

Family History through DNA: Help or Hindrance

Nick Rossiter

Overview

- DNA basics: what do we inherit
- Use for family historians
 - Genetic astrology
 - Genetic genealogy
- Examples of application of genetic genealogy
- Discussion
 - What is learnt
 - Uncertainties that remain

DNA Basics

- DNA is Deoxyribonucleic acid
- Molecule carrying genetic instructions
 - development, functioning and reproduction of all known living organisms
- Within cells, DNA is organized into long structures called chromosomes
 - The Y chromosome is one of two sex chromosomes in mammals (other is X)
- Organisms store most of their DNA inside the cell nucleus and some of their DNA in organelles (specialised subunits), such as mitochondria
 - Mitochondria produce energy from glucose

DNA Basics 2

- Except for identical twins, each person's DNA is unique
- The zygote, new organism in reproduction, inherits DNA
 - One set of chromosomes from each parent

Genes

- A gene is a length of DNA that codes for a specific protein e.g. insulin
- Genes are the basic unit of genetics
- Human beings have 20,000 to 25,000 genes (about 3% of our DNA)

Number of Ancestors

- Number of ancestors builds up rapidly
- Exponential rate of increase (power of 2)
- So 10 generations back,
 - You have 2^{10} ancestors, that is 1,024 people
 - That's perhaps in 250-300 years
- 20 generations back,
 - 2^{20} ancestors, that is 1,048,576 people
 - That's perhaps in 500-600 years

Implications

- Cousin marriages, marriages in small communities mean build up not (nearly) as fast as this
- Indeed some people calculate the whole of the planet is related if you go back 3,500 years
- Population of England was 3 million in 1530
 - So very significant 'inbreeding'
- At 15 generations back, ancestors = 2^{15} or 32768 people, more than the 20,000-25,000 genes we have
 - So some ancestors must be left out!
 - That's in 375-450 years

Inherited DNA

- Most of what we inherit through the generations is a mishmash of the DNA of our ancestors
- But 2 components endure throughout:
 - In Y-Chromosome
 - the father-of-father characteristics is preserved
 - no tests are available on female side
 - In Mitochondria
 - the mother-of-mother characteristics is preserved
 - sons inherit their mother's mtDNA but cannot pass it on
- Inheritance is usually faithful but at intervals mutations occur
 - Such mutations 'label' populations and migrations

DNA Profiling

- The lengths of variable sections of repetitive DNA, such as short tandem repeats (STR)/ mini-satellites, are compared between people
- STR change relatively frequently between generations (finer-tuning)
- Also look at Y-Chromosome and Mitochondria (coarser-tuning)
- Much used in paternity/maternity testing
 - Important financial motivation
- Uniqueness of DNA gives major forensic uses
- How can genetic genealogy benefit?

Genetic Genealogy

- On male side places ancestors in a Y-Haplogroup (population with same markers in Y-Chromosomes) – 2,500-4,000 years ago
- On female side places ancestors in a mtDNA Haplogroup (population with same markers in mitochondria) – 2,500-4,000 years ago
- On both male and female side compare STR markers against populations 'known' to be carrying such markers – 500-2,000 years ago
- In all methods, take into account documentary records (traditional genealogy)

How it Works

- You
 - Take a swab from the inside of your cheek
 - Place it in a container
 - Send container off in a supplied envelope
 - Enclose some \$!
- They
 - Receive the swab
 - Create an account for tracking and placing results
 - Perform some DNA analysis
 - Transfer results to your on-line account

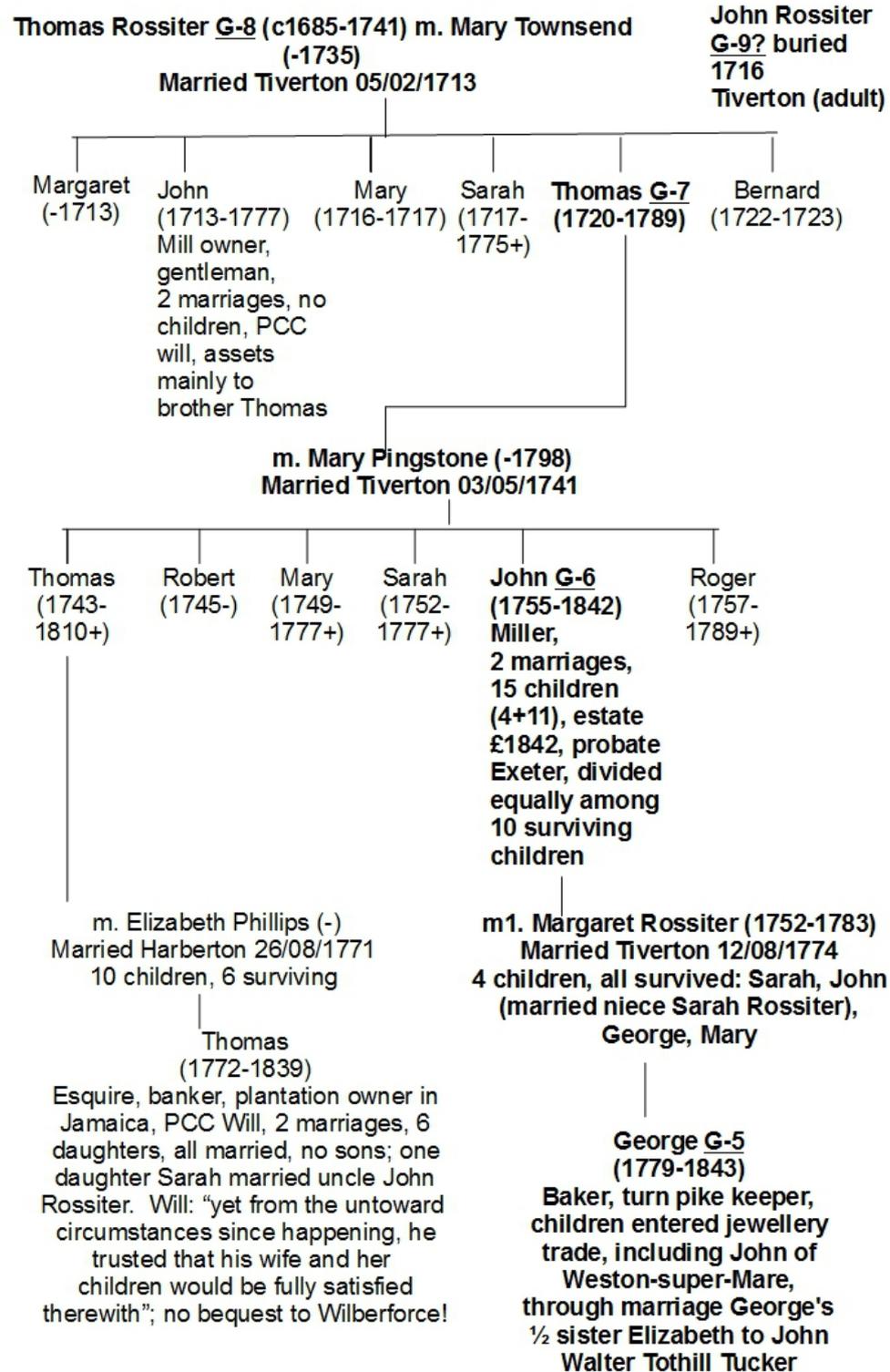
Examples

- Male side – mine (well documented with missing link before DNA tests)
 - Surname constant over generations
- Female side – mine (poorly documented before DNA tests).
 - Surname changes every generation

Male side

- Teignmouth (Devon)
 - Back to grandfather George (1876-1946), gt-grandfather Ebenezer (1848-1888), jewellers, 3 generations back
- Weston-super-Mare (Somerset)
 - Back to gt-gt-grandfather John (1811-1893), jeweller, 4 generations back
- Tiverton (Devon)
 - Back to gt-gt-gt-gt-gt-gt-grandfather Thomas (c1685-1741), 8 generations back

Family Tree
of Thomas
Rossiter
(c1685-1741)
and Mary
Townsend of
Tiverton, Devon



Properties of Family

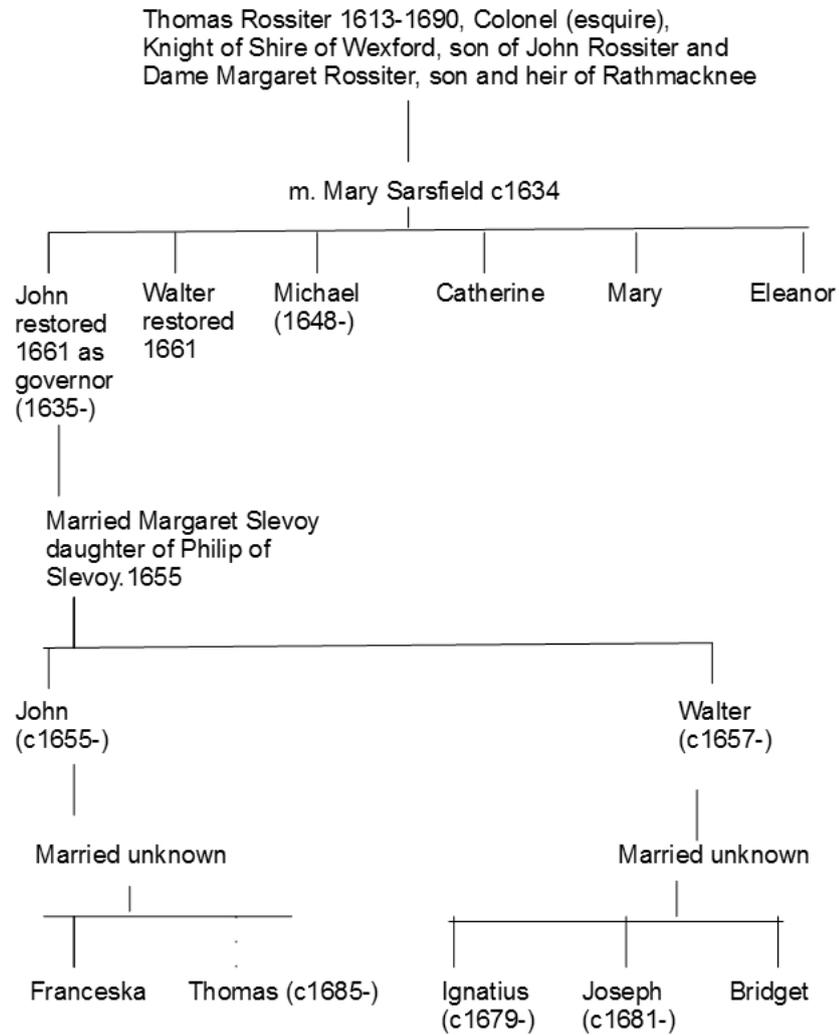
- Liked names John, Thomas, Margaret; Church of England
- Prosperous by 2nd generation in Tiverton
 - Mill owners, slave trade
- No obvious connection to other SW families
 - Main family prior of Edward Rossiter (Combe St Nicholas, Somerset) had emigrated to Boston on Mary & John in 1630 (puritans, 17 in his party)
- Pioneer Thomas may have been a little raw:
 - Appeared before Bishop of Exeter in 1713 with wife on charge of prenuptial fornication!

