

CLAN QUARTERLY

May
2021

Fitzpatrick Clan Society Newsletter



tá go leor againn

táimid éagsúil

táimid ar cheann

chun freastal

chun leanúint



we are many

we are diverse

we are one

to serve

to follow

Cover Image by fstoppography
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FÁILTE AN EARRAIGH FHÓMHAIR

Spring | 2021 | Autumn

Welcome to the Spring/Autumn clan quarterly for 2021; this reminding me (again) of who we are and where we live. While I'm out walking the dogs at this time of year, I remember a certain Irishman doing the same thing one autumn day in An Dún.

On and on and on and on we kept singing our song,
Over Newtonards and Comber, Gransha and the Ballystockart Road,
With Boffyflow and Spike.
I said I could describe the leaves for Samuel and Felicity:
Rich-red, brown, half-burnt orange, and green.
(Van Morrison Sense of Wonder, 1985)

But for you in the north, I hope the cold months are well behind you
and that you can get out, meet folks again, and enjoy some craic.

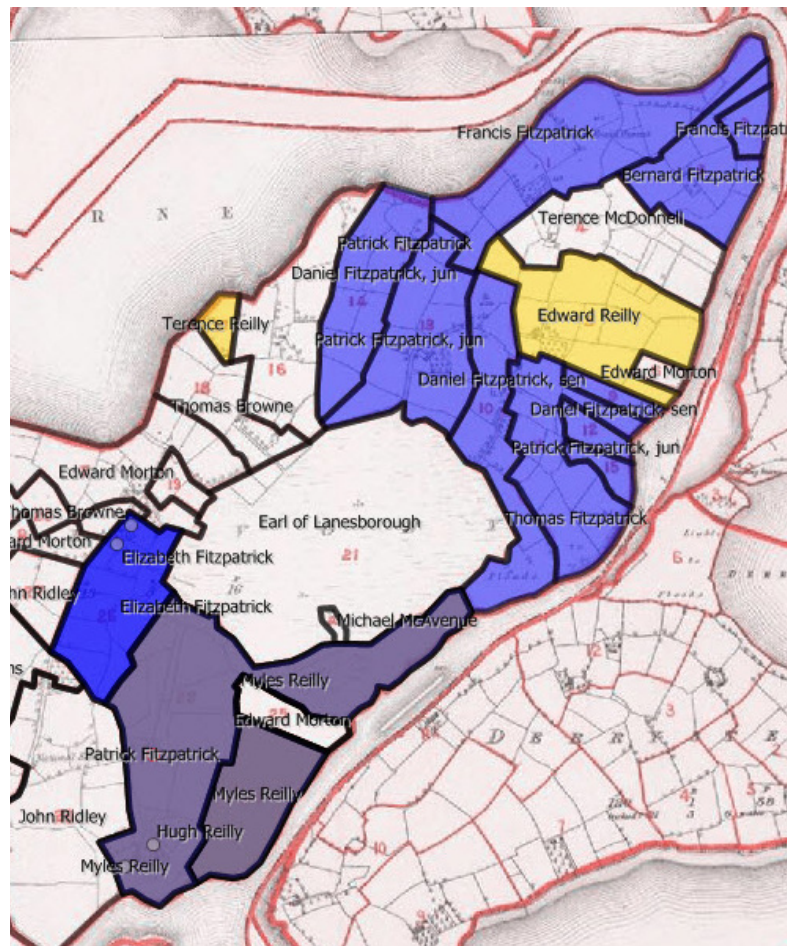
Wanna dance by you by the light of the moon,
I wanna see you there on a bright afternoon,
I wanna sing my song, won't you play me the tune?
In the regions again – in the Celtic spring.
(Van Morrison, Celtic Spring, 1997)

This Spring/Autumn, we have all the usual updates and a big feature;
it's a wonderful piece from the Autumn-leaf-haired Bernard Fitzpatrick
of Queensland, Australia.

Mike Fitzpatrick
Editor

BERNARD FITZPATRICK

Brisbane Boy | Bréifne Boy



Land holdings 1857 in Derravona, Drumlane Parish, Cavan.

