

# Enhance your family tree accuracy with MyHeritage's Timeline and Consistency Checker

By James L. Tanner




The advertisement features the MyHeritage logo at the top left, followed by the text "Introducing Consistency Checker" in a large, orange, serif font. Below this, it says "Making your online family tree more accurate than ever before" in a smaller, grey, sans-serif font. At the bottom left, the website "www.myheritage.com" is listed. On the right side, there is a circular illustration of a man in a dark blue suit, a red bow tie, and a black top hat. He has a white monocle over his right eye and is holding a white handkerchief to his face. The background of the advertisement is a light beige color with a subtle pattern of radiating lines.

MyHeritage  
Introducing  
Consistency  
Checker  
Making your online family tree  
more accurate than ever before  
[www.myheritage.com](http://www.myheritage.com)

As genealogists we strive for consistency and accuracy in our research based on valid historical sources that support our conclusions.



To present acceptable and reliable information in our family tree, we make sure all our entries are supported by complete and accurate source citations




**Sidney Tanner**  
\* Apr 1 1809  
‡ Dec 5 1895



**Lydia Stewart**  
\* Nov 18 1783  
‡ May 31 1825




**Samuel Tanner**  
\* June 11 1852  
‡ 21 1935



**Samuel Shepherd**  
\* Nov 10 1790  
‡ Oct 23 1877




**Thankful Jeff**  
\* Mar 21 1757  
‡ Nov 18 1822



**William Stewart**  
\* Oct 19 1742  
‡ Aug 5 1826



**Amy Hutton**  
\* 1755  
‡ Feb 8 1839



**David Shepherd**  
\* Mar 19 1760  
‡ Nov 1 1832



**Diadamia Hopkins**  
\* Circa 1765  
‡ Nov 18 1832

Consistency is one of the most difficult research objectives

### Sarah Homeyard: Essentials

Male  Female  Unknown

First (and middle) name:  Maiden name:

Prefix:  Suffix:  Married name:

Reason this information is correct «

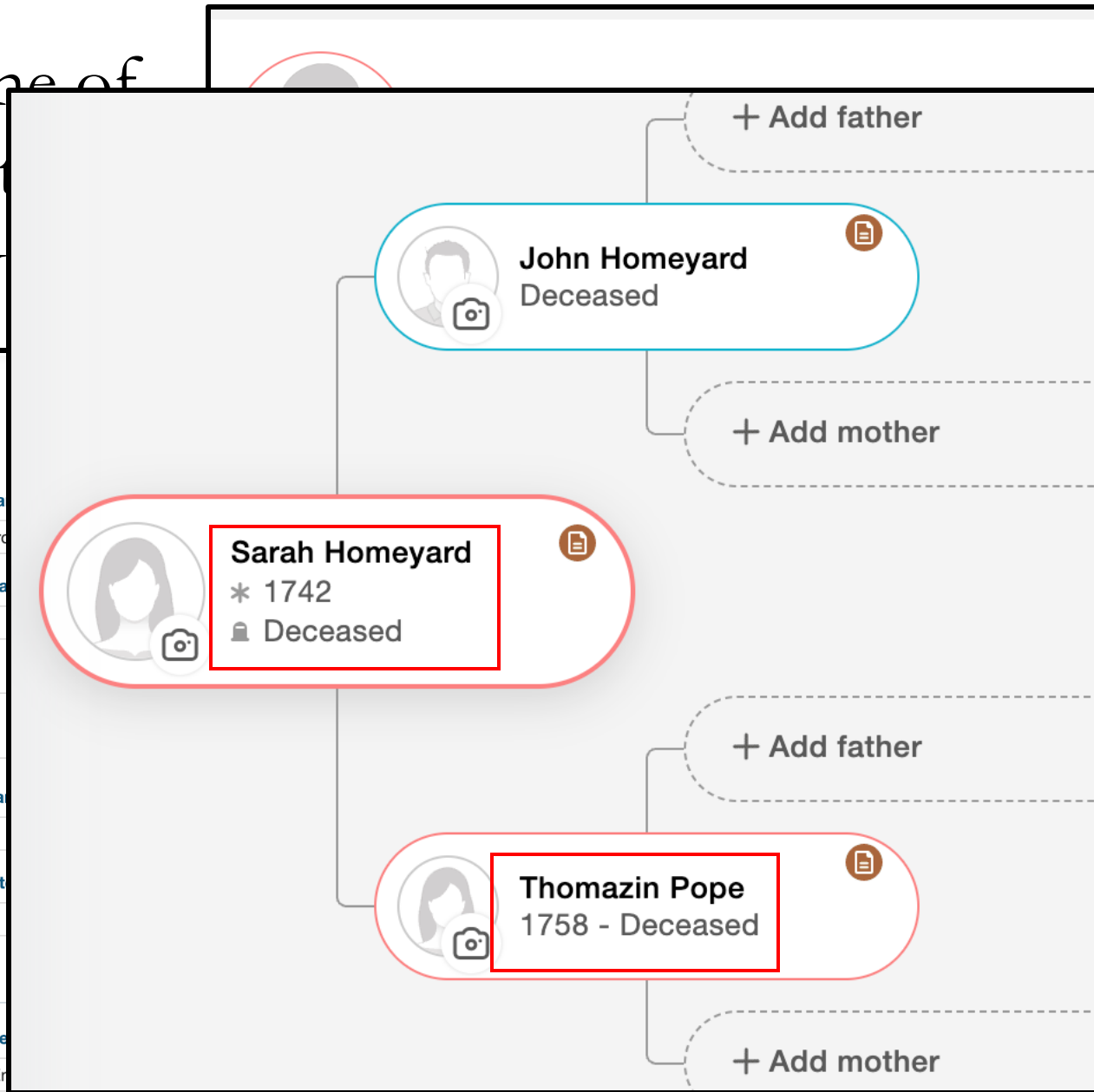
Religious name:  Former name:

Nickname:  Named after:

Alternate name: Sarah

Birth date: Exactly  Birth place:

Reason this information is correct «



mother Thomazin Pope (born 1758)

Thomazin Pope.

name:

name:

place:

Devon, England, United Kingdom

## Tree Consistency Checker

! Your tree has changed since consistency issues were last found | [Recalculate report](#)

1,509 consistency issues found

### Child older than parent (2) ⓘ



! **Sarah Homeyard** (born 1742) is older than her mother **Thomazin Pope** (born 1758)

Tip: Correct the birth date of [Sarah Homeyard](#) or of [Thomazin Pope](#).



! **Henry Harding** (born 1727) is older than his mother **Joan Slader** (born November 29 1733)

Tip: Correct the birth date of [Henry Harding](#) or of [Joan Slader](#).

### Child born after death of parent (8) ⓘ



! **Helen Grantham** was born on May

Tip: Correct the birth date of [Helen Grantham](#)

If you have a substantial family tree, you may have an overwhelming number of inconsistencies.



