



Comóradh Céad Bliain Chath an Somme
Battle of the Somme Centenary Commemoration
09.07.2016

ORD NA nIMEACHTAÍ

- 11.45 am Tiocfaidh an tArd-Mhéara i láthair
- 11.49 am Tiocfaidh an Taoiseach i láthair, cúirtéis ón nGarda Oinigh
- 11.52 am Tiocfaidh an tUachtarán i láthair agus scrúdóidh an Garda Oinigh
- 12 nóin Tógfaidh an Mheitheal Bhratach, le n bhratach, a háit ag an gCros.
Béarfaidh comhalta/comhaltaí den Léigiún Ríoga Briotanach na Taifid
Chuimhneacháin chuig an Leacht Cuimhneacháin agus leagfar ansin iad
In Flanders Fields á aithris
Of in the Stilly Night á chasadh ag Cór
Aitheasc ómóis an Mharascail Foch do Shaighdiúirí na hÉireann sa Chéad Chogadh
Domhanda á léamh
Paidir á léamh ag Ardséiplíneach Óglaigh na hÉireann
We are standing on the shoulders á chasadh ag Cór
Garda Oinigh na nDaltaí ar Paráid
Iarrfaidh an Taoiseach ar an Uachtarán fleasc a leagan
Leagfaidh an tUachtarán fleasc ag an Leacht Cuimhneacháin
Agus ina dhiaidh sin:
– Leagfaidh Ambasadóirí fleasca
– Leagfaidh Uachtaráin Léigiún Ríoga Briotanach, Poblacht na hÉireann agus
Léigiún Ríoga Briotanach, Tuaisceart Éireann fleasca
Nóiméad Ciúnais
Seinnfidh píobaire an Caoincadh *The Battle of the Somme*
Séidfear an Ghairm Dheiridh, ardófar an Bhratach Náisiúnta agus séidfear Reveille
An tAmhrán Náisiúnta
- 1.00 pm Deireadh an tSearmanais
- Cór: Cór Chnocán Sackville agus Scoil Mhuire á stiúradh ag Vivienne Hassell
An Banna Míleata: Banna an 1 Bhriogáid arna stiúradh ag an gCaptaen Brian Prendergast

RUNNING ORDER

- 11.45 am Lord Mayor arrives
- 11.49 am Taoiseach arrives, courtesy by Guard of Honour
- 11.52 am President arrives and Inspects the Guard of Honor
- 12 noon Colour Party carrying 11 flags take up position at the Cross.
Member(s) of the Royal British Legion bring forward the Memorial Records and lay them on the Cenotaph
Reciting of *In Flanders Fields*
Choir sing *Oft in the Stilly Night*
Reading of Marshal Foch's tribute to Irish Soldiers in World War One
Head Chaplain, Defence Forces reads prayer
Choir sing *We are standing on the shoulders*
Cadet Honour Guard on parade
Taoiseach invites President to lay a wreath
President lays wreath at Cenotaph
Followed by wreath layings to include:
– Ambassadors
– Presidents of Royal British Legion, Republic of Ireland, and Royal British Legion, Northern Ireland
Minute's silence
Piper plays Lament *The Battle of the Somme*
Last Post, raising of the National Flag and Reveille
National Anthem
- 1.00 pm Ceremony concludes

Choir: Mount Sackville and Scoil Mhuire Choir conducted by Vivienne Hassell

Military Band: Band 1 Brigade conducted by Captain Brian Prendergast

FOREWORD

THE object of these volumes is to perpetuate the names and personalities of over 49,000 Irishmen who fell in the Great War.

Honours, decorations and rewards follow in the wake of every great and successful war. But what honour can be compared to that of a place in this glorious roll of fallen heroes?

Ireland weeps over the loss of so many of her gallant sons, but shining through her tears we see the pride and glory which she feels that through their sacrifice and devotion her splendid war record goes down to posterity untarnished.

When the true history of the Great War comes to be written and understood, the part taken by the soldiers of Ireland will stand out in brilliant relief.

In the days of the First Expeditionary Force at the Marne, on the Aisne, at Ypres, and throughout the time during which the "Contemptible Little Army" was holding back the German hosts, the Irish soldiers were always to be found where the strife was hottest. Irish regiments stood their ground against terrific odds with a tenacity which has never been surpassed in war.

One battalion of the far-famed old regiment which bore the time-honoured name of "The Royal Irish," was practically wiped out in as gallant a stand as history records.

Later on there came those specially raised reinforcements which so splendidly maintained the record of Irish soldiers up to the final victory.

When each and all of the self-governing Dominions of His Majesty the King—Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Ireland—come to sum up and compare the part they have taken in building up the British Empire, what a share may Ireland rightfully claim!

These sacred memorial volumes form a valuable part of her charter to that claim.

One word as to the future. A new army is rising up in Ireland. It is coming into existence in a period of strife and trouble. As an army its baptism of fire is being celebrated amidst sad surroundings—but the soldiers are of the same blood, the same kith and kin. Many of them have not only fought side by side with the heroes whose names adorn the pages of the "Golden Records," but have shared their dangers and privation, and we believe that when they have fully attained to that standard of discipline and training which is essential to the existence of an army, they will gallantly uphold the splendid traditions of Irish soldiers.

I cannot better close this brief Foreword than by expressing the earnest hope that this Memorial will appeal to their generous Irish hearts and act as a beacon light leading them to emulate the great deeds of their predecessors and maintain the glorious records of the soldiers of Ireland

28th December 1922.

Y. H. H.
7.92

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead.
Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch, be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN McCRAE

About the author

Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae was a Canadian poet, physician, author, artist and soldier during World War I, and a surgeon during the Second Battle of Ypres, in Belgium.

File, dochtúir, údar, ealaíontóir agus saighdiúir as Ceanada a bhí sa Leifteanant Cornal John McCrae le linn an chéad Chogadh Domhanda, chomh maith le bheith ina mháinlia le linn Dara Cath Ypres, sa Bheilg.

Moladh Marshal Foch do na Saighdiúirí as Éirinn a bhásaigh sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda.

PÁRAS, AOINE, 9 SAMHAIN, 1928

Tá omós ón bhco saothraithe ag Laochra Marbha na hÉireann mar chruthaigh siad sa chuid ba mheasa den troid sa chogadh domhanda go bhfuil spiorad dochloíte na nGael – an spiorad sin a dhéanann cuid de na saighdiúirí is cróga ar domhan díobh – fós ar marthain agus é níos láidre ná bhí riamh.

Chonaic mé crógacht na nGael a throid sa Fhrainc agus cibé arbh ón Tuaisceart nó ón Deisceart iad, nó cibé cad é an páirtí ar bhain siad leis, níor chlis siad.

Ba ar shaighdiúirí as Éirinn a thit cuid den throid ba fíochmhaire sna laethanta dorcha sin i ndiaidh ionsaí deiridh na nGearmánach agus sheas cuid de na reisimintí breátha a bhí acu troid a chriogfadh cuid de na saighdiúirí is ábalta ar domhan.