I had a relatively simple childhood growing up in suburban, sub-tropical Brisbane in the 1960s and 1970s, influenced by my Mum, Dad, and seven siblings; Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, and cousins; our relatively large inner-city backyard with a vegetable garden, a large chook (chicken) and duck pen and fruit trees which included citrus trees, two large mango trees, a large mulberry tree (grown from a cutting with heritage to my Great Grandmother's tree in Gympie), pawpaw trees and banana trees; going to school weekdays; attending Catholic Mass on the weekends, and early morning starts as an altar boy to serve at Mass during the week; visits to see our relatives in other suburbs of Brisbane; and, the then near-annual wet season floods that crept into our street. At the peak of the 1974 flood, one of the highest floods in 'white-fella' time to invade the Brisbane suburbs, the water lapped our yard.

Thankfully, my world was expanded beyond the limits of the growing city of Brisbane by our annual trips to Gympie, about 160 kilometres to the north of Brisbane, and a farm about 140 kilometres south near the small northern New South Wales town of Tyalgum, to visit some of Dad's relatives, and Dalby about 200 kilometres west of Brisbane to visit Mum's Aunt.

As a young child, I was somewhat aware that my families on both sides had been in Australia, for what seemed then, a long time. My timeline horizon did not comprehend ancestors beyond my grandparents. I had heard that 'a long time ago' my ancestors had come from Ireland, Scotland, and England. When I was young, some older people would say: 'With the name of Fitzpatrick, you must be Irish!' or 'Fitzpatrick, that is a good Irish name!' But I was not Irish! I was, I am Australian! I was born in Australia, my parents were born in Australia, and my grandparents were born in Australia.

Upper primary school and early secondary school expanded my awareness of the world. I realised that some children's grandparents lived in other countries, that the Australian Indigenous peoples were not peoples of a long-forgotten past, that my ancestors lived with them and on Indigenous lands. Who was I, and how had I come to be in Australia?

My interest in knowing where my families came from probably started when my Grandfather, Dad's father, died in late 1976. I was fourteen. Into Dad's possession came several family items and documents, including my Great Grandfather's diary, 1887 to 1892. Dad's youngest sister drew me the family tree from great grandparents, Michael Fitzpatrick and Agnes McCullough, to my generation. Dad's cousins on the farm near Tyalgum told stories of three Fitzpatrick brothers who were involved in gold mining in Gympie, of their brother in New York, and of our family connections to Ireland.

In 1980 I started to transcribe my Great Grandfather's diary using a portable typewriter; however, life: university, early and mid-career, then marriage, and children were greater priorities. Being an Australian, I had a strong belief that I should see and understand Australia before I traveled overseas. I ended up working in Darwin from late 1989 and, for various reasons, moved back to Brisbane with my wife and young family in 1998. Early in my Darwin years, my Great Grandfather's diary, being in my possession, moved to Dad's older sister's back in Brisbane. It made sense due to my young family and Darwin's climate.

It was not until 2003 that I found time to recommence my family history research. In the intervening years, personal computers had become common; the internet and world wide web opened an information highway, and online databases and search engines were created, which would provide unbelievable opportunities for undertaking family research. Also, age becomes all of us, and my Aunt was convinced she had returned the diary to me. It was lost! Age-care facilities and the ultimate destination of life followed my Aunt, and it was my cousins who rediscovered the diary in 2016. I am glad it was not lost as I am now aware of how much information it contains about my family, other families and provides a snippet of early Gympie. There is interest in Gympie to have the diary become a public asset.

In 2005, waiting for some heavy processing to finish on my processing computer, I was casually searching for anything related to my family on my administration computer. Amongst the search results, I came across an entry from a few years previous:

Looking for information about Michael Fitzpatrick, who was born about 1890 in Brisbane, Australia, and came to New York (via Italy) in 1907. He stayed with his uncle Hugh Fitzpatrick, who was a police captain, until at least 1910.

Who were his parents? What happened to him after 1910?

Hugh was born in Ireland in the 1840s; his father was named Daniel. It is possible that he was actually Michael's great-uncle.

I contacted the person, Marge, who was in California, USA, and over the following weeks we proved that we were third cousins. I was excited. Over emails, Marge introduced me to another USA cousin, Mary Beth. Since then, together, we have discovered a number of our Fitzpatrick family. Of interest when the old Fitzpatrick home was being sold in Brisbane, I came across a photo (next page) which turned out to be one of Marge's and Mary Beth's in New York.



Above: Hugh Fitzpatrick's son and family: Marge's and Mary Beth's parents as children in New York.

Below: The first page of the 1903 letter from my Great-Great Uncle, Patrick Fitzpatrick to his nephew.

