

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.83. May 2021

Fáilte / Welcome.

Covid update from Ireland

The good news is that things are improving here in Ireland. All retail outlets have now re-opened, hospitalisation numbers have decreased dramatically and almost half the adult population have received at least one shot of a vaccine. However pubs, restaurants and indoor gatherings are still under lockdown but at least there is now definite light at the end of the tunnel. Sincere hope that wherever you are in the world you remain safe and well and can look forward to better days ahead.

New Members.

Carole Lundell, from St. Paul, Minnesota, U.S.A. has joined our Irish Kennedy group.

Carole is hoping that some member may have some information to help her in her family research. This is a resume of her research.

I have recently discovered that my great grandfather was originally from Gortahumma, Templederry, Tipperary. His name was Michael Joseph Kennedy but he may have had a nick name of Mich. His father was Edward or Edmund Kennedy and his mother was Bridget Crowe. I think he was born in 1867. He came to the United States around 1885 and eventually settled in Chicago. He married Bridget Ryan (nee Fitzgerald) They had one child, Ellen E. Kennedy. He was killed in 1902 by a fall out of a 4th story window. I am looking to find any information, or research hints that you might have. Thank you so much for you time.

Bláithín Kennedy

Bláithín grew up in Roscrea, Co. Tipperary. She is one of 6 girls. She lives in a medieval hanging village in rural South of France, not far from the famous Verdon Gorge (largest gorge in Europe). The town of Grasse is half an hour from where she lives now. Róisín has a degree in Irish Archaeology and Art History and for about 9 years worked as an archaeologist, mainly doing medieval and prehistoric work.....she has some expertise on exhuming skeletons . She is looking forward to joining us at our Clan gatherings.

Not sure Róisín if we need help in digging up family skeletons!

Margaret von Konigsmark.

Belated welcome to Margaret who lives in Umina Beach, New South Wales, Australia.

This may help someone to connect with Margaret.

My GGGgrandmother, Ellen Kennedy migrated from Lorrha to Sydney on the Northern Light in 1858. She was a widow, aged 55 (DOB ~1803?) and parents were recorded as Patrick Brophy and Catharine, both deceased at that time. Her husband, John was deceased also.

Assisted Immigrant Passenger Lists, 1828-1896:

Ellen arrived as a widow on 9 May 1858 with Patrick 22 Farm labourer, Michael 20 farm labourer, Bridget 18 Domestic servant, John 14 Labourer.

Ellen sponsored the migration of a friend, William Cashen, in 1859 and he was from Borrisokane. I therefore think it likely Ellen and John lived there, or close by, in the 1850's.

They appear to have had 9 children, 6 of whom I have found baptism records on Ancestry eg Bridget.

Ireland, Catholic Parish Registers, 1655-1915

Apr 1840 Lorrha and Dorrha, Killaloe Tipperary, Ireland F John Kennedy M Ellen Brophy

Ellen's death record states: Died East Maitland 18.05.1866. Buried 20.05.1866 RC Burial Ground, East Maitland Born at Roscrea, Tipperary IRL

I have unsuccessfully researched the marriage of John Kennedy and Ellen Brophy on various online websites, including Roots Ireland and the two major commercial sites.

There are various records eg Tithing Applotment Books which show a John Kennedy living in the 1820's in Parish Roscrea in the town of Carrick Tipperary and Townland of Redwood in the Parish of Dorrha and Barony of Ormond, Lower. However, I cannot link these so far to Ellen's husband.

As always if you wish to connect with any of the above new members drop me an email and I will pass on your details to enable direct connect.

The Place of the Workhouse in Irish History.