AR AN SOMME

Níor chlis na hÉireannaigh orm an uair sin. Ar an Somme in 1916 chonaic mé laochras na nGael ón taobh ó Thuaidh agus ón taobh ó Dheas. Tháinig mé ar an láthair tar éis bhás an fhuir chróga sin an Major William Redmond. Chonaic mé na hÉireannaigh ón Tuaisceart agus ón Deisceart ag cur a gcuid sean-achrainn ar leataobh agus throid taobh le taobh agus iad ag tabhairt a mbeatha ar mhaithe leis an leas coiteann.

Le linn cogaidh bíonn uaireanta ann nuair is é íobairt na beatha an dualgas a chaitear a chomhlíonadh agus ba mhínic sin sa choimhlínt mhall phianmhar sin a rabhmar páirteach inti. Thug na laochra Gael a mbeatha go toilteanach agus tá súil agam agus muid ag léirú ár n-omóis dóibh nach ndallfaidh ár mbrón muid ar an mórtas atá againn as a laochras glórmhar.

Tá oidhreacht ghlórmhar fágtha acu do na glúnta ina ndiaidh agus spreagadh

chun dualgais a mhairfidh nuair a bheidh dearnad déanta ar a gcuid ainmneacha. Ní dhéanfaidh an Fhrainc dearmad go brách ar an gcomaoin atá curtha ag laochra marbha na hÉireann uirthi agus maireann cuimhne orthu i gceol mhuintir na Fraince mar chuimhne ar sheanlaochra, cuimhne a inseoidh seandaoine sa seanchas dá gcuid clainne agus do chlann a gclainne.

MOLADH Ó NA GEARMÁNAIGH

Is é an moladh is mó ar chrógacht na nGael ná an moladh sin a thug Ard-Cheannairí de chuid na Gearmáine a raibh aithne agam air tráth, dóibh tar éis an tsoctú síochána. D'fhiafraigh mé de cathain a thug sé faoi deara ar dtús go raibh a chuid saighdiúirí ag cailliúint misnigh agus dúirt sé gurbh é an uair é a raibh saighdiúirí roghnaithe faoina cheannas tar éis casadh arís agus arís eile leis na saighdiúirí calma as Éirinn a tháinig ina n-aghaidh san ionsaí mór deiridh a scoiltfeadh, a ceapadh, airm na Breataine agus na Fraince agus a thabharfadh an bua don namhaid a bhí uathu le fada.

Bhí an oiread ionsaithe fulaingthe ag na hÉireannaigh agus gur ceapadh go gcaithfeadh sé go raibh siad ar an dé deiridh ach tháinig siad ar ais arís agus arís eile agus thug faoin namhaid agus sa deireadh thiar chuaigh scoth Arm na Gearmáine i léig agus chaill a mbrí.

Marshal Foch's Tribute to the Irish Soldiers who died in the First World War.

PARIS, FRIDAY, Nov. 9th, 1928

The Heroic Dead of Ireland have every right to the homage of the living for they proved in some of the heaviest fighting of the world war that the unconquerable spirit of the Irish race— the spirit that has placed them among the world's greatest soldiers—still lives and is stronger than ever it was.

I had occasions to put to the test the valour of the Irishmen serving in France, and, whether they were Irishmen from the North or the South, or from one party or another, they did not fail me.

Some of the hardest fighting in the terrible days that followed the last offensive of the Germans fell to the Irishmen, and some of their splendid regiments had to endure ordeals that might justly have taxed to breaking-point the capacity of the finest troops in the world.

ON THE SOMME

Never once did the Irish fail me in those terrible days. On the Somme, in 1916, I saw the heroism of the Irishmen of the North and South, I arrived on the scene shortly after the death of that very gallant Irish gentleman, Major William Redmond. I saw Irishmen of the North and the South forget their age-long differences, and fight side by side, giving their lives freely for the common cause.

In war there are times when the necessity for yielding up one's life is the most urgent duty of the moment, and there were many such moments in our long-drawn out struggle. Those Irish heroes gave their lives freely, and, in honouring them I hope we shall not allow our grief to let us forget our pride in the glorious heroism of these men.

They have left to those who come after a glorious heritage and an inspiration to

duty that will live long after their names are forgotten. France will never forget her debt to the heroic Irish dead, and in the hearts of the French people to-day their memory lives as that of the memory of the heroes of old, preserved in the tales that the old people tell to their children and their children's children.

A GERMAN TRIBUTE

I know of no better tribute to Irish valour than that paid after the armistice by one of the German High Command, whom I had known in happier days. I asked him if he could tell me when he had first noted the declining morale of his own troops, and he replied that it was after the picked troops under his command had had repeated experience of meeting the dauntless Irish troops who opposed them in the last great push that was expected to separate the British and French armies and give the enemy their long-sought victory.

The Irishmen had endured such constant attacks that it was thought that they must be utterly demoralised, but always they seemed to find new energy with which to attack their assailants, and in the end the flower of the German Army withered and faded away as an effective force.



“NÍOR CHLIS SIAD RIAMH”

Nuair a tháinig an t-am le dul sa chath feadh na líne ar fad ba iad na saighdiúirí Éireannacha céanna a cuireadh chun tosaigh ag éileamh a gcuid dílseachta go seasta ach níor chlis siad riamh orainn. Sna laethanta tábhachtacha sin faoi ionsaí ag na Gearmánaigh, nuair ab éigean na mílte a sheoladh chun a mbáis le bac a chur ar an namhaid le go mbeadh deis ag ár gcuid fórsaí teacht acu féin arís, ba ar na hÉireannaigh a bhíomar ag brath arís agus arís eile le seasamh sa bhearna bhaoil agus thug siad aghaidh seasta ar an dúshlán.

Arís agus arís eile nuair a bhí na saighdiúirí ba chróga ag teastáil le seasamh roimh an namhaid ba iad na Gaeil a sheas an fód agus throid siad go cróga agus go calma mar a rinne an cine riamh ar pháirc na catha.

“NÍ DHÉANFAIMID DEARMAD”

Tá cuid de bhláth na hÉireann sínte sna huaigheanna atá san Fhrainc agus beidh cuimhne ag muintir na Fraince go deo ar an gcomaoin atá curtha ag na saighdiúirí cróga sin orthu. Féachfaimid chuige go dtabharfar aire le gean d’uaigheanna na laochra seo a tháinig trasna na toinne agus déanfaimid ár ndícheall a chinntiú nach ndéanfaidh na glúnta a thiochfaidh inár ndiaidh dearmad ar laochra marbha na hÉireann.

“THEY NEVER FAILED”

When the moment came for taking the offensive all along our line, it was these same worn Irish troops that we placed in the van, making call after call on their devotion, but never finding them fail us. In the critical days of the German offensive, when it was necessary that lives should be sacrificed by the thousand to slow down the rush of the enemy, in order that our harassed forces should have time to reform, it was on the Irish that we relied repeatedly to make these desperate stands, and we found them responding always.

Again and again, when the bravest were necessary to delay the enemy's advance, it was the Irish who were ready and at all times the soldiers of Ireland fought with the rare courage and determination that has always characterised the race on the battlefield.

