

# Irish Kennedy Heritage Group



Lackeen Castle

The mission of the Irish Kennedy Heritage Group is to research, preserve and disseminate the history of the Irish Kennedys.



Chief Rody Kennedy

Mailing List No.63 November. 2017

Best wishes and compliments of the season to all of our mailing list members around the world. We hope Christmas and New Year is all you wish it to be for your families and yourself.

## IRISH KENNEDY HERITAGE GROUP MEETING

There is a meeting of the Irish Kennedy Heritage Group in Chief Rody's Lounge, Rearcross, on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec at 8.00 pm**. All are invited to attend. Kennedys from all over Ireland and any international visitors are very welcome.

## THE NEXT KENNEDY BOOK

Brian Patrick Kennedy.



Brian's official status according to his Facebook profile is '**RETIRED**'  
Make up your own mind on reading the following.

*While I am waiting for my autobiography to be delivered from the printers I have taken on the big challenge of the next Irish Kennedy book.*

*The six books so far have covered the history of the Kennedys in Upper and Lower Ormond and adjacent areas in North Tipperary. In addition, the probable movement of JFK's relatives to Wexford has been provided. Many Kennedys have used these books to research their family history with degrees of success.*

*Quite a few Irish Kennedy descendants from areas outside those covered by the published books have been in touch with me in recent times looking for clues about their ancestors. This is where the research becomes very challenging but also very rewarding. I am now endeavouring to produce a book on "The Other Irish Kennedys". O'Kennedys are recorded in other baronies of Tipperary as well as other counties of Ireland as far back as 1353. The first were light horsemen and foot soldiers who were*

mercenaries. In later years they are recorded as kerns, yeomen, swordmen, husbandmen, fishermen, stewards, servants and various other occupations.

The O' indicates that they or their ancestors were originally from North Tipperary. They earlier movers were not landholders at first and were apparently in the employ of others. The transplantation of Kennedys to other counties after the Cromwellian dispossessions in 1656 and 1657 added to their diaspora. By the time of the so called Census of 1659 there were over 300 Kennedy families in 17 counties outside of Tipperary. The research to date has revealed locations and names that can be seen to be associated over several generations. If you have any particular areas and first names outside of North Tipperary that are part of your Kennedy family traditions I would be pleased if you would let me know at [mountainykennedys@gmail.com](mailto:mountainykennedys@gmail.com) so they can be included in the research.

If the research proceeds as expected I would hope to have the next Kennedy book available for launching at the Kennedy Gathering at Chief Rody Kennedy's at Rearcross, Tipperary, in July next year.

So any Kennedys out there around Ireland who might be able to add to Brian's research please pass it on to the email mentioned in Brian's article.

#### **PROFESSOR MARK KENNEDY.**

Mark Kennedy from Geelong, Victoria, Australia has made enormous strides in the last few years in piecing together his own family tree, firstly back to the Garavane, Rearcross, Kennedys and then further back to Long Andrew Kennedy.

Mark has become a regular visitor to Ireland and has decided to concentrate his research into linking different branches of the Kennedy clan through their DNA. At the 2017 Kennedy Clan Mark gave a very informative and interesting presentation on the use of DNA in family research. On his most recent visit in September he took DNA samples from 20 different people of Kennedy Heritage and is now inputting the results as they filter back to him on a dedicated Kennedy family tree.

It is a laborious and time consuming task but when complete will hopefully succeed in establishing definite links between the Kennedy diaspora.

Any other Kennedys who have had their DNA tests done and who might like to forward results to Mark to add to his data base for possible connections can do so by contacting me and I will arrange the contact.



Mark , on the right, giving his DNA presentation at Clan Gathering July 2017.

## NEW IRISH KENNEDY HERITAGE GROUP MEMBERS.

Our Irish Kennedy Group continues to attract new members from Ireland and abroad.

**Nadine Kennedy** from Australia came across us on Facebook and made contact.

**John David Kennedy** grew up in Hartford, Connecticut which was the centre of many Kennedy families. John had nine Kennedy aunts and uncles and 44 first cousins in the greater Hartford area. With one of those cousins Katherine Kennedy Kelley, John has been able to establish that the ancestor of theirs who first went to the U.S was William Kennedy who emigrated from near Portlaw, Co. Waterford.