! **Aners Andersson** was born on August 1 1777, after the death of his father **Anders Andersson** on November 1772

Tip: Correct the birth date of [Aners Andersson](#) or the death date of [Anders Andersson](#).



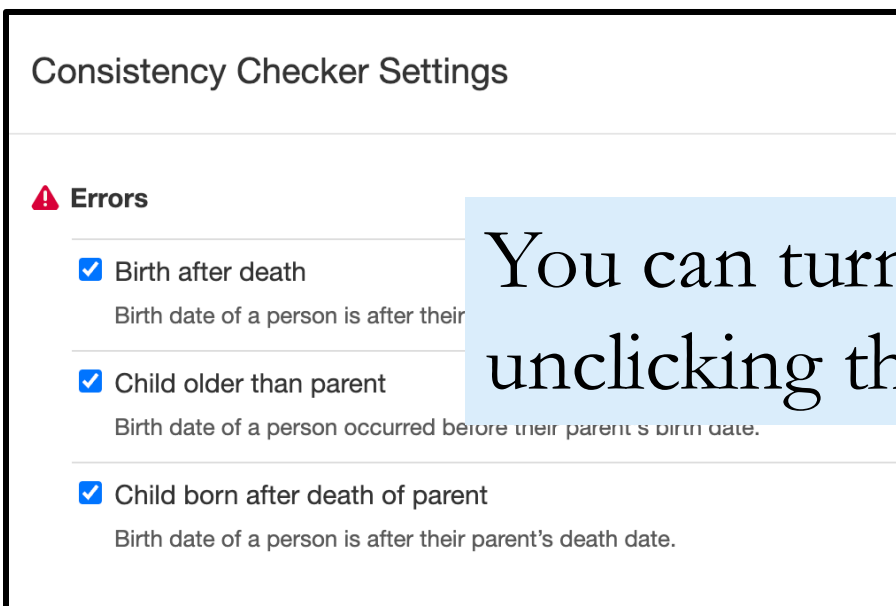
! **Johannes Andersson** was born on August 16 1779, after the death of his father **Anders Andersson** on November 1772

Tip: Correct the birth date of [Johannes Andersson](#) or the death date of [Anders Andersson](#).

Access the Consistency Checker via the “Family tree” drop-down menu in the main navigation bar of your family site.

The screenshot displays the MyHeritage website interface. At the top, the MyHeritage logo and 'Home' link are visible. A dropdown menu is open, showing options: 'Family tree', 'My family tree', 'My photos', 'Import GEDCOM', 'Manage trees', 'FamilySearch sync', 'Print charts & books', 'Timeline', 'Consistency checker', and 'More...'. The 'Consistency checker' option is highlighted in orange. Below the navigation bar, the 'Tree Consistency Checker' section is active, displaying a notification: 'Your tree and settings were changed since...' and '490 consistency issues found'. A specific error is highlighted: 'Child older than parent (2)'. The first error entry is for Sarah Homeyard (born 1742), with a tip to 'Correct the birth date of Sarah Homeyard'. The second error entry is for Henry Harding (born 1727), with a tip to 'Correct the birth date of Henry Harding'.

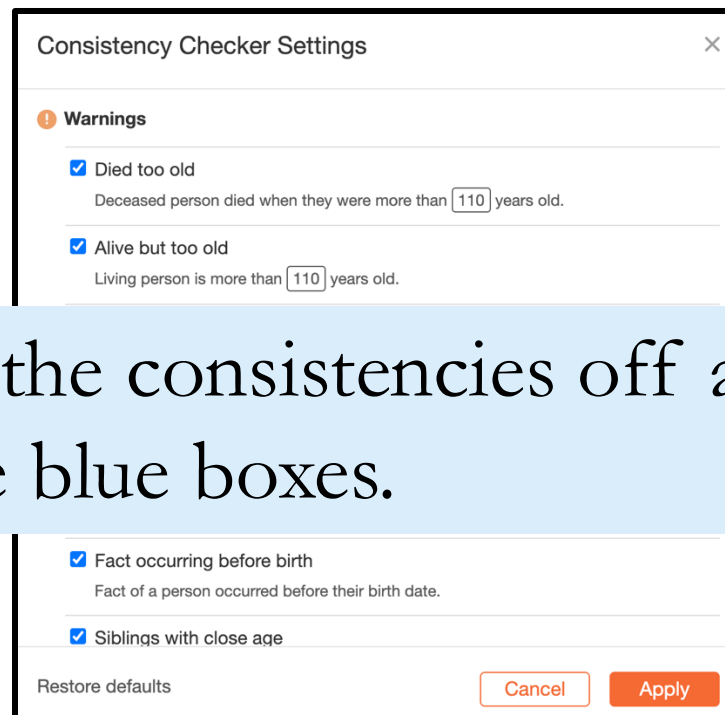
There are 37 different consistencies in three different categories.



Consistency Checker Settings

**Errors**

- Birth after death  
Birth date of a person is after their death date.
- Child older than parent  
Birth date of a person occurred before their parent's birth date.
- Child born after death of parent  
Birth date of a person is after their parent's death date.

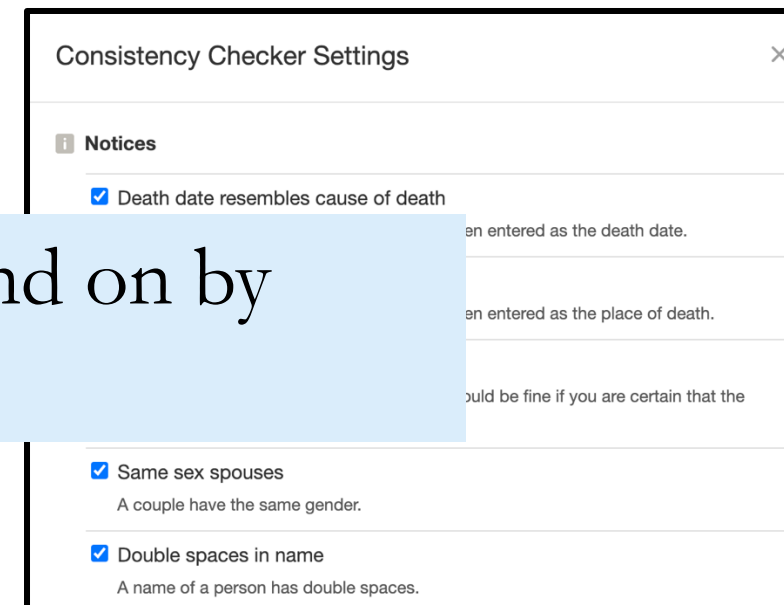


Consistency Checker Settings

**Warnings**

- Died too old  
Deceased person died when they were more than  years old.
- Alive but too old  
Living person is more than  years old.

Restore defaults



Consistency Checker Settings

**Notices**

- Death date resembles cause of death  
Death date entered as the death date.
- Same sex spouses  
A couple have the same gender.
- Double spaces in name  
A name of a person has double spaces.