WE SHALL NEVER FORGET”

Some of the flower of Irish chivalry rests in the cemeteries that have been reserved in France, and the French people will always have these reminders of the debt that France owes to Irish valour. We shall always see that the graves of these heroes from across the sea are lovingly tended, and we shall try to ensure that the generations that come after us shall never forget the heroic dead of Ireland.



“Ag breathnú ar an tragóid seo san Eoraip leis an ngeois a thagann le deora agus fuil, is maith a d’fhéadfadh sí, go deimhin caithfidh sí, a bheith ina tús le dhá athmhuintearas atá ina aisling ag gach aon státaire, athmhuintearas Ulaidh Protastúnach le hÉirinn agus athmhuintearas na hÉireann leis an mBreatain Mhór.”

Thomas Kettle

Saighdiúirí na hÉireann i gCath an Somme

Thosaigh Cath an Somme, a tharla cothrom 100 bliain ó shin agus a bhfuilimid ag comóradh i mbliana, ar an 1 Iúil 1916 tar éis tuairgneáil airtléire ocht lá ar línte tosaigh na Gearmáine. In ainneoin go raibh 60,000 taismeach ann in aon lá amháin, ní dheamadh aon dul chun cinn i dteascán na Breataine agus mhair an cogadh go dtí an Samhain dar gcionn tráth ar athraigh an aimsir cúrsaí. Bhí os cionn milliún taismeach ar an iomlán sa Chath.

Bhí breis is 3,500 saighdiúir as Éirinn marbh agus gortaíodh go leor eile. Bhí an marú níos measa fós sa mhéid is gur tharla go leor de an chéad lá den Chath agus dhá lá i mí Mheán an Fhómhair ina dhiaidh sin. De na 5,500 a thit ó Rannán 36 Uladh an 1 Iúil, ba as pobal amháin i gCúige Uladh cuid mhaith iad ar fad. Maraíodh beagnach 2,000 saighdiúir as cathracha, bailte móra, sráidbhailte agus bailte fearainn i dTuaisceart Éireann sna chéad chúpla uair a chloig den troid, rud a d’fhan riamh anall in intinn na ndaoine sa cheantar sin.

Mar chuid den chath céanna d’fhulaing 4,330 saighdiúir as 16ú Rannán na hÉireann i mí an Mheán Fhómhair, maraíodh 1,200 acu. Ba as na trí chúige eile cuid mhaith iad sin. Chomh maith leis sin bhí na saighdiúirí as Éirinn a bhí i rannáin eile i gceist a bhí mar chuid den arm rialta nó i gcathláin a bhí curtha le chéile as an nua. Ní féidir a bheith beacht faoin líon as Éirinn a thit ach bhí daoine ann as gach cuid den oileán agus fágann sin tionchar fós ar mhúnú pholaitíocht na hÉireann.

“Used with the wisdom which is sown in tears and blood, this tragedy of Europe may be and must be the prologue to the two reconciliations of which all statesmen have dreamed, the reconciliation of Protestant Ulster with Ireland, and the reconciliation of Ireland with Great Britain.”

Thomas Kettle

Irish Soldiers in the Battle of the Somme

The Battle of the Somme, the 100th anniversary of which we commemorate this year, started on 1 July 1916 after an eight-day artillery bombardment of the German front lines. Despite 60,000 casualties in one day, no progress was made in the British sector and the battle continued until the following November when the weather intervened. The total number of casualties in the Battle exceeded one million.

Among the dead were over 3,500 Irish soldiers, with many more wounded. This large loss of life was made even more horrendous by its occurrence within the short space of the first day of the Battle and two days in the following September. In particular, the 5,500 casualties of the 36th Ulster Division on 1 July were men drawn almost entirely from one community in the province of Ulster. Nearly 2,000 soldiers from cities, towns, villages and town lands of the North were killed in the first few hours of fighting, an event which seared itself into the folk memory of their community.

In a continuation of the same battle, the 16th Irish Division had 4,330 casualties in September, of whom 1,200 were killed. This came mainly from the other three provinces. Added to these were the Irish soldiers who fought in other divisions as part of the regular army or in the newly-raised battalions. The total number of Irish casualties cannot be calculated with certainty but they affected every part of the island and continued to have an influence on the evolution of Irish politics.



Next of Kin Memorial Plaque
 Leacht Chuimhneachán na Neasghaol.
 “He died for Freedom and Honour”

Saighdiúirí Éireannacha sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda

Nuair a scaoil an Seirbiach Boisniach Gavriilo Princip na hurchair a mharaigh an oidhre ar Choróin na hOstaire, an tArd-Diúc Franz Ferdinand, agus a bhanchéile le linn a gcuarite ar Sarajevo i Meitheamh 1914, chuir sé tús le cúrsaí a mbeadh tionchar díreach acu ar Éireannaigh i ngach cearn d'Éirinn agus ar Éireannaigh a bhí ina gcónaí sa Bhreatain, san Astráil, sa Nua-Shealainn, i gCeanada agus sna Stáit Aontaithe. Athraíodh stair na hÉireann go mór, as ar tháinig fórsaí a bhfuil tionchar fós acu ar pholaitíocht an lae inniu. Mar gheall ar níos mó eolais ar ghnéithe Éireannacha den Chogadh is féidir linn úsáid thairbheach a bhaint as na fórsaí sin chun go bhféadfadh daoine ón dá mhóorthraidisiún nithe a bheith i gcoiteann acu.

Traidisiún míleata na hÉireann

Tá traidisiún láidir míleata ag Éirinn. Fiú amháin roimh imeacht na 'nGéanna Fiáine' tar éis Chonradh Luimnigh, bhíodh saighdiúirí Éireannacha ag cleachtadh a gceirde thar lear. Bhí uiscadhath a léirigh "Saighdiúirí Éireannacha" ón mbliain 1521 i dtaispeántas le gairid de phriontaí de chuid Albrecht Durer. Sa 17ú agus san 18ú aois, tharraing Éireannaigh, reisimintí Éireannacha agus bragóidí Éireannacha gradam orthu féin i airm na Fraince, na Spáinne, agus na hOstaire agus bhí páirt lámach ag Albanaigh Éireannacha i gCogadh na Saoirse i Meiriceá. I rith an 19ú aois, bhí Arm na Breataine in Éirinn mar bhcalach amach áisiúil d'fhir óga a raibh spéis acu sa saighdiúireacht. Bhí an tír roinnte ina n-abhantracha do reisimintí áitiúla a chuir ioncam rialta, éide tarraingeach agus an deis



Irish Soldiers in the First World War

When the Bosnian Serb Gavrilo Princip fired the shots that killed the heir to the Austrian crown Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife during their state visit to Sarajevo in June 1914, he started a chain of events that would directly affect Irish people in every part of Ireland and some of those living in Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States. The course of Irish history was greatly altered, leading to the emergence of forces that still influence the politics of today. The increased awareness of the Irish aspects of the War have helped to put those forces to positive use by allowing people from the two major traditions to meet on common ground.

Ireland's Military Tradition.

