



FITZPATRICK MAC GIOLLA PHÁDRÁIG Ó MAOL PHÁDRÁIG



Fitzpatrick Clan Society The Clan Quarterly

Welcome to the first quarterly newsletter of the Fitzpatrick Clan Society!

The newsletter will feature regular sections, including general news, an historical piece, DNA news, Fitzpatrick related events and contributions from members – the latter depends on you.

Clan News

To those who have made submissions on the Clan constitution, thank you – keep them coming in. Clan membership is heading toward 200 now, but I'd like to see us get to 300-500 before we consider electing Clan Officers because I think that will reflect a legitimate number of members on which to base our democratic decisions.

Make sure you regularly visit the website (www.fitzpatrickclan.org) because there are updates happening often. Very recently the [forum page](#) has become active. Sign up and post away. The emphasis of the forum is making connections, genealogy and the Fitzpatrick DNA study - if you need help make use of our FREE genealogy and DNA advice. And feedback on forum topics is most welcome. And if you are that way inclined we now have a [Facebook](#) home.

The winner of the May 2018 SNP test was Daniel Fitzpatrick, who was updated to a SNP pack. And the June 2018 winner was Ann Wanner. Congratulations to you both.

Also released are the details of the 2018 Fitzpatrick Clan Society Creative Award – the prize is fantastic IMO.

History Slot: The First Fitzpatrick

It was recently pointed out to me that the first to bear the Fitzpatrick surname wasn't, as is commonly understood, Bryan Fitzpatrick the first Baron of Upper Ossory, who took the surname in 1541. Rather, the first recorded use of the Fitzpatrick surname appears to have been by the Norman Peer William Fitzpatrick d'Evreux (1), Earl of Salisbury (1150 - 1196). However, the surname used by William had quite a different derivation to that Bryan Fitzpatrick's – as we all well know Bryan's was a Normanisation of Mac Giolla Phadráig.

Thank you, Matt Fitzpatrick, for sharing that.

Reference:

1. <https://www.genealogieonline.nl/en/ancestral-trails-2016/l80574.php>

DNA News

The [Fitzpatrick DNA study](#) continues to grow, building on the pioneering work of Colleen Fitzpatrick. Colleen's grouping of Fitzpatricks based on Y-STR data is still largely accurate, but with NGS (Next Generation Sequencing) testing being able to greatly reduce ambiguity, particularly for members who share few Y-STR matches, we now understand the genetic makeup of our Clan with much greater clarity. The major DNA groups, now named according to haplotype and/or modality, are: FGC11134, FGC5494, Z16434 and L513. This newsletter will discuss FGC11134 and FGC5494; the others plus the less common Fitzpatrick haplotypes will be discussed in future newsletters.

FGC11134 is the haplotype with the most Fitzpatrick members on the DNA study. However, there are actually two main sub-groups in FGC11134. One is CTS4466 (known as the Irish Type II modal, or Munster Irish), which was previously named 'Timothy' in eponymistic fashion by Colleen. There has been little NGS testing on this group, hence it's not possible to understand with confidence the pre-surname links this group had with other Irish Clans. The good news is that there are two members who have recently signed up for NGS tests.

The other FGC11134 group has undertaken some fine NGS work and the SNP (Single Nucleotide Polymorphism) BY9002 has only been found in Fitzpatricks; hence it possibly defines all members, along with the STR DYS449=26. Age analysis of this group by Dr Iain McDonald indicates the MRCA (Most Recent Common Ancestor) of BY9002 lived between ca. 150BC and 900AD, which is not inconsistent with this group's surname being a patronymic adoption from the times of an early Gilla Pátraic. Not too many close Clan cousins, prior to the adoption of surnames, of this group have been identified but perhaps the best match is with the surname O'Kelly.

FGC5494, formerly known as Laois, has many members that trace to Kilkenny, Laois and Tipperary, hence this group is referred to as Ossory. Fascinating group this one because FGC5494 is not that common in Ireland. There is only one Fitzpatrick on the DNA study who has taken an NGS test and he is A1488, which is a SNP that is shared by one other who is a Fitzgerald. Ossory Fitzpatricks share close DNA matches with various surname groups (e.g., Brennan, Costigan, Fitzgerald, D'Alton) and these connections appear to occur in timeframes either side of when patronyms were taken in Ireland. Further back in time the cousins of FGC5494 Fitzpatricks were men who became associated with the Clans Maynard, Maxwell and Kenyon (2). So FGC5494 Fitzpatricks are complex and not closely related to many other Irish Clans. Some suggest a migration of FGC5494 men to Ireland from their Frankish homeland after ca. 500BC (3), which clearly challenges the theory that Ossory Fitzpatricks descend directly from Irish Chieftains of classic antiquity (4).

References:

2. <http://www.ytree.net/DisplayTree.php?blockID=18>
3. <https://the-kings-son.com/Chapter11-TheKingsSon-TheEvidence-3rdEdition.pdf>,
4. <https://www.libraryireland.com/Pedigrees1/Heremon.php>

If much of this DNA-speak is over your head don't worry. I'll be uploading some 'DNA for beginners' material to the website in the coming months.

Sláinte is táinte

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