Speculation about an Irish Connection

- Rossiter is an Irish name, fairly common in Wexford (Leinster)
- Is there any link?
- Rathmacknee is centre of family's influence
- 'Well-established' landowners
 - Arrived with Strongbow in 1169 ('Normans')
 - de Roucestre (of Rochester, land owners in eastern England and Boulogne)
- Names: John, Thomas, Margaret
- Catholics



Family Tree
of Thomas
Rossiter
(1613-1690) and Mary
Sarsfield of
Wexford, Leinster



1641: Thomas Rossiter joined rebellion against English as part of Leinster forces

1649: Cromwell defeats rebellion. Thomas Rossiter has his lands confiscated and is transplanted to Connaught

1661: Some restoration in Ireland of estates on end of Cromwell era and restoration of Charles II. Return to Rathmacknee of sons of Thomas and Mary: John acting Governor of Rathmacknee while his father was away at wars, Walter, together with their children

1691: Rathmacknee lost for good to protestants

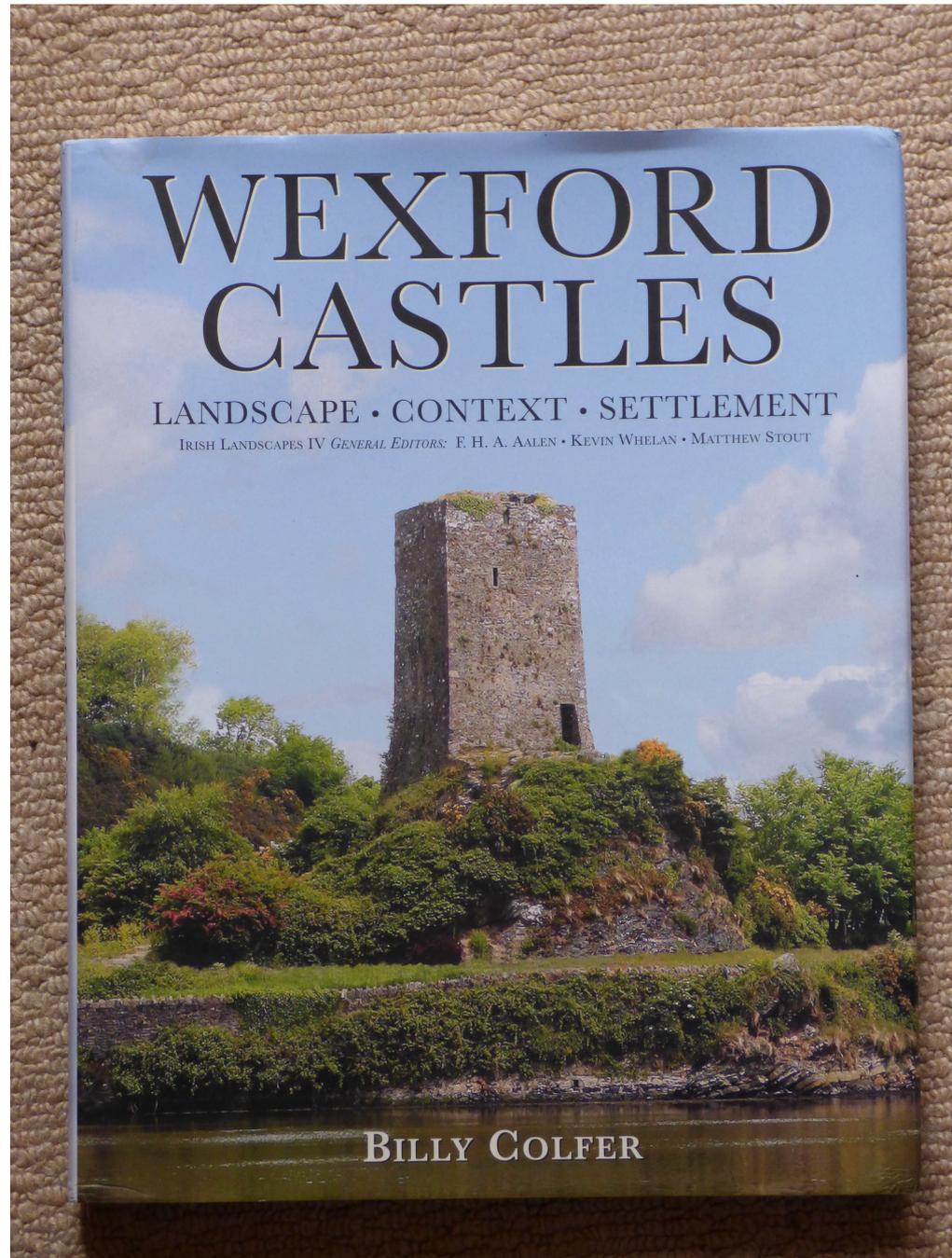
Rathmacknee
Castle, Wexford



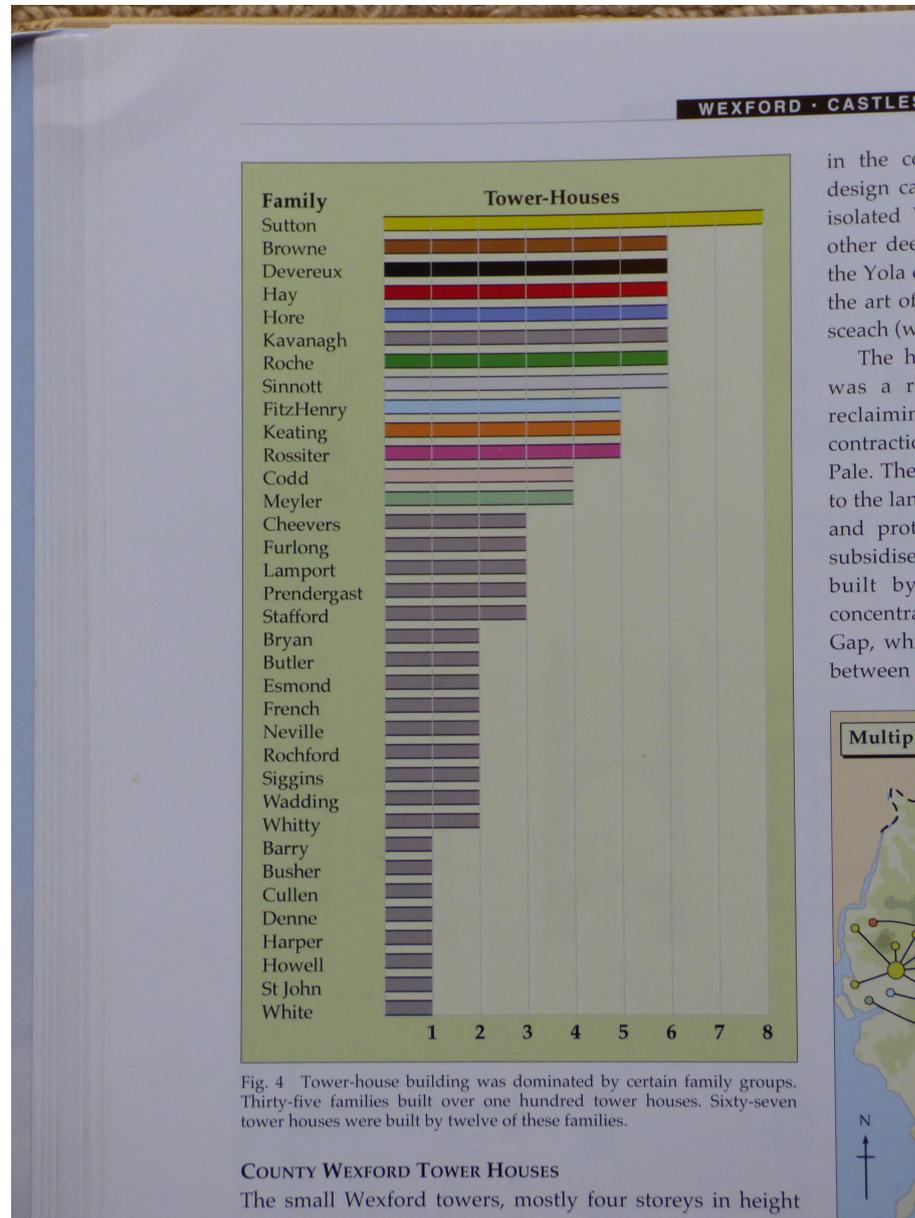
Rathmacknee Castle sign



Wexford Castles Book



League Table for Norman castle-owners in Wexford



Map of Main Castles in Wexford

to the landscape, and protected the Wexford Pale were strengthened by subsidised towers. The small number of tower houses built by the Kavanaghs in the county are mostly concentrated in the Fassagh of Bantry near the Pollmounty Gap, which gave access to Wexford from county Carlow between the Blackstairs and the Barrow. The impressive

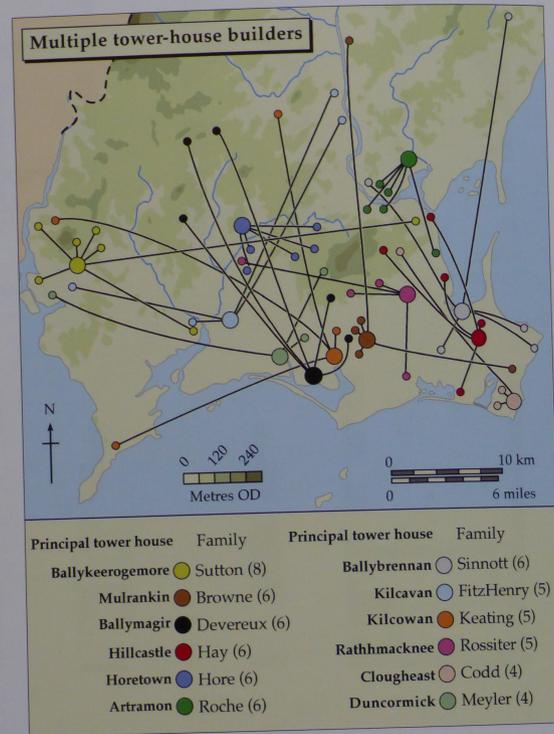


Fig. 5 'Parent' castles can be identified in the south of the county, mostly in Forth and Bargy, from which families expanded to build tower houses elsewhere in the county. The Suttons (eight) were the most prolific builders, followed by the Brownes, Devereuxes, Hays, Hores, Roches and Sinnotts (six each). A similar number is attributed to the MacMurrough Kavanaghs, principally in the Fassagh of Bantry.