Ireland has a strong military tradition. Even before the departure of the "Wild Geese" after the Treaty of Limerick, Irish

soldiers had practised their profession abroad. An exhibition of prints by Albrecht Durer contained a watercolour of "Irish soldiers" from 1521. In the 17th and 18th centuries Irish men, Regiments and Brigades served with distinction in the armies of France, Spain and Austria and the Scotch Irish took a prominent part in the American War of Independence. Throughout the 19th century, the British Army in Ireland provided a convenient outlet for young men interested in soldiering. The country was divided into catchment areas for local regiments which offered regular income, attractive uniforms and the opportunity to travel abroad. Others joined the British navy. Irish emigrants to the United States had won distinction on both sides in the Civil War and in the Mexican American War. Admiral William Brown is regarded as the father of the Argentinian Navy.



taisteal thar lear ar fáil. Chuaigh daoine eile i gcabhlach na Breataine. Bhain eisimircigh Éireannacha chun na Stát Aontaithe cáil amach ar an dá thaobh sa Chogadh Cathartha agus sa Cogadh Meicsiceach Meiriceánach. Tugtar an t-ainm “Athair Chabhlach na hArgintine ar Aimiréal de Brún.

Téann Éire chun cogaidh

Nuair a d’fhógair an Bhreatain Mhór cogadh an 4ú Lúnasa, 1914, bhí isteach agus amach le 20,000 Éireannach ag fónamh cheana féin i mBuan-Arm na Breataine agus bhí 30,000 eile i gcádlíne an chúltaca. Ba 247,000 a bhí i líon iomlán an airm agus bhí 145,000 cúltaicire ann a bhí sa bhuanarm tráth. I gcodarsnacht le mórchumhachtaí Eorpacha eile, bhí Arm na Breataine ag brath ar shaighdiúirí saorálacha seachas ar Sheirbhís Náisiúnta. Chuir an Tiarna Kitchener in iúl don Chomh-Aireacht gur cogadh trí bliana a bheadh ann agus go mbeadh milliún fear ar a laghad de dhíth. Cruthaíodh tríocha rannán nua ar ar tugadh na hAirm Nua nó Arm Kitchener. Sannadh na hÓglaigh chuig cathláin nua de na reisimintí coisithe a bhí cheana ann agus tugadh uimhreacha dóibh a bhí ag leanúint na n-uimhreacha a bhí cheana ann. [Cuireadh an focal “Seirbhís” leis an uimhir chathláin.] Is 1,000 fear a bhíodh sa chathlán coisithe de ghnáth. Tar éis caillteanais mhóra agus meath ar an líon óglach, tugadh coinscríobh isteach faoi dheireadh in Eanáir 1916. Níor cuireadh i bhfeidhm in Éirinn é.

Tugadh Cead Ríoga do Bhille an Rialtais Dúchais an 18ú Meán Fómhair 1914, ach cuireadh a fheidhmiú ar fionraí go ceann bliana amháin nó an t-achar a mhairfeadh an cogadh, tráth a ndéanfaí athbhreithniú air le stíl agus toiliú ginearálta na hÉireann agus na

Ríochta Aontaithe a fháil. An 20ú Meán Fómhair, d’iarr ceannaire an Pháirtí Náisiúnaigh, Seán Mac Réamainn, an té a cheap go leor a bheadh ar an gcéad Pluríomh-Aire i bParlaimint nua na hÉireann, ar Óglaigh na hÉireann liostáil. Bhí saighdiúirí Fíreannacha i bhFórsa Sluaíochta na Breataine i mbun comhraic cheana i bhFlóndras. Bhí atmaisféar mothaitheach cruthaithe ag dul ar aghaidh na Gearmáine tríd an mBeilg, na luaidreáin faoi ghníomhartha uafáis agus dídeanaithe agus ó tharla gur beag nár tógadh Páras. Scoilt an eagraíocht, agus ghairm an dream a lean Mac Réamainn na hÓglaigh Náisiúnta orthu féin.

Choinnigh thart ar 12,000 den 180,000 an teideal Óglaigh na hÉireann agus leag siad amach mar chuspóir dóibh féin neamhspleáchas iomlán a bhaint amach d’Éirinn, le fomeart dá mba ghá. Caitheadh amhras arís ar bhaint amach an Rialtais Dúchais go síochánta mar gheall gur theip ar an Rialtas déileáil leis an gcumadh arm i dTuaisceart Éireann agus mar gheall gur dhiúltaigh briogáid marcra sa Churrach go poiblí Acht an Rialtais Dúchais a chur i bhfeidhm dá n-iarrfaí sin orthu.

Liostáil thart ar 80,000 in Éirinn sa chéad 12 mhí den chogadh, ar tháinig os cionn a leath ó Chúige Uladh. Bhí an 10ú Rannán (Éireannach), a cruthaíodh i ndeireadh Lúnasa, 1914, sa Chéad Arm Nua de 100,000 saighdiúir, K1. Bhí trí bhriogáid ann. Bhí reisimintí le bunáiteanna i ngach ceann den cheithre chúige ag ceann dóibh sin. Bhí an dara ceann lonnaithe i gCúige Uladh agus bhí an tríú ceann lonnaithe sna trí chúige eile. Bunaíodh an 16ú Rannán (Éireannach) den Dara Arm Nua i Meán Fómhair, 1914. B’as Cúige Uladh briogáid amháin. Bunaíodh an 36ú Rannán (Ulaidh) i Meán Fómhair 1914 freisin. Bhí

Ireland goes to war.

When the United Kingdom declared war on 4th August 1914, there were some 20,000 Irishmen already serving in the regular British Army with another 30,000 in the first line reserve. The total army strength was 247,000 with 145,000 ex-regular reservists. In contrast to the other major European powers, the British Army relied on volunteer soldiers rather than on National Service. Lord Kitchener informed the Cabinet that it would be a three-year war requiring at least one million men. Thirty new divisions were formed into what became known as the New Armies or Kitchener's Army. The volunteers were assigned to new battalions of existing regiments of infantry which were given numbers following consecutively on the existing ones. [The word "Service" was added to the battalion number.] Typically, an infantry battalion consisted of 1,000 men. Following huge losses and a decline in volunteers, conscription was eventually introduced in January 1916. It was not applied to Ireland.

The Home Rule Bill was given the Royal Assent on 18th September 1914 but its operation was suspended for one year or for the duration of the war, when it would be reviewed with a view to securing the general consent of Ireland and the United Kingdom. On the 20th September, the leader of the Nationalist Party, John Redmond, who was widely expected to be the first Prime Minister of the new Irish Parliament, called on the Irish Volunteers to enlist. Irish soldiers in the British Expeditionary Force had already been in action in Flanders. The German advance through Belgium, the rumours of atrocities and refugees and the near capture of Paris had created an emotional atmosphere. The organisation split, with those who followed Redmond

being called the National Volunteers.

About 12,000 of the 180,000 retained the Irish Volunteers title and set themselves the objective of gaining full independence for Ireland, by force if necessary. The peaceful achievement of Home Rule was again in doubt due to the failure of the Government to deal with the build-up of arms in Northern Ireland and the public refusal of a cavalry brigade in the Curragh to enforce Home Rule Act if so requested.

