

THE KIPLING FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER #7

NOVEMBER 2015

This edition includes the further research into the fate of Rudyard Kipling's son John, an initial look at Kiplings in the newly-released 1939 National Register, further DNA test results and a round-up of additions to the website including more research into the Kipling families of Bowes, Bishop Thornton and Darlington.

John Kipling's Grave

Rudyard Kipling's son, John, was killed during the Battle of Loos on 27 September 1915. In 1992, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission announced that a grave in St Mary's Advanced Dressing Station cemetery near Loos, formerly inscribed "A Lieutenant of the Irish Guards" was that of John and a new stone was made and erected. They based their identification on three key assumptions:

- The recorded map reference for where the body was found was incorrect, and replacing one letter of it would place the body where John was last seen.
- John was the only Lieutenant of the Irish Guards killed at Loos whose body had never been found

In 1997, the military historians Major and Mrs Holt published a biography of John entitled 'My Boy Jack?'. The question mark was important, as they challenged the assumptions the Commission had made on these grounds:

- It was not credible that the reburial party could make such a gross error (6000 yards) in its records
- John was unlikely to have been wearing the two pips of a full lieutenant, his promotion having not yet been formally gazetted and other 2nd Lieutenants were missing.
- There was no certainty that the burial party had identified the regiment and the rank correctly in the first place, as their reasons were not noted.

They concluded that the Commission could not be certain that the grave was John's. Interestingly, John's name (right) was never removed from the wall of the missing at the main Loos cemetery.

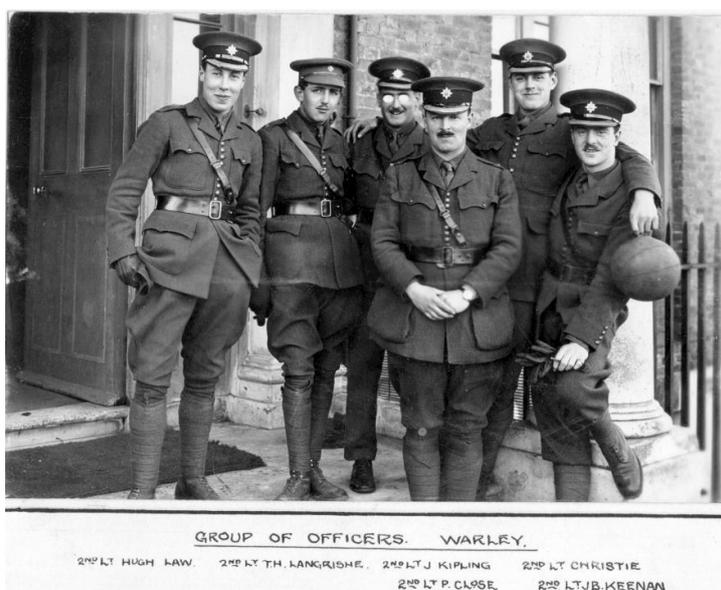


On 27 September 2015, a party made up of Kipling Society members and Batemans volunteers (Kipling's house in Sussex now owned by the National Trust) travelled to Loos and visited both cemeteries, laying a wreath to all the dead of the Irish Guard at Dud Corner.

More recently, research by two separate WW1 historians have independently concluded that the recorded map reference was indeed wrong. Also, the whereabouts of the grave of one of the other Irish Guards 2nd Lieutenants has been discovered. Whilst this does not prove that it is John's remains in the grave, it certainly makes it more likely.

Only a DNA test would prove this for definite (comparing anonymously with the R-U152 results from the Kipling project perhaps), but the Commission is not supportive of this, primarily because it fears that this would lead to a flood of other requests for exhumations.

The picture below shows John whilst training at the Irish Guards' barracks at Warley in Essex.



