



EDGAR EVENTS

**Researching and sharing Edgar family
history No. 78, July 2013**



DNA Update



by James Edgar (james@jamesedgar.ca)

Of the four tests mentioned last issue, **Larry Edgar** of Barrie, Ontario; **Doug Edgar**, of Juneau, Alaska; **Mark Edgar** of Oregon, and **Roger Edgar**, we have two results completed, and what great results they are!

Larry is an I1, making him a distant cousin of mine, but he's much more closely related to **Dan Edgar** of Halifax, Nova Scotia – they're 3rd cousins, having the same gr-gr-grandfather! When we see the family histories, this isn't a startling discovery, since both families were in Lambton County, near Sarnia, Ontario, in the 1880s. What is startling is how we found the connection. My **Jodie** (Mrs. Poirot) advised that there were Edgars in Ontario who we should try to test, especially in and around the Simcoe Country area. A few phone calls got me to **Lawrence Ivan Edgar** of Barrie, I convinced him, with very little persuasion, to take the DNA test, and we got the results on June 17. He shows only one generation away from **Dan** in Halifax.

Some further phone calls, one important one to **Dan's** father, **Eric Edgar** in Halifax, confirmed that **Eric** knew of **Ivan's** father and grandfather. The father was **Ivan Athelstane Edgar**, the grandfather **Athelstane Campbell Edgar**. Now, names like that aren't hard to trace – they stand out from the crowd. A little bit of research online shows that **Athelstane's** father was **James Wilson Edgar** of Lambton Co., Ontario, and the mother was **Janet Christena Campbell** of nearby Middlesex Co. **James Wilson's** brother, **Richard Rennie Edgar** is **Dan's** great-grandfather., so **Dan** and **Larry** have a common gr-gr-grandfather, **Robert Edgar**, born 1825 in Ontario.

The close proximity of these two shows up in the test results, comparing one to another. Note that there is a 100% match between **Larry** and **Dan**, and they show only one generation to an MRCA. In actual fact, it's more than one generation, but that just indicates the coarseness of the result, not that it is flawed (values deliberately blurred).

	MRCA	DYS19a	DYS19b	DYS385a	DYS385b	DYS388	DYS389I	DYS389II	DYS390	DYS391	DYS392	DYS393	DYS426	DYS437	DYS438	DYS439	DYS441	DYS442
Lawrence Ivan Edgar																		
William Daniel Edgar	1																	
Nicholas Frederick Noble	3																	
Paul Anthony Currie	9																	
Michael James Currie	10																	

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Now, on to **Doug Edgar** in Juneau, Alaska. If you recall from the last issue of Edgar Events, **Doug's** family is originally from Ireland, to Nova Scotia, to Massachusetts and Maryland, then California, and finally to Alaska. The test results show the connection quite nicely, as he is closely related to several previous testers.

I wrote to **Doug** immediately after getting the results, as follows:

|                             | MRCA | DYS19a | DYS19b | DYS385a | DYS385b | DYS388 | DYS389I | DYS389II | DYS390 | DYS391 | DYS392 | DYS393 | DYS426 | DYS437 | DYS438 |
|-----------------------------|------|--------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Douglas Warren Edgar</b> |      |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| William Robert Edgar        | 1    |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Ivan Walter Edgar           | 6    |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Dale Eager                  | 6    |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Peter George Edgar          | 6    |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Robert Charles Edgar        | 6    |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Keith Allan Edgar           | 9    |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| David Leslie Edgar          | 10   |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Robert Irwin Edgar          | 10   |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Craig Jay Lee Edgar         | 10   |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Mike William Edgar          | 14   |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Johnny Lee Lewis            | 20   |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Dallas Arnell Wood          | 23   |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Robert Pfister*             | 23   |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Gordon Alexander Edgar      | 23   |        |        |         |         |        |         |          |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |

William Robert at the top of the list is a very close match -- 100%, in fact! So, you share a common ancestor fairly recently. Even though it shows one generation, it probably is much further back, like in Ireland in the 1820s. I say that because Bill's family were from Lennox & Addington County, Ontario, while yours were in Nova Scotia and then the USA. That means we have to go to where both families lived at about the same time— Ireland, and much further back than one generation.

As for the others, Ivan lives in Kent, England, born in Ireland (Keith Allan is his cousin); Dale Eager goes back to New York in the late 1700s; Peter and Robert Irwin trace their family to

Dumfries, Scotland, in about 1710 (they're 3rd cousins); David Leslie lives in Guildford, and traces his family to Duns, Berwickshire, Scotland; Craig is from New Brunswick, with family back to 1843 there; Mike is in South Africa, don't know his roots; and Gordon is in Saffron Walden, England, with his distant ancestor in Scotland in about 1775.

I copied all the others in that message, and immediately got a response from **Mike Edgar** in South Africa that he would supply a tree shortly.

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Late news: **Gordon Edgar** of Fort Langley, B.C., has connections to Ireland away back. Watch for further developments.

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**The Edgar DNA Trust Fund** has had a grand infusion of funds – we are no longer short of cash. A great big “Thank you!” goes out to all for their generous donations.



Speaking of South Africa, here's a picture we received from one of our rellies recently moved down there, **Stewart Edgar** (born 1965 in Ayrshire, Scotland). He had his photo taken while standing in front of the **Edgars** store in Johannesburg.



Stewart wrote:

Hi James,

Thought you may like to have this picture...for the next Edgar News - Picture Time.

I have recently taken a secondment in Joburg and you can imagine my surprise to find a chain of department stores in South Africa called Edgars!! We really do get everywhere - I don't really know anything about them....

