

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.

Mailing List No.86 June. 2022



Chief Rody Kennedy

Fáilte / Welcome.

Covid Update from Ireland- Clan Gathering

Life in Ireland has more or less returned to pre-pandemic normal. While there are still many cases of Covid in the country, hospital admissions have dramatically reduced and most restrictions have been lifted. Travel and social activity has resumed albeit with a heightened sense of caution and anxiety.

This improved situation has come too late to organise a Clan Gathering for 2022, hopefully we will be in a position to organise something for 2023.

Hopefully things have also improved wherever you are reading this and that the resilience of the Kennedys has proved equal to the threat of the virus.

Our mission to preserve and disseminate the rich history of the Irish Kennedys continues and Kennedy descendants continue to seek our assistance in making connections with their ancestral roots.

New Members.

- **John Kennedy** made contact from Nova Scotia in Canada and then managed to visit Ireland in late May with wife Carol, daughter Laura and brother, Paul. They included a visit to “Kennedy country” in their travels taking in the Kennedy Display in Nenagh and Lackeen castle on their way. His family knowledge is quite skimpy but he does know that his ancestor Cornelius Kennedy, born c 1775 sailed from Cork and arrived in New Brunswick in 1827. He was accompanied by 2 sons –Lawrence and Martin. Not a lot to go on but the occurrence of the Cornelius, Lawrence and Martin names might be a clue to someone.
- **Daphne Erikson** was in contact from Australia re a very interesting character from her ancestry –Thomas Kennedy, The Irish Rebel.

Thomas Kennedy was my 4Xggrandfather. He was convicted in Dublin in 1796 of high treason against the Crown and exiled to Australia. His family was active in the resistance and Thomas was a United Irishman and Defender. His Oath was in his fob at the time of his arrest. He was arrested early one morning at the Kennedy family's china and crystal shop on St.

Stephen's St and Drury Lane in Dublin.

His co-conspirator/s were hung, Thomas was spared due to his age, thirteen years old at the time of his arrest.

He was shipped to Australia out of Cobh/Queenstown in December 1796, arriving in Sydney Cove mid 1797 at age 14.

I have abundant information on his life in Australia, and records of his trial, but cannot locate any finite details of his birth date, place, or parents.

We know he was living in Dublin at the time of his arrest & conviction, but not where he was born.

I am hoping your group may be able to fill in some blanks?

As always if you have any information which may be of benefit to John or Daphne get in touch with me and I will arrange direct contact.

Kennedys returning from far afield to their Irish roots.

(The wheel turns full circle)

For some Kennedys the wheel has turned full circle. Brian and Lucinda Kennedy from Ballan, Victoria, Australia travelled to Ireland in 2019 for our Clan gathering and to research their family roots in Ireland. Indeed they wrote a fabulous account of their experiences of the Clan Gathering which I featured in newsletter no.75

So impressed were they that they took the decision to re-locate to Ireland and as of September 2021 are now permanently resident in the premier county of Tipperary.



Brian and Lucinda in Kennedy Country during our 2019 Clan Gathering.

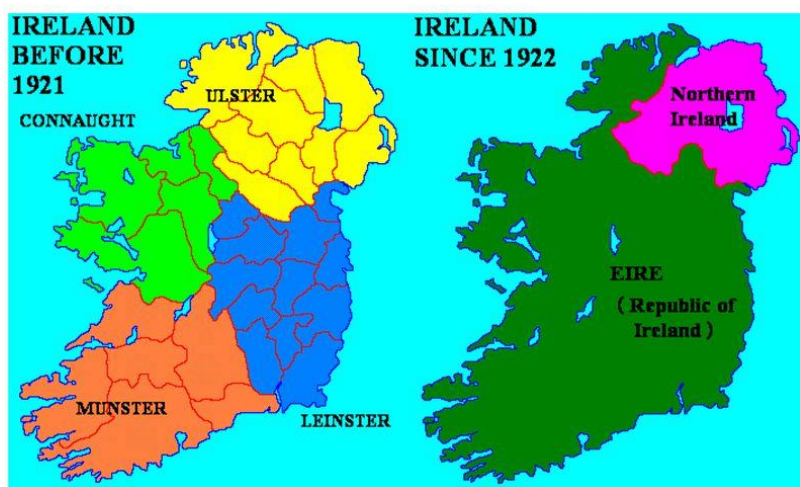
Sean Eamonn Kennedy and Kathryn from Seattle, Washington State U.S.A. also came to Ireland in 2019 to research Sean's Kennedy ancestors in Ballyhane, Templederry, Co. Tipperary. They too have taken the decision to move from Seattle (back) to Ireland and are currently checking out suitable locations in Ireland and getting valuable advice from Brian and Lucinda as they follow their dream of living in the land of their ancestors.



