

## Ancestry Matches, Trees, and DNA connections

### Why it is important to open matches with “No family tree” or “Tree Unavailable”

- 1) Match has the number of people in tree listed and no private tree “lock”. Tree is public and DNA is connected.
  - A. View Match and look at tree
  
- 2) For matches with the number of people in tree listed and a private tree lock, you know they have a tree and they have their DNA attached. Look at “shared matches” to see who is ICW in order to possibly figure out a connection with other matches. You should view the match / or administrators profile to see if there are any clues that are helpful. Go to 5) below.
  
- 3) Match has “No family tree” listed (example in Figure 1)

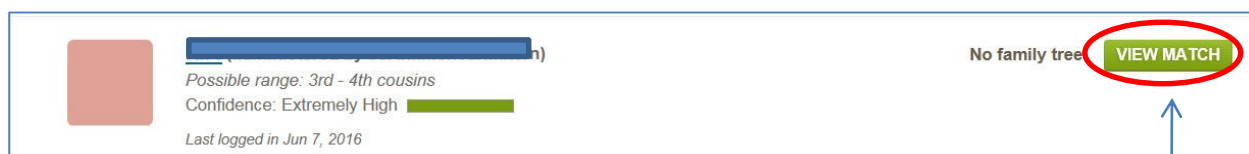


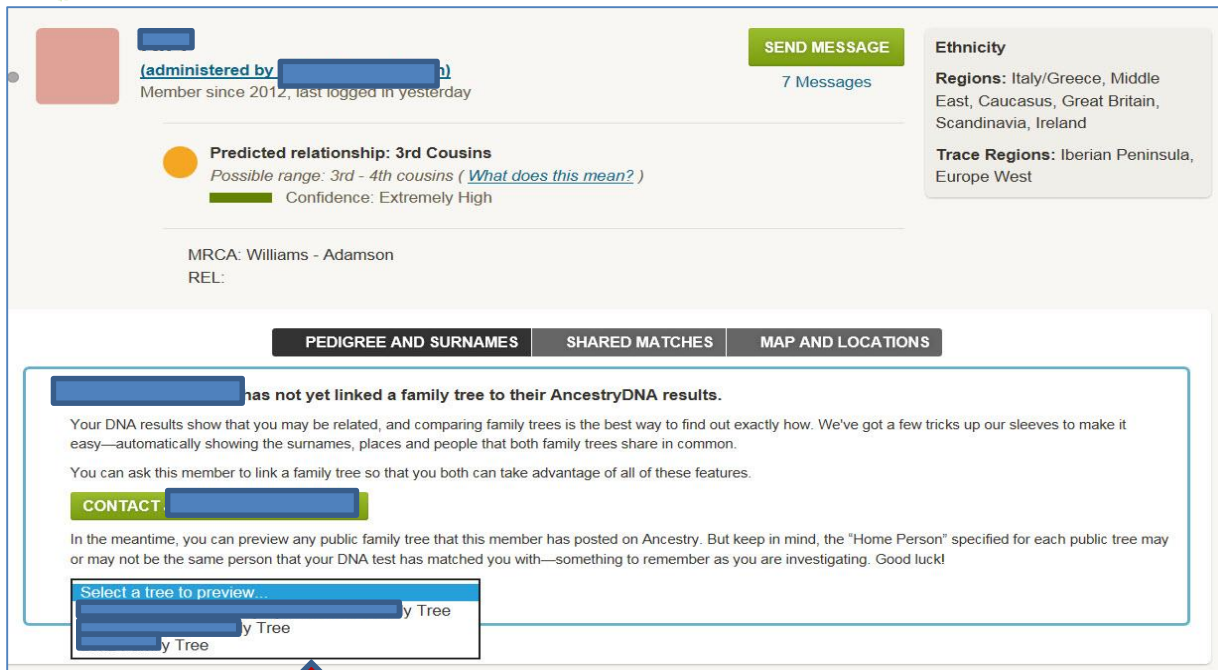
Figure 1: No family tree indicated

NOTE: There are three possibilities for “No family tree” listing:

- i - DNA not connected to a tree, match has a tree(s), but it is private (go to 4.A below)
- ii – DNA not connected to a tree, match has a tree, and it is public (continue)
- iii – No Tree (go to 5 below)

NOTE: Make sure to select and view all these matches.

