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Newsletter

1916-2016 Lynch Commemoration News

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new website launch

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DIARMUID LYNCH DISCOVERED ON AN 80 YEAR OLD NEWSREEL FILM



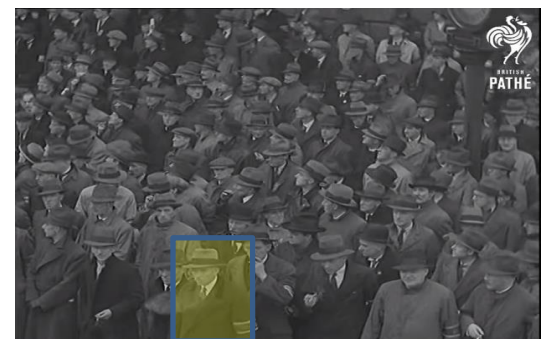
The first and so far only film record of Diarmuid Lynch has been discovered.

In the British Pathe Newsreel Archives is an eighty year old black and white 3 minute 40 second reel titled "Easter Week Demonstrations, Dublin" dated April 21, 1935.

Aproximately 2 minutes 44 seconds into this newsreel, the 57 year old Diarmuid Lynch can be seen. While the clip of him is a mere 4 seconds long, it remains the only known film of him discovered to date. The clip is from the 19th Easter Sunday 1916 celebrations and show him smoking, wearing an overcoat, hat and newly issued 1916 Veterans armband while watching proceedings with his GPO comrades on Dublin's O'Connell Street. The final few frames captured him eighty years ago, turning to look directly towards the camera at 2 minutes 48 seconds.

You can view the newsreel through the link below or click the 'Easter Week Demonstrations' illustration opposite.

<http://www.britishpathe.com/video/easter-week-demonstrations>



1915 adverts

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Tracton - from Lewis's Topographical Dictionary. Published London 1837.



"Tracton, a parish in the barony of Kinnalea, County of Cork and province of Munster, four miles south from Carrigaline on the road to Robert's Cove and on that from Ringabella to Kinsale; containing 2838 inhabitants.

An abbey of Cistercian monks was founded here by the family McCarthy in 1224, the monks having been brought from Whiteland in Carmarthenshire, South Wales, called also 'De Alba Landa' and 'Albo Tractu', whence the name of this parish is thought to be derived. In 1375, Edward III, confirmed the several possession which had been granted to it. According to Dr. Smith, great numbers of pilgrims annually visited this place on Holy Thursday, to pay their devotions to a piece of the real cross that the monks were reputed to possess, which was presented to Barry Og and preserved here with religious veneration until the suppression of the monasteries. The Abbott regularly sat as a Lord of Parliament.

In 1568, the abbey and its possessions were granted by Queen Elizabeth to Henry Guilford and Sir James Craig, on payment of a fine of seven pounds and fifteen shillings; the latter afterwards assigned his interest in it to Richard, First Earl of Cork, who obtained a grant of it in the 7th year of James the First; it now forms part of the estate of the Earl of Shannon.

The parish comprises 2558 statute acres, as appointed under the Tithes Act. The land in very good and is chiefly in dairy farms; about one fourth is arable producing mostly wheat and potatoes; the manure used is principally sea sand, which is brought to Minane Bridge or Ringabella Creek in boats manned with 3 men each; where also sea cola, the fuel mostly used, is landed. Near Tracton is a small bog. At Annacarriga, the property of the Earl of Shannon * are valuable lead mines, worked some years since but now discontinued. At Ringabella are very extensive works, conducted by an English company of workers and employing upwards of 400 persons. The ore raised is very good. Not far from the church are rocks of excellent slate, but the quarries are very indifferently worked.

The river is navigable for hookers up to Minane Bridge, about 3 miles from the bay; it is very intricate on account of the serpentine course it takes, but not dangerous. A canal has been contemplated, to commence at the bridge and to continue through the valley to Belgooly, about 10 miles, which would be very beneficial, as great quantities of manure are obliged to be carried overland. The gentlemen's seats are Ringabella, the residence of S.A. Austin, Esquire; Gurnagreena, of L. Shea, Esquire, Broomley of G. Daunt, Esquire and Fountinstown of F. Hodder, Esquire.

The living is an impropriate cure, in the diocese of Cork united to those of Kilmoney, Kilpatrick, Ballyfoyle, Kinnure and Clontead, and in the patronage of the Earl of Shannon, in whom the rectory is impropriate; the tithes amount to £403.10.0, wholly payable to the impropriator. The income of the perpetual curate arises from £25.0.0 from the Earl of Shannon, and £50.0.0 from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The glebe house was erected by aid of a gift of £450 and a loan of £50 in 1814, from the last board of first fruits; the glebe comprises 24 acres; both the house and land have been given up to the original proprietor from whom the board purchased the land, although £650.0.0 has been expended in building and £500.0.0 as a fine, so as to reduce the rent of the land.

The church, surrounded by a grove of trees, at the bottom of a deep valley, forms a pleasing picturesque object; it is a plain building, with a small tower and low spire erected on the site of the ancient abbey, by aid of a loan of £1,000 in 1817, from the same board. In the Roman Catholic divisions, the parish is the head of a union or district, also called Kinnalea, comprising this parish and those of Nohoval, Kilpatrick, Ballyfoyle and Kinnure, and containing two chapels. That at Minane Bridge is a large neat edifice, recently enlarged and improved by subscription. About 200 children are educated in the parochial and two other schools.

Inconsiderable portions of the abbey may be traced; and numerous sculptured stones scattered around the neighbourhood, afford some idea of the magnificent character of the structure. Tracton gave the title of Baron to James Dennis, Chief Baron of the Exchequer in 1781, which title is now extinct; a splendid monument of white marble has been erected to his memory in the cathedral at Cork. Chalybeate spring exists here but is not now used. "

From a paper 'typed at 1 Lindberg Place, Crestwood, New York. February 25, 1955 by D.B.B.' Lynch Family Archives (Identity of the writer D.B.B. is unknown but the address in New York was the residence of Richard F. and Mary Dalton.)

D.B.B. who typed the original manuscript, added in pen the following: 'The reliquary containing a portion of the true Cross, mentioned in this account, was hidden in a well in the Monastrin, Granig, and subsequently removed to a well (Tobar na Roinin) in Farranbrien.'

The complete text of the Lewis Topographical Dictionary 1837:
<http://www.libraryireland.com/topog/>

* **Earl of Shannon** is a title in the Peerage of Ireland. It was created in 1756 for the prominent Irish politician Henry Boyle, who served as Speaker of the Irish House of Commons and as Chancellor of the Irish Exchequer. The earldom is named after Shannon Park in County Cork. The first Earl was made **Viscount Boyle**, of Bandon, and **Baron Castle Martyr** at the same time, also in the Peerage of Ireland. Lord Shannon was the second son of Henry Boyle, second son of Roger Boyle, 1st Earl of Orrery, third surviving son of Richard Boyle, 1st Earl of Cork. He was succeeded by his son, the second Earl. He served as Master-General of the Ordnance for Ireland and as Vice-Treasurer for Ireland. In 1786 he was created **Baron Carleton**, of Carleton in the County of York, in the Peerage of Great Britain. This title gave him and the later Earls an automatic seat in the British House of Lords. The third Earl, son of the second, notably served as Lord Lieutenant of County Cork. On his death the titles passed to his son, the fourth Earl, who briefly represented County Cork in the House of Commons. As of 2014 the titles are held by the fourth Earl's great-great-grandson, the ninth Earl, who succeeded his father in 1963. As a descendant of both the first Earl of Orrery and the first Earl of Cork he is also in remainder to these titles. The Honorable Sir Algernon Boyle, sixth son of the fifth Earl, was an Admiral in the Royal Navy. The family seat was Castlemartyr, near Middleton, County Cork.

James Dennis, 1st Baron Tracton PC (1721–15 June 1782) was an Irish politician and judge. Dennis was the son of John Dennis, a timber merchant of Kinsale, Co. Cork, and Anne Bullen, daughter of William Bullen (d.1735), of Southwater and Bullen's Cove; Burgess of Kinsale. Dennis became a barrister and was the legal advisor to Henry Boyle, 1st Earl of Shannon. He later sat as a member of the Irish House of Commons for Rathcormack between 1761 and 1768 and for Youghal between 1768 and 1777 and also served as Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer in Ireland.^[1] He was sworn of the Irish Privy Council in 1777 and raised to the Peerage of Ireland as **Baron Tracton**, of Tracton Abbey in the County of Cork, on 4 January 1781. He was a founding member of The Monks of the Screw. In 1769, Dennis married Elizabeth Pigott, daughter of Emanuel Pigott of Chetwynd House, Co. Cork, but he died childless in 1782. The barony died with him, but he left his estates to his two nephews, who in accordance with his will changed their surname to 'Dennis' and paid an annual jointure of £1,800 to their uncle's widow. His nephews were the two sons of Thomas Swift (1711–1803), of Lynn, Co. Westmeath, who had married his only sister, Frances. Thomas Swift was the son of Meade Swift (b.1692) J.P., of Lynn, a first cousin of the famous Jonathan Swift and Sir Richard Meade (1697–1744) 3rd Bt., father of the 1st Earl of Clanwilliam. Lord Tracton left his estates in Co. Kerry to his first nephew, the Rev. Meade Swift-Dennis (1753–1837), who married Delia, daughter of Morley Saunders, of Saunders Grove, Co. Wicklow, and Martha, daughter of John Stratford, 1st Earl of Aldborough. Baron Tracton left his estates of Tracton Abbey, Co. Cork and Temple Hill House, Co. Dublin to his second nephew, John Swift-Dennis (d.1830) M.P., for Kinsale, Co. Cork.

99 years of Easter Week Commemorations

Easter Sunday April 21, 1935

Many historians argue that shortly after coming to power in the 1932 General Election, de Valera and Fianna Fáil began to secure the history of 1916 and to "strip the historical memory of the Rising of those elements which did not fit comfortably with Fianna Fáil's conservative Catholic nationalism. The Rising was rebranded as a Catholic and patriarchal pageant..."

James Moran's "Staging the Easter Rising: 1916 as Theatre" Cork University Press

As early as a year after taking office, plans were being formed to erect a 1916 memorial in the GPO and almost at once, political divisions became apparent.

"It was first mentioned publicly in the Irish Press in 1933, and a year later the idea of installing sculptor Oliver Sheppard's work 'The Death of Cúchulainn' was mooted. The provision of £1,000 for the project was approved in the Dail in August 1934, and the Minister for Finance indicated that the memorial 'was intended to be merely a feature of the building and not in any sense a national monument to commemorate 1916 in general....a subcommittee of the Government (the Easter Week Memorial Committee) was appointed to consider and propose an inscription. A year later, it was decided a section of the Proclamation would be suitable.' A Nation and not a Rabble: The Irish Revolution 1913-23 By Diarmaid Ferriter.

At a ceremony in the Rotunda Rink, the 1916 Armband became the first decoration given to veterans of the 1916 Rebellion. The armband was worn by Volunteer veterans with civilian attire on ceremonial occasions, prior to the introduction of the 1916 medal. (Note front page – Diarmuid Lynch amongst many wearing the armband)



Shortly afterwards, a very public row broke out about just who would or could be invited to the Fianna Fáil unveiling ceremony and commemorations on Easter Sunday, 21 April, 1935 - the nineteenth anniversary of the Easter Rising. Some groups and organisations such as The 1916 Club, the Old Republican Rights Association and the former Cumann na nGaedhael now renamed Fine Gael, announced that they would have nothing to do with the ceremony as most believed the Government had taken a partisan approach to the event.

Stormy dail debates and resignations followed. Four days before the anniversary, the leader of the opposition Fine Gael party, William T. Cosgrave announced he would not be attending as 'the time is not yet ripe for an adequate commemoration of 1916 which would be accompanied by that generous national enthusiasm indispensable to success....He went on, in his cleverly crafted contribution, to assert "The anniversary of Easter week is an occasion which might be suitable employed by every party in sober reflection. Bitterness, suspicion, envy, we have in abundance - as well as parties. It was for a noble purpose that men fought in Easter week, 1916, not for divisions in the homes of the people, in their associations or in the

national ranks. it is not possible to hide these national humiliations today or to over them with a veil lifted from the bronze statue of Cúchulainn'. A Nation and not a Rabble: The Irish Revolution 1913-23 By Diarmaid Ferriter.

Almost immediately, among those on a committee of veterans tasked to coordinate the 1916 veteran contribution

".... A large number of these, amongst them supporters of Cumann Na mBan, the IRA and Fine Gael, resigned when they realised the event was being hijacked by Fianna Fáil"

James Moran's "Staging the Easter Rising: 1916 as Theatre" Cork University Press

The government was criticised for appropriating the commemoration as a partisan party demonstration. On the day itself, Fianna Fáil held a party fundraising day to coincide with the anniversary. Advertisements for the pageant in the national press were placed in just the Irish Press newspaper, and in the Dail, Richard Mulcahy, a prominent 1916 veteran and Fine Gael member, asked whether it was "still held that the Government is not making it a party demonstration?" Hard line Republicans equally were dismayed that de Valera had taken government in what they considered to be an illegal state.

Eileen writes that on Easter Saturday evening 'Lynch gave an address in the GPO, during which he touched on 'what might have been' had the Aud succeeded in landing its cargo of armaments at Fenit as planned'

On a wet Easter Sunday morning, April 21, 1935 a mounted escort brought Eamon de Valera from Government Buildings to Portobello barracks for an open-air mass. Another open-air mass took place at the GPO, where a loudspeaker system had been set up, and veterans of the Rising acted as altar servers.

WF Cullen, who had commanded a contingent at the GPO during the Rising itself, addressed the crowds at the GPO. "Once again a party of armed men are advancing on this position", he announced, as a military parade arrived on O'Connell St. A company of troops at the GPO, composed of veterans rumoured to be anti-Treaty, fired a volley from the roof of the building, and Cullen announced, "the men of 1916 are about to arrive". Then 2,500 veterans arrived at the GPO, led by an armed guard, and assembled under banners labelled "Four Courts", "Liberty Hall" and "Boland's Mills", according to where they had been stationed for the Rising.

Eamon de Valera arrived by car at the GPO, and was greeted with salutes and the national anthem, before giving a speech, and then unveiling a specially commissioned statue of Cúchulainn before a party of veterans including Lynch. De Valera described the sculpture by Oliver Sheppard as: "a beautiful piece of sculpture, the creation of Irish genius, symbolising the dauntless courage and abiding constancy of our people". De Valera concluded his speech, in Irish, describing the Cúchulainn statue as a "memorial to the men who gave their lives for Ireland", and he also spoke of "the men of Easter Week". He made no mention of the contribution of women to the Rising. According to James Moran, "the women of Cumann na mBan and the Citizen Army played no part in the ceremony other than marching, and the veterans holding the old Mauser guns, the guard of honour, and the soldiers who escorted de Valera into the GPO were all exclusively male....Whilst de Valera's re-enactment seemed to unite the community in a spontaneous show of support for the Easter Rising, in reality it was carefully contrived to exclude and marginalise those women who had played their part in the rebellion."

James Moran's "Staging the Easter Rising: 1916 as Theatre" Cork University Press

There was a trumpet fanfare, another rifle volley, another rendition of the anthem, and air corps planes flew overhead. De Valera now positioned himself on a platform in front of the building, and a parade of 7,000 soldiers marched past.

Some women joined a counter-demonstration that marched past the GPO after the official commemoration. Maud Gonne had earlier told a meeting that she hoped all true republicans would not participate in the commemoration, as it was being taken over "by all the forces of the State to desecrate the memory of those who died in Easter Week". While the militant women who had participated in the Rising were excluded, or excluded themselves, de Valera was accompanied at the GPO by two women who had become nationalist figureheads, Padraic Pearse's sister (his mother, Margaret, having then recently died) and Tom Clarke's widow. Eight priests also accompanied de Valera on the platform at the GPO. Both the sculptor, Sheppard and Chief Justice were unable to attend due to ill-health, The President of the High Court and his Deputy diplomatically chose to be elsewhere after sending their apologies. The Opposition parties simply boycotted the event and the writer Oliver St. John Gogarty refused to attend writing that he considered his invitation 'an impertinence' and that he was going to refuse to support the organisers 'in playing Hamlet'

The inscription on the Cúchulainn statue consisted of just the third paragraph of the 1916 proclamation, focussing solely on the national struggle against Britain and with no mention of the wider social struggle.

John Turpin and Fintan O'Toole in the Irish Times, April 21, 2015 wrote:

Sheppard's image of the death of the mythic warrior hero Cúchulainn was meant to link cultural nationalism to political independence, "dying for Ireland" and, by implication at least, to de Valera himself. The reconstructed GPO was now, as a sceptical Samuel Beckett put it in 1938, holy ground. This was an inspired act of appropriation, because Sheppard had not created his Cúchulainn as a monument to Easter 1916. He modelled the figure from life in 1911-12 and exhibited it at the Royal Hibernian Academy in 1914. His inspiration came from the Celtic revivalist interest in the myth of Cúchulainn, taken up by figures as diverse as WB Yeats, George Russell and Patrick Pearse, who saw his school, St Enda's, re-creating the tradition of the young hero and who linked the warrior's self-sacrifice to that of Christ. Although much admired, the sculpture remained unsold in Sheppard's studio, on Pembroke Road, until, on the advice of the solicitor and art collector John L. Burke, de Valera visited the studio and designated it as the official memorial to the Rising. Cast in bronze in Brussels, it was placed in the GPO in December 1934, for unveiling in Easter Week 1935.

Just as de Valera appropriated Sheppard's sculpture for his own purposes, however, others could appropriate it for theirs. The link between Cúchulainn and the Rising is echoed in Yeats's poem The Statues: "When Pearse summoned Cúchulainn to his side, / what stalked through the Post Office?"

The government used it on the 1916 veterans' medal and on the 1966 commemorative 10-shilling piece. It also appeared on a postage stamp and on savings certificates. Images of a miniature replica continue to be used for advertising, sports trophies and to mark retirements.



Next month: the 50th anniversary commemorations 1966: Ireland, Tracton & Granig.

Rameses' gloomy mornings



Your own gloomy mornings are due to the same cause as his. The ages have made no change in the human system.

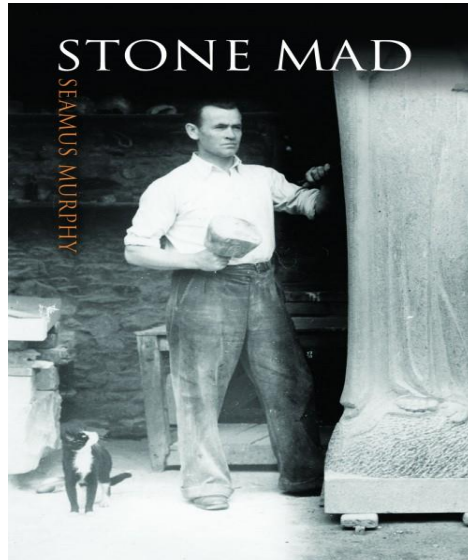
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Seamus "Stone Mad" Murphy (1907-1975)

Born in 1907 near Burnfoot, Mallow, Co. Cork, 'Stone Mad' Murphy became the most famous 20th century Irish sculptor.

Murphy had a favourite story about a child that frequented his studio in Blackpool, observing the master carving a bust out of a block of stone. When the sculpture was complete, the child asked how Murphy knew the head was in there all the time. "Seamus loved the child seeing the profundity of the work," says Padraig Trehy, the director of the film documentary, Seamus Murphy: A Quiet Revolution.

The 'revolution' in the title of the film refers to Murphy trying to find an Irish visual language. "He was trying to get away from the classical tradition, wanting to give people something closer to them. Using stone, he was creating a link back to the distant past and at the same time, looking forward by creating monuments and carvings that would long outlive him."

Trehy cites the Church of the Annunciation in Blackpool as an example of the realisation of the sculptor's artistic ambitions. Murphy designed the church, commissioned by William Dwyer of the nearby Sunbeam Wolsey factory, and erected his own statues there. "They're quite unlike the kind of statues you see in any church in Ireland," says Trehy. "They're trying to get away from those plaster-cast mass-produced painted statues that you see in many churches. While he used some gold work for painting the lettering, the statues are for the most part, polished limestone."

Encouraged by his teacher, the writer Daniel Corkery, Murphy, at the age of 14, took classes at the Crawford School of Art. From 1922 to 1930, he worked as an apprentice stone carver at O'Connell's Stone Yard in Blackpool. There were about 30 workers in the yard, including stone cutters (who were a closed family trade) and stone carvers. Murphy's entertaining book, Stone Mad, gives an account of some of the characters in the yard, complete with nicknames such as 'The Gargoyle'. Described by William Trevor as "a delightful and classically simple book", Stone Mad documents the demise of Murphy's craft, over taken by concrete.

In 1931, a scholarship enabled Murphy to go to London and then Paris where he was a student at the Academia Colarossi and studied with the Irish-American sculptor Andrew O'Connor. After returning to Cork, Murphy worked in O'Connell's stone yard and in 1934, opened his own studio nearby in Blackpool. Among his first commissions were the Clonmult memorial in Midleton and a carved figure of St Gobnait in Ballyvourney graveyard. Other commissions include Saint Brigid and the Twelve Apostles, San Francisco, bronze busts of five presidents at Áras an Uachtaráin and John F Kennedy at the US Embassy, Dublin.

Murphy married Maighread Higgins (daughter of the sculptor, Joseph Higgins). The couple had three children: knitwear designer Bebhinn Marten, writer Orla Murphy and painter and De Danann musician, Colm Murphy.

Despite his prolific output, Murphy struggled financially, supplementing his own work with headstones and some work in casting bronze plaques of which at least two exist. The first known plaque attributed to Murphy is that commemorating Diarmuid Lynch in Granig erected in 1966:



The second, commemorating the Irish war poet, Francis Ledwidge dates from 1967:



Designed and cast by Seamus Murphy, RHA – this plaque was originally placed on the nearby Slane Bridge over the River Boyne in Co. Meath in 1967, and was moved to the cottage where Francis Ledwidge was born and lived. The plaque bears an extract from Ledwidge's poem 'Lament for Thomas McDonagh', his close friend who was executed by British authorities on 3 May 1916.

Murphy's son Colm says that growing up in the family home on Wellesley Terrace, Wellington road, where he still lives, "was hard to mouth at times". He feels his father suffered when Archbishop John Charles McQuaid, displeased by the bust of him made by Murphy, instructed the Bishop of Cork, Cornelius Lucey, not to employ him. But Colm says that his father wasn't anti-clerical. "He did go to Mass and didn't tend to be critical of people or of the Church. I found a letter from him to Connie Lucey. It was in relation to when the new church in Mayfield was being built. My father was really asking for employment. The letter back from the bishop is quite eye-opening, refusing a commission. Considering the financial situation of my father, he was very even-tempered about the whole thing."

While Murphy's work was recognised by official Ireland (he became a member of the Arts Council towards the end of his life and received an honorary doctorate from the National University of Ireland), Trehy feels that he was dismissed by some for being old fashioned and possibly stuck in the realm of craft. But Murphy succeeded in his project to sidestep the artist being looked on as suspicious. "He was open about his work; he welcomed people into his studio to see it. One half of the day, he'd be cutting a headstone and for the rest of the day, he could be working on a bust." A meticulous craftsman and an artist of note, Seamus Murphy carved out a distinctive niche in an era that could be hostile to artists.

'Stone Mad' Murphy died 40 years ago this month.



To Keep in Touch

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'Pearse whistled as he came out of his cell': diary of a 1916 executioner'



The journal of a British soldier who commanded the firing squads that executed Pádraig Pearse, Thomas MacDonagh and Tom Clarke has been published recently in a new book by historian Mick O'Farrell.

Samuel Henry Lomas was born in November 1879 in the Derbyshire village of Tideswell, in England. He was the son of a coal agent whose wife was already mother to three daughters. By the 1911 census, at the age of 31, Lomas was foreman of a quarry and living in nearby Bakewell with his wife of six years, Sarah Ann, and their two-year-old son, William.

On October 31st, 1914, Lomas enlisted in the Territorial Force, as the British army's volunteer reserve was known at the time. He had served nine years with the Second Volunteer Brigade of the Sherwood Foresters regiment and was awarded the South Africa medal for his service in the Boer War.



Lomas was 36 when he set sail from Liverpool, aboard the Royal Mail steamer *Ulster*, on the evening of Tuesday, April 25th, 1916. The ship was bound for Dún Laoghaire, known then as Kingstown, and, for the next 14 days Company Sgt Maj Lomas kept a diary of his time in Ireland. As with all eyewitness accounts, particularly those written during periods of high stress and physical danger, it's not uncommon to find errors or flaws in the notes – misnamed streets and people, for example.

Lomas was involved in some of the most intense fighting of Easter Week: he supervised the building of barricades across several important streets, including Parnell Street, led storming parties to break into buildings around Moore Street, discovered the body of the O'Rahilly and participated as senior noncommissioned officer in the rebellion's first executions in Kilmainham Gaol, those of Pádraig Pearse, Thomas MacDonagh and Tom Clarke. By the time Lomas's diary ends he had less than a year to live. His military history sheet lists his service in France during the First World War as beginning on February 26th, 1917, and ending just over two months later, on April 27th. With no known grave, he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme.

The Diary: extracts from Samuel Lomas's account of Easter 1916

APRIL 24th

8.30pm Watford. Received orders to prepare for a sudden move.

APRIL 25th

3.20pm Boarded the Royal Mail steamer *Ulster* for Kingstown.

APRIL 27th

Noon Marched out from the Royal Hospital en route for Dublin Castle. All along the road, constant sniping was going on but the Royal Irish, by keeping up a constant fire in the direction of the snipers, prevented them from concentrating their fire on the column. We arrived at Dublin Castle without any casualties.

6pm 'D' Coy were ordered to proceed along Cappel Street, Parnell Street to consolidate the position held by the Royal Irish. We moved out and on crossing the bridge over the river from Parliament Street, we came under heavy fire from the Sein Feinners. We proceeded up Cappel Street and on entering Parnell Street, at every cross street we were subjected to rifle fire from the enemy. On arrival at Moore Street, I was instructed to make a barricade right across the street.

APRIL 28th

10am The men were allowed to rest in the sun when not on duty, taking care to have cover from the snipers in the locality.

Noon One 18-pounder arrived and laid facing down Moore Street in the direction of the G.P.O. Four shells were fired which caused the rebels to quake, as for some considerable time, the rifle fire was silent, with the exception of a few snipers. The artillery proved most useful, & were in my opinion mainly the cause of the surrender of the rebels.

7pm Trouble by a man several times coming to the barricades, he being full of beer

APRIL 29th

9am Received instructions to prepare for storming parties of 20 men and an officer, and to provide ourselves with tools of any description to break down the doors etc. To search the houses through to Henry Street and to make a breach when necessary in the walls.

12.30pm All ready and the assault commenced. My party were allotted to an alley with houses either side. My weapon was a bar 5'6" long 1" strength with a lever end – a beautiful tool for the purpose. I struck at one door such a smack and knocked the door complete for some 5 yards into the house, breaking hinges and lock at the same time. Sweating like the devil! (Rather with fear, excitement or work) It is surprising how the lust to destroy comes over you.

2pm Orders are passed for us to stand by as a white flag was approaching the end of Moore Street. This was found to be from Sean O'Connell [James Connolly] asking for terms of surrender. Instructions were sent back up the street for O'Connell to come down and interview the General in command of our troops. This was done, O'Connell being carried down on a stretcher, as he was wounded in the leg. Whilst standing by, we came across the dead body of O'Reilly [the O'Rahilly], the acting adjutant.

MAY 2nd

9pm I was warned to provide a party of 48 men and 4 sergeants for a special duty parade at 3am the following morning. I was told as a special favour I had been allowed to go as one of the party as senior NCO.

MAY 3rd

We paraded at the time appointed, marched to Kilmainham Jail. At 3.45 the first rebel McDonoghue [Thomas MacDonagh] was marched in blindfolded, and the firing party placed 10 paces distant. Death was instantaneous. The second, P.H. Pierce [Pádraig Pearse] whistled as he came out of the cell (after taking a sad farewell of his wife.) [Pearse wasn't married, and was visited only by a Capuchin priest, Fr Aloysius.] The same applied to him. The third, J.H. Clarke [Tom Clarke], an old man, was not quite so fortunate, requiring a bullet from the officer to complete the ghastly business (it was sad to think that these three brave men who met their death so bravely should be fighting for a cause which proved so useless and had been the means of so much bloodshed).

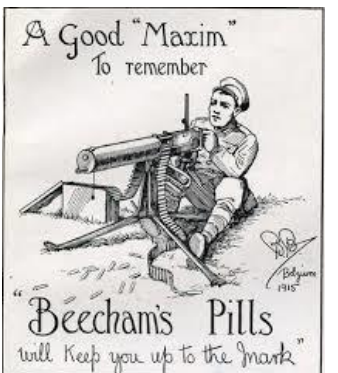
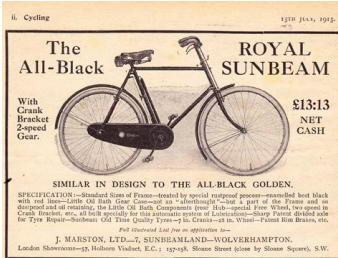
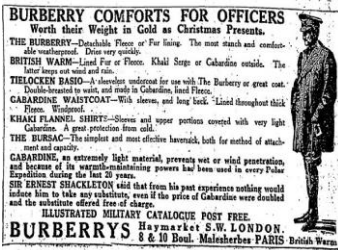
5am This business being over, I was able to return to bed for two hours and excused duty until noon.

