

MOUNTAINY KENNEDYS MAILING LIST 14  
March 2013

This mailing list engages in further research into the Mountainy Kennedys – those Kennedys and other related families whose ancestors chose not to go “To Hell or to Connacht” as dictated by Cromwell in 1652 but who sought refuge in the mountains of the Upper Ormond area instead. Their descendants have spread far and wide and our list is growing with new members and other interested people.

KENNEDY EVENTS IN IRELAND THIS YEAR

Two events relating to the Irish Kennedys will be held in conjunction with The Gathering in Ireland this year:

ANNUAL KENNEDY GATHERING AT REARCROSS

The third annual Kennedy Gathering will be held at Rody Kennedy’s Anglesey Lounge at Rearcross on **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July commencing at 8:00 pm**. All are welcome. Field trips to historical Kennedy sites will be organised to follow this event.

Please advise me of any Kennedy sites that you would like to see included in a field trip.

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF MOUNTAINY KENNEDY MALE FIRST NAMES

Irish first names are said to follow the generations. The naming convention on p 43 of “The Mountainy Kennedys” shows how they are passed from one generation to the next and provides a means of tracing the descent of individual families. Female names are applied to other family names through marriage and this makes them harder to follow than male names. On page 370 of “The Irish Kennedys” is provided an example of a naming convention table that demonstrates how the names are passed on.

This time we are examining the occurrence in the mountains of the name **James** (or Seamas). This name was not common in Upper Ormond with only James of Lackenvornoy (near Latteragh) recorded in the Civil Survey of 1654.

Phyllis Kennedy of Garnafarna, Toomyvara, has done some research for me for James Kennedy in the Parish. *“The nearest I could trace was a James in Glenaguile in the Griffith valuation. That’s near enough to Lackenavoma. (5km). Family must be all died out. A family of Kennedys in Bredagh. They are the same Family as Pat. (Phyll’s husband whose family originate in Lower Ormond around Ballyhaugh). I also found a James in Knockbrack, Kilkeary.”* Thanks to Phyll for this research assistance.

There is some evidence of James Kennedy of Kilnafinch, 2 km north of Lackenavorna, and his father James in a partially buried gravestone in the Kennedy section of the old Ballinaclough church ruin. No date is discernable and excavation would be needed to see what further details are recorded.



Lower Ormond had four records of the name James at that time at Scribboge, Behagh, Carrigeene and Garryduffe.

A very early record from c1431 is James of the deer O'Kennedy, (Seamas na bhFeadh) of Ballycapple near Cloughjordan in Lower Ormond. Following the Cromwellian dispossessions of 1652, his descendants can be traced to the vicinity of Templeberry and then across to Toureenbrien and Foilduff.

The Hearth Money Records of 1665-7 listed two James Kennedys in the vicinity of Nenagh. The name next appears in the records (other than parish registers) after 1840 in the Otway tenancies around Templeberry and after that in Griffiths Valuation 10 years later in Glastrigan, Curreeny and Windy Gap.

The attached parish register extracts list baptisms for children of fathers named James Kennedy from 1814 onwards. These indicate that the name James must have appeared in some areas at least in the late 1700s and possibly earlier. These were places such as Killeen (the one near Rearcross), Toureenbrien, Foilduff, Foilycleara, Kilcommon, Cummer and Birchgrove. The Kennedys from several of these places are known to descend from Seamas na bhFeadh of Ballycapple. It is possible that the Kennedys from those places to the south of the mountain area with the early occurrence of the name James were all related. (Refer attached map).

It is also possible that many of the Kennedys in the Templeberry area in which the name James appears at later dates may be descended either from Seamas na bhFeadh or alternatively from James Kennedy of Lackenavorna (Civil Survey of 1654). Lackenavorna is about 4km north of Templeberry.

### THE KENNEDYS AND THE RYANS

The Kennedys and the Ryans in the mountain areas are inextricably linked. The ancient territory of Owey Mulrian was home to the Ryans long before the Kennedys arrived on the scene. This is attested to by the many Ryan landholders in mountain areas such as Glenculloo in the Civil Survey of 1654. The Kennedys had booleys (summer milking places) on undesignated land in the mountain areas from early times but were not listed as landholders or tenants until much later.