Fig. 6 A graveyard...
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Wexford Youth Today

WOMEN'S FAI CUP FINAL 2015

Wexford Echo Newspapers
November 10, 2015



Nicola Sinnott, Wexford Youths, in action against Siobhan Killeen, Shelbourne Ladies FC. Pic: David Maher / SPORTSFILE



Wexford Youths captain Kylie Murphy is lifted shoulder high by her team-mates as she celebrates with the cup. Pic: David Maher / SPORTSFILE

WOMEN'S FAI CUP FINAL 2015

Wexford Echo Newspapers
November 10, 2015



Wexford Youths' Emma Hansberry, Claire O'Riordan and Rianna Jarrett celebrate. Pic: INPHO/Donnal Farmer



Wexford Youths' Clara Rossiter scores her side's equalising goal in injury time. Pic: David Maher / SPORTSFILE

CUP GLORY FOR WEXFORD

Youths Women are spot-on in Aviva Stadium showpiece game

	Shelbourne Ladies FC	2
Killeen 55, Beirne 110		
	Wexford Youths Women	2
Rossiter 90-5, Delahunty 105		
Youths won 4-2 on pens		

by Michael Carthy

ON a day of amazing drama, Wexford Youths Women claimed the FAI Cup for the first time following a penalty shoot-out after they had finished 2-2 with Shelbourne at a rain-lashed Aviva Stadium on Sunday.

Will Doyle's team had shown their fighting spirit when battling back from a goal down to grab an equaliser in the fifth minute of time added on and bring the game to extra time.

They then took the lead, only for Shels to equalise on the stroke of extra time and force a penalty shoot-out.

Neither team created much in the opening 15 minutes of the game, then Youths had a great chance when Claire O'Riordan dished Shauna Newman before Clara Rossiter struck a dangerous ball across the face of the Shels' goal.

Shelbourne's Noelle Murray flicked on Shauna Newman's delivery towards the front post, but Wexford keeper Mary Rose Kelly saved well.

Jamie Finn's shot from the edge of the box then went the

great chance to equalise, but Claire O'Riordan headed wide from close range.

Noelle Murray brought a great save from Wexford keeper Tamara Furlong, then, just when it was looking likely that the trophy would

be staying in Dublin, Nicola Sinnott grabbed an equaliser in the fifth minute of additional time when an Emma Hansberry free-kick was saved by Reid Burke before Carol Breen hit the post and Clara Rossiter got the final touch

to come as Casey McQuillan's side grabbed an equaliser when Jamie Finn headed off the crossbar before Rebecca Creagh's shot found Dearbhalle Beirne free at the back post to slot home with time almost up.

It was then on to penalties and Ruth Fahy, Rianna Jarrett, Claire O'Riordan and Kylie Murphy scored from the spot to give Youths cup glory after Tamara Furlong had saved from Noelle Murray and Shauna Newman hit the crossbar.

Shelbourne Ladies: Niamh Reid Burke, Keeva Keenan, Niamh Walsh, Pearl Slattery (capt.), Shauna Newman, Siobhan Killeen (Dearbhalle Beirne 85), Rachel Graham (Lauren Dwyer 88), Jamie Finn, Grace Murray (Sarah Rowe 59), Rebecca Creagh, Noelle Murray. Subs Not Used: Amanda McQuillan, Fiona Donnelly, Avril Brierley, Sinead Taylor.

Wexford Youths: Mary Rose Kelly (Tamara Furlong 32), Nicola Sinnott, Ruth Fahy, Edel Kennedy, Clara Rossiter, Linda Douglas (Maria Delahunty 61), Kylie Murphy (capt.), Emma Hansberry, Aisling Frawley (Rianna Jarrett 77), Carol Breen, Claire O'Riordan.

Subs Not Used: Orlaith Conlon, Jessica Gleeson, Becky Cassin, Rachel Hutchinson.

Referee: Paula Brady.

Assistant Referees: Michelle O'Neill, Natasha Valentini, Noell Official, Deirdre Nolan.



Shelbourne's Jamie Finn battles with Emma Hansberry (Wexford). Pic: INPHO/Donnal Farmer



Wexford's Aisling Frawley and Siobhan Killeen (Shelbourne). Pic: INPHO/Donnal Farmer



Wexford Youths players celebrate after victory in the penalty shoot-out. Pic: David Maher / SPORTSFILE



Clara Rossiter celebrates with team-mate Maria Delahunty, 30, after scoring the equalising goal. Pic: David Maher / SPORTSFILE



Wexford Youths celebrate winning the penalty shoot-out. Pic: INPHO/Donnal Farmer

Norman names are part of the modern mixture

had saved from Noelle Murray and Shauna Newman hit the crossbar.

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Referee: Paula Brady. **Assistant Referees:** Michelle O'Neill, Natasha Valentini. **Fourth Official:** Deirdre Nolan.



Ciara Rossiter celebrates with team-mate Maria Delahunty, 20, after scoring the equalising goal. Pic: David Maher / SPORTSFILE

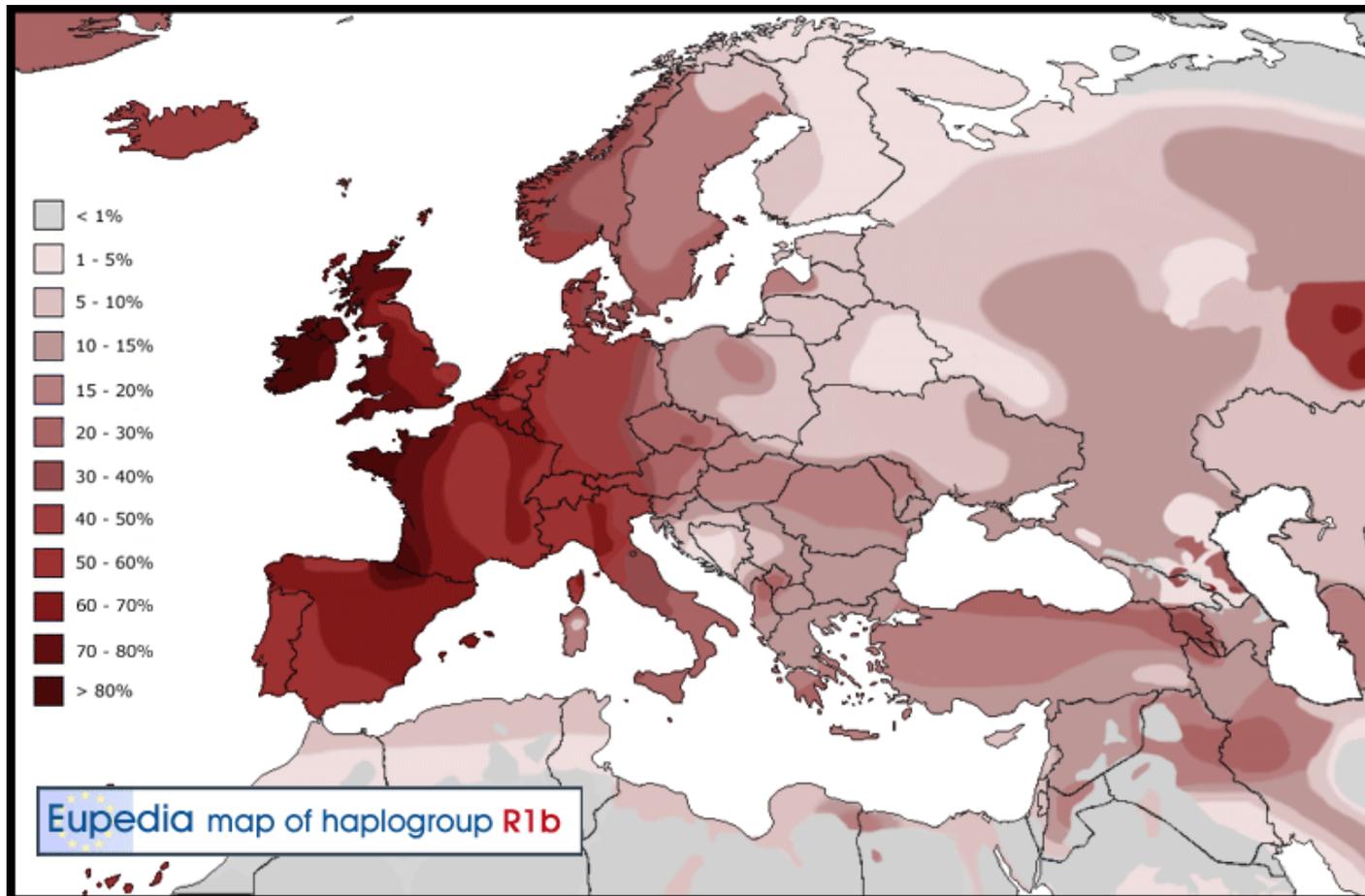


Wexford Youths celebrate winning the penalty shoot-out. Pic: ©INPHO/Donall Farmer