Note by author Mick O'Farrell:

The identities of the men who carried out the executions of the 16 rebels in 1916 were never officially recorded, but some information has become known since then. One officer who commanded a firing squad on May 8th, 1916, left a memoir: Capt Arthur Dickson of the Sherwood Foresters. He committed his recollections to paper in the early 1920s. "I was to march my firing-squad of a Sergeant and 12 men to a space cut off from the execution-point by a projecting wall; halt them to ground arms there; march them forward 12 paces to halt with their backs to their rifles, each of which I was then to load and replace on the ground. Thus no man knew whether his rifle had been loaded with blank or with ball; each was therefore left not knowing whether he personally had shot the man or not . . . We marched our squads to [Kilmainham Gaol] long before dawn in a dismal drizzle . . . We had to wait while it grew faintly light and I took the chance to instruct the squad exactly what orders they would get; I didn't want any muddle. . . After 'Ready,' I told them, on the word 'Present', you bring your rifles smartly up to the standing-aim position, aiming at a piece of white paper pinned on his chest and on the word 'Fire' – steady pressure on the trigger, just like on the range. Then, at once, I shall give you 'Slope arms' – 'About turn'; then as we clear this wall – 'Right incline' – 'Halt' – 'Ground arms'.

"Thanks to that preparation, it was carried out smoothly. The 13 rifles went off in a single volley. The rebel dropped to the ground like an empty sack . . . I can't say I felt much else except that it was just another job that had to be done."

This is an edited extract from *The 1916 Diaries* by Mick O'Farrell published by Mercier Press



DIARMUID LYNCH IRISH REVOLUTIONARY 1878-1950

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new website launch

A new internet site has just been launched:

'Diarmuid Lynch, Irish Revolutionary'

You can access the site at the following address:

www.diarmuidlynch.weebly.com

This is planned as an on-line resource for family members, interested friends and the historically curious.

It will become a digital information vault available worldwide 24/7 of illustrated articles, newsletters, artefacts, reports and copies of primary documents from c.1850-1950 featuring the revolutionary generation of Diarmuid and his brothers, their involvement in revolutionary politics and their large contribution to the Irish State and to Irish-American politics.

Articles, documents and Newsletters can be viewed and downloaded and there will also be historical information on the Lynch family of Granig, extended families and related Irish history.

Due to space & time restrictions, some articles appearing here in the Newsletter will also appear on the website in further detail and with more illustrations.

As the site is under construction, bear with me as material is added, sources checked and content improved. The site will be updated regularly, so do check back from time to time.

Got something to say or add? Articles, copy documents, opinions and constructive comments, suggestions and observations are always very welcome.

A form to contact me is available on the website.



Another interesting project underway at the moment is an online family tree from Ancestry.com featuring the Granig Lynch and extended families including Lynch, Daly, Scott, Duggan, Clancy, Barry, Stynes and Coveney branches continuing major research work already completed by Mary Lynch, Duibhne Daly, Patrick & Sean Coveney, Freddie & Emer O'Dwyer. (Incidentally, Diarmuid began work on the Lynch family tree back in 1902)

This will be a collaborative effort online and will be freely available 24/7 to view and access by any interested family members worldwide.

Once registered, you will be able to add or change details, improve information, contribute photos, leave questions and answers for other members etc. online to the various family trees. This collaborative effort produces the best and most valid information and helps improve the resource for all family members.

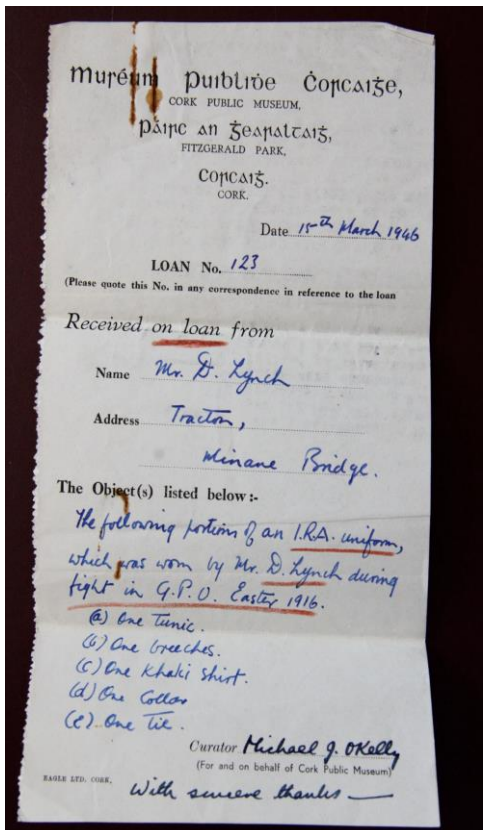
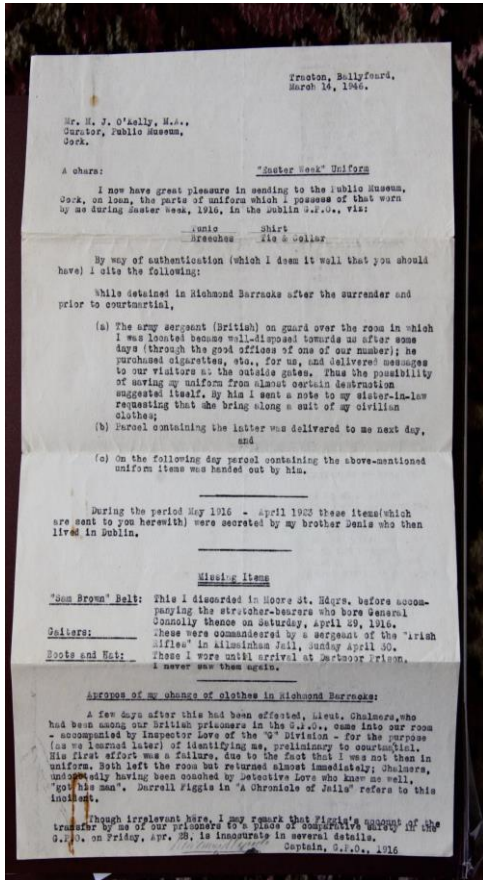
This project is free of charge and all information can be shared, downloaded or printed out in multiple ways.

Privacy is also closely protected in that information on living family members is only available to registered family members of a closed group and not available publicly.

The tentative availability date for this resource will be from January 2016 – just in time to mark the centenary commemoration.

More details later this year.

Donation of Diarmuid's 1916 Uniform to Cork Museum – March 1946



Transcript of the donation letter opposite:

Tracton, Ballyfeard.
March 14, 1946

Mr. M.J. O'Kelly, M.A.
Curator, Public Museum
Cork

A chara:

"Easter Week" Uniform

I now have great pleasure in sending to the Public Museum, Cork, on loan, the parts of uniform which I possess of that worn by me during Easter Week, 1916, in the Dublin G.P.O., viz:

Tunic Shirt Breeches Tie & Collar

By way of authentication (which I deem it well that you should have) I cite the following:

While detained in Richmond Barracks after the surrender and prior to court-martial:

- The army sergeant (British) on guard over the room in which I was located became well-disposed towards us after some days (through the good offices of one of our number); he purchased cigarettes, etc., for us, and delivered messages to our visitors at the outside gates. Thus the possibility of saving my uniform from almost certain destruction suggested itself. By him I sent a note to my sister-in-law requesting that she bring along a suit of my civilian clothes.
- Parcel containing the latter was delivered to me the next day and
- On the following day parcel containing the above-mentioned uniform items was handed out by him.

During the period May 1916-April 1923 these items (which are sent to you herewith) were secreted by my brother Denis who then lived in Dublin.

Missing Items

"Sam Brown" Belt: This I discarded in Moore St. Hdqrs before accompanying the stretcher-bearers who bore General Connolly thence on Saturday, April 29, 1916.

Gaiters: These were commandeered by a sergeant of the 'Irish Rifles' in Kilmainham Jail, Sunday April 30

Boots and Hat: These I wore until arrival at Dartmoor Prison. I never saw them again

Apropos of my change of clothes in Richmond Barracks:

A few days after this had been affected, Lieut. Chalmers, who had been among our British prisoners in the G.P.O. came into our room – accompanied by Inspector Love of the 'G' Division – for the purpose (as we learned later) of identifying me, preliminary to a court-martial. His first effort was a failure, due to the fact that I was not in uniform. Both left the room but returned almost immediately; Chalmers undoubtedly having been coached by Detective Love who knew me well, 'got his man'. Darrell Figgis in 'A Chronicle of Jails' * refers to this incident.

Though irrelevant here, I may remark that Figgis's account of the transfer by me of our prisoners to a place of comparative safety in the G.P.O. on Friday, Apr.28, is inaccurate in several details.

(Signed)Diarmuid Lynch

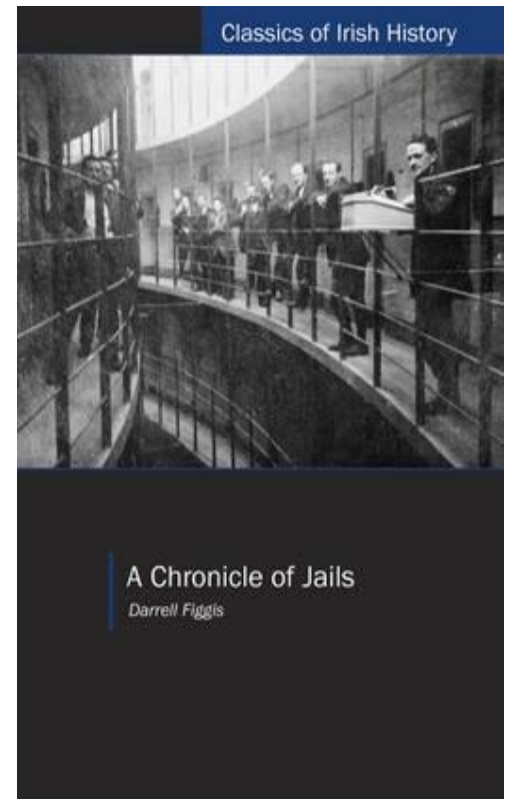
Captain, G.P.O., 1916.

Michael J. O'Kelly of the Cork Museum acknowledged receipt of the items on 15 March, 1946 under title of Loan No.123 and noting the following items received on loan:

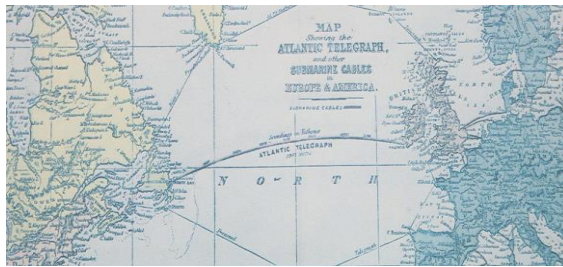
....The following portion of an I.R.A. uniform which was worn by Mr. D. Lynch during fight in G.P.O. Easter 1916.

- One Tunic
- One breeches
- One khaki shirt
- One collar
- One tie
-

* Darrell Figgis (1882-1925) journalist, author and nationalist propagandist. "A Chronicle of Jails" is Figgis' personal and at times overrated account of his arrest in the aftermath of the 1916 Rising and subsequent internment in Ireland and Britain. Figgis was among a minority of internees identified as leadership material and held at Reading Goal rather than at Frongoch Camp. This memoir is of particular interest because, unlike most accounts of imprisonment during this period, it was written with propagandistic intent and was first published by The Talbot Press in 1917.



Valentia Island Cable Station & 1916



Prior to the 1860's, it took approximately two weeks for a message to reach North America from Europe - weather permitting, as all communications were sent via boat. The concept of a transatlantic telegraph cable linking North America and Europe was first proposed in 1845, but distances, ocean depths and technical issues presented formidable problems. Chief amongst these was the uncertainty that electricity could travel that distance or be sustained under the terrific pressure of deep ocean. The shortest route was therefore essential and, as the Kerry coast was one of the westernmost parts of Europe, it was natural to start from there to Newfoundland, the easternmost part of North America. Attempts to lay cables in 1857 and 1858 were unsuccessful, leading to a severe loss of confidence amongst the financial backers: with the additional interruption of the American Civil War, it was not until 1866 that permanent communications were established from Valentia, Co. Kerry. Commercial success soon led to competition and by the turn of the century there were links to Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Britain, France and Germany.

Ballinskelligs station was opened in 1874 but was soon absorbed by the Anglo American Telegraph Co., who also owned the Valentia station. The Commercial Cable Co., which operated the Waterville station, was an American company opened for business in 1885. As a result of a financial deal, the Ballinskelligs and Valentia stations came under the control of the Western Union Telegraph Co. in 1911.

The Irish cable stations at war

The war brought chaos to the Irish cable stations. The volume of government traffic increased, regulations required all messages were sent via the censors prior to transmission. A censor was maintained at Waterville to deal with the company's traffic between France and America. The use of codes in ordinary telegrams was prohibited at the start of the war and this caused a dramatic reduction in the volume of commercial traffic. Banks, financiers and even small companies had always used their own codes. They inhibited the possibility of commercial espionage and they allowed messages to be compressed, thus saving costs. Over a period of time, the rules were relaxed to allow specific code books to be used and decoding clerks were employed in the censorship offices. It would seem that commercial concerns were prepared to tolerate delay rather than sacrifice the confidentiality of their telegrams

The 1916 Easter Rising

The news of the 1916 Easter Rising was first publicised in America and was largely due to the efforts of certain staff at the Valentia station. Precise details have until recently been classified (document DEFEI 350 in the Public Record Office at Kew, London). During the early stages of the war, the general spirit of the staff at the Irish cable stations (of which the great bulk were Irish at Valentia and Ballinskelligs and about half at Waterville) were sympathetic to the Allied cause. However some months before the 1916 Easter Rising, it was revealed that a large number of operators at Valentia were Sinn Féin supporters, among them members of the Ring family who formed an important element in the life of the station and included a number who were senior supervising officers.

Tim and Eugene Ring of Valentia had been telegraphers from their early youth with the 'cable' being in the family tradition. Their grandfather operated as a telegrapher in the formative years with their father Jeremiah being one of the cable company's executives in Valentia. Their Aunt was the island's

Post mistress. This was a world before radio, T.V. and all the social media facilities of today and as the British were capturing and censoring mail being sent by sea it became more difficult for the volunteer movement in Ireland to communicate with their American brothers in arms, Clan Na Gael

Some days before the Rising operator Eugene Ring sent an irregular message to Heart's Content, Newfoundland. It was detected by the Post Office checker and reported to the superintendent. The message did not arouse suspicions as it merely asked the operator at the other end if he wished to buy a bicycle. (This was a trial message intended to test how tight the security system really was. The fact that it was detected confirmed to them that it would be impossible to use the Valentia cable directly for the transmission of their more important message.) Shortly after the Rising began, Tim Ring, Eugene's brother, using an assumed name, sent a message to an address in New York from Valentia Post Office. Popular reports say it was dispatched on the instructions of Austin Stack from Fermoy Post Office. The message "Tom (or Mother) successfully operated on today (signed Kathleen - check)" was passed as an ordinary private message by the censors in London.

With the publication of the news in New York, it proved impossible for the authorities to hush the matter up and America, not yet in the war, was able to focus full attention on the Irish question. The New York address of the recipient of this telegram 'was subsequently discovered to be the offices of the Irish Extremist Movement'. It had been sent to the housekeeper in the home of John Devoy.

The Ring brothers were arrested on 15 August 1916 and held under the Defence of the Realm Act. Since Eugene Ring had contravened company regulations (on the transmission of private messages), he was dismissed, but Western Union were unwilling to dismiss Tim who had not broken any company rules. The military wanted all cable staff with republican sympathies to be replaced by Valentia Island Staff operators in the service of the government. Western Union would only acquiesce to these demands if the Post Office or Army Signals Corps were able to make up the loss in manpower. As neither could provide the necessary staff of experienced operators, things remained as they were. There was some concession to pressure from the authorities. Some Irish operators were transferred to the Western Union cable station at Sennen near Penzance. This caused a flurry of official activity. Security was strengthened and three additional Post Office operators were drafted in as scrutineers. Company records indicate that Tim Ring was released from prison on 1 May 1917 and applied to be reinstated. He was appointed to the Accounts Department in the London office where he remained until 1 January 1920.

The aftermath

Despite the end of the First World War, the volume of traffic remained high as the Allies argued amongst themselves over the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles. However, the Irish stations were living on borrowed time. Technical developments meant that telegraph on cables became feasible and after about 1924 there were no more than about twenty staff at Valentia. Messages were no longer censored before transmission but this did not mean an end to telegraph interception. Under the conditions of the landing licenses, the cable companies were required to hand over copies of each day's traffic to the Post Office. This implies that all Irish international cablegrams were subject to scrutiny. The Irish component of total traffic through Valentia and Waterville was so small that it was 'easier' to queue it in at the terminus in London. Thus any message arriving at these stations from within the State was first re-routed to London where it joined the bulk of west-bound traffic. Despite some embarrassing questions concerning British scrutiny of American traffic at a US Congressional hearing in the 1930s, this remained the practice for the cable companies until the mid-1960s, when disclosure by Chapman Pincher led to the D-Notice scandal which rocked the government of Harold Wilson.

It is interesting to note that even though later cables could carry large numbers of signals at the same time, it was not until the 1960s that the first communication satellites offered a serious alternative to the cable when in 1966 the Transatlantic Cable Station closed its doors for the last time.

Source: History Ireland, The Kerryman Newspaper & internet research

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When we say that any boy can shoot with it—accurately—30 shots a minute, we are understating the facts. Any boy can do that well; many boys can go much faster than that.

Isn't that the kind of a gun that will delight the heart of any boy? Isn't it just the gun you want, for fun, for target practice, for that training of eye, nerve and hand that is the true heritage of every American boy?

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NEWS

1916 coins to feature Hibernia statue and Proclamation terms



Designs of Emmet Mullins and Michael Guilfoyle's €2 commemorative coins

The statue of Hibernia and key words from the Proclamation of the Irish Republic will feature on two special coins commemorating the centenary of the Easter Rising, following a competition launched by the Central Bank.

Hibernia, the historic personification of Ireland represented by a statue on top of Dublin's GPO, the focal point of the Rising, will appear on 4.5 million € 2 coins that will feed into general distribution from January.

Designed by the illustrator Emmet Mullins, it will also be included in a proof set and an annual mint set.

As well as the representation of Hibernia, it features the name in hand-rendered lettering influenced by the Book of Kells, as well as the centenary dates.

The second design also features Hibernia but includes key words from the Proclamation, read by Patrick Pearse outside the GPO on April 24th, 1916.

This coin was designed by Michael Guilfoyle and will feature on proof solid silver and 24 carat gold versions which will be available from March. No price for these special versions has yet been set.

Proof coins are produced in a high quality minting process specifically for collectors. It comes with a numbered certificate of authenticity. Mint coins are specially packaged and do not enter general circulation.

The Central Bank had advertised for artists and designers interested in the commemorative coin process to forward their credentials and examples of their work last January.

That process led to the submission of 52 suggested designs which were reduced by a panel to six and finally to the two winners.

Mr Guilfoyle had previously designed the € 10 silver proof coin commemorating Jack B Yeats in 2012, and last year the € 10 coin commemorating the Irish tenor Count John McCormack.

Mr Mullins was behind the collector coins celebrating the Ploughman Banknotes in 2009 and those marking the 1928 coin designs of Percy Metcalfe.



Defence Forces to visit all schools under 1916 commemoration plan



Thomas Francis Meagher: Meagher flew the first Tricolour flag on March 7th, 1848, from 33 the Mall, Waterford, at the Wolfe Tone Club.

Presentation of national flags to include instructions on protocol in preparation for Proclamation Day

Thousands of primary schools will be visited by Defence Forces staff for delivery of the national flag as part of 1916 commemorations.

The Department of Education and Skills intends that all 3,200 primary schools will receive a visit, starting next week, to prepare for a display of the Tricolour by students on Proclamation Day, March 15th, 2016.

The official presentation of the flag by a member of the Defence Forces will take a maximum of 20 minutes, schools were told in a circular this week. The presentation will include a history of the national flag and the correct protocol for its use.

The Defence Forces member will also read at least part of the Proclamation. Schools can nominate a pupil to read paragraph four of the document, beginning with: "The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman . . ."

Secondary schools will also receive a national flag to display on Proclamation Day, in their case from the Thomas Francis Meagher Foundation. The organisation honours the Irish patriot, US army general and governor of Montana who flew the first Tricolour flag on March 7th, 1848, from 33 the Mall, Waterford, at the Wolfe Tone Club.

Almost half of post-primary schools have received their flag, while the remainder will get theirs at a State ceremonial event, organised by the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht in Waterford next March.

The department has developed a teaching resource on the flag (scoilnet.ie) which includes worksheets, lesson plans and interactive quizzes.

Other elements of 2016 centenary programme for schools is the drafting of a "new Proclamation for 2016", reflecting the values, ideals and aspirations of pupils now.

Students are also being encouraged to research their family tree under a 1916 ancestry project, and to document local history and folklore.

The Decade of Centenaries All-Island Schools History Competition will be organised for a third year next spring. Other school competitions in drama, song, art and poetry on a 1916 theme will be staged.



President invited to Frongoch to mark Rising centenary. Welsh village became home to 1,800 republican prisoners following events of 1916



Michael Collins, who was sent to Frongoch in Wales following the 1916 Easter Rising. Photograph: Hulton Archive

President Michael D Higgins has been invited to the Welsh village of Frongoch next year to mark the centenary of the Easter Rising.

Frongoch, which is on the edge of Snowdonia in the middle of Wales, became famous after the Rising when 1,800 republican prisoners were sent there in June 1916.

Frongoch housed a veritable who's who of the Irish Revolution: Michael Collins, William T Cosgrave, Terence MacSwiney, Richard Mulcahy and Gerry Boland were all interned there.

The prisoners arrived in Frongoch on June 9th, 1916. In total, 30 would go on to become TDs in the State they had created.

Frongoch became known as the "University of Revolution" and Mr Collins said Frongoch was where the tactics which would lead to the War of Independence were first discussed "at English expense".

Embarrassment

Frongoch closed by Christmas 1916, having become a source of nationalist grievance and an embarrassment to the British government.

It was originally a distillery which was later used to house German prisoners-of-war during the First World War until the Rising in April 1916.

The north camp is now an open field. The south camp has a school on the site now.

All that remains of the camp is a hut in an adjacent farmer's fields. A monument and plaque mark the original site.

Centenary

Locals have met the Welsh Government with a view to securing funding for next year's centenary commemorations. They hope to move the hut to a site accessible to visitors.

They also wish to build a replica of the camp and to put in English and Welsh information boards explaining the significance of Frongoch.

Cllr Elywn Edwards, who represents the nationalist Plaid Cymru, said he expected the commemorations in Frongoch not to be contentious as many in the area would have sympathies with Irish nationalists. Cllr Alwyn Jones, who lives on the site of the old POW camp, said he hoped more Irish visitors will come and visit Frongoch as it was a significant place in both Irish and Welsh history. "One of the biggest mistakes the British government made was to bring them all together in Frongoch," he said.



Did You Know? Unusual facts about the Easter Rising

Did you know that one of the British officers who took the surrender of Padraig Pearse went on to become a famous Hollywood actor, who numbered among his five wives the even more famous Hedy Lamarr? Mick O'Farrell in his book '50 Things you Didn't Know about 1916' explains:

Major John Lowe is present in one of the most famous and commonly reproduced photographs taken during the Rising – the moment of Pearse's surrender as captured on Saturday April 29th, 1916.



The picture shows Commander of Dublin Forces in Ireland, Brig Gen WHM Lowe, facing a clearly defiant Pearse, who is offering his surrender. On Pearse's right is Elizabeth O'Farrell (a nurse with Cumann Na mBan), who carried the subsequent surrender dispatches to rebel commandants. On the left of the photo, to Brig Gen Lowe's right, is his aide-de-camp and son, Maj John Lowe. Pearse subsequently surrendered unconditionally, and Maj Lowe escorted him to Kilmainham Jail. Pearse was court-martialed and executed shortly afterwards.

Educated at Eton and Sandhurst, Lowe followed his father into the army, being commissioned into [15th Hussars](#) as a second lieutenant on 17 March 1915, and then served in the [Gallipoli Campaign](#). On 21 April 1916 until early May he was in Ireland, then proceeding to France to rejoin his regiment. He was engaged in the 1916 [Battle of the Somme](#) and was taken prisoner by the Germans on 21 March 1918 at the village of Roisel and then to a prisoner-of-war camp in Baden, Germany. On release at war's end in November, he stayed in Germany engaged in resumed military duties on behalf of the Inter-Allied Commission

Leaving the cavalry he went into business with a German friend, Walter Becker, establishing a pickle factory in Potsdam. Later Loder began to develop an interest in acting, appearing in bit-parts in a few German films at the Tempelhof Film Studios, employed by [Alexander Korda](#). He left Germany for Hollywood to try his luck in the new medium, 'Talkies' changing his surname to Loder. He appeared in [The Doctor's Secret](#), which was Paramount's first talking picture—though his very English persona didn't win America over at this time and he returned to Britain where he co-starred in plush musicals and intrigue such as *Love Life* and *Laughter and Sabotage*. He was the male romantic interest in the 1937 original film version of *King Solomon's Mines*.



Publicity still c.1941

In 1939, he returned to America where he seamlessly coasted into a career in 'B' film roles usually playing upper crust characters with occasional appearances on Broadway. He occasionally did parts, though supporting ones, in major 'A' films such as *How Green Was My Valley*, in which he was at the same time one of Roddy McDowall's brothers and Donald Crisp's sons, and *Now, Voyager*, in which he played a wealthy widower engaged to Bette Davis's character.



Lowe & Lamarr

Loder was married five times; two of his wives were actresses: French star [Micheline Cheirel](#) (married 1936–41 – she later married [Paul Meurisse](#)), and the Austrian-American [Hedy Lamarr](#) (married 1943–47). With Lamarr, he had two children, Denise (born 1945) and Anthony (born 1947) and adopted Lamarr's son James Markey from her previous marriage to screenwriter [Gene Markey](#).

Other wives of Loder were Sophie Kabel, Evelyn Auff Mordt, and his final wife, in 1958, the heiress Alba Julia Lagomarsino of Argentina, where he lived on her 25,000 acre cattle ranch and spent much time at the Jockey Club in Buenos Aires. After they divorced in 1972, Loder returned to London and resided for some years in a house opposite Harrods. He died in London, aged 90, in 1988. His autobiography, *Hollywood Hussar* was published in 1977.

Thanks to Mick O'Farrell for this excerpt from his book '50 Things You Didn't Know About 1916'. Mercier Press.
https://www.mercierpress.ie/irish-books/50_things_you_didnt_know_about_1916/





Rubble, ruins and the grim aftermath of the 1916 Rising Antiquarian's collection of pictures released as part of new Digital Repository of Ireland

A collection of photographs depicting Dublin in the wake of the 1916 Rising has been released online as part of the newly launched Digital Repository of Ireland. The 40 photographs, taken by Limerick antiquarian and engineer Thomas Johnson Westropp, show the damage and destruction left by the rebellion and British response.

Taken on May 17th and 18th, 1916, they depict Dubliners going about their daily lives against the backdrop of rubble and ruins. British soldiers stand guard as trams pass the GPO and workers remain focused on the ongoing effort to clean up the city.

Westropp captured aerial views of O'Connell Street, then named Sackville Street, from the top of Nelson's Pillar, despite the British army regulating access to the viewing platform at the time.

The photographs are taken from a bound volume entitled *Ruined Buildings in Dublin after the Sinn Féin Rebellion*, as the Rising was popularly called at the time, which Westropp submitted to the Royal Irish Academy (RIA).

They are being made available as part of the digital repository, which is working with the RIA and educational institutions to provide an accessible online database of Irish cultural material.

Westropp was a well-known antiquarian, and a noted member of the RIA, but little is known of his motivation for photographing the aftermath of the Rising. Born in Patrickswell, Co Limerick in 1860, he attended Trinity College in Dublin. In pen and ink sketches, and occasionally in photographs, he documented the Norman and Celtic antiquities of Clare and Limerick. "He devoted most of his life to antiquarian research", according to Siobhan Fitzpatrick, librarian of the RIA.

She described the images as being "of a piece with his antiquarian work", with the damaged and destroyed buildings of Dublin serving as a stand-in for the ruined forts and castles he documented across the west.

Westropp had the photographs developed and bound, with multiple copies submitted to Dublin institutions, including the RIA and Trinity College. Each photograph was presented with a detailed description of its location.

A dedicated archivist, Westropp also gave the RIA more than 3,000 of his antiquarian sketches.

Natalie Harrower, acting director of the repository, said while nothing was known about Westropp's political outlook, there was no reason to think he had any political motivation for the photographs.

"As historians and archivists, you find that most people are much less political in the moment than we expect them to be when we look back."

The photographs are available on Digital Repository of Ireland's website, dri.ie, and the original prints can be viewed by request in the RIA.

Irish Times August 11th 2015





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Irish Industries - Tracton Woollen Mills

Published in the Cork Sun Newspaper, Saturday, June 20th, 1903. From the Coveney Family Archives, Old Castle. 1997.

"...Amongst the leading products of the South of Ireland, the woollen industry has been justly considered of the utmost importance in its relation to the prosperity of the country and has recently assumed proportions which could hardly have been looked for in view of the sharp competition from England and Scotland.

