



## **Ireland** <sup>xo</sup> Reaching Out

Vol 2 Issue 7 July 2013

Welcome to our latest newsletter featuring highlights of this month's news on Ireland XO!

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- **Calling all the Tribes of Galway!**
- **See our new Parish Liaisons & International Volunteers**
- **Don't forget to Like and Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!**

Please spread the word about the programme by sending this newsletter on to others whom you think may be interested so they can keep up-to-date with Ireland XO developments.

Best regards

Ireland XO Team

### **Ireland XO nominated for Pride of Place Award**



On June 21st 2013, Ireland Reaching Out were adjudicated for the **Pride of Place Competition** on June 21st 2013 in the Loughrea Hotel and Spa. Pride of Place is an all-island competition where community groups have the unique opportunity to showcase specific pride initiatives which will have long lasting and positive impacts in their community. Activities can include developing community centres, tackling social exclusion issues, establishing residents associations or the providing of childcare facilities. The competition is

### **Henry Healy features on Irish National TV with Miriam O Callaghan.**



hosted by Co-operation Ireland under its Local Authority Programme. Prizes are awarded for various categories. There are 5 population categories, and other categories such as such as Community Response to Safety, Community Tourism Initiative, Community Health Initiative, Housing Estate and an Island category. This was an unique opportunity for volunteers in the parishes of Galway to showcase specific initiatives and connections they had made. Ireland XO have been nominated by Galway County Council under the new category `Diaspora`. Three presentations were given, Ireland XO national expansion, Galway updates and a parish update. Jennifer Mee from Florida engaged with the judges via skype and gave her input and how Ireland XO volunteers assisted in connecting with her relatives in Glenamaddy, Co Galway. .

### **Co Offaly launches Historic Graveyard and Memorial Recording Workshop in July 2013**

Henry Healy, Ireland XO Community Activation Officer was a guest on Saturday Night on RTE 1. Miriam O Callaghan has returned for the 9th series of her hugely successful summer chat show. The programme was broadcast live Saturday night June 22nd at 9.40pm. Please see the video [here!](#)

## **Landed estates & Irish society**



**Moore Institute, NUI Galway  
13 - 14 June 2013**

### **The Landed Estates and Irish Society Seminar June 2013**

Cynthia O Connor and Emma Carty attended the Moore Institute, NUI Galway on June 13 and 14th 2013 for the Landed estates and Irish Society Seminar. Thursday June 13th covered various interesting topics, including landlordism, evictions and the Great Famine, while Friday 14th looked at Cultures, accessing the estate records, class, gender



Co Offaly launches Historic Graveyard and Memorial Recording.

8th-9th July: Banagher area (e.g. Lusmagh)

10th-11th July: Shinrone area (e.g. Kilmurry/Glebe)

15th-16th July: Edenderry area (e.g. Ballymacwilliam)

17th-18th July: Daingean area (e.g. Kilclonfert)

Get trained in the latest low-cost high-tech surveying methods as well as recording your own local oral histories. Historic graveyards will be surveyed from approx. 9.30 to 4pm – all welcome for the full two days or whatever time you can spare.

Workshops will be in two parts – the morning in the graveyard, trying out practical techniques, and if the weather is against us we may spend the afternoon indoors learning about technological aspects of data entry and web publishing. You will learn how to build a multi-media online record of the historic graves in your own areas and in the process, become familiar with using the latest digital technology in use for surveying historic graveyards. Using the latest technology, training will be on all aspects of memorial recording including

Henry presented the programme and spoke of how communities in Ireland "want to hear your stories, the journey of your ancestors and make you feel part of the community here in Ireland again". The audience engaged with the presentation with their stories of the searches from Australia, USA and within Ireland and how they hoped they could make that connection through Ireland XO.

The lecture series continues through July & August each Tuesday and Thursday and details can be found [here](#).



### **Carlow XO launches Free Genealogy and Local History Training**

An information evening and Presentation on Ireland XO was held on Thursday June 13th in

digital photography, GPS and web-based mapping.