The Workhouse or Poorhouse became a most feared institution during the Irish Famine of the 1840's and for decades afterwards. It was intended as a place of asylum for the most destitute and poverty-stricken. The class of "inmate" or pauper accepted by the workhouse extended over time, with additional departments being added to include the aged & infirm, orphans, foundlings and abandoned children and indigent men. It was also used as a place of punishment for *sturdy beggars, disorderly women* and vagabonds. The "new" workhouses introduced by the Poor Law in the mid-19th-century were designed as a place of

last resort. To discourage overcrowding, workhouse conditions had to be perceived as inferior to what was available outside. Upon entering the workhouse, families were segregated (children separated from adults and to female / male-only units) unlikely to ever see each other again. During the Great Irish Famine, most of those arriving at the workhouse gates were already at death's door. Starving and sick with the fever, many died at the gate before admission or very soon afterwards. Packed beyond capacity, disease spread out of control and even the most healthy succumbed and died (including doctors and other members of staff). Workhouses were built all over Ireland including one here where I live in Borrisokane. The Poorhouse in Borrisokane ceased to function as a workhouse in 1923 but continued as a hospital until the 1930's and later became the site of Borrisokane Secondary Vocational school in the 1940's.



Borrisokane Workhouse

There are two things that some of you may be familiar with that are closely tied into the Irish Workhouses, 1 *Griffith's Valuation* and 2. *Assisted Emigration*.

The Poorhouses were to be funded by property owners within what was called the Poor Law Union –hence the establishment of Griffith's Valuations to assess the means of those who would contribute to the upkeep and maintenance of the Poorhouses.

Between 1848-1850, Earl Grey's **Famine Orphan Scheme** saw a total of 4,114 young Irish women resettled in the Australian colonies. The first orphan girls arrived from Ireland aboard the Lady Kennaway on September 11th, 1848. These young women, aged 14 to 20, had been orphaned by the famine and were recruited from workhouses across the 32 counties of Ireland. The scheme was devised by Earl Grey, Secretary of State for the Colonies, to relieve overcrowding in the Irish workhouses and to meet the demand for domestic labourers and single young women in the colonies. Due to growing anti-Irish, anti-Catholic sentiment in the colony, the scheme was short-lived. The last group arrived in Sydney on *Tippoo Saib* in July 1850.

The Borrisokane Poor Law Union was officially declared in 1850. The Workhouse was opened in 1853 at a cost of £7,880. It was built to house a maximum capacity of 600 inmates, but census records show that the true population of Borrisokane Workhouse was a total of 839 inmates in its first year of operation. At one stage 1250 inmates were recorded in the

Poorhouse. Extra land had to be bought to accommodate 2 burial grounds. The Borrisokane Workhouse was built to accommodate people from the areas of Aglishecloghane, Ballingarry, Ballylusky, Borrisokane, Cloughjordan, Cloghprior, Finnoe, Kilbarron, Lorrha, Mertonhall, Terryglass and Uskane.

By co-incidence, Phyllis Kennedy, secretary of our I.K.H.G. has done a lot of research into Borrisokane Poorhouse as two of her grand-aunts were employed as nurses in the Workhouse. I intend to feature some of Phyllis's research in a forthcoming newsletter. We have come a long way since Thanks be to God.

By further co-incidence, I.K.H.G. member Joe Kennedy of Callan, County Kilkenny, Secretary of the Callan Heritage Society, is the editor of "Memoir of an Irish Pauper – Who became an American humanitarian". This book, which has just been released, provides a fascinating autobiography of John Logan Power and his recollections of his childhood in Callan Workhouse (1842-1850).

D.N.A. lecture by Professor Mark Kennedy.

For many years now Professor Mark Kennedy has been undertaking a very comprehensive project into the DNA of the Irish Kennedys. He has given a number of very interesting presentations at our Clan Gatherings. Recently at a virtual meeting of the Bournea Reaching Out group he gave another presentation. I had a number of enquiries from members who were anxious to access a record of that presentation. Mark has gladly forwarded on a link to the presentation.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zrekut1r3fyriok/AADTmb-hMutHAbZumJ-3hYEKa?dl=0>

IRISH KENNEDYS BOOKS

Brian Patrick is continuing his work on "The Resilience of the Irish Kennedys". Covid 19 has hampered progress of this book but it is expected to be available in 2022. However in the meantime "**The Ryans of Ireland - from their origins in Uí Dróna and Uí Cheinnselaig**" is now available. <https://theirkennedys.weebly.com>.