But then Irish woollens are made to wear - the British products are simply made to sell. While the greatest credit is due to the founders and proprietors of such flourishing woollen mills as those at Douglas, Blarney, Athlone and elsewhere, who have made for themselves world-wide reputations for the superiority of their manufactures, no less credit should be extended to manufacturers who on a smaller scale, but no less enterprise, perseverance and energy in the face of great difficulties and in remote localities, have struggled to maintain and develop the woollen industry in the South of Ireland. Scattered here and there through the rural districts of this great county of Cork are several establishments where the manufacture of woollen goods is carried on with fair and well deserved success and with considerable financial advantages of the population of the surrounding districts, which advantages we hope will be largely increased when the people are thoroughly aroused to the important - nay the absolute necessity of supporting the native industries of the county, instead of (print illegible in this segment)

I had the pleasure and privilege to visit this week the woollen mills at Tracton, owned by Mr. D. Coveney J.P. over which we were kindly shown by Mr. D. Coveney junior, who displayed a most praiseworthy and intelligent interest in, and extensive knowledge of, the business, to the development of which, in association with the respected proprietor, he devotes the whole of his time. The premises were built some 50 years ago by the father of the present proprietor as a flour mill, at a time when the flour trade in Ireland was a prosperous one. The introduction of cheap American flour, as is well known, dealt a fatal blow to the Irish rolling trade, and the late Mr. Coveney, seeing it was impossible to carry on the manufacture of flour with profit, converted the premises into a woollen factory, making a commencement with a few hand looms, and gradually feeling his way.

As the business increased and the prospects warranted, additional hand looms were acquired, and in the course of a comparatively short time, so successful had the venture proved, it was found necessary to introduce power looms.

At the present time the mills are equipped with the machinery of the most modern type suitable for the production of the goods which Mr. Coveney finds a demand for - blankets, flannels, Cheviot tweeds, serges etc. A large and constantly increasing trade is done in this class of material, the firm having depots at Kinsale and Bandon, where the wool is received and the manufactured article disposed to the customer.

In the winter season, the water supply for the mills is very ample and satisfactory, but during a dry or partially dry summer, the stream supplying the mills runs very low, and steam power has to be used at, of course, increased expense. This is one of the difficulties which has met the present proprietor in his efforts to develop the industry, but it has not deterred him in the least from expanding a large amount of capital in purchasing machinery and endeavouring to make the factory as perfect an establishment of its kind as it can be made, and as the needs of the district require.

Mr. Coveney, as might be expected, was enthusiastic on the question of home manufacture, and, needless to say, everything connected with the industry which he controls is thoroughly racy of the soil.

The wool used is Irish grown, and is received from the farmers of a district which extends from Kilbrittain on the one side to the Old Head of Kinsale on the other. The raw material is converted into blankets, flannels, Cheviot tweeds, serges, according to the owner of the wool may desire. The goods made in Tracton Woollen Mills, specimens of which were submitted for our inspection, evidently possess all the genuine qualities which one usually associates with articles of thoroughly Irish manufacture, and as the trade done in the Tracton Woollen Mills is principally amongst the rural population, to whom the durability of an article of wear is the first consideration, particular care is taken that the goods will be everything that is desirable in this respect. Great attention is also paid to the beauty of design and excellence of finish in the case of tweeds, and some very attractive patterns are turned out at the mills.

Considerable difficulty is found in procuring female labour in the neighbourhood for the working of the looms as the crochet industry is just now a very remunerative one, and absorbs the attention of the girls and women living in and around the village of Tracton, who can earn very good wages at this work. But Mr. Coveney is not without hope that he may shortly be able to secure a number of young people for the purpose of training them in his mill. At present there are in all about twenty hands employed, and seeing that as many more could be profitably engaged at good wages and in this easy and healthful work, one difficulty in procuring labour proves clearly the evil which the emigration mania is doing to the country; and so far as the younger people of this district are concerned, the total want of necessity or excuse in leaving their native land to swelter and toil as the white slaves in the garrets and cellars of American cities is very apparent.

The present output of one Tracton Woollen Mills is very considerable, but when Mr. Coveney has completed the work of laying down some new plant he has purchased and overcome some of his other difficulties, he hopes to double his manufactured output. We sincerely trust the people of Kinsale, Bandon and the West will heartily co-operate with Mr. Coveney and other practical patriots of his type and endeavour by their patronage and continuous support, to raise this valuable and most important industry to the position it should occupy in the Irish commercial system.

We may add here as an interesting fact, in connection with the boom in Irish agriculture and the improvements taking place in the system of land cultivation, that Mr. Coveney, who farms largely and intelligently, has been very successful in his efforts to produce a crop of early potatoes. We were shown a large field of 'Early Puritans' which will soon be ready for the table and for seed which was treated in accordance with the directions received from the Agricultural Department. Mr. Coveney and the members of his family are also deeply interested in, the poultry rearing industry by means of artificial incubation, and in this department also, great success has been attained by them.

Taken altogether, the day spent at Tracton Abbey Mills and farm was for us a very pleasant and most instructive experience, and afforded fresh and encouraging evidence of the extent to which the new gospel of thrift, industry and intelligent cultivation of the soil has penetrated to districts of this country comparatively remote from the ordinary highways of commerce. Tracton Abbey, we may add, is about five miles from the newly opened station of the Cork, Blackrock and Passage railway at Carrigaline."

A terrible beauty: the poetry of 1916 Máiréad Ashe FitzGerald explores the cultural legacy of the Easter Rising in the work of the rebels themselves and fellow poets Yeats, AE, James Stephens and Francis Ledwidge



They were heady days for the young and the idealistic in those early years of the twentieth century when Ireland was gearing up for nationhood. There was a prevailing atmosphere of renewal and youth, and people of vision and energy such as Pearse, MacDonagh and Plunkett were all part of a life-giving movement devoted to saving and promoting Irish culture. They wrote plays, founded theatres, edited papers and journals, as well as teaching and organising cultural events. The artist Sarah Purser observed that they were all like a stage army marching round and round, acting every part required of them. Furthermore, the authorities ignored or were blind to the ferment of nationalism and commitment to the cause of freedom that was building up before their eyes.

When I was invited by O'Brien Press to compile an anthology of the poetry of 1916, I thought of the poems by the young leaders of the Rising, many of them well known from our schoolbooks. Who doesn't recall Joseph Mary Plunkett's 'I See His Blood upon the Rose'?

*I see his blood upon the rose,
And in the stars the beauty of his eyes,
His body gleams upon eternal snows,
His tears fall from the skies.*

Or the austere beautiful Mise Éire by Pádraic Pearse? 'Mise Éire: Sine mé ná an Chailleadh Bhéarra.' And his translation: 'I am Ireland: / I am older than the old woman of Beare.'

Pearse's final poem was a work of peace and beauty written as a farewell to life after the turmoil of the Rising while awaiting execution in Kilmainham Gaol:

*The beauty of the world hath made me sad,
This beauty that will pass;
Sometimes my heart hath shaken with great joy
To see a leaping squirrel in a tree,
Or a red ladybird upon a stalk ...*



Thomas MacDonagh, of whom WB Yeats was to write, "He might have won fame in the end, So sensitive his nature seemed, So daring and sweet his thought", was he outlining the qualities he aspired to for himself in his poignant poem to his newborn son, Donogh, "Wishes for My Son"

*God to you may give the sight
And the clear undoubting strength
Wars to knit for single right,
Freedom's war to knit at length,
And to win, through wrath and strife,
To the sequel of my life.*

The Easter Rising resulted in the executions of 16 leaders, most of them young, and their burial without ceremony generated an outpouring of poetry. Written by almost every poet who took part in the literary revival, these poems gave words to the depth of pride, anger, grief and identity growing among the people.



James Stephens's beautiful elegy, Spring – 1916, is a fine tribute to those whose lives were so abruptly ended:

*Be green upon their graves, O happy Spring!
For they were young and eager who are dead!
Of all things that are young, and quivering
With eager life, be they remembered!*

These poems must have spoken directly to the comrades of the fallen and added to the awakening sense of freedom growing among the general population. Francis Ledwidge wrote:

*A noble failure is not vain,
But hath a victory its own.
A bright delectance from the slain
Is down the generations thrown.*

AE, George Russell, saw the Rising as "the confluence of dreams/ That clashed together in our night". His poem Salutation, a moving tribute, demonstrates his personal admiration for Pearse, MacDonagh and their companions despite his reservations over their actions in Easter Week 1916. AE had known them all and like Yeats and others he threaded their names through the poems he wrote in the aftermath of the Rising.

*Here's to you, Pearse, your dream not mine,
And yet the thought for this you fell
Has turned life's waters into wine.*

AE, himself a central figure in the cultural and economic life of the country, while not sharing in Pearse's dream, was a sympathetic observer:

*Their dream has left me numb and cold,
But yet my spirit rose in pride,
Refashioning in burnished gold
The images of those who died
Or were shut in the penal cell.*

It is worth noting that AE did not forget those "shut in the penal cell" in the aftermath of the Rising with their leaders executed and their hopes lost. I like to think that at least some of these poems (censorship was in full force at the time) were circulated among those who were rounded up, court-martialed in the aftermath of the Rising and held in prison in England. Francis Ledwidge, a member of the Volunteers before joining up, ill in hospital on leave from the trenches of the Great War, was devastated by news of the executions of so many he had known. His beautiful Lament for Thomas MacDonagh must have spoken directly to those comrades who had known him:

*He shall not hear the bittern cry
In the wild sky, where he is lain,
Nor voices of the sweeter birds
Above the wailing of the rain.
Nor shall he know when loud March blows
Thro' slanting snows her fanfare shrill,
Blowing to flame the golden cup
Of many an upturned daffodil.*

Those left behind were already gearing up for the next challenge, fighting elections from within the prison walls, struggling with the ravages of illness, and working to reverse hostile public opinion

Constance Markievicz was one of these, and her sister Eva Gore-Booth, ("who did not share their strife, /and mourned that any blood was shed") wrote a poem for her, entitled Comrades:

*The peaceful night that round me flows,
Breaks through your iron prison doors,
Free through the world your spirit goes,
Forbidden hands are clasping yours.*

The horror of the executions following the Rising was protracted through the long-drawn-out trial of Roger Casement and brought further time for reflection on the loss of all that youth and hope. Throughout that summer of 1916 the trial went on in London alongside a campaign for Casement's reprieve. It came to a heartrending conclusion with his execution by hanging and burial in Pentonville Jail in August. With the death of Casement, "the last of the executions, some part of our youth died," wrote Mary Colum, the Irish writer and critic. Her husband, the poet Padraic Colum, wrote a lament entitled The Rebel to honour him.

Eva Gore-Booth, a lifelong campaigner for social justice and a poet of great sincerity wrote:

*I dream of the peace in his soul,
And the early morning hush on the grave of a hero
In the desolate prison yard.*

(Indeed, her words could equally apply to the fate of Thomas Kent, summarily tried, executed and buried in an unmarked grave in Cork Jail immediately after the Rising.)

Dora Sigerson Shorter, so deeply affected by grief that her friend Katharine Tynan believed it caused her early death, wrote a collection of elegies in the aftermath of the Rising, Poems of the Irish Rebellion, one for each of the executed leaders. Pearse she described as

*"Lover of birds and flowers, singer of gentle songs,
/Dying with men of war".*

Pearse and his companions, of course, had at a stroke joined the romantic heroes of revolutions past. The American journalist and poet Joyce Kilmer, who was Joseph Plunkett's friend, had a remarkable grasp of Irish revolutionary history and wrote an extensive article on the Rising in the magazine of The New York Times, "Poets March in the Van of Irish Revolt". His poem, Easter Week In Memory of Joseph Mary Plunkett, places Pearse squarely in the company of the mythic heroes:

*Lord Edward leaves his resting place
And Sarsfield's face is glad and fierce,
See Emmet leap from troubled sleep
To grasp the hand of Pádraic Pearse!*

For WB Yeats, now in his fifties, sceptical and distant from nationalist politics, Pearse and his young companions would have been the subject of his "mocking tale or gibe/To please a companion/ Around the fire at the club". But by May 1916, the idea of a changing national landscape was germinating in his mind, and over the summer he worked on his long, complex poem, Easter 1916. This poem is Yeats's great rendering of the transforming events of the Rising, and the elegiac closing passage with its incantatory undercurrent, murmuring "name upon name", recognises the significance of the moment and shapes a vision of what was to come.

*I write it out in a verse –
MacDonagh and MacBride
And Connolly and Pearse
Now and in time to be,
Wherever green is worn,
Are changed, changed utterly:
A terrible beauty is born.*

Máiréad Ashe FitzGerald has compiled an anthology of poetry, A Terrible Beauty: Poetry of 1916, published by O'Brien Press



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The UK has refused to release archive material on paid Irish police informants from more than 100 years ago - amid fears that their descendants could be shunned or even targeted by dissident republicans.



A UK Freedom of Information tribunal rejected Mr Keane's appeal against the refusal by the British Home Office and the Metropolitan Police to release the files

Irish historian Barry Keane argued that the 100-year-old file may hold vital clues to such critical events in Ireland as the Phoenix Park murders of 1882 and precisely what Britain knew about plans for a rising in the years before 1916. "I believe this file is absolutely critical to our accurate knowledge of major events in Irish history and there is clearly no reason why it cannot be released," he told the Irish Independent. "It is patently obvious that anyone mentioned in this file is now long since deceased."

However, a UK Freedom of Information tribunal rejected Mr Keane's appeal against the refusal by the British Home Office and the Metropolitan Police to release the files.

Mr Keane said he was shocked when evidence was offered by a UK counter-terrorism expert from behind a screen, despite the fact that the last surviving subject in the file died over 60 years ago. His appeal was later rejected a tribunal by a two-to-one majority.

The reasons cited by the tribunal for rejecting the application included the damage to the UK's ability to recruit informants and exposing their Irish descendants to boycott or even possible targeting by dissident republican elements.

The majority "believed it is by no means fanciful to suggest that on revelation that a person's ancestor was an informer, elements of the local community might choose to shun him or her, causing them distress".

However, the tribunal minority accepted all of Mr Keane's arguments that not to release information of such antiquity "simply fails a very basic common-sense test". Mr Keane had told the tribunal that it was ridiculous to suggest that members of the Provisional IRA, Real IRA, Continuity IRA and other versions of the IRA would act on information more than 100 years old against the descendants of people long since dead. Mr Keane and barrister Brian Leahy launched the challenge at a special UK information tribunal in London.

The Irish duo specifically asked the commissioners to direct the British Home Office, the Metropolitan Police and the UK Information Commissioners to release the full contents of the file, which was discovered in 2013.

The file was entitled 'Paid Informants in Irish Secret Societies 1886-1910' and was unearthed by the Cork historian during research two years ago in the UK National Archive.

Mr Keane, who was doing research at the time for his book on the Protestant massacres in west Cork during the War of Independence, was shocked to discover more than half the documents it listed were still withheld by the British Home Office. This was despite the fact that some records were 127 years old.

Nohoval - from Lewis's Topographical Dictionary. Published London 1837.

NOHOVAL

A parish, in the barony of KINNALEA country of Cork and province of MUNSTER, 8 miles (E.) from Kinsale, on the old road to Robert's-Cove; containing 1260 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the southern coast, and comprises 2439 $\frac{1}{4}$ statute acres, as appolloted under the tithe act, and valued at £1537 per annum.

The land is generally good, though the soil is light; about four-fifths are under tillage, the remainder being rough pasture and furze brakes: the manure chiefly used is sea sand, landed at the bays along the coast, all of which are very much exposed and dangerous.

The incumbent, the Rev. W. R. Townsend, has written a practical treatise on agriculture, which he has gratuitously distributed among the working farmers, hoping to improve the system of husbandry, but hitherto he has not witnessed the desired result, as the old system is everywhere followed.

At Nohoval Cove are some extensive slate quarries, the property of W. Whitney, Esq., whence great quantities are shipped to Cork, the boats returning with limestone, burnt generally here for the purposes of building. Not far distant, on the same estate, are some veins of manganese, in a state of decomposition, but, from the numerous springs here impregnated with this mineral, it is quite evident that a great body of the ore is deposited in the immediate vicinity. Very clear and beautiful crystals of quartz are scattered among the soil in most parts of the parish.

The Cove is a romantic retreat, at the termination of a deep winding glen, in which many thousands of young trees have lately been planted, which, if they thrive, will form a great ornament to this barren spot: the entrance to the Cove is marked by three pyramidal rocks of considerable height. In calm weather, coal, culm, and limestone may be landed here, but in the winter scarcely a vessel ever ventures into so dangerous a place.

At Dunbogue is a small well sheltered cove, having a good landing-place. The village consists of 25 small houses.

Nohoval House is the property of W. Hungerford, Esq.; the Lodge, the residence of W. Whitney, Esq.; and the glebe-house, of the Rev. W. R Townsend. It is a rectory and perpetual cure, in the diocese of Cork, the rectory forming part of the union of St. Peter's and of the corps of the archdeaconry of St. Finbarr, Cork; the perpetual cure is united with Kilmonogue, and in the gift of the Archdeacon.

The tithes amount to £215, of which £140 is payable to the archdeacon, and £75 to the curate, who has also the glebe-house and land. The glebe-house is a neat and commodious edifice, erected by aid of a gift of £450, and a loan of £50, in 1817) from the late Board of First Fruits: the glebe comprises 2 ½ a. 0r. 4p. The church is a small, but very neat, edifice, without tower, spire, or bell; it is furnished with a small, fine-toned organ.

In the R. C. divisions the parish forms part of the union of Tractor: the chapel is a small building in the village. The parochial school is endowed with two acres of land by the rector: there are also a private school and a Sunday school, the latter under the superintendence of the Protestant clergyman.

The most prominent headland in the parish is Barry's Point, where formerly a very strong castle stood, which was taken down during the late war to build a signal tower, now also in ruins.

Passenger Manifest. March 1896

Diarmuid Lynch – emigration from Ireland to United States as recorded in the passenger manifest of RMS Etruria.

(10)

No.	NAME IN FULL	Age Years Months	Sex	Calling or Occupation	Country of which they are Citizens	Native Country	Intended Destination or Location, State or Territory	State of passenger other than Citizens of the United States	Transient In Transit, or Intending protracted sojourn	Location of Compartment or Space occupied forward amidships or aft	Number of pieces of Baggage	Port of Embarkation	Date and Cause of Death
420	Thomas Newham	62	M	Engineer	England				PS		2	Liverpool	9-2
1	Arfel E. Nordberg	33		Merchant	Sweden				ch		1		1-0
2	Henry R. Parker	20		Miner	England				ch		1		
3	Elijah Daniel Poston	27		Clasterer	ch				ch		2		
4	Lucius Rowlands	31	M	Married	ch				ch		3		2-2
5	Ernest Roderick	25	M	none	Sweden		Mexico		Transient		4		1-0
6	Edmund Thom Ross	21		Shipboard	Scotland				ch		2		3-1
7	William Rogers	69		Iron Manufacturer	England				ch		4		1-0
8	Carl Sandheim	25		Farmer	Prussia				Transient		2		
9	Livingstone Shand	27		ch	Scotland				PS		3		0-1
30	Sofia Ungor	60	F	none	Holland				ch		3		
1	William Walker	46	M	Engineer	England				ch		3		
2	David Winter	35		Plumber	Scotland				ch		3		
3	Mary Winter	23	F	Wife	ch				ch		3		
4	Arthur Webb	23	M	Printer	U.S.A				ch		1		
5	Frank H.C. Weatherdon	27		machinist	England				ch		3		
6	David Wright	65		Confessionist	ch				ch		2		
7	Era Mary Wright	25	F	maid	ch				ch		2		
8	Bennie Zachary	30		ch	ch				ch		2		
9	William E. Ashby	28	M	Clerk	Ireland				ch		3	Dunsmuir	7-1
40	Wendel Simeon Brunsel	24	F	Midwife	Holland				ch		1		0-1
1	James Christie	35	M	Clerk	Ireland				ch				
2	Rose Gallaway	22	F	maid	ch				ch				
3	Jeremiah C. Lynch	18	M	Clerk	ch				ch		2		
4	Thomas Prandergat	27		Bricklayer	ch				ch		2		
5	Michael Prandergat	23		Farmer	ch				ch		1		
406	William Smyth	22		ch	ch				ch		3		
Cabin													
44	John - Ashe	47	F	Married	U.S.A				PS		5	Liverpool	6-4
5	Quintus Amberg	57	M	Operator	ch				ch		4		
9	Edmund D. Banks	40		Steamship	England				ch		2		1-0
50	Heriberto Bani	26		Com. Traveller	Spain				ch		3		

Name: Jeremiah C. Lynch.
Age: 18
Gender: Male.
Occupation: Clerk
Marital Status: Not recorded
Nationality: Ireland
Vessel: RMS Etruria
Departed: Queenstown, Ireland. Date not recorded. Destination: New York.
Arrived: NY. March 16th, 1896
Address in US: Not recorded
Ellis Island ID: ID102879020449 FRAME171 LINE NUMBER443
Ship Details: Built by John Elder & Company, Glasgow, Scotland, 1884. 8,127 gross tons; 520 (bp) feet long; 57 feet wide. Compound engines, single screw. Service speed 19 knots. 1,510 passengers (550 first class, 160 second class, 800 third class). Two funnels and three masts rigged for sails. Four decks. Ship History: Built for Cunard Line, British flag, in 1884 and named Etruria. Liverpool-New York service. Captured trans-Atlantic Blue Ribbon for speed in 1885. Laid up 1908; scrapped in England in 1909. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RMS_Etruria

Notes: Diarmuid is recorded as taking two pieces of baggage with him. Note the last column recording date of death and cause of death while at sea – however this column may have been used for other purposes i.e. note use of figure '0' for date.



How two lawyers ended up on opposing sides in 1916 Courts-martial Trials.

A landmark trial 99 years ago

In the days following Easter Week 1916, barrister William Wylie helped to prosecute 160 rebels for their role in the insurrection including Diarmuid Lynch. One, however, was unique: William Corrigan, a Dublin solicitor who, before the chaos, was a colleague and friend to the up-and-coming King's Counsel.

The extraordinary trial of Corrigan, which took place in a makeshift courtroom in Richmond Barracks 99 years ago this year, set in motion a series of encounters which would inextricably link the two lawyers to the creation of the Irish State.

Corrigan was born in Dublin in 1888, the son of an undertaker and Irish Parliamentary Party member. He attended Blackrock College where he excelled in rugby before qualifying from Trinity College as a solicitor. He immediately began work in his older brother Michael's firm on St Andrew Street, which became known as Corrigan & Corrigan. He joined the Irish Volunteers and served as a lieutenant at the South Dublin Union during the 1916 Rising. He was badly wounded during the fighting and, after the surrender, was taken to Richmond Barracks to face a court martial.

William Evelyn Wylie was born in 1881. He also studied law at Trinity before being called to the bar in 1906. He was a keen cyclist, a fact noted by a passage in *Ulysses* which describes a bicycle race between Wylie and his fellow law students: "*Bang of the last lap bell spurred the half mile wheelmen to their sprint. J. A. Jackson, W. E. Wylie, A. Munro and H. T. Gahan, their stretched necks wagging, negotiated the curve by the College Library.*"

As a barrister he worked mainly on the north-western circuit where he achieved considerable success. His friend and fellow barrister Tony Babbington later recalled that *"he was a great opponent, very clear-headed and quick off the mark"*. He took silk in 1914 before joining a training programme for British officers at the outbreak of the First World War.

After Easter Week, the young King's Counsel was given the task of prosecuting the dozens of rebels who had been selected for trial. Gen John Maxwell, who had been appointed military commander of Ireland during the Rising, had ordered that trials would take the form of field general courts martial. These were stripped-down versions of the standard courts martial. Proceedings would be held behind closed doors and prisoners would not be entitled to legal representation. Aspects of the trials would later be found to be illegal but at the time, they were deemed absolutely necessary. The idea was to convict and shoot enough rebels to send a strong message to the general population. History would show that it was a startling miscalculation on Maxwell's part.

Despite being the head prosecutor, Wylie recognised the deficiencies of the proceedings. He frequently attempted to help the rebels in their defence; military history interviews show that several of them remembered him in positive terms decades later.

Wylie meets Corrigan

It was in these circumstances that Wylie came across Corrigan in a corridor of Richmond Barracks where the solicitor was waiting for his turn in the dock.

The trials were proceeding incredibly quickly and at this stage dozens of rebels had already received death sentences. Most of the sentences would later be commuted to prison terms, but 15 men would end up before the firing squad.

Before the Rising, Corrigan had briefed Wylie in several cases but the dynamic was now very different. “My God, Corrigan, what are you doing here?” Wylie exclaimed when he recognised the bloodied head of his former instructing solicitor. Corrigan replied that he was next to be tried and asked if he had any chance. Wylie responded that the previous three defendants had been sentenced to death but that he would do his best for his colleague.

As Seán Enright writes in the marvellous *Easter 1916: The Trials*, Wylie ended up prosecuting the case. Despite this, he gave an impassioned speech in favour of his friend and also examined Corriqan in his own defence.

After the trial, presiding officer, Brig Gen Charles Blackadder sensed something was off and commented to Wylie that he *"seemed in earnest about that man"*. *"In earnest!"* Wylie replied. *"I should just think I was! He is a solicitor and before this show started, I got a case from him to advise one of his clients. There was a cheque for five guineas with it which I haven't cashed yet and, if you execute, that cheque might not be met, so I was very much in earnest."*

According to Wylie biographer Leon Ó'Bróin, this was met by a stunned silence before the officers broke down in laughter. *"All right, Wylie, your five guineas is safe,"* Blackadder said. *"We'll recommend a reprieve."*

Corrigan was sentenced to death with a recommendation to mercy. His sentence was commuted to five years of penal servitude. He was sent to a prison in England but, before departing, he told his brother Michael to see Wylie to thank him for saving his life. Wylie recalled that he met his “bold Willie Corrigan” again on Parliament Bridge in 1919, the day after his return from a British prison. *“You’re still at it I hear,”* Corrigan said to him. *“Well if Mrs Wylie is anxious, tell her not to worry, for if orders are issued to do you in, I’ll probably hear of it and I’ll give you a ring.”*

"What a country," Wylie later wrote in his memoir.

By this time the War of Independence was well under way. Wylie was now the senior legal adviser to the British administration in Ireland while Corrigan & Corrigan acted as advisers to Sinn Féin and the new Dáil government.

By 1920, Wylie had risen high and was using his influence to stem reprisals from British forces in Ireland. He personally warned Prime Minister Lloyd George against introducing martial law in Ireland, as had been done with disastrous consequences in 1916.

The Dublin legal circle was small even then and despite his high office, Wylie again met Corrigan, this time in a quasi- professional capacity. Corrigan acted for the Grangegorman Mental Hospital which had sworn allegiance to the new Dáil government. A consequence of this was that the British administration refused to keep funding it, raising the possibility of the patients having to be turned out on to the streets. When Corrigan sought his old friend's advice, Wylie remarked that "this will be a nice town to live in, with the Black and Tans, the IRA and lunatics aboard."

This crisis was averted but the encounter led the men to discuss how they could stop the bloodshed. The two lawyers went off to their respective sides and proposed a meeting. The result was a bizarre gathering in the offices of Corrigan & Corrigan on September 26th, 1920. Arthur Griffith represented the republicans while senior Dublin Castle civil servant John Anderson represented the British.

Between them were the barrister and the solicitor. The meeting was strange in that each party remained in different rooms throughout. Griffith refused to come face to face with Anderson without signed assurances that the British would deal with the Dáil on equal terms. Anderson wouldn't consider it. Wylie and Corrigan rushed back and forth between the men with messages and documents. However little was achieved and Anderson left half an hour later. Although there was not much to show for it, the meeting was significant as it was the first time two senior officials from both sides had met in the same building, if not the same room.

It was a very small first step towards the truce that came the following year. Wylie and Corrigan both went on to become important fixtures in the nascent legal system of the Irish Free State. Wylie was appointed to the High Court by the new government where he served until 1936. He died in 1964.

Corrigan was appointed as solicitor to the attorney general and he died in 1962. The offices of Corrigan & Corrigan can still be found on St Andrew Street, Dublin.

Passenger Manifest. September 1904

Diarmuid Lynch – return to the United States after second visit to Ireland from passenger manifest of SS Arabica.

IMMIGRATION SERVICE
Form 133a

SALOON, CABIN, AND STEERAGE ALIENS MUST BE COMPLETELY MANIFESTED.
THIS SHEET IS FOR SALOON OR FIRST-CABIN PASSENGERS.

LIST OR MANIFEST OF ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR THE U. S. IMMIGRATION OFFICER AT PORT OF ARRIVAL.

Required by the regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, under Act of Congress approved March 3, 1903, to be delivered to the U. S. Immigration Officer by the Commanding Officer of any vessel having such passengers on board upon arrival at a port in the United States.