An examination of marriage registers for four parishes demonstrates the affinity between the two families. Between 1799 and 1910 a total of 63 Kennedy women married Ryan men. Between 1816 and 1902 a total of 43 Kennedy men married Ryan women.

With over 100 marriages between Kennedys and Ryans in over 100 years it would probably be difficult to find Kennedys who are not related to Ryans and Ryans who are not related to Kennedys. The marriage lists are attached.

As a matter of interest, my youngest grandson is named Ryan Kennedy. He will be sure of a grand welcome if he ever goes to Rearcross.

### TOWNLAND CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

“The Mountainy Kennedys” book contains chapters on 90 townlands (or townslands as they are colloquially known) in the mountain area. Although I have given them a chapter each I now realise that Banquet Hill and Knocknabansha are one and the same place. My sense of translation from English to Irish was not functioning appropriately in this case. Please now read chapters 22 and 78 as referring to the one place.

Also, with the various places named Cummer mentioned, I omitted to differentiate Cummer Armstrong. Apparently this was renamed Cummer Carew at some stage. Interesting outcomes of looking for Kennedys in Cummer Armstrong are the following marriages and baptisms in the Kilcommon registers. Some of these were the subject of a query about Philip Kennedy and Julia Dawson in an earlier mailing list.

#### Marriages

1819.08.15	Kennedy	Philip	Dawson Julian Kilcommon	Edm Ryan Mgt Walsh
1848.10.31	Kennedy	Patt	Mgt. Dawson	Michael Kennedy Mary Kennedy
1851.03.03	Kennedy	John	Carew Judith Cummerarmstrong	William Kennedy Mary Carew

#### Baptisms

1821.11.09	Kennedy	Mary	Phillip Julia Dawson Cummer Armstrong	James Kennedy Mary Kennedy
1825.05.14	Kennedy	James	Phillip Julia Dawson Cummer	John Meehan Catherine Kennedy
1826.05.03	Kennedy	Phillip	James Honora Flanagan Cummer	Julia Dawson
1827.07.11	Kennedy	Michael	Phillip Julian Dawson Cummer Armstrong	Bridget Fogarty
1827.11.07	Kennedy	James	Patrick Mary Crowe Cummer Armstrong	James Kennedy Winifred Crowe
1828.05.31	Kennedy	Mary	James Honora Flanagan Cummer Armstrong	Patrick Crowe Mary Crowe
1830.07.27	Kennedy	John	Phillip Julian Dawson Cummer	Ellen Dawson
1831.10.03	Kennedy	Margaret	James Norry Flanagan Cummer Armstrong	Catherine Kennedy
1831.10.15	Kennedy	Bridget	Pat Mary Crowe Cummer Armstrong	Honora Flanagan
1833.09.13	Kennedy	Bidy	Phil Julian Dawson Cummer Armstrong	Mary Mehan
1834.05.10	Kennedy	James	James Norry Flanagan Cummer Armstrong	Margt Spelman
1835.02.29	Kennedy	Catherine	Michael Mary Crowe Cummer Armstrong	Thomas Kennedy Mary Ryan
1836.04.17	Kennedy	Lawrence	James Norry Flanagan Cummer Armstrong	Daniel Mackey Judy Stapleton
1838.05.06	Kennedy	Bridget	James Norry Flanagan Cummer Armstrong	Mary Spelman
1840.09.27	Kennedy	Sally	James Norry Flanagan Cummer Armstrong	Mary Kennedy
1843.03.27	Kennedy	Patrick	James Norry Flanagan Cummer	

1843.06.--	Kennedy	John	Phil Mary Dawson	Wm. Burke Bid Wadick
1847.02.24	Kennedy	Catherine	James Norry Flanagan Cummer	Edmund Ryan Mary Ryan
1849.08.12	Kennedy	Mary	Pat Mgt. Dawson	James Kennedy Mary Ryan
1851.11.18	Kennedy	John	Patrick Peggy Dawson	Patrick Kennedy Mary Lee
1854.01.28	Kennedy	Patk.	Patk. Mgt. Dawson	Jim Ryan Mrs. Ryan
1856.07.13	Kennedy	Margaret	Patt Mgt. Dawson	R. Lee Bgt. Ryan
1861.03.--	Kennedy	Margaret	Patt Mary Kennedy	Phil Dawson Nora Kennedy