You can turn the consistencies off and on by unclicking the blue boxes.

Errors are the most significant and should be corrected first.

These examples  
show instances  
where more  
research may be  
necessary.





If you have inherited your family tree from others, you may see more inconsistencies.



**⚠** **Stephen Ryder** was born on 1785, after the death of his father **Wilhelmus Barnabus Ryder, Sr** on 1780

Tip: Correct the birth date of Stephen Ryder or the death date of Wilhelmus Barnabus Ryder, Sr.

A person born after the death of a parent could show two families that have been merged or that the wrong children have been added to the family.

Some of the inconsistencies can be corrected instantly by clicking on the green box.

Alive but too old (2) ⓘ



! **William Hoare** (born Circa 1853) is not marked as deceased and is rather old (at least 171 years old)

Tip: Mark [William Hoare](#) as deceased, or correct his birth date.

✓ Mark as deceased



! **Henry Hoare** (born Circa 1859) is not marked as deceased and is rather old (at least 165 years old)

Tip: Mark [Henry Hoare](#) as deceased, or correct his birth date.

✓ Mark as deceased

You can adjust the dates of different Warnings by clicking in the number boxes.

 **Warnings**

---

Died too old

Deceased person died when they were more than  years old.

---

Alive but too old

Living person is more than  years old.

---

Parent too young when having a child

Person had a child when they were less than  years old.

---

Parent too old when having a child

Person had a child when they were more than  years old.

---

Fact occurring after death

Fact of a person occurred after their death date.

The consistency issues range from the obvious to merely typographical errors.



**Sarah Homeyard**

1742 - Deceased

**Child older than parent (1)** ⓘ



**⚠ Sarah Homeyard** (born 1742) is older than her mother **Thomazin Pope** (born 1758)

Tip: Correct the birth date of [Sarah Homeyard](#) or of [Thomazin Pope](#).


**Multiple marriages of same couple (1)** ⓘ




**⚠ John Roach** and his wife **Sarah Homeyard** have 2 marriage facts

Tip: Remove redundant marriage facts of [John Roach](#) or [Sarah Homeyard](#).


# Some of the inconsistencies have a link to ignore the issue.




! **Anna Marinda "Winnie" Oveson** (born October 31 1883) and her father **Jens Andreas Ovesen** (born September 17 1816) are apart  
Tip: Correct the birth date of [Anna Marinda "Winnie" Oveson](#) or of [Jens Andreas Ovesen](#).  
Ignore this issue if the dates are fine.




! **Else Jensen** (born April 17 1774) and her father **Jens Christian Jørgensen** (born May 13 1860) are 86 years apart  
Tip: Correct the birth date of [Else Jensen](#) or of [Jens Christian Jørgensen](#).  
Ignore this issue if the dates are fine.



! **Reo Oveson** (born 1889) and his father **Jens Andreas Ovesen** (born September 17 1816) are 73 years apart  
Tip: Correct the birth date of [Reo Oveson](#) or of [Jens Andreas Ovesen](#).  
Ignore this issue if the dates are fine.



! **Francis Tanner** (born March 10 1843) and his father **John "Father Tanner" Tanner** (born August 15 1778) are 65 years apart  
Tip: Correct the birth date of [Francis Tanner](#) or of [John "Father Tanner" Tanner](#).  
Ignore this issue if the dates are fine.



! **Magrethe Jensdatter** (born 1786) and her father **Jens Christian Jørgensen** (born May 13 1860) are 74 years apart  
Tip: Correct the birth date of [Magrethe Jensdatter](#) or of [Jens Christian Jørgensen](#).  
Ignore this issue if the dates are fine.

Here are some

tency issues.

Child born after death of parent (7)



**Helen Grantham**  
Tip: Correct the birth date

**Luther Edward Grantham**  
 \* Nov 13 1885  
 † Aug 19 1911

+ Add mother

ard Grantham on August 19 1911

**Helen Grantham**  
 \* May 30 1915  
 † May 7 1917

The easiest way

the family tree.

**John Morgan**  
 \* Aug 8 1842  
 † Aug 14 1894

I need to spend some time correcting these entries.

**Ivy Morgan**  
 \* May 25 1891  
 † July 17 1940

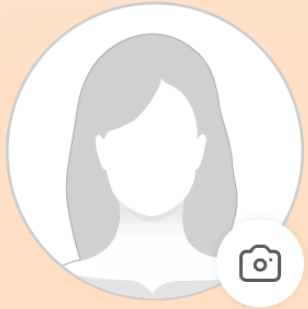
The

Ivy M

🕯 Your gra

\* Born: M


📅 Died: Ju



1911

Age 20

**Death of husband:**

 Luther Edward Grantham

Aug 19 1911

Placerville, San Miguel, Colorado, United States

Reason:

find a grave

1912

Age 20

**Birth of son:**

 John Dean Grantham Hamlin

Feb 11 1912

Manassa, Conejos, Colorado, United States

1914

Age 23

**Marriage to:**

 Oscar William Hamblin

Aug 22 1914

Manassa, Conejos, Colorado, United States

Reason:

Colorado, County Marriage Records and State Index, 1862-2006

1915

Age 24

**Birth of daughter:**

 Helen Grantham

May 30 1915

Manassa, Conejos, Colorado, United States

ntry.

alifornia, United States of America

There still appears to be more confusion with these entries.

For more information about each of the different entries, click on the little “i” icon at the beginning of each section.

Parent too young when having a child (16) ⓘ



! **Isabell Hood** (born September 17 1738) and her mother **Isabel Hutchison** (born May 30 1723) are 15 years apart

Tip: Correct the birth date of [Isabell Hood](#) or of [Isabel Hutchison](#).

**Parent too young when having a child (16) ⓘ**

Person had a child when they were less than 16 years old.



! **Lars Andersson** (born 1730) and his mother **Sigrid Pärspartner** (born August 29 1717) are 13 years apart

Tip: Correct the birth date of [Lars Andersson](#) or of [Sigrid Pärspartner](#).

Ignore this issue if the dates are fine.



The MyHeritage  
Timeline is another  
useful tool with many  
different functions.

The Timeline is a visual representation of one individual from your family tree, that you select, and his or her direct ancestors.

The screenshot displays the MyHeritage website interface. At the top, the navigation bar includes 'MyHeritage', 'Home', 'Family tree', 'Discoveries', 'Photos', 'DNA', and 'Research'. The main heading is 'Timeline' with a sub-heading 'Tanner Family Tree Sync'. A search bar at the top left shows 'Harold Morgan' selected. On the right, there are icons for 'Generations: 4', a share icon, and a settings icon. The central part of the image is a vertical timeline visualization of a family tree. The root node is 'Harold Morgan' (1892 - 1963) in a white box. His parents are 'John Morgan' (1842 - 1894) and 'Eliza Ann Hamilton' (1815 - 1901) in light blue boxes. John Morgan's parents are 'Sarah Sanderson' (1774 - 1848) and 'James P. Hamilton' (1789 - 1844) in teal boxes. Eliza Ann Hamilton's parents are 'Margaret Turner' (1792 - Deceased) and 'Samuel Linton' (1828 - 1916) in light green boxes. Samuel Linton's parents are 'William Linton' (1801 - 1851) and 'Mary Ann Linton' (1865 - 1951) in light red boxes. Mary Ann Linton's parents are 'Mary Ellison' (1799 - 1869) and 'Ellen Sutton' (1832 - 1909) in yellow boxes. The timeline is set against a background of vertical grey lines with diagonal hatching.

