



EDGAR EVENTS

**Researching and sharing Edgar family
history No. 73, February 2013**



DNA Update

by James Edgar (jamesedgar@sasktel.net)



Some recent additions to our DNA fold are **Paul Edgar** of Texas, **Dale Eager** of Florida, and **Dave Ager** of Maryland, **William** and **Robert Edgar** of Nova Scotia, **Philip** and **Donalda Edgar** of Halifax, Nova Scotia, **Dan Edgar** of Halifax (plus **Dan's** father, **Eric**, and cousin, **Mike**). **Eric's** photo is reproduced below, plus he placed it on the Edgar DNA group site at Ancestry.com.



Edgar Family Christmas 2012

Left to right—Back - Cassie Edgar, Robert Edgar, Danielle Lefebvre, Donalda Edgar, Kristie Misener (nee Edgar), Mary Elizabeth Edgar (nee Russel), Stephanie Misener, Gordon Edgar
Front - William Daniel Edgar, Eric Edgar, Jeff Misener, Barry Misener, Nick Misener, John Edgar

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**Paul Edgar** ordered the DNA test on the last day of 2012, and we have the results now. His family goes back to **John Edgar**, born about 1801 in Chatham, Kent, England. This is a first test for that area, and the interesting thing is that there no connections to any other **Edgars**! We have **Paul's** tree, and his family history after Chatham goes to Québec City; Windsor, Ontario; Flint, Michigan; and to Fort Smith, Arkansas. **Paul** lives near Austin, Texas.

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Next is **Dale Eager**—he joins the other **Eager**, **Bill**, who recently gave us his results and tree. **Bill** lives in Pine Lands, South Jersey, USA. We already know about **Bill Eager**, as his DNA puts him right into the I2b1 group—very closely, too! These two are not related—**Dale** is an R1b.

However, **Dale** is related to a few R1bs: **Peter Edgar** of Issaquah, Washington; **Keith Edgar** of Omagh, Northern Ireland; **Bill Edgar** of Témiscaming, Québec; **Robert Charles Edgar**; **David Edgar** of Guildford, England; **Mike Edgar** of South Africa; **Robert I. Edgar** of Oregon (**Peter's** cousin); and **Gordon Edgar** of Saffron Walden, England. We need no further proof that **Dale's** family name is a corruption of **Edgar** away back in the mists of time!

	MRCA	DYS19a	DYS19b	DYS385a	DYS385b	DYS388	DYS389I	DYS389II	DYS390	DYS391	DYS392	DYS393	DYS426	DYS437	DYS438	DYS439	DYS441	DYS442	DYS444	DYS445	DYS446	DYS447	DYS448	DYS449	DYS452	DYS454	DYS455	DYS456	DYS458	DYS459a	DYS459b	DYS460	DYS461	DYS462	DYS463	DYS464a	DYS464b	DYS464c	DYS464d	DYS464e	DYS464f	GGAAAT1B07	YCAIIa	YCAIIb	Y-GATA-A10	DYS635	Y-GATA-H4				
Dale Eager																																																			
Peter George Edgar	1	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ivan Walter Edgar	1	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Keith Allan Edgar	3	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Robert Charles Edgar	6	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	30	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
David Leslie Edgar	6	✓	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
William Robert Edgar	6	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	32	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mike William Edgar	10	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	18	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Robert Irwin Edgar	10	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	30	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Craig Jay Lee Edgar	15	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	32	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gordon Alexander Edgar	18	✓	✓	✓	16	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dallas Arnell Wood	18	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	13	30	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Darrell Leonard Dodds*	19		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

When **Dave Ager** joined our site in 2010, we thought his DNA test results were there, too. But, on recent reviews, we couldn't find them. That prompted us to contact Ancestry.com to get his results posted on our site. As you can see below, **Dave** is related to quite a number of the I2b1 Edgars.



This is what he wrote to me in a 2010 email:

James and others...thanks for bringing me into the group.

