



## Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2015-20

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<http://torontofhc.blogspot.ca/>



Editor:  
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### Announcements

#### Genetic Genealogy Workshop, Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am-4:45pm

#### North York Central Library

I am looking forward to attending this workshop to learn a bit more about DNA testing and what I can do with my results. After the opening plenary session, there will be three sets of concurrent sessions, each of which has a speaker for those who are beginners, another for those who have a general interest in DNA tests, and a third for people who wish to know more than just the basics (advanced). The opening and closing plenary sessions feature Maurice Gleeson, who will talk about the value of DNA testing and using DNA to solve family mysteries. Eight other well-known speakers round out the day. [Interestingly 33% of the speakers are unrelated Reids!] From those of you who have not yet taken a DNA test to those of you with DNA test results who do not know where to go next or wish to explore further possibilities, this workshop will be an excellent way to spend the day.

#### OGS Toronto – Call for Speakers for OGS 2016 Conference – “Genealogy on the Cutting Edge”

Next June, OGS Toronto will be hosting the annual Ontario Genealogical Society conference. They are now inviting proposals for presentations on the theme "Genealogy on the Cutting Edge". Presentation proposals may be: (1) the latest developments in archives, libraries, museums and societies in the heritage sector, (2) recently discovered or released genealogical records, (3) newly developed genealogical databases, transcriptions or indexes, (4) innovative theoretical or methodological approaches to genealogical or historical research, including case histories, (5) cutting-edge technology and its application for family historians, whether in information management, mobile computing, genetic testing and analysis, or other emerging fields. The complete Call for Presentations page can be found [here](#).

#### Don't Forget: Durham Region OGS Presents *Supercharging Your Genealogy with DNA*

June 2nd, 2015 at 7:30 pm Auditorium, Oshawa Public Library, 65 Bagot Street, Oshawa, L1H 1N2

Speaker: Maurice Gleeson from London England

The meeting is open to the public and everyone is welcome.

### What's New

FamilySearch has updated or added to the following collections:

- Ontario Birth, Marriage & Death records Updated
- New York 1892 State Census updated
- Ghana 1984 Census updated
- South Dakota 1945 State Census updated
- Additions of images to various Spanish and Portuguese Civil Registration & Municipal records

**Ancestry's** updates or additions include:

- Lancashire Quarter Session Records & Petitions 1648-1945 (1.2 million records)
- Victoria Australia Index to Naturalisation Certificates (19,000 records) (Non-British immigrants only)
- Washington DC Passenger & Crew Lists (ships & planes) 1942-1962 (156,000 records)
- Chicago & North Western Railroad Employment Records 1935-1970 (10,000 records)

**FindMyPast** has added the following datasets for this Friday's release:

- England & Wales Merchant Navy Crew Lists 1861-1913 (157,000 records added, now 570,000 records)
- North West Kent Baptisms (900 new records for the parish of North Cray 1783-1879)
- North West Kent Burials (2,500 new records for Swanscombe 1813-1867 & North Cray 1783-1918)
- Irish Newspapers Updated with 1.1 million articles; now contains over 8.8 million articles

See [FindMyPast Record Sets](#) for the complete description of the new records.

### **Library and Archives Canada Digitization of the CEF Personnel Service Records - Update**

LAC has blogged that it has digitized 155,110 of 640,000 files of the Canadian Expeditionary Force in their [Soldiers of the First World War database](#). The files are being digitized roughly alphabetically and they are working on the letter "G" currently.

### **The Forum:**

#### **Questions.**

#### **Q1/2015/20. Cornwall to Ontario.**

I have a great grandfather named Barton Butcher. It is recorded that he was born in Cornwall England May 6th 1828 and immigrated to Canada in 1834. On May 17th 1855, he married Eliza Jane Cooke in Wellington Square, Halton, Ontario. She was born in Ireland. In 1861 he is listed as living in West Flamborough in Wentworth County and has 7 children. By 1871 he owns a farm in the Teeswater area in Culross Township, Bruce County. He died there in 1910. I have tried to find his parents whom he must have come to Canada with. I wonder if they came by way of the U.S. first. Until I find his elusive parents, I am not sure where in Cornwall he came from or where to start a search there to find his family line. Any suggestions as to where to start in Cornwall or elsewhere?

### **Were You Aware...**

#### **Autosomal DNA**

If you've taken an autosomal DNA test such as Family Finder from Family Tree DNA or the 23andMe test, you can look at your matches without understanding a great deal of the science of genetics. It helps, though, to understand the concepts of recombination in each generation and the meaning of matching segments. In April Jim Bartlett started a blog 'to document information about segments and autosomal DNA'. His blog is easy to read and very helpful to a non-scientist. You can read his posts (and subscribe if you wish) at: <http://segmentology.org/>

### **Workhouse Records**

The researcher who reported finding one of her great-grandfathers in the Dublin workhouse records last week suggested that one should look at the records for people who were not completely poverty stricken; she found another ancestor who was a druggist in the Dublin records. There are now two very large databases of workhouse records online: London England Workhouse Records 1659-1930 (containing over seven million records) on Ancestry and Dublin Workhouse Registers 1840-1919 (Dublin North, Dublin South & Rathdown) with 1.5 million records on FindMyPast. FindMyPast has several smaller workhouse databases: Manchester Workhouse Registers 1800-1911 with 380,000 records, Bury Workhouse records with nearly 50,000 names, Cheshire Workhouse records with more than 50,000 names, Derbyshire Workhouse reports with 2,000 names and Surrey Southwark St George the Martyr Workhouse records 1729-1826 containing 21,000 records. Check the related records for workhouses too. FindMyPast has records of life events (ie births, marriages and deaths) that took place in workhouses and poor law unions. FamilySearch also has a number of workhouse records for Kent (available at family history centres) and for Cheshire. Find their workhouse records by searching the [FamilySearch Wiki](#).

