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Phillips DNA News

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Please submit news articles or ideas for articles to the editor. Questions about Genetic Genealogy can always be sent to the editor.

Project News

The holiday season is upon us! Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Joyous Kwanzaa to one and all! Keep in mind that Family Tree DNA is running a big holiday promotion on DNA tests and a DNA test kit makes an interesting and unusual present. If you need help ordering one as a present, please don't hesitate to contact us. Remember that you have to order through a DNA project like the Phillips DNA Project in order to obtain these prices. Here are the details with regard to the holiday promotion:

New Kits

	Current Group Price	SALE PRICE
Y-DNA 37	\$149	\$119
Y-DNA 67	\$239	\$199
mtFullSequence	\$299	\$239
SuperDNA (Y-DNA67 and FMS)	\$518	\$438
Family Finder	\$289	\$199
Family Finder + mtPlus	\$438	\$318
Family Finder + FMS	\$559	\$439
Family Finder+ Y-DNA37	\$438	\$318
Comprehensive (FF + FMS + Y-67)	\$797	\$627

Upgrades

12-25 Marker	\$49	\$35
12-37 Marker	\$99	\$69
12-67 Marker	\$189	\$148
25-37 Marker	\$49	\$35
25-67 Marker	\$148	\$114
37-67 Marker	\$99	\$79
Family Finder	\$289	\$199
mtHVR1toMega	\$269	\$229
mtHVR2toMega	\$239	\$209

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PLACED AND PAID FOR BY MIDNIGHT DECEMBER 31st 2011 TO RECEIVE THE SALE PRICES. THIS PROMOTION IS NOT VALID IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY OTHER PROMOTIONS OR COUPONS.

In other news from FTDNA, they sent the following notification on November 14th to all customers who have taken a Deep Clade or SNP test:

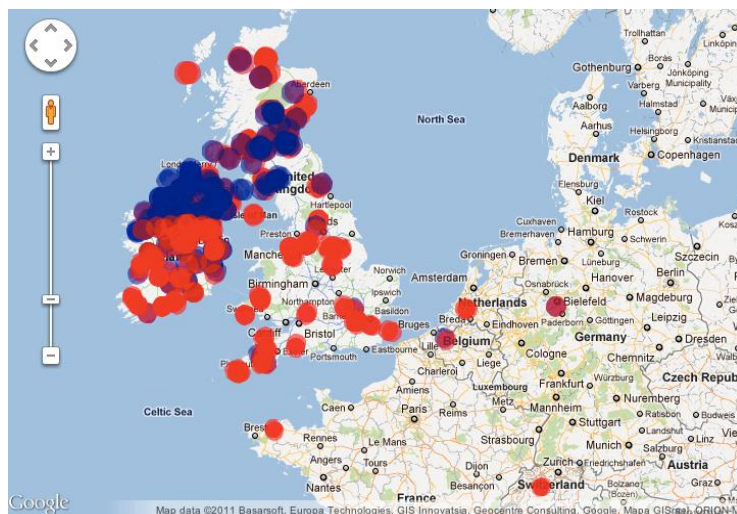
With the vast number of records that Family Tree DNA has obtained, we are in a unique position to begin delivering something that would normally be possible only after scientific papers are published: a better level of geographic specificity for the origin and migration of ancestral lines in more recent times.

Up until now, Haplogroups were able to only tell one's deep ancestral origin. However, with the numerous terminal SNPs that we've discovered and tested over the years, we will soon be able to provide customers with the history of your population cluster within the last few hundred years.

Many Family Tree DNA customers have already submitted geographical coordinates of their MDKA, or Most Distant Known Ancestor. Our goal is to offer a new map view with data points for as many terminal SNPs as possible. The map will also be enhanced with added features so that as the number of records increase, we will be able to see a higher level of geographic specificity.

This map should be available in a few weeks. It should be quite valuable for those who don't have any facts about the ancestral origin of their paternal line and those interested in the physical spread of their Haplogroup.

As an example, the map displayed below shows people positive for L21 (red dots) and M222 (blue dots). One possible interpretation is that since L21 is ancestral to M222, L21 expanded from the continent into the British Isles during the LGM (last glacial maximum) and then the M222 developed, being characteristic of Northern Ireland. The map clearly shows the largest concentration of M222 in Northern Ireland, which suggests the expansion of this group most likely originated from this region.



Notes on FTDNA's 7th Genetic Genealogy Conference

By Tim Janzen



Picture by Joan Miller

I thought that I would summarize some of the most important things that I learned from the FTDNA conference in Houston held November 4 - 6, 2011. Overall, I thought it was a great conference and I had a fun time meeting many people whom I had known only through e-mail contact previously.