Derrygonna
 Bulturbet H^{on} Oct. 03
 My Dear Nephew
 I am well pleased with
 you for your kindness in writing
 to me and doubly more so
 to hear of you being well also
 you Mamma and Charley
 and Sister Mary
 Mrs Fitzpatrick and the
 Children Daniel James and
 Mary Bridget are very happy
 to hear from you all I
 hope that your good health
 and prosperity will long last
 mine to you all

It was sometime later I had a conversation with Dad about what he could recall of family stories that he asked why I was interested in our family history because they were just names on pieces of paper. I explained that I was trying to understand who I was, who we were, in the context of our ancestor's influence and their influence on where we lived and on today's society. A few weeks later, Dad arrived at my place with two or three bags of things and suggested that I might be interested in the contents.

The bags contained some of my Granddad's notebooks, my Great Grandfather's R.I.C. issued notebook, among a lot of other apparently innocuous pieces of paper. All provided hints and leads to a yet-to-be-discovered Fitzpatrick family past. Amongst the papers was a letter written in 1903 to my Great Uncle from his Uncle Patrick Fitzpatrick.

For a number of years, I had heard my Fitzpatrick's came from Kilkenny AND Cavan. This was confusing when I started my Irish Fitzpatrick research given Brian Mac Giolla Phádraig and the Ossory Fitzpatrick narratives. But a letter (previous page) provided the information that my Fitzpatricks were from Derravona; it turned out what Dad thought he heard as a child as Kilkenny was actually Kilconny, County Cavan, near Derravona and Belturbet.

I soon discovered and joined a Fitzpatrick Clan List, and through it I would connect to another third cousin, Kath, who lived not far from Brisbane. Kath was soon to commence her travels which included Ireland. She now had Derravona as a point of reference for our Fitzpatrick family, which led her to visit Belturbet and open amazing connections with the location and its locals.

Some of the locals are Fitzpatricks, and a number of locals had known our grandparent's cousins who lived on the farm in Derravona up until the 1970s. By the end of 2013, we had visited the old Fitzpatrick farm, meet some of our local Cosgrove cousins, our USA cousins, and had made new local acquaintances. We have since had a gathering in Gympie in 2017 and were to gather in Belturbet in 2020, which did not eventuate.

Next Page: The gravestone of Daniel Fitzpatrick and Mary (nee Cosgrove) Fitzpatrick of Derravona and other family members in the Staghall, Belturbet cemetery as it was when Kath visited in 2008. Before and after images: Kath had the gravestone renovated prior to the "Blessing of the Graves" in 2008. The cleaning was a homage to our ancestors as well; it drew the attention of locals during the Blessing and provided Kath with the opportunity to meet more of the Belturbet locals.



There is not enough space here to provide the details of what information we currently have about our Fitzpatrick family; however, the following provides a listing of the Fitzpatrick generation that ventured to Australia and the USA.

Daniel Fitzpatrick (born about 1807, died 21 January 1887) and Mary (nee Cosgrove) Fitzpatrick (born about 1814, died 11 August 1885) lived on a farm in Derravona, Parish of Drumlane, County of Cavan, which had as one of its boundaries the River Erne, now the border between the Republic and Northern Ireland.

We do not know Daniel's parents but suspect that it may have been a Patrick Fitzpatrick. Local oral history suggests that our Fitzpatrick were present in Derravona during the Battle of the Bloody Pass in 1689. We know Mary Cosgrove's parents were James Cosgrove and Mary Fitzpatrick, and both are buried on Galloon Island, County Fermanagh. Daniel and Mary Fitzpatrick had the following children:

Patrick Fitzpatrick born about 1837 who married Bridget Cassidy. Patrick stayed on the farm in Derravona.

James Fitzpatrick born about May 1839, married Roseanne Fitzpatrick (maiden name) from Milltown, County of Cavan in Brisbane in November 1864.

Hugh Fitzpatrick, born about March 1841, emigrated to New York and was married to Maria Hussey.

John Fitzpatrick born about February 1846. We have no further information on him.

Mary Fitzpatrick born about 1849 or 1850, married Charles Nolan, R.I.C., and was his second wife. They had no children, but Charles had a daughter from his first marriage. Mary lived and owned a shop in Carrickmacross, County Monaghan. Daniel and Mary's uncle Thomas Cosgrove (son of James Fitzpatrick and Mary nee Fitzpatrick Cosgrove of Kevenagh, County of Fermanagh), also a retired R.I.C., lived up the road in Carrickmacross, County Monaghan.

Philip Fitzpatrick, born in 1851, emigrated to Gympie, Australia, and was married. Members of the family still live in Gympie.

