



EDGAR EVENTS

**Researching and sharing Edgar family
history No. 38, March 2010**



DNA Update

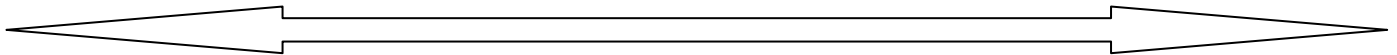


by James Edgar (Editor) (jamesedgar@sasktel.net)

Two things (continued as Four Things):

1. Stewart Eggo of Dundee, Scotland, has his DNA test kit. We await notification that it has been received in Utah for testing.
2. Tony Edgar of Chilliwack, B.C., Canada, has received his test kit, swabbed his cheek, and mailed the swabs away for analysis. Tony was beginning to despair over our mutual US/Canada postal systems – it took over three weeks for him to receive the kit mailed from only a few hundred miles/kilometres away!
3. We have a new person willing to test... Colin Edgar of Crewe, England (almost next door to SteveUK), has agreed to the test; Steve visited him in person, obtained the swabs, and mailed them away. We've put together a substantial tree for Colin, based on information he gave us, plus some sleuthing on the Internet.
4. One more new test on its way. This one is for Graham Edgar, who lives in Melbourne, Australia. We have a good tree for Graham, also from him, and gleaned from on-line records.

These are all tests that give high hopes of connecting with known Edgars. I didn't get any speculation last issue for the first two — any comers this time?



In 17 days, we celebrate **ST. PATRICK'S DAY** — Ireland's very own national holiday!

I've placed a few selected pictures from when we visited Dublin in 2006 – “we” being SteveUK, my brother, Steve, and me.



O'Connell Street and the Daniel O'Connell monument

Finding your way in Ireland



by Steve Edgar of Weston, Crewe (steven-edgar@sky.com)

Anyone who has attempted family history research in Ireland must have come across a lot of confusion as to particular locations and their reference names. Apart from having strange sounding names, they are very confusing as to their locations. I will attempt to de-mystify this (if I can).

OK — the easy bit — Ireland is an island, split into four provinces.

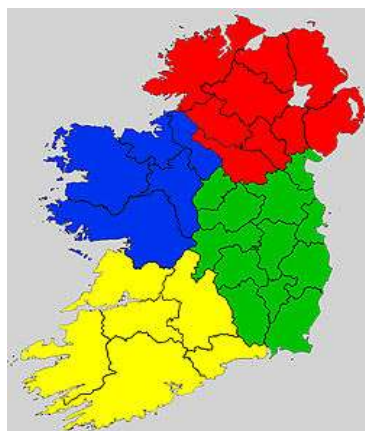
Ireland

Ulster RED

Leinster GREEN

Munster YELLOW

Connacht BLUE



These provinces are political and are subdivided into Counties. Pre-1922, the whole island was called Ireland and was part of the United Kingdom (UK). After partition, six of the counties of Ulster remained as part of the UK, and three former Ulster counties and the other three counties became the Republic of Ireland. (There is more detail to this, but it is too elaborate to go into here!)

As most of the Edgar history we are concerned with is in Ulster and the six counties that form Northern Ireland (NI), I will only concern myself with that part of the island.