### WHICH O'KENNEDY ARE YOU DESCENDED FROM? Rory Mor, Giolla Padraig, Donch Mor or Seadra?

Rory Mor O'Kennedy was Lord of Ormond in 1356. He was the common ancestor of over 60% of all the Irish Kennedys listed in the RIA (Royal Irish Academy) genealogies c1580. Thirty-two out of fifty Kennedy branches were descended from Rory Mor by 1600.

Four other branches at that time descended from Giolla Padraig O'Kennedy who was the ancestor of the great Mahon Donn O'Kennedy, chief of the O'Kennedy Donns.

Thirteen branches were descended from Donch Mor O'Kennedy and the remaining branch was descended from Seadra O'Kennedy.

### REQUESTS

We receive requests for information about Kennedys from time to time. Some of these requests can be answered fairly quickly while others may not have enough clues to proceed. Some are received directly while others are passed on to me. However, we will continue to publish them because we have so many people willing to share what they have.

In the last mailing list I replied as follows to one such query:

There are five Philips listed in Griffiths – three of these relate to the same Philip of Curreeny Commons, Windygap and Killeen. It is probably this Philip you are referring to. I have researched this family extensively and visit the Kennedys of Killeen on my annual visits to Ireland. The name Philip continues there to this day. However, their burial ground is Kilkeary indicating that there is probably no connection with Kilmore. Also, there are no Michaels associated with Killeen.

Thanks to Roddy Kennedy of Hertfordshire (formerly of Toomyvara) who has provided the following clarifying information about this reply:

*I do enjoy your updates. Paddy Ryan and I think the work you've done is fantastic and would never have happened without you. A point about the Johns of Curreeny and Windygap; you may remember that those inscriptions from our bank of graves in Kilkeary recorded a John Kennedy of Curreeny who died in 1833, with the gravestone having been erected by his sons Rody and Michael. I believe said Rody was my great-great-grandfather and Michael was the Kennedy who married into the Harrington family and lived at Shanballyard. The family tree says Rody and Michael had a younger brother, Phillip, who subsequently fathered Con (of Dublin pub fame) though why his name was not on the stone isn't clear; Paddy Ryan and I estimate he was 19 in 1833; perhaps he was too young to pay for his share of the stone or maybe he had fallen out with his brothers. In any event, I'm sure the Curreeny Johns were not descended from Phillip of Cloghinch but, rather, from the Pollanorman/Ballinaclough line; hence their burial in Killkeary.*

It is very satisfying to see so many people furthering the research into the Mountainy Kennedys. Queries, comments and clarifications are always welcome so please keep them coming.

### RODY KENNEDY'S GUNS

In mailing list 9 we reported that Rody Kennedy of Knockacullen (Hollyhill) was allowed 2 guns, 2 pistols and one sword in 1836.

On p83 of "The Mountainy Kennedys" we find that "In 1845 Rody Kennedy of Hollyhill let 21a 1r 17p of his farm at Ballynenagh, Ballinacloy, in conacre lots (potato ground).

A return of offences reported to police since the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, 1845, shows that on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 1846, at 8:00 pm at Ballynenagh, Rody Kennedy, farmer, was subjected to robbery of arms and aggravated assault by persons who wanted to obtain arms. It seems that Rody was not able to avail himself of the protection of his guns before they were taken from him.

### BOOKS

Copies of "The Mountainy Kennedys" and "The Irish Kennedys" can be obtained Internationally, books can be obtained from the website at:  
<http://home.onthenet.com.au/~laurieag?index.htm>

If you have any further information about the Mountainy Kennedys that you would like to share or any questions to ask your contribution would be most welcome. As you will appreciate, reading and research takes time, but we will endeavour to keep the mailing lists coming out on a regular basis.

All the best.

Brian