10579 S.S. Arabica sailing from Liverpool September 9, 1904 Arriving at Port of New York, 1904

No. on List	NAME IN FULL	Age	Sex	Married or Single	Calling or Occupation	Able to Read	Write	Nationality	Race or People	Last Residence	Final Destination	Whether having a ticket to such final destination	By whom was passage paid?	Whether in possession of \$50. and if less, how much?	Whether over 16 years of age and if so, when and where?	Whether going to join a relative or friend; and if so, what relative or friend, and his name and complete address.	Whether a student, or whether in Polytechnic, or Artist, or other profession, or whether a seaman, or whether a merchant, or whether a laborer, or whether a soldier, or whether a sailor, or whether a convict, or whether a deserter, or whether a fugitive, or whether a person of unsound mind, or whether a person of immoral character, or whether a person of suspicious character, or whether a person of other objectionable character.	Condition of Health, Mental and Physical.	Deformed or Crippled, Nature, length of time, and cause.
1	Shaw Joseph H. ✓							United States Citizen											
2	Shaw Joseph H. ✓																		
3	Shaw Joseph H. ✓																		
4	Shaw Joseph H. ✓																		
5	Shaw Joseph H. ✓																		
6	Shaw Joseph H. ✓																		
7	Shaw Joseph H. ✓																		
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22	Shaw Joseph H. ✓																		
23	Shaw Joseph H. ✓																		
24	Shaw Joseph H. ✓																		
25	Shaw Joseph H. ✓																		
26	Shaw Joseph H. ✓																		

Name: Jeremiah C. Lynch.
Age 24 (typo error – would have been 26)
Gender Male.
Marital Status Single
Nationality US Citizen
Vessel SS Arabica
Departed: Liverpool, England. (probably Queenstown but not indicated). Date not recorded. Destination: New York
Arrived: NY. September 09, 1904
Address in US: Cotton Exchange Buildings. NY. (Workplace)
Ellis Island ID: PASSENGER ID102568140134 FRAME663 LINE NUMBER13

Ship Details: Built by Harland & Wolff Limited, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 1903. 15,801 gross tons; 616 (bp) feet long; 65 feet wide. Steam Quadruple Expansion engines, twin screw. Service speed 16 knots. 0 One funnel and four masts. Built for Atlantic Transport Line, British flag, in 1903 and intended to be the Minnewaska. Never completed as such. Sold to White Star and Dominion Lines, in 1904 and named Arabica. Liverpool-Boston or New York service. Sunk by a German U-boat off the Kinsale coast, Ireland in 1915. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Arabica_\(1902\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Arabica_(1902))

Notes: "Homesickness caused him to apply for leave in the summer of 1904 ...the projected three week holiday became a lengthy six week stay because Lynch fell ill on the voyage and was bedbound at the farm in Graning for ten days. According to Lynch, the illness was caused by the 'late hours and continuous rush' involved in issuing a necessary catalogue for Farquhar before his departure. The illness prevented him from exploring a business opportunity that might have enabled him to return to live in Ireland. He did attend the public reception in Dublin for a friend, the Irish-American athlete Martin Sheridan, who had competed in the Olympic Games in St. Louis, Missouri, that year." Diarmuid Lynch A Forgotten Irish Patriot. Eileen McGough. Mercier Press 2013. p24



Hall's Wine and the Air Raids

From Southend comes further evidence of the nerve-restoring properties of Hall's Wine:—

"During the recent Air Raid over this town, Hall's Wine proved a great help to us, as I happened to have a bottle by me. It worked wonders when administered to the ladies, and prevented the nervous collapse of several when the bombs were dropping and the strain on the nerves was at its worst. I have used Hall's Wine with benefit on various occasions, but have greater faith in it now than ever."

(From a local Resident's letter on file.)

Tone up your nerves—strengthen yourself against war's alarms by starting a course of Hall's Wine without another day's delay!

Hall's Wine

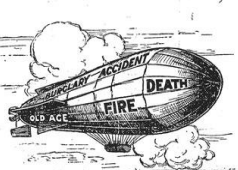
The Supreme Nerve Restorative
GUARANTEE.—Buy a bottle of Hall's Wine to-day. If, after taking half of it, you feel no benefit, return us the half-empty bottle within 14 days and we will refund your outlay.
Large size, 3/6; smaller, 2/-.
Of all Wine Merchants, &c.
Proprietors: WYNN & CO., LTD.,
BOW, LONDON.

WHY IS YOUR BOY LEAVING THE FARM?
(SAY HE ENJOYS THE CITY BECAUSE THEY HAVE AND BIKES.)
MOTORCYCLES AND BICYCLES?



We sell the best. Buy the best. See the best. See the best. See the best.
GEO. T. STREAM, 78 W. Main St., Newark, O.
BICYCLES, TIRES, SUPPLIES, REPAIRING

THE REAL PERIL.



Complete provision for these and all other contingencies is afforded by the simple but comprehensive policies issued by the

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE
INSURANCE COMPANY.
ESTABLISHED 1894

FUNDS . . . £22,500,000

LONDON—41, Threadneedle St., E.C. EDINBURGH—44, Prince St.

Aeridheacht at St. Enda's College, Rathfarnham. Sunday, September 5, 1915.

Aeridheacht is an Irish term that roughly translates as 'an open air festival' or fete and while very popular from the 1850's, particularly around 1900-1930, it generally fell out of common usage in the 1940's. Aeridheachts were widely popular events particularly in nationalist circles as a means of expressing Irish culture, music, dancing and included events such as military drills, target shooting and other displays. These were certainly viewed as anti-Imperial sentiment in pre Independence Ireland.

An Aeridheacht was held in Pearse's St. Enda's College, Rathfarnham on Sunday afternoon, September 5, 1915. This was to be the last of Pearse's St. Enda's 'Aeridheachts'. In previous years these events were very much focused on the school and the highlight was usually a pageant or open-air play performed by the boys. By 1915 the shift in Pearse's focus to the realm of politics and revolution is very much reflected in the programme of events which has a very definite military theme. One of the central events was a drill competition between various sections of the Irish Volunteers and Irish Citizen Army

One of the participants was Irish Volunteer Paudge O'Brian who wrote years later of the event:

"....Special sections of the various companies of the Volunteers and Citizen Army had been training for some time to compete in a drill competition...the day opened with games and sports and the usual Aeridheacht competitions. During the interval, what we thought was the most interesting event took place – that of the drill competition...the principal officers who acted as judges were Commandant Edward Daly, Commandant Michael Mallin and Commandant Eamon de Valera.....after all the sections had gone through their display, it was announced that a section entered by 'A' Company of the 4th Battalion had won the competition...the prize given was a green flag on which a harp was emblazoned. The trophy was presented by Commandant-General Padraig Pearse.....the same flag was raised at the Marrowbone Lane Distillery on Easter Monday, 1916. The winning section took part in the 1916 fighting"

AERIDHEACHT

At Grounds of St. Enda's College, Rathfarnham.
On Sunday, Sept. 5th, 1915, at 3 o.c.

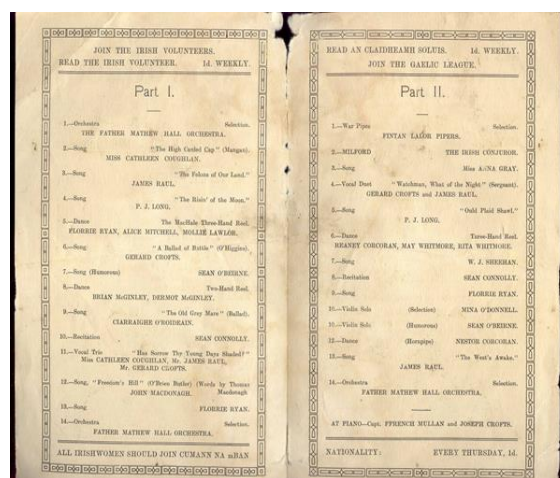
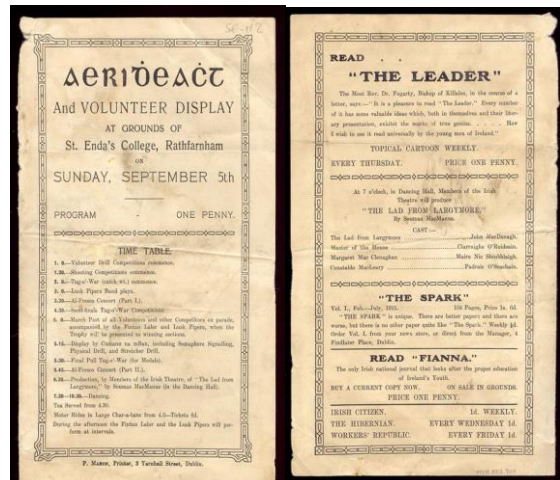
Competitions in drill, shooting and tug-of-war.
Commence at 1 o.c. sharp.

Concert, Dancing, Bands, Tea Rooms, Motor Drives,
Pipers.

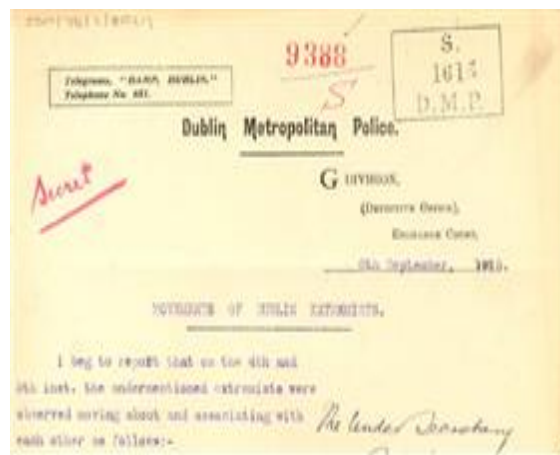
ADMISSION 3d. Motor from tram (Rathfarnham)
to grounds, fare 3d.

P. Mahon, Printer, Varnhall Street, Dublin.

Above: admission ticket to the Aeridheacht Below: Dublin Metropolitan Police detective report on the Aeridheacht. Source: National Library of Ireland. Below: Special Section Old A Coy. 4th Batt. Dublin Brigade Winners of Trophy at St. Enda's Rathfarnham, 5th September, 1915. Photo taken at the Kimmage Drill Hall, 12-09-1915. (Back row) Sean Tracy, Paudge O'Brian, Gabriel Murray, Brian McCormack, Sean O'Brian, Henry Murray (adjutant). (Front row) Gerald Murray, Fred Schweppe, Pat Mason, Edward McNamara, Louis McDermott, Dennis Dunne



Above: Aeridheacht event programme. (South Dublin Libraries)
Below: Dublin Metropolitan Police detective report on the Aeridheacht. Source: National Library of Ireland.



About 20 members of the Sinn Féin
Volunteers, carrying rifles, left 41 Par-
nell Square at 12 noon and marched to St.
Enda's, Rathfarnham, on the grounds of
which a Gaelic tournament was held.

Owen'Brien
Superintendent.

Passenger Manifest. February 1914

Diarmuid Lynch – Gaelic League/IRB trip to United States from the passenger manifest of SS Cedric

Form 630-A Department of Commerce and Labor IMMIGRATION SERVICE				LIST OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS (FOR THE IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES)		Number <u>41</u>	
8.8. <u>Edric</u>				sailing from <u>Queenstown</u> <u>13th January 1914</u>		Arriving at Port of New York <u>22 FEB 1914</u>	
No. of List	NAME IN FULL	AGE	Sex	IF NATIVE OF UNITED STATES, GIVE DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH (CITY OR TOWN AND STATE).	IF NATURALIZED, GIVE NAME AND LOCATION OF COURT WHICH ISSUED NATURALIZATION PAPERS, AND DATE OF PAPERS.	ADDRESS IN UNITED STATES.	
	FAMILY NAME	7	GIVEN NAME	Yrs. Mos.			
1.	Donohoe	William E	41	Ir. S			
2.	Beggan	Patrick E	42	Ir. S	New York		
3.	Stuffs	Patrick	32	Ir. S			
4.	Sheehan	Daniel	27	Ir. S			
5.	Lynch	James	36	Ir. S			
6.	Valis	Michael	52	Ir. S	U.S.C.		
7.	Valis	Mary	52	Ir. S	East Windsor 4 th March 1861		
8.	Valis	John	35	Ir. S			
9.							
10.							
11.							
12.							
13.							
14.							
15.							
16.							
17.							
18.							

Supreme Court, Chicago, Oct. 1892 2652-15th Ave and South Wood
Common Pleas
Supreme Court, New York, Dec 1/1902 2446 Atlantic Ave New York
District Court, New York, Dec 1/1902 2446 Atlantic Ave New York
Supreme Court, New York, 9 July 1902 624 Madison Ave New York
County Court, Rockville Conn, Sept 1888 Rockville Conn
wif of above do do do
Supreme Court, Springfield, Ill. 1899 Springfield, Ill.

7 C

John H. Moore
1/7

1914

Name:	Jeremiah C. Lynch. (Original entry name of Diarmuid crossed out and Jeremiah added)
Age	36
Gender	Male
Marital Status	Single
Nationality	United States
Vessel	SS Cedric
Departed:	Depart: Queenstown. 13 February 1914. Destination: New York
Arrived:	Arrive: NY. 22 February 1914.
Address in US:	624 Madison Avenue, New York
Ellis Island ID:	not available

Ship Details: Built by Harland & Wolff Limited, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 1902. 21,035 gross tons; 700 (bp) feet long; 75 feet wide. Steam Quadruple Expansion engines, twin screw. Service speed 16 knots. 2,875 passengers (365 first class, 160 second class, 2350 third class). Two funnels and four masts. **Ship History** Built for White Star and Dominion Lines, in 1902 and named **Cedric**. Liverpool-New York service. Used as an auxiliary cruiser and then as a troopship during World War I. Scrapped at Inverkeithing in 1932. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RMS_Cedric

Notes: Diarmuid travelled to the US with Tomas Ashe on a fund raising mission for the Gaelic League and a secret IRB mission.

"A large number of friends met last evening at the Gresham Hotel to wish Messrs Lynch and Ashe a pleasant journey and every success in their efforts. Dr. Douglas Hyde, speaking on behalf of the Gaelic League, said their delegates were to confine themselves entirely to the work of the League while in the States. They had a great work before them, and be, on behalf of those present, and on behalf of the Gaelic League throughout Ireland, wished them every success in their undertaking...Mr Lynch on behalf of Mr Ashe and himself, suitably replied and promised they would do their utmost to make the result of their efforts in the States worthy of the cause for which they had been selected (applause). The delegates left Dublin by the 6:10 train from Kingsbridge and were accorded a most enthusiastic send-off..."

(This fund raising mission will be detailed in a future Newsletter and Website article)

Voyage of the Sayonara 1914-15



Motor Yacht Sayonara – launched 1891

In late 1914, British Intelligence received highly classified information that Roger Casement had left New York and reached Germany with plans to form an Irish Legion from among Irish prisoners of war.

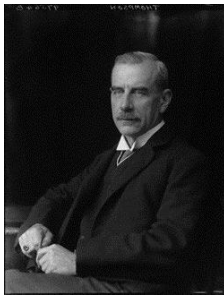
Then came further critical information from 'reliable sources' that in early 1915, Casement was expected to land on a remote location on the south-west Irish coast in a Danish steam yacht equipped with arms supplied by Berlin. From there, with nationalist support, it was expected that an uprising would be launched against the British administration.

In December 1914, the Director of Naval Intelligence, Captain William Reginald Hall RN went to extraordinary lengths to spring a trap.

With Sir Basil Thompson (Police Commissioner & later British Director of Intelligence) Hall chartered in the off season, a grand 500 ton steam yacht named the Sayonara owned by an American citizen, A.J.Drexel Jnr. Next, Hall and Thomson made plans for the vessel to appear to belong to a German-American owner, with a skipper and full crew who were to sail along the remote bays and inlets of the south and west coast to observe where Sinn Fein support was strongest and it's mission to discover where Casement and the arms ship were due to land. If they encountered the vessel or Casement & German or Irish accompanying him ashore, they were to take them under armed guard.



William Hall



Sir Basil Thompson

By December 1915, the yacht was cruising off the west coast of Ireland, under the command of Lt. Symon RN (who had served under Hall on the HMS Queen Mary), who along with a selected crew of 50 British naval ratings affected American accents and pro Irish republican sympathies. The 'owner' of the yacht aboard was a German-American named Colonel MacBride of Los Angeles. He was in fact an SIS Intelligence officer - Major W.R. Howells. Also on board was a radio set, arms and ammunition.

A variety of adventures befell the Sayonara and it's fake crew over the weeks of it's travels around the south-west coast of Ireland in late 1914 & early 1915.

The vessel was Intercepted by at least three Royal Navy vessels including HMS Cornwallis. Suspicious of the yacht's intent and crew, the Captain contacted the Admiralty in London requesting permission to detain the vessel. This was denied and a furious Captain had little option but to release the Sayonara and crew.

In early January 1915 Hall sent the following message sent to Symon: *"It is anticipated that C [Casement] will arrive in the Danish steamer Mjolnir of Copenhagen – 500 tons. She is due to leave Christiansand on 9th (January 9) and should be off the west coast of Ireland between the 13th and the 15th."*

In reality, Casement never boarded the vessel and it is suggested that the information on the expedition was a ruse deliberately leaked to British intelligence.

As well as attempting to locate the rumoured arms ship & capture Casement, Hall used the suspicion that the Sayonara had generated with respect to the naval command in Queenstown and Royal Navy patrols off the Irish coast to gather intelligence about Irish republicans: *"Those on board the Sayonara were so 'chivvied' by the British authorities that the 'bad boys' came to them like flies to a treacle – pot and they were able to meet almost everyone who was working against us."*

At another point in the Sayonara's journey, Lord Sligo, a local Anglo-Irish landowner, rushed to London and demanded a private meeting with Hall, claiming that the Sayonara was undoubtedly up to no good and was clearly in the pay of Germany.

Hall claimed that the efforts of Simon and Howell provided a force multiplier for British intelligence in Ireland in the period that preceded the rebellion: *"It was largely due to their efforts that right up to the Irish rebellion of 1916 we were able to keep watch on the most disloyal elements with comparatively few men."*

With respect to Casement, at least on this occasion, Hall's dependence on signals intelligence proved to be unreliable.

By January 19, 1915, Hall was forced to admit defeat. On that date he sent Symon the following message: *"We have lost track of C. Return home."*

The Sayonara returned to Southampton and the yacht was returned to it's owner, later appearing that summer in New York race sailing competitions. Months later, Hall commissioned another private yacht, the Vergemere, to undertake a similar mission to Spain to discover German naval activities.

While the actors on the Sayonara performed their comic opera brilliantly, it was highly unlikely that their adventures produced any intelligence of real value about the strenght of Sinn Fein & nationalist support in south west Ireland.

Sources: The British State and the Irish Rebellion of 1916: An Intelligence Failure Or a Failure of Response? Geoffrey Sloan University of Reading, UK

William Hall went on to play a role in the interception of IRB & Clan na Gael Rising plans with Room 40 of the Admiralty. Basil Thomson in the selected release of Casement's 'Black Diaries' in 1916 to prevent influential public support for a reduction of his death sentence for treason. Thompson became the British Director of Intelligence, running a spy network which included reporting on Irish Nationalists more notably Michael Collins during 1919-1921. Articles on both these individuals will appear in future Newsletters.

This Newsletter is now going to 87 family & friends addresses monthly throughout Ireland, the UK, US & Australia.

Feel like writing an article or passing on comments?

Email: ruairi_lynch@hotmail.com



Family members & friends attending Easter 2016:

Daly, Daire
Daly, Saoirse
Daly, Ruairi
Daly, Diarmuid
Daly, Aja
Daly, Cale
Daly, Duibhne
Duggan, Brid
Lynch, Dolores
Lynch, Mary
Lynch, Ruairi
Anglim, Helen
Ryan-Lynch, Rebecca
Ryan-Lynch, Cianna
Ryan-Lynch, David
Lynch, Cormac (US)
Lynch, Gaye (US)
Fitzgerald-Lynch, Amy (US)
Lynch, Diarmuid
Lynch, Christine
Lynch, Robyn
Lynch, Diarmuid
Lynch, Hugh
McGough, Eileen
Collins, Mylie
Murphy, Nora
Murphy, Mark & Eilis
Scott, Dolores, Paul & Family
Winters Family
Cohalan, Judge Peter Fox & Eileen
Kremers (US)
Freddie & Emer O'Dwyer

Plus others to confirm.
Missed anyone? Get in touch and I'll mail you the form.

Many of us are staying at the Hilton Double Trees, Dublin 4 (former Burlington) so do come and join with family & friends.



CENTURY VIEW DIARMUID LYNCH

October 6, 1915: Following on from Diarmuid Lynch's recommendation that Fenit be used for the a future delivery of German arms, Clan na Gael made contact with George von Skäl, assistant to the Military Attaché of the Imperial German Embassy in Washington, Captain Franz von Papen* Details were coded and sent by cipher telegram to the German Foreign Office in Berlin that it was vital to send 'a number of rifles, together with ammunition' to Fenit, located 'seven miles from Tralee'. These rifles would be put to very good use by a group 'organised in Ireland to resist recruiting' Tansill. 'America and the Fight for Irish Freedom 1866-1922'. Devin-Adair. New York 1957. p191.

On the same day, Monteith finally met with Casement near Munich who advised of progress to date in the recruitment of Irish prisoners of war for the Irish Brigade. 'The additions to the British and French fleets had put the possibility of a German naval victory out of the question and he had therefore stopped recruiting. This was most unpleasant news for me as I had orders to push recruiting for the Brigade.' Capt. Robert Monteith. 'Casement's Last Adventure'. Private Printing – 1st Edition. Chicago 1932. Lynch Family Archives p66

Monteith stated his orders to push recruiting for the Brigade, to which Casement agreed subject to the War Office in Berlin giving approval. Both men returned to Berlin and obtained the necessary permission to attempt recruiting again.

October 22, 1915: Diarmuid Lynch recalled: 'In the autumn of 1915, those of the Provisional representatives elected (or re-elected) during the months preceding, and who were available met in Dublin to complete the personnel of the Supreme Council in accordance with the constitution i.e. to co-opt four members. On this occasion it was my privilege to move the co-option of a man not hitherto a member of the S.C., Padraic Pearse. He was now chosen. (The other three members were Tom Clarke, Sean MacDermott and Dr. McCartan) Diarmuid Lynch Supplementary Statement – Bureau of Military History. Copy in National Library of Ireland. MS11.128

***Franz Joseph Hermann Michael Maria von Papen zu Köningen** (29 October 1879 – 2 May 1969) was a German nobleman, General Staff officer and politician. He served as Chancellor of Germany in 1932 and as Vice-Chancellor under Adolf Hitler in 1933–1934. He belonged to the group of close advisers to President Paul von Hindenburg in the late Weimar Republic. It was largely Papen, believing that Hitler could be controlled once he was in the government, who persuaded Hindenburg to appoint Hitler as Chancellor in a cabinet not under Nazi Party domination. However, Papen and his allies were quickly marginalized by Hitler and he left the government after the Night of the Long Knives, during which some of his confidantes were killed by the Nazis. During the autumn of 1914, while attached to the German Embassy in Washington D.C., Papen's "natural proclivities for intrigue got him involved in espionage activities." Papen also served as an intermediary between the Irish Volunteers and the German government regarding the purchase and delivery of arms to be used against the British during the Easter Rising of 1916, as well as serving as an intermediary with the Indian nationalists in the Hindu German Conspiracy. As a result, some sixteen months into the European War he was expelled from the United States for alleged complicity in the planning of acts of sabotage. On 28 December 1915, he was declared *persona non grata* after his exposure and was recalled to Germany. Promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, he served on the general staff in Germany and left the army soon after the armistice which halted the fighting in November 1918.



2015

No further State events planned for the remainder of 2015

2016

January 1

- **Dublin Castle:** Opening events of the State Commemorative program.
- **Issue of 16 Commemoration Stamps** by An Post and special coins by the Central Bank.

March 8

- **Richmond Barracks, Dublin:** Women in the 1916 Rising Commemoration & Exhibition.

March 15

- **Proclamation Day** – all educational establishments

March 26 Easter Saturday

- **Wreath laying ceremonies** at key sites to mark the Rising centenary.
- **Garden of Remembrance., Dublin 1:** Remembrance Ceremony for all who died during 1916.
- **State Reception** for relatives of the 1916 participants. Farmleigh House

March 27 Easter Sunday

- **State ceremonies at the GPO,** Dublin marking the centenary of the Rising.
- **State Reception** for all guests invited to the State Ceremony at the GPO.
- **Wreath laying ceremonies** - nationwide

March 28 Easter Monday

- **Wreath laying ceremonies** throughout the capital & state at 13:15hrs – marking the time the Rising began.
- Official opening of the **Easter Rising Centenary Interpretative Visitor Centre** at the GPO.
- **Ireland 2016 Public Celebrations** nationwide

March 29 Easter Tuesday

- **Liberty Hall Ceremony** to mark the contribution of the Irish Citizen Army and James Connolly.
- Official opening of the **Kilmainham Courthouse**
- Official opening of the **Tenement Museum,** Dublin 1.

April 2: National Children's Day & opening of an exhibition on children of 1916.

1916 Academic Conference – speakers from Third Level Institutions Island wide. Dublin. Venue to be advised.

April 3: Journey of Reconciliation 1916-2016 interfaith service in Glasnevin cemetery

April 9: Pearse Museum – Presidential visit

Official opening of the **Military Archives,** Cathal Brugha Barracks, Rathmines, Dublin 6

April 10: Commemoration event 1916-2016

April 11: Garda Museum – opening of an exhibition on the DMP & the 1916 Rising.

April 12: National Concert Hall – opening of new facilities

April 21: Banna Strand, Co. Kerry. Wreath laying ceremony marking the centenary of Casement's landing.

April 24: Arbour Hill – Commemoration event

May 2: Richmond Barracks. Re-opening of the historic barracks on the same day as the Courts Martials began.

May 3-12 – Stonebreakers Yard, Kilmainham Jail. Ceremonies will take place to commemorate the 15 executions. Marked by Military Colour party, wreath laying and piper's lament.

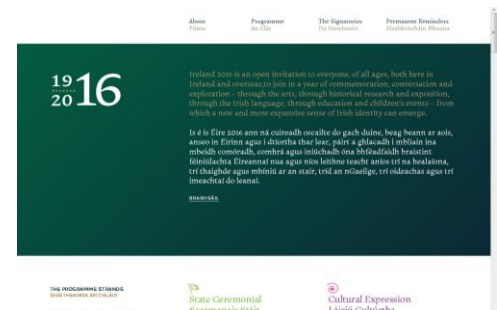
May – Grangegorman Military Cemetery. Ceremony marking British soldiers killed during the Rising.

May – Pearse Cottage, Rathfarnham. Official re-opening of Pearse's Cottage.

August 3 – Roger Casement Centenary - commemorative events for Roger Casement marking the centenary of his death in Pentonville Prison, London.

December – Conclusion of the 1916 Commemoration year at Aras an Uachtaráin

More events are being added weekly. For full details, visit the Government 1916-2016 Commemoration website at ireland.ie



GPO Participants 1916

Beginning in this issue of the Newsletter, we feature biographies of all known participants who fought in the GPO during Easter week.

Based on the 1916 Honour Roll instigated by Diarmuid Lynch, this lists some 423 individuals whose claims were cross checked and referenced by multiple witnesses before being accepted as having fought in the building during the Rising.

Adrien, Mary (Molly Adrien).

Molly Adrien was born into a well to do professional family at Kilbrecktown, Co. Meath. Her father and grandfather were both medical doctors. When her family moved to Balbriggan, Molly was educated in Loreto Convent, Balbriggan, Surbiton, England and France. She became a staunch Nationalist, joined Cumann na mBan and volunteered during the 1916 Rising where she delivered dispatches from Patrick Pearse in the G.P.O. to the commandant of the Fingal Brigade Thomas Ashe. Her house was later used as a safe refuge during the War of Independence. She died in 1949 and is buried at Crickstown Cemetery, near Curragha on the borders of Meath and Dublin. There is a plaque to her memory in Oldtown. It reads *Mary Adrien and Comrades, Late Old I.R.A., Fingal Brigade, 1916 – 1921.*

Agnew, Arthur P

Kimmage Garrison. Member of the I.R.B. and Irish Volunteers in Liverpool and F Company Dublin Brigade Irish Volunteers. Joined the I.R.B. in Liverpool in 1910 Bootle (Nicholl) Branch, his grandfather had been Centre of the Liverpool I.R.B., joined the Liverpool Irish Volunteers in 1914. In March 1916 he received his call-up notice from the British Army, left Liverpool and came to Dublin, he was posted to the Kimmage Garrison. On Easter Monday morning he marched to Harolds Cross and boarded a tram for the city under the command of Plunkett who insisted on paying for the tram tickets. On arriving at the G.P.O. he was posted to guard O'Connell Bridge at the North end from Hopkins Corner to Kelly's Corner, orders were to stop any British troops crossing the bridge. On Wednesday due to heavy fire they were ordered to retreat to the G.P.O. After an unsuccessful attempt to re-occupy Kelly's on Thursday he spent the next two days in the Metropole Hotel, on Friday he received instructions to evacuate the Hotel and return to the G.P.O. On returning to the G.P.O. he joined the general evacuation to Moore Street where he remained until the Surrender. After grounding arms on the western side of O'Connell Street he spent the night on the open ground at the Rotunda and on Sunday morning marched to Richmond Barracks for interrogation. From Richmond Barracks he was taken to the North Wall and put on a cattle boat for Holyhead and then to Stafford Jail. In July he was transferred to Frongoch and released at Christmas 1916.

Behan, James

"B" Company, 2nd Battalion, Dublin Brigade, Irish Volunteers. Born in 1898 died on the 8th of February 1954, aged about 18 years old during the Rising. Fought in the O'Connell Street and Moore Street areas. He was detained at Richmond Barracks for about eight days after the Rising but was released due to his age (it is claimed he looked considerably younger than he was). James Behan was not a member of the Irish Volunteers and joined up at the outbreak of the Easter Rising on Monday 24 April 1916. He was arrested and interned from December 1920 to December 1921. His brother Michael Behan also took part in the Rising.

Behan, Michael

Aged about 23 years old during the Rising. No further information.

Bermingham, Andrew J. 1st Battalion, "C" Company, Dublin Brigade, Irish Volunteers. Mobilised on Easter Monday 1916 for Blackhall Place, but could not reach his Company, joining the forces at the G.P.O. instead. After the surrender, he was arrested and deported to Knutsford Prison on 1st May 1916, released at the end of July that year, was one of the firing party at Thomas Ashe's funeral, mobilised for attempted rescue of Kevin Barry in October 1920. Arrested by National Forces on 2 July 1922 during the Civil War having fought with anti-Treaty IRA forces at Hughes' Hotel, McArthur's and 44 Parnell Square, released after a few days detention at Mountjoy Prison, Dublin.

