



# EDGAR EVENTS

**Researching and sharing Edgar family  
history No. 57, October 2011**



## DNA Update



by James Edgar ([jamesedgar@sasktel.net](mailto:jamesedgar@sasktel.net))

The newest member of our group, **Roger Edgar** of Dunnville, Ontario, has results, but they aren't very encouraging. He doesn't match anyone on our group site, nor anyone else in the world – at least not closely! So, I have asked Ancestry.com to re-evaluate his results. We're still waiting for some answers on this...

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**Walter Edgar** of Columbia, South Carolina, reported last issue that his family name wasn't really **Edgar**, but started out as **Ezard**. The test results bear him out, as he isn't related to any **Edgars** – worldwide or on our site.

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Since I'm writing this while on vacation in England, it will be a very short edition (apologies to Juanita!). Recent contacts are **Susan Major** of Cincinnati, and her cousin **Steve Edgar**; **Agnes Marton** of Buena Vista, Saskatchewan; **Karen Long** of Toronto; and **Antony Edgar**.

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Picture time...



*Elizabethan architecture in Nantwich*

## The truth about Australia!



by Steve Edgar ([steven-edgar@sky.com](mailto:steven-edgar@sky.com))

A little story that's true(ish), Captain Cook did not discover Australia! All he did was navigate the ship, organise the crew, maintain discipline. The truth is that on that morning in 1770, Thomas Edgar was on duty on the Discovery and saw land on the horizon. He pointed it out to Captain Cook, who said "Oh yes! That's Australia!" and took all the credit. This little known story (emphasis on "story") will be a proud moment for all the Edgars "Down Under."

### The Wills of Captain Cook's Crew - Thomas Edgar

*In the Name of God Amen, I Thomas Edgar, Mariner of the Sig'l Station Dungeoness in the County of Kent, Widower, being in Bodily Health and of sound and disposing Mind and Memory. and considering the Perils and Dangers of the Seas and other uncertainties of this transitory Life, do for avoiding Controversies after my Decease, make, publish and declare this my last Will and Testament in Manner following, that is to say –*

*First, I recommend, my Soul to God that gave it and my Body I commit to the Earth or Sea as it shall please God to order. And as for and concerning all my worldly Estate, I give, bequeath and dispose thereof as followeth, that is to say –*

*I give and bequeath unto my beloved Daughters in Law, Mrs Ann Foley and Lydia Bean Spinster all Wages, Sum and Sums of Money, Lands, Tenements, Goods, Chattels and Estate whatsoever as shall be any ways due, owing or belonging unto me at the time of my Decease. I do give, devise and bequeath the same unto my beloved Daughters in Law Mrs Ann Foley and Lydia Bean to be equally divided between them after all my Funeral Expences is paid Head Stone and Foot etc*

*And I do hereby nominate and appoint Mrs Ann Foley and Lydia Bean to be my Executrix of this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all former and other Wills, Testaments and Deeds of Gifts by me at ant time heretofore made. And I do ordain and ratify these presents to stand and be for and as my only last Will and Testimony. In Witness whereof to this my said Will I have set my Hand and Seal the seventh day of April in the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and in the thirty ninth Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the third over Great Britain etc. **Thomas Edgar***

*Signed, sealed, published and declared in the presence of  
**John Langley, Stephen Kingsley.***

The Will above was discovered (groan) by my almost cousin Marian Morgan, a descendant of the Edgars in Derrylecka, Newry (no relation to the above Thomas). It really excites me when this sort of history is found, Edgars in famous places, doing things that you would not believe!

This is the 3rd Edgar I know of with a Naval history. There was an Admiral Edgar, an Edgar on board the Victory at Trafalgar. There was also an HMS Edgar afloat in the late 1800s.

Other Edgar claims to fame are-

- 1) Richard Edgar – Robert the Bruce's best man;
- 2) James Edgar – James Edward Stuart (father of Bonnie Prince Charlie) principal adviser for 50 years in Rome;
- 3) The book “Waverley” by Sir Walter Scott was supposedly based on the Edgars of Wedderlie.

Does anyone have any other Edgar claims to fame?

Let me know, Steve.

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### Pewter Badges and Buttons



For those of you new to this newsletter, solid pewter badges are available (from me, James Edgar) at \$18 CAD each – shipping extra. The casting has an integral clasp at the back and a sturdy pin. Perfect for your jacket lapel, tartan cape, or sporran!

I also have a supply of pewter buttons, at \$2.50 CAD each – shipping extra.

Email me, if interested – [jamesedgar@sasktel.net](mailto:jamesedgar@sasktel.net)

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What follows is from SteveUK...

### Wall Plaques

As an addition to the Edgar family badges, I have been in contact with a local potter, Anne Rodgers of Alsager Pottery. Anne is a highly qualified and experienced worker and produces traditional slipware products.

I commissioned a trial run of our Edgar Crest, which as you can see turned out rather well. Everything is done by hand, with no automation at all; each one is unique and can be customized to suit individual tastes, size, colour, etc.



Unlike the badges, we do not have to get moulds made and order a batch. To place an order you would need to contact Anne directly, and get a price including postage to your specification and location. The plaques make wonderful presents and are a real talking point. They are glazed and fired to withstand exposure to the atmosphere.



To view the Web site, go to [www.alsagerpottery.co.uk](http://www.alsagerpottery.co.uk)  
Or email [mail@alsagerpottery.co.uk](mailto:mail@alsagerpottery.co.uk).

(If you ask James nicely, he will make you a wooden plate stand to go with it!)

The reverse can be hand lettered to mark the occasion. If you are stuck for a birthday/Christmas present for someone, this could be the answer!

If you would like another family crest, other than Edgar, email me at [steven-edgar@sky.com](mailto:steven-edgar@sky.com), and I will locate a crest for you.

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BTW, Jodie and I are having a blast in the UK – visiting friends, relatives, and seeing the sights. One more picture... The Holly and the Ivy.