Rosanna Fitzpatrick, born about September 1852, emigrated to New York and married a Mr. J. B. Ryder.

Michael Fitzpatrick, born August 1854, after a number of years serving in the R.I.C., emigrated to Gympie, Australia. He married Agnes McCullough.

Daniel Fitzpatrick, born about February 1858, stayed in Ireland and we do not think married. We have found him in the 1901 Census living near Clones and in the 1911 Census living with his sister Mary Nolan in Carrickmacross, County Monaghan.



New York and Gympie Fitzpatricks.

It is not the photographs and family trees but the people and stories that I find of most interest. One good story which Dad told me. When living in Sandgate in the 1940s, the Irish owner of the boarding house told him a story that went something along the lines of the following.

There was an Irishman who was fighting in WW1 or WW2. His wife was at home minding the farm and potato planting season was on its way. The wife wrote to her husband:

‘Patrick, what am I to do? Planting time for the potatoes is nearly here, and I have not yet ploughed the fields to plant the seed potatoes’.

Patrick writes back. ‘Well Kathleen, plough the fields you must, but be careful where you plough so you do not unearth all of the guns and munitions.’

Soon after, Kathleen writes again to her husband. ‘Patrick, what am I to do? Since your last letter, the police have come and dug up all our fields.’

Patrick returns a letter to his wife. ‘Plant the potatoes, Kathleen.’

We now have a fairly good knowledge that is still expanding of our Fitzpatrick-Cosgrove family. Autosomal DNA has supported the paper trails of our family relationships, and four of us have taken Y-DNA tests to provide a base for investigating our Fitzpatrick origins. I will follow up on the DNA side of our family history research in a later article.



James Cosgrove and Mary (Fitzpatrick) Cosgrove, grave monuments, Galloon Island, County Fermanagh, Ireland.

THE BEST FROM MATT

Facebook | Fantasticer



Fitzpatrick Clan Society

Private group · 1.1K members



+ Invite



CAVANTOWNLANDS.COM

Cavan Townlands – Your gateway to the history of each of Cavan's 2,000 townlands



YOUTUBE.COM

Looking at Myself (Official video)
Filmed by Dominique Davoust



The Burning of Roslea and the
Rescue of Matt Fitzpatrick

Send Message

Monaghan County Museum

April 17 at 12:29 AM

EPISODE 6: The Burning of Roslea and the Rescue of Matt Fitzpatrick



Mr Fitzpatrick's - Britain's Last Temperance Bar is at Mr Fitzpatrick's - Britain's Last Temperance Bar.

WEB EVENTS

2021

26 June | 31 July

Our first ever Web Events, which covered DNA for Genealogy and the Fitzpatrick DNA Project, took place in February. If you missed them, they are viewable on the Clan Society YouTube channel:

[DNA for Genealogy - Fitzpatrick DNA Project Part 1](#)

[DNA for Genealogy - Fitzpatrick DNA Project Part 2](#)

Next up, we have two entirely different presentations, but they both draw from Fitzpatrick Clan Society Journal articles that were published in 2020.

In June, Ian Fitzpatrick will discuss the settlement of Irish in the Americas in the 17th and 18th centuries. The reasons for that settlement were many and varied, as were the geographic origins and lineages of those Fitzpatricks among the influx. By way of example, Ian will demonstrate, using a single Fitzpatrick line, just how messy the traditional genealogy of early Colonial American Fitzpatricks can get.

It is by careful review of authentic historical records, caution with speculative associations, and the power of Y-DNA analysis that it is possible to untangle some of the mess and bring back some much-needed clarity.

In July, Mike Fitzpatrick's presentation will cover the history of Mac Giolla Phádraig Osraí, from the conquest of Ireland by Richard II until the emergence of the first Baron of Upper Ossory. Discussion highlights are: the formation of alliances between Mac Giolla Phádraig Osraí and the House of Ormond; the rule of Donnchadh Mór Riabhach, a previously unrecognised clan chieftain; a critical examination of the tomb at Gráinseach Feartach; and, numerous entries in the Papal Registers, which provide clear evidence for a Mac Giolla Phádraig Osraí clerical lineage.

All this leads to an understanding of the clan's leadership and lineages that is much more complex than previously understood.

We have scheduled these presentations just once, but at times that can easily accommodate both our Ireland/UK and North American-based members. The presentations will be recorded and made available on our YouTube channel.