Sean and Kathryn at the I.K.H.G. Display in Nenagh 2022

Looking back 100 years –Ireland in June 1922

1922: The Partition of the Island



The month of June 1921 was a sad time in the history of Ireland. Tensions had been simmering between the pro-treaty and anti-treaty factions since the Dail in January 1921 had

ratified the treaty between Ireland and Britain which had brought an end to the War of Independence. A general election in April 1921 amounted almost to a referendum on the treaty, and pro-treaty candidates had a resounding success in this election. The new Free State government decided in June 1921 to move against anti-treaty republicans who had occupied a number of buildings notably the Four Courts in Dublin city centre. When the occupiers refused an order to vacate, the building was shelled on 28th June 1922 and the Civil War had begun.



The attack on the Four Courts lasted three days before the anti-treaty republicans surrendered but the Civil War continued around the country for the rest of 1922.

One of the lasting legacies of that Four Courts battle was the destruction of most of the public records which were housed in the basement of the building complex. This, of course, has made it much more difficult for people to research their Irish family history.

Kennedy Folklore

Many superstitions persisted down through the generations in Ireland having been passed on orally from one generation to the next. One that made a great impression on me as a young lad growing up in the countryside was the sacredness of the fairy forts. These were circular mounds, usually heavily overgrown with shrubs and whitethorn trees and it was always stressed not to interfere in any way with these forts for fear of disturbing and antagonising the fairies who lived within. Tales abounded of the misfortunes that had befallen people who had either wittingly or unwittingly intruded upon these “sacred” spots. Brian Patrick Kennedy has featured one such story among other Kennedy Folklore in his 1st book “The Irish Kennedys-The Story of the Rebellious O Kennedys”

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 2023.

However, Brian Patrick and his oldest son, Terrence Brian, are working on another book that will dramatically change the perspective on the history of the Irish Kennedys. They are collaborating on writing a new book “Our Irish Kennedy Y-DNA Roots – Early northern Tipperary origins in the first millenium”. There were Kennedys in North Tipperary earlier than Cinneidi, stepfather of Brian Boru. The following passage is from the new book:

The science of Y DNA provides a startling fresh perspective on our Kennedy family resilience and origins. Not only does it provide a new way of looking at the diverse nature of what constitutes being a Kennedy but when combined with extant historical records it provides a new and rich understanding of Kennedy connections and origins in Northern Tipperary in the first millennium that date back well before the birth of Christ. This new baseline also allows further insights to be drawn from our current understanding of the family history in the second millennium.

So these will then be added to the impressive list of publications by Brian already available.

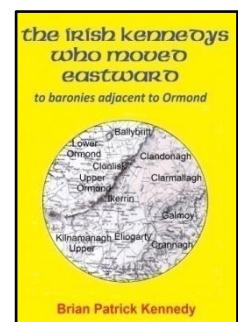
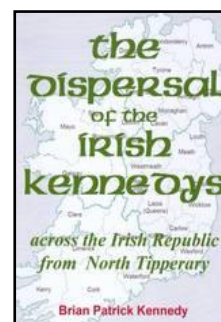
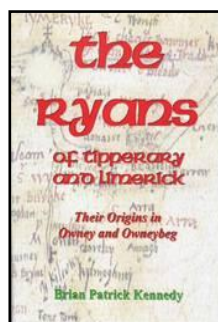
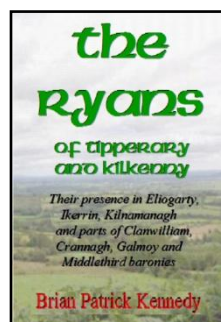
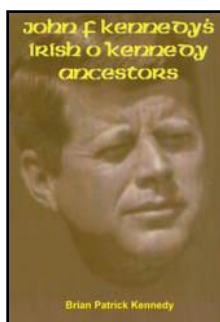
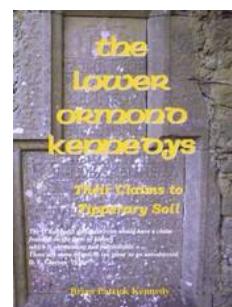
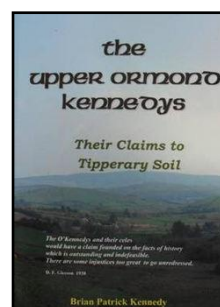
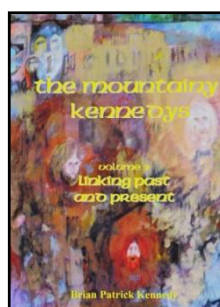
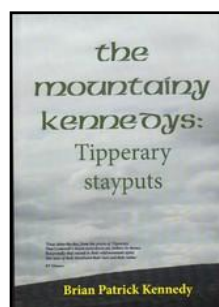
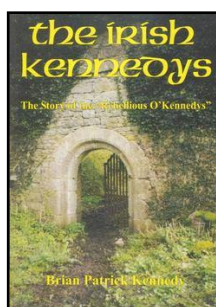
In the meantime “The Ryans of Ireland”- from their origins in Uí Dróna and Uí Cheinnselaig is now available from the bookshops listed below..

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>

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

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