Bermingham, John Joseph. 24 St Ignatius Road, Drumcondra, Dublin (address when mobilised for Easter Week, 1916). C Company 1st Battalion Irish Volunteers. Member of Irish Volunteers since its inception in 1913, separated from his unit on Easter Monday, 1916, prompting him to report alone to General Post Office, interned at Knutsford and Frongoch until July 1916, after which he re-joined his unit, resigning on health grounds in 1920. Involved in the Howth gun-running and O'Donovan Rossa funeral in 1915.

Billings, Joseph. He was 20 years old at the time of the Rising, born in Dublin City and is listed on the 1911 census as living at 24 Bayview Avenue North Strand Dublin employed as an upholstery apprentice.

Bird, Patrick. "E" Company 2nd Battalion Dublin Brigade Irish Volunteers. Born in 1891 died on the 29 of November 1938, aged about 25 years old during the Rising. Fought in the Hibernian Bank O'Connell Street.

Boland, Edmund – No information available

Boland, Henry James (Harry). Born in Dublin in 1887. Joined the I.R.B. in 1904. Joined the Irish Volunteers at the inaugural meeting in the Rotunda along with his brothers Gerry and Ned. Mobilised at Fairview Park on Easter Monday. On Monday his Company held a post a Gouldings Manure Works at Fairview Bridge and later in the day transferred to Gilbey's Wine Merchant on the corner of Richmond Avenue where he remained until the Tuesday. On the Tuesday, along with his brother Ned and William Whelan, he took three Prisoners, three British Army Instructors from the Bull Wall, to the G.P.O. returning to Gilbey's on Tuesday evening. One of these prisoners later identified him. By Wednesday Gilbey's was being encircled by the British so the Garrison decided to evacuate to the G.P.O. on the Wednesday. He remained in the G.P.O. until the evacuation. He was court martialed and sentenced to ten years penal servitude with five years remitted. He was held in Mountjoy and then sent to Dartmoor Prison and then transferred to Lewis Jail. He took part in several protests in Lewis Jail to gain prisoner of war status and was transferred to Maidstone Prison where he served time with de Valera. He fought throughout the War of independence. He took the Anti-Treaty side in the Civil War. He died on Tuesday the 2nd of August 1922 in St. Vincent's Hospital Dublin from gunshot wounds he received when attempting to escape capture by Free State Troops on Monday night in the Grand Hotel Skerries. As with all these type of shooting during the Civil War there are allegations that he was executed by the Free State Troops.

Boland, Michael. "E" Company 4th Battalion Dublin Brigade Irish Volunteers. He was appointed Captain during Easter Week. Born in 1876, about 40 years old at the time of the Rising. He died on the 11th of November 1942, his age given on the death certificate as 65 years old. He was interned after the Rising, released in December 1916.

Bracken, Peadar, Kimmage Garrison. Born in 1887 and died on the 19th of January 1961, he was about 29 years old during the Rising. Took part in the fighting in Kelly's Gun & Ammunition Shop, O'Connell Street, Bachelor's Walk, Middle Abbey Street, Prince's Street, General Post Office, O'Connell Street and Moore Street. He was detained after the Rising until June. From August 1915 Bracken served as Commandant of the Athlone Brigade, Irish Volunteers. He went on the run following a confrontation at the Sinn Féin rooms in Tullamore on 20 March 1916 during which he shot and wounded RIC Sergeant Aherne. Mobilised his Brigade on 23 April but following receipt of Eoin MacNeill's countermarching order he went to Dublin and took part in the fighting there. At the Irish Volunteer conventions in December 1916 Bracken was elected to the Executive of the Irish Volunteers on which body he served until 1921. From 1918, until March 1920 when he was appointed as an organiser for parts of counties Tipperary, Offaly and Kildare by General Headquarters IRA, Peadar Bracken served as Commandant of the Offaly Brigade. In October 1920 he organised a general attacks on RIC personnel in the Offaly 1st Brigade area in response to death of Terence McSwiney and to have taken part in an ambush of British forces at Raheen, Geashill, County Offaly. Bracken was arrested in March 1921 and interned at Rath Camp until escaping on 1 October the same year. Following his escape Bracken joined the Home Affairs Department of Dáil Éireann helping to organise Republican Courts in counties Westmeath, Meath, Offaly and Kildare. At the outbreak of the Civil War in July 1922 Bracken unsuccessfully attempted to secure arms for use in fighting against National Army forces in county Offaly after which took no further part in that conflict.

Brady, Michael. Convicted by Court Martial on the 8th of May and sentenced to death, commuted by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief to 3 years penal servitude.

Breen, Liam – no information available

Brooks, Christina, nee Stafford. Ard Craobh Branch (Central Branch), Dublin Brigade, Cumann na mBan. Born in 1881 died on the 27th of April 1950, aged about 35 years old during the Rising. Served in the Irish School of Wireless Telegraphy, Reis's Building, O'Connell Street/Lower Abbey Street and Hibernian Bank, O'Connell Street areas. She was very active in Cumann na mBan from 1914 until 1923 when she was arrested on the 17th March 1923 on North Brunswick Street, carrying arms. She was interned and during her imprisonment her health deteriorated she suffered from lameness, loss of sight and deafness.

Brophy, Daniel. Lieutenant "A" Company 5th Battalion (Fingal) Irish Volunteers Born 1892 died 25th of February 1961 aged about 24 during the Rising. During the Rising he fought in Finglas, Blanchardstown, Bachelors Walk, General Post Office, O'Connell Street and Moore Street. After the Rising he saw service during the War of Independence, Truce Period and Civil War for the entirety of the period between 1 April 1916 and 30 September 1923. Following his participation in the 1916 Rising Daniel Brophy was interned until July 1916. From 1917 until his capture arrest in December 1920, Brophy served as a Battalion Quartermaster, Brigade Officer Commanding and Brigade Staff Officer with the Irish Volunteers and IRA. During this period, according to reference from Joseph Lawless, there was a degree of conflict within the Fingal Brigade IRA in 1920 with Daniel Brophy and others, in opposition to the then Brigade Officer Commanding, arguing for greater activity on behalf of the Brigade against British forces.

Brophy Daniel...cont./

According, also to Lawless, Brophy was responsible for the capture and killing of a spy following the attack on the town of Balbriggan by British forces in the wake of the killing of an RIC Head Constable Peter Burke there in September 1920. Following his release in December 1921 Daniel Brophy first joined the IRA Dublin Brigade Active Service Unit and then the National Army serving with the Dublin Guards during the Civil War. Daniel Brophy continued to serve with the Defence Forces until his resignation in September 1924.

Bulfin, Éamonn. Lieutenant Rathfarnham Company Irish Volunteers. A native of Birr County Offaly He was the second pupil to enter St. Enda's School in September 1908, the school was then on Oakley Road Ranelagh. He joined the I.R.B. in 1912, Fianna Circle Con Colbert was centre, and later that year he proposed P H Pearse for membership which was accepted. He joined the Irish Volunteers when they started. Before the Rising he took part in the manufacture of munitions at St. Enda's. On Easter Monday morning he received mobilisation orders signed by Pearse which instructed him to mobilise the Rathfarnham Company and proceed to Liberty Hall. The Company mobilised outside Rathfarnham Church, about 20out of a total strength of 35 mustered. From Liberty Hall the Company proceeded to the G.P.O. gaining entry through a window on Prince's Street. He was posted to the roof of the G.P.O. where he remained until Wednesday afternoon. After a short rest on Wednesday he maintained and erected barricades on the ground floor of the G.P.O. at the Prince's Street end. On Friday he took part in the evacuation to Moore Street where he remained until the surrender on Saturday. He was detained on the grass outside the Rotunda overnight on Saturday and on Sunday marched to Richmond Barracks and from there to Stafford Jail and on the Frongoch.

Burke, David. A Marconi Radio Operator, Operated the Radio in the Wireless School until the Wednesday afternoon of the Rising, due to heavy shelling from the Helga the position had to be abandoned. He transmitted news of the Rising.

Burke, Frank. (Fergus de Burca). "E" Company 4th Battalion (Pearse's Own) Dublin Brigade Irish Volunteers. In 1909 he was a boarder in St. Enda's and remained with the school when it moved to The Hermitage in Rathfarnham in 1910. After gaining a place in Dublin University in 1912 he remained at The Hermitage, it was about 1912 when he joined the I.R.B. He joined the Irish Volunteers at the Rotunda in 1913. His Company mobilised at Rathfarnham Church on Easter Monday at 10am, about 37 Volunteers mustered, they travelled by the number 17 tram as far as the Bank of Ireland when gun-fire caused to driver to abandon the tram. They marched to Liberty Hall where they were ordered to the G.P.O. His first post was on the roof of the G.P.O. under the Tri-Colour at the Prince's Street corner. He remained at his post on the roof until Wednesday when he was posted to the ground floor. By mid-day on Thursday the fires around the G.P.O. had become serious, the fires now extended from Celery's down to Hopkins Corner and from the Metropole Hotel down to O'Connell Bridge, although the G.P.O. had not yet caught fire it was only a matter of time before it did. He remained at the G.P.O. until the evacuation to Moore Street and was part of a group ordered to charge the Barricades and was waiting for the word to go when the surrender was announced. He was detained overnight on the grass at the Rotunda and the next day taken to Richmond Barracks. He was transferred to the North Wall and put on board a cattle boat and sent to Stafford Jail.

Burke Nicholas. Private Hibernian Rifles, born on the 24th of September 1896 died on the 23rd of February 1963, aged 19 at the time of the Rising. He fought in the General Post Office, O'Connell Street, Dublin Evening Mail Newspaper Office, Smith & Weldon's Ironmongers, and Parliament Street. He was arrested by the British Army outside the Telephone Exchange on Crown Alley on Tuesday 25 April while trying to make his way back to the General Post Office and was released on Sunday 30 April on account of his age, he claimed he was under 16 years old.

Byrne, Catherine. (Catherine Rooney) Joined the Central Branch of Cumann na mBan early in 1915, she was 20 years old. She was the first Cumann na mBan woman to enter the G.P.O. on Easter Monday. Her sister Alice and their older brother Patrick Byrne (Paddy) also took part in the Rising. Catherine served in the G.P.O. throughout the week. On the Monday night she was sent to the Hibernian Bank to prepare food for the Garrison there, she returned to the G.P.O. early Tuesday morning bring dispatches with her. Later on the Tuesday she was sent by Pearse to the Four Courts with dispatches which she concealed in her hair under her bonnet. Unable to return to the G.P.O. she spent the night in an armchair in a tenement, early next morning she went to King Street where she spent the rest of the week until the surrender.

Byrne, Christopher – no information

Byrne, Edward, aged 15 he joined the Volunteers on Easter Monday at Father Matthew Park.

Byrne, James – no information

Byrne, John C. He was 15 years old at the time of the Rising and is recorded in the 1911 census as living at 17.3 Richmond Street North Mountjoy Dublin. Languages spoken not listed. His brothers Peter S. and Patrick J. Byrne also fought in the G.P.O.

Byrne, Louis. Irish Citizen Army, Born in 1900, died on the 16th of August 1987, aged about 16 at the time of the Rising. Louis Byrne evaded arrest/capture following his participation in the 1916 Easter Rising. Following the outbreak of the Civil War on 28 June 1922 Byrne took part in fighting against National Army forces in Dublin. On 22 August of that year he mobilised as part of the general anti-Treaty forces operation to destroy bridges in the Dublin area "night of the bridges". He subsequently served with Irregular forces in County Wicklow taking part in fighting against National Forces at Glenasmole Lodge. In March 1923 he was arrested and subsequently interned until December of that year.

Byrne, Lucy Agnes. Section Leader, Cumann na mBan, Ard Craobh Branch (Central Branch), Dublin Brigade. Born in 1882 died on the 14th of November 1972, aged about 34 years old during the Rising. Served in the Hibernian Bank, O'Connell Street and the General Post Office, O'Connell Street. Attached to the First Aid Detachments at the General Post Office.

Byrne, Patrick Joseph. "C" Company, 1st Battalion, Dublin Brigade, Irish Volunteers. Born in 1892 died on the 9th of December 1966, aged about 24 years old during the Rising. Employed as an Electrician before the Rising. Fought in the Cabra Bridge, General Post Office, O'Connell Street, Annesley Bridge, Fairview, Moore Street areas. Fought through the War of Independence and Civil War, took the Pro-Treaty side. Was a member of the Dublin Metropolitan Police (Constable 151A) and Garda (Number 12008). Acted as a stretcher bearer for James Connolly during Easter 1916. Transferred from the National Army to the C.I.D., based in Oriel House, Westland Row, Dublin, in July 1922. He served as Officer Commanding Transport with the C.I.D. until joining the Dublin Metropolitan Police (as part of the C.I.D.'s merger with that body) in October 1923. The C.I.D. was under the control of the Minister for Defence and its members paid from Army Funds until 21 August

...1922 when it came under the jurisdiction of the Minister for Home Affairs. His brothers Peter S. and John C. Byrne also fought in the G.P.O.

Byrne, Peter Sylvester. Captain "D" Company, 2nd Battalion, Dublin Brigade Fianna Éireann. Born December 1899 died 31st of August 1959, aged about 16 at the time of the Rising. He was employed as an Apprentice Lithographer. Joined Fianna Éireann in 1913 and that he took part in the Howth gun running. Following the Easter Rising he was interned for fourteen days. Between 1917 and 1919 he was involved in training and organising Fianna Éireann in Dublin. In 1920 he held the rank of Commandant, he was involved in the kidnapping of members of the British forces and stealing their uniforms. In April 1920 he was appointed to serve with General Collins, where he continued to serve until March 1922. He rendered first aid to the men who were injured in Mount Street 21 November 1920 (Bloody Sunday). During the Civil War he enlisted in the National Forces at Amien Street and he resigned on 10 July 1922 as he had to return to hospital. He was appointed to the rank of Captain and was given charge of an armoured car and squad by General O'Daly and that he was involved in fighting at the Gresham Hotel and that he took part in raids for ammunition. His brother Patrick J and John C also fought in the Rising.

Byrne, Thomas Francis. Maynooth Company, Kildare Brigade, Irish Volunteers. Born in 1877 died on the 7th of September 1962, aged about 39 years old during the Rising. He fought in the General Post Office, O'Connell Street, Parliament Street, Capel Street Bridge and Liffey Street areas. Thomas Byrne was one of a party of Maynooth Irish Volunteers who marched to Dublin to take part in the Easter Rising. He escaped after the Easter Rising and was not interned or imprisoned. From 1917 to early 1921 Byrne served successively as Vice Battalion Officer Commanding and Battalion Officer Commanding Irish Volunteers and IRA and then as a Staff Officer on the Dublin Brigade IRA. In 1919 he was interned for five months in Brixton Prison, London and was later again interned in 1921 at Rath Camp, The Curragh. Following the outbreak of the Civil War in June 1922 Thomas Byrne served as Officer in charge of a number of National Army positions in Dublin including the Technical Schools in Bolton Street, Davy's Public House in Portobello and King's Inns. He was appointed Captain of the Guard at Leinster House in September 1922 until his retirement in February 1947. Byrne had serviced under Major John McBride in the Boer War 1899-1900.

Caddell, Patrick. From Lusk, arrived in the G.P.O. on Tuesday the 25th of April. "A" Company, 5th Battalion, Dublin Brigade, Irish Volunteers. Born in 1882 died on the 23rd of April 1942, aged about 34 during the Rising. Fought in the General Post Office, O'Connell Street, Kelly's Corner, O'Connell Bridge, Abbey Street, Moore Street and Rathmines areas. Subsequent internment at Knutsford and Frongoch until July 1916.

Caffrey, Matthew. "E" Company, 4th Battalion, Dublin Brigade, Irish Volunteers. Born 27th of September 1882, died the 7th of August 1952, aged about 33 years old at the time of the Rising. Took part in the fighting in Rathfarnham, Liberty Hall, Beresford Place, General Post Office, O'Connell Street, Marlborough Street, Dublin Bread Company, Westmoreland Street and Moore Street.

Next month: further biographies of the GPO garrison.

The Former Glory of Tracton

Published in the Cork Examiner, c. May, 1905.

Lynch Family Archives. 1997.

"Mr. J.A. Twomey writing in the "Cork Examiner" says:

"What true son of the Gael can look upon the ruined pile of some abbey without conjuring up in his mind some wonderful ideas of a massive building, with brown cowed monks flitting about on their daily task of love?

To the ardent lover of ancient history, the least known of our relics of bygone days offer the most scope for his imagination and ability to find information about the now ruined building.

The townland of Tracton, to the south of Carrigaline, and about a dozen miles from Cork, is literally dotted with ruined churches, old castles and holy wells. The fact that these places are mostly unknown as 'show places' could entice some people to explore here and make known their discoveries, and the now fading local traditions and legends.

Carrigaline with its now ruined castle built by Milo de Cogan is too well known to need further mention. Its river once sheltered Sir Francis Drake when fleeing with his ships from the Spaniards. He sailed up and anchored in a pool near Crosshaven. The overhanging trees hid the masts from his pursuers who had to depart without capturing him. This pool, now called after Drake, can be seen from the Carrigaline-Crosshaven road.

Passing back and upwards from this village (Tracton), the traveller soon gets a fine view of the country beneath him. To the south-east are the cross-roads at Kilpatrick, on the main road which leads to the villages of Tracton and Minane. Straight up from the main road, on the top of a short, steep hill, and only a couple of hundred yards from the cross, is the ruins of the former parish church of Kilpatrick (The Church of St. Patrick). The Church was built alongside a small graveyard. The graveyard is overgrown with tall, coarse grass and only one or two families are now buried there. A few feet of the walls remain all round. The church itself must have been a very small and poor type of building. According to the local people, the Parish Priest used to live in a house next to the church or chapel. No trace of this remains however. A small wicket gate leads out from the graveyard, to an ordinary iron gate on the left of the roadside

An interesting legend is attached to the place. Evidently hundreds of years ago, a saintly priest or hermit lived in this vicinity. Some think he lived near the spot where the ruins of Tracton Abbey now stand. However, seemingly the most correct surmise is he had his abode, probably as a hermit on or near the site where the ruined church now stands. This may have been St. Finian, once patron of this country for miles around, but who was later supplanted by St. Patrick as the Patron. Some think he had other monks living with him. It is hard to find any good authority on the subject.

This saint had a sister living with him. It was her duty to fetch water from a certain well each day to make wheaten bread for her brother. No other water would suit the brother. The saint had occasion to reprimand his sister one day. Some think she unwittingly placed meat before him on a fast day and that he ate it without thought of the fast. The Saint in his anger, or as a penance for her mistake, forbade her leaving the vicinity of his house or abode. Contrary to the Saint's commands, the maiden stole forth at night. When the brother missed her, he cursed her and wished "that the Wolf-Dogs of Minane might devour her".

Whether with remorse or conscience or with a foreboding of evil, or some think he heard the wild wolves baying, he too issued forth into the night to find her.

At Ahane Cross he found wolves or wild dogs devouring the few remaining bones - all that was left of his sister. At his approach, the wolves were cowed with terror. In a voice of anguish, the saint implored "Heaven's dire vengeance on those dogs" Scarcely had he spoken when the dogs - or probably wolves - were turned into stone. The Saint reverently gathered up the bones of his sister and carried them to the well where his sister used to go each day for the water. He bathed the bones here, and lo! The maiden came to life again.

Another version given is that the maiden delayed one day, while drawing the water and the saint cursed her. However, every-one is in agreement that the miracle happened, as stated above.

Evidence about the wolves remains today at Ahane cross-roads. This spot is about a mile or two below Kilpatrick Cross, on the main road, and on the Tracton-Minane side. Some long stones shaped somewhat like dogs are lying by two piers there. A stone puppy is also stated to be in the nearby bog. The Holy Well is situated in the top of a hilly field bordering this road, on the right hand side, going to Minane and Tracton, and about half-way between Kilpatrick Cross and Ahane Cross.

The bottom of the field is rather boggy where the tiny stream from the holy well runs. The course up to the wall is rather difficult to negotiate, except by paths worn by cattle, etc. The well is shallow, but there is a cup there with which to drink the water, with its reputed health giving properties. This last alone should repay for the climb up there.

People in the locality can point out these spots to the traveller, but surprising as it may seem - very few can tell you the local history connected with these places, and even then there are divergent opinions."

Kilpatrick, Kinnure & Ballyfoyle from Lewis's Topographical Dictionary 1837:

KILPATRICK

A parish, partly in the barony of KERRYCURRIHY, but chiefly in that of KINNALEA, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, 3 miles (S.) from Carrigaline, on the road to Roberts's cove; containing 1142 inhabitants. It comprises 1428 statute acres, as apportioned under the tithe act, and chiefly under tillage: the soil is generally poor and badly cultivated. The strand of Ringabella bay furnishes sea sand for manure, in the conveyance of which about 10 boats belonging to this parish and Tracton are employed, and great quantities are landed at the bridge over the river Menane. The principal seats are Ballea Castle, that of F. Hodder, Esq.; Fountainstown, of G. Hodder, Esq.; Gurtanagrenan, of Luke Shea, Esq.; and Broomley, of G. Daunt, Esq. It is an inappropriate cure, in the diocese of Cork, forming part of the union of Tracton; the rectory is inappropriate in the Earl of Shannon; the tithes amount to £120. In the R. C. divisions it is part of the union or district of Tracton. There is a private school, in which about 40 children are educated in summer. The ruins of the old church, which was dedicated to St. Patrick, are at the head of a picturesque glen.

KINNURE

A parish, in the barony of KINNALEA, county of Cork, and province of MUNSTER, 6 miles (E. S. E.) from Kinsale; containing 1095 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the southern coast, occupying a peninsulated tract of land projecting boldly into the Atlantic and terminating in Kinnure Point. It is bounded on the west by Oyster Haven, and on the east by the Creek of Donbogue; and comprises 1180 statute acres. The land is generally good and chiefly under tillage, but the system of agriculture is in a very unimproved state: the chief manure is sea sand; lime is not to be obtained within less than 9 miles distance, and is consequently beyond the means of the ordinary farmer. Walton Court is the residence of T. Walton Roberts, Esq. Off Kinnure or Keroda Point is a shoal above high water mark, nearly half a cable's length from the west side. At Pallis is a coast-guard station belonging to the district of Kinsale. It is an inappropriate curacy, in the diocese of Cork, forming part of the union of Tracton; the rectory is inappropriate in the Earl of Shannon. The tithes amount to £86. 8. 11., payable to the impropiator. In the R. C. divisions the parish forms part of the union or district of Tracton. There are some remains of the church near the shore of Oyster haven; and at the Point is a small peninsula of about two acres, called Doong, which is joined to the mainland by an exceedingly narrow isthmus, of which the sides rise perpendicularly to more than 100 feet above the level of the sea.

BALLYFOIL

A parish, in the barony of KINNALEA, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, 10 miles (E. by N.) from Kinsale; containing 1291 inhabitants. This parish, which is called also Beallfoyl and Poliplicke, was formerly part of the possessions of Tracton Abbey, and from time immemorial was reputed free from tithes, till brought within the operation of the tithe composition act. It is situated on the southern coast, and comprises 1304 statute acres, as apportioned under the tithe act. The soil is fertile, and about one-half of the land is under tillage; the remainder is in dairy farms. The system of agriculture is improved; the only manure is sea-sand, which is brought into Rocky bay and Roberts' Cove, two small coves in the parish, in large boats, of which several are employed in this trade. At Roberts' Cove is a valuable slate quarry, belonging to Sir Thomas Roberts, Bart., but it is not worked to any considerable extent. Britfieldstown, the seat of Sir Thomas Roberts, Bart., is pleasantly situated in a secluded spot above Roberts' Cove. On the same estate is Fort Richard, the residence of J. Galwey, Esq. the Cove affords a commodious shelter for vessels of 200 tons' burden, which occasionally arrive laden with coal, and return with cargoes of slate. The coast-guard station here is the most westerly of the eight stations that constitute the district of Cove. A little to the west, on the summit of Roberts' Head, is a ruined signal tower, from which is an interesting and extensive prospect. It is an inappropriate curacy, in the diocese of Cork, and is part of the union of Tracton, where the Protestant inhabitants attend divine worship; the rectory is inappropriate in the Earl of Shannon. The tithes amount to £109. 4. 6. The whole of which is payable to the impropiator. The church has long been a ruin. In the R. C. divisions it forms part of the union or district of Kinnalee or Tracton. The parochial male and female schools are supported by the Cork Diocesan Society; there is also a hedge school in the parish.



The 1916 Rising claimed 485 lives: 126 British soldiers, 78 rebels, 19 police and 262 civilians.

As part of an ongoing project, this month we explore four lives lost in Dublin almost a century ago. A British Army officer's chance encounter with his family on a street before dying in a firefight with rebels, a civilian mother who died while trying to find bread, the first casualty of the Rising, a Dublin Castle policeman shot at the Castle gates and the rebel who killed him.

Easter 1916: A British soldier's family reunion and death in Dublin



Captain Frederick Dietrichsen (1883-1916) 2nd/7th Battalion Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment),

At Easter 1916, a 33-year-old Nottingham resident, Frederick Dietrichsen, found himself as part of the British army hurriedly assembled and sent to Dublin to quell an insurrection. Frederick, known as Fred, was originally from Essex, although his family hailed distantly from Denmark, and his father, James, had made a fortune in the Glasgow corset-making industry.

Dietrichsen had attended Chigwell School, then Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, graduating in 1904 and called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in London in 1907. By the time war broke out, he had proved himself a popular barrister in Nottingham, where he acted as advocate in a range of civil cases. In 1910 he married an Irish woman, Beatrice Mitchell. They had two children and lived in an affluent part of Nottingham. However, in the burst of patriotism that followed the British declaration of war in August 1914, Dietrichsen joined the British army. He assumed he would be fighting in France or Belgium. Commissioned in November 1914, and then promoted to temporary captain in October 1915.

He joined the Sherwood Foresters, a force that had consisted of eight battalions at the start of 1914. However, when the First World War broke out, the Foresters quickly expanded to 33 battalions with some 140,000 men, overwhelmingly from Nottingham and Derbyshire. The first-line units were quickly earmarked for soldiering abroad, but the commanders realised the bloodshed would necessitate a reliable supply of more trained men for those units. Second-line units were formed in order, primarily, to keep the overseas battalions in a state of readiness for battle.

The 7th Sherwood Foresters bore a name redolent of local Nottinghamshire pride, the "Robin Hoods". But the 2/7th was a distinctly non-elite group. When they began recruiting in 1914, the second "Robin Hoods" were headed by officers who had been brought out of retirement, who had enlisted with local territorial battalions or who had trained with the Nottingham University's officer training corps.

These superannuated or inexperienced officers trained their men as well as they could, but were hampered by the scale of the killing going on elsewhere, which meant that the generals continually plundered these reserve units, making it virtually impossible to establish the reserves as a coherent, well-trained fighting force.

On April 24th, 1916, German zeppelin attacks occurred over southern England throughout the night. As a result, Dietrichsen's battalion spent their time on special duties and had no rest. The following morning the soldiers received orders to move to Watford station, where they learned they were heading for Liverpool. These exhausted and disoriented men eventually found themselves in Kingstown [Dún Laoghaire] at 4am on April 26th. According to some military historians, the Sherwood Foresters felt so confused that at least one soldier was heard to greet passing Irish girls with "bonjour mademoiselle".

At 9am the officers received their orders, learning that rebels had seized the city and were preparing to oppose the movement of troops from Kingstown to Dublin. Fatefully, the second Robin Hoods were to move through Booterstown and Ballsbridge: they were designated as the leading column, charged with searching and clearing houses and side roads, and they moved off by 11am.

The commanding brigadier had given instructions to seize the school just south of Mount Street Bridge on the Grand Canal, a rebel stronghold thought likely to be the source of trouble. Many residents of the south Dublin suburbs demonstrated delight at the arrival of English troops, and offered refreshments, information, and in one case even a pair of field glasses.

One family in particular felt pleased to see the soldiers. When Beatrice Dietrichsen heard that the British army had arrived in Dublin, she and her children, as unionists, turned out to welcome the soldiers, not knowing that her husband Fred, whom she thought was on the Western Front, would be among the troops. As he marched through Blackrock, he saw Beatrice, along with his children, who were aged two and five, standing at the side of the road. He broke out of formation to embrace them before re-joining the regiment.

Shortly after this meeting, Dietrichsen's battalion approached Mount Street Bridge, a key crossing into the city, where de Valera's 3rd battalion had taken position. Mick Malone and Jimmy Grace had positioned themselves in the bathroom of 25 Northumberland Road. From there they watched as the soldiers marched, in columns of four, from the direction of Ballsbridge.

In a sign of the divisions of the time, Malone's brother had died less than a year before, fighting for the British army in Flanders. But Mick Malone was now one of the Irish Volunteer's most brilliant shots, and had selected an excellent position from where to open fire with the Mauser automatic pistol given to him by de Valera. As Malone began to shoot, the second Robin Hoods fell to the ground in confusion, unable to see where the bullets were coming from, as the noise echoed all around. Dietrichsen received a mortal wound; he was one of the first to die

In a heartbreaking twist, he still had in his pocket two letters from his children (both written by the elder, five-year-old Christian), which he kept close to his chest and which were taken from his body after his death. Also in his breast pocket, a letter that he had written that morning from Dublin's Royal St George Yacht Club, to his wife:

26.4.16. *My darling Bea,*

Just a line to tell you I am all right & hearty. We have not had any clothes off for two nights. I ought not to tell you where I am. I think we are in for a fairly lively time.

