



EDGAR EVENTS

**Researching and sharing Edgar family
history NO. 106, November 2015**

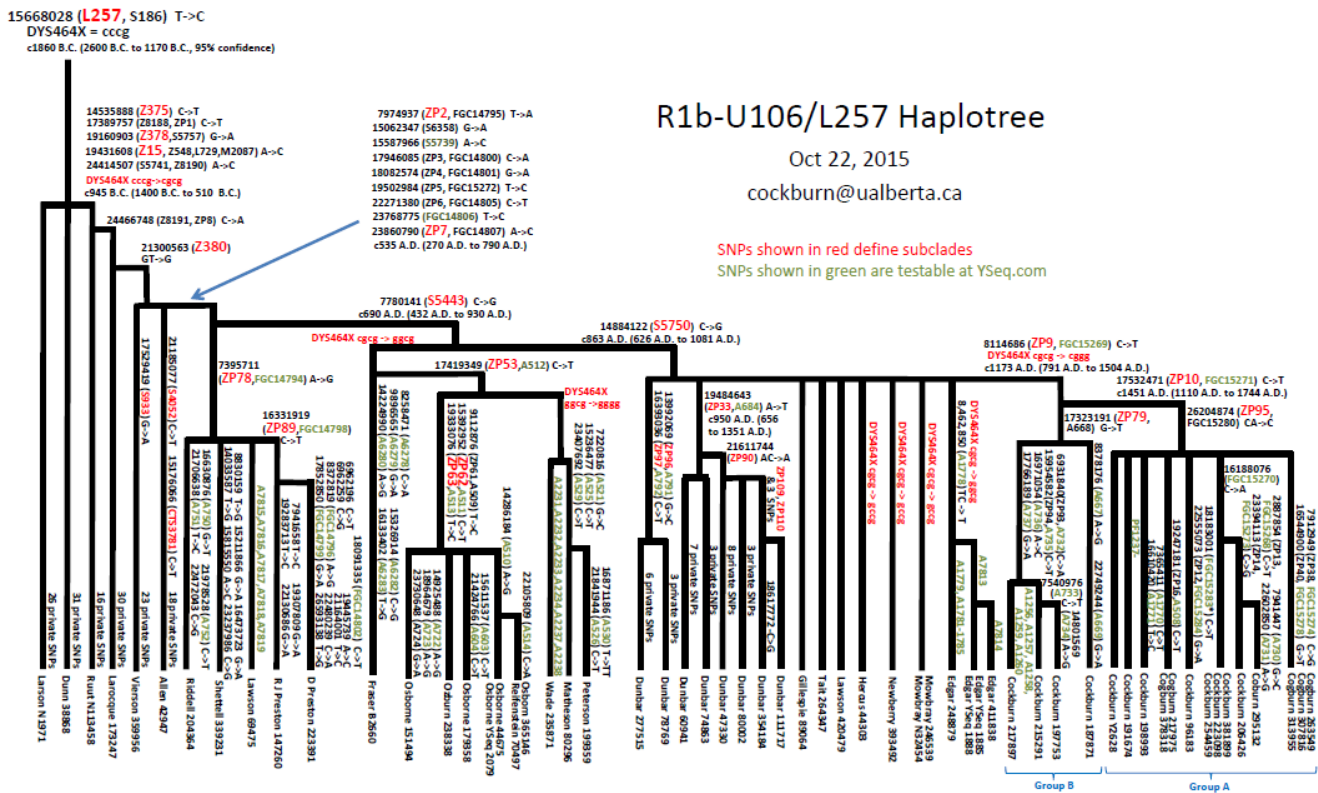


DNA Update



by James Edgar (james@jamesedgar.ca)

The Dunbar/Edgar DNA testing that is ongoing through Dr. **Bruce Cockburn** of Edmonton, Alberta, is turning out some fascinating results. For instance, we now have extensive testing done on four **Edgar** males who matched Dunbar DNA in the initial testing 'way back. Here we present the most recent chart, showing the latest results of **Andrew Edgar, Colin Edgar, Jim Edgar, and Raymond Croxford**. (You may have to blow it up to read the fine print.)



I asked Bruce Cockburn if there was any indication of when the Edgars split away from the Dunbars. Here is his response:

Hi James,

...We now have three SNP-defined subbranches. You should be able to create finer subbranches within the SNP-defined subbranches using the STR mutations that you tested for earlier.

