

# THE Y-DNA PROJECT

April 2011

**Quarterly report from Elizabeth O'Donoghue, the Society's Group Administrator**

Family Tree has recently changed the nomenclature of their haplogroup assignments and the spreadsheets will reflect this. They are now longer still, which is a challenge for any of us to remember. Focusing on the delineating SNP is easier to recall, though some members have not had deep clade or SNP testing, so they can look to those in their group who may have tested. Having said that, it is not always straightforward.

John Paul Donahue, kit 174583, did not at first know from where his family had emigrated. He had been included in the Mór tribe, since his closest match at 25 markers was Michael P Donoghue, already included in the Mór. John had a Deep Clade test done, and the results were a surprise – rather than just the anticipated L21+, which was what was found for the other Mór participants, he was also L159.2+.

There is an R-L159 project at Family Tree which can be found at <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/R1b-L159.2/default.aspx>. It explains that 'This SNP is a parallel mutation that exists also within Haplogroup I2a.' and also 'The first discovery of L159 was within Haplogroup I-M26; it was then found within R-L21. FTDNA designated them L159.1 and L159.2, respectively.' There are a number of observations made on the Goals page of the website. For L159.2 found in Ireland, 'The majority of Irish samples are from coastal Leinster (Dublin, Wexford, Waterford, Kildare) and Munster (Cork).

As it happens, John has since discovered that his earliest ancestor emigrated from county Tyrone. This, of course, is slightly at odds with being outside the Leinster province or the Cork area, but a migration from either area further north prior to emigrating to America is entirely feasible. Our Group IV cluster of two men match the Leinster modal haplotype, which is considered equivalent to L159.2. Interestingly, John's haplotype does not match the Leinster modal at any of the six distinguishing markers for the modal in the first 37 markers, which could indicate that the Leinster haplotype is older than some believe to be the case, with such variance in haplotype. John is included in the Group IV cluster, with the two other participants whose STR's match the Leinster modal.

Family Tree are now offering a total of 111 markers for STR testing. Rod emailed all parties that there was an introductory price for upgrades from 67 to 111, and a number of the participants have ordered the upgrade, so we will have those results for the next report. We already have some results for two Glens and a Mór participant, whose upgrades were ordered soon after the offer, but I will wait till all results are in before adding them to the spreadsheets. Family Tree are providing the results much more quickly than anticipated, but they don't yet have the facilities in place to compare the haplotypes and see how these additional markers affect the TMRCA, so they need to play catch-up with themselves.

The 38-67 panels were identical between the Glens and Mór tribe except for one marker, and while the two Glens individuals match most values exactly, there are a significant number of differences in the 68-111 panels between the Glens and Mór, so it may be more helpful in separating groups within the tribes than the 38-67 panels had been. It is always useful to have the maximum number of markers tested for comparison within the tribe, for our research purposes even if it does not bring you closer to the other participants. Thank you to those of you who have upgraded.

This quarter we have two new members. One is a Mulcahy from Dingle who matches our South Irish/Glens tribe and is seeking possible clarification for his genetic match with the Eóganacht Glens. The updated spreadsheets will show his genetic distance and possible TMRCA with the others in the Glens tribe.

The second new member is a Donoghue from Athy, Kilkenny. While he matches the Group II cluster on some of their off-modal markers (I refer to off-modal from the AMH), the other men are null at DYS439 – indicated by a **12** in the spreadsheet – and hence it is unlikely there is any close connection there. For the moment, I have placed this new member in the Unaffiliated section.

The results of the Deep Clade test have come in for the second member of the Breifne Group D. He is also U152+, which would support that it does indeed define the whole cluster as we have it identified.

If anyone finds inaccuracies in the data or has suggestions to improve the site, please let us know.