

"Grommoder"

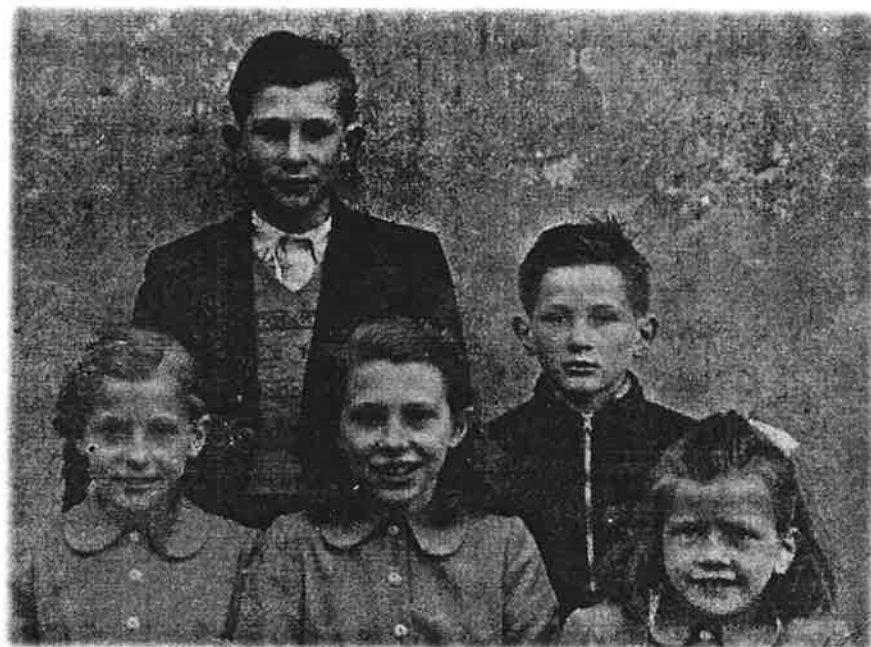
by Nóra O' Sullivan... retold by her granddaughter
(Missane Drimoleague
Co. Cork) Nóra O' Driscoll

My Grandmother's name was Kate. When I was 4 or 5 yrs she came to live with us as there were too many people in her own home, (there were 10 children and an older lady who was called "Auntie" and other older relations.) We called her "Grommoder" as we probably could not say Grandmother. She had grey hair which she wore in a bun and always wore black loose frocks and skirts. As I was the youngest it was thought that she spoiled me and I remember when I'd cry she would gather me to her and say "come here my own good girleen". I still remember the smell of her perfume! Some times she missed her home and would say "I'll be going north home" she wore thin rim glasses and was always knitting or sewing. I thought she was very old. When I was 7 she got sick and we knew she was near the end of her life. She died in her own room and we were sent to our neighbours and were told to say "Grandmother died at 5 to 5 this evening". My father stopped the clock then at 5 to 5. We had "the wake" at home. It was a very big event in a child's life to witness it. All the neighbours and relations came there was lots of food and probably drink for the men and something called snuff. It was like pepper, the men would sniff it and say "the Lord have mercy on her". We had no car so we went to the funeral in a hired car.....



Kate and Nóra

That was a real treat. there was no seatbelts or child car seats so we just all piled in it....



Nóra's
brothers
and sisters

(the
McCarthy
family,
Knockgorrm)

Back row:

L to r...

Andrew and
neily

Front row:

L to r....

Jo, Kathleen,
and nóra

This was the first time I had ever travelled in a car. Another thing I remember was that my Grandmother wore a fur scarf and when she was not looking my older siblings used to frighten me with it and I thought it looked like a fox.... This had completely slipped my mind until my own children were doing the same thing to their younger sister.

My "Grommader" worked so hard as there was no electricity or running water. She had to collect water from the well and cook in the open fire.

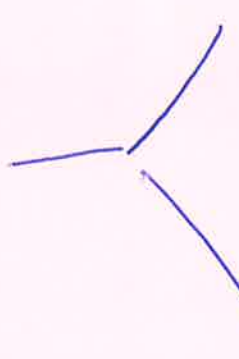
After all these many years I still miss her.



Family Tree by nora O' Driscoll

John O' Driscoll
 Ellen O' Driscoll m.

Driscoll



Lawrence. Michael.

Noel, O' Driscoll

m.

Nóra, Regan

Sheila. Dan
 Molly. Elish.

Jerome O' Regan

Elizabeth Keating
 (Lil)



Willie O Sullivan
 Helena m. Hurley



Joe. Katy. Mary. Sheila. Helena. John.
 Una m. Sullivan
 Pat. Sullivan

James m. Nora
 McCarthy McCarthy

Andrew Neil
 Joe Kathleen

Nora McCarthy

Helena Denis Imelda Angela John

Noel O' Driscoll

Michael Denis Helen David Joe John
 m.

Clare Sullivan

Nóra Osín Bríd Fionn
 O' Driscoll