About 80,000 enlisted in Ireland in the first 12 months of the war, some half of whom came from Ulster. The First New Army of 100,000 soldiers, K1, contained the 10th (Irish) Division which was formed in late August, 1914. It had three brigades. One had regiments with bases in all four provinces. The second was based in Ulster and the third was based in the other three provinces. The 16th (Irish) Division of the Second New Army was formed in September, 1914. One brigade was from the province of Ulster.

The 36th (Ulster) Division was also formed in September 1914. It was based on the formation and membership of the Ulster Volunteer Force to which a London-based artillery unit was added. It contained men from all nine counties of Ulster. Redmond had sought to have all Irish regiments organised into a single fighting unit.

Irishmen also joined Irish regiments such as the Irish Guards, the London (Irish), the Tyneside battalions of the Northumberland Fusiliers and the 1st/8th (Irish) Kings Liverpool Regiment. Many also joined other English, Scottish and Welsh regiments, the Royal Artillery, the Royal Flying Corps, the Medical Corps, the Army Service Corps, and the Royal Navy. Women served as nurses in the Voluntary Aid Detachment in the front

sé bunaithe ar eagar agus ar chomhaltas Oglaiigh Uladh, a raibh aonad airtléire a raibh a bhunáit i Londain curtha leis. Bhí fir ann ó gach ceann de naoi geontae Uladh. Bhí Mac Réamainn ag iarraidh go mbeadh na reisimintí Éireannacha go léir eagraithe in aon aonad troda amháin.

Chuaigh Éireannaigh freisin le reisimintí Éireannacha ar nós Gardaí na hÉireann, an Londain (Éireannach), Cathláin Cois Tyne d'Fhithúsailéirí Northumberland agus an Iú/8ú Reisimint Learphoill an Rí (Éireannach). Chuaigh go leor eile isteach i reisimintí Sasanacha, Albanacha agus Breatnacha, an Ríoga, Airtléire, an Cór Eitilte Ríoga, an Cór Liachta, Cór Seirbhíse an Airm agus an Cabhlach Ríoga. D'fhóin mná mar bhanaltraí sa Díorma Cabhrach Saorálach sa líne tosaigh. Liostaíl eisimircigh in airm san Astráil, sa Nua-Shealainn, i gCeanada agus san Afraic Theas agus sna Stáit Aontaithe.

Ní raibh bealach ar bith go bhféadfadh na daoine a chuaigh chun troda an saol athraithe a bheadh ann ag deireadh an Chogaidh a shamhlú. Bhí na cúiseanna a liostaíl daoine chomh héagsúil leis na daoine féin. Chuaigh daoine ann mar gheall ar riachtanas eacnamaíoch. Bhí tuilleadh ag súil go gothófaí cairdeas a

thrasnódh difríochtaí stairiúla trína bheith ag fónamh taobh le taobh in aghaidh an namhad céanna.

An Somme

Le linn 1915 bhí líne chosanta de chórais sreagáin bhioracha, tolláin coincreíte doimhne faoin talamh agus pointí láidre, a dtugtaí redoubts orthu, tógtha ag na Gearmánaigh feadh a líne tosaigh ó thuaidh den Somme. Le fáil réidh leo sin thosaigh na Francaigh agus na Breatanaigh ar ionsaí airtléire mór an 24 Meitheamh 1916. Ar feadh beagnach ocht lá ina dhiaidh sin caitheadh thart ar 1.7 milliún sliogán ar na Gearmánaigh trasna ó líne tosaigh na Breataine. Níor phléasc thart ar an tríú cuid de na sliogáin mar go raibh na fíúsanna lochtach agus níor éirigh leis an tuairteáil a haidhm a bhaint amach mar sin. Thug sé sin deis do na cosantóirí Gearmánacha buntáiste iomlán a bhaint as an áit a raibh siad socraithe ar an talamh ard nuair a d'ionsaigh saighdiúirí coise na Breataine.

Ba é an plean a bhí ann ná go mbainfidh na príomhchuspóirí amach laistigh de chúpla uair a chloig. Ní raibh malairt plean ann sa chás nach n-éireodh leis an ionsaí.

line. Emigrants enlisted in the armies of Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa and United States.

Those who went to fight could not have envisaged the changed world that would exist at the end of the War. The reasons for enlisting were as varied as the individuals. Some joined out of economic necessity. Others had the hope that the experience of serving side by side against a common enemy would forge friendships that would transcend the historic differences.

The Somme

During 1915, the Germans had constructed a defensive line of barbed wire systems, deep underground concrete dugouts and strong points, known as redoubts, along their front line north of the Somme. In order to remove these obstacles, the British and French began an intensive artillery barrage on 24 June 1916. Over the following eight days, approximately 1.7 million shells were fired at the German positions opposite the British front line. About one-third of the shells failed to explode due to faulty fuses and consequently the bombardment failed to achieve its objective. This failure enabled the German defenders to take

full advantage of excellent positions on higher ground when the British infantry attacked.

The plan envisaged the major objectives being achieved in hours. There were no alternative arrangements if the attack did not succeed.

The First Day

No opposition was expected when 100,000 soldiers emerged from their trenches at 7.30 am to walk across No Man's Land. Along 23 km stretch of front line, they advanced in the bright daylight of a midsummer morning at a walking pace, as instructed, in straight lines with 90 metres between each assault wave. They were met with a hail of machine-gun fire and most did not reach the German line. There were 60,000 casualties, of whom almost 20,000 were killed, before the attack was halted around noon.

One of the outstanding feats on that day of failure, carnage and death, was the success of the 36th (Ulster) Division in capturing their German front line objectives, including the supposedly impregnable Schwaben Redoubt opposite Thiepval Wood.

i rannáin eile a thug aghaidh ar an mbás an mhaidin sin. Bualadh go dona an 1ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga Inis Ceithleann, an 1ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga na hÉireann agus an 1ú agus an 2ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath agus Rannán 29 ag iarraidh ionad láidir eile - a bhí ag na Gearmánaigh ag Beaumont Hamel a bhí in áit in aice le Rannán 36 (Uladh) - a thógáil. Bhí tollán déanta faoin Hawthorne Redoubt ach nuair a socraíodh an stór mór ábhar pléascáidh a bhí ann a chaitheamh ag 7.20 am bhí fógra maith ag na Gearmánaigh go raibh ionsaí ar an mbealach agus thug sé deis dóibh áiteanna maithe cosanta a aimsiú thart ar an gcuas mianach sular tháinig na saighdiúirí chomh fada leo. Bhí an 2ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath ar an dara maidhm ionsaithe, ag cur chun catha le 503 fear agus thit 325 acu. Thóg na 1ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga na hÉireann an áit ar a dtugtaí an Quadrilateral ach b'éigean dóibh tarraingt siar arís go dtí an áit ina raibh siad socraithe ar dtús.

As an dá rannán déag de shaighdiúirí coise de chuid na Breataine a bhí san ionsaí an lá sin bhí Cathlán amháin as Éirinn i dtír cinn acu. Chuaigh an 1ú Raidhfílí Ríoga na hÉireann trasna No Man's Land leis an 8ú Rannán sa dara

maidhm ach maraíodh a gceannfort agus ní dheachaigh siad níos faide. Chuidigh An 2ú Reisimint Ríoga na hÉireann as an 7ú Rannán le trí mhíle de línte tosaigh trinsí na nGearmánach a thógáil in aice le baile Mametz. Bhí an 2ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga Inis Ceithleann i Rannán 32 a throid ag baile Thiepval, áit ar thit 4,000 fear. Thug sé sin deis do na Gearmánaigh díriú ar Rannán 36 (Uladh) agus chuir iallach orthu cúlú.