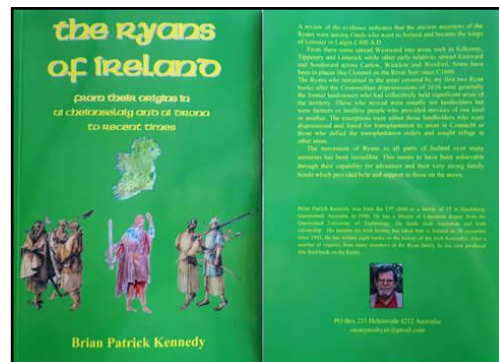
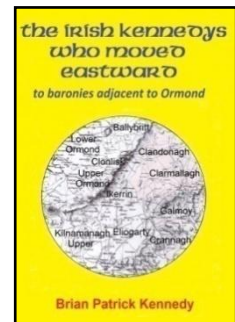
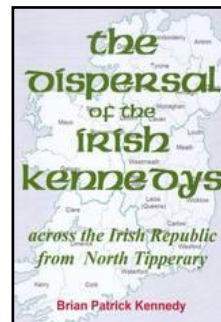
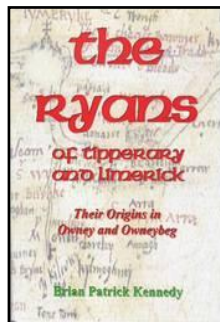
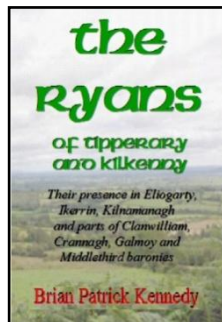
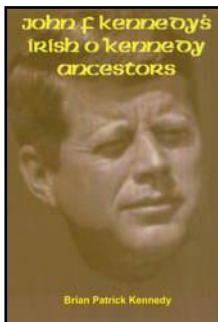
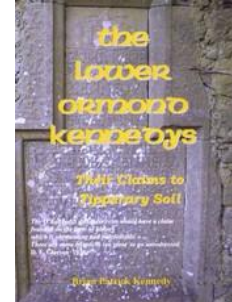
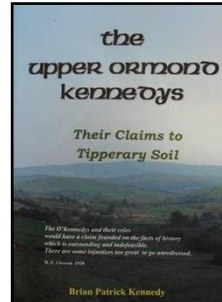
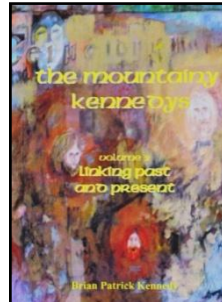
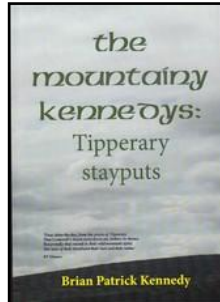
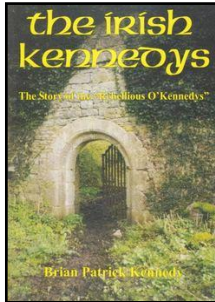
In addition, Brian Patrick and his son Terrence Brian Kennedy are co-authoring a new book "Our Irish Kennedy DNA". This book covers their association with Haplogroup R-BY39725 back to ancient times. (Prepare for some fascinating information about the Kennedys and also about King Brian Boru and what his association with the Kennedys may or may not be).

So these will then be added to the impressive list of publications by Brian already available. Internationally all books can be obtained via "The Irish Kennedys" web page at <https://theirkennedys.weebly.com>

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. 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.
 Alan Hanna's Bookshop, 270 Rathmines Road Lower, DUBLIN 6

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



Data Protection Regulations.

You may have heard that the Data Protection laws are changing within the E.U. (possibly worldwide, not sure) from 25th May 2018 with the introduction of GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation). If at any stage, you no longer wish to receive newsletters or other communications from the Irish Kennedy Heritage Group please email me and I will delete your contact details from the database. We only hold your contact details so that you can receive information on I. K.H.G. news, meetings and events.

Your contact details will not be shared with any other party. You can unsubscribe at any time by emailing me.

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 <https://tikhg.blogspot.com>

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

Become a member of the Irish Kennedy Heritage Group and share your story.

Tom Kennedy

Email: tom.irishkennedyheritagegroup@gmail.com

Mob: 353876545646.