Spencer Wells gave an update on the GenoGraph Project. There are currently about 75,000 people from indigenous populations that the GenoGraph Project has collected samples from worldwide from over 1000 different populations. Their overall coverage of these populations in terms of samples is fairly good except that Native Americans from North America are underrepresented in their database due to the fact that many tribal groups haven't been willing to give samples to the GenoGraph Project. The GenoGraph Project plans to retain all of these DNA samples from indigenous populations and will continue to do additional testing on them above and beyond what they have already done in terms of Y STR and mtDNA testing. Complete genome sequences may be done on some or many of the GenoGraph Project samples at some point in time. There are 10 papers coming out of the GenoGraph project in the near future and an additional 24 papers are currently in various stages of development. There are currently 415,000 participants in the public GenoGraph project with an average of about 40,000-50,000 new participants joining each year. None of these samples have yet been destroyed, but there are plans to eventually destroy the samples of every public participant who doesn't transfer their results and their DNA over into FTDNA's database.

Spencer summarized population movements throughout the world, including the well known population bottleneck that occurred ca 70,000 years ago in which the population of humans was reduced to ca 2000-10,000. Spencer realizes that TMRCA estimates using genealogical mutation rates give more accurate estimates than traditional evolutionary mutation rates in terms of estimates for relatively young subclades. He thinks that there needs to be a transition from genealogical rates to use of the evolutionary mutation rates the further one

goes back in time. I tried to explain to him after his presentation that the primary reason genealogical mutation rates can't be used for older subclades and haplogroups is secondary to saturation of the variance of fast and medium mutating markers. Spencer still believes it is probable that R1b was in southern Europe in various refugia during the last glacial maximum. Clearly those of us who don't believe that R1b was in southern Europe in various refugia in the last glacial maximum have more work to do in regards to convincing Spencer that R1b (or at least R-L11) wasn't in southern Europe during the last glacial maximum.

Dr. Michael Hammer gave an excellent summary of hominid research in regards to the paleontological record and summarized what has been discovered in terms of mtDNA, Y and autosomal DNA research, including a discussion of interbreeding between Neanderthals and humans in the Middle East and interbreeding between Denisovans and humans in SE Asia. FTDNA is planning to allow uploads of 23andMe Version 3 data into their database in the near future at a cost of about \$50 or so. Version 2 data won't be allowed into their database, but Max Blankfeld said that FTDNA would likely give a discount for 23andMe customers who have only done 23andMe Version 2 test who would like to order the Family Finder test. FTDNA doesn't have any plans to incorporate 23andMe's mtDNA or Y chromosome SNP data into their database at this time. FTDNA doesn't have plans in the immediate future to upgrade Ysearch so that it will allow the display of 111 markers. Ysearch is currently a lower priority item for FTDNA. Bennett Greenspan mentioned that FTDNA is working on developing an X chromosome browser.

Bruce Walsh discussed phasing and various other topics. FTDNA is exploring the option of phasing data where two parents and at least one child have done the FTDNA's Family Finder test or the 23andMe Version 3 test and using the phased data to run comparisons against other people in the Family Finder database. The use of phased data in Family Finder would significantly reduce the number of matches that are simply identical by state.

Elliott Greenspan discussed enhancements that had either been recently implemented on the FTDNA web pages or planned enhancements for the future. The next upgrade to the web pages will include the addition of microallele Y STR values. Michael Hammer's lab in Arizona has microallele values for FTDNA customers going back to 2001 and so that data will soon be able to be displayed on the project web pages. The STR values will also adhere to the NIST standards as of the next update. The Illumina autosomal data for people who have done the Family Finder test will include about 3000 more SNPs in the next update after the conversion to Build 37 of the Human Reference Sequence. Family Finder will also have an advanced matching feature in which you can look for Family Finder matches who also are mtDNA or Y STR matches with you.