The Timeline is also located in the family tree drop-down menu.

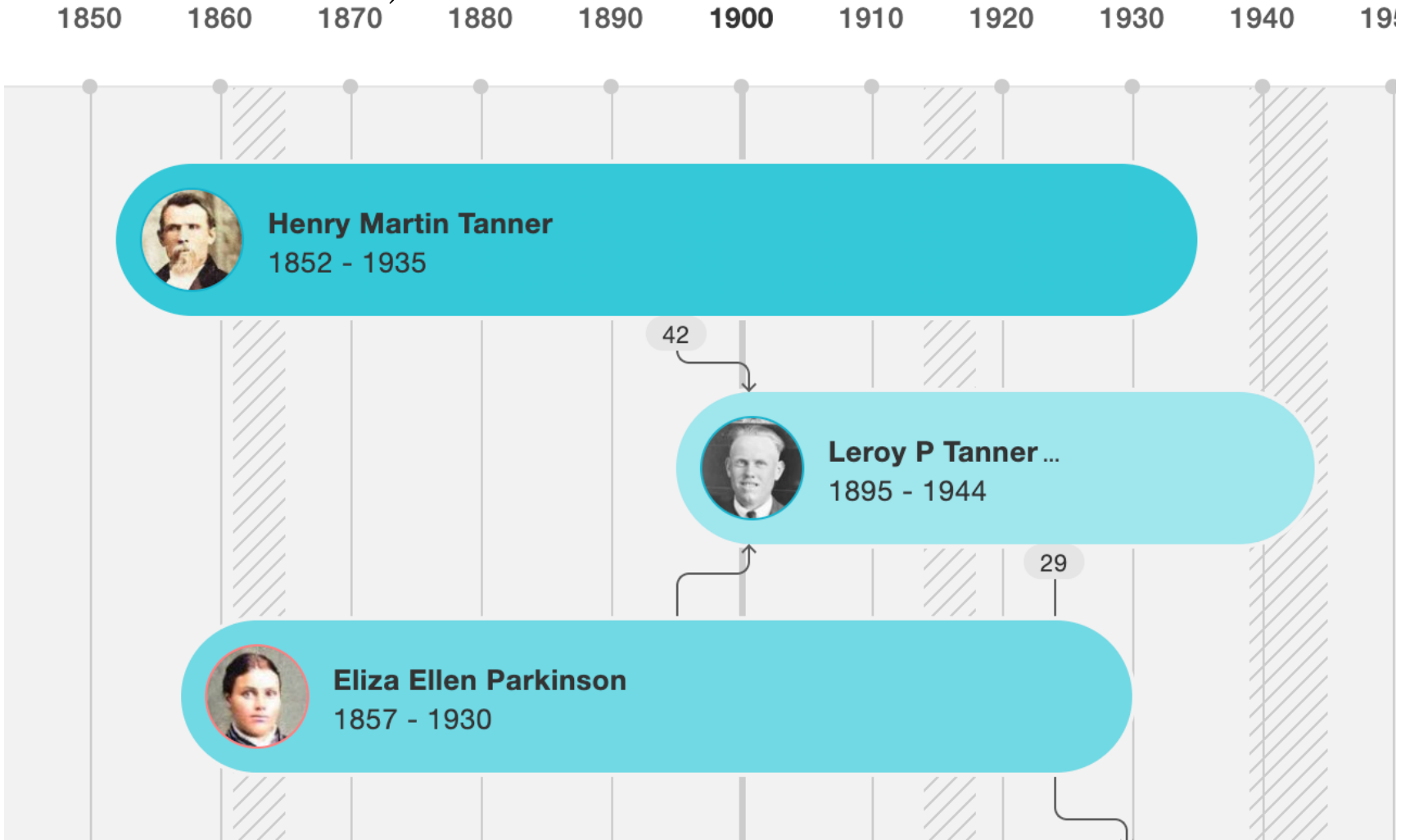
The screenshot shows the MyHeritage website interface. At the top, the MyHeritage logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'Home', 'Family tree', and 'Discoveries' are on the right. Below the navigation is a promotional banner for 'Valentine's Day DNA Sale' featuring a DNA testing kit and a price of \$39 (down from \$89). The main content area is partially obscured by a large image of a river flowing over rocks. A dropdown menu is open under the 'Family tree' link, listing various options: 'My family tree', 'My photos', 'Import GEDCOM', 'Manage trees', 'FamilySearch sync', 'Print charts & books', 'Consistency checker', 'Timeline', 'PedigreeMap™', 'Relationship report', 'Sources', and 'Backup'. The 'Timeline' option is highlighted with a red rectangular border.

MyHeritage Home Family tree Discoveries

**Valentine's Day DNA Sale**  
Only \$39 \$89  
Free standard shipping on 2+ kits  
[Order Now](#)

My family tree  
My photos  
Import GEDCOM  
Manage trees  
FamilySearch sync  
Print charts & books  
Consistency checker  
**Timeline**  
PedigreeMap™  
Relationship report  
Sources  
Backup