Email or text your full contact details (parish, mobile number and email address) to [doshea@irelandxo.com](mailto:doshea@irelandxo.com) or (085) 1925466. (Nominal charge of €10 to cover materials & equipment).

### The O Malley Clan gather in Murroe Co Limerick with our Parish Volunteer Denis!



On Sunday the ninth of June 2013 a mini

O'Malley Gathering was held in Crokers Restaurant in Murroe, Co.Limerick,Ireland. Thirty or so O' Malley cousins met to celebrate the visit of Philip O' Malley and his wife Pauline from Dunedin in New Zealand. Philip is a grandson of James O' Malley who was born and reared in Murroe. James went to New Zealand with his wife Elizabeth O' Malley nee Power and their then six children in 1903, another four children were born in New Zealand. They established a farm in Central

Lord Bagenal Hotel, Leighlinbridge, Co Carlow. My People, My Place, My Heritage is the name of the training course available free to people who volunteer to engage in the Ireland Reaching Out programme in Carlow.

It will offer training on the required knowledge, skills and resource to trace the international diaspora, thus provides participant with all the required skills to `Reach Out`. The training programme includes 11 training sessions, 4 workshops and 2 field trips. It will cover topics such as genealogy, local history and the built heritage, the natural heritage and biodiversity, local heritage auditing, tourism and event planning. If you are interested in finding out more please contact [jdoyle@irelandxo.com](mailto:jdoyle@irelandxo.com).

### German TV ARD seeks to interview those returning to their



### roots in Ireland

German TV seeks to interview visitors to Ireland, who have found their ancestral roots ...The German TV channel, ARD, (The German version of the BBC!) is doing a documentary and is looking for anyone who has returning visitors later in July, please let us know. This is a great opportunity for Ireland XO volunteers to show case the work and

Otago near the town of Ranfurly. The first photo shows James and Elizabeth with their ten children in New Zealand. The photo was taken c. 1910. Philip's father Charles is seated in the front (right hand side),

The photograph (2) was taken at the grave of his great great grandparents Thomas Fleming and Mary Fleming nee Cahill. All the others in the photo are also great great grandsons of Thomas and Mary Fleming. Photograph No. 3. Shows Philip and Pauline O' Malley at Murroe on 9th of June 2013 with cousins Ted O' Malley and John O' Malley .



**Call For On-Line Marketing Volunteers**

research they have done and also highlight their community.

ARD (full name: Arbeitsgemeinschaft der öffentlich-rechtlichen Rundfunkanstalten der Bundesrepublik Deutschland – "Consortium of public-law broadcasting institutions of the Federal Republic of Germany") is a joint organization of Germany's regional public-service broadcasters. It was founded in 1950 in West Germany to represent the common interests of the new, decentralized, post-war broadcasting services — in particular the introduction of a joint television network. The ARD is the world's second largest public broadcaster after the British Broadcasting Corporation, with a budget of €6.3 billion and 23,000 employees.

ARD maintains and operates a national television network, called Das Erste ("The First") to differentiate it from ZDF, a.k.a. "das Zweite" ("The Second"), which was founded in 1961. The ARD network began broadcasting on 31 October 1954 under the name of Deutsches Fernsehen ("German Television"), becoming Erstes Deutsches Fernsehen ("First German Television") with a corporate redesign in 1984; it adopted its current name (Das Erste) in 1994. ARD's programs are aired over its own terrestrial broadcast network, as well as via cable, satellite and IPTV.

Ireland XO are looking for International On Line Marketing Volunteers, to research Irish special interest groups / organisations in your state or province and then to distribute Ireland XO digital brochure materials via email or online. More information can be found [here](#).