Thomas Krahn summarized the latest Roche 454 sequencer Y chromosome sequencing results. He is doing Y chromosome enrichment of the DNA prior to sequencing so that he can maximize the Y chromosome sequence data from each sequencing run. In his latest run, he tested 8 samples, but only 2 came out reasonably well. He plans to reduce the number of beads he uses in the sequencer and he hopes that will improve the quality of his data. In the latest experiment, he got about 19,000 reads from one sample, of which about 48% of the reads were

from the Y chromosome after Y enrichment. The average read length was in the 400-600 base pair range. Thomas plans to put the latest sequencing results on his FTP server as a downloadable file of about 300 million megabytes of data for Y SNP hunters to review. Thomas plans to continue to work on Y sequencing until he can perfect the sequencing. Thomas said that there are about 20 million base pairs on the Y that are worthwhile sequencing. The first 2 million base pairs on the p arm are pseudoautosomal and thus aren't helpful from a Y SNP search prospective. The palindromic regions also generally don't have many Y SNPs. The new 454 sequencer will allow about 20 times as many bases to be sequenced as can be done with the WTY project currently. Now the WTY results generally include about 400,000 base pairs. Thus Thomas anticipates at least 6-8 million base pairs of the Y chromosome can be sequenced with the new 454 sequencer in the short term and hopefully about 20 million base pairs can be sequenced in the long term.

Peter Hrechdakian gave an overview of the very important Armenian project, which now has over 600 people in it. Armenia and the nearby regions in the Caucasus are the cradle of many Y haplogroups and thus additional testing of people from this region is very important. Peter's presentation included many excellent diagrams and graphs summarizing the mtDNA, Y, and autosomal data from the Armenian project.

Peter Briggins gave a thorough review of the FTDNA Clan Colla Null 425 project at <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/clancolla425null>. This clan is thought to have descended from the 3 Colla brothers who lived ca 400 AD in Ireland. There are quite a few different Irish surnames in this group. All members of this project are R-L21+ and every member who has tested has also been discovered to be R-DF21+.

Dick Hill gave a heartwarming presentation describing how he discovered the identity of his biological parents over a period of many years. A combination of Y chromosome and autosomal DNA testing helped him prove that his biological father was a Mr. Doug Richards.

David Pike summarized the phasing tools he has available on his web site at <http://www.math.mun.ca/~dapike/FF23utils>. In particular, I enjoyed his discussion of microdeletions of autosomal DNA segments, which can generally found by checking for discordant data.

Dr. Stephen Morse discussed many of the "one step" tools that he has available on his web site at www.stevemorse.org. It had been some years since I had last visited his web site and I was pleased to learn that he has added some DNA tools to his web site, including a genetic distance calculator. Some other web sites he mentioned that can be helpful for finding living people include www.PrivateEye.com and www.ZabaSearch.com.

Featured Family Stories

SIR THOMAS PHILLIPPS, ANTIQUARIAN AND BIBLIOPHILE

By David Cotterell

<http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/497600/person/-1580197146>



Sir Thomas Phillipps

An entry in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography reads:

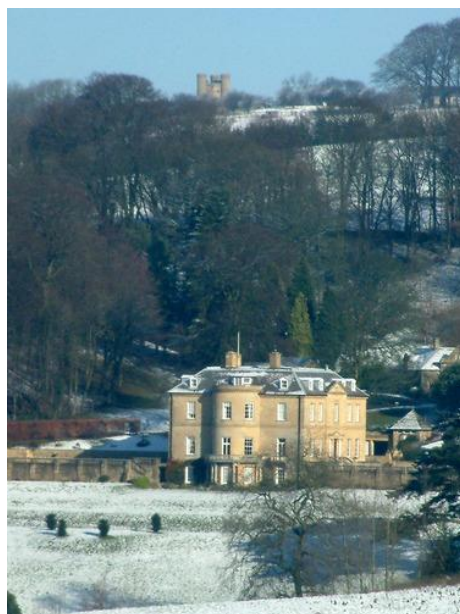
Sir Thomas Phillipps, first baronet (1792-1872), antiquary and bibliophile; of Rugby and University College Oxford, MA 1820; showed from his earliest years a passion for collecting books and manuscripts; his collection rich in old Welsh poetry, possessed 400 or 500 volumes of oriental manuscripts; created baronet, 1821; established (c.1822) a private printing press at his residence, Middle Hill, Broadway, Worcestershire; printed visitations, extracts from registers, genealogies, cartularies and brief catalogues of collections of manuscripts in private and public libraries; removed in later life to Thurlestane House, Cheltenham Glos:.

In actual fact the story of Sir Thomas Phillipps is much more robust than the foregoing summary. He was a complete nutcase and bought indiscriminately every book and manuscript he could lay his hands on, to such an extent that every room in Middle Hill was filled books in specially constructed boxes for quick removal in case of fire and the family lived in the housekeeper's room still surrounded by books and unopened packages of books and papers he had bought. He fell out with his family who accused him of bankrupting the family estate and indeed with virtually everyone he came into contact with.

