

## THE Y-DNA PROJECT

January 2011

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

Our O'Donoghue Society DNA Project contains a total of 161 members listed. Several of them are O'Donoghue ladies who have ordered mtDNA tests. While we do not actively manage the mtDNA results, they are welcome to join through our project. There are some kits which have not yet been returned and/or processed, so we have a total of 150 participants listed in our spreadsheets: 51 in the Glens tribe, 27 in the Mór tribe, 41 in the Breifne Clans/Cavan tribes, 11 in our other possible Eóganacht tribes of Ruis Airgit, Osraighe and Ninussa, 8 in four two-person clusters, 5 unaffiliated in the R1b1b haplogroup, 2 in R1a1, 4 in I2a and one in I2b1.

This quarter we have added one person to the South Irish Glens tribe, an O'Neill whose family are from Tipperary who matches some of our Glens O'Donoghues much the same as two other O'Neills in the O'Neill project who are also South Irish. The genealogical tracts include the name O'Neill as a sept of the Eóganacht Raithlind. While we believe the Glens tribe to be Eóganacht Cashel rather than Raithlind, there is assurance that these South Irish O'Neills are of an Eóganacht lineage. Family roots in Tipperary place them in proximity with the Cashel Eóganacht. We also have a new member in the first cluster of the Mór tribe.

In addition, there is a new member of our possible Ruis Airgit tribe – Damien O'Donoghue. He lives in Edenderry, Co Offaly and was sponsored by Vince Donohue. Vince's own family also came from Edenderry, and during his visits to the area in past years he came to know Damien and his family and they believed him to be related to them. The results show they match exactly at 37 markers, so the assumption certainly appears to be true. They are now searching more deeply into their family trees to find their common ancestor.

The results are in for the Walk the Y test of The O'Donoghue of the Glens. Regrettably, no distinguishing SNP was found to delineate the South Irish haplotype from the bulk of L21, the SNP that defines the bulk of our participants. The only R1b1b participant who belongs to a different clade is in the Breifne Group D. The SNP defining this participant is U152. Another member of the cluster has ordered the Deep Clade test, so this should help us determine if U152 does indeed define the whole cluster as we have it identified.

There may be an upgrade at some point for the WTY test, covering further areas of the Y chromosome. We will await potential future opportunities.

Family Tree have undertaken an upgrade of their site and the GAP (Group Administrator's Page), and though not all the Group Administrators are completely happy with it (including myself) we had no choice since they removed the 'old' GAP facilities when the new GAP 2.0 went online officially.

Sheet A in the Results section of The O'Donoghue Society link to the yDNA Project has always been a direct download of the Y-DNA Results page from Family Tree.

There is a new look to it now, with a changed format, including a different presentation of the first line of the spreadsheet. They have added a column for the Country of origin and the Paternal Ancestor Name, which contains whatever information the participant has loaded onto his personal page. If the participant did not input any information, the section will be blank. I would encourage anyone who does not have the information input to do so if they have any details. Family Tree has also decided to report multi-copy markers in one column rather than a separate column for each allele value, with the numbers separated by dashes. It's rather a nuisance to deal with this new format if separate columns are preferred to maintain a clearer indication of genetic distance when there is a difference between one or more of the numbers between individuals and groups. Alas, we must adapt. For the moment, I will continue to report Sheet B of the results with separate columns by manually updating as necessary.

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

Happy New Year to you all!