You had better stay at Mrs. Boyd's if she will have you till you hear from me.

Your loving,

Fred

The information about Mrs. Boyd is a surprising detail, as is the fact that the envelope shows that Dietrichsen intended to send his note to Beatrice at an address in Watford. It had been assumed that he knew his wife was in Dublin during spring 1916 (indeed, that assertion was written down by Lieut Col AN Lee in a war diary that is held at the Imperial War Museum).

Those who knew him considered that he had sent his family to Dublin because he was afraid of zeppelin attacks upon England. But this turns out not to be true: instead, as his note of April 26th, 1916, shows, when Fred arrived in Dublin, he thought his wife and two children were still in Watford, living with Boyd. He did not know that Beatrice and the children had travelled to her parents' home in Blackrock, and he must have been astounded to see them cheering the troops on the roadside as he marched towards his death.

Funeral in Dublin

Instead of travelling back to her accommodation in Watford, Beatrice Dietrichsen ended up attending the funeral of her husband at Deansgrange Cemetery on April 29th, before she travelled back to Nottingham. Like many who had been caught up in the fighting, she now had to raise her children without a father, although one final letter may have provided her with a crumb of comfort. One of the residents of Northumberland Road felt compelled to write to her to describe her late husband's bravery:

32, Northumberland Road, Dublin

The young man belonging to the BAMC [British Army Medical Corps] who was attending to Captain Dietrichsen said that it must have been his voice I heard encouraging the soldiers, and one of the men who was in the fight told me that that Adjutant [Dietrichsen] fell in front of a seat at the corner of this road, just in the line of fire from No 25, and where there was not the least cover, he had no regard for his own safety.

JP Hemming

John & Margaret Naylor: A war-time tragedy on two fronts

During the week of the Easter Rising more civilians died as a result of the fighting than British Soldiers or Rebels.

One of these casualties was Mrs. Margaret Naylor.

On Saturday, 29th of April 1916, Mrs. Naylor was hit by a stray bullet when caught in a cross-fire between Rebels and the British Army. She had been crossing the Ringsend Draw Bridge with her three children to buy bread. Unknown to Mrs. Naylor, her Husband John was killed in action on the same day when he was gassed in France while serving with the 8th Battalion The Royal Dublin Fusiliers aged 36 years.

Margaret was the first female casualty of Easter Week. And although she lingered for a couple of days afterwards at St Vincent's Hospital, she too must have gone to her death unaware of the tragic coincidence that united her with her soldier husband, several hundred miles away. (Cont. next page)



The couple had also had several children who died in infancy. So if there's a consolation in the unhappy story, it's that the three daughters orphaned in April 1916 – Maggie, Kitty, and Tessie – all survived. They were taken in by the dead woman's sister and lived for years over a shop in what is now Pearse Street, en route to adulthood.

John Naylor is today remembered on the memorial wall at Loos, where his name is listed with thousands of other war dead. He is presumed buried somewhere near the battlefield, the exact location of the grave now unknown.



Until 2013, the whereabouts Margaret Naylor's grave was a mystery too, at least to some of her family. But Frankie McNamee – a son of Kitty Naylor, the middle of the three orphans – has since taken it upon himself to resurrect a history that, wilfully or otherwise, had been forgotten.

Two years ago, he traced his grandmother to her final resting place, the British war cemetery at Grangegorman, where a handsome headstone now marks the grave of Margaret Naylor, nee Rowe, and unites her, in words on stone at least, to the tragic coincidence of John Naylor's almost simultaneous demise in the trenches of France.

The first man to die in the Easter rebellion was an unarmed RIC Limerickman – James O'Brien.



Constable James O'Brien (centre), from Kilfergus, Co Limerick, was an unarmed policeman on duty at the Cork Hill entrance to Dublin Castle when he was shot dead.

The first person killed in the 1916 Rising was an unarmed policeman on duty at the Cork Hill entrance to the upper yard of Dublin Castle. Constable James O'Brien, born in Kilfergus, Co Limerick, in 1868, had 21 years' service at the time. He was killed by a public servant, Abbey actor and member of the Irish Citizen Army, Seán Connolly, who was himself shot about an hour later by a British army sniper. Connolly is believed to be the first of the rebels to have died.

According to police records cited by Jim Herlihy in his 2001 book, *The Dublin Metropolitan Police, A Short History*, O'Brien was shot between 11am and midday on Easter Monday, April 24th, by a volunteer who rode up to the castle gate on a bicycle. Connolly was heading a group of Irish Citizen Army men and women who had come from Liberty Hall to seize Dublin Castle. It seems that when O'Brien tried to prevent them getting into the castle, Connolly shot him in the head.

Helena Molony, a republican, feminist and labour activist, was among the rebels who went out to seize the castle. She later recalled that O'Brien seemed to believe the rebels were part of a parade and they would be going up Ship Street. "When Connolly went to get past him, the Sergeant (sic) put out his arm and Connolly shot him dead." Connolly "was excited because he had shot the policeman dead" and started to shout at his detachment to go into the castle. But they hesitated and the gates were closed against them.

Another member of the contingent was a medical doctor, Kathleen Lynn. She said that when she got to City Hall at about midday, it was occupied by Connolly and his colleagues. "As I arrived I saw the dead body of a big policeman lying on the ground – it seemed to be in front of the castle gate. Just then [prominent Home Ruler] Sir Thomas Myles came up, evidently going into the castle, and I still remember the look of horror on his face when he saw the body. I don't think he noticed me." Lynn said the rebels were advised by Connolly to go up on the roof in case of attack. "It was a beautiful day, the sun was hot and we were not long there when we noticed Seán Connolly coming towards us, walking upright, although we had been advised to crouch and take cover as much as possible. We suddenly saw him fall mortally wounded by a sniper's bullet from the castle. First aid was useless. He died almost immediately."

The archives of *The Irish Times* show that O'Brien and Molony's paths had crossed just five years earlier, when the policeman gave evidence to a court hearing held on the day after disturbances near the Mansion House in Dublin linked to the then impending visit of the British king and queen. The Tuesday, July 4th, 1911, disturbances led to a James Pike, of 45 Connaught Street, Phibsborough, being brought before the court for acting in a disorderly manner. O'Brien told the court that he saw a large crowd outside the Mansion House and that Pike was cheering and hooting and calling upon the people. At St Stephen's Green, he said, Pike headed a few ugly rushes at the police, and was shouting at the top of his voice and using profane language when he was arrested. He said "Helen Moloney" and Countess Markievicz were with Pike at the time. They both gave evidence to the court that they were with Pike and had not seen any of the behaviour described by O'Brien. However, the judge, a Mr Drury, said he had no doubt that O'Brien's evidence was correct. This did not mean the "ladies" were not telling the truth to the court, he added, before fining Pike 40 shillings. At the same hearing Moloney was told she would have to pay a fine or go to jail for her part in throwing a stone during the disturbances. "You'll get no money from me," she told the court, to much cheering. She was then led away

O'Brien was temporarily buried along with 13 others in the castle gardens. On Friday, April 28th, 1916, his body was exhumed and removed to Mount Argus Church. The next day, after Requiem Mass, his remains were removed by train to Foynes, Co Limerick, and transferred from there by hearse with a large contingent of DMP men for burial in Kilfergus. His gravestone refers to his "sorrowing brothers and sisters". There is no mention of family.

Sean (John) Connolly – first Rebel killed 1916.



Sean (John) Connolly. Citizen Army, Killed at City Hall when fired on from a Military Wagon on Easter Monday. Aged 33, married he was a member of the Irish Citizen Army for 2 years and six months, he held the rank of Captain. He led the attack on Dublin Castle on Easter Monday and subsequently the attack on City Hall where he was killed in Action. He came from Fairview and was a Dublin Corporation Official. He was a member of the Gaelic League, Pioneer Total Abstinence Association and an elocutionist, and had frequently appeared on concert platforms with the Abbey Theatre Company and The National Players. He was famous around Dublin for his recitations of "The Man from God Knows Where" and "When I was 21."

On Easter Monday morning, the 24th of April 1916, Sean Connolly led out the 2nd company of The Irish Citizen Army – ten men and ten women. Included in his ranks were his three brothers, George, Éamonn, and Matthew as well as his sister, Kathleen. Another brother, Joseph, fought under Michael Mallin who was based at St. Stephen's Green.

Under Connolly's leadership, the Irish Citizen Army entered Dublin Castle. A detachment occupied Kingsbridge Station (now Heuston Station) as the British soldiers were expected back from Fairyhouse Races. The 2nd Company of the Irish Citizen Troops remit was to impede the British troops for as long as possible to allow the General Post Office troops to gain the momentum.

It was Connolly who led the group that entered Dublin Castle. Different opinions in historical records suggest it was he who fired the first shot killing a British soldier. Other opinions suggest that it was one of his men who fired that shot. Regardless, the first casualty of the Easter Rising of 1916 was a Royal Irish Constabulary soldier. Connolly deeply regretted this death and was heard to say so by his men.

Because he worked at City Hall, Connolly had a key to the doors. He ordered his men to take up a position at City Hall. While attempting to hoist the very same green flag on top of the City Hall dome that he had used in the appropriately named play "Under Which flag," he was shot dead.

He was buried in a mass grave the next day and on the 16th May his remains were disinterred at King George's Gardens, Dublin Castle. He was then buried in Glasnevin Cemetery on the 19th of May. The only mourners at the interment were his wife, a few women, and his son, Kevin, who was only three and one half years old at the time. His father, his brothers, and all his relations were in prison or in hiding at the time.

After Sean's death in 1916 W.B. Yeats wrote:
Who was the first man shot that day?
The player Connolly,
Close to the City Hall he died
Carriage and voice had he.
He lacked those years that go with skill,
But later might have been
A famous, a brilliant figure,
Before the painted scene!

My 1916: A walk through history with the ghosts of the GPO

The O'Connell St landmark is getting a refurb ahead of the centenary of the Rising. Irish Independent Writer Celine Naughton got an exclusive sneak preview



History in the making: Barney Whelan, director of communications and corporate affairs, An Post pictured in the GPO in Dublin. Photo: Damien Eagers.

It's a bright morning in early August, sunlight is streaming through the windows, outside the traffic rumbles its daily course along O'Connell Street and here inside the GPO, An Post communications director Barney Whelan leads me on an exclusive tour of Irish history's most iconic building. On a day like this it's hard to visualise the harsh reality of 1916 when artillery shells blasted off the walls and bullets bounced off the concrete, but plans are afoot to retell the famous story in a way it's never been told before.

No newspaper has yet set foot on to the site of the €7 million redevelopment of the GPO that's widely regarded as one of the most important projects of next year's commemorations, but the Irish Independent has managed to get a sneak peek.

We stand for a moment on the balcony overlooking the main post office, a bustling centre that sees 120,000 people come through its doors every year. Is it possible James Connolly or Patrick Pearse might have stood in this very spot leading the rebels within? "Not here - just down there," points Barney to an area below where people are quietly going about their business across a polished floor. "That's where they most likely set up their base."

How utterly different the scene must have been with rebel soldiers holding out against attack and Cumann na mBan women tending to the wounded. Their ghosts are everywhere in this building and soon their voices will be heard again when the GPO opens its doors to bring one of the most pivotal times in Irish history to life.

"My 1916 started in 2011," says Barney, explaining that's when the team at An Post started to float ideas for the centenary commemorations. "Put on a play," said one. "Have an exhibition," said another. Barney wanted more. It's not just another historic building, after all. This was the heart of the action, the rebel HQ, the place where Pearse read the proclamation asserting Ireland's right to freedom. He had to think big

"Yes, create an exhibition, but make it a permanent one, not just some candyfloss that would be over and done with by the end of 2016....This is an opportunity for people to really engage with the building and our history. We had to produce a lasting legacy for the nation."

And what a legacy it promises to be: there's an exhibition centre bringing events of 100 years ago into the 21st century, an art gallery, café, shop and an open courtyard that can be used for different things, not least

as a place to reflect. His plans were warmly received at an all-party committee in 2012, but the question was, where would the money come from?

"Securing funding was the most challenging part of the entire process. I knew we had something special, but An Post couldn't afford it and money was tight," says Barney. "It was an enormous relief when Jimmy Deenihan (then Minister for Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht Affairs) gave it the green light."

In Autumn 2013, the figure was approved in the Budget and from then on, it was full steam ahead.

"Suddenly, we went from all talk to all work. It was like a horse bolting and we've been charging forward ever since towards that no-pressure deadline of March 25 2016. "We started by giving the building a good clean, something that hadn't happened since its completion in 1929. There was never enough money, but now we set to cleaning, restoring and conserving the facades."

He shows me a scale model of the planned redevelopment before we gear up in hard hats and high-vis vests to walk through the real thing.

Downstairs, work is in full swing to create the exhibition space. Concrete columns are being polished and specialist lighting and air systems installed in a vast room dominated by a semi-circular feature where gigantic screens will show videos and images while groups hear talks about the Rising.

Beyond it is a children's educational area laid out like a 1916 barricade, where kids will face such challenges as how to reconnect broken communication lines. Elsewhere, booths with touch-screen technology will provide information in a way that caters for all ages "from schoolchildren to scholars." Over 300,000 visitors a year are expected to flood this space.

"The permanent exhibition will put the Easter Rising into a social, political and cultural context," says Barney. "It will deal with events leading up to the Rising, the Rising itself, the proclamation, the aftermath and the consequences."

We climb the stairs to what will be a gallery depicting how 1916 was commemorated over the following 100 years. With a café and shop at one end, the gallery opens out on to a bright, open courtyard, where a monument will honour the 40 children killed during the Rising. "Joe Duffy has uncovered harrowing tales," says Barney. "Some babies died in their mother's arms from bullets that went through their mothers. Others were young boys, teenagers shot while looting."

Already it's the kind of space that beckons you to linger, but it's time to leave.

Among the hordes outside on the busy street is a group of evangelists handing out leaflets: 'Is there life after death?' Who knows? But when it comes to the historic walls of the GPO, to borrow from WB Yeats, "We can write but one line that is certain, 'Here are ghosts.'"

Irish Independent – 13.08.2015

My 1916: The woman with the golden gun

The Royal Irish Academy is shining a spotlight on some of the lesser-known participants in the Rising, including a mysterious female sniper by Celine Naughton

Long before the Russians had women snipers fighting for the Red Army during World War Two, Ireland had her own femme fatale picking off the enemy during the Easter Rising. One of the lesser-known figures of 1916, Margaret Skinnider would regularly don her dark green ICA uniform to take pot shots from The Royal College

of Surgeons. Then she'd put on a dress and cycle into the city to pass on a message, after which she'd return, pull on her soldier's breeches and start shooting again. And if that doesn't already sound like a character who'd give James Bond a run for his Money Penny, she was also known for smuggling detonators concealed in her hat, then testing them with Countess Markievicz in the Dublin mountains.

Hers is one of 42 biographies detailed in 1916: Portraits and Lives, being published by the Royal Irish Academy (RIA) in advance of the centenary commemorations next year. While Pearse, Clarke and key British figures feature large, it also gives the perspectives of less-prominent characters, and Skinnider is one of managing editor Ruth Hegarty's favourites. "She was fearless and fascinating in equal measure," she says. "When Mallin rejected her plan to hurl a bomb from a passing bicycle into the British-occupied Shelbourne Hotel as too risky for a woman, she argued that, as women were equal with men under the Irish Republic, they had an equal right to risk their lives."

Two years ago Ruth and her team started planning for the 1916 commemorations and, as with the best-laid plans, the project snowballed as it rolled closer to the date. RIA books are typically big, quality tomes, but the photos intended for Portraits and Lives had not weathered well over the past 100 years. The ideal solution would be to commission original portraits, but it was an expensive option. "We talked with the Office of Public Works, who commissioned them for the State Collection," says Ruth. "They will be exhibited at Kilmainham Gaol and we'll use the portraits for the book to be launched in October."

"Before the launch I want to invite the relatives of those people featured in the book to a special evening at the Academy. I'm trying to track down contact details, so if you're reading this and you're descended from one of those who fought in 1916, email me at publications@ria.ie. "It promises to be a memorable event, when people with direct connections can come together and see the portraits of their ancestors in an intimate setting."

The portraits steered her on to a new train of thought: 15 railway stations throughout the country are named after rebel leaders of 1916, so she got in touch with Irish Rail. "Some people may not realise that Pearse Station is named after both brothers, Patrick and Willie, or that Kingsbridge became known as Heuston Station in honour of Sean Heuston; at 25, one of the youngest to be executed."

"Casement Station in Tralee is named after Roger Casement, arrested when he landed on Banna Strand on Good Friday 1916 and was later hanged and buried at Pentonville Prison in London: 49 years later he was granted a State funeral and reinterred in Glasnevin."

"Plunkett Station in Waterford commemorates Joseph Mary Plunkett, who married Grace Gifford in Kilmainham Gaol the day before his execution."

Irish Rail embraced the idea and from next March, commuters at these stations will see a gigantic poster of the relevant figure by artist David Rooney. You can then download an ebook to your phone to find out more.

"If 1916 encouraged a sense of working together, the people involved would surely have been impressed at the collaborative effort running through next year's centenary preparations," says Ruth.

"There's something deeply satisfying about that."

...contd from p 27.

She's currently collaborating with historian Lucy McDiarmid on another book in the pipeline, *At Home in the Revolution*, which looks at the role women played during the Rising.

"It's full of eye-witness accounts from women who cooked for the men, treated their wounds, and in some cases had their hearts broken seeing their loved ones before they were executed... people like Eily O'Hanrahan and her sister who spent precious minutes with their brother Mícheál in Kilmainham Gaol the night before he was shot.

"We said goodbye to Mícheál," Eily wrote. "He did not weep, but kept up his courage. We did not give way either then. He kissed us several times and told us to give his love to Mother and Máire and to Harry when we found out where he was... We came downstairs and I got weak, and when I got to the ground floor I fainted."

"Discovering these stories - in the words of the people themselves - puts you in the picture as to what it must have been like to have lived during 1916," says Ruth.

"I'm not a historian, but working with our authors has opened up a whole new world for me. I see places on my way to work that I never noticed before, like Connaught Street in Phibsboro, where Bulmer Hobson, an opponent of the Rising, was held at gunpoint in Michael Conlan's house, a few doors down from the O'Hanrahans, to prevent him trying to quash the insurrection.

"His fiancée Claire Grogan turned up at the door looking for him, but was told he wasn't there. Claire later wrote: 'Bulmer told me afterwards he heard me and made a move to come to the door and that another volunteer guarding him pointed a gun at him.'

"These stories really bring the Easter Rising to life for me and I hope they will do so for generations to come."

Irish Independent 26.08.2015

Still obediently following the Fenian instruction booklet by Ruth Dudley Edwards

Since the mid-19th century, when nationalism got its grip on us, we have been politically a necrophiliac culture, worshipping our dead and seeking in their words and deeds instructions on how we, the living, should conduct our lives. We revere martyrs and use them to create a hunger for martyrdom.

It's a kind of Irish Catholic version of Islamist fanaticism with the Proclamation of the Irish Republic taking the place of the Koran and various sayings of dead jihadis quoted like the Hadith.

The Irish Republican Brotherhood, aka the Fenians, began this in a big way after nationalism became sexy in the second half of the 19th century. They metaphorically dug up failed revolutionaries like Wolfe Tone and Robert Emmet (whose good intentions had the unintended consequences of bringing death and destruction to good people) and by celebrating them as role models, inspired new generations to kill for Ireland.

We're still obediently following the Fenian instruction booklet. Bodinstown, Tone's graveyard, every year sees the nonsense of establishment politicians, retired revolutionaries and wannabe terrorists traipsing there to make self-justificatory speeches. And then there's the scandal of Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa, the most bloodthirsty Fenian of them all.

As the historian Dr Carla King put it, at a time when "the Irish Government and people are loud in our support of reconciliation after the experience of decades of bombing campaigns in British and Irish cities, the first act in our official commemoration of the 1916 events is to honour a man who dedicated his life to attempts to bomb his way to Irish independence".

The men of 1916, themselves inspired by Tone, Emmet and all the other patriot poster boys, have inspired IRA hardliners for a century to kill and injure and torture their political opponents. And the Good Friday Agreement did not put a stop to that terrible tradition. Endorsed by politicians, the martyrdom cult goes on, and so the young are still inspired to seek immortality through jihad.

Other privileged, well-educated countries don't do this. In London last year, millions visited the Tower of London to look at the planting of 888,246 red ceramic poppies before Remembrance Day, November 11. The mood was sombre. There was no glorification of those deaths: just sadness for all the young lives sacrificed. 'Never again' was the prevailing mood.

Down the road from where I live in London is a large statue of Edith Cavell, a nurse who was shot by a German firing squad in 1915 because she had helped allied prisoners escape from occupied Belgium. The quote from her inscribed on the plinth is "Patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone."

Her execution happened in October 1915, at a time when the IRB was secretly begging Germany to send an invasion force as well as arms. Hence the reference in the proclamation to "our gallant allies in Europe". Cavell's death didn't seem to bother the Irish or Irish-American conspirators, even though there was a big international outcry.

The German Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs issued a statement saying it was a pity Miss Cavell had to be executed, but it was necessary. "She was judged justly. . . It is undoubtedly a terrible thing the woman has been executed; but consider what would happen to a State, particularly in war, if it left crimes aimed at the safety of its armies to go unpunished because committed by women."

When in Dublin in May 1916, the British for similar reasons shot 15 people who had led a revolution that left hundreds dead, they commuted the death sentence on Constance Markievicz because she was a woman. Just sayin'.

Anyway, back to peace-loving Gerry Adams, who last Sunday led the festivities for something called 'Remembering the Hunger Strikers - National Commemoration Day.' A TD who leads a political party that aspires to be in government on both sides of the border led a procession through the streets of Dundalk that included children carrying large photographs of terrorists who killed or tried to kill and ultimately committed suicide for a United Ireland. The role models they were being given included Francis Hughes, for instance, who was a ruthless assassin. He was certainly brave and, just as certainly, a bloodthirsty mass murderer.

As Adams reported on his blog, the organisers "had arranged some street theatre to remind us of other days. At one place there were women holding posters shouting slogans in support of the blanket men and the Armagh women prisoners; at another spot a group was shouting slogans against strip searching; at yet another a group of women were vigorously bashing the footpath with the cleanest bin-lids I have ever seen; others were dressed as Brits and RUC".

Apart from inspiring the young to hate, this procession and all the Sinn Féin alternative commemorations we will have to endure over the next several months are about giving parity of esteem to their Troubles dead. "We are as proud of Bobby Sands and Mairead Farrell as we are of the Volunteers of 1916 and those who fought the Black and Tans", says Adams, as he contemptuously fights the Irish political establishment for ownership of 1916.

Let's remember that Sinn Féin is a Northern-based political party that hates - as it has always hated - what they still think of as the Free State, and they are using the men of 1916 in their campaign to denigrate its political class. Trashing the record of Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael, Labour and indeed all Irish governments ever, Adams told his followers last Sunday: "Our responsibility as we are about to celebrate [note that: not commemorate] the centenary of 1916 is to finish the work of the men and women of 1916 and of 1981. That means working to build the republic envisioned by the Proclamation and the leaders of that time but suited to the needs of the 21st century."

We will have plenty of unsavoury electioneering along these lines. Is it too much to hope that when Easter is over, our democratic politicians will grasp that they should extricate themselves from the dangerous minefield of dead patriots and have one dignified day every year in which we celebrate ourselves.

We could call it St Patrick's Day.

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Sometime academic, teacher, marketing executive and civil servant, Ruth Dudley Edwards has been a freelance writer since 1979. Ruth was born and brought up in Dublin, was a student at University College Dublin, a post-graduate at Cambridge University and now lives in London. A historian and prize-winning biographer (the James Tait Black Memorial Prize for Victor Gollancz: a biography), her recent non-fiction books include True Brits: inside the Foreign Office, The Pursuit of Reason: The Economist 1843-1993, The Faithful Tribe: an intimate portrait of the loyal institutions (shortlisted for the Channel 4 political book prize) and Newspapermen: Hugh Cudlipp, Cecil Harmsworth King and the glory days of Fleet Street. In the 1970s Ruth wrote her first book, An Atlas of Irish History, the third edition of which was published in 2005. Patrick Pearse: the triumph of failure, which won the National University of Ireland Prize for Historical Research in 1978, was reissued in 2006 with a new foreword. Since 1993 Ruth has written seriously and/or frivolously for almost every national newspaper in the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom and appears frequently on radio and television in Ireland, the UK and on the BBC World Service.

Newsletter Editor's Comment: Challenging as ever, agree or disagree but Ms. Dudley Edwards has omitted the phrase 'Historical Revisionist' in her bio and gives little credit for a more balanced perspective today. Tempting as it is to look at past events from the sensibilities and values of modern society, this simply cannot be done to a large extent when evaluating our history or any nation's history. The historian Christine Kinealy writing some years ago succinctly commented: "The process of challenging and revising should be an integral part of all historical writing. Irish revisionism, however, has stifled rather than stimulated historical debate.... Although revisionism claims to be objective and value-free (a philosophical impossibility), in reality it has had a covert political agenda. As republican violence intensified, so did the determination of revisionists historians to destroy nationalist interpretations of Irish history. . ."

O'Donovan Rossa Funeral Committee, 1915

The inclusion of this photo in recent issues of the Newsletter has resulted in a number of queries from readers as to just who was who on the O'Donovan Rossa Funeral Committee. An Phoblacht newspaper on 31 July 2015 reprinted the photograph, numbered and named. (I've added Hyperlinks giving additional information on various individuals – just click on the names underlined in blue)



Back Row: 1 J. K. O'Reilly, 2 P. T. Keohane, 3 [Diarmuid Lynch](#), 4 Commandant [Éamon de Valera](#), 5 James Tobin, 6 B. R. Parsons, 7 [John O'Mahony](#), 8 W. O'Leary Curtis, 9 John Larkin, 10 William Cullen.

Second Row: 11 Commandant-General [Thomas MacDonagh](#), 12 [Martin Conlon](#), 13 [J. J. O'Kelly](#) (Sceilg), 14 James Casey, 15 Councillor [Richard O'Carroll](#), 16 J. Farren, (Treasurer, Dublin Trades Council), 17 Seamus Buggy, 18 [Arthur Griffith](#), 19 Seán MacGadhra, 20 [Joseph McGuinness](#), 21 Joseph Murray, 22 Henry Nicholls, (B.A., B.A.I.), 23 J. Lawlor, (Vice-President, Dublin Trades Council), 24 [William O'Brien](#), (Ex-President, Dublin Trades Council), 25 [Cathal Brugha](#), 26 James Whelan, 27 [Major John MacBride](#), 28 [T. Farren](#), (President, Dublin Trades Council).

Third Row: 29 Miss J. Walsh, 30 [Constance Markievicz](#), 31 Mrs. C. Holohan, 32 Bhathair Ó Foghludha, 33 John R. Reynolds, (F.A.A.), 34 Commandant [Edward Daly](#), 35 Seamus Ó Conchubhair, 36 [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 37 Peadar McNally, 38 James Stritch, 39 Michael Slater, 40 [Mrs. Kathleen Clarke](#), 41 Miss S. MacMahon, 42 Miss B. Cassidy.

Fourth Row: 43 Máire Ní Raghnaill, 44 Mrs. C. O'Moore, 45 Michael McGinn, 46 Thomas Meldon, 47 Joseph Kelly, 48 [Brian O'Higgins](#), (Brian Na Banban), 49 Miss B. Walsh, 50 Mrs. Joseph McGuinness.

Thousands pay tribute to sacrifice of Thomas Kent 99 years after execution – 18 September 2015



Taoiseach Enda Kenny delivering an oration during the state funeral of executed rebel Thomas Kent at St Nicholas Church in Castlelyons, Co Cork

Ireland has remembered Thomas Kent for his courage, dignity, defiance and sacrifice.

Ninety-nine years after his execution and interment in the then British Army's Victoria Barracks in Cork, Taoiseach Enda Kenny used the graveside oration to urge people to draw inspiration from him.

Thousands of people lined streets and gathered in the village of Castlelyons for tributes and honour to be bestowed on the nationalist and Land League activist who was long considered unsung hero.

The Taoiseach told the crowds: "Today in our time we are not called on to die for our country. But even now, even with our freedom, in our own and in a very different time, we need men and women who believe. We need men and women who believe in community, who believe in country, in putting others before themselves."

Mr Kenny also said next year's centenary of the 1916 Rising would remember all those who died in the revolution, including Kent's brother Richard and Royal Irish Constable William Rowe, both of whom died in the gun battle when forces tried to arrest the Kents.

The State funeral was held with the wishes of Thomas Kent's descendants with burial in the family plot in the grounds of St Nicholas Church.



It was attended by President Michael D Higgins, Tánaiste Joan Burton, Fianna Fáil leader Micheál Martin and Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams, and British ambassador Dominick Chilcott, US ambassador Kevin O'Malley and Papal Nuncio Archbishop Charles Brown.

The Tricolour which draped Kent's coffin was handed to his descendants as the oration was given.

Mr Kenny said: "Let us therefore think of Thomas Kent not only as a patriot, a nationalist, a commandant, a volunteer but also as a neighbour, a friend, a brother, an uncle, a son. We think of him as a 50-year-old ordinary and extraordinary man from Castlelyons whom we still hope still heard birdsong on those early summer nights and in the fox light of his final morning."

"The politics, the virtue, the sacrifice of Thomas Kent can never be abstracted from their human context."

"He and all who gave their lives stirred something deep and essential in those who had been previously hostile or indifferent."

The Taoiseach recalled Kent's death and treatment ahead of his execution.