There is an excellent website by Peter Higginbotham about workhouses [here](#). It has a lot of workhouse history and locations of workhouses throughout England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland. There are descriptions of workhouse life and some very affecting childhood memories. Often workhouse stays were temporary, the result of ill health or setbacks like losing your job.

### Shared cM Project – Autosomal DNA

Blaine Bettinger, “[The Genetic Genealogist](#)”, has blogged about his project to get information about the amount of DNA shared by people who have a known genealogical relationship – sort of the reverse of what the DNA companies do by assigning a possible relationship depending on the amount of shared DNA. There is a lot more information on his blog but I thought that his basic table was very interesting.

Column 1 – Relationship – 1C = first cousin; 2C1R = second cousin once removed; 3C2R = third cousin twice removed

Column 2 – Number of samples submitted

Columns 3-6 – Amount of shared DNA as measured in centiMorgans (cM) (convert to percentage by dividing by 7440).

Relationship	#	Min	Median	Average	Max
1C	662	82.65	884.81	880.81	1559.00
1C1R	606	54.18	434.00	439.75	902.59
1C2R	134	26.90	244.77	239.72	412.74
2C	598	47.00	235.78	245.98	760.10
2C1R	590	0.00	131.22	139.66	465.99
2C2R	101	0.00	84.96	94.04	574.60
3C	517	0.00	83.41	89.40	334.06
3C1R	264	0.00	67.92	76.03	332.26
3C2R	36	16.40	53.41	51.90	121.66
Aunt/Uncle	722	121.34	1730.26	1703.45	2226.60
Aunt/Nephew (subset)	106	847.00	1724.14	1708.33	2175.00
Aunt/Niece (subset)	137	684.62	1722.30	1709.52	2226.60
Uncle/Nephew (subset)	67	739.71	1743.88	1723.71	2038.52
Uncle/Niece (subset)	101	892.50	1742.00	1704.56	2004.00
Aunt/Uncle (subset)	311	121.34	1730.13	1694.38	2192.00
Grandparent/Grandchild	195	875.00	1757.84	1759.54	2365.10
Great Aunt/Uncle	123	235.71	858.12	843.84	1301.10
Great Grandparent/Grandchild	25	547.00	862.64	855.66	1110.03
Half 1C	56	261.76	445.87	457.69	1194.37
Half 1C1R	33	99.27	218.92	222.61	517.60
Half 2C	44	17.20	118.39	123.31	264.19
Half Aunt/Uncle	43	540.10	906.00	892.17	1348.00
Half Siblings	125	787.15	1737.26	1731.05	2133.71

The zeros in the *Minimum column* for second cousin once removed to third cousin once removed indicate something that Linda Reid has talked about in the Bulletin (2015-14) before – that at this level the amount of shared DNA is quite variable depending upon the recombination of genetic material and may well be zero even if the match is valid. I was interested to see that my three third cousin matches were fairly consistent with the third cousin matches in the table, although perhaps on the more positive side at 137.43, 130.34 and 98.65 cM. The more positive aspect shows me why FamilyTreeDNA flagged them as 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> cousins.

The larger table on Blaine's blog has a further breakdown depending on whether endogamy was reported. What is endogamy, you may ask? From the ISOGG Wiki: *Endogamy is the practice of marrying within the same ethnic, cultural, social, religious or tribal group. In endogamous populations everyone will descend from the same small gene pool. People will be related to each other in a recent genealogical timeframe on multiple ancestral pathways and the same ancestors will, therefore, appear in many different places on their pedigree chart. Examples of endogamous groups include Ashkenazi Jews, Acadians, Polynesians, Low German Mennonites, people from many Arab countries, people from Newfoundland and people from many islands. In 2011 the FamilyTree DNA Family Finder matching algorithms were modified with effect to downweight matches between Ashkenazi Jews in order to provide more accurate relationship predictions.* Do your autosomal DNA results fit this table?

### **Listing of New Films at the Toronto FHC has been discontinued.**

Toronto Family History Centre Current Opening Hours:

**(Always phone us if you do not have a booking to ensure that we are open.)**

Tuesday 9:30 am to 2 pm (Linda)

Wednesday 9:30 am to 3:45 pm (Ann, Joe am, Helen & Leslie pm); 6:30pm to 9:30pm (Helen)

Thursday 9:30am to noon (Don & Roberta); 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm (Don & Roberta)

Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of each month, 10am to 1pm (Grace & Charlene) For Chinese research

**For a copy of a searchable listing of all films, fiche, CDs and books held at the Toronto Family History Centre in pdf format, click [here](#).**

[FamilySearch - Search](#)

[FamilySearch - IGI](#)

[Hugh Wallis IGI Batch Numbers](#)

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