- A. Open the Match by clicking “VIEW MATCH”
- B. If “xxxxx has not yet linked a family tree to their ancestryDNA results” AND there is a “Select tree to preview” below the “Contact xxxxx” button, the match has a public tree(s).



**SEND MESSAGE**  
7 Messages

**Ethnicity**  
**Regions:** Italy/Greece, Middle East, Caucasus, Great Britain, Scandinavia, Ireland  
**Trace Regions:** Iberian Peninsula, Europe West

**Predicted relationship: 3rd Cousins**  
Possible range: 3rd - 4th cousins ([What does this mean?](#))  
Confidence: Extremely High

MRCA: Williams - Adamson  
REL:

**PEDIGREE AND SURNAMES** | **SHARED MATCHES** | **MAP AND LOCATIONS**

**has not yet linked a family tree to their AncestryDNA results.**  
Your DNA results show that you may be related, and comparing family trees is the best way to find out exactly how. We've got a few tricks up our sleeves to make it easy—automatically showing the surnames, places and people that both family trees share in common.  
You can ask this member to link a family tree so that you both can take advantage of all of these features.

**CONTACT**

In the meantime, you can preview any public family tree that this member has posted on Ancestry. But keep in mind, the "Home Person" specified for each public tree may or may not be the same person that your DNA test has matched you with—something to remember as you are investigating. Good luck!

Select a tree to preview...

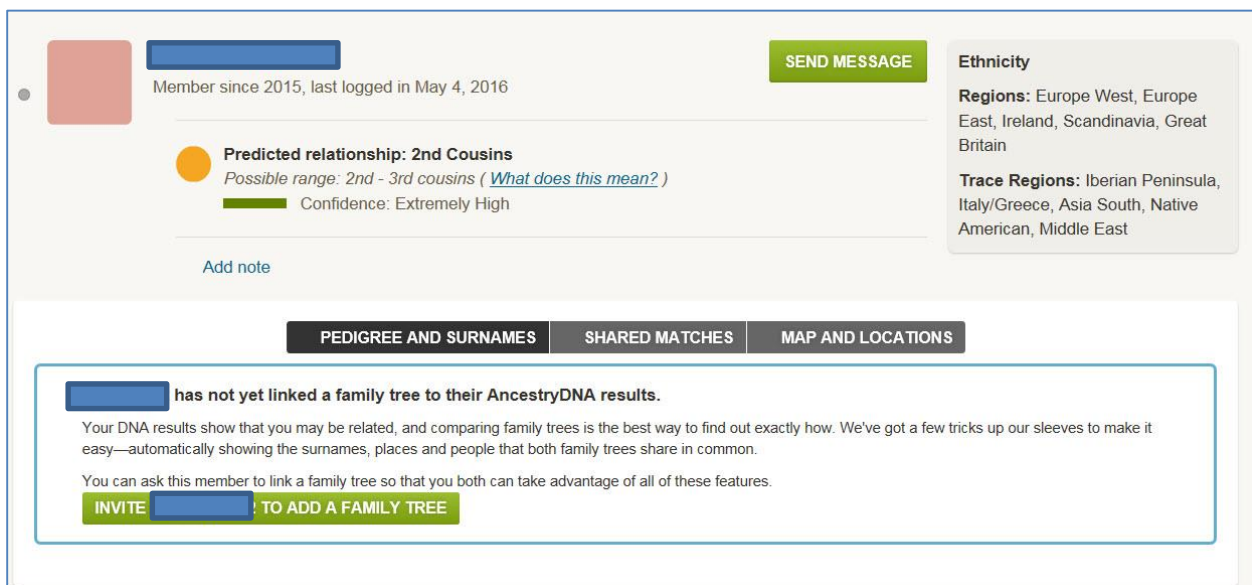
- y Tree
- y Tree
- y Tree



Figure 2: Has tree(s) but DNA is not connected

NOTE: As you can see from the example in Figure 2, the match has three trees to look at. Select and view the trees.