John and Katherine have already been to Ireland twice, are planning to come again in 2018 and hoping to publish a scholarly paper and book on their Kennedy Heritage.

**Hugh Sweeney** lives in Newport, Co. Tipperary and traces his family History to the Kennedys of Glenculloo.

**John M. Kennedy** lives in Auburn, California

John knows that his great, great grandfather was born in Carrick-on-Suir in 1806 to James and Katherine Kennedy and John's DNA test confirms that he is direct descendant of Brian Boru.

He has already visited Ireland and climbed both Tullaun and Lackeen castles and found the old ring fort at Rathurles and hopes to visit again in 2019.

Both John David and John Michael found us on our new website [irishkennedyheritagegroup.ie](http://irishkennedyheritagegroup.ie) that we hope will continue to be a focal point for Irish Kennedys worldwide.

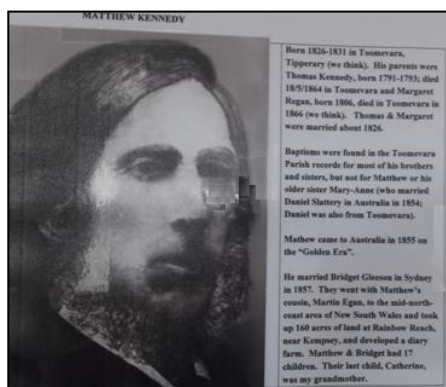
Overseas visitors planning trips back to Kennedy Country in Tipperary might keep in mind that our Clan gathering in Chief Rody's in Rearcross generally takes place around the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in July

## LATEST ADDITION TO KENNEDY DISPLAY IN HERITAGE CENTRE NENAGH

Provided by Professor Colleen Cartwright Kennedy, Melbourne, Australia and Great-Grand-Daughter of Matthew Kennedy and Bridget Gleeson.



Colleen's Great Great Grandmother, born in Toomevara c.1837



Catherine's Great Great Grandfather Matthew Kennedy born in Toomevara c1826 and emigrated to Australia in 1855. Married Catherine in 1857

Curator of Kennedy Display in Nenagh, Phyllis Kennedy, is indebted to Colleen for furnishing these documents of her family history for display. Phyllis would love to have more Kennedy stories for display. Her contact is [kennedyphyll@yahoo.ie](mailto:kennedyphyll@yahoo.ie)

## PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

In order to make all earlier editions of the original mailing list generally available, Sean Kennedy has kindly volunteered to publish an **Internet Blog** that will provides appropriately edited posts in order from the first issue. You will find the Blog if you click on

<http://tikhg.blogspot.ie/search?updated-min=2016-01-01T00:00:00-08:00&updated-max=2017-01-01T00:00:00-08:00&max-results=1>

## IRISH KENNEDYS BOOKS

Internationally all books can be obtained via "The Irish Kennedys" web page at <http://home.onthenet.com.au/~laurieag/index.htm>. The page contains links to Amazon.com from which they can also be obtained.



The Irish Kennedys books may be obtained in Ireland from:

**Chief Rody Kennedy's Bar and Shop. Rearcross. Tipperary. Ph. 062 79104**

**The Bookworm Bookshop. THURLES. Tipperary. Ph. 504 22257.**

**The Bookshop. Friar Street. NENAGH. Tipperary**

**The Kennedy Homestead, DUNGANSTOWN. Wexford. Ph. 051 388 264**

**Phyllis Kennedy, Garnafana, TOOMEVARA. Tipperary. Ph. 067 26069**

**Harvest Fresh, Main St. Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary. Ph. 3536727060.**

**WARNING: Books are not available digitally on line. Do not provide credit card details to any site purporting to have digital copies available.**

## JOIN THE IRISH KENNEDYS ON FACEBOOK

**Click on the Kennedy chief inauguration with sub titles on You Tube**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KtsQKz-VAUw&feature=youtu.be>

Tom Kennedy

Email: [tkencos@gmail.com](mailto:tkencos@gmail.com)

Mob: 353876545646.