

Chandler Family Association links Princess Kate with founder of USA's Chandler Motor Company

The Chandler DNA Project has identified a kinship link between the great-great grandfather of the United Kingdom's Princess Kate (officially titled the Duchess of Cambridge) and the founder of the Chandler Motor Company of Cleveland, Ohio. Kate's great grandmother, Edith May Chandler, who married Stephen Charles Goldsmith, was the daughter of Theophilus Benjamin Chandler. The Y-chromosome DNA of a living male descendant of Theophilus Benjamin Chandler has proved to be a kinship match with the DNA of a living male descendant of Frederick Charles Chandler II who founded the Chandler Motor Car Company in Cleveland, Ohio in 1913. The company was sold to Hupp Motor Works in 1929.

The matching DNA results only became available on Easter Monday, four days before the Royal wedding. The ancestral roots of Theophilus and Frederick lie in the area around Stroud in Gloucestershire, England – a Chandler stronghold for centuries.

Because Chandler is an occupational surname (from candle makers, ship and corn chandlers), its bearers are not all genetically related. The DNA marker values distinguishing these two men represent the 62nd genetically distinct Chandler family discovered by the Chandler DNA Project. A collection of vignettes of the families identified to date is being constructed on the website of The Chandler Family Association, starting at chandlerfamilyassociation.org/genetic_chandler_families.html.

The Chandler DNA Project is jointly sponsored by The Chandler Family Association, the Edmund Chandler Family Association, and the Chandler One-Name Study.

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