B'éigean do na 3,000 fear de Bhriogáid Tyneside na hÉireann a bhí ar an dara maidhm dul thar mhíle de thalamh oscailte sular bhain siad an líne tosaigh amach. Chuaigh siad trasna 500 slat ansin de No Man's Land agus lean orthu go dtí nach raibh ach 50 fear fágtha, go domhain ar thalamh trinsí na nGearmánach. Thit 2,139 san ionsaí cróga, bhí 620 díobh sin sa lú Cathlán.

Ba é liosta iomlán oifigiúil na Breataine den líon a thit an 1 lúil ná 57,470 idir fhuir a maraíodh, a gortaíodh, a chuaigh ar iarraidh nó a tógadh ina bpríosúnaigh, sin leath den méid a chuaigh chun catha. Maraíodh 19,240 nó bhásaigh siad óna gcuid créachta. Thit beirt an slat den fronta. Meastar gur 8,000 a chaill na Gearmánaigh.

to withdraw due to the isolation of their position.

Of the twelve British infantry divisions that took part in the attack on that day, three had a single Irish Battalion among their ranks. The 1st Royal Irish Rifles crossed No Man's Land with the 8th Division in the second wave but had its Commanding Officer killed and could go no further. The 2nd Royal Irish Regiment of the 7th Division helped to capture three miles of the German frontline trenches near the village of Mametz. The 2nd Royal Inniskillings Fusiliers were in the 32nd Division which was repulsed at Thiépval village, suffering 4,000 casualties. This allowed the Germans to

concentrate their fire on the 36th (Ulster) Division and force them to withdraw.

The 3,000 men of the Tyneside Irish Brigade who were in the second wave had to advance over one mile of open ground before reaching the front line. They then crossed the 500 yards of No Man's Land and continued until there were only 50 soldiers left, deep in the German trench system. The valiant effort had cost 2,139 casualties, 620 of whom were in the 1st Battalion.

The final official British casualty list for the 1st of July was 57,470 soldiers killed, wounded, missing or taken prisoner, which is about half of those who went into battle. 19,240 were killed or died of



Members of the 16th (Irish) Division following the battle at Ginchy on 9 September 1916.
Comhaltáir an 16ú Rannán (Éire) i ndiaidh an chatha ag Ginchy an 9 Meán Fómhair 1916.

Guillemont agus Ginchy

Lean an iarracht le líne na nGearmánach a bhrú chun cúil feadh an tsamhraidh, an dá thaobh suas in aghaidh a chéile. Tugadh líne tosaigh na Breataine chun cinn go mall ach ní gan fulaimgt é. Aistríodh Rannán 16 na hÉireann ó camáil Loos i mí Lúnasa, thit 6,000 acu, 1,496 acu marbh.

Bhí an Rannán comhdhéanta de sheacht geathlán as Laighin, Mumhain, agus Connachta, cúig cinn as Ulaidh agus an nÚ Reisimint Ríoga Hampshire. Iarradh ar Bhriogáid 47 bonnait na nGearmánach ag Guillemont a thógáil. Bhí roinnt ionsaithe déanta ar an áit sin ó mhí Iúil. An 3 Meán Fómhair thóg 6ú Fiannóglaiigh Chonnacht, 7ú Laighean and the 8ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga na Mumhan an áit in ionsaí fíor-chrúga. An 9 Meán Fómhair thóg Briogáid 48 ina raibh an 11ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga na Mumhan, an 7ú Raidhfíli Ríoga na hÉireann agus an 8ú agus an 9ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Atha Cliath áit dhaingean eile de chuid na nGearmánach ag Ginchy atá thart ar 1 ciliméadar as Guillemont. Sin é an t-aon áit ar éirigh leis na Breatanaigh an lá sin, áit ar thit 4,330, 50% de na hoifigigh san áireamh. Ar na daoine a maraíodh bhí an Feisire Parlaiminte

Náisiúnach Tom Kettle a chuaigh chun catha i gceannas ar chompántas 9ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Atha Cliath. Níos deireanaí amach sa mhí bualadh go dona na 11ú and 12ú Gardaí na hÉireann san áit chéanna.

Tháinig Cath Somme chun deiridh i Samhain 1916. Le linn an ionsaithe dheireanaigh ar an 13ú chuidigh an 10ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Atha Cliath le Beaumont Hamel, spríoc a bhí leagtha amach don chéad lá, a thógáil. Thit 50% de na fir.

An líon deiridh a bhí gceist na 420,000 de shaighdiúirí na Breataine, 200,000 de shaighdiúirí na Fraince agus 660,000 de shaighdiúirí na Gearmáine a thit. Ba bheag den talamh a bhí tógtha ag na Gearmanaigh a tógadh ar ais de thoradh Chath an Somme agus ba bheag fiúntas go straitéiseach a bhí ann ó thaobh dul chun cinn na gComhghuaillithe.



The Last Absolution of The 'Munsters' at Aubers Ridge 8 May 1915
By Fortunino Matania

Eachtraí Tábhachtacha Éireannacha sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda

Gan trácht ar an Somme, bhí Éireannaigh i gcomhrac i ngach ceann de na cathanna ba shuntasáí sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda.

1914



NA CHÉAD CHATHANNA

Chuaigh Fórsa Sluaíochta na Breataine (BEF) go dtí an Fhrainc i Lúinasa 1914 agus rinne siad a mbealach chun dul ar aghaidh na Gearmáine tríd an mBeilg agus Tuaisceart na Fraince a stopadh. Ba iad na reisimintí Éireannacha sa BEF ná:

Coisithe:

1ú Gardaí na hÉireann
1ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga na hÉireann
2ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath
2ú Fiannóglaigh Chonnacht
2ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga na Mumhan
2ú Reisimint Ríoga na hÉireann
2ú Raidhfílé Ríoga na hÉireann
2ú Reisimint Laighean
2ú Fiúsailéirí Ríoga Inis Ceithleann

Marcra:

4ú Gardaí Dragúin Ríoga na hÉireann
5ú Lansaithe Ríoga na hÉireann
Capaill Éireann an Deiscirt
Capaill Éireann an Tuaiscirt
8ú Husáir Éireannacha Ríoga an Rí

Ba é an Ceannaire E. Thomas de 4ú Gardaí Dragúin Ríoga na hÉireann a chaith an chéad urchar de chuid Arm na Breataine sa Chogadh díreach ó thuaidh de Mons an 22ú Lúinasa. An lá dar gcionn, d'fhéach an Lt Maurice Dease as an Muileann gCearr, a bhí ag fónamh leis na Fiúsailéirí Ríoga le dul chun cinn na Gearmáine isteach sa chathair a stopadh lena aonad meaisínghunnaí. Bhásaigh sé sa troid agus bronnadh an chéad Cros

Victoria iarbháis den Chogadh air.