He was taken from the family home Bawnard House where the firefight took place and marched, reportedly in his stocking feet, to Fermoy with one of his brothers David. Another brother Richard, an athlete, was shot as he tried to escape and later died.

Mary, the mother, followed in a horse and cart.

Thomas Kent subsequently faced a court martial in Cork city for armed rebellion after resisting arrest and was sentenced to death.

Mr Kenny said his execution on May 9 1916 was "a matter of national memory".

The funeral service saw Thomas Kent's life represented with a picture of the family home, rosary beads, a pioneer pin and a "leabhair gaeilge" representing his interests in life.

He was a religious man, a supporter of the temperance movement and a fervent activist in the Land League and promoter of Gaelic culture and sports.

Kent's remains were exhumed from the grounds of Cork Prison where he was buried after his execution.

DNA tests confirmed the identity and he has been laid to rest next to family members.



It was 99 years and four months after he was led away from his native Cork village - in shackles and under armed guard - that an Easter Rising patriot finally returned home to an heroic welcome. Thomas Kent (50) left Castlelyons, Co Cork, bound for his execution in Cork Prison in May, 1916, under an armed escort from the Royal Irish Constabulary and the British Army. He was later buried in Cork Prison yard despite the protests of his family, who pleaded for the return of his body.

Yesterday, his hearse arrived back to a Tricolour-bedecked Castlelyons with a full Defence Forces honour guard. Tributes were paid by President Michael D Higgins, Taoiseach Enda Kenny, Tánaiste Joan Burton, Fianna Fáil leader Micheál Martin and Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams. Thousands lined the north Cork route to honour a man once referred to as 'The Forgotten Patriot'. Also present were the Bishop of Cloyne, Dr William Crean; the Lord Mayor of Cork, Councillor Chris O'Leary; and the Mayor of County Cork, Councillor John Paul O'Shea.

The most emotional moment came when more than 70 members of the extended Kent family, most still based in the area, entered St Nicholas Church to respectful applause from the huge crowd.

The descendants were led by the patriot's nieces, Prudence Riordan and Kathleen Kent. Another niece, Eileen Kent, had long campaigned for his memory to be honoured. For the Kent family, the State funeral was Ireland finally giving the rebel the honour he deserved.

Taoiseach Enda Kenny, in his graveside oration, hailed Thomas Kent for his sacrifice. "Their (the crowd's) very presence is their tribute to a man, a leader who lived and died for Ireland - the future that they now inhabit," he said. "An Ireland that is free. An Ireland that is open and tolerant. An Ireland where, 100 years on, if we carry any 'papers' at all they are our international credentials of respect, dignity, compassion. "We come here today to claim and acclaim and to thank Thomas Kent. Today, we take him from the political potter's field to lay him with all honour among his own," Mr Kenny said.

In the eulogy, Company Quarter-Master Sergeant and historian, Gerry White, said the circumstances of his final days didn't fully reflect the life of Thomas Kent. "(His) death was a huge loss for his family and for the (Irish) Volunteer movement. However, while he was a talented officer and an efficient administrator, there is nothing in his history that indicates that he was a violent man," he said.

Dr Crean, in his homily, admitted it was "a most unusual funeral. It writes the final chapter in a long ordeal for the Kent family as today serves as a moment of closure as they lay Thomas in his final resting place amongst his own people and alongside his family."



The policeman whose death led to the court-martial and execution of Thomas Kent

Irish Examiner Monday, September 14, 2015 by Niall Murray

In a graveyard just 10km from where Thomas Kent will be buried on Friday lie the remains of the policeman whose death led to his court-martial and execution.



William Rowe was Head Constable in nearby Fermoy and led the party of policemen who had attempted to bring in the Kent brothers as part of a roundup of Irish Volunteers in the wake of the quelled Rising in Dublin. His headstone carries the crowned harp insignia of the Royal Irish Constabulary, standing over the churchyard grave in Castlehyde in north Cork.

But it was in relatively far-off Wexford, in Killane near Bunclody, that Rowe was born into a Church of Ireland family in early 1867. At the age of 20, in 1887, he signed up to the predominantly Catholic RIC on a Monday in mid-September just like today. He had previously worked as a clerk, but joining the police might have been a response to economic need. His father Joseph had died two years earlier, leaving his widow Alicia with at least one older and three children younger than William to bring up. But whatever portion of his wages he was able to send his mother, William may not have been home too much to see how the family was faring, as he spent his entire policing career in Cork City and county, being first stationed there in March 1888.

He was almost three years a sergeant when, on April 19, 1900, he married Sarah Jane in Clonakilty. The 30-year-old bride also came from a Church of Ireland family, one of 14 children of Robert Splaine and Mary Varian from Castleventry, Co Cork, who had seven daughters and seven sons. Rowe was then stationed in Ballincollig, and the couple lived in a house on military grounds in the town, which had a large army barracks. The home was surrounded by those of senior policemen, serving military men and local tradesmen and their families.

Rowe's job was probably typical of a RIC sergeant in his day, and among the cases he prosecuted were proceedings at Cork Petty Sessions in the autumn of 1899 against three people for having unmuzzled dogs. On October 9 that year, he prosecuted three prostitutes — Mary Sexton, Eliza Scollard, and Margaret Sutton, all of no fixed abode — for being drunk in a public place at Ballincollig. The same sitting saw him bring a case against Cornelius Callaghan, of Maglin, Ballincollig for selling a pint of milk which was deficient in fat. This was the kind of responsibility the police force at the time had, before there were health or consumer directorates to oversee food safety and standards. Rowe would go on to add the role of inspector of weights and measures, an important role in commercial and other considerations, when he was moved to the city.



The headstone at Castlehyde graveyard of, Co Cork, at the grave of RIC man William Rowe who was shot dead in a skirmish with the Kent family

By 1907, Rowe had moved to Victoria Terrace on Alexandra Rd, between Wellington Rd and Old Youghal Road on Cork's north side, another address surrounded by military families. The house stands barely 100m from where Thomas Kent would be detained, court-martialed, and executed in May 1916 in what was then Victoria Barracks. His remains lay buried in the grounds there until June and will lie there in state on Thursday evening, in what is now Collins Barracks, ahead of Friday's State funeral.

It was a short downhill walk for William Rowe from Victoria Terrace to work at King St (now MacCurtain St), where he was sergeant of the busy RIC station, headquarters of the constabulary's north city district. By the time the 1911 Census was taken, Rowe was still working there, but he and Sarah Jane lived a short distance from Victoria Terrace, at 34 Gardiner's Hill. At this stage, the family had grown, the couple having five children between 1903 and 1908: Joseph R (named after Rowe's father and older brother), Annie, William George Neile (sharing his last given name with that of the police sergeant himself), Edward (after another of Rowe uncle), and Marguerite. The children were aged between eight and 13 when their father died violently on May 2, 1916, one month shy of a year since he had been promoted to head constable.

The new job brought him to Fermoy, yet another garrison town, home to one of the largest military barracks in the south of Ireland. Here, one of the first cases he brought before the courts was heard in early July 1915, when Gerald Flahavan of Johnstown, Glanworth, faced charges under the Defence of the Realm Act, not unlike those that would be laid before Thomas Kent for an anti-recruitment speech the following January. "I would rather have a bullet through my brain than fight for England. If the Germans came over here I would fight with them," Flahavan told the new head constable on the night of the alleged offence, after claiming he had earlier been robbed in the mess of the Connaught Rangers earlier.

Rowe would suffer that very fate within 10 months, the west Cork-based Skibbereen Eagle reporting the 'Fermoy Tragedy' of May 1916 under the rather unsuitable sub-headline: 'Head Constable's Brains Blown Out'. Within yards of his grave in Castlehyde, the headstone directly facing Rowe's, lie the remains of Patrick McGrath, a late member of the same Connaught Rangers regiment whose behaviour at the nearby military barracks Flahavan had complained of in June 1915.

McGrath had joined the army as a 19-year-old in 1905 and left in 1913 owing to ill health, but re-enlisted in 1915 for the Royal Horse & Royal Field Artillery.

After transferring to the 1st Battalion Connaught Rangers in 1919, he was with it when members mutinied at Solon in India in late June 1920, in protest over the behaviour of Crown forces at home in Ireland.

Along with many fellow mutineers, he was sentenced to five years' penal servitude, most of it spent on the Isle of Wight, before his release and return to Ireland in 1923 as part of a deal between the British and fledgling Irish government. Their actions in solidarity with the independence movement at home while serving in the Punjab region thousands of miles away earned them a unique pension scheme. Passed into law in 1936, the pensions were similar to those offered to men and women who could prove military service during the 1916 Rising and War of Independence. McGrath was paid 10 shillings and six pence a week until he died after falling from a lorry in August 1947, aged 61, having also worked as a messenger for the Land Commission.

After her husband met his violent and unexpected end, Sarah Jane Rowe made an unsuccessful claim in the courts for £2,500 compensation for malicious injury, a case which at this time would be brought against the relevant local authority. Despite their sympathy for her situation, the Recorder of Cork and an appeal court judge were unable to grant her claim after hearing legal argument by Cork County Council and Fermoy Rural Council.



A plaque in Castlehyde cemetery for Patrick McGrath, ex-Connaught Rangers, near the grave of William Rowe.

In his RIC service record, under the heading for cause of death, it simply states: 'Sinn Fein Rising'. William Neile Rowe was one of 17 RIC and Dublin Metropolitan Police (DMP) members to die in connection with the Easter Rising. If he had been of an equivalent rank in the army, first-class warrant officer, his widow would have received £48 a year, with £32 and 10 shillings for each of their five children. Instead, she received an enhanced pension of £50 per annum, but just £6 and five shillings for each child under 16, albeit this was more than her ordinary entitlement under the Constabulary Acts.

While newspaper reports in the days after Rowe's death described local feelings of deep sympathy with the family of a man who was "most popular with all sections in the town since his arrival", Sarah Jane did not stay on in Fermoy. She and the family moved back to Cork City and later Belfast, where she died, although she too is buried in Castlehyde cemetery. The last of their children died in 1998.

A suitable memorial to all the 549 members of the RIC and 13 members of the DMP killed on duty between 1916 and 1922, around 100 of them who lost their lives in Cork, is the primary objective of the RIC & DMP Commemoration Committee. Also known as the Harp Society, it was founded in 2013 by a group of retired members of An Garda Síochána, including RIC historian and genealogist Jim Herlihy. The names of 14 RIC men and three DMP men killed on duty during the Easter Rising are to be included in the national memorial to be erected in Glasnevin Cemetery next year. For more see: www.irish-police.com.



1916 Web Site Links

A selection of websites that may be of interest
(click on the picture to access)



Decade of Centenaries



Ireland 2016



BMH & Military Pensions



Heritage Ireland



Glasnevin Cemetery



National Archives - Census



National Library 1916



National Museum



DMP Extremists Reports



Punch Magazine



Wikipedia Ireland History



Irish Volunteers

World's first radio news broadcast as Irish Republic declared in morse code: Dublin 1916



In 1916, wireless communication was in its infancy and in general, signals were targeted to particular receiving stations. The idea that a signal might be just broadcast into the atmosphere in the hopes that someone might pick it up was a fairly radical one.

On Easter Monday, however, rebel leader Joseph Mary Plunkett sent seven men from the GPO across O'Connell Street to occupy the Dublin Wireless School of Telegraphy at the corner of Abbey and O'Connell Street. The school had been shut down and sealed by the authorities at the start of the war, and the equipment was dismantled. By Tuesday morning, however, the rebels managed to get a damaged transmitter working, and David Burke, a Marconi Radio operator began to send out the following message in morse code:

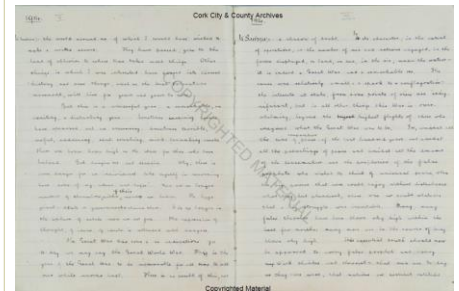
"Irish Republic declared in Dublin today. Irish troops have captured city and are in full possession. Enemy cannot move in city. The whole country rising."

As Maurice Gorham (former director of broadcasting at Radio Éireann, 1953-59) pointed out in his 1967 book: "Forty Years of Irish Broadcasting", ships' wireless operators were not in the habit of getting news of this description through their receiving sets. Morse code was an imaginative way of circumventing wartime censorship.

For 24 hours until the building had to be abandoned under machine-gun and sniper fire the next day, the message was broadcast at regular intervals.

This is widely accepted as being the world's first radio news broadcast and the first radio broadcast in Ireland and, although it was indeed intercepted by several receivers, the rebels never knew if their message was being picked up because they couldn't get any receiving equipment to work. In fact, it had been. US Newspapers carried the news within hours of the broadcast. (Thanks to Mick O'Farrell for this excerpt. From his book '50 Things You Didn't Know about 1916' Mercier Press.)
https://www.mercierpress.ie/irish-books/50_things_you_didn_t_know_about_1916/

Liam De Roiste 1914-1915 diaries now available on-line.



<http://www.corkarchives.ie/collections/online/digitalarchive/liamderoistetddiaries/>

Liam de Roiste, nationalist politician and friend of Diarmuid Lynch was a lifelong diarist and now his personal journals from 1914-1915 are available on line via Cork City and County Archives.

Liam de Roiste (1882 – 15 May 1959) was an Irish Sinn Féin politician, diarist and Gaelic scholar. He was a member of the Irish Volunteers and fought in the Easter Rising in 1916 with the Cork City Battalion. He was elected as a Sinn Féin MP for the Cork City constituency at the 1918 general election. De Roiste was re-elected without contest at the 1921 elections for the Cork Borough constituency. He supported the Anglo-Irish Treaty and voted in favour of it. He was again re-elected in the 1922 general election as a member of pro-Treaty Sinn Féin. He did not stand at the 1923 general election but stood unsuccessfully as a Cumann na nGaedheal candidate at the June 1927 general election. In his private life he was Secretary and Director of the Irish International Trading Corporation, Cork and an author.



In your November 2015 Newsletter

- Rising 50th Anniversary 1916-1966
- Gaelic League Fundraising 1914
- Theatre Protests New York
- Joe Duffy's 'Children of the Rising'
- Hill 60 vs Hill 16
- Manchester Martyrs 1915
- Room 40 British Intelligence
- Census of Ireland data 1871
- 1916 Report to the Vatican
- 1916-2016 News
- Clancy & O'Brien Wedding 1920 with a special guest.

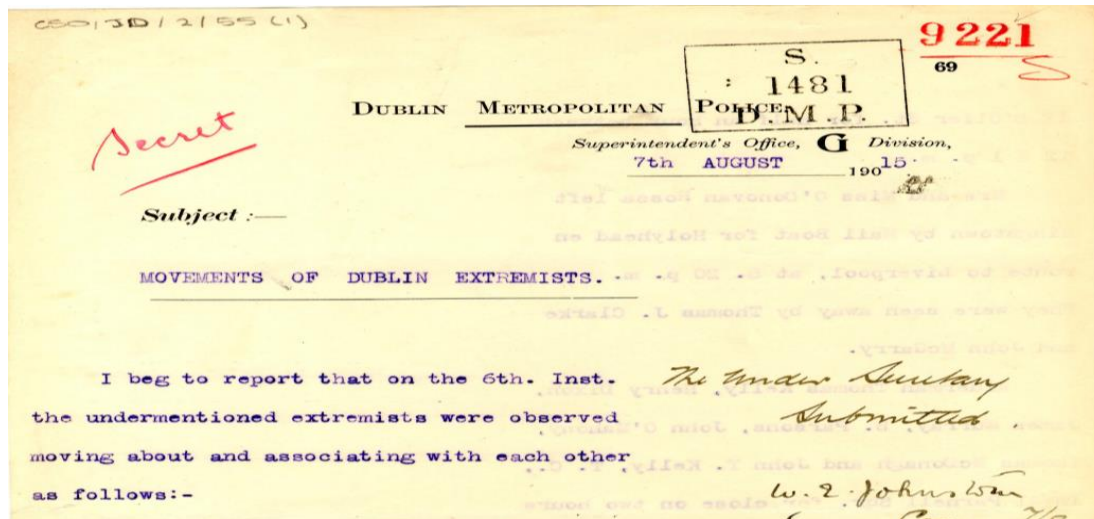
email: ruairi_lynch@hotmail.com



Dublin Metropolitan Police - Movements of Dublin Extremists

Reports on Diarmuid Lynch

June – September 1915



The Chief Secretary's Office, Crime Branch: Movement of Extremists collection was a series of daily reports by the Dublin Metropolitan Police (DMP) Detective Department on the movements and associations of pro-independence suspects.

These reports were compiled by Superintendent Owen Brien and submitted to the Under Secretary for Ireland, Sir Matthew Nathan, at Dublin Castle, annotated and then read by the Chief Secretary of Ireland, Sir Augustine Birrell.

These reports describe Republican activity in Dublin during the 11 months preceding the Easter Rising and detail intelligence gathered at a number of key city centre locations, most notably the shop of Thomas J Clarke at 75 Parnell Street, the Irish Volunteers Office at 2 Dawson Street, the Irish National Foresters Hall at 41 Parnell Street and the Gaelic League Offices in 25 Parnell Street. Major events which took place in 1915 and 1916 are recorded in the reports, including the funeral of Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa and the Annual Convention of Irish Volunteers.

The reports also include details of anti-recruitment and conscription rallies, meetings of the Irish Women's Franchise League, and protests against the imprisonment of revolutionaries under the Defence of the Realm Act and the movement of suspects to locations and major events outside of Dublin.

There are over 230 individuals referred to in the reports, principally members of the Irish Volunteers, the Irish Republican Brotherhood and Sinn Féin. The primary person of interest is Thomas J Clarke, who is mentioned in almost every report, while the other most frequently mentioned individuals include Pierce Beasley, Thomas Byrne, Con Colbert, Bulmer Hobson, Seán T Ó Ceallaigh, Seán Mac Diarmada, John McGarry, Diarmuid Lynch, Joseph McGuinness, Herbert Mellows, Michael O'Hanrahan, William O'Leary Curtis, Michael Joseph O'Rahilly and James Joseph Walsh.

In total there were approximately 260 files comprising 700 documents which were conserved, listed and scanned.

To view these and other reports in full, visit the [National Archives of Ireland](http://www.nationalarchives.ie) website.

The reports included with the Newsletter relate to Diarmuid Lynch and also include details of historic and unusual events. Side notes provide contextual historical information on events and personalities (Click on items [hyperlinked](#) for further info)

Saturday, 19 June, 1915

Diarmuid Lynch makes his first of many noted appearance in these DMP 'Movements of Dublin Extremists' dated 21 June, 1915 for June 19 & 20th, 1915.

8876 ✓ CSO/JD/2/16(1)

S. 1245 D.M.P.

(1858.) Wt. 5533—66.4000.12/14. A.T.&Co., Ltd.

Telegrams: "DAMP, DUBLIN."
Telephone No. 22.

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Detective Department,

Secret

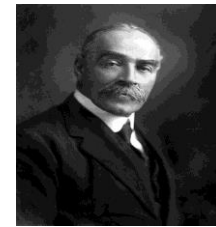
Dublin, 21st June, 1915.

Subject, MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

I beg to report that on the 19th and 20th inst. the undermentioned extremists were observed moving about and associating with each other as follows:-

*The Under Secretary,
Submitted.*

The 'Movements of Dublin Extremists' reports were prepared daily from the previous day's detective notes by the Dublin Metropolitan Police Detective Department (G-Division) Superintendent Owen Brien. These secret reports were submitted to Sir Matthew Nathan, The Under-Secretary for Ireland based in Dublin Castle. Nathan in turn noted, wrote margin comments, signed and submitted these reports to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Augustine Birrell.



[Sir Matthew Nathan](#) (1862-1939) & [Augustine Birrell](#) (1850-1933)

Diarmuid travelled from Cork to Dublin to attend the annual [Wolfe Tone](#) Commemoration in Bodenstown, Co. Kildare the following day. His brother, Denis, was the manager of the Dublin Whiskey Distillery in Jones Road, Drumcondra.

[Tom Clarke's](#) Tobacconist shop was located at 75 Parnell Street



Tom Clarke (1856-1916) Born on the Isle of Wight to Irish parents, Clarke's father was a sergeant in the British army who was stationed there. The family moved to South Africa and later to Dungannon, Co Tyrone, where Clarke grew up from about the age of seven, attending Saint Patrick's national school. In 1882, he emigrated to America. During his time there he joined the republican organisation Clan na Gael and, as a proponent of violent revolution, he would serve 15 years in British jails for his role in a bombing campaign in London. Clarke was released in 1898, and spent nine more years in America. He returned to Dublin in 1907 setting up a tobacconist's shop on Great Britain Street (now Parnell Square), before being co-opted onto the IRB Military Council which was responsible for planning the Rising. Because of his criminal convictions, Clarke maintained a low profile in Ireland, but was influential behind the scenes in the years of preparation for the Rising. With Denis McCullough, Bulmer Hobson and Seán Mac Diarmada, Clarke revitalized the IRB and had a major role in setting up the Irish Freedom newspaper. Devoted to the formation of an Irish republic, Clarke was also Chairman and a Trustee of the Wolfe Tone Memorial Committee, which organised the first pilgrimage to his grave at Bodenstown, Co Kildare in 1911. The first signatory of the Proclamation of Independence because of his seniority and commitment to the cause of Irish independence, Clarke was with the group that occupied the GPO. He opposed the surrender, but was outvoted. He was married to Kathleen Daly, niece of the veteran Fenian John Daly, and had three children. He faced the firing squad at Kilmainham Gaol on May 3, 1916, age 59.

an hour from 9 p.m. D.Lynch who had arrived from Cork on evening of 19th inst. called at Clarke's at 9 p.m. but made no delay and leaving afterwards visited the office of the Gaelic League, 25 Parnell Square, and proceeded to the residence of his brother at Jones Road where he retired for the night.

*Under Secretary
Submitted
10/16
21.6.15*

"....D. Lynch who had arrived from Cork on evening of 19th inst. called at Clarke's* at 9pm but made no delay and leaving afterwards visited the office of the Gaelic League, 25 Parnell Square, and proceeded to the residence of his brother at Jones Road where he retired for the night"

*Tom Clarke's Tobacconist shop at 75 Parnell Street, Dublin.

Sunday, 20 June, 1915

The annual pilgrimage to Bodenstown took place yesterday. Two special trains conveying those taking part left Kingsbridge for Sallins at 11.15 a.m. and 11.45 a.m. About 1,500 persons travelled by these trains which included contingents of the Sinn Fein Volunteers, Citizen Army, and National Boy Scouts. About 70 of the Volunteers and Citizen Army carried rifles. Those observed taking an active part in the arrangements were: M.J.O'Rahilly, E.Kent, T.J.Sheehan, F.Fahy, E.Daly, Thomas Byrne, P.H.Pearse, James Connolly, Wm.P.Partridge, Peter Doyle, Bulmer Hobson, and the Countess Markievicz. Thomas J. Clarke, J.J.Buggy, John T.Kelly, T.C., J. J. Walsh, John O'Mahony, George Irvine, Patrick O'Malley, Galway, D.Lynch, Cork, H.Mellows and Joseph McGuinness were amongst the extremists who travelled in the excursion trains. Both trains returned to Dublin between 7 and 8.30p.m. and the various contingents marched to their respective clubs where they dispersed without further demonstration.

2/8
Seen by C. Seely
A.P.M.
2.3/6
Chief Constable
24.6.15

observed taking an active part in the arrangements were: M.J.O'Rahilly, E.Kent, T.J.Sheehan, F.Fahy, E.Daly, Thomas Byrne, P.H.Pearse, James Connolly, Wm.P.Partridge, Peter Doyle, Bulmer Hobson, and the Countess Markievicz. Thomas J. Clarke, J.J.Buggy, John T.Kelly, T.C., J. J. Walsh, John O'Mahony, George Irvine, Patrick O'Malley, Galway, D.Lynch, Cork, H.Mellows and Joseph McGuinness were amongst the extremists who travelled in the excursion trains. Both trains returned to Dublin between 7 and 8.30p.m. and the various contingents marched to their respective clubs where they dispersed without further demonstration.

Sinn Fein
Irish Volunteers
Labour
Citizen Army



"The annual pilgrimage to Bodenstown took place yesterday. Two special trains conveying those taking part left Kingsbridge for Sallins at 11.15am and 11.45am. About 1,500 persons travelled by these trains which included contingents of the [Sinn Fein Volunteers](#), [Citizen Army](#) and the [National Boy Scouts](#). About 70 of the Volunteers and Citizen Army carried rifles. Those observed taking an active part were: [M.J.O'Rahilly](#), [E. Kent](#), T.J.Sheehan, F. Fahy, [E. Daly](#), Thomas Byrne, [P.H.Pearse](#), [James Connolly](#), Wm P. Partridge, Peter Doyle, [Bulmer Hobson](#) and the [Countess Markievicz](#). [Thomas J. Clarke](#), J.J.Buggy, [John T. Kelly](#), T.C., [J.J.Walsh](#), [John O'Mahony](#), George Irvine, Patrick O'Malley, Galway, [D.Lynch](#), Cork, [H. Mellows](#) and Joseph McGuinness were among the extremists who travelled in the excursion trains. Both trains returned to Dublin between 7 and 8.30pm and the various contingents marched to their respective clubs where they dispersed without further demonstration.'

Handwritten notation lists the various organizations that individuals were members of: "Sinn Fein, Irish Volunteers, Labour, Citizen Army"

Opposite: Tom Clarke and Diarmuid Lynch pictured at the Wolfe Tone Commemoration.
Photo courtesy of Eileen McGough.

Monday, 21 June, 1915

250/30/2/14

(1858.) Wt. 5533—66.4000.12/14. A.T. & Co., Ltd.
Telegrams: "DAMP, DUBLIN."
Telephone No. 22.

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE.
Detective Department,
Dublin, 22nd June, 1915.

8881
S.
1252
D.M.P.

Secret

Subject, MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

I beg to report that on the 21st inst. the undermentioned extremists were observed moving about and associating with each other as follows:

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell Street, J. McGuinness for a quarter of an hour between 11 and 12 a.m.; C. Colbert for twenty minutes between 1 and 2 p.m.; Edmund Kent for a few minutes at 2 p.m.; D. Lynch and Thomas Byrne for half an hour from 2 p.m.; George Irvine

*The Under Secretary
Submitted.
J. McGuinness
Asst Comm. 22/6.
Under Secretary*

"With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell Street...D. Lynch & Thomas Byrne for half an hour from 2pm..."

Thursday, 24 June, 1915

250/30/2/19 (1)

(1858.) Wt. 5533—66.4000.12/14. A.T. & Co., Ltd.
Telegrams: "DAMP, DUBLIN."
Telephone No. 22.

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE.
Detective Department,
Dublin, 25th June, 1915.

8910
S.
1263
D.M.P.

Secret

Subject, MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

I beg to report that on the 24th inst. the undermentioned extremists were observed moving about and associating with each other as follows:

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell Street, J.J. Farrelly for a quarter of an hour between 11 and 12 a.m.; D. Lynch, Cork, Wm. Shortall, and E. Daly together for ten minutes between 1 and 2 p.m.; William O'Leary Curtis for half an hour between 5

*The Under Secretary
Submitted.
J. McGuinness
Asst Comm. 25/6.*

"...With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell Street... D. Lynch, Cork, Wm Shortall and [E. Daly](#) together for 10 minutes between 1 and 2pm"

Saturday, 26 June, 1915

CSO/30/2/20(1) 8931

(1858.) Wt. 5533-66.4000.12/14. A.T.&Co., Ltd.

Telegrams: "DAMP, DUBLIN."
Telephone No. 22.

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Detective Department.

Dublin, 28th June, 1915.

Secret

Subject, MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

I beg to report that on the 26th and 27th inst. the undermentioned extremists were observed moving about and associating with each other as follows:-

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell Street, on Saturday Joseph McGuinness and James Murray together for a quarter of an hour between 10 & 11 a.m.; D. Lynch for half an hour between 3 & 4 p.m.;

The Under Secretary Submitted

Lergus Quinn Asst. Commr 28/6

"With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell Street, on Saturday...D. Lynch for half an hour between 3 & 4pm"

Sunday, 27 June, 1915

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell Street, Sunday, D. Lynch, W. Parsons, J.J. Buggy, and J. McGuinness together for half an hour between 1 and 2 p.m.

Clarke has removed most of his furniture from 75 Parnell Street to 10 Richmond Avenue, Fairview, where he intends to reside ~~XXXXX~~ in the course of a few days.

About 2,000 persons including J.J.O'Connell, E. Daly, John T. Kelly, T.C., C.W. Power, B.L., and James The Chief Commissioner.

Where is Fairview?

Fairview is a district lying on the Nth. bank of the Tolka, (Nth. City) between Clontarf (Brumundra) and Clontarf.

James

Ch. Sec

Lergus Quinn Asst. Commr 28/6

"With Thomas J. Clarke at 75 Parnell Street, Sunday, D. Lynch, W. Parsons, J.J. Buggy and J. McGuinness together for half an hour between 1 & 2pm..."

Tuesday, 29 June, 1915

D.Lynch in the Office of the Gaelic League
25 Parnell Square for an hour from 7.30 p.m.

"D.Lynch in the Office of the Gaelic League 25 Parnell Square for an hour from 7.30pm

Monday, 5 July, 1915

Secret

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE. 1306
Superintendent's Office, G.D.M.P. Division.
6th July, 1915.

Subject :—

MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

I beg to report that the undermentioned
extremists were observed moving about and
associating with each other as follows: (on 5th inst).