I currently live in Maryland, but my family AGER is from Dutchess County, Maryland. I have traced the paternal back to a John Ager b abt 1720-30 who mar Nelly Hathaway in 1754. My DNA has matched me to many Edgars in the Ancestry database so I thought that perhaps there was a name change somewhere along the line. I did find one reference for John where his name was spelled Edgar in 1772, but other than that the DNA test is my only clue to the Edgar connection. I don't have a tree to post yet, still verifying and researching.

Dave Ager

And, in a more recent email from January this year:

My earliest known ancestor is John Ager, b about 1770 in New York state.

In a phone conversation with **Dave**, he mentioned a **Debra Agor-Wingo** in Georgia who could also be part of this family. I've since contacted her by email, but it appears the connection would be very tenuous, if it exists at all. She gave me the name of a **Charles Robert Agor** in Peekskill, New York, but I can't find him on any searches on-line. He would be a good test candidate to determine any connection between **Dave Ager** and the rest of the **Edgars**. We're stumped for right now, but **Dave** has pretty good evidence that his family name was corrupted from **Edgar** sometime long ago. We'll continue to pursue the **Ager/Agor** line.

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Moving right along...

A few weeks back, **Jodie** and I decided to investigate some of the **Edgars** living in Nova Scotia. She had that on-going research project looking at all the **Edgars** who joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) in 1914 to 1918. I printed out a list of the **Edgars** in the on-line phone book, and started calling. First was to **Robert Edgar**, who was just sitting down to supper, so I said I'd get back to him....

Next was **William Edgar**, who said he wasn't really interested in doing the test, but his brother, **Bob**, might—he was more into the family history thing. **Bill** gave me **Bob's** number. But, while I was still speaking to **Bill**, he gave me his grandfather's name, **James Delmar Edgar**. As I repeated this, **Jodie** overheard and said "We've already got that name on our computer!" Sure enough, **James Delmar Edgar** was one of those who joined the CEF in 1918, just as the war was ending. It was an unusual one, because his Attestation Papers show him joining in Providence, Rhode Island. We also have a paper showing him joining the American Army in Providence! **Bill** was unaware of this information, until we told him.

That said, I called another—**Philip Edgar**, who kindly agreed to the test. He said his sister, **Donalda Edgar**, had married a fellow named **Dan Edgar** (William Daniel Edgar), whose family originally came from around Sarnia, Ontario, and were now living in Nova Scotia. So, I phoned **Donalda**, explained what we were doing, and she signed her husband up for the DNA test right there!



By then suppertime was over, so I phoned **Robert** back. After explaining what we were doing, I realized that this was the “**Bob**” who his brother **Bill** had mentioned, and they’re both descended from **James Delmar Edgar**. **Bob** knew of the short stint in the CEF at the end of The Great War, and all that. And, he also agreed to do the DNA test, so I sent him a kit that I had here. As we were then researching the trees of these two families a couple of days later, it suddenly became clear that **Bill** and **Bob** are cousins of **Philip** and **Donalda**. The latter two had a great grandfather, **John Reid Edgar**, who was a younger brother of **James Delmar Edgar**. We see them on the 1891 Canada Census

|    |       |           |   |    |       |      |                |
|----|-------|-----------|---|----|-------|------|----------------|
| 78 | Edgar | James     | M | 42 | Irish | R.C. | Patrons        |
|    | "     | Mary      | F | 40 | "     | "    | "              |
|    | "     | Delmar E. | M | 14 | "     | "    | Hotel Bell Boy |
|    | "     | John      | M | 10 | "     | "    | "              |
|    | "     | Mary      | F | 7  | "     | "    | "              |
|    | "     | George    | M | 4  | "     | "    | "              |
|    | "     | Willie    | M | 2  | "     | "    | "              |

1891 Canada Census excerpt

**James** is the father, **Mary** the mother, “**Delmar E.**” is 14, a “Hotel Bell Boy,” and “**John**” is **John Reid**, plus the rest of the family. There were a couple more kids, another **John**, who died young, and a sister, **Mary**, who might have left home already.

Of course, it would be a waste of a kit, getting **Robert**’s DNA tested, so he mailed it back.