- C. If “xxxx has not yet linked a family tree to their ancestryDNA results” AND there is NO “Select tree to preview” below the “Contact xxxx” button, the match does not have a tree



**SEND MESSAGE**

**Ethnicity**  
**Regions:** Europe West, Europe East, Ireland, Scandinavia, Great Britain  
**Trace Regions:** Iberian Peninsula, Italy/Greece, Asia South, Native American, Middle East

**Predicted relationship: 2nd Cousins**  
Possible range: 2nd - 3rd cousins ([What does this mean?](#))  
Confidence: Extremely High

Add note

**PEDIGREE AND SURNAMES** | **SHARED MATCHES** | **MAP AND LOCATIONS**

**has not yet linked a family tree to their AncestryDNA results.**  
Your DNA results show that you may be related, and comparing family trees is the best way to find out exactly how. We've got a few tricks up our sleeves to make it easy—automatically showing the surnames, places and people that both family trees share in common.  
You can ask this member to link a family tree so that you both can take advantage of all of these features.

**INVITE** **TO ADD A FAMILY TREE**

Figure 3: No Tree

NOTE: You still should go view the match's or administrator's profile page to see if there are any clues. Go to 5) below.

4) Match has "Tree Unavailable"

This means that the match has a tree and their DNA is connected to the tree and the tree is private and unsearchable.

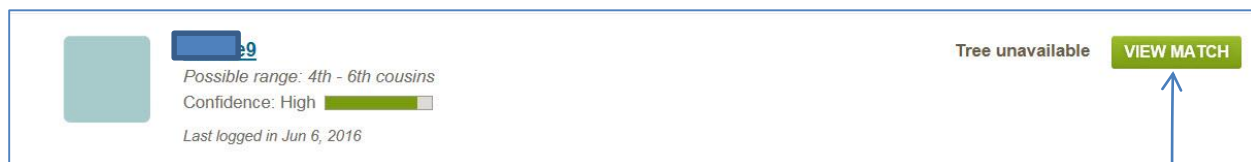


Figure 4: Private and Unsearchable Tree

A. View Match

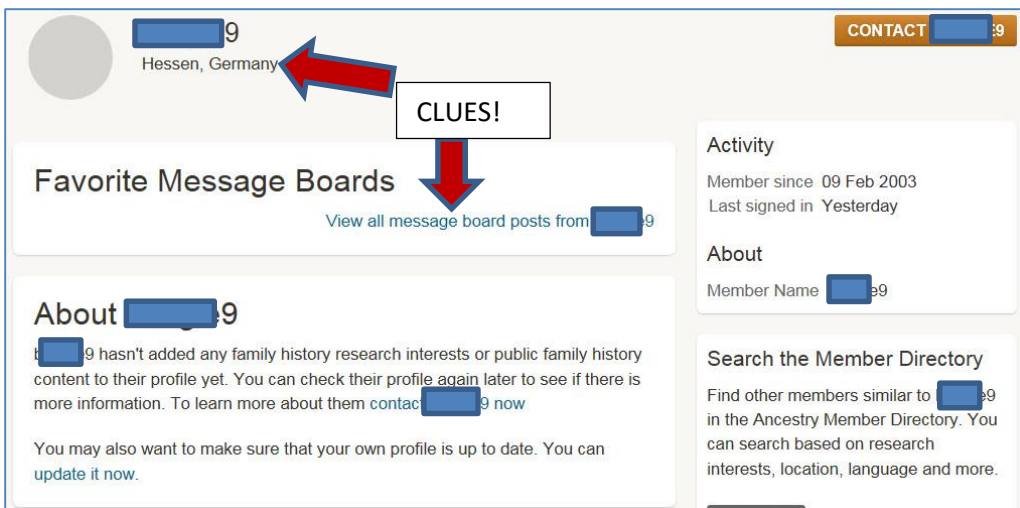
NOTE: Ancestry tells us the tree is private and the DNA is connected



