

## **Hamilton Scottish Origins Background**

A number of Hamilton descendants we have spoken with have raised the question of whether the Irish Hamiltons originally came from Scotland. A second question is that if this is the case then where did they come from?

While Hamilton is a common name in both Ireland and Scotland, the Hamiltons of Monaghan do appear to have come from Scotland. While Monaghan was not a "Plantation" County it was very close to the west coast of Scotland and it would have been very easy for the Scottish Hamiltons to make a safe crossing. We also know that quite a number of Scottish farmers made the short voyage in the late 1600's and settled in Monaghan while not being part of the formal "Plantation."

During our recent visit to Ireland we attended a four day conference at Monaghan (Town) run by the Monaghan Genealogy.ie on behalf of the Clogher Historical Society.

Aside from the input we received from various presentations, during the four days we met most of the presenters. These represent a "who's who" of local Monaghan historians with whom we have the prospect further interaction if required by our research.

The final session of the conference was given by Dr Tyrone Bowes from Dublin on DNA and Genetic Genealogy. This session was of special interest to us because some time ago we organized for DNA tests to be carried out with Paul Hamilton in Melbourne and Andrew (Mac) Hamilton in Nelson New Zealand. These tests and the results are on the [www.familytreedna](http://www.familytreedna) website. They have also been included in the Hamilton Project Penn State University run by Gordon Hamilton. Access may be obtained to results of this Hamilton project by using

[www.personal.psu.edu/faculty/g/a/gah4/HamDNA/Results.html](http://www.personal.psu.edu/faculty/g/a/gah4/HamDNA/Results.html)

Anyone wishing to have further details or who wants to be involved in this project should let me know.

At the time of these initial tests, Gordon Hamilton's Project sample was about 100 but it has now reached more than 500. This growth will enhance the overall value of the project.

On our return to Melbourne we commissioned Tyrone to identify where the Hamilton ancestors in Scotland may have come from. To assist him we provided him with access to Paul's DNA results and he also would have been aware of the Hamilton reports on the familytreedna website. Using these and other data he completed his study and we have received his report.

To facilitate access we have posted Tyrone's report on our website so that it may be read by all who are interested. If anyone has any questions please send them back to me and we will facilitate any responses we may need to get from Tyrone.

Peter & Elizabeth.