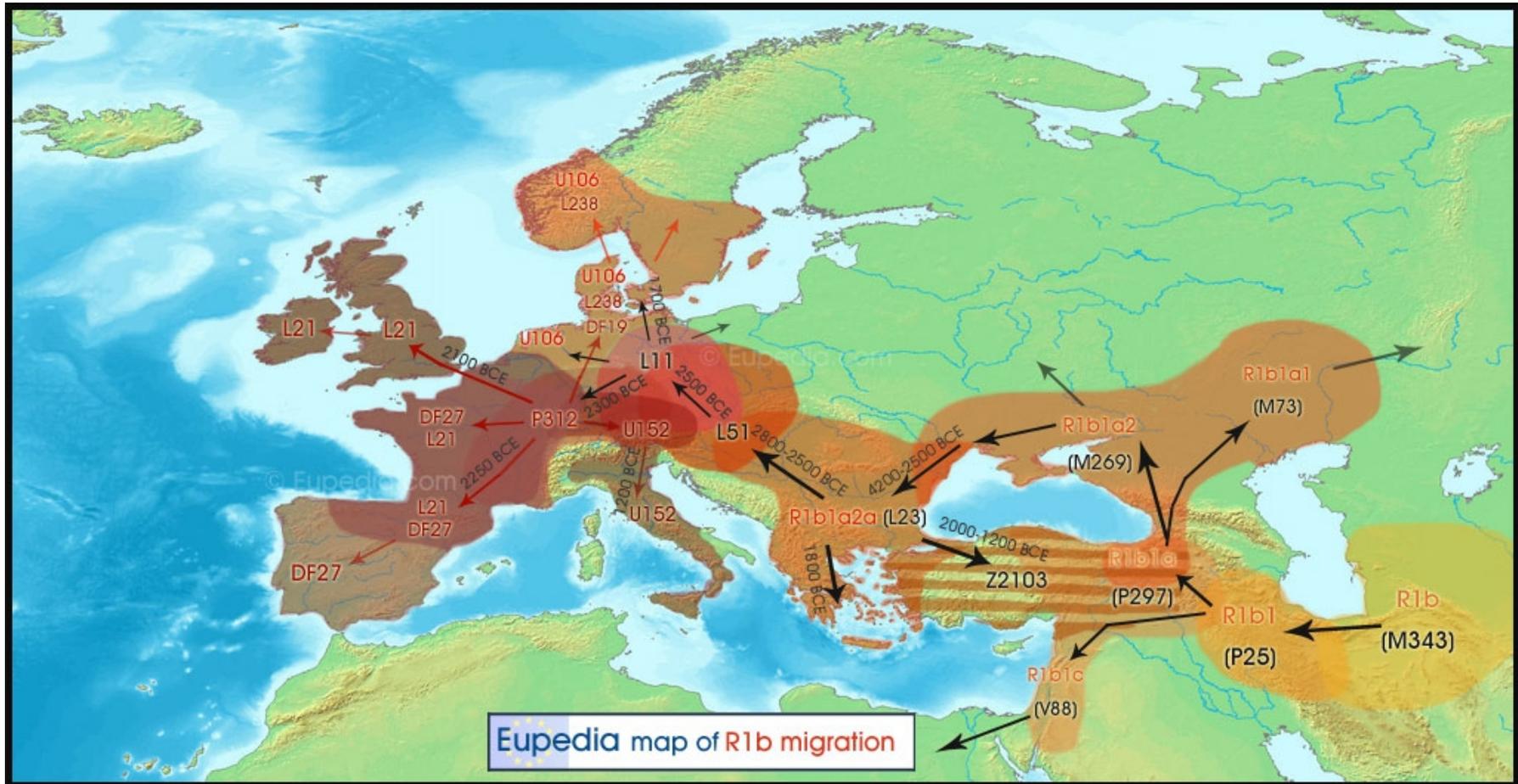
Fortunes of Catholics in Ireland

- Old gentry was Catholic
- New gentry was Presbyterian Church of Ireland, started in Elizabeth I times (plantations)
- Cromwell invaded Ireland (battles Rathmines, Drogheda, Wexford 1649-50) and dispossessed Catholics
- Charles II 1660s granted significant restorations to Catholics (about 1/3)
- William of Orange invaded Ireland 1688-91 (battles Boyne, Limerick)
- Initial Treaty of Limerick 1691 was relatively fair to Catholics, but was not ratified by protestant parliament
- Penal laws, from 1690s, dispossessed nearly all Catholics for good
- Flight of the Wild Geese 1691: Jacobite Army with dependants left Ireland for France, under Patrick Sarsfield