[www.edgars.co.za/Edgars](http://www.edgars.co.za/Edgars)

[www.fundinguniverse.com/company-histories/edgars-consolidated-stores-ltd-history](http://www.fundinguniverse.com/company-histories/edgars-consolidated-stores-ltd-history)

Hope you find this useful.

Regards, Stewart

I did phone the Edgars store on June 20, and found out that the chain was founded by a man with the first name **Edgar**, so he's no relation. ☺

**This month's Competition — win a \$10 cash prize. Answer all questions.**



by Steve Edgar ([steven-edgar@sky.com](mailto:steven-edgar@sky.com))

I was trawling through the internet looking for some Armagh Edgars in Ireland, when I stumbled across some portraits of Edgars in the national portrait gallery.



**King Edgar of Scotland.** Engraving by Alexander Bannerman in 1767

King Edgar was born 1074 and died 1107.

Alexander is to be admired, he produced a portrait of a man who died 650 years previously!

Question 1. Are we descendants of King Edgar?

**Clifford Blackburn MP** 1857-1931. MP for Richmond  
Photographed in 1921

This family are from the Lake District; his grandparents were John Edgar and Anne Nixon from Penrith.

Question 2. Which DNA group is he?



**E Edgar.** Lieutenant  
January 1918

Question 3. Who is E Edgar?



## Gilbert Harold Samuel Edgar

Chairman of H Samuel Jewellers

No picture, but an interesting story.

Edgar Samuel Edgar 1861-1933 married Ethel Julia Cohen 1871-1922, dau. of Louis Samuel Cohen, Mayor of Liverpool in 1901, assumed the name Edgar in 1906

Children:

Gilbert Harold Samuel Edgar 1898, m. Eileen Victoria Samuel in 1923

Robert Rex Samuel Edgar 1900

Margaret Ruth Edgar 1911

Question 4. Explain the above.



**James Edgar** d. 1799 (centre)  
Commissioner of Excise in 1784 with  
Hon. Basil Cochrane (left) and a beggar.

Question 5. Why are they picking on a beggar?

**William Harold Edgar** 1885-1959, Surgeon Rear Admiral RN.

Son of Charles Smith Edgar and Mary Jane Smith in Bishop  
Auckland, Durham, England.

Served in World War 1 on HMS Superb, Thames, and Talbot.  
Honorary surgeon to King George VI in 1943.

Question 6. Who were his grandparents?







The Duke and Duchess of Teck receiving officers from the India Contingent 1882

With **Mrs William Edgar**, mother of Lady Margaret Maria Peek, wife of Sir Henry William Peek, 1st Baronet of Rouston, Devon

Question 7. Where's Wally?

Provide all answers on the back of a \$100 note, posted to Steve Edgar UK.

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Pewter Badges and Buttons

Did I mention that we bought 50 more pewter badges in the Edgar family crest?


Plus, we have pewter buttons with the similar crest. They look great on a jacket!

The badge always gets lots of admiring glances — a great conversation starter.

Email me if you're interested.



Richard Edgar of Tandragee, Northern Ireland, sends this clipping from the Ulster Times of 1842 February 2, with this note:



MANDEVILLE ARMS HOTEL,
AND
Posting Establishment,
PORTADOWN.

Extension of the Ulster Railway to the Vicinity.

RICHARD EDGAR,

IN returning thanks to his numerous Customers,
and to the Public generally, for past Support, begs
to announce that his

HOTEL

has been greatly Enlarged and Improved within the
last Twelve Months; thus affording increased Comfort
and extensive Accommodation. The

POSTING DEPARTMENT,

in all its Branches, will be found to be commensurate
with the Railway Terminus.

AN EXTENSIVE RANGE OF
LIVERY STABLES

has been lately Erected and Finished in a superior
manner.

On and after the First Day of the Opening of the
Railway to SEAGOE, being a Mile distant from the
Town, a respectable Two-Horse Conveyance will be
despatched from the Hotel to be in time for the Start-
ing of each Train, and will also be in waiting, on the
arrival of each Train from BELFAST, (Sundays, in both
cases, excepted.) PARCELS to and from the Rail-
way will be taken by this Conveyance for a trifling
charge.

Orders for POST-HORSES, CHAISES, GIGS, or
JAUNTING-CARS, to be in waiting at the RAIL-
WAY TERMINUS or at the HOTEL shall always be
promptly attended to.

In conclusion, R. E. begs to mention that every ex-
ertion to ensure the Comfort and Convenience of Tra-
vellers, and Moderation of Charges will be invariably
experienced at his Establishment.

Post-Office, Portadown. }
25th Jan., 1842. }

I got this from Craigavon Museum.

Portadown would eventually become
the main hub for the railway network
in Northern Ireland.

This news cutting is advertising for
business when the railway lines first
reach the edge of Portadown town.

It would be a couple of years before
the railway got any further. They
had to build a bridge over the River
Bann before it could progress
further into the country.

Richard

Picture Time

Jim and **Nancy Edgar** from Arkansas sent a note a couple weeks back saying they were on a trip with their friends from Minneapolis, driving from Seattle, to Calgary, down to Montana, and back to Seattle. Could I join him up with my brother, **Steve**, in Kamloops – maybe they could tip a Guinness, or two, if **Steve** knew of a good pub. I sent **Steve** a note suggesting he take them to Kelly O'Bryan's in Kamloops. And, guess what??? (Steve enlisted his granddaughter, Corina, as official photographer.)



BR – Jane Edgar, Steve Edgar, Jim Edgar,
FR – Nancy Edgar, Dick Johnson, Carol Johnson



Kelly O'Bryan's –
great place for a good time!



Notice Steve is wearing "The Dangerous Cousins" shirt from our 2006 trip to Ireland.