Throid na buansaighdiúirí dea-oilte roinnt cathanna ach b'éigean dóibh cúlú ó ionsaí na Gearmáine. Bhí a gcéad tairmigh ag an 2ú Baile Átha Cliath in aice le Le Cateau agus chuir an 2ú Mumhain moill ar dhul chun cinn na Gearmáine ar feadh lae trí chomhrac costasach cúlgharda ag Etreux.

Bhí reisimintí na hÉireann scaipthe ar fud theascóg na Breataine agus chuir siad tús le tréimhsí malartacha laethanta sa líne tosaigh, laethanta sa chúltaca agus laethanta ar chúil ag ligean scíthe. Bhrístí an gnáthamh sin leis na mórchathanna píosaí socraithe inar bhásaigh líon mór saighdiúirí Éireannacha.

Ghlac roinnt saighdiúirí Éireannacha páirt i Sos Cogaidh na Nollag sa bhliain 1914 nuair a cuireadh stop go tobann leis an marú ar feadh tréimhse ghearr.

1915



GALLIPOLI

Leis an leamhsháinn a bhí ar an bhFronda Thiar lorgaíodh bealach eile chun an Ghearmáin a chloí. Chruthódh tógáil Constantinople, Istanbul sa lá atá inniu ann, nasc díreach leis an gcomhghuaillí Rúiseach agus d'fhéadfaí tabhairt faoi fheachtas rathúil ar an bhfronda thoir. Beartaíodh ar an Dardinelles ag Gallipoli a thógáil.

Other Important Irish Episodes in the First World War

Apart from the Somme, the Irish were to be found in action across all the major actions of the war.

1914



THE FIRST BATTLES

The British Expeditionary Force entered France in August 1914 and advanced to stop the German advance through Belgium and Northern France. The Irish regiments in the BEF were:

Infantry:

- 1st Irish Guards
- 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers
- 2nd Royal Dublin Fusiliers
- 2nd Connaught Rangers
- 2nd Royal Munster Fusiliers
- 2nd Royal Irish Regiment
- 2nd Royal Irish Rifles
- 2nd Leinster Regiment
- 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Cavalry:

- 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
- 5th Royal Irish Lancers
- South Irish Horse
- North Irish Horse
- 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars

The first shot fired by the British Army in the War was discharged by Corporal E. Thomas of the 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards just north of Mons on August 22nd. On the following day, Lt Maurice Dease from Mullingar, who was serving with the Royal Fusiliers, attempted to stop the German advance into the city with his machine gun unit. He died fighting and was awarded the first posthumous Victoria Cross of the War.

The well-trained regular soldiers fought a number of battles but had to retreat in the face of the German thrust. The 2nd Dublins had their first casualties near Le Cateau and the 2nd Munsters delayed the German advance for a day with a costly rearguard action at Etreuix.

The Irish regiments were distributed throughout the British sector and began a routine of alternating periods of days in the front line, days in reserve and days in the rear resting. The routine was broken by the major set piece battles in many of which large numbers of Irish soldiers died.

Some Irish soldiers took part in the Christmas Truce of 1914 when there was a spontaneous cessation in the killing for a short period.

1915



GALLIPOLI

The stalemate on the Western Front prompted an alternative approach to defeating Germany. The capture of Constantinople, now Istanbul, would give a direct link to the Russian ally and a successful eastern front campaign could be undertaken. The capture of the Dardanelles at Gallipoli was planned.

Bhí na n-ú Cathláin d'Fhíúisailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath, na Mumhan agus Inis Ceithleann páirteach sa teacht i dtír an 25ú Aibreán ag Rinn Helles, arbh áit cosanta iontach a bhí ann le Fosláir Gunna curtha ar fhánaí géara. Níor éirigh leis an tuairgneáil chabhlaigh cosaintí na dTurcach a chur ó mhaith. Bhí Fíúisailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath agus Fíúisailéirí Ríoga na Mumhan ar an gcéad dream le teacht i dtír ón S.S. River Clyde agus den chéad 200 fear a d'fhág an long, maraíodh 149 agus goineadh 30 láithreach. Bhí 25 oifigeach agus 987 ó chéimeanna eile i mBaile Átha Claith, níor bhain ach oifigeach amháin agus 374 ó chéimeanna eile an cósta amach. Bhí 637 taismeach ann sa chéad 36 uair an chloig.

Shocraigh na Comhghuaillithe ionsaí eile ar fad a dhéanamh in aghaidh na dTurcach agus roghnaigh siad Bá Suvla, 25 míle ó thuaidh de Rinn Helles. Ba é an chéad aonad saorálach Éireannach a chuaigh chun catha ná an 10ú Rannán (Éireannach) ina raibh cathláin scirbhíse nua na reisimintí Éireannacha. Mar thoradh ar neamhéifeacht riaracháin, cuireadh airtléire an Rannáin chuig an bhFrainc rud a d'fhág na fir ag an láthair gan léarseáileanna ná orduithe. Maraíodh 3,411 ar a laghad a bhí ag fónamh le cathláin Éireannacha, nó chuaigh siad ar iarraidh. Bhí 569 díobh sin ó 1ú Fíúisailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath.

ST JULIAN, Flóndras, Bealtaine 1915

Car do St. Julien, i rith an dara cath ag Ypres, beagnach ndearnadh díothú iomlán ar 2ú Fíúisailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath díreach mí amháin tar éis Teacht i dtír Helles. An 24ú Bealtaine, 1915, thart ar 2.45am, chuir na Gearmánaigh tús le hionsaí gás nimhe. Bhí 666 fear sa Chathlán. Faoi 9.30 pm, ní raibh ach oifigeach amháin agus 20 de chéimeanna eile fágtha.

SALONIKA, Deireadh Fómhair, 1915

An 29 Meán Fómhair, 1915, shíod an 10ú Rannán (Éireannach), a raibh 2,454 duine ann, ó Gallipoli ag tabhairt a n-aghaidh ar Salonika chun troid ar fhrona na Bulgáire. An 3ú Deireadh Fómhair, bhí Fíúisailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath agus na Mumhan ag an líne tosaigh agus ordaíodh dóibh an sráidbhaile Jenikoj, atá sa Mhadóin sa lá atá inniu ann, a thógáil. San ionsaí sin, chaill siad 385 fear, idir dhaoine a maraíodh, a goineadh nó a chuaigh ar iarraidh. Tá cros Cheilteach eibhir anois in gar do shráidbhaile Robrovo i bPoblacht na Macadóine chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar an 10ú Rannán (Éireannach). Tá crosa den chineál céanna ag Wytcaete i bhFlóndras agus i Guillemont sa Fhrainc.



The 1st Battalions of the Royal Dublin, Munster and Inniskilling Fusiliers took part in the landing on April 25th at Cape Helles, which was a perfect defensive location with gun emplacements housed on steep slopes. The naval bombardment failed to neutralize the Turkish defences. The Royal Dublin Fusiliers and the Royal Munster Fusiliers were the first to disembark from the S.S. River Clyde and of the first 200 men to leave the ship, 149 were killed and 30 wounded immediately. The Dublins had 25 officers and 987 other ranks but only one officer and 374 other ranks made it ashore. There were 637 casualties in the first 36 hours.