We have assembled much information on the family, but some nagging questions still hover in the background. Notice above that the family declares itself as from an Irish, Roman Catholic background. Twenty years earlier, on the 1871 Census, **John** and **Rebecca** (**James**’s parents) declared as English and Roman Catholic (the ditto marks between “England” and “English” represent the column “Religion”):

(Apparently, **Rebecca** may have had relatives living next door, **Patrick** and **Ann Duggan**—**Rebecca**’s maiden name was **Duggan**, and they were living in Prospect, not right in Halifax.)

|    |        |           |   |    |         |      |         |
|----|--------|-----------|---|----|---------|------|---------|
| 94 | Duggan | Patrick   | M | 28 | English | R.C. | Teacher |
|    | "      | Ann       | F | 24 | "       | "    | "       |
| 95 | Edgar  | John      | M | 50 | English | R.C. | Teacher |
|    | "      | Rebecca   | F | 42 | "       | "    | "       |
|    | "      | Charlotte | F | 23 | "       | "    | "       |
|    | "      | Mary      | F | 16 | "       | "    | "       |
| 96 | Edgar  | James     | M | 24 | "       | "    | Teacher |
|    | "      | Mary      | F | 19 | "       | "    | "       |

1871 Canada Census excerpt

After speaking with **Donalda** on the telephone, she told me about **David Surette**, whom I called, and whose mother was born **Jean Edgar**, **John Reid Edgar**’s youngest daughter. I also spoke to **Jean (née Edgar) Surette**, a charming woman who was only too pleased to share her family details with us. Her memory is quite good at dredging up details from the distant past!

**Jean** mentioned, in passing, that her granddaughter, **Allison Surrette**, was being honoured in Toronto that same weekend for her prowess as a junior sailor:

[www.nsy.ns.ca/news-releases/4-nova-scotians-win-national-sailing-awards.html](http://www.nsy.ns.ca/news-releases/4-nova-scotians-win-national-sailing-awards.html)



*Photo: Sail Canada - Voile Canada*

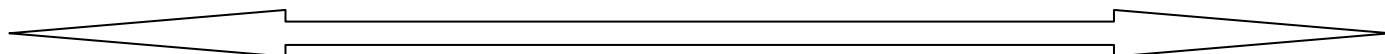
Next we get to **Andrew Lawrence Edgar**, and his sister, **Krista Edgar**, of Toronto. **Andrew** sent me an email, looking for help interpreting his DNA test results. After a few emails and phone calls, we got the results posted to our group site at DNA.Ancestry.com. The interesting part is that **Andrew**, an R1b, doesn't match any of the R1b **Edgars** who we've already tested. This could mean he is related, but a long way back.

A few years back, Ancestry established a cutoff of 30 generations in their database, as searches were taking far too long when more generations were allowed. So **Andrew's** connection to some of the others could be back further than that arbitrary cutoff.

Another possibility is an illegitimacy in the family, and not necessarily a recent one.

We're not casting aspersions on the family, but it is a possibility that must be considered. In **Bryan Sykes'** book, *The Seven Daughters of Eve*, he states that 30 percent of all births are illegitimate. In fact, what was once called illegitimacy is the new normal, according to a *New York Times* article early last year. "After steadily rising for five decades, the share of children born to unmarried women has crossed a threshold: more than half of births to American women under 30 occur outside marriage." See <http://nyti.ms/QZyloq>

Something else to consider is that **Andrew's** family is totally unrelated to any of the other R1bs. We have seen this before in **Murray Edgar** of Fenelon Falls, Ontario—he also doesn't match up with any other R1bs.



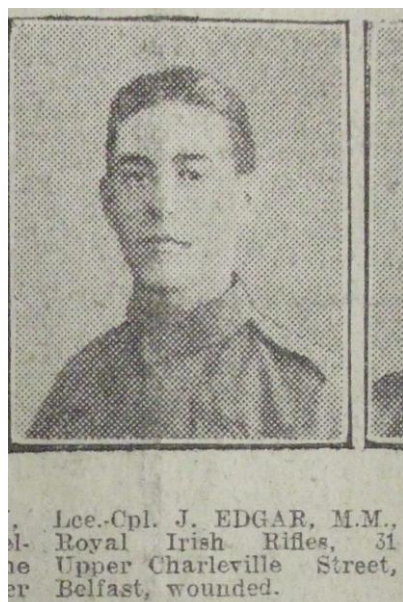
# Edgars in The Great War

by Richard Edgar ([edgar888@yahoo.com](mailto:edgar888@yahoo.com))