Possibly one of the most singular and renowned characters of the North Cotswolds, Sir Thomas achieved fame and world notoriety as, of all things, a "bibliophile". Not many people have that distinction and probably not many of the hundreds who walk the Cotswold Way realise that, when at Broadway Tower which was part of his estate, they are within a stone's throw of

Middle Hill House, which once housed the biggest collection of books and manuscripts in the world.

Sir Thomas was not your normal baronet either; he was the illegitimate son of one Thomas Phillipps, a wealthy senior partner in Phillipps Lowe & Company of Manchester, which specialised in printing calico. Phillipps senior ensured that Sir Thomas got a good education, however, and sent him to Rugby School and then University College Oxford. It was at Oxford that the fascination with book collecting really took hold to become a lifelong obsession. On retirement from the calico trade, Phillipps senior returned to his home territory where he made the grand gesture of buying Middle Hill Estate, which included Broadway Tower and surrounding farms, and moved there with his son (Sir Thomas).



*Middle Hill House, Worcestershire
Broadway Tower on the horizon
Picture taken by Graham Martin*

Both had characters described as irascible and both had hearing afflictions, which made communication a problem so that they quickly became notorious as being “difficult”. Phillipps senior, who protested strongly about the cost of “all the book collecting”, also objected to his son’s liaison with a future wife Henrietta Molyneaux (because she had no dowry), and it was not until Thomas Phillipps Sr. died in 1818 that they were able to marry. From then on, Sir Thomas with a handsome annual income for the day of some £6,000 could willfully indulge his obsession to the extent that he amassed some 60,000 books and 40,000 manuscripts, all of which were housed at Middle Hill.

Sir Thomas developed a unique storage system in coffin-like boxes with drop-down fronts to enable them to be moved with facility in case of fire. “Middle Hill Press” was installed in Broadway Tower and it was there that, perhaps a little crudely but effectively, many irreplaceable manuscripts were copied and saved for posterity. Sir Thomas fathered three

daughters and the first ten years of marriage were probably the happiest of his life but his frantic purchases of books and manuscripts all over Europe virtually bankrupted the estate and he was debt ridden and haunted by creditors forever after. His wife, Henrietta, died young, and he systematically searched for, and found, a wealthy wife in Elizabeth Mansel.

Despite all his problems, Sir Thomas entertained many eminent writers and artists of the day including James Orchard Halliwell and this young man promptly fell in love with one of his daughters, also called Henrietta. Unfortunately Halliwell was accused of stealing documents from Trinity College and, although never proven, he was temporarily barred from the British Museum Library. Sir Thomas was outraged at being associated with this alleged disgrace and forbade his daughter Henrietta to see Halliwell ever again but they promptly eloped and got married.

At this point the plot thickens as, wary of his son's profligacy in book buying, Sir Thomas's father had left him a life tenancy but the estate was entailed in favour of Henrietta and, as a result of her marriage, Halliwell became the residual legatee. That was a declaration of war and Sir Thomas did everything in his power to vilify Halliwell and destroy his reputation; fortunately without great success, but he was never again reconciled with daughter Henrietta despite her efforts to heal the breach.

Halliwell was now accused of neglecting the estate, although it had been neglected for many years and Sir Thomas, to ensure that Halliwell didn't get his hands on his collection, took a lease on, and ultimately bought, a bleak and uncomfortable mansion, Thirlestaine House in Cheltenham, the former home of Lord Northwick. Over the next two years the whole mass of books and papers was transported using two hundred carts and three hundred horses and Sir Thomas vacated Middle Hill forever, leaving it a shambles. On Sir Thomas's death, it was discovered that he had left clauses in his will forbidding access to his collection by Halliwell or any Roman Catholic and it was some years before court orders could be obtained to overturn these conditions.



*Thirlestaine House, Cheltenham
Picture copyright by Philip Halling*

The British Museum declined to finance a purchase of the collection and it was gradually catalogued and sold off all over the world. The last three boxes were sold as recently as 1946. This is no more than a précis of the whole lurid story; James Orchard Halliwell hyphenated Phillipps to his name by the testamentary direction and became Shakespeare's biographer and the founder of the Stratford-upon-Avon Shakespeare Trust, which acquired New Place.

Controversy was never far away though and, like his father-in-law, the quarrels were many. At his death, many papers found among his effects alleged to have been taken or torn from library books and documents but his generous bequests seem to be at variance with this claim which could have been malicious. Sir Thomas Phillipps is a distant Cotterell cousin through his Grandmother, Mary Cotterell, who is my distant Great Aunt. He was known to my Grandfather who described him as "a crabby old so and so" but still seemed to have some regard for him.