Figure 5: Tree is private and DNA is connected

5) Looking at a match's or administrators profile

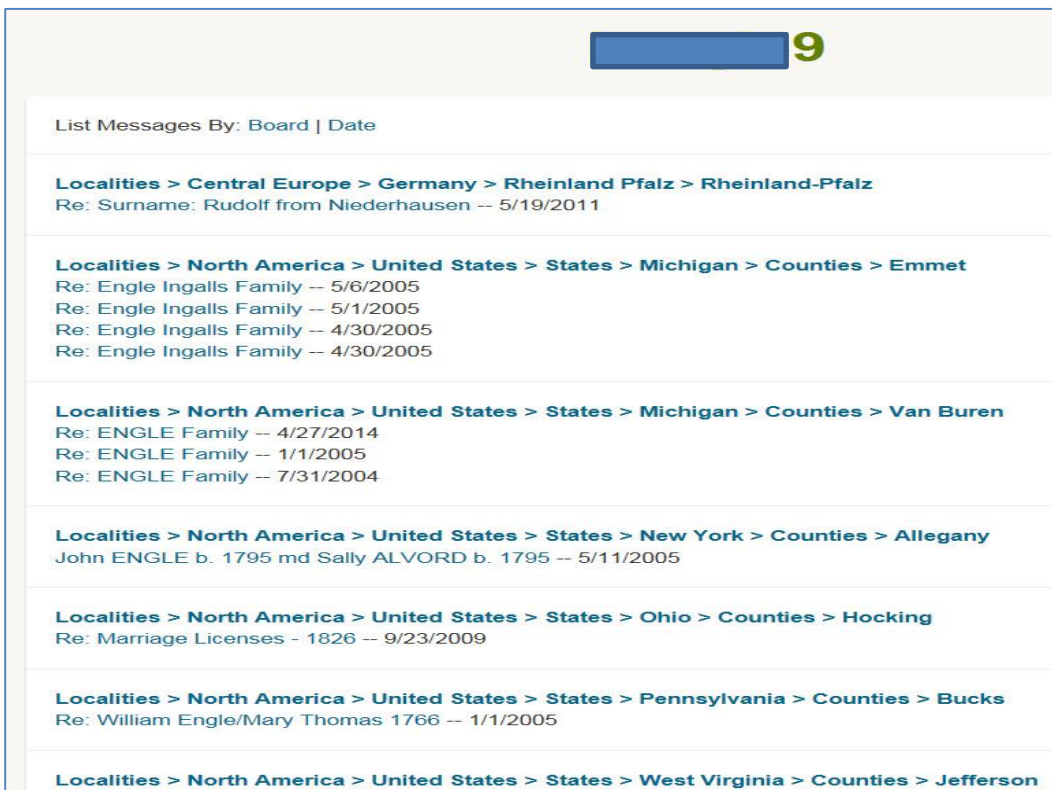
A. Go to the match or administrators profile by clicking on the match's name as shown in Figure 5 above. This will open the profile page as shown in Figure 6 below.



Profile of [redacted] 9, Hessen, Germany. Includes sections for Favorite Message Boards, About [redacted] 9, Activity, and Search the Member Directory. A red arrow points to the profile name, and another points to the 'Favorite Message Boards' section with the text 'CLUES!'.

Figure 6: Match / Member Profile Page

B. Follow the clues, in this case, message boards



List Messages By: Board | Date

- Localities > Central Europe > Germany > Rheinland Pfalz > Rheinland-Pfalz  
Re: Surname: Rudolf from Niederhausen -- 5/19/2011
- Localities > North America > United States > States > Michigan > Counties > Emmet  
Re: Engle Ingalls Family -- 5/6/2005  
Re: Engle Ingalls Family -- 5/1/2005  
Re: Engle Ingalls Family -- 4/30/2005  
Re: Engle Ingalls Family -- 4/30/2005
- Localities > North America > United States > States > Michigan > Counties > Van Buren  
Re: ENGLE Family -- 4/27/2014  
Re: ENGLE Family -- 1/1/2005  
Re: ENGLE Family -- 7/31/2004
- Localities > North America > United States > States > New York > Counties > Allegany  
John ENGLE b. 1795 md Sally ALVORD b. 1795 -- 5/11/2005
- Localities > North America > United States > States > Ohio > Counties > Hocking  
Re: Marriage Licenses - 1826 -- 9/23/2009
- Localities > North America > United States > States > Pennsylvania > Counties > Bucks  
Re: William Engle/Mary Thomas 1766 -- 1/1/2005
- Localities > North America > United States > States > West Virginia > Counties > Jefferson

Figure 7: Message boards the match/administrator has posted in



You can now go to each message board and see the discussion. Maybe it will provide clues you are looking for. You might find enough clues to build the match's tree, especially when you consider information gained from Shared Matches if there are any.

HINT: If they are posting on message boards in ancestry, it is a good idea to check the message boards at RootsWeb as well.