My Paternal Clade R1b

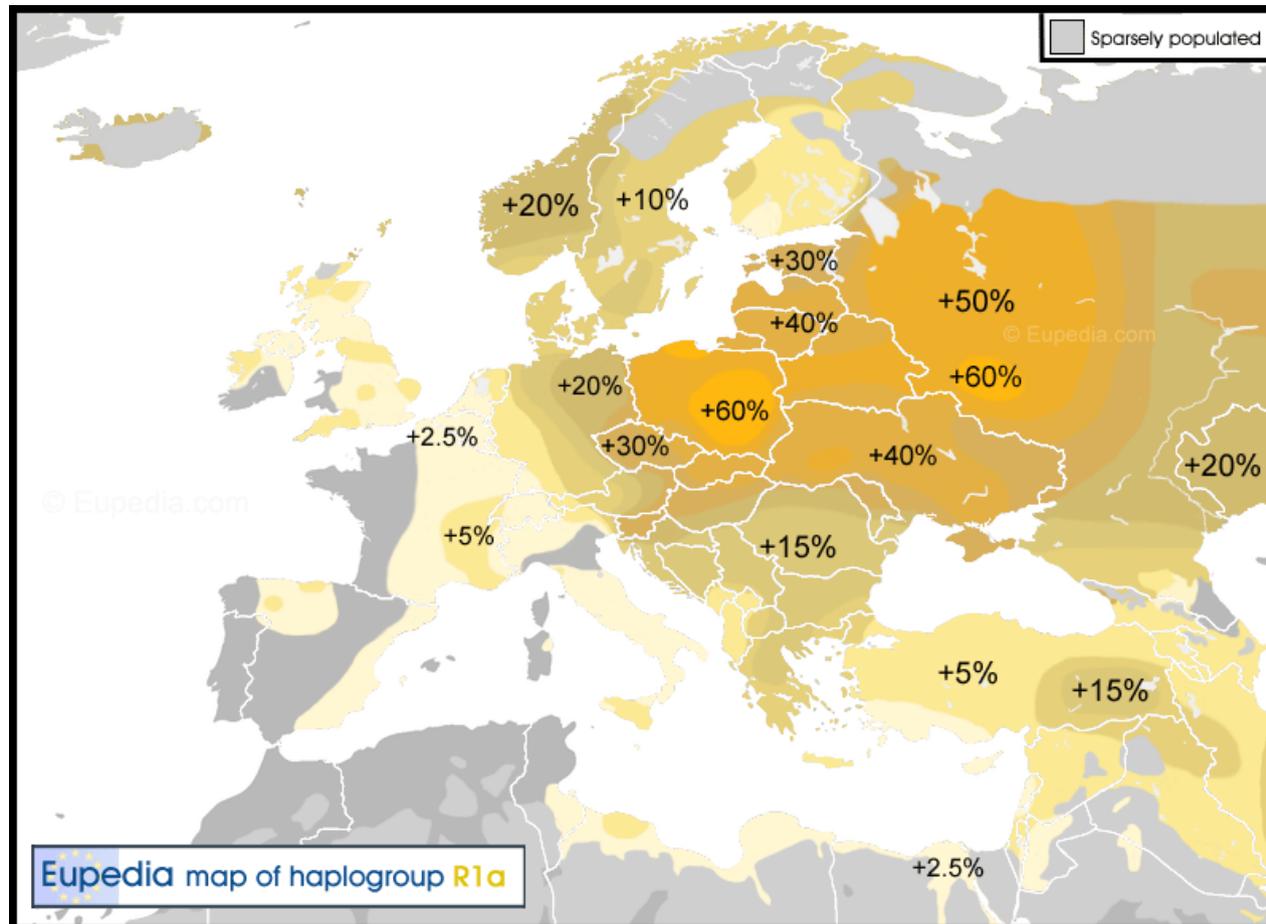


R1b Migration Map

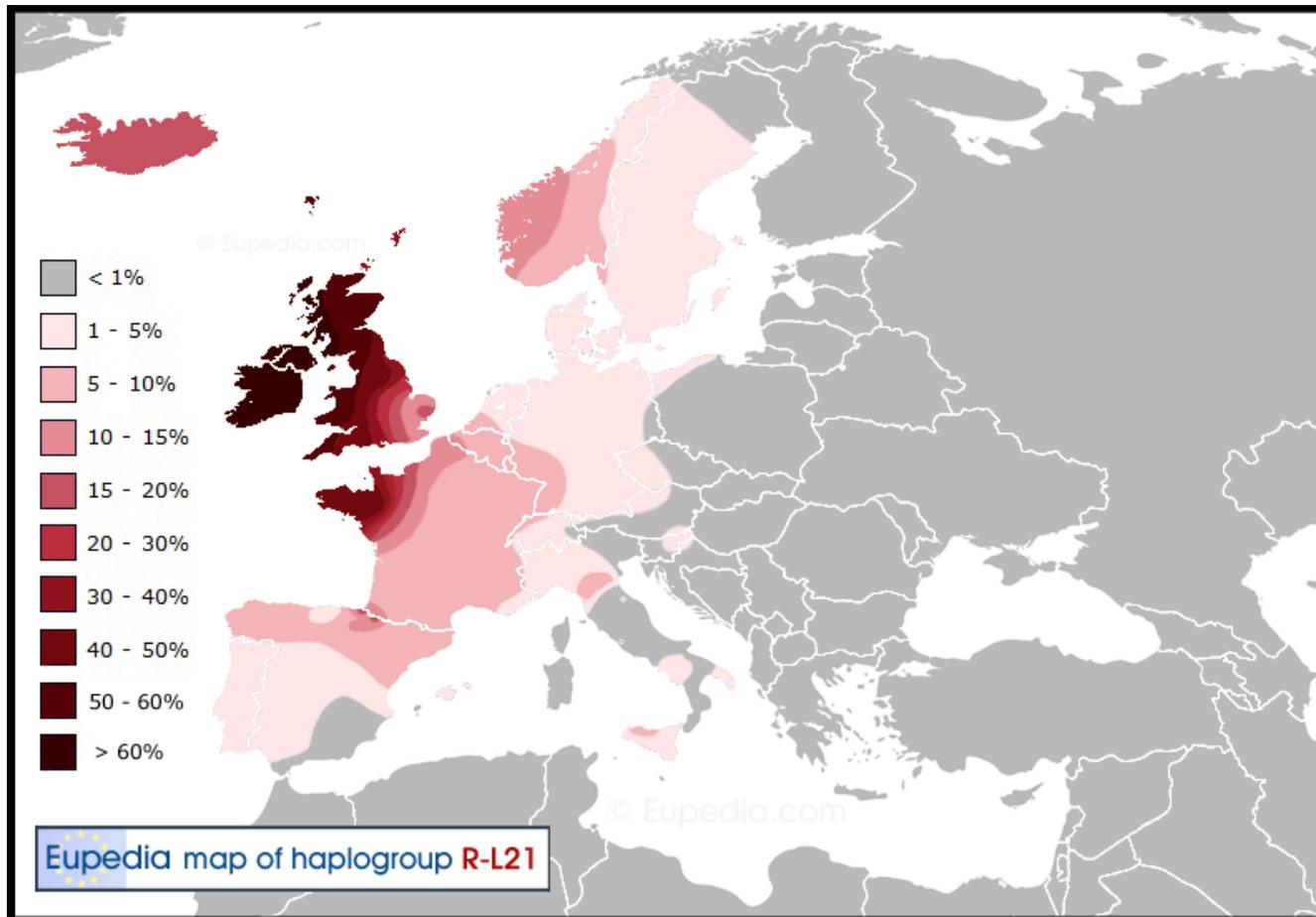


BCE – Before the Common Era (same as BC)

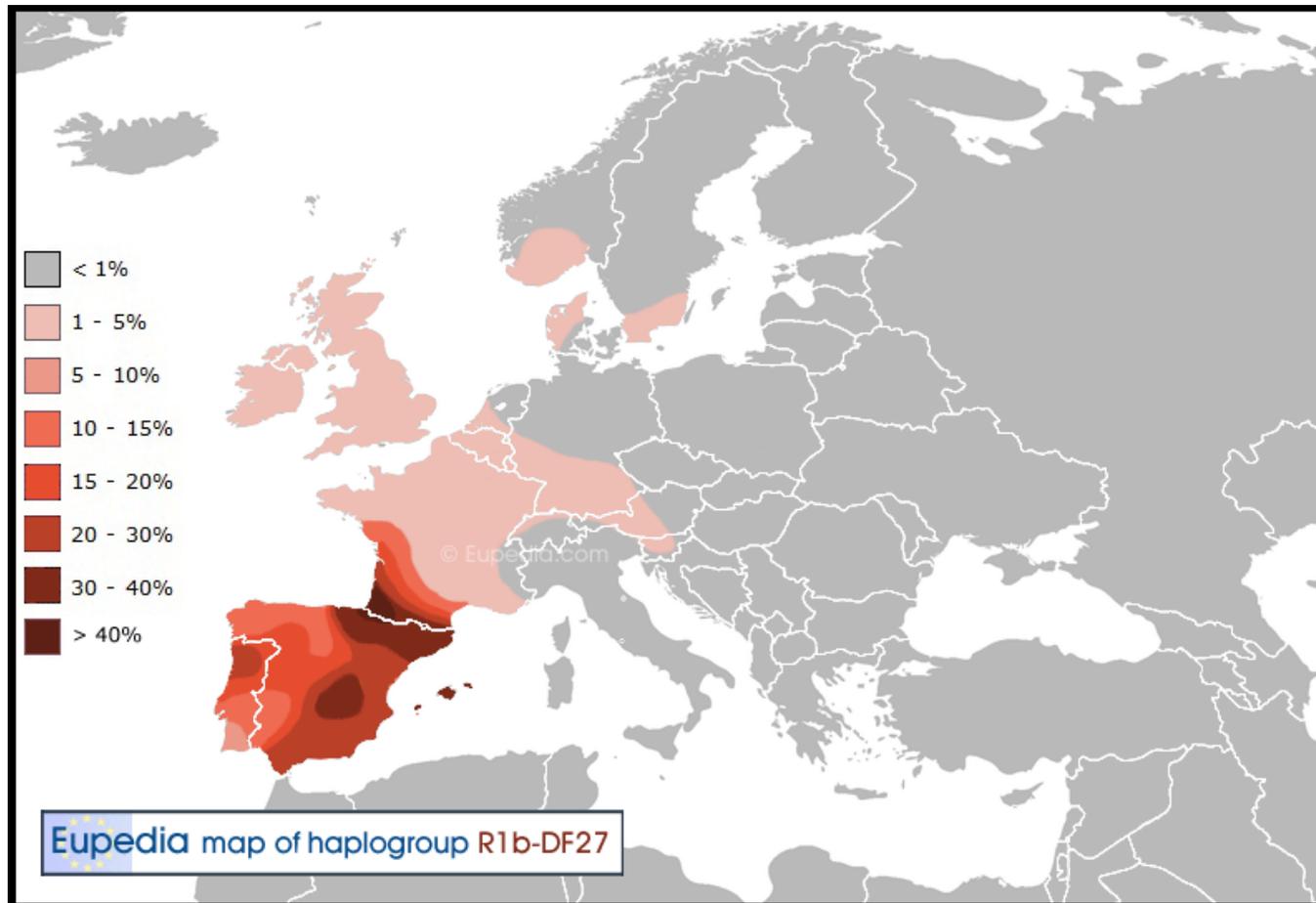
Other Major European Clade R1a --Negative



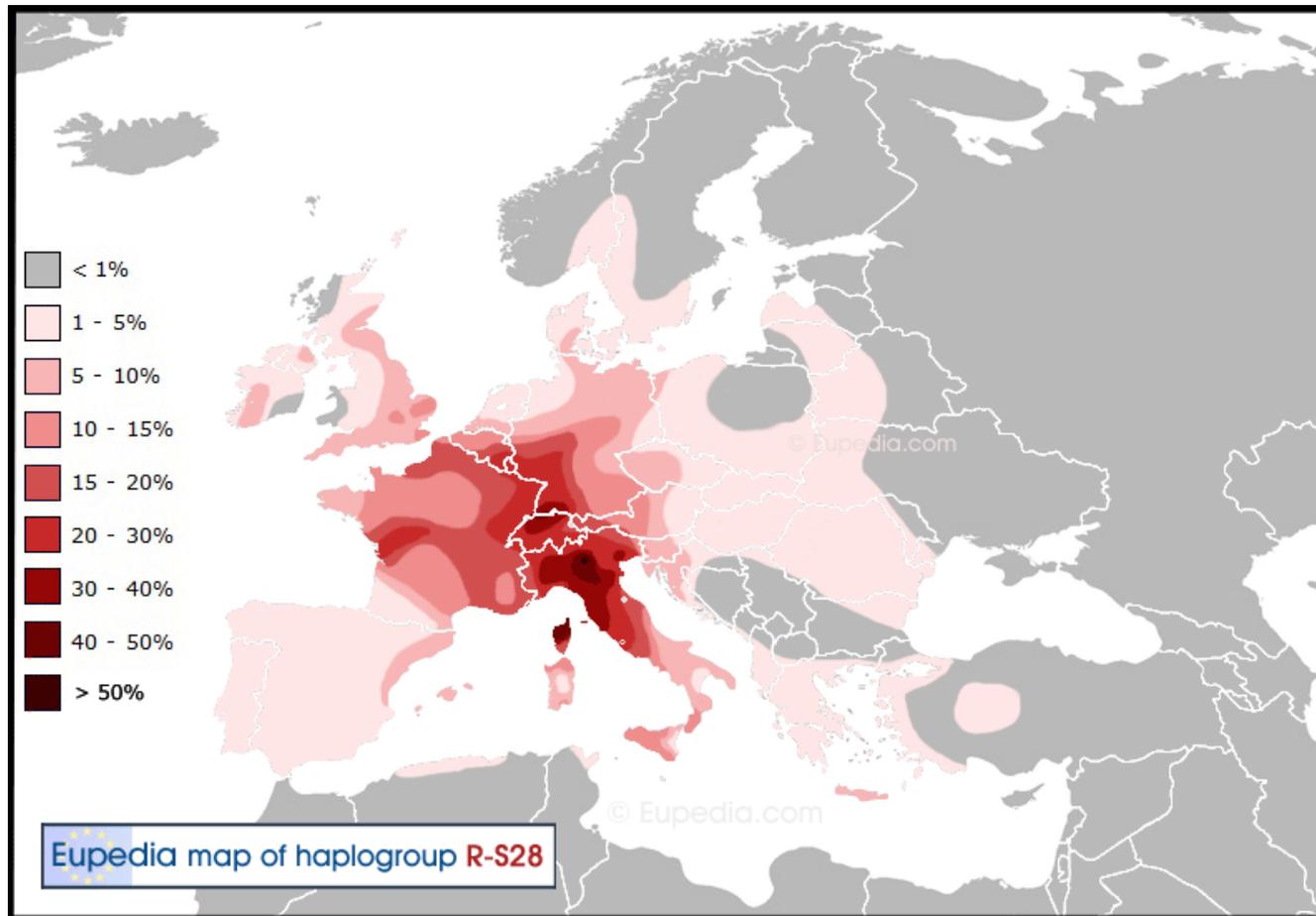
My Paternal Subclade R1b-L21 (Western Atlantic)



Other R1b Subclades – DF27 -- negative



Other R1b Subclades – S28 – negative



Distribution frequency of terminal Y-DNA SNP marker, L21

The L21 SNP marker is found predominantly in Europe. The detailed distribution frequency of L21 and its ancestors is as follows:

Population (Study Size)	% of Population belonging to R1b1a2a1a2c	% of Population belonging to R1b1a2a1a2	% of Population belonging to R1b1a2a1a	% of Population belonging to R1b1a2a1	% of Population belonging to R1b1a2a	% of Population belonging to R1b1a2
Ireland South (24)	68.5%	87%	95.3%	95.3%	95.3%	
Ireland East (16)	56.3%	75.1%	75.1%	81.4%	81.4%	
Ireland North (21)	47.6%	61.9%	76.2%	76.2%	76.2%	
Ireland Southwest (22)	45.4%	68.1%	72.6%	72.6%	72.6%	
England North (28)	39.3%	53.6%	78.6%	78.6%	78.6%	
England Southeast (25)	28%	52%	76%	76%	76%	
Lapurdi/Baztan, France	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	

Information gained from DNA

- Statistics supports origin from 'Celtic' area, particularly Ireland South
- But it's not proof
 - Could theoretically be from other areas with diminishing probability
 - Sample sizes are often small
 - The milkman in Tiverton might have been Irish! (false paternity)
- Relates to 2,500 to 4,000 years ago

More Recent Information

- DNA STR markers
- 500-2000 years ago



Indigenous Y-DNA Search

The [Y-DNA of Brian Nicholas Rossiter](#) was compared to a dataset of **240** populations in **16** journals using **6** Y-DNA STR markers. The closest matches in a set of **240** populations are listed in the table below:

Irish	 RMI: 13.73
Pyrenees, Spain, Vall D' Aran (Lerida)	 RMI: 12.66
Pyrenees, Spain, Alt Urgell (Lerida)	 RMI: 11.29
Pyrenees, Spain, Cerdanya (Gerona)	 RMI: 11.16
Modena, North Italy	 RMI: 11
Pyrenees, Spain, Jacetania	 RMI: 10.61
Caucasian, United Kingdom	 RMI: 10.6
Belgian	 RMI: 9.77
Cantabria, Northern Spain	 RMI: 9.69
Asian, United States	 RMI: 9.55
 US Caucasian	 RMI: 9.54
Catalonia, Spain	 RMI: 9.5
Valencia, Spanish (eastern coast of the Iberian Peninsula)	 RMI: 9.49
Majorca (Spanish)	 RMI: 9.33
Brescia (Northern Italy)	 RMI: 9.29
	 RMI: 9.29



Information | Compare Y-DNA | Compare mtDNA

Indigenous Y-DNA Search

The [Y-DNA of Brian Nicholas Rossiter](#) was compared to a dataset of **238** populations in **14** journals using **12** Y-DNA STR markers. The closest matches in a set of **238** populations are listed in the table below:

Pyrenees, Spain, Vall D' Aran (Lerida)	RMI: 23
Irish	RMI: 17.08
Pyrenees, Spain, Alt Urgell (Lerida)	RMI: 16.67
Pyrenees, Spain, Cerdanya (Gerona)	RMI: 15.2
Brescia (Northern Italy)	RMI: 13.29
Modena, North Italy	RMI: 12.93
US Caucasian	RMI: 12.01
Valencia, Spanish (eastern coast of the Iberian Peninsula)	RMI: 11.83
Caucasian, United Kingdom	RMI: 11.81
Belgian	RMI: 11.77
US Caucasian	RMI: 11.55
Maracaibo, Northwest Venezuela	RMI: 11.44
Caucasian, United States	RMI: 11.33
Ibiza (Balearic Islands)	RMI: 11.3
Catalonia, Spain	RMI: 11.28
Northern Portugal	RMI: 10.74
Majorca (Spanish)	RMI: 10.7
Cantabria, Northern Spain	RMI: 10.66

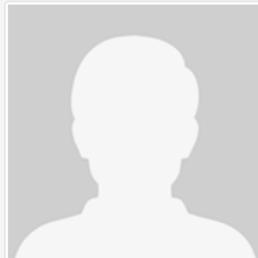
STR Markers

- Results vary with choice of markers, number of markers, comparison datasets
- Statistical minefield
- Need to have a documented family tree to make some sense of it all
- My results again support an Irish origin at the time of settlement in Wexford
- But are the Spanish suggestions significant?

Pen-pals – closest matches

Y-DNA Comparison ✕

The results below show how **Brian Nicholas Rossiter's** Y-DNA compares with **Christopher Henry's** Y-DNA.



Christopher Henry

Joined on May 15, 2007

Comparison Summary

within
8
generations apart

There is a 50% chance that Brian Nicholas Rossiter and Christopher Henry shared a common ancestor within the last **8** generations.

There is a 80% chance that Brian Nicholas Rossiter and Christopher Henry shared a common ancestor within the last **18** generations.

There is a 95% chance that Brian Nicholas Rossiter and Christopher Henry shared a common ancestor within the last **34** generations.



Brian Nicholas Rossiter

Joined on Jan 26, 2014

[Get more markers »](#)

Y-DNA Comparison Results

A comparison of Y-DNA STR markers tested in common

between **Brian Nicholas Rossiter** and **Christopher Henry** determined that **22** out of **22** Y-DNA STR markers are matching. Based upon a mutation rate of **0.02** for Y-DNA STR markers, there is a 50% chance that **Brian Nicholas Rossiter** and **Christopher Henry** shared a common ancestor within the last **8** generations.

	Christopher Henry	Brian Nicholas Rossiter	Status
DYS19a	14	14	Matching
DYS385a	11	11	Matching
DYS385b	14	14	Matching
DYS388	12	12	Matching
DYS389i	13	13	Matching
DYS389ii	29	29	Matching
DYS390	24	24	Matching
DYS391	11	11	Matching
DYS392	13	13	Matching
DYS393	13	13	Matching
DYS426	12	12	Matching
DYS437	15	15	Matching
DYS438	12	12	Matching
DYS439	12	12	Matching



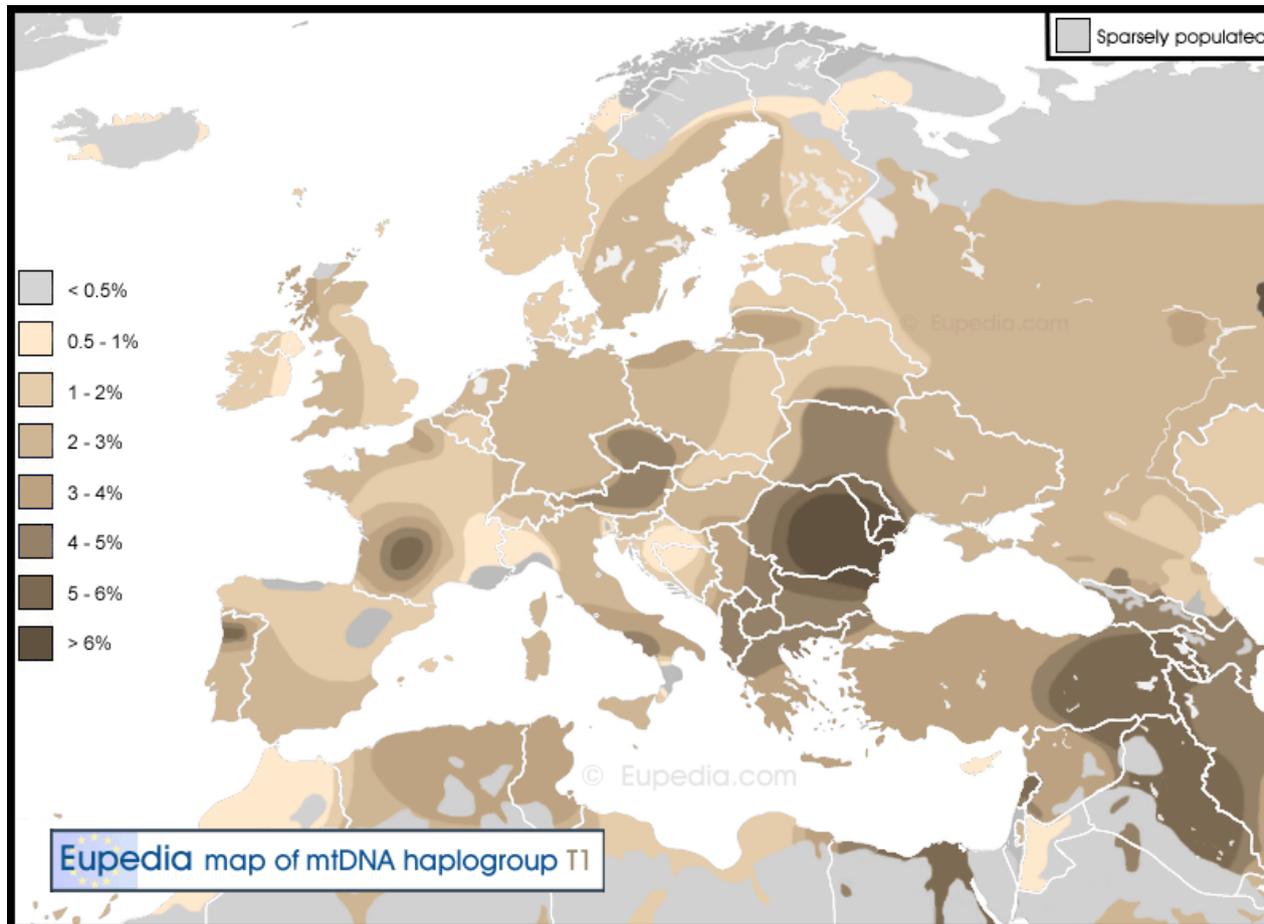
Female side

- Told relations went back for centuries in the westcountry
- One previous attempt by a relative at doing female side
 - Following male side of my mother's parents (Nicholls)
- Not a lot of encouragement