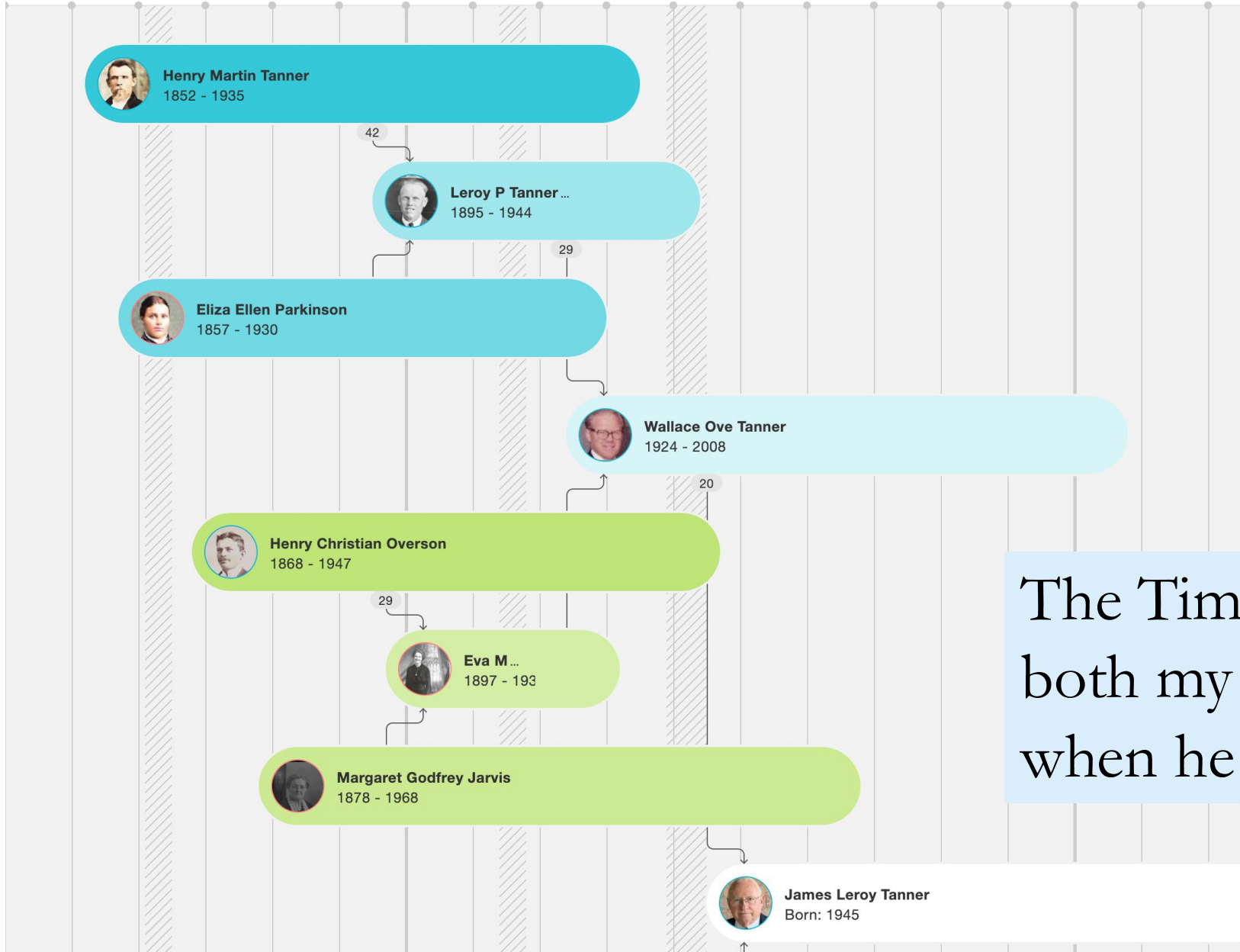
The Timeline shows the ages of your ancestors at various points in their lives: how old they were when they had children, how long they lived, and how their lifespans overlapped with those of other family members or major world events.



The Timeline can be adjusted to show from 3 to 9 generations.

The screenshot shows the MyHeritage Family Tree Timeline interface. At the top, navigation tabs include Home, Family tree (highlighted), Discoveries, Photos, DNA, and Research. The main area displays a horizontal timeline with vertical bars representing generations. A red box highlights a dropdown menu for 'Generations: 9', with options 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 (selected with a checkmark). A blue box with an arrow points to vertical hatched bars, with the text 'The vertical bars show important events'. A white box points to a 'World War II 1939 - 1945' event. A red box highlights a profile for 'Harold Morgan 1892 - 1963' with a portrait. A teal box highlights a profile for 'Isaac Sheldon 1686 - 1752'. The timeline axis shows years from 1820 to 1900.

40 1850 1860 1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 2020



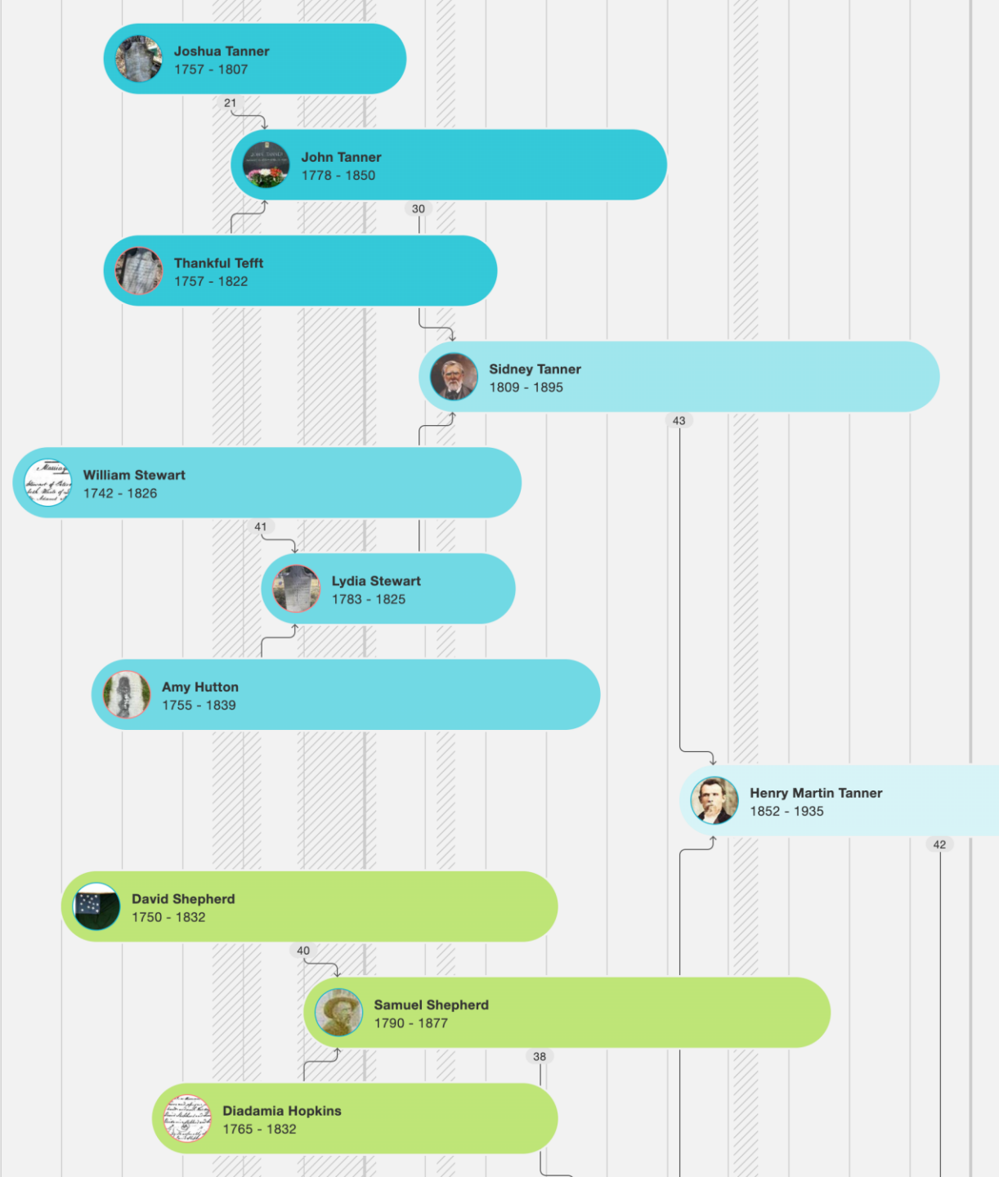
The Timeline shows that both my paternal grandparents died before I was born.