It's hard to tell when the Edgars (and Cockburns) separated from the Dunbars. The evidence suggests that the split must have happened within a few hundred years of 1072, when Earl Gospatric settled in the Borders after rebelling unsuccessfully against William the Conqueror. The Cockburns provide some insight over the timing for the split that led to the Edgars. The Group A Cockburns were definitely separated from the Dunbars by 1330 (when Sir Alexander de Cokburn, a Group A Cockburn, married Mariota de Veteripont). But there was an even earlier separation between the genetically distinct Group A and B Cockburns. Like the Cockburns, the

Edgars have no known shared SNPs with the Dunbars after SNP S5750, which probably appeared near the time of *Gospatric*. This isn't a solid proof, but the evidence seems to point to a fairly early split of the Edgars from the Dunbars after the time of *Gospatric*. The A1778 deletion mutation seems to be a good genetic definition for the root of the L257 Edgars. I wonder what proportion of your family has this mutation. In the case of the Cockburns, it seems that about 75% of men have the root FGC15269 mutation.

Bruce

All of this is not just idle speculation, since the early **Edgar** history from **J.H. Lawrence-Archer** in *An Account of the Surname Edgar* indicates that the family was firmly established (including marriages and offspring, that is) by 1176, and probably earlier.

Furthermore, I contend that the **Edgars** we've tested, with six different DNA types, are all related back to **Cospatrick III** (or **Gospatric**, for the purists), 2nd Earl of Dunbar. There is likely no way to prove such a statement, nor is there any way to *disprove* it! It remains clear, though, that extraneous DNA can enter a family in any number of ways, and the most common is through what we now term an NPE (Non-Paternal Event, i.e. we don't know who the father is). If, say some 1000 years ago, a Viking male impregnated an R1b **Edgar** female, and she or her parents raised the child (assuming it was a male baby) as an **Edgar**, we now have two Y-DNA types named **Edgar**, the second one being my I1 Haplogroup—the Norwegian Vikings. The same could have happened with the Saxon Haplotype, the I2b1s. And, so on. The E, H, and J types are not that easy to explain, but the process is sound. Perhaps SteveUK is right that his ancestor had a kebab shop on Hadrian's Wall!

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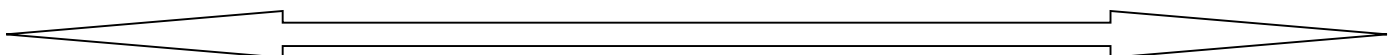
Changing the subject a bit, I extend a large "Thank You!" to those donors who have contributed to the Edgar DNA Trust Fund. It is through those generous donations that we've been able to help out with the extended testing organized by **Dr. Bruce Cockburn**.

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Pewter Badges

Are you in the market for the **Edgar Crest**? At \$18, plus shipping, they're a great way to say "I love my family!" (Pewter buttons also available.) The proceeds over cost go to the Edgar DNA Trust Fund, to help with our DNA quest.

Email me at james@jamesedgar.ca



Juanita Lou (Nelms) Edgar 1928-2015



by Steve Edgar (steven-edgar@sky.com)

Sad news for the Edgar clan.

October saw the passing of Juanita Edgar, my cousin from North Carolina. Juanita was a stolid, incredibly accurate and enthusiastic genealogist. She loved nothing more than the nitty-gritty of research and her resourcefulness was enviable.

Juanita and I first “met” when her son Norman did a DNA test that matched my own. Sometime back in Ireland or Scotland in the 1600s we shared an ancestor—the challenge Juanita set herself was immense, find the ancestor!

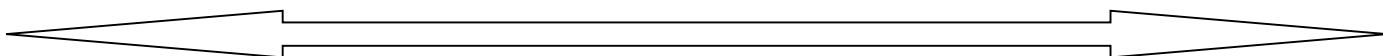
Links to Ireland, Canada, Australia, and Scotland were discovered, and Juanita managed to find that the Edgar ancestors were in the Army, hence their numerous locations. All the pointers led back to Ballybay in County Monaghan. We never did discover the ancestor, but we had a lot of fun researching and exchanging emails.

In 2010, Juanita and her family came over to Ireland to do some research and I took the opportunity for a Day Trip to meet up with them. We had a marvellous day, visiting Killaney, Portadown, Belfast, and other Edgar sites.

Juanita had been ill for a while and I have kept in touch with her daughter Janine; when I heard the sad news my eyes welled up. I shall miss her, as will her children, Janine, Judith, Curtis, and Norman, her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Juanita was a lovely lady, a sad loss.