The times and dates of the presentations are:

Sat 26 June 2021, 5 pm GMT; and,
Sat 31 July 2021, 5 pm GMT.

Email admin@fitzpatrickclan.org to confirm your attendance. You'll also need to have [ZOOM](#) installed on whatever device you use.

EXECUTIVE

Zoom | Strategy Meeting

The executive of Joan, Matt, and Mike, held a strategy meeting in early May. Joining us were our various advisors and co-workers: Eithne Branigan (Journal editor), Dr. Esther Fitzpatrick (Academic), Ian Fitzpatrick (DNA project), and Proinsias Mag Fhionnghaile (Irish Culture & history).

The meeting got off to a grand start when Proinsias managed to invert his camera and appeared upside down for as all – I'd not seen that in a Zoom meeting before, but Proinsias' clear empathy for Esther and I down under was much appreciated, although he said 'It was the cat's fault!'

We covered various topics, and the meeting minutes are available on the website. We look forward to our next meeting in June, and large in all of our minds is the question of when we can hold a Fitzpatrick Clan Society gathering in Ireland. In all reality, this is unlikely to be before 2023, but there is a distinct likelihood we will host some regional events in 2022.

If there are any issues or topics you'd like discussed at the next executive meeting, email them to me.



FINTE NA HÉIREANN NEWS

The [Finte na hÉireann](#) (Clans of Ireland) 2021 Cultural Summit and AGM, although Covid-affected, was held online in April, and both Matt and Mike attended.

The Cultural Summit featured three guest lectures that were of a very high standard and much enjoyed.

Luke McNerney spoke on the Medieval Learned families of the West of Ireland, Michael O’Crowley, of Ó Cruadhlaoidh Corcaigh, on ‘Irish Heraldry; Laws of Arms’, and Finola Finlay on ‘The Tower Houses of Ireland’ with a focus on West Cork.

Two of the presentations are available via the Clans of Ireland YouTube channel:

[Medieval Learned families of the West of Ireland](#)

[Irish Heraldry; Laws of Arms](#)

The most significant news to come out of the Clans of Ireland AGM was the election a new Cathaoirleach (Chairman), who is Gearóid Ó Ceallaigh of Ó

Ceallaigh Dal gCais. You can read Gearóid’s message to the clans here:

[Message to Clans of Ireland Members](#)

It was the following words from Gearóid that I especially appreciated because I think they are particularly relevant for Fitzpatricks. We are not one sept, we are very many septs. And we certainly don’t need to wear kilts and wave Normanesque flags around to be considered Fitzpatricks.

‘I would like to reflect on the fact that Clans of Ireland is an association of Irish clans and historical families, including, not just noble and chiefly families, but also the far more numerous families that are associated in history with a particular geographic region. It is the fundamental virtue of being an Irish clan or historical family that is, in fact, the essential characteristic of being a member of Clans of Ireland. Irish heritage does not include artificial, alien, or inappropriate influences and their adoption or usage is disparate or in some cases antithetical to our culture.’

THE JOURNAL

2021

Eat more | brain food

The schedule for our Fitzpatrick Clan Society Journal publications in 2021 has been firmed up a little:

June 2021:
The Similar-Sounding Surnames of R-BY140757

August 2021:
Clerical Lineages of Mac Giolla Phádraig Osraí

October 2021:
Colonial American Fitzpatrick Settlers, Part II

Decemeber 2021:
Fitzpatricks in the Patent Rolls, Part I

The addition of the article ‘The Similar-Sounding Surnames of R-BY140757’ came about, and was bumped to the top of the publication list, because of some really interesting findings, both from the pages of history books and from the DNA project.

Haplogroup R-BY140757 is populated by surnames such as Branan, Brennan, Brannin, and Branham, and R-BY140757 is a remarkable example of how surnames can be shown to be connected by DNA, even when they appear unrelated and originating in quite distantly different locations.

The analysis of the R-BY140757 led to a critical review of the historical narratives of the O’Braonain Ui Duach, who were said by some to descend from a common ancestor of Mac Giolla Phádraig Osraí.

What has been uncovered results in the total disruption of O’Braonain Ui Duach and Mac Giolla Phádraig Osraí histories, which demonstrates once again that historical narratives, at times subject to forgeries and omissions, cannot just be taken on face value.