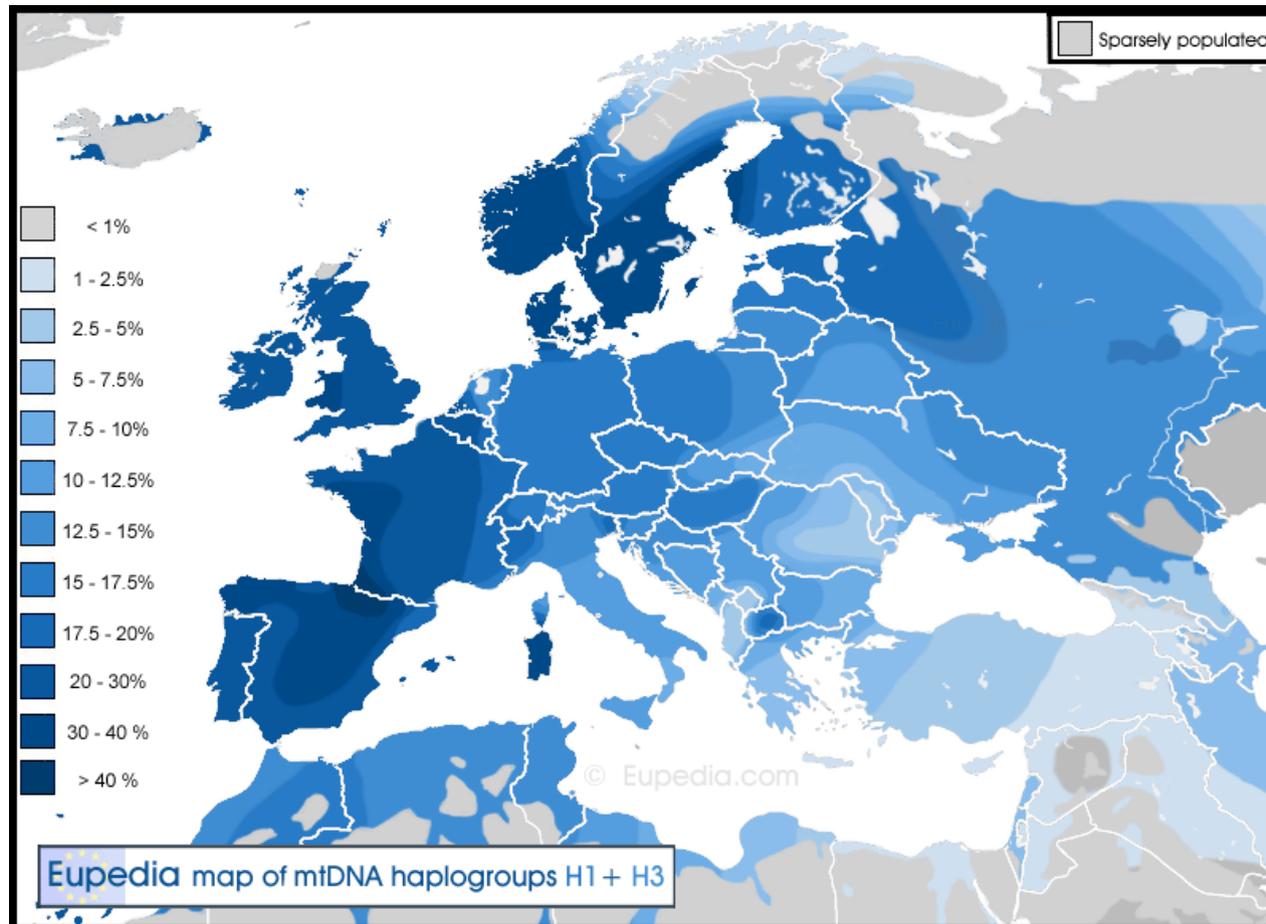
DNA evidence

- So asked for sample to be tested for mtDNA haplogroup
- Very surprised at result
 - Haplogroup T1
 - Not that prevalent anywhere but mainly from the East

My Female Clade T1



Main Western Clades H1+H3 -- Negative



Indigenous mtDNA Search



Brian Nicholas Rossiter

HVR-1, HVR-2
mtDNA Regions Tested

[Test more regions >](#)

T predicted
mtDNA Haplogroup

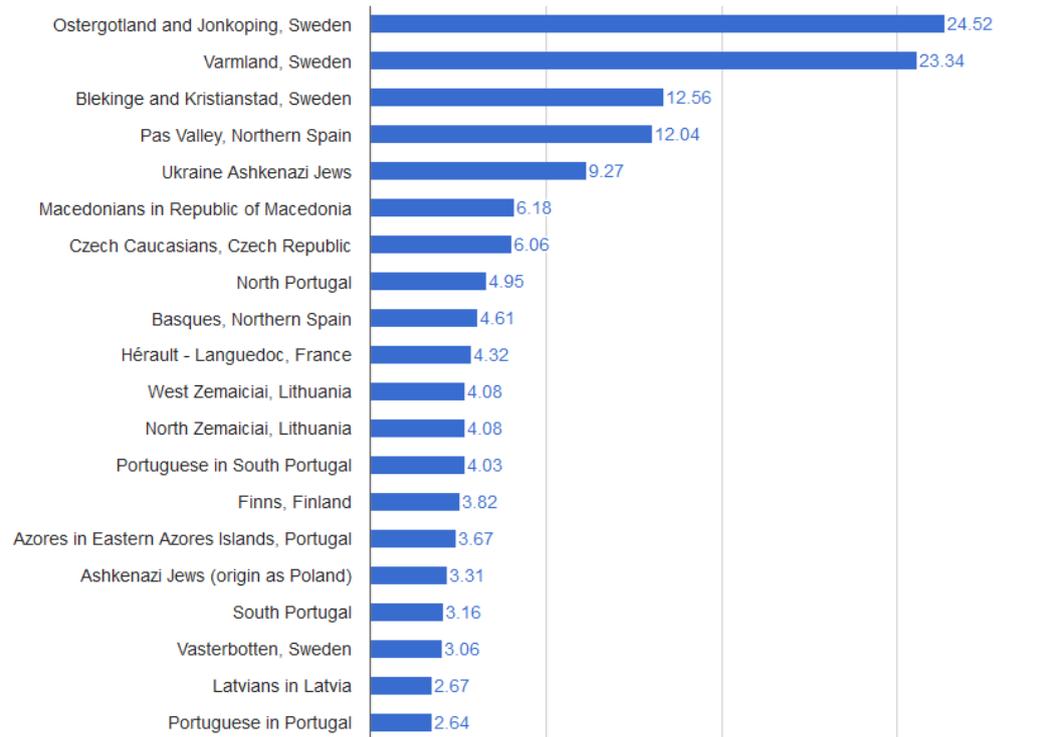
T, U, R, H
Top 4 predicted mtDNA Haplogroups

Not Tested
mtDNA Subclade

mtDNA full sequencing testing is only available for individuals who have completed the mtDNA HVR1 and HVR2 test.

Relative Match Index Comparison (RMI)

Comparison Using mtDNA Mutations between the Locations of 16090 and 16340.



Appendix A: Raw Comparison Results

The results of this comparison are based on the following raw analysis data:

STR
Markers
Maternal
Side

Indigenous DNA Database

Overview

Indigenous mtDNA Search



Brian Nicholas Rossiter

HVR-1, HVR-2
mtDNA Regions Tested

[Test more regions »](#)

T predicted
mtDNA Haplogroup

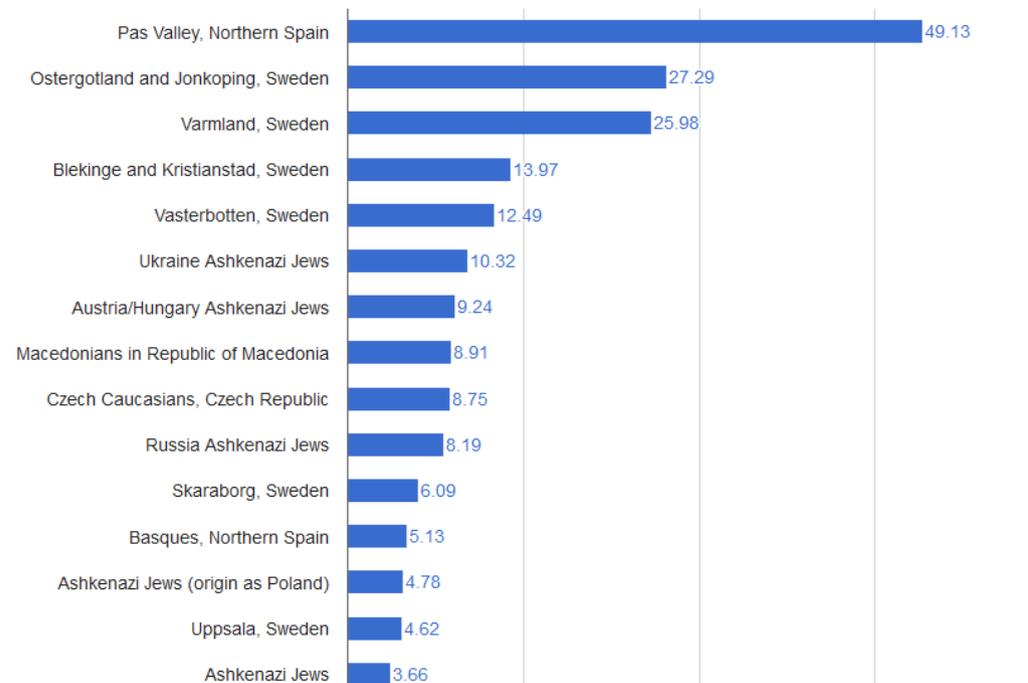
T, U, R, H
Top 4 predicted mtDNA Haplogroups

Not Tested
mtDNA Subclade

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Relative Match Index Comparison (RMI)

Comparison Using mtDNA Mutations between the Locations of 16090 and 16519.

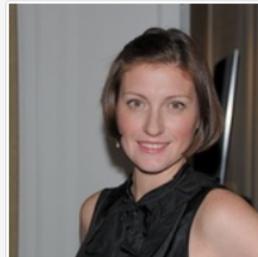


STR
Markers
Maternal
Side

Pen-pal – near misses

mtDNA Comparison

The results below show how **Brian Nicholas Rossiter's** mtDNA compares with **Elena Valer'evna Iosilevich's** mtDNA.