In the September edition of The Kipling Journal can be found a short article by me containing short biographies of the other five officers in this picture. There is a link to this from the website www.genealogy.kipling.me.uk

Readers should note that notwithstanding the title of the Holts' book or David Hare's play of the same name (the TV version of which starred Daniel Radcliffe), John Kipling was never call 'Jack'. The confusion arises from Rudyard's poem 'My Boy Jack' which is considered to have been about a young sailor lost at Jutland, possibly Jack Cornwell VC, although must also have expressed much of the emotion Rudyard felt about the loss of his own son the year before.

1939 National Register

FindmyPast have recently published a large part the register taken at the outbreak of World War II. It includes records of people who were either born in 1915 or earlier or are known to be dead. The other records will gradually be released as time passes. It includes just over 800 Kiplings (including spelling variants). An extract of my grandfather's household shows him, my grandmother and my late uncle, but not my father who is still alive.

E.D. Letter Code		Borough, U.D. or R.D.		Registration District and Sub-District					
KBCF		BRADFORD CO		498/1					
ADDRESS.	SCHEDULE.		SURNAME AND OTHER NAMES.	O. V. S. P. or I.	M. or F.	BIRTH.		S. M. W. or D.	PERSONAL OCCUPATION.
	No.	Sub. No.				Day.	Year.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9. Ditto	83	1	Kipling John S.		M	30	1914		Clerk in Charge Bank
		2	" Daisy R.		F	13	1910		Housewife
		3	" John J.		M	14	1915		At School

This record is officially closed.

Currently, Findmypast are charging £6.95 to see a single entry. Multiple purchases are a little cheaper but credits only last 90 days. Annual subscriptions do not include access to this database, although I hope this will come in due course, when I will make a more detailed analysis.

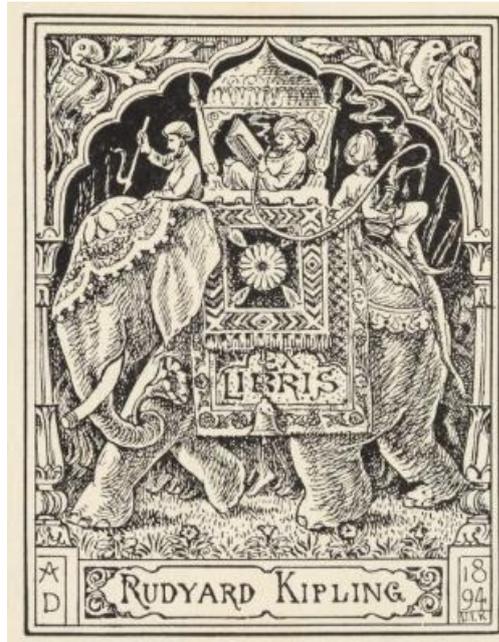
150th Anniversary of Rudyard Kipling's birth

Rudyard Kipling was born in Bombay (now Mumbai) on 30 December 1865. A copy of the entry in the register can be seen below.

Baptisms solemnized at <i>Saint Thomas's Cathedral, Bombay in the year 1866.</i>								
When Baptized.	Said to be Born.	Child's Christian Name.	Sex.	Parents' Names.		Abode.	Quality, Trade or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
				Christian.	Surname.			
1866 January 22	1865 December 30	Joseph Rudyard son of		John Lockhart and Alice	Kipling	The Diplomat	Architectural Sculptor	W. H. Stretton, Senior Chaplain

Bookplates

Rudyard's father, John Lockwood Kipling, was an artist of some renown. He designed bookplates on an Indian theme for Rudyard and also for Rudyard's daughter, Elsie.



Website Update

I have added two further reports on the Kipling family groups in the 1911 census, covering the 'Bishop Thornton' and 'David' groups. In the former is the tale of William Kipling sentenced to seven years' in prison for cattle stealing. His records included a mugshot.