The Timeline also shows that both my father's parents died when he was quite young.

You can select a different person from your family tree from the box in the upper left-hand corner of the Timeline.

The screenshot shows the MyHeritage website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the MyHeritage logo and links for Home, Family tree (highlighted in orange), Discoveries, Photos, DNA, and Research. Below the navigation bar, the page title is "Timeline" with a dropdown menu for "Tanner Family Tree Sync". In the upper left-hand corner of the timeline area, there is a selection box containing a profile picture and the name "Leroy Parkinson Tanner". A large red arrow points to this selection box. To the right of the selection box, there is a "Generations: 5" dropdown menu and icons for download, share, and settings. The main timeline area displays a vertical sequence of family members in light green rounded rectangles, connected by lines. The names and dates shown are: Diadama Hopkins (1765 - 1832), Julia Ann Shepherd (1829 - 1899), William Ray (1760 - 1855), R Ray... (1794 - 1832), Joanna Pond (1760 - 1854), Charles Parkinson (Died: 1846), and James Parkinson (1808 - 1870). On the right side of the timeline, there is a white rounded rectangle for Leroy P Tanner... (1895 - 1944). The background of the timeline consists of vertical grey bars with diagonal hatching.

It is interesting and helpful to see how many of your ancestors were alive at the same time.



# Both the Consistency Checker and the Timeline help maintain the accuracy and consistency of your family tree.

**MyHeritage** Home **Family tree** Discoveries Photos DNA Research

**Timeline** • Tanner Family Tree Sync

Leroy Parkinson Tanner Generations: 5

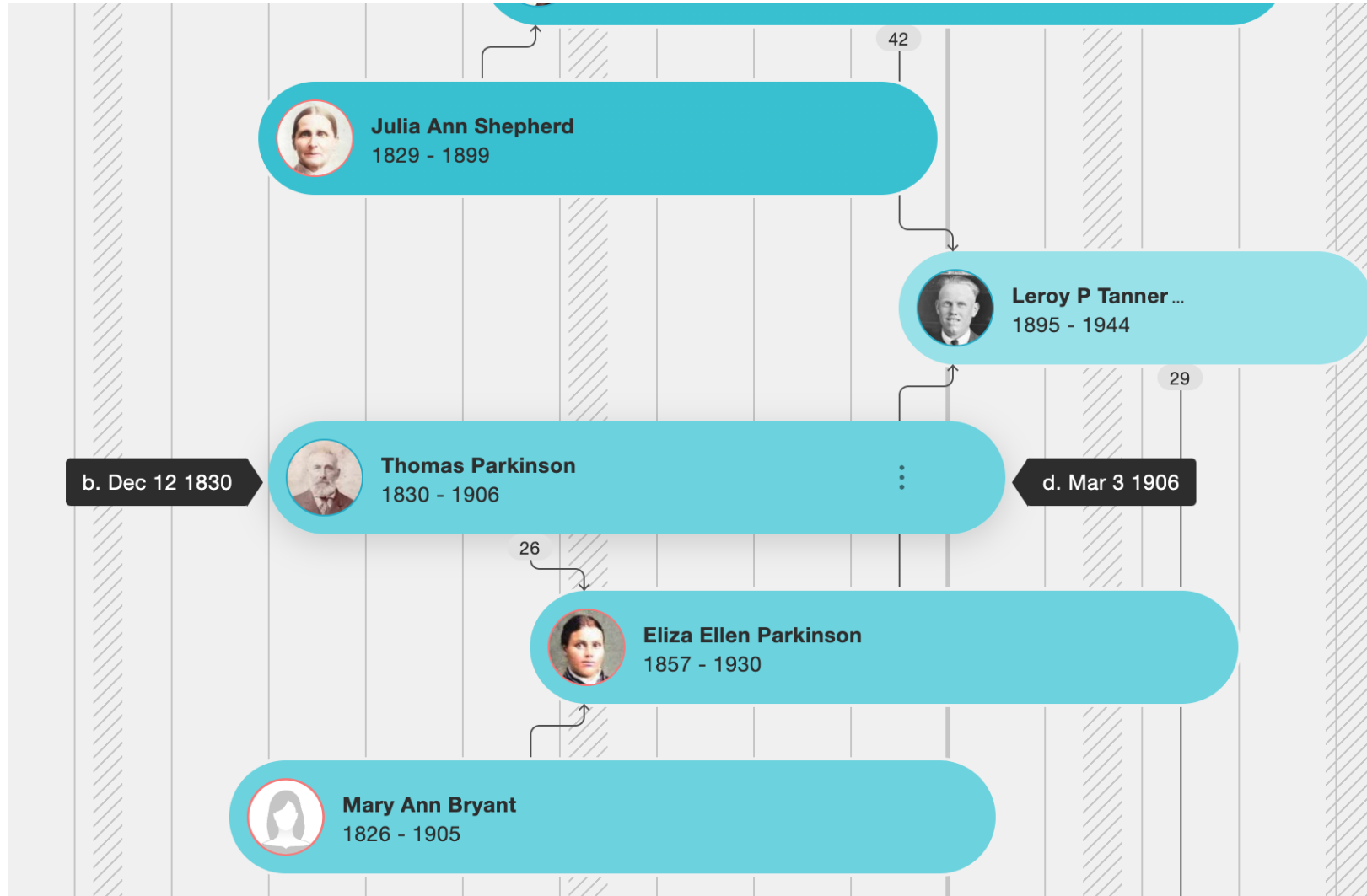
The timeline view displays the following individuals and their dates:

- Diadama Hopkins** (1765 - 1832)
- Julia Ann Shepherd** (1829 - 1899)
- William Ray** (1760 - 1855)
- R Ray...** (1794 - 1832)
- Joanna Pond** (1760 - 1854)
- Leroy P Tanner...** (1895 - 1944)
- Charles Parkinson** (Died: 1846)
- James Parkinson** (1808 - 1870)

- Anna Marinda "Winnie" Oveson** (born October 31 1883) and her father **Jens Andreas Ovesen** (born September 17 1816) are apart  
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Tip: Correct the birth date of [Magrethe Jensdatter](#) or of [Jens Christian Jørgensen](#).  
Ignore this issue if the dates are fine.



You can hover over a colored bar to see the individual's date of birth and date of death if they are available.



You can click on the three dots that appear when you hover over the colored bar and make a choice to view further information about the individual.

The screenshot displays a genealogical software interface with a family tree. Three individuals are shown in green rounded rectangular boxes:

- Henry Christian Overson** (1868 - 1947): Birth date "b. July 9 1868" on the left, death date "d. Mar 8 1947" on the right. A three-dot menu is visible on the right side of his box.
- Maren Kirstine Christensen** (1846 - 1922): Located below Henry Christian Overson.
- Charles Godfrey DeFriez Jarvis** (1855 - 1919): Located below Maren Kirstine Christensen.