Elena Valer'evna Iosilevich

Joined on Jun 09, 2008

Comparison Summary

1
mutational distance

Regions Compared: HVR1 and HVR2

Mismatching Markers: 1



Brian Nicholas Rossiter

Joined on Jan 26, 2014

mtDNA HVR1 and HVR2 Comparison Results

Based on a comparison of **Brian Nicholas Rossiter's** mtDNA HVR1 and HVR2 markers against the HVR1 and HVR2 markers of **Elena Valer'evna Iosilevich**, **Brian Nicholas Rossiter's** HVR1 and HVR2 markers do not match the mtDNA markers found in **Elena Valer'evna Iosilevich's** mtDNA at one location. This suggests that **Brian Nicholas Rossiter** is not closely linked to **Elena Valer'evna Iosilevich** through his maternal line.

Regions Compared	Mutational Distance	Elena Valer'evna Iosilevich	Brian Nicholas Rossiter
HVR1	1	16126C 16294T 16296T 16304C 16519C	16051G 16126C 16294T 16296T 16304C 16519C
HVR2	0	73G 263G 309insC* 315insC*	73G 263G 309insC* 315insC*
Total Mutational Distance = 1			

- Victor Tastanagi Nighthawk**
Joined Mar 26, 2007
HVR1 and HVR2

HVR1 and HVR2
Regions Compared
1
Mismatching Markers

View Details
Send Message
- Mark Williams**
Joined Dec 15, 2011
HVR1 and HVR2

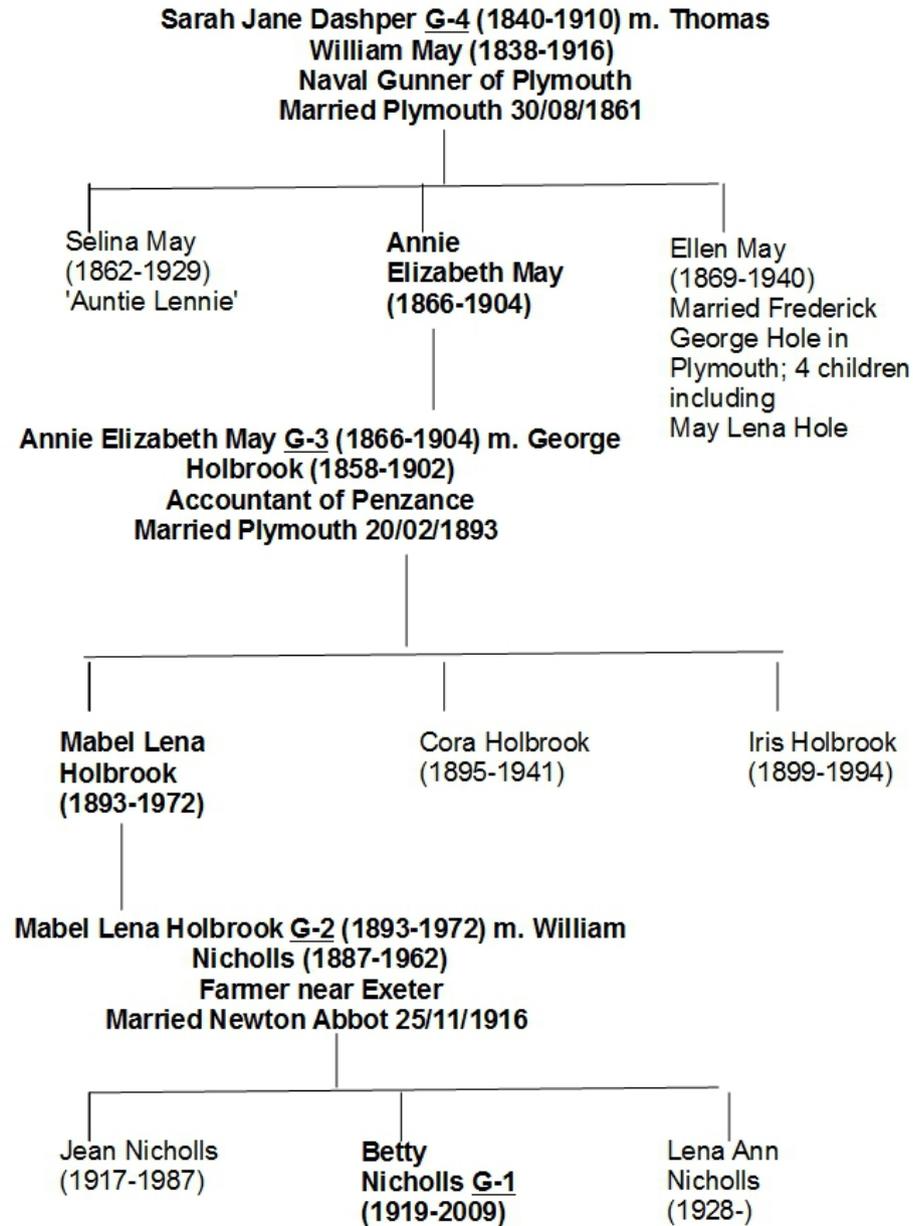
HVR1 and HVR2
Regions Compared
1
Mismatching Markers

View Details
Send Message

So Urgent Work on family tree Mother of Mother

- Prevalence of name Lena in various forms
- A suicide leaving my grandmother and her 2 sisters as orphans
- An unexpected name mid-19th century (Dashper)

Family Tree
of Sarah Jane
Dashper (1840-1910)
and Thomas William
May of
Plymouth (1838-1916)



Death of Annie Holbrook 7 July 1904 at Penzance



GIFTS • SUBSCRIBE • 195 CREDITS • ACCOUNT • HELP • BRIAN NICHOLAS ROSSITER • REGISTERED MEMBER • SIGN OUT

Home Family Tree Relatives Keepsafe Community Messages News Search Q

British Newspaper Article

PENZANCE LADY FOUND DEAD THE HARBOUR. On Wednesday morning, about 4.20, the body of Mrs. Annie Holbrook, North-parade, Penzance, widow

[Edit Keepsafe details](#)

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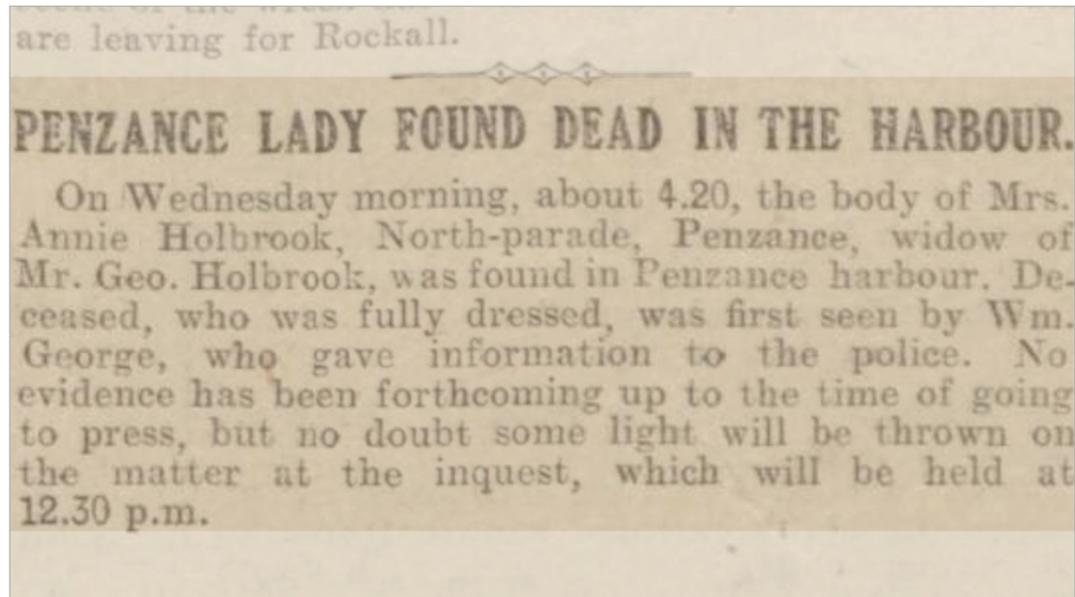


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6.
*Husband of
Matron of
Honour*
William Hudson
Nicholls
Age: 31yrs

7.
May Lena
Villetard
Nee Hole
Age: 25 yrs

8.
Alfred Henry
Villetard
Age: 40 yrs

9.

10.
Best man.
Philip Roberts
Walters.
Age: 40 yrs.

11.
*Matron of
Honour and
sister of Bride.*
Mabel Lena
Nicholls.
Nee Holbrook.
Age: 24 yrs.

12.
*Bridesmaid &
sister of Bride.*
Cora Holbrook.
Age: 22 years.

13.

14.

15.
Richard Oliver
Age: 71 years ▶



Wedding of Rees Frederick Phillips and iris Holbrook on June 3rd 1918 at the Parish Church in Redruth, Cornwall.

Wedding of Rees Frederick Phillips and iris Holbrook on June 3rd 1918 at the Parish Church in Redruth, Cornwall.



20. Phillipa Oliver
Age: 73 yrs

21. Ellen Hole (Nee May)
Age: 50 yrs

22. Mother of Groom.
Margaret Phillips
Age: 54 yrs.

23. Groom.
Rees Frederick
Phillips
Age: 26 yrs

24. Bride.
Iris Holbrook.
Age: 18 yrs

25. Selina May.
(Lena, Auntie Lennie)
Age: 55 yrs

26. Maria Oliver (Nee Holbrook)
Age: 71 yrs

Questions on Sarah Jane Dashper

- Surname may be an adaption of an eastern European name (common in 19th century)
- Quite a few immigrants came over from eastern Europe in mid-19th century
 - Some were on their way to America but never made it
- Why is she not called a variant of Lena?
- Plymouth would be a natural arrival port
- Needs a lot more research, but she could have been:
 - Yelena Dashpevsky??

Has DNA been useful?

- It's another point of view, totally independent from the documentary side
 - Always valuable where some subjectivity
- It's added support on paternal side for an Irish origin
- It's initiated a totally new view on maternal side

Caution/Forward

- Methods are in their infancy
- Statistical tests need great care in interpretation
- Without traditional documentary side, would not like to rely on results

- Suspect that DNA techniques will rapidly advance giving much more refined Subclade information on bigger and better sample sizes