## New Parish Liaisons

We have new parish liaisons this month as well. Make sure your civil parish has a profile on our website [here](#). If you want to volunteer to be a parish liaison for your own parish or a number of parishes please reply to this email [here](#)

Christine Lane	Cloyne Cork
Sheila Considine	Kilmaley
Clare	
Eamonn Horan	
Roscrea Offaly	
Dick Conroy	
Roscrea Offaly	
Ann Gerety Smyth	
Ardagh Longford	
Phyl Irwin	
Kilacdonough Cork	
Shane Burke	Monasterevin
Kildare	
Jim O'Hare	Carlingford
Lough Heritage Trust	Carlingford Louth
Crea Brazil	Carrigaline
Cork	



## Bournea parish in Tipperary begins to Reach Out!

### **Bourney / Bournea Parish in Tipperary hold successful meeting.**

The rural parish of Bourney / Bournea in Co Tipperary invited the Community Activation Team to visit them and to present to the parish group on what Ireland XO can do for the local area and what the local area can do for their ancestral sons and daughters. Henry Healy visited from the national office to present and explained the benefits to the assembled of getting involved, highlighting there were volunteer roles for everyone with a wide variety of interests. Henry spoke of the close working relationship with North Tipperary Leader Partnership and how their training programme had benefited the Bourney Parish today and many more communities in North Tipperary. In the audience was a member of the diaspora returning for his 21st visit to Ireland from Australia Mr Brian Kennedy, Brian spoke of how programmes like Ireland XO are invaluable to people on the search for their

## **New International Volunteers**

We have new volunteers overseas who are working at promoting Ireland Reaching Out. We are always recruiting people to assist us in promoting Ireland XO, so if you are in the USA, UK, Australia, Canada etc please assist us. If you are interested in volunteering from abroad please contact us [here](#).

Jeri Dalka - USA - Indiana

Fabian Costello - Argentina

Merv Scott - Canada - Victoria BC

Johannah Fine - USA - Philadelphia

Ashley Brown - USA - Virginia

## **TG4 Series Tar Abhaile films in Limerick**

Irish roots he said " I wish there was an organisation like this when I started to research my Irish ancestry over 20 years ago"

## **Caroline Kennedy visits Bruff!**

**MEMORABLE DAY FOR BRUFF AS  
CAROLINE KENNEDY COMES HOME**





June 2013 saw the TG4 series **Tar Abhaile (Come Home)** continue its filming schedule with more of the communities around the country taking part in the Ireland Reaching Out programme 2013. This time the **Tar Abhaile** team, lead by presenter Evelyn O'Rourke spent time in Lough Gur and Knockainey in Co. Limerick.

Lough Gur XO welcomed home Bryan Lynch from Queensland Australia whose grandfathers' father, Denis Lynch emigrated to Queensland in 1882. Having spent many years researching his family history and following on from a previous trip to Ireland in 2006, which he describes himself as a trip where "*I came away empty handed*", the community give him and his wife a truly warm welcome and brought him a *whole lot closer* than he might have expected to his Irish roots. And in Knockainey XO

June 21st 2013, will be a day in the history of the town of Bruff that generations will speak of for years to come. It was the day when the dream of a small group of people became a reality they succeeded in bringing the daughter of an American President back to her roots. It was a moving moment when the cavalcade of Caroline Kennedy, the only daughter of former American President John Fitzgerald Kennedy travelled along the palatine Road early on Friday afternoon. Ms. Kennedy was retracing the footsteps of her great grandfather Thomas Fitzgerald when he left his home and set out for a new life in the land of opportunity over one hundred and sixty years ago. Maurice Lyons Ireland XO volunteer reports it was a great event for the parish of Bruff. Bruff Heritage Group, a small dedicated group of six, succeeded in accomplishing a task that cities and much larger towns dreamed of with some very influential backers and supporters, yet on this occasion it was the small group in Bruff that managed one of the biggest coups in the country by bring Caroline Kennedy home. The Kennedys stopped at the Fitzgerald ancestral home at The Pike where plaque to the Fitzgerald family was unveiled and the

were delighted to welcome back Marsha Thomas from Chicago, who decided to follow up a trip made last year whereupon she was introduced to her oldest living relation, Tommy Cooke, 99years old. This time she brought her husband Austin and two kids, Tom and Katie to introduce them to Tommy and to the area that her grandmothers parents, Brigid Barry and James Cooke hailed from. Wishing to build up more of a picture and understanding of both her Cooke and Barry ancestors, Marsha, even with her genealogical experience



was truly stunned when the community revealed what they had found out...