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell Street,
Joseph McGuinness for ten minutes between 12
and 1 p.m.; J.J. Walsh for a quarter of an
hour from 1 p.m.; Thomas Kenny, (Craughwell),
for close on an hour Between 2 and 3 p.m.,
T.S. Cuffe being there at the time; John T.
Kelly, T.C., and Thomas Byrne for a quarter of
an hour between 7 and 8 p.m.; Diarmuid Lynch,
Wm. O'Leary Curtis, and Arthur Griffith together
for an hour from 10 p.m.

*The Under Secretary
Submitted.
W.E. Johnston
C. Comm 6/7
Under Secretary
Submitted
1915*

"With Thomas J. Clarke at 75 Parnell Street...Diarmuid Lynch, William O'Leary Curtis* and [Arthur Griffith](#) together for an hour from 10pm"

* William O'Leary-Curtis, a newspaperman and colleague of James Joyce, appears in both Ulysses and Dubliners as O'Madden-Burke. His Grand-daughter is film and television actress, Nuala FitzGerald.

Tuesday, 6 July, 1915

9000
S

S. 69
1316
D.M.P.

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Superintendent's Office, **G** Division,

7th July, 1915.

Secret

Subject :—

MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

I beg to report that on the 6th inst. the undermentioned extremists were observed moving about and associating with each other as follows:

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell Street, James Murray for a quarter of an hour between 11 and 12 a.m.; John T. Kelly, T.C., for a quarter of an hour between 12 and 1 p.m.; Edmund Kent for twenty minutes between 4 and 5 p.m.; D. Lynch, Thomas Byrne, and Joseph McGuinness together for close on two hours from 7.30 p.m.; William O'

*The Under Secretary
Submitted.
J. J. McGuinness
Asst. Comm. 2/4.
Under Secretary
Submitted*

"With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell Street.... D. Lynch, Thomas Byrne and Joseph McGuinness together for close on two hours from 7.30pm"

Thursday, 8 July, 1915

9020 1323 69

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE

Superintendent's Office, **G** Division,

9th July, 1915.

Secret

Subject: —

MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

I beg to report that on the 8th inst. the undermentioned extremists were observed moving about and associating with each other as follows:

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell Street, Wm. Shortall for a quarter of an hour between 11 and 12 a.m.; Thomas Byrne for twenty minutes between 3 and 4 p.m.; Patrick Ryan (Sinn Fein) for half an hour between 4 and 5 p.m.; Wm. O'Leary Curtis for a quarter of an hour between 5 and 6 p.m.; D. Lynch, P.H. Pearse, P. Beasley, and James Murray together for twenty minutes between 7 and 8 p.m.; C. Wyse Power, B.L., for a few minutes at 9.30 p.m.; and Arthur Griffith for a quarter of an hour between 10 and 11 p.m.

T.S. Cuffe and P.O. Keefe, G.P.O., in conversation in Camden Street between 9 and 10 p.m.

At 8.45 p.m. 40 members of the Sinn Fein Volunteers without rifles assembled at 41 Parnell Square and subsequently in charge of E. Daly and F. Lawless (Swords) went route marching towards

The Under Secretary Submitted

Augustine Birrell
Asst Comm G

Under Secretary Submitted
W.P.F.
10-7-15

C.S.
This crowd had been a good deal together of late

"With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell Street, Wm Shortall for a quarter of an hour between 11 and 12pm, Thomas Byrne for twenty minutes between 3 and 4pm; Patrick Ryan (Sinn Fein) for half an hour between 4 and 5pm, Wm O'Leary Curtis for a quarter of an hour between 5 and 6pm, D. Lynch, P.H. Pearse, P. Beasley and James Murray together for 20 minutes between 7 and 8pm, C. Wyse Power B.L. for a few minutes at 9.30pm and Arthur Griffith for a quarter of an hour between 10 and 11pm."

Note: A handwritten comment by the Chief Secretary to Ireland, Augustine Birrell reads "This crowd have been a good deal together of late"

Friday, 9 July, 1915

D. Lynch left Kingsbridge for Limerick by
9.15 a.m. train yesterday.

Ch. Sec.

From the report dated July 10th, 1915: "D. Lynch left Kingsbridge for Limerick by 9.15am train yesterday."

Wednesday, 21 July, 1915

CSO/50/2/41(1)

9092

S. 1379 69 S.

SECRET

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Superintendent's Office, **G** Division,

22nd July, 1915.

Subject :—

MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

I beg to report that on the 21st inst.
the undermentioned extremists were observed
moving about and associating with each other
as follows:—

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell Street,
Thomas Byrne and C. Colbert together for a
quarter of an hour between 12 and 1 p.m.; D.
Lynch for an hour from 9 p.m., the latter re-
turned from Limerick at 12.30 p.m.; Arthur
Griffith, William O'Leary Curtis, James Stritch,

The Under Secretary
Submitted.
W. E. Johnston
C. Cunningham 22/7
Under Secretary
C. I. #1

"With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell Street...D. Lynch for an hour from 9pm, the latter returned from Limerick at 12.30pm..."

Friday, 30 July, 1915

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Superintendent's Office, G Division,
30th July 1915

Secret

Subject:—

O'DONOVAN ROSSA FUNERAL PROCESSION.

With reference to attached I beg to report that the O'Donovan Rossa funeral Procession will start from the City Hall at 2 p. m. on Sunday next. The route will be via Dame St., Aungier St., York St., Stephen's Green, Dawson St., Nassau St., Grafton St., College Green, Westmoreland St., Sackville St., Cavendish Row, Parnell Sqr; North, Frederick St., Berkeley Road, Phibsboro' to Glasnevin. Cemetery.

Those taking part will include Sinn Fein Volunteers, Old Fenians, Representatives of Public bodies, Citizen Army, Gaelic Athletic Association, Irish National Foresters, National Society, Hibernian Rifles, Trade and Labour Unions, Provincial Delegates, Wolfe Tone Memorial Association, and National Volunteers.

The Dublin contingents with bands will assemble at 12 noon as follows:—
Trades Council and Labour bodies at Stephens Green to march by Francis St., thence through Cornmarket

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

*The Under Secretary
Submitted: The Police
arrangements when
completed will be
submitted —
30.7.15 W.L. Johnston
C.*

*Under Secretary
Submitted.
W.L. Johnston
30.7.15.*

Ch. Sec.

*There will of course
be no interference by
the police unless a
breach of the peace is
committed which is
unlikely.*

Th. M.

See by Chief Secretary 30/7/15
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Comment to DMP Extremists Report for July 30, 1915.

The Dublin Metropolitan Police (DMP) kept a close eye on what they deemed as “extremists” in the days preceding the O'Donovan Rossa funeral on August 1st, 1915. The police closely monitored Tom Clarke's tobacco shop at 75 Parnell Street and the Irish Volunteers office at 2 Dawson Street. Other buildings put under close surveillance included the Irish National Forrester's Hall at 41 Parnell Square where the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB) and the Irish Volunteers met and drilled and 25 Parnell Square which was the headquarters of The Gaelic League

Two nights before the funeral there was a major gathering in the Forrester's Hall which included Pearse, Con Colbert, Eamon Ceannt, Major John McBride and Thomas McDonagh, who was chief steward of the funeral. All were executed for their parts in the Easter Rising.

In the police reports, the Chief Secretary to Ireland Augustine Birrell has scribbled in the margins *“there will of course be no interference by the police unless a breach of the peace is committed which is unlikely”*. A detailed report on the O'Donovan Rossa funeral procession was provided two days beforehand by Superintendent Owen Brien of the DMP.

In his report to the chief commissioner of the DMP, Superintendent Brien listed all the organisations that were involved in the organisation of the funeral. *“Delegates from America will be in attendance and nothing is being left undone to make the affair as impressive as possible,”* he wrote. *“Those concerned are anxious that the greatest harmony will prevail and, as far as can be gathered, nothing of an unseemly nature is anticipated. At the same time, in an assembly of this nature, no one can foretell what may occur, particularly when persons of different views are brought so closely together.”*

Superintendent Brien also wondered about the possibility of a demonstration after the funeral at Bachelor's Walk. It had been the site a year previously of the shooting dead of three civilians by soldiers from the King's Own Scottish Borderers who had been sent to intercept arms shipments which were landed at Howth.

Dublin Metropolitan Police

The Capital's own Police Force had been established under an Act of the British Parliament in 1836 and the force had become operational in January 1838. It was closely modelled on the London Metropolitan Police founded by Sir John Peel. While never a greatly popular force with Dubliners the DMP had nevertheless proved to be a magnet to men (mostly countrymen) in search of secure employment in the city with a guaranteed pension at the end of their service. Its members were unarmed unless on specific duties and the individual members relied on their formidable physical strength to settle affairs on the street when necessary. Among the generally undersized citizenry of Dublin they certainly stood out as men not to be trifled with.

Things started to turn sour for the DMP in 1913 when there was serious labour unrest in Dublin. In a fight for Trade Union recognition the employers resorted to locking out the workers till they dropped their demand for the right to belong to one. The DMP as a result found itself involved in upholding the interests of the employers at the expense of the workers' rights. Vicious street battles developed with the police involved in sometimes fatal baton charges, which lost them a lot of credibility and respect with the public. Then the events of 1914, when the DMP and the British Army tried unsuccessfully to block the distribution of the weapons landed at Howth, further weakened their morale and general standing.

The outbreak of the Great War saw a considerable number of the men volunteer for war service from which a high proportion never returned. The Easter Rising of 1916 was yet another shock to its morale. By the time the War of Independence started in 1919 the force was at a low ebb, which the events of the next two and a half years did nothing to alleviate. By and large they escaped the deadly fate of so many of their counterparts in the RIC simply because of their unarmed status. So long as they turned a blind eye to the activities of the IRA then they were allowed to proceed with the enforcement of the civil law. Not so the men of the 'G' Division. They were armed and were tasked by the British with hunting down Republicans in the city. Michael Collins had his own answer to them: the men of 'the Squad' a select group of gunmen who were given the job of eliminating especially dangerous opponents of the Republic in Dublin. In this they succeeded brilliantly, and effectively put a stop to the flow of intelligence to the British administration in Dublin Castle.

By the summer of 1921 Irish recruitment to the DMP was at a standstill and the ranks had to be filled by taking on men from across the water, many of them British ex-servicemen. With the Truce of July 1921 the DMP was left hanging in the air, not knowing whether they would be kept on or swept aside in the impending change of government. When the new Government took over they decided to retain the DMP at least temporarily as the only fully trained Police Force in the State. In Irish the Force was known as *Políní Átha Cliath* and cap badges were issued to reflect this.

In 1923 Major General W.R.E. Murphy DSO, MC was appointed to command as Chief Commissioner and he was to instil a sense of purpose back into the Force. However Kevin O'Higgins had decided that two police forces in one State was one too many and in 1925 the DMP was amalgamated into the Garda Síochána. Murphy became a Deputy Commissioner of the Garda under General O'Duffy with whom he had served in the Irish Civil war. Thus after a run of 87 years Dublin's own Police Force and its formidable Constables came to be seen no more on the streets of the capital.

Friday, 30 July, 1915

William Mellows was, at the Southern Police Court yesterday sentenced to three months' imprisonment under the Defence of the Realm Act.

Bulmer Hobson, M. J. Pender, M. O'Hanrahan, and Herbert Mellows in Volunteer Office, 2 Dawson St. for half an hour between 7 & 8 p. m.

Major John McBride, James Whelan, Thomas J. Clarke, P. H. Pearse, E. Kent, C. Colbert, James Murray, B. Parsons, M. McGinn; D. Lynch, T. J. Sheehan, John T. Kelly, C. Wyse-Power, J. J. Buggy, James Stritch, John O'Mahony and

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

Under Secretary
Submitted
W.B.
31. vii. 15.

Chief Sec.
W.B.
31/7

Seen by Chief Sec.
W.B.

3. viii. 15

and Thomas McDonagh at 41 Parnell Sqr. together from 8. 15 p. m. to 11. 15 p. m.

There is nothing further to add to that already reported regarding the O'Donovan Rossa funeral Procession.

Owen Bowen
Superintendent.

"...Major John McBride, James Whelan, [Thomas J. Clarke](#), P.H.Pearse, E. Kent, C. Colbert, James Murray, B. Parsons, M. McGinn, D. Lynch, T.J.Sheehan, John T. Kelly, C. Wyse-Power, J.J.Buggy, James Stritch, John O'Mahony and Thomas McDonagh at 41 Parnell Square together from 8.15pm to 11.15pm."

Note: This was the final meeting regarding arrangements for the O'Donovan Rossa funeral to be held on Sunday, August 1, 1915.

Saturday, 31 July, 1915

Secret

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE D.M.P.
Superintendent's Office, G Division,
3rd August 1915

Subject :—

MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

I beg to report that during the past three days the undermentioned extremists were observed moving about and associating with each other as follows:—
With T. J. Clarke on Saturday, Thomas Byrne for twenty minutes between 1 & 2 p. m.
D. Lynch, John T. Kelly, T. C., and C. J. Kickham together for a quarter of an hour between 8 & 9 p. m. P. O'Malley, Galway,

*The Under Secretary
Submitted.
W. E. Johnston
C. Comm 3/8*

"With [Thomas J. Clarke](#) on Saturday....D. Lynch, [John T. Kelly](#), T.C. and C.J. Kickham together for a quarter of an hour between 8 & 9 pm....."

Sunday, 1 August, 1915

A large number of Provincial suspects arrived in Dublin by excursion trains on Sunday, and subsequently were seen to take part in the O'Donovan Rossa funeral procession to Glasnevin Cemetery. These included

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

*True
3/8
4.8.15
✓*

included Thomas Kenny, Craughwell, James Leddan, Limerick; P. Hughes, Dundalk; Darrel Figgis, Achill; Alderman Nowlan, Kilkenny; T. J. McSweeney, Cork; Patk. McGrath, Tipperary, and Austin Stack, Tralee.

A Special report on the funeral procession is being furnished.

T. J. Clarke left Kingsbridge by 8.35 p. m. train, 1st Inst., en route to Limerick.

Attached is a copy of last week's issue of Na Bac Leis, with translation of the leading paragraphs 1 to 6 inclusive.

Over Brien

A general report on those attending the O'Donovan Rossa funeral... "A special report on the funeral procession is being furnished"

Note: The National Archives commented in 2015: "Although it is stated that a special report on the funeral will be furnished, this is not included in this series of reports. A search in the registered papers of the Chief Secretary has also proved unsuccessful."

Friday, 13 August, 1915

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell St.,
William O'Leary Curtis for a few minutes
between 4 & 5 p. m. James J. Buggy for
half an hour between 8 & 9 p. m. D. Lynch
for twenty minutes between 9 & 10 p. m.
James Connolly left Amiens St. by 3
p. m. train, en route to Belfast. R. I. C.
informed.

C. Comm 14/8
Under Secretary submitted. W. J. H. 16/8/15.
Thru 16/10

"With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell St...D. Lynch for twenty minutes between 9 & 10pm..."

Sunday, 15 August, 1915

It has been reported to the Police
that between 12 & 1 a. m. 15th Inst. several
men forcibly removed 4 wooden cases, each
containing 25 Martini Metford rifles from the
L. & N. W. Rwy. Stores, Nth. Wall, addressed
to Mr John E. Redmond, M. P., 44 Parnell Sqr.
and carried them away for some distance, from
which they were removed by motor car, destination
unknown. Inquiry proceeding.

Owen'Brien

For further information on this, see: <http://eastwallforall.ie/?p=2975> The Great North Wall Railway Robbery 1915

Wednesday, 18 August, 1915

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell St.,
E. Daly and Thomas Byrne for a quarter of an
hour. between 1 & 2 p. m. D. Lynch and
John O'Mahony for half an hour between 5 & 6
p. m. John T. Kelly, T. C., for twenty
minutes between 8 & 9 p. m. William O'Leaey
Curtis for ten minutes between 10 & 11 p. m.,
after which Clarke closed his premises for the
night.

Under Secretary.
Submitted.
W. J. H.
19/8/15.
Ch. Sec.
Wm.
19/8

"With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell St...D. Lynch and John O'Mahony for half an hour between 5 & 6pm..."

Monday, 23 August, 1915

T. J. Sheehan with James Whelan in the shop of the latter, 17 Upper Ormond Quay at 10.30 a.m.

M. J. O'Rahilly at Dame St. at 4.30 p.m.
Henry Dixon and T. J. Clarke in conversation at
The Chief Commr.

C.S.
Monteith was in the Ordnance Store Depot - meat & was dismissed by the military authorities. At same time he was very active at Limerick.

The intelligence report opposite indicates how relatively straightforward it was for the G-Division detectives to source vital and accurate information:

"Mrs. Monteith in conversation with a friend who called to see her at her residence, 6 Palmerstown Place, yesterday (22 August) said that her husband (R. Monteith) was leaving the country believed for America, where arrangements are being made to form an Irish Brigade, to fight on the side of Germany in the present War. Mr Monteith has got permission from the Military Authorities to leave this country for America on 28th inst., but no corroboration so far, has been obtained regarding the object of his mission"

[Monteith had been given permission to leave Limerick, travel to his home in Dublin and then leave the country by 30 August]

at 5.15 p.m.

J. J. Walsh in his shop, 26, Blessington St. between 9 & 10 p.m.

Mrs Monteith in conversation with a friend who called to see her at her residence, 6, Palmerston Place, yesterday, said that her husband, (R. Monteith) was leaving the country believed for America, where arrangements are being made to form an Irish Brigade, to fight on the side of Germany in the present War.

Mr Monteith has got permission from the Military Authorities to leave this country for America on 28th Inst., but no corroboration, so far, has been obtained regarding the object of his mission.

drilling the Irish Volunteers & taking them for route marches & such sort of work in public houses. Lately he has been inactive.

It is hard to say where a man of this sort does most harm - in Ireland or in America. Probably in the latter.

24/8
August 26/15

C.S.
Ch. Commr.

Owen'Brien
Superintendent.

27/8



Captain Robert Monteith
Irish Brigade of Berlin, 1915-1916

Robert Monteith was a working-class Protestant, a former soldier in India and South Africa, a trade union activist, atheist, writer, Irish Volunteer captain and probably an IRB member. In the absence of anyone more suitable, he was recruited by Tom Clarke to take command of Casement's brigade and traveled to Germany. Following the failure of the brigade, he accompanied Casement by submarine to Banna Strand at Easter 1916. Earlier in 1914, as a consequence of his political activities and loyalties, the account written by his daughter tells how "... he was dismissed from his post at the Ordnance Depot. He was not allowed to go back to his desk for his coat or pipe ... Later that night two men from the G Division came to his house and read him a deportation order which stated that "R. Monteith, of 6 Palmerston Place, Broadstone, Dublin, shall not, except with permission in writing from me or other competent naval or military authority, reside after twelve o'clock noon, on the 14th day of November, 1914, within the Metropolitan Police District of Dublin". Monteith even had a small printing press there, which he used to turn out leaflets and handbills for his political activities.

Under-Secretary Matthew Nathan's written comment in the margins of the Intelligence Report dated 24 August for the Chief Secretary, Augustine Birrell: "Monteith was in the Ordnance Store Depot where he was dismissed by the Military Authorities. For some time he was very active at Limerick, drilling the Irish Volunteers & taking them for route marches which ended often in public houses. Lately he has been inactive."

Birrell written reply on 27th August: "It is hard to say where a man of this sort does most harm - in Ireland or in America. Probably the latter"

Tuesday, 24 August, 1915

CSO/SD/2/70(1)

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DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE. D.M.P.

S.
1560 69

Superintendent's Office, G Division,
25th. August 1915

190/

Secret

Subject :—

MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

I beg to report that on the 24th. Inst. *The Under Secretary*
the undermentioned extremists were observed *Submitted.*
moving about and associating with each other
as follows :-
W. H. Austin

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75, Parnell St., *C. Comm 25/8.*
R. Monteith, who had arrived from Limerick
at 12. 30 p. m., for close on an hour between
1 & 2 p. m., Joseph McGuinness being also
there at the time. D. Lynch for half an
hour between 7 & 8 p. m. William O'Leary
Curtis for twenty minutes between 9 & 10 p.m.
Under Secretary
Submitted.
W. H. Austin
26/8/15.

"....With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell St, R. Monteith, who had arrived from Limerick at 12.30pm for close on an hour between 1 & 2p.m, Joseph McGuinness being also there at the time. D. Lynch for half an hour between 7 & 8pm..."

Diarmuid Lynch in his memoirs recalled "Towards the end of August Monteith was ready to proceed to Germany - via New York. Tom Clarke and I decided to give him £100 for his expenses; this sum was handed to him in Tom's shop."

Wednesday, 25 August, 1915

MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

I beg to report that on the 25th. Inst. the undermentioned extremists were observed moving about and associating with each other as follows :-

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75, Parnell St., R. Monteith for half an hour between 2 & 3 p. m. Arthur Griffith and D. Lynch, for an hour from 9 p. m.

Bulmer Hobson arrived at Amiens St. from Belfast at 1 p. m.

*The Under Secretary
Submitted*

G. E. L. Hurst

C. Comm. 26/8.

*Under Secretary
Submitted
10/11*

"...With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell St, R. Monteith for half an hour between 2 & 3 p.m. Arthur Griffith and D Lynch, for an hour from 9pm..."

Thursday, 26 August, 1915

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75, Parnell St., Joseph McGuinness for twenty minutes between 1 & 2 p. m. R. Monteith for half an hour from 2 p. m., Major John McBride being there at the time. William O'Leary Curtis for ten minutes between 5 & 6 p. m. D. Lynch for a quarter of an hour between 10 & 11 p.m. after which Clarke closed his premises for the night.

C. Comm. 26/8.

*Under Secretary
Submitted*

*W. O. L.
27/8/15*

Ch. Sec.

*Wm.
27/8*

"...With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell St,....D Lynch for a quarter of an hour between 10 & 11pm after which Clarke closed his premises for the night."

Friday, 27 August, 1915

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75, Parnell St.,
John O'Mahony; D. Lynch; Thomas Byrne, and
Major John McBride together for half an hour
between 7 & 8 p. m.

Thomas J. Clarke; J. J. Buggy; Major
John McBride; John O'Mahony; D. Lynch; C.
Colbert; James Murray; James Stritch; and
C. J. Kickham together in 41 Parnell Sqr.,
for over an hour from 8. 30 p. m.

G. Commr. 28/8/15

Under Secretary
L. H. H. H.

"....With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell St.,....John O'Mahony, D. Lynch, Thomas Byrne and Major John McBride together for half an hour between 7 & 8 p.m.....[Thomas J. Clarke](#), J.J.Buggy, Major John McBride, John O'Mahony, D. Lynch, C. Colbert, James Murray, James Stritch and C.J.Kickham together in 41 Parnell Sqr for over an hour from 8.30 p.m."

James Stritch, an IRB member, had the [Irish National Foresters](#) build a hall at the back of 41 [Parnell Square](#) in Dublin, which was the headquarters of the [Wolfe Tone Clubs](#). Anticipating the formation of the Volunteers they began to learn foot-drill and military movements. The drilling was conducted by Stritch together with members of Fianna Éireann. They began by drilling a small number of IRB associated with the Dublin [Gaelic Athletic Association](#), led by [Harry Boland](#). He was part of the O'Donovan Rossa Organising Committee and went on to found the National Graves Association.

Saturday, 28 August, 1915

p. m. D. Lynch for a quarter of an hour
between 1 & 2 p. m. Wm. O'Leary Curtis
for twenty minutes between 9 & 10 p.m. after
which Clarke closed his premises for the
night.

Thomas McDonagh, P. H. Pearse, and D.
Lynch together in College Green between
12 & 1 p. m.

A meeting of the Co. Dublin labourers

"....With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell St.,....D Lynch for a quarter of an hour between 1 & 2 p.m.....[Thomas McDonagh](#), [P.H.Pearse](#), and D Lynch together in College Green between 12 & 1 p.m....."

Monday, 30 August, 1915

R. Monteith left North Wall for Liver-
pool at 8 p. m. R. I. C. Sergeant at
Liverpool

*Seen by Chief Sec^y
G.Y.B.
1.9/15
CC*

"....R. Monteith left North Wall for Liverpool at 8 p.m. R.I.C. Sergeant at Liverpool informed...."

Tuesday, 31 August, 1915

m. D. Lynch from 7. 30 p. m. to 7.45 p. m.
John T. Kelly, T. C., for a few minutes at 8
p. m. Pierce Beasley for half an hour

*CS.
Zun.
1/9*

"....With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell St,....D.Lynch from 7.30 p.m. to 7.45 p.m...."

Wednesday, 1 September, 1915

Bulmer Hobson, P. H. Pearse, M. J.
O'Rahilly, Edward De Valera, and some other
members of the Sinn Fein Volunteers in 2,
Dawson St., from 8. 30 p. m. to 10.30
p. m.

Valera mentioned above is of Span-
ish origin, and said to have been born
in England. His mother was an Irish-
woman. He came to Dublin about two
years ago and was employed as Professor
of Mathematics in Blackrock College. His
services at the College have, however,
been recently dispensed with, but he is
at present engaged in a similar capacity
in the Carysfort Training College, Carys-
fort Ave., Blackrock. He is a Staff Off-
icer in the Sinn Fein Volunteers, and
lately takes an active interest in the or-
ganising work of that Corps. He resides
with his wife and family at 33, Morehampton
Terrace, Donnybrook.

Attached are copies of this weeks issue
of the Irish Volunteer and Nationality,
neither of which appears to contain anything
deserving serious attention.

Owen'Brien

Thursday, 2 September, 1915

I beg to report that on the 2nd. Inst. *The Under Secretary,*
 the undermentioned extremists were observed *Submitted,*
 moving about and associating with each other
 as follows :-
 With Thomas J. Clarke, 75, Parnell St.,
 John Milroy for a few minutes between 7 & 8
 p. m. John T. Kelly, T. C., for a quarter
 of an hour between 8 & 9 p. m. J. O'Connor
 D. Lynch; and Wm. O'Leary Curtis in convers-
 ation with Clarke for some considerable time

W. E. Johnston
Comm. 3/9.
Under Secretary
Submitted.
W. E. Johnston
3/9/15.

"...With [Thomas J. Clarke](#), 75 Parnell St., ...J. O'Connor, D.Lynch and Wm. O'Leary Curtis in conversation with
 Clarke for some considerable time..."

Tuesday, 7 September, 1915

9403

S. 1627 D.M.P.

Telegrams, "DAMP, DUBLIN."
Telephone No. 851.

Dublin Metropolitan Police.

G DIVISION,
(DETECTIVE OFFICE),
EXCHANGE COURT,
8th September, 1915.

Secret

MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS

I beg to report that on the 7th inst the undermentioned extremists were observed moving about and associating with each other as follows:-

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell St., Thomas Byrne from 11.30 a.m. to 12 noon. John McGarry for half an hour between 12 and 1 p.m. C. Colbert for a few minutes at 1 p.m. George Nichols, Galway, for a quarter of an hour between 2 and 3 p.m. D. Lynch for close on an hour from 3.30 p.m. William O'Leary Curtis for half an hour between

The Under Secretary Submitted.
W. J. (Sturton)
C. Connors 8/9.
Under Secretary Submitted.

"....With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell St.,....D. Lynch for close on an hour from 3.30 p.m...."

Friday, 10 September, 1915

Lr. Sackville St., and has only recently been found mixing with the local extremists

John T. Kelly, T.C., Bulmer Hobson and D. Lynch in conversation in Sackville Street at 1.15 p.m.

P.H. Pearse arrived at Broadstone by 7.12 p.m. train from Ballinrobe.

Under Secretary Submitted.
W. J. (Sturton)
13.9.15

"....John T. Kelly, T.C., Bulmer Hobson and D. Lynch in conversation in Sackville Street at 1.15 p.m."

[T.C. was Thomas J. Clarke]

Tuesday, 14 September, 1915

M.O'Hanrahan in the Sinn Fein Volunteer Office, 2 Dawson St., at 11.30 a.m.

Gerald Griffin with J.J. Walsh in the shop of the latter for ten minutes between 2 & 3 p.m.

D. Lynch passing along Dame St. towards College Green between 4 & 5 p.m.

There was no Strike Meeting held at Crumlin on 14th inst, and nothing unusual occurred in the vicinity during the day

Owen'Brien
Superintendent.

The Chief Commissioner.

*Under Secretary
Submitted.
W.M.A.
15.9.15.*

*True.
15/9*

"D. Lynch passing along Dame St. towards College Green between 4 & 5 p.m."

Wednesday, 15 September, 1915

(1858.) Wt. 5333—66.4000.12/14. A.T. & Co., Ltd.
(6559.) Wt. 3103—96.20,000.8/15.

Telegrams: "DAMP, DUBLIN."
Telephone No. 22.

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE:

Detective Department,

Dublin, 16th September, 1915.

Secret

Subject, MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS?

I beg to report that on the 15th inst. the undermentioned extremists were observed moving about and associating with each other as follows. :-

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell Street, D. Lynch for half an hour between 12 and 1 p.m.; Thomas Byrne from

*The Under Secretary,
Submitted.*

W.R. Whelan

C. Conn 16/9

"...With Thomas J. Clarke, 75 Parnell St, D. Lynch for half an hour between 12 and 1pm..."

Thursday, 16 September, 1915

D.Lynch left Kingsbridge by 3p.m. train
en route to Limerick. R.I.C.informed.

Attached is a copy of this week's issue
of The Workers' Republic which with the ex-
ception of a few paragraphs, does not appear
to contain anything deserving serious atten-
tion.

Owen Bowen
Superintendent.

True.
17/9

"....D. Lynch left Kingsbridge by 3pm train en route to Limerick. R.I.C. informed..."