

THE Y-DNA PROJECT

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

I'd first like to thank those participants who have provided me with details of their family histories since my request for information in the last report. And I ask again for those who haven't yet done so, to drop me a note when they can. The data I have so far is all very interesting. When you consider the vast expanse of time and place of the diaspora, the odds may seem long in finding a more recent, previously unknown connection between participants in the Project, but it's already happened to some, so you never know. Our goal over time is to try to support the DNA results with genealogical data.

I also want to thank those that have upgraded their tests to 37 markers. The results of the 37 marker tests are altering our previous perceptions to some degree, and it makes the comparisons more 'apples to apples' when calculating the time to the most recent common ancestor (TMRCA) between participants.

With so many individuals having moved up to the 37 marker stage, and many new members joining our study, a clear picture is emerging that is indicative of the correctness of most of the annals and historical records. We have identified an ancestral modal haplotype (a technical explanation of this terminology will be available at the link soon) for the Kerry tribes, and can clearly differentiate between the line of the Mór and the Glens. I'm delighted to say that even for those who only have the 12 markers tested, we are usually able to identify if they belong in either tribe. However, determining closeness to fellow members in the tribe is not possible unless there is data for 25, or ideally 37, markers.

Geoffrey The O'Donoghue of the Glens has new cousins and adherents. Those who can be distinguished as being of Geoffrey Paul's Glens branch are: William P Donoghue, John L Donahue, George L Donoghue, Florence O Donoghue, John M O'Donoghue, James O Donoghue, Sean B O Donoghue, Terrence P Donahue, William R O'Donoghue, Gerard G O'Donoghue, Patrick M O'Shea, and probably Brian L O'Donoghue.

The line of The O Donoghue Mór are: Tighe O'Donoghue/Ross, Jerry S Donehoo, Donald Donahue, John M.d. K Donahue, Thomas M. Donahue (dec-RIP), Daniel J Donoghue, Raymond Wm. Dunchue, David A Donahoo, Vincent J Donohoe, Michael P Donoghue, Thomas M Donohue, John O'Donoghue, Raymond Donohue, Michael C Donahue, Rod O'Donoghue, Thomas Preusser, Patrick B Donahoe.

We believe that Dwaine J O'Donohue may be part of the Eoghanacht Ninussa – his origins from Clare support this possibility. It would be helpful if other members from Clare would join the Project to add to our database.

While this is not the last word on these matters, for now these conclusions are indicated. When the charts are loaded onto the link, you will be better able to see how we arrived at our conclusions.

Family Tree DNA has recently taken on the huge responsibility of the National Geographic Genographic Project, and the demands of such a large influx of data (20,000 applicants worldwide joined the project in the first week it was launched) has understandably tied up their technicians, so the 'long chart' spreadsheet I mentioned in the last Journal that I hoped to be able to use to chart our results is still not available to me. That being the case, I feel I need to use what we have at the moment, rather than delay further compiling a chart for those recent participants and those recently upgrading their markers. I'm sure you're all anxious to see results beyond those from your personal page at the Family Tree website. The good news from Family Tree is that some of the Genographic participants have chosen to join our project, so we are widening our database even more.

And, all Project members are now able to join the Genographic study for \$15. This would include your 12 marker results among what they hope to be a database of 200,000. The agreement to join explains: *'Participation in the Genographic project will reveal the migratory history of your deep ancestry. You will be able to learn about the different regions that your deep ancestors crossed around the world, and how long ago this journey took place.'* I don't know that you would be able to contact any genetic matches, but the knowledge you would gain would certainly be worthwhile.

When the charts I'm compiling of our own Project are loaded to the Society website, Rod will let you all know.

So far, I've made little progress with the Scythian connection that I also mentioned in the last report, but I am pursuing a few new avenues that may bring some useful data. The historical and archaeological record substantiating the presence of Celts migrating as far as the Black Sea is clear – the challenge is to see if we can tie together the threads of the Milesian myth to genetically connect the Eoghanacht O Donnchadha to those early founders of our Gaelic culture. I've found a data source that has individuals in the Carpathian Mountains, which encompasses the ancient lands of the Royal Scythians, with 11 marker exact matches to Rod O'Donoghue, Tighe O'Donoghue/Ross and the other participants who all have 12 marker matches to each other. Could these individuals in present day Romania be remnants of the Milesians? When I have more news, I'll share it with you all.