A dropdown menu is open over Henry Christian Overson's profile, listing the following options:

- Henry Christian Overson
- Edit profile
- View his tree
- View profile
- Research this person

Other interface elements include a vertical line with a "29" label and arrows indicating relationships between the individuals.

You can edit a person's profile directly from the Timeline.

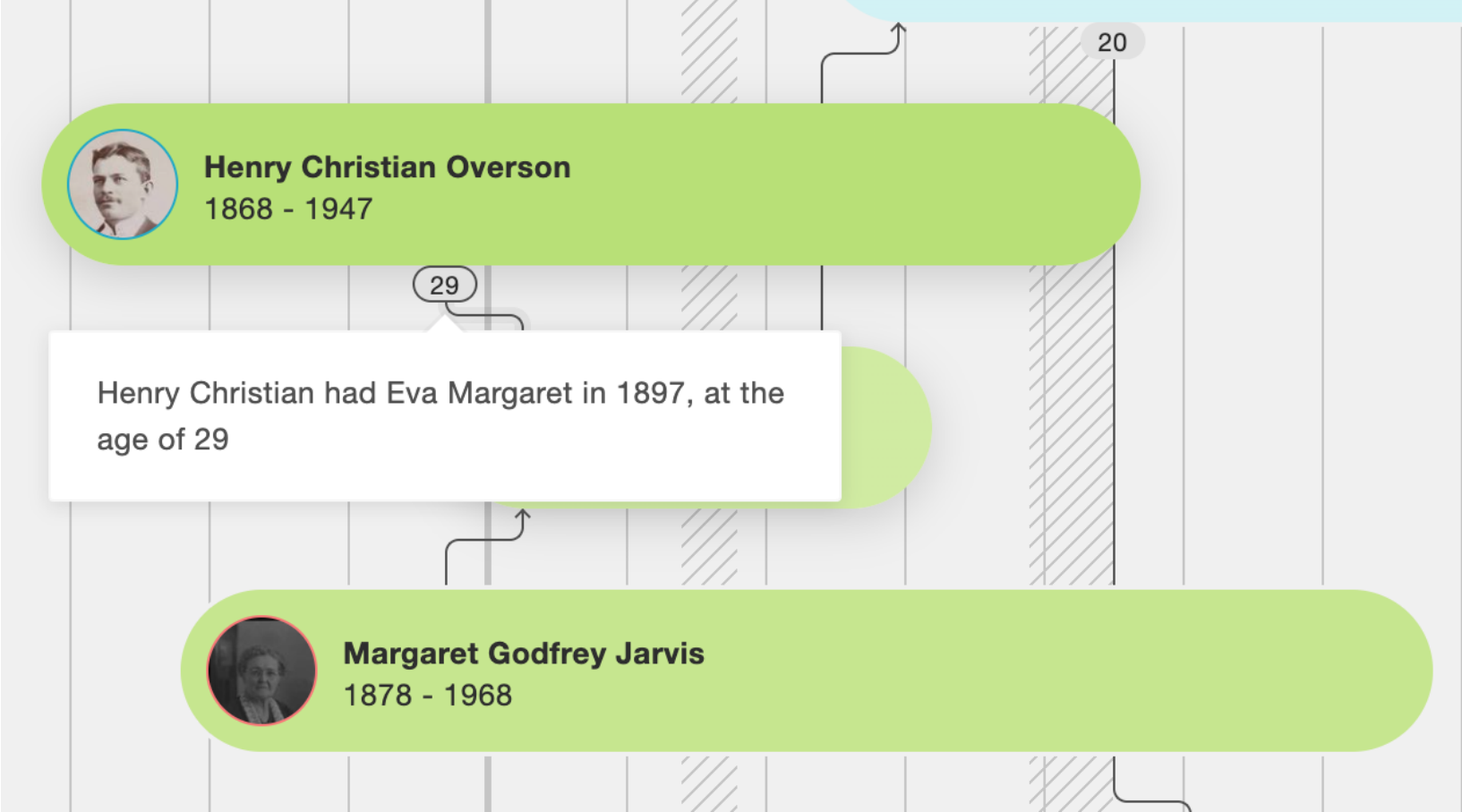
The screenshot shows a genealogy website interface with a timeline at the top. A profile card for Henry Christian Overson (1868-1947) is visible on the left. An 'Edit profile' modal window is open, displaying the following information and form fields:

- Profile Summary:** Henry Christian Overson, 1868 - 1947. FamilySearch ID: KWJH-XFD.
- Gender:** Male (selected), Female, Unknown.
- Name:** First (and middle) name: Henry Christian; Last name: Overson.
- Birth Information:** Birth date: Exactly July 9 1868; Birth place: Ephraim, Sanpete, Utah Territory, United States.
- Death Information:** Deceased (selected). Death date: Exactly Mar 8 1947; Death place: St. Johns, Apache, Arizona, United States.
- Marriage Information:** Wife: Margaret Godfrey Jarvis. Relationship: Married. Marriage date: Exactly Oct 8 1896; Marriage place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah, United States.
- Reasons for Information:** Text boxes for 'Reason this information is correct' with pre-filled text: 'Standardized both date and place name.' (for birth), 'Standardized date.' (for death).
- Buttons:** 'Edit more (bio, more facts...)', 'OK', and 'Cancel'.