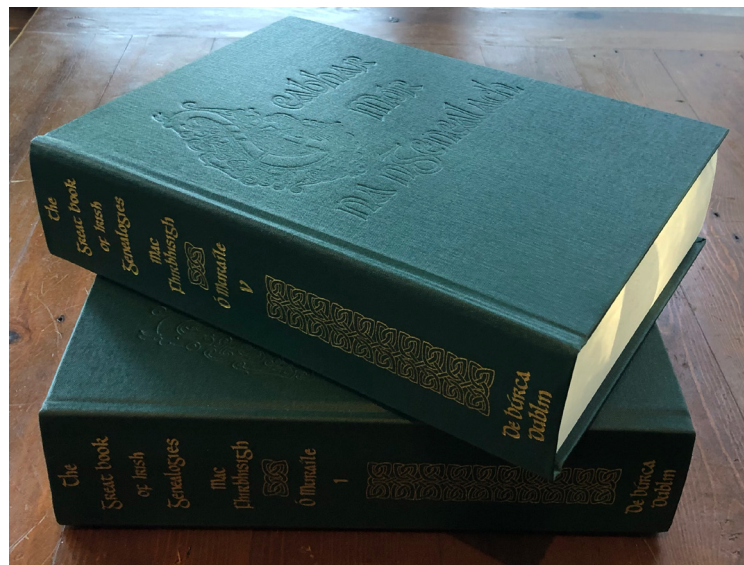
FITZPATRICKS NEED MÓR

Leabhar mór na ngenealach | It's a great read

One great thing to come of ‘The Similar-Sounding Surnames of R-BY140757’ is I now possess a set of Leabhar mór na ngenealach, ‘The Great Book of Irish Genealogies’, which was needed for the article.

Written ca. 1650 by Dubhaltach Mac Fhiribhisigh, it is a breathtaking work and one that is difficult to grasp until you have the five-volume set in front of your own eyes. The translation of Leabhar mór into English was completed by Nollaig Ó Muraíle in 2003 after a labour of 32 years. That tells you much.

What does this great work mean for Fitzpatricks? Well, for quite some time we have understood that our surname was taken for many reasons, not the least of which was the corruption of Gaelic surnames such as Ó Maol Phádraig. Imagine, then, seeing very many (I count at least 40) lineages in Leabhar mór, from which Fitzpatrick lines may have emerged. We now have the ability to correlate those lineages with what we observe on the DNA project, giving Fitzpatricks, some for the first time, hope of an understanding of where their Fitzpatrick origins lie.



FITZPATRICK DNA PROJECT UPDATE

What's in | Your blood?

The Fitzpatrick DNA project just keeps getting bigger, busier, and better. There are some days when Ian and I have very little time except to answer DNA-related emails, review DNA data, and prepare presentation material. The project now has close to 600 members, with around 80 people added in the past 12 months.

Z253 ... L226 ... DC194

There are now three BigYs in this growing group, which has Dál gCais origins. The group intrigues because, although the group members share ancestry from no later than ca. 1700 AD, the surname adoption could be old, perhaps as old as 1000 AD. The shared ancestry with the descendants of Brian Boru is from ca. 100 AD.

FGC5494 ... A1488

As predicted, the BigY result for the Purcell on the project did come in near the A1488 juncture. Hence, the evidence for the long-established genetic brother of A1488, FT12974 (under which there are many with the surname Dalton), having Norman origins grows greater. The Purcells were a significant Norman family in Cill Chainnaig (Kilkenny) from the time of the first Norman invasions. What interests us here is the Purcell result may provide clues for Dalton origins, which have long intrigued. Also interesting is the relationship between Purcells and Mac Giolla Phádraig clergy in the fourteenth century; this will be discussed in the forthcoming article, Clerical Lineages of Mac Giolla Phádraig Osraí.

L513 ... FGC9811

Based on STR matches, this group has long been considered as possibly a branch of MacGuire. There are now two BigYs in this group, but they appear too distantly connected to share a common surname ancestry. The MacGuire relationship is also distant, and it looks like the origins of FGC9811 Fitzpatricks will be challenging to solve. I'm hoping a combination of Leabhar mór and more testers in this group will help.

CTS4466 ... Y108997

There are now three BigYs in this group, and the results of a fourth aren't that far away. The group is old, and the common surname ancestry is from ca. 1300 AD. With a little more data, it should be possible to advance a much better understanding of this group's origins, which is satisfying because that was one of the DNA project goals we set last year.

HAPLOTREES

You can find haplotrees for the FGC11134... BY12234 and FGC5494...A1488 groups here:

[BY12234 Haplotree](#)

[A1488 Haplotree](#)