*Lest we forget.*

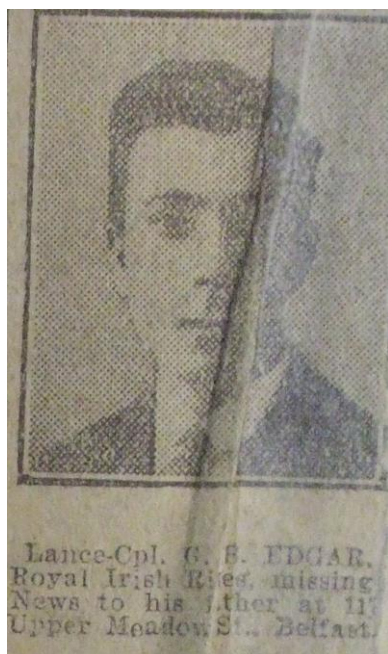
First World War Newspaper cuttings provided by Nigel Henderson  
[www.greatwarbelfastclippings.com](http://www.greatwarbelfastclippings.com)



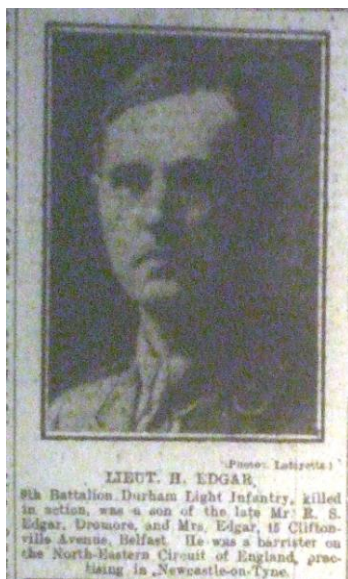
J. Edgar MM, Lance-Corporal, Royal Irish Rifles, 31 Upper Charleville Street, Belfast, Wounded

The 1911 Census of Ireland records that in a house in Charleville Street, Upper Shankill, Belfast, the following people lived:

- John Edgar, age 39, the head of the family, a linen spinner.
- Mary Edgar, age 39, wife
- James Edgar, age 13
- Elizza Edgar, age 10
- Mary Edgar, age 8
- John Edgar, age 5
- Eling Edgar, age 2
- Rose Hood, age 27, sister in law

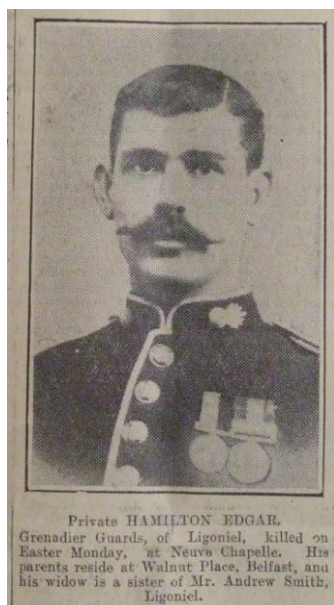


Edgar, G.B., Lance-Corporal, Royal Irish Rifles, 117 Upper Meadow Street, Belfast, Missing.



John Hamilton Edgar, Lieutenant, Durham Light Infantry, Dromore and 15 Cliftonville Avenue, Belfast and Newcastle-on-Tyne. Died of wounds, France, 24th February 1916. Grave: I.M. 27, Cemetery: Railway Dugouts Burial Ground.

John Hamilton Edgar was the son of Robert Smyth Edgar and Eliza Jane Edgar, from Ballinahinch, Co Down. He was the brother of Elizabeth Jane, Ethel Agnes, C.C. Bestson, Charlotte and Thomas William Edgar.

