

MOUNTAINY KENNEDYS MAILING LIST 32
OCTOBER 2014

VIDEO OF NEW KENNEDY CHIEF INAUGURATION

The video available on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/theirishkennedysbooks> has been very popular. To date it has been viewed by 187 people and the number is growing daily. We are confident there will be a corresponding increase in visitors to Rearcross in response to Chief Rody's invitation. For those who are interested in meeting the Kennedy's new chief we can assure you that a visit will be most welcome.

A CHAT WITH DAN KENNEDY

During all of my visits to Ireland I try to visit as many as possible of the friends I have made over the years. One such person is Dan Kennedy of Reafadda, Hollyford. Dan is a grand man for the history and is very interesting to talk with. My great grandmother, Honora Burke, was also from Reafadda, from a little tin cottage down the hill from Dan's farm. Dan told me that, when he was a boy, he used to go to that little house which was then occupied by "Ryan the Watch". I have heard of many Ryan nicknames but not that one. Dan said that Ryan was the only man in the area who had a watch so he was appointed to the position of timekeeper at the nearby Reafadda mines, hence the nickname.



In conversation with Dan Kennedy

REQUEST FROM MARY FITZGERALD

Mary's search for her Kennedys has met with some success. Two of our readers have recognised the names in her request and have been in touch with Mary to help to further her research.

THE NEXT KENNEDY BOOK

Following the Cromwellian dispossessions of 1652 the world of the Kennedy landholders came to an end. Rather than submit to the conquerors the Mountainy Kennedys created a new world for themselves in the wilderness. Their story is told in volumes 1 and 2 of The "Mountainy Kennedys".

There were many other Kennedys who did not go to Connacht or to the mountains but remained on the plains of Ormond under their new masters. Some of their descendants are there to this day while others emigrated and now carry on the name in other countries. The next Kennedy book will attempt to outline their history since the 1600s and to see if any connections can be made.

The tenant farmer group, who bulked large in the social composition of the Catholic community, had many trade and kinship links with their urban counterparts. They provided above all an element of continuity due to the dictates of the primogeniture and kinship systems. As a result, the Kennedys,

Meaghers, Ryans, Keatings and Powers stride through history, the claims of their families to Tipperary soil never extinguished by even the most violent vicissitudes.
(Kevin Whelan: *The Catholic Church in County Tipperary 1700-1900. Chapter 11 in Tipperary, History and Society.* Geography Publications. Dublin. 1997)

We will also ask the obvious question inspired by a literal interpretation of Whelan's work and also by the recent on-line publication of the Down Survey of Ireland <http://downsurvey.tcd.ie/historical-gis.html> Do the Kennedys of more recent times have any unextinguished claims to Tipperary soil? The next Kennedy book will examine this question, firstly to establish who the original Kennedy landowners were and where they were. Secondly, we will attempt to determine if there is any evidence, preliminary or otherwise, that more recent Kennedys may have claims to *Tipperary soil*. The question of whether there is any process that may be used to further those claims will also be examined.

In order to keep the new book within manageable parameters it will concentrate solely on the Barony of Upper Ormond. A working title is "The Kennedys of Upper Ormond – Their claims to Tipperary Soil?"

While much work has already been done in relation to the Kennedys in the mountains of Upper Ormond, we will extend our research to those civil parishes and areas within parishes outside of the mountain areas. The Upper Ormond Civil parishes are shown on the map below. It is interesting to note that Aghnameadle, Kilkeary, Templedowney and Kilruane Civil Parishes comprise more than one distinct area.

If anyone has appropriate information that may be useful in this research it is, of course, very welcome.



Work on transcribing the Kennedy marriages and baptisms at Toomyvara from 1830 to 1910 is now well underway. There are 41 female Kennedy marriages as well as 35 male marriages. There are also over 400 Kennedy baptisms during this period. Many thanks to Phyllis Kennedy of Garnafana for her very welcome assistance in this task.

Toomyvara. Kennedy – Kennedy Marriages

- 1831.02.NR Bridget Kennedy to Jno. Kennedy of Clonolea. Danl.and Jno. Kennedy witnesses.
- 1835.11.20 Mary Kennedy to Patk. Kennedy of Bunacum. MI. and Mrs. Keary witnesses.
- 1836.02.14 Margaret Kennedy to Wm. Kennedy. Patk. and Wm. Maher witnesses.

BOOKS

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Note: Booksellers in various countries use pictures copied from the website to advertise books that they do not have in stock. We have amended the website pictures as a consequence.

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

Thank you to all of those people who have bought books over the years. The returns have gone some way towards defraying the expense of having them printed and distributed.

THE IRISH KENNEDYS NOW ON FACEBOOK

This mailing list will continue to come out monthly and will be sent to all recipients by email. In addition, Sean has now put us onto Facebook. Find us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/theirishkennedysbooks>

If you are on Facebook and would click on “Like” on this page it would be appreciated.

Your contributions to the Mountainy Kennedys mailing list are most welcome. Please keep them rolling in.

Brian