[Ed: I want to add my condolences to what Steve has written. Juanita always encouraged us to write meaningful and newsy newsletters, never bashful to say that there wasn't enough in any particular issue. She also contributed to the Edgar DNA Trust Fund in a big way, with her motto “I give a dollar a day for the DNA.” I received a few of her \$365 donations over the years, and they have kept us going, striving for an ever better understanding of who we are, where we came from, and how we're related. We truly will miss her. James]



Just less than a week ago, I reprised a visit with **Bob Edgar** of Ayr, Ontario. And, I got to stay in the Edgar Suite of the nearby Swan & Peacock B&B once more.

I stopped to snap a photo of the full Moon behind the James Edgar Court street sign, too. I couldn't resist the flashy trees in their splendid colours on a gorgeous autumn evening.



My host, **Gail Swan**, had been busy decorating the B&B for Hallowe'en.



We received this email on October 30:

Hi,

I'm James (Jimmy) Edgar, of Hereford, England.

I came across your website by chance, and thought I'd get in touch.

I've two brothers and four sisters, all of us born in Hereford.

We have limited knowledge of our family history, except that we know that my dad's father was Irish, possibly Dublin, and the story is that after someone had been stabbed on his doorstep during the SinnFein Easter rising my Gran insisted they move away. He got a job as a chauffeur with a prominent Hereford family, and so here we are. We also believe he was in Russia during the first world war in an armoured car squadron (possibly initially as artillery spotters), and his C/O was called Lockear-Lampson.

That's all we know, but thought I'd pass it on anyway.

Your site looks interesting. Can I just keep browsing from time to time, or do I need to sign up or something?

Best regards

Jimmy Edgar

Once we get more information from Jimmy, we'll see if we already know about his family from all our previous testing and research. Otherwise, it may be an opportunity to discover his DNA type and connections.

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This next email came from a different source, John Graham Downer, a resident of Rockwood, Ontario. I first wrote to him and his response follows:

Hi John,

I was looking over the Family Tree DNA site and saw your name. Then I recalled that Robert Edgar of Ayr, Ontario, whom I had just visited this past weekend, said you were related.

As it happens, my wife Jodie had previously researched your family, except she didn't have your parents or yourself on our tree—now we do, thanks to the information you supplied on the FTDNA site. I wonder if you're aware of the Edgar Events newsletters at

www.edgargen.ca/james.htm#Edgar%20Events

And, would you like to be included in the mailing list for issue announcements?

Let's exchange ideas and information. Just for the record, you and Robert are 4th cousins. I can send you a tree for your mutual families, if you wish.

James

My Mom and I had a great visit with Bob a few years ago. He helped me a lot with some of the blanks I had in my tree. My Mom was thrilled to meet him and share stories etc. Thanks to him, I was able to visit my Great Grandmother's grave in Ayr. Unfortunately, her ancestry is one of those road blocks I have encountered.

Thanks for the info on the newsletter! I would be happy to be included on the mailing list.

Feel free to send me the tree for our families.

If I can provide any more info., let me know.

Thanks for connecting!

Graham

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Max Edgar in Oklahoma wrote following last issue:

Thanks James. Have a cousin Jimmy Edgar who had a very popular band in the 60's. They were at Disneyland here in the states at one time. Might try Jim Edgar and the Roadrunners.

This weekend all my Edgar relatives are meeting in Collinsville, Ok for a reunion. I was born on April Fools Day and Easter Sunday 1 April 1945 and at 70 there are several quite a bit older than me still living. Always wondered if some from Northern Ireland didn't end up in the Penal Colony of Australia at one time?? Do you know of any who have Dupuytren's Contracture of the hands? It is pretty common in some of my relatives along with Atrial Fibrillation in the older males.

Best wishes. I appreciate getting the newsletter and passing it along to my Edgars.

Max Edgar



And, he just wrote this yesterday:

That's my cousin Rex upper left: He's now 82 years of age: walks a mile and jogs a mile everyday

<http://nwhof.org/oklahoma/2015/10/13/oklahoma-chapter-inducts-class-of-2015/>



On Oct. 11 at the Jim Thorpe Museum in Oklahoma City, the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame honored the Class of 2015.

The Lifetime Service to Wrestling award was presented to Rex Edgar, Butch Jacobsen, Mike Jones, Mark Leen, and Larry Wilkey.

Larry Estep received the Medal of Courage award and Kelly Gregg was honored with the Outstanding American award.