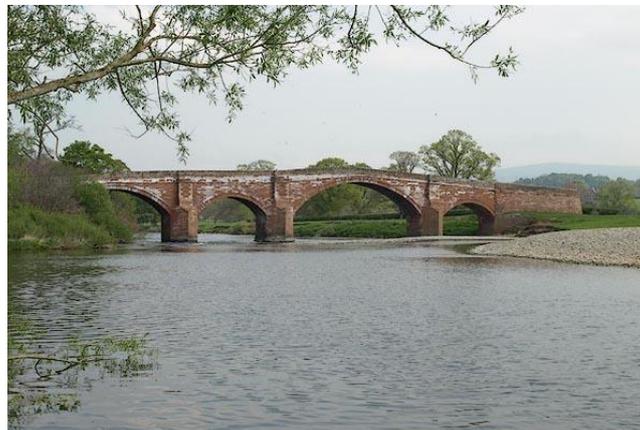
In the later we read of Rebecca and Horace Kipling, also both involved with the law in different ways.

Unfounded Charge.—Rebecca Kipling charged Michael Bra. men with stealing an umbrella on the 19th October. It was alleged that the defendant went into John -street and accosted the complainant, asking where so. me one lived. She enquired and then told the man, who afterwards asked her to go an errand, and volunteered to hold her umbrella whilst she went. When she returned the man and the umbrella were gone. She could not positively swear to the accused. Case dismissed.

Electric main tapping has taken place at Birtley, and several men were fined yesterday at Chester-le-Street. Harry Kipling, of Buchanan Terrace, was sent to prison for 28 days. He was described as "the ringleader."

Daily Gazette for Middlesbrough - 26 October 1875; Hartlepool Mail - Thursday 07 April 1927

I've also completed the tale of the Kipling families in Bowes, adding 'Other Bowes Kiplings', telling of a bridge-builder, a charitable donor and several local farmers.



The bridge at Lazonby in Cumberland, built by William Kipling, mason, of Bowes in 1762 and still in use today

I've also added 'The Kipling Carpet Makers of Darlington' to the 'My Kiplings' pages, to tell of some of my own (Barningham family group) relatives who ran a successful carpet-making business in the first half of the 19th century. I was pleased to be able to find actual samples they had registered still preserved at the National Archives.

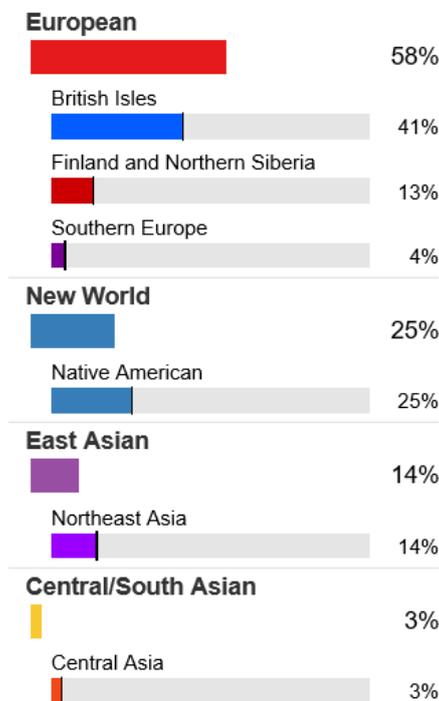


BT 43/105/7750-1. Ornamental Design Act 1842 Representations. June 1843.

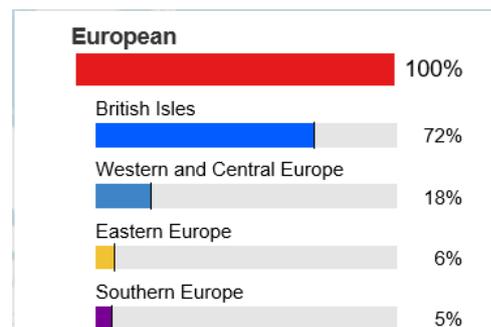
THE KIPLING DNA PROJECT



The second Canadian Kipling descended from John Kipling of the Hudson's Bay Company and a Native American woman has now also completed an autosomal DNA test (see Newsletter #5 for a description of this type of test). As expected, the result shows substantial Native American DNA (and its predecessor East Asian DNA). It's interesting to compare this with my own DNA, which is typical of the British Isles, with some predecessor other European DNA too.



