

# THE Y-DNA PROJECT

July 2009

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

This quarter we've added four new participants, including a gentleman who tested with DNA Heritage who asked to join our project. At DNA Heritage, they test for all but five of the 37 markers at Family Tree. Comparing his results, he is clearly a member of the Mór tribe, who matches the first subgroup in Spreadsheet B. Using the Dean McGee Y-Utility program I discussed in the last Quarterly Report, I was able to compute and compare this new member with the rest of the tribe.

A number of participants availed of the previous sale in May at Family Tree for upgrades to extend their markers to 67. A member of the Mór tribe has partial results in, and there are a number of other results still pending. Two in the Cavan groups have upgraded, and their results are adding more information for their respective tribes. The Breifne Group A member is completely on modal for the group, and the Group C member matches or nearly matches his companion on the marker values that differ from the other Breifne groups. I have added an ancestral haplotype for this small group C, though with only two members, there are several markers where they do not match, which makes it difficult to determine the likely modal value, so I left '?'s there.

Another Genographic member joined our project. He only has 12 markers, but he matches one of our Dunphys. I've encouraged him to consider an upgrade to see if the match goes deeper.

A new member who has been tested to be in haplogroup R1a matches our other R1a member 11 out of 12 in the first set of markers. I have also suggested an upgrade for the 12 marker participant to see if a close connection unfolds with further results.

In trying to research and identify the different tribes of Ó Donnchadha, we have a solid history for the Eoghanacht Raithlind/O'Donoghue Mór, Eoghanacht Cashel/O'Donoghue of the Glens tribes and the several Breifne/Cavan branches of Donohues. This is less so for the other tribes. Eóin Ó Donnchadha is researching the Osraighe tribe, since it seems likely he is of that tribe. One option we have is to recruit O'Donoghues living in Ireland who have a family history tying them to the locality of interest, which would increase the likelihood that we would obtain a haplotype with which to compare for as yet unassigned participants.

While a person may be interested in participating, they may not have the means to pay for a test. If any interested parties would be prepared to help subsidize further testing, we could establish a fund for that use. If any of you would consider offering an amount toward a test, please contact Rod directly about it. You could designate for which area of research you would be interested in having your funds used, and we could recruit possible candidates that fulfil the requirements – for instance, a Dunphy from the Osraighe territories, or an O'Donoghue from Galway.

I hope to have the Cavan/Breifne TMRCA spreadsheets updated with the Dean McGee Y-Utility calculations shortly and Rod will advise you when the spreadsheets and Interpretations link has been brought up to date.