

*The area where Faithlegg Church stands was called Coolbunnia and Faithlegg Castle also stood there, the seat of the Aylward Family for 500 years. The Aylwards family had been granted Faithlegg by King Henry 11 in 1177 and held it until dispossessed in 1654 by Cromwell , who granted it to William Bolton.*

*The House was built in 1783 by Cornelius Bolton, who had inherited the Faithlegg Estate from his father in 1779. He sold the House to the Power family in 1819 after he went bankrupt. Nicholas Mahon Power married his wife Margaret Mahon and her dowry enabled him to buy Faithlegg House & Estate. On the death of Nicholas Power in 1873 his eldest son Patrick Joseph (Pat) and his wife lady Olivia Nugent came to live in the house and commissioned Samuel Roberts to alter and enlarge the family mansion. The stags head and arms is the Power family crest.*

*The House passed to Hubert Power, the only son of Pat & Lady Olivia and in 1920 upon Huberts death to his daughter Eily Power. In 1935 Eily and her husband sold the House to the De la Salle order of teaching brothers.*

#### ***The Roseville Room's – Restaurant***

*Before Cornelius Bolton built Faithlegg House Hotel in 1783 a smaller house stood on its site. Cornelius's father rented it to the Penrose family, who were the founders of the Waterford Glass Factory. They called the house Roseville*

#### ***The Minaun Room – our main Function room***

*The Minaun is the name of the hill that stands between Faithlegg and the village of Cheekpoint. It is nearly 150 metres high, and the woodland walks along its slopes provide spectacular river views. Five counties can be seen from its summit.*

#### ***The Adelaide Blake Suite - Large meeting room***

*Adelaide (1834- 1907) was the youngest daughter of Nicholas & Margaret Power. The mayor of Waterford, John A. Blake courted her, but her father thought the marriage was unsuitable and forbade it. After her father's death, Mr Blake sought her hand again and her brother granted his permission (Adelaide was then aged 40!) When Blake died thirteen years later, Adelaide commemorated him with a stained glass window in Faithlegg Church. She is remembered with fondness by the people of Cheekpoint, for whom she built a reading Room*

#### ***Cornelius Bolton Room***

*Cornelius Bolton (1751- 1829) inherited the Faithlegg estate from his father in 1779. He built Faithlegg House in 1783. He was a very progressive landlord and did much to improve the lot of his tenants. He established a little port at the nearby village of Cheekpoint, where he built a textile factory and a hotel. He also started a cobalt mine in Faithlegg. Unfortunately all these enterprises failed and he went bankrupt in 1819. Faithlegg House was then bought by the Power family*

#### ***Nicholas Power Room***

*Nicholas Mahon power (1787- 1873) inherited Ballinkall near Waterford and married in 1818 a wealthy Dublin heiress named Margaret Mahon. Her dowry enabled him to buy Faithlegg from Cornelius Bolton. He built the Catholic Church there in 1824, adding the*

*pretty steeple shortly before he died. A man of great wealth, he contributed generously to charities in Waterford and represented the country in parliament for twelve years.*

### ***The Margaret Power Room***

*Margaret Power was the only daughter and heir to Nicholas Mahon of Dublin. She married Nicholas Power in 1818 and the couple came to live in Faithlegg. It was not a happy marriage and in 1860 she returned to live in Dublin, where she died in 1866. Her room was originally known as the Blue Room. According to family tradition, her spirit occasionally returns to this room in search of her jewellery!*

### ***The John Roberts Room***

*John Roberts (1714- 1796) was a gifted Waterford architect who designed the cities two cathedrals, city hall, chamber of commerce and infirmary. He leased land from Cornelius Bolton at Faithlegg, where he built his own house which he called Roberts Mount. He built mansions for local gentry and was probably the builder of Faithlegg House in 1783.*

### ***Lady Olivia Room***

*Lady Olivia Jane Nugent was a daughter of the ninth earl of Westmeath. She married Pat Power in 1859. They lived first at Woodlands and then (from 1873) at Faithlegg. A keen gardener, it was she who laid out the grounds at both houses.*

### ***Samuel Roberts Room***

*Samual Ussher Roberts (1821- 1900) was the great grandson of John Roberts, the probable builder of Faithlegg House. He built many great houses for the gentry of Ireland, most famously the magnificent Kylemore Abbey in Connemara. During the 1870s he worked on Faithlegg House, transforming the Georgian residence of the Bolton's to a massive Victorian mansion, complete with the arms and stags head crest of the Powers.*

### ***1<sup>st</sup> Floor Suite- The New Geneva Room***

*In 1783 Cornelius Bolton was involved in a scheme to establish a colony of emigrant Genevese artisans & intellectuals near passage East. The architect James Gandon was employed to build the City of New Geneva to house them. If the scheme had been successful the economy of the south of Ireland would have been transformed. It failed mainly due to capital. The city of New Geneva became a military barrack & internment camp during the 1798 rebellion*

### ***2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Suite The Ballycanavan Room***

*The Adjacent demesne to Faithlegg is called Ballycanavan, and the Bolton family lived there before building Faithlegg House in 1783. Parts of the old mansion house date back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. It is now a ruin.*