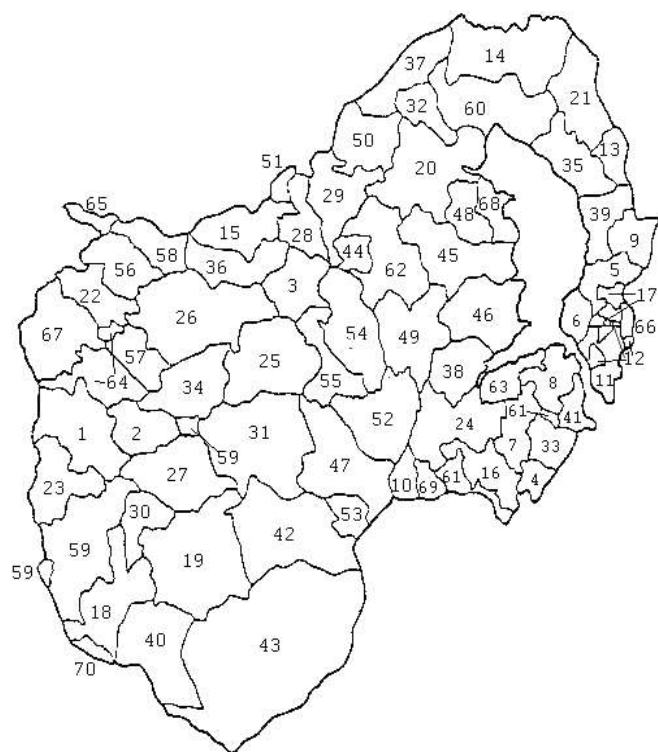
Northern Ireland

The six counties of Northern Ireland are further broken down into individual parishes; the names and positions of parishes vary according to religion. The main ones we are concerned with are the Protestant parishes (although sometimes you will find a Roman Catholic parish referred to, but it won't be obvious; this will probably indicate the predominant religion in a given area).

Now here comes the second problem — the parish boundaries don't always conform to the county boundaries — they sometimes overlap. For example, Newry parish is in both County Armagh and County Down. And, just to add insult to injury, individual parishes are not all combined, they can be split into numerous smaller areas in various locations. Again, Newry is like this; look for No. 59 below, the main area of the Parish is centred on Newry City, but, if you look to the northeast, you find a small area also part of Newry parish.



County Down Parishes



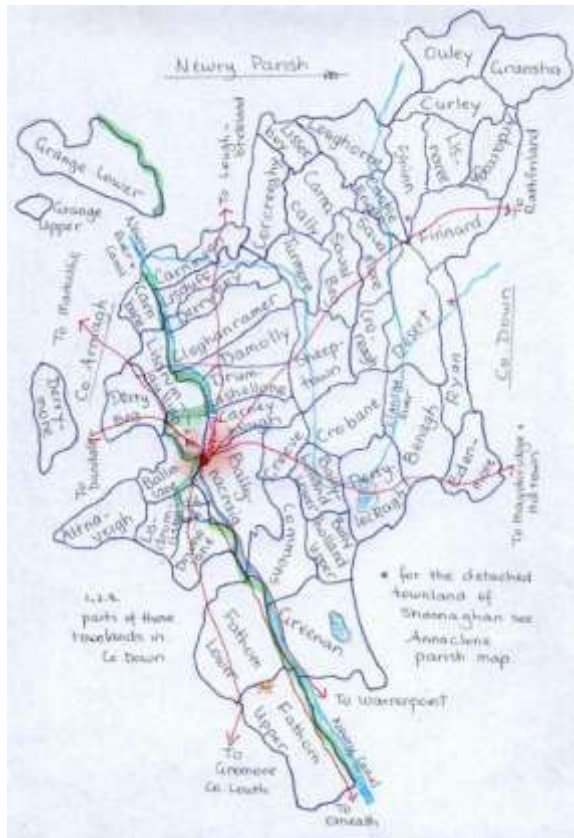
Key

1 Aghaderg	2 Annaclone	3 Annahilt	4 Ardglass
5 Ardkeen	6 Ardquin	7 Ballee	8 Ballyculter
9 Ballyhalbert	10 Ballykinler	11 Ballyphilip	12 Ballytrustan
13 Ballywalter	14 Bangor	15 Blaris	16 Bright
17 Castleboy	18 Clonallan	19 Clonduff	20 Comber
21 Donaghadee	22 Donaghcloney	23 Donaghmore	24 Down
25 Dromara	26 Dromore	27 Drumballyrone	28 Drumbeg
29 Drumbo	30 Drumgath	31 Drumgoland	32 Dundonald
33 Dunsfort	34 Garvaghy	35 Grey Abbey	36 Hillsborough
37 Holywood	38 Inch	39 Inishargy	40 Kilbroney
41 Kilclief	42 Kilcoo	43 Kilkeel	44 Killaney
45 Killinchy	46 Killyleagh	47 Kilmegan	48 Kilmood
49 Kilmore	50 Knockbreda	51 Lambeg	52 Loughinisland
53 Maghera	54 Magheradrool	55 Magherahamlet	56 Magheralin
57 Magherally	58 Moira	59 Newry	60 Newtonards
61 Rathmullan	62 Saintfield	63 Saul	64 Seapatrick
65 Shankill	66 Slanes	67 Tullylish	68 Tullynakill
69 Tyrrella	70 Warrenpoint		

(Thanks to Ros Davies and her wonderful County Down Web site for the above)
 Find her site at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~rosdavies/>

Newry Parish

So far so good!



Each parish is then subdivided into town lands.

Let's look at No. 59 - Newry Parish.