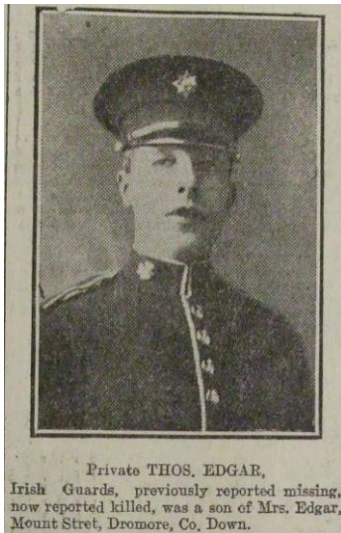


Hamilton Edgar, Private, Grenadier Guards. Walnut Place and Ligoniel, Belfast. Born Killyleagh, Co Down, Son of Hamilton Edgar and husband of Ellen Edgar. Served in the Sudan and South African Campaigns, Killed in action, France, 6th April 1915, age 45. Grave: I.F. 19 Guards Cemetery, Windy Corner, Cuinchy, Pas de Calais.



James Edgar, Private, 11141, 6th Royal Irish Rifles, 2 Broom Street, Belfast. Born Strabane, Co Tyrone, the husband of Isabella Edgar, 6 Disraeli Street, Belfast. Killed in action Gallipoli, 11th August 1915, Panel 177 and 178, Helles Memorial, Turkey





Edgar, Thomas William Gallamore, Private, Irish Guards, Mount Street Dromore Down, Son of Elizabeth Edgar and the late Joseph Edgar (Chemist) 7 Princess Terrace, Cregagh Road, Belfast, Killed in action 1st November 1914, Age 21, Panel 11, Ypres, Menin Gate Memorial

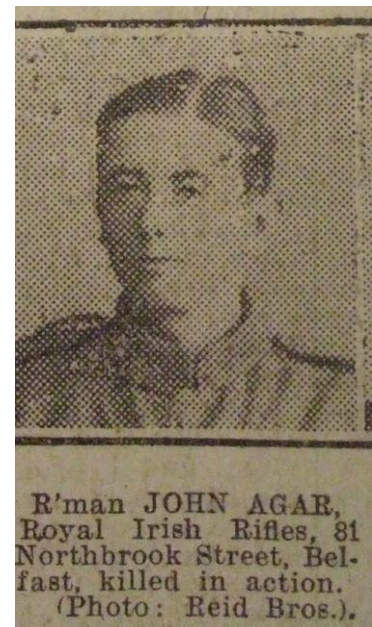


Thomas Edgar, Rifleman, 10624, 6th Royal Irish Rifles, from Armagh. Killed in action Gallipoli, 11 August 1915, Panel 177 and 178, Helles Memorial, Turkey.

John Agar, Rifleman, 17/789, A Coy, 15th Royal Irish Rifles, 81 Northbrook Street, Belfast, killed in action 1st October 1918, age 26. Grave II. D. 28. Dadizeele New British Cemetery, Belgium.

The 1911 Census of Ireland records that in 81 Northbrook Street, Belfast, the following people lived:

- Andrew Agar, age 45, head of household
- Margaret Agar, age 40, wife
- John Agar, age 17
- James Agar, age 15
- William Agar, age 14
- Samuel Agar, age 13
- Mary Agar, age 8
- Sidney Agar, age 5



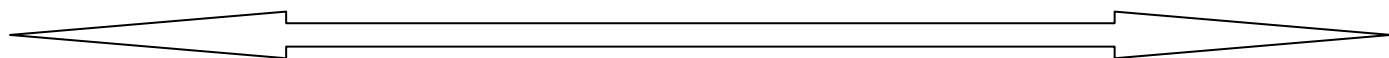
## **Pewter Badges and Buttons**



For those of you new to this newsletter, solid pewter badges are available (from me, James Edgar) at \$18 CAD each – shipping extra. The casting has an integral clasp at the back and a sturdy pin. Perfect for your jacket lapel, tartan cape, or sporran!

I also have a supply of pewter buttons, at \$2.50 CAD each – shipping extra.

Email me, if interested – [jamesedgar@sasktel.net](mailto:jamesedgar@sasktel.net)



*Frosty morning in Melville*