age: 37 Abode: Bridge Street Buried by: J Topping Curate
Register: Burials 1819 - 1826, Page 80, Entry 639 Source: LDS Film 1562960

Thomas Edgar, with the occupation of Glazier, is found in other records as from Bridge Street, Warrington. This burial record gives a date of birth for Thomas Sr. as abt. 1784.

There are burial records in the Lancashire OPC for Warrington that may give clues to Thomas' parentage:

John Edgar died 1830, aged 71 - born abt. 1759 Abode: Church Street
Margaret Edgar died 1830, aged 77 - born abt. 1753 Abode: Church Street
These two could have been husband and wife, and parents of Thomas born abt. 1784.

Also, a burial for Elizabeth Edgar in 1814, aged 89 - born abt. 1725 Abode: Bank Street - this could be mother to John Edgar born abt. 1759.

Neither Thomas Edgar, born 1784, or his wife Ann have been located in the 1841 census, or in any directories from 1800 to 1830. It's likely they were deceased before the 1841 census, and I believe the burial record for Thomas (above) in 1821 is the right one.

- Thomas EDGAR, born 1813 - 1816, and wife Ann DRINKWATER:

In 1851, the family are living at Lower Bank Street, Warrington. Thomas is shown as age 35, and his date of birth is presumed to be about 1816 (and could be closer to the 1813 indicated on the death record).

Thomas Edgar, Head, Mar, 35, Plumber & Glazier, born Warrington
Ann Edgar, Wife, 40, born Warrington
Joseph T. Edgar, Son, 12, born Warrington
Frederick Edgar, Son, 2, born Warrington

- Joseph Thomas EDGAR born 25 Sept 1839 in Warrington, Lancashire
- **Charles EDGAR born 1873 and wife Elizabeth ECCLESTON**
- **Charles Edgar** – born 28 Nov 1899 in Ashton in Makerfield, Lancashire, England
This is my grandfather.
- Charles EDGAR born 1899 and Jessie Edith Helen St. Denis
- **Denis Charles Edgar** – born 5 January 1935 in Fernie, BC
Married Doreen Helen Miller 14 Sep 1957 in Nelson, BC and they had 5 children.
Denis Charles died 23 Sep 1986 in Emerald Lake, Alberta while on a business trip.

(Jennifer is the eldest child of this marriage.)

[Editor's note: As you can see from the foregoing, Jennifer has done her homework, and done all the required reading to glean these details from the public records. There is a bit of room below for a couple of her supplied photos.]



Grandpa Charlie



*Charles Edgar, Sr.
with Denny*



And we have this from Peter Edgar of Australia...(edgarsp@webone.com.au)

Our original John Edgar is believed to have been born in Scotland, Dumfriesshire, in 1828 and came to Adelaide, South Australia in 1848, aged 20. He died in 1893 in Adelaide. He appears to have started work in the silver lead mine at Glen Osmond, acquired some good land, sold it at a profit then moved into Adelaide city where he acquired three properties, ran dairy cattle on the parklands and owned a small shop.

He was known as 'McPherson' Edgar and was very well regarded. He had a number of surviving children, including my great grandfather Hugh Edgar who became a specialist in the care of horses and camels for exploratory expeditions into the interior, first with his pal Winneke the



Photo 1 John Edgar is with a beard holding the barrel at right

surveyor and eventually with the famous Horn scientific expedition. He was born in 1858 and died in 1916, by which time he was working as a stonemason at Cudlee Creek.



Photo 2 Hugh Edgar, son of John - above.

His son Richard, my grandfather, (1889-1976) became a skilled cabinet maker and wood machinist and in the 1920's moved from Adelaide to Iron Knob where there was a large iron mine run by the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited (now BHP Billiton).

Richard's son, my father Don Edgar, (1912-1998) joined BHP as the Iron Knob office boy in 1926 and retired some 48 years later as Executive Officer Shipping at Whyalla, the important ship-building port and steel-making town near Iron Knob.



Photo 3 Richard Edgar

I was born in 1938 and after graduation from the University of Adelaide, I earned my living as a Commonwealth (Federal) public servant in Canberra, the national capital. My brother John (b 1940) became a high level scientist with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Organization (CSIRO) at Geelong, and my sister Prue (b 1943, m Dave Walker) became a psychotherapist in Melbourne.

[Peter is teetering on the edge, trying to decide if he should get the DNA test or not – go ahead, encourage him! JSE]

A footnote to the “Old Geezers.”

by James Edgar (jamesedgar@sasktel.net)

I got this from my brother shortly after the last Edgar Events was published:

Hi There:

*Great photos of the elders! I love the Greek's family, they look pretty serious!
I was wondering if our Dad, Leslie, should have been included as he's 101 years past his birthday?
Whaddya Think?
Again, great work! Keep it up.*

Steve & Jane Edgar,

Kamloops, BC, Canada.

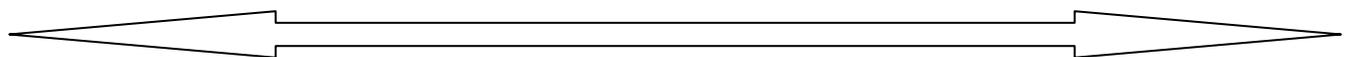
So, to honour the memory of our Dad, here are a couple of pictures: one from his wedding day and one with Mum taken in his later years.



Stephen Leslie (Les) Edgar – 1929
Born – 1906 December 04
Died – 1991 September 27



Helen & Les Edgar – 1990



Coming up in the next issue – a look at the most courageous man I ever knew – our brother, John Leslie Edgar.