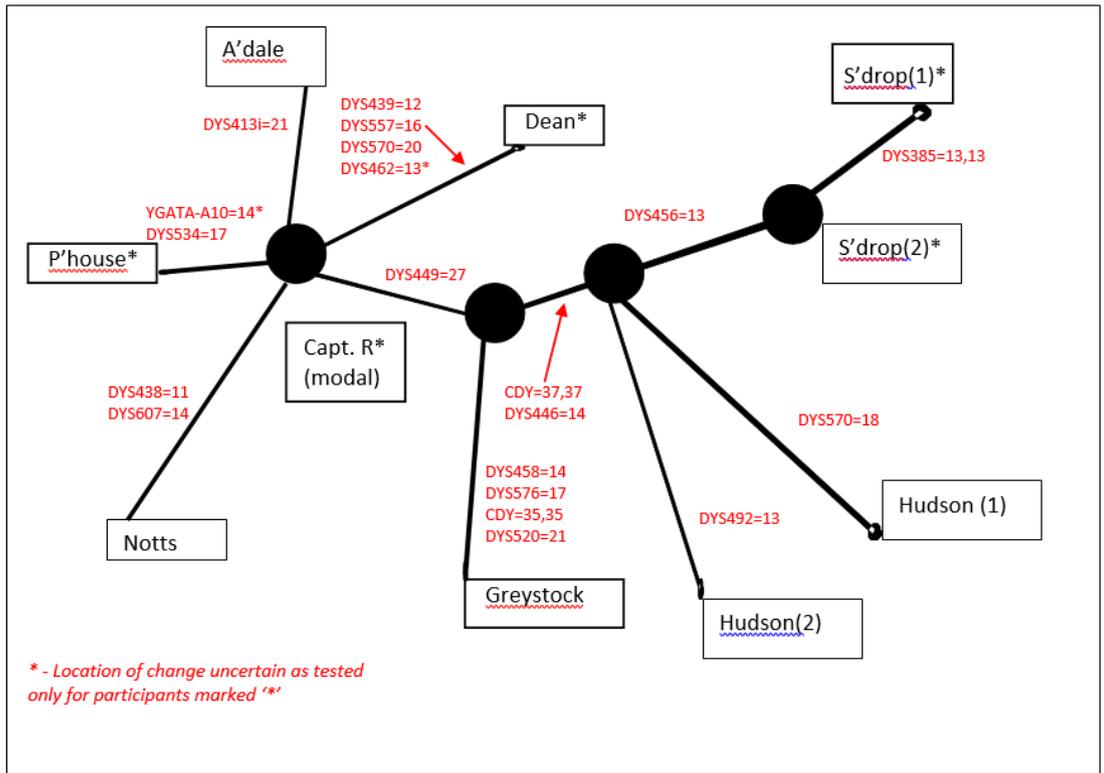
'Hudson 2'



'Barningham'

The 'Hudson2' DNA will of course have received its European content from many sources other than John Kipling, most probably through a succession of marriages with others of mixed European/Native American heritage.

I'm sorry to have to report that Michael Barry Kipling, who provided the DNA sample for the 'Dean' family group, died recently. I'm very grateful for his contribution. His DNA was the last to be transferred from Ancestry to FTDNA, where the retest showed that Ancestry had misreported two markers, making Dean closer to the other Baldersdale Kiplings, as I had always hoped to find. All I-M235 participants have now been tested at 67 markers and the updated DNA map is shown below.



The table below shows the probability that participants share a common ancestor with the participant from the 'Captain Robert' family group within a particular number of generations

	Probability of common ancestor with 'Captain Robert' within N generations		
	N=12	N=16	N=20
Arkengarthdale	99%		
Pitcherhouse	99%		
Notts	97%		
Dean	91%		
Hudson (2)	58%	82%	
Staindrop (2)	57%	81%	
Hudson (1)	56%	80%	
Staindrop (1)	40%	68%	85%
Greystock	38%	66%	84%

This table does not take into account the markers tested for only some of the participants.

Mike Kipling