Tar Abhaile is produced by Red Pepper Productions for TG4 and will air in the Autumn 2013.

For more information click [here](#).

Fitzgerald Trail opened. There she was met by a number of locals including a cousin, Pat Moloney from Knockainey. Caroline Kennedy and her cousin Sydney Lawford McKelvy and their families were welcomed by Bruff Heritage Group chairman Paul Dennehy and members of the group. Hundreds had gathered at the church to greet the visitors and they received warm greetings from all. At the entrance to the church they were greeted by Canon James Costello and Fr Foley and shown to the sacristy where local woman Joan Dempsey had the honour of taking the family through the parish records, right back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. After the church service, the Kennedys along with members of the Bruff Heritage Group were invited as guests to a lunch hosted by Limerick County Council in the Old Church of Ireland building. It was a memorable event for 84 year old Bruff native Joe Shanahan who travelled down the Main Street of Bruff, the same street that he had played on as a child many years ago but on this occasion he was travelling under Garda escort. Joe Shanahan has spent most of his life in America. Little did he think then, as he played on those streets, that one day he leading the daughter of President Kennedy. Accompanying Joe was Michael Cronin, the man who first came up with the idea of forming a heritage group in Bruff with the intention of promoting Bruff through its heritage. Could he have ever imagined back in 2008, that such an idea was going to become such a success.

## Gathering the Tribes of Galway for the International Oyster & Seafood Festival, 26th - 29th September 2013



The manager of the Galway Oyster Festival are trying to create the largest ever gathering of the Tribes of Galway at this year's festival! See the video link [here](#). They are calling for overseas representatives of each Tribe (proven by name or historical link) to take part in an oyster eating competition or 'feast off'. Essentially we are looking to create a large scale Galway reunion with lots of different members of the Galway Tribes to come together and maybe find a long lost relative or two! To enter is simple: if you are linked in name OR to a descendant of Athy, Blake, Bodkin, Browne, D'Arcy, Deane, Ffont, Ffrench, Joyce, Kirwan, Lynch, Martin, Morris or Skerritt - you are eligible to enter the new competition (spelling variations accepted). There is no charge to enter the event but competitors must be over

### TREE PLANTING AND WALK

It was across the road straight after the meal to the Morning Star Park, where Caroline Kennedy and her sister Sydney Lawford was greeted by Maurice Lyons Volunteer with Ireland XO and of Bruff Tidy Towns. Here, Caroline Kennedy planted a tree in memory of her relative and founding member of Bruff Tidy Towns Committee the late Lenore Quilty. Sydney Lawford planted a tree in memory of all deceased members of the Fitzgerald Family.

The Kennedys then took a walk up along the Main Street in Bruff and viewed some of the locations where their grandmother Rose Fitzgerald stayed when she visited the town in 1908 accompanied by her father John "Honeyfitz" Fitzgerald who also visited Bruff in 1938 along with his wife Mary (nee Hannon) who also came from Bruff.

As they turned the corner for the courthouse, the visitors were met with a display of Irish dancing and local musicians Deise Ceoil.

Caroline Kennedy and family also viewed an exhibition by Vicki Jackson of old costumes from the Irish Theatre. She spoke with retired school principal Tom Bulfin who along with Bruff Heritage Group are staging an exhibition during The Gathering of letters sent to and from Bruff over the last two hundred years. The Kennedys expressed great interest in a display by local man Denis O Connor, who after years of collecting old Irish memorabilia has decided to put his collection on display

18 and non-resident in Ireland.

Interested competitors register here via [email](#) . In addition to the Feast Off, visitors to the 59th Galway International Oyster & Seafood Festival will have a chance to take part in the festival parade as one of the famous families of Galway, enjoy a Tribes of Galway walking tour or attend one of a number of talks about the history of the Tribes of Galway and their influence on both the city and the world at large.

under the name of Old Irish Ways. Denis had put together a scene which would be similar to that of what Thomas Fitzgerald lived in back in 1850's.

*Thanks to Matt O Callaghan of the Vale Star for providing information and photo.*

**Our mailing address is:**

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