The red spot in the middle is Newry City, and the blue line running north to south is the River Clanrye, which is the border between Co. Armagh and Co. Down.

A little bit more confusion comes in here as well, the name of the townland can be duplicated in another parish or county, so it is not always clear where a place is located.

It is essential to be clear about where you are referring — Townland – Parish – County

Partial List of Co. Down Townlands:

Atticall Aughnacloy Balloo Ballybannan Ballybeen Ballydargan Ballygowan

Ballyhalbert Ballyhay Ballyholme Ballyhornan Ballylesson Ballymacmaine

Ballymartin Ballynagarrick Ballynahatty Ballynoe Ballyskeagh Ballywalter Benraw Braniel Burren

Cabra Carnalea Castlewellan Cloghy Clough Conlig Corbet Cregagh Crossgar Derryneill Derrylecka Donaghcloney Dromara Drumaness Drumbeg Drumbo

Drumlough Dundrum Dunnaval Edenderry Gilnahirk Gransha Greencastle Greyabbey Groomsport Hillhall Hillsborough

Killinure Killough Kinallen Kircubbin, Legacurry Legananny Leitrim Lenaderg Lurganare Lurganville Magheraconluce Moneyreagh Moneyslane Portavogie Ravernet Ringhaddy Rostrevor

Saul Scarva Sheeptown Tievenadarragh Tullylish, etc.

Having got this far, bear in mind that the spelling varied as well! For more information and maps, check out this site www.placenamesni.org — a great repository of names, their derivations, and maps for of Northern Ireland.

Learn to speak Gaelic

Moving on, the townlands were then broken down into individual plots of land owned or leased by individuals, each of which was known by a unique name — many of which have disappeared over time. The name could have been descriptive or referred to a particular farm or house. These names have a habit of disappearing only to be found in the name of a road.

The names of most Irish places have origins in the Gaelic language and are descriptive:

annagh or anna - marsh

ard - height or high

bally - a settlement of some sort

beg - little

boy - yellow

bro or broagh - edge of brae; a hill with a road over it

burren - rocky area

ahard - high bog

cargy - rocks

carrick - a rock

carrow - a quarter land - meaning part of a townland

cashel - castle

cill - church

clief or cleithe - wattle or timber

coinin or coney - rabbit

cloch - stone

clonta - a meadow

corragh - rugged or pointed

cott - wooden boat

craig - rocky or crag

creevy - many branches; a wooden district

cu - in people's names a champion or graceful, swift, courageous

curragh - marsh

darragh - bulls

derry - oak grove or woods

donagh - church

doo - black

drin or dron - humps or ridges

drum - a ridge or hill

dun - fort of chieftains

eden or edna - high brow (of a hill)

fofann - a place abounding with thistles

gar - short

glas - green

inish - island

kil / killy - a church or sometimes a wood

knock - a hill

leggy - a hollow

let - grave

lis - fort

ough - lake

maghera - a plain

meel - ants

money - shrubs

more - big

na - of naive saint

ness - weasel

neve - saint

nua - new

ra or rae - a level place

rath - hill fort

rin - ridge

ros - a promontory or grove

shannagh - foxes

slieve - mountain

talagh - a hillock

tanagh - mound or rampart

tieve - hillside

tonnagh/ tonagh - a field, a woodland

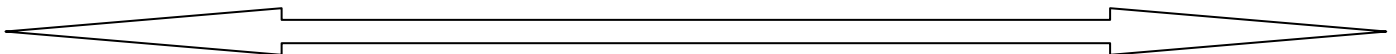
tooder - tanner

tullach - hill

tully - a hill or mound

turk - boat

I would encourage anyone to establish clearly the location being researched, and to identify the adjoining parishes and townlands. This could well identify the location of other family members nearby.

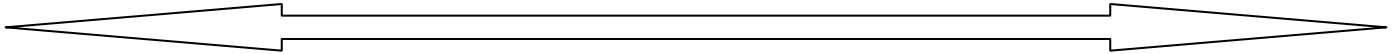


Pewter Badges Update



by James Edgar (Editor) (jamesedgar@sasktel.net)

The badges are finished as I write this, and we're expecting delivery on March 2 or 3. Thanks to all for their speedy response to my call for funds! I'm sure you'll be pleased with the results.



Flags from every Irish County at the St. Patrick's Day Parade – Dublin 2006



Colourful kids – St. Patrick's Day Dublin 2006!