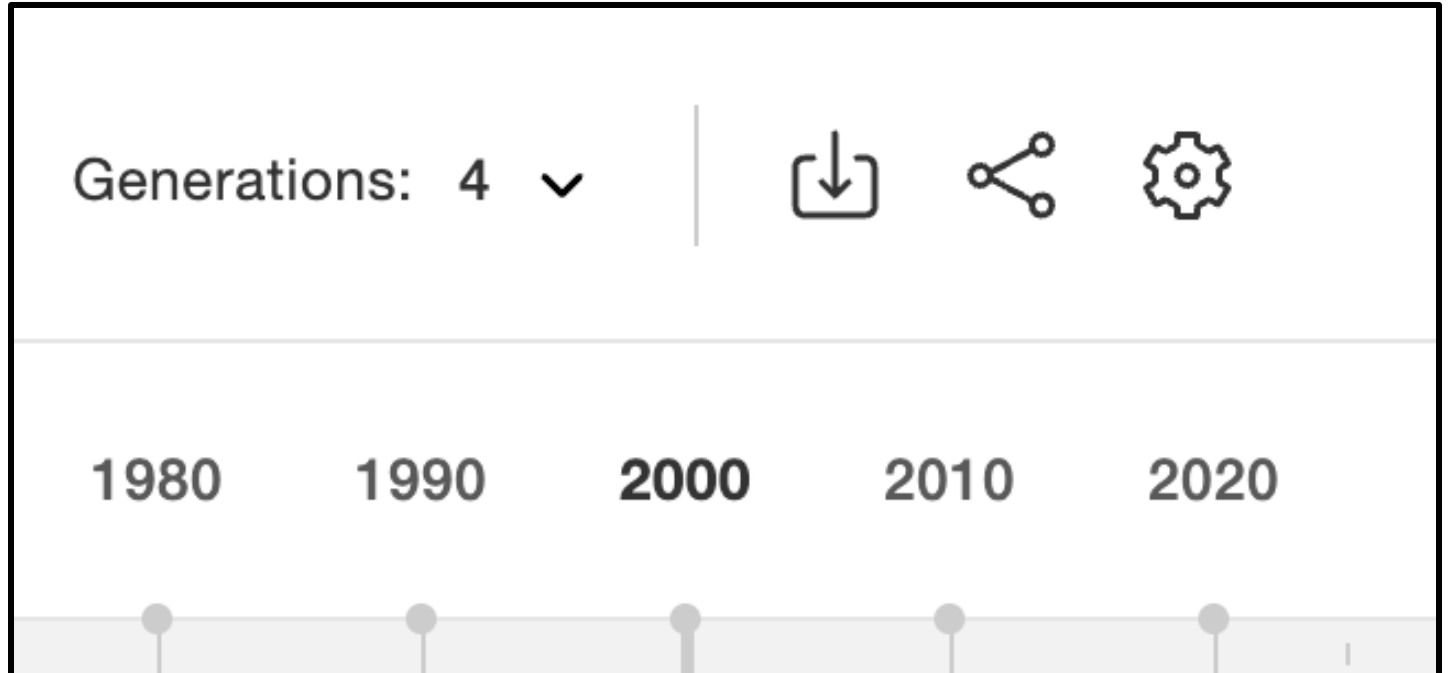
John Morgan  
1842 - 1894

Harold Morgan  
1892 - 1963

Each parent is connected to their child with an arrow, going from the parent to the child. If the age of the parent when their child was born is known, it will be indicated next to the arrow. Hovering over the age will open a tooltip with more details.



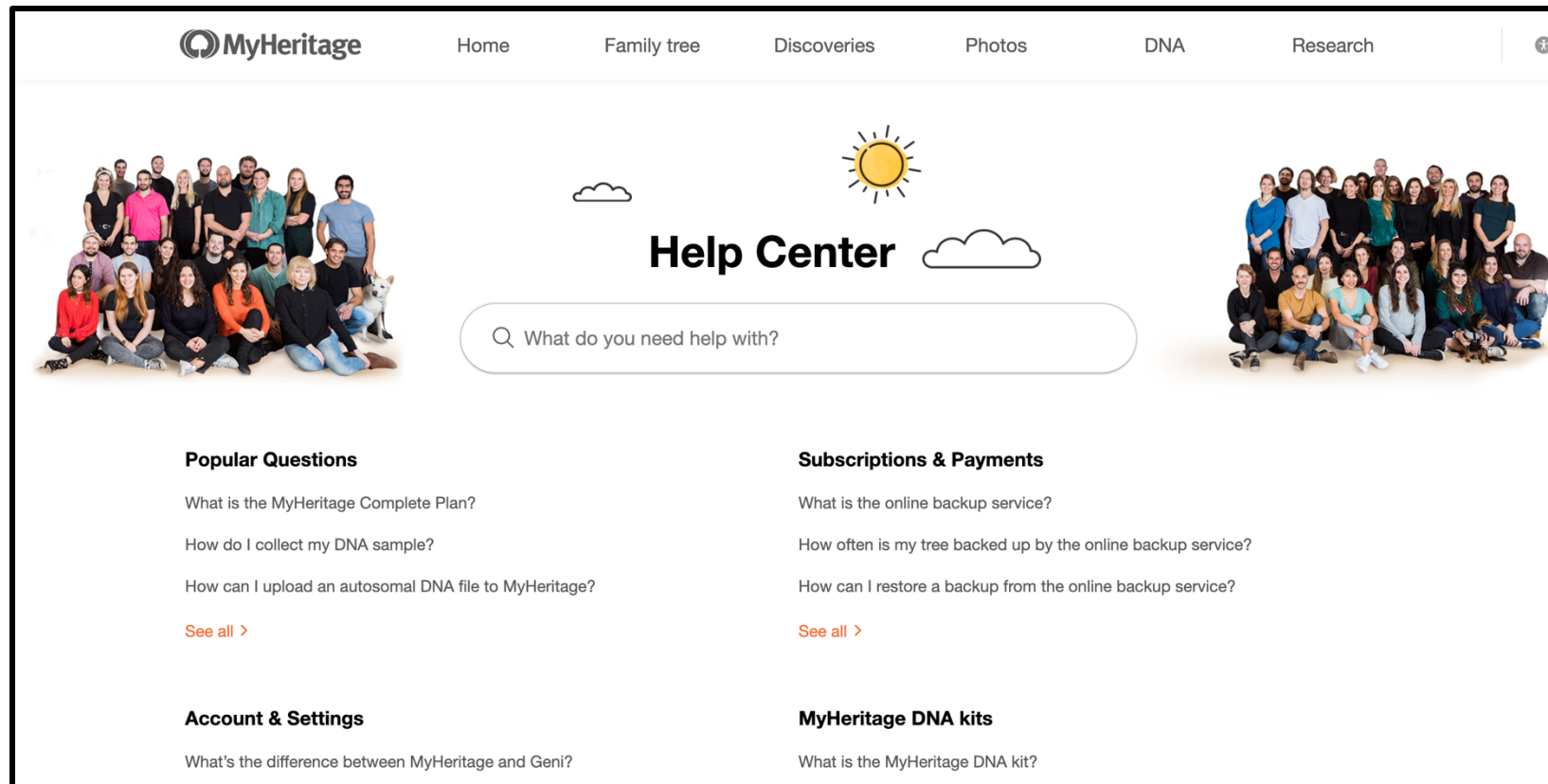
You can  
download a PDF  
file of the  
Timeline from  
the button in the  
upper right.



Keep exploring both  
the Consistency  
Checker and the  
Timeline.



For more information see [Education.MyHeritage.com](https://www.education.myheritage.com), [Legacy Family Tree Webinars \(familytreewebinars.com\)](https://www.familytreewebinars.com) and the MyHeritage Help Center (linked on the bottom of the website pages).



**MyHeritage** Home Family tree Discoveries Photos DNA Research

## Help Center

What do you need help with?

### Popular Questions

- What is the MyHeritage Complete Plan?
- How do I collect my DNA sample?
- How can I upload an autosomal DNA file to MyHeritage?

[See all >](#)

### Subscriptions & Payments

- What is the online backup service?
- How often is my tree backed up by the online backup service?
- How can I restore a backup from the online backup service?

[See all >](#)

### Account & Settings

- What's the difference between MyHeritage and Geni?

### MyHeritage DNA kits

- What is the MyHeritage DNA kit?

Thanks for Watching