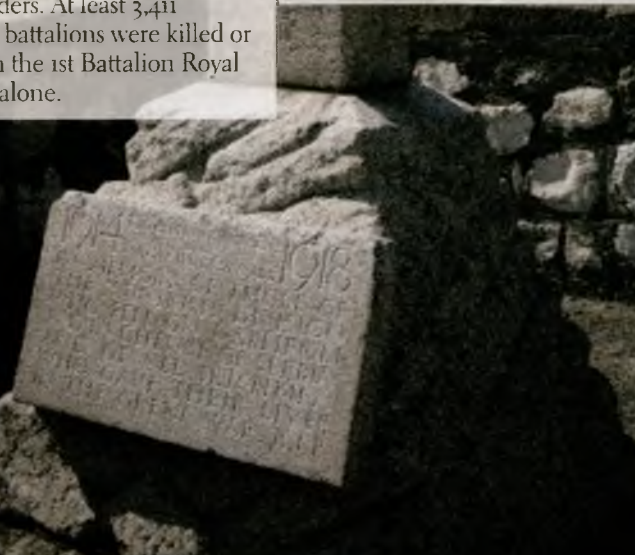
The Allies decided to launch a fresh attack against the Turks and chose Suvla Bay, 25 miles north of Cape Helles. The first Irish volunteer unit to go into battle was the 10th (Irish) Division which contained the new service battalions of the Irish regiments. As a result of administrative incompetence, the Division's artillery had been sent to France and the men arrived without either maps or orders. At least 3,411 serving with Irish battalions were killed or missing, 569 from the 1st Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers alone.

ST JULIAN, Flanders, May 1915

Near St. Julien, during the second battle of Ypres, the 2nd Royal Dublin Fusiliers suffered near annihilation just one month after the Helles Landings. On May 24th, 1915, around 2.45am, the Germans launched a poison gas attack. The Battalion strength was 666 men. By 9.30 pm, only one officer and 20 other ranks remained.

SALONIKA, October, 1915

On September 29, 1915, the 2,454 strong 10th (Irish) Division set sail from Gallipoli for Salonika to fight on the Bulgarian front. On the 3rd October, the Royal Dublin and Munster Fusiliers were at the front line and were ordered to take the village of Jenikoj which is now in Macedonia. In the attack, they lost 385 men killed, wounded or missing. There is a granite Celtic cross to commemorate the 10th (Irish) Division near the village of Robrovo in the Republic of Macedonia. This complements the ones at Wijtschate in Flanders and Guillemont in France.



10th Irish Division Memorial Cross, Macedonia
 Cros Cúimhneacháin 10ú Roinn na hÉireann, Macadóine

1916

HULLUCH, Aibreán, 1916

Tháinig an 16ú Rannán (Éireannach) chun na Fraince i Mí na Nollag 1915 agus sannadh chuig teascóg Loos iad. Bhí siad sna trinsí ag Hulluch nuair a rinne na Gearmánaigh ionsaí gáis an 27ú Aibreán, 1916. Den 1980 taismeach, maraíodh 570 agus bhásaigh go leor de na daoine a goineadh níos deireanaí ó ghalair riospráide. D'fhan an Rannán ag Loos go dtí an Lúnasa nuair a d'aistrigh sé go dtí ceantar an Somme. Bhí 6,000 taismeach sa Rannán (maraíodh 1,496).

AN T-ÉIRÍ AMACH I MBAILE ÁTHA CLIATH, Aibreán, 1916

De réir mar a bhí líon na dtaismeach ag méadú agus gan mórán dóchais de bhua luath, lean Oglagh na hÉireann orthu ag traenáil agus ag ullmhú chun seasamh in aghaidh aon iarrachta ar iad a dhí-armáil. B'oscailt súl ar fhíoriarmhairtí an chogaidh a bhí sna liostaí fada de dhaoine a bhí maraithe nó gonta chomh maith leis an méadú ar an dóchtúlacht go dtabharfaí coinscríobh isteach.

Nuair a thosaigh an tÉirí Amach an 24ú Aibreán, bhí thart ar 5,000 saighdiúir imlonnaithe i limistéar Bhaile Átha Cliath. Seoladh 1000 breise láithreach ó Bhéal Feirste agus cuireadh na mílte eile anall ó Shasana. Ghlac 4ú, 5ú agus 10ú Fíúisailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath páirt sa troid faoi mar a rinne roinnt oifigeach agus saighdiúirí a bhí ar saoire i mBaile Átha Cliath ag an am.

1917

IOMAIRE MESSINES, Meitheamh 1917

Chuaigh an 16ú Rannán (Éireannach) agus an 36ú Rannán (Ulaigh) chun cogaidh le chéile chun an sráidbhaile Beilgech Wytchaete a thógáil in ionsaí dea-phleanáilte ar Iomaire Messines. Fuair an Ginearál Plumer samhail de réir scála den iomaire déanta ionas go mbeadh a raibh rompu le feiceáil ag na trúpaí. Chuir sé mianaigh á dtochailt le haghaidh pléascán faoi chosaint na Gearmáine. Thuairgneáil thart ar 3 mhilliún sliogán Messines ar feadh os cionn seachtaine. Mhaolaigh an baráiste nuair a mhaidhmigh Plumer 9,500 tonna pléascáin faoi na Gearmánagih i 19 mianach. Bhásaigh Liam Mac Réamainn, M.P., deartháir le Seán, ceannaire an Pháirtí Éireannaigh, de bharr na greáchtáí a fuair sé san ionsaí sin.

PASSCHENDAELE, AN TRÍÚ CATH IN YPRES, Iúil 1917

Aistríodh an 16ú Rannán (Éireannach) agus an 36ú Rannán (Ulaigh) go dtí 5ú Arm an Ghinearáil Gough i mí Iúil 1917. An 31 Iúil, ghlac an 36ú Rannán (Ulaigh) páirt san ionsaí tosaigh ar shuímh dhaingne Gearmánacha soir ó Ypres. Is ar éigean Ní fhéadfaí ionsaí ar bith a dhéanamh mar gheall ar an mbáisteach throm, a mhair ar feadh míosa. Mar sin féin, ghluais an dá rannán Éireannacha chun cinn ag Langemarck an 16ú Lúnasa. Cailleadh 65% de na haonaid tosaigh roimh an ionsaí mar gheall ar thuairgneáil throm ó na Gearmánaigh. Bhí 3,585 taismeach sa 36ú (Ulaigh) agus 4,231 taismeach sa 16ú (Éireannach). Maraíodh an tAthair Willie Doyle, MC, séiplíneach don 8ú Baile Átha Cliath.

Bhí an 16ú Rannán (Éireannach) i gcomhrac in aice le Arras agus an 36ú Rannán (Ulaigh) in aice le Cambrai i mí na Samhna. Chuaigh an 10ú Rannán (Éireannach) chun na hÉigipte i Meán Fómhair.

1916

HULLUCH, April, 1916

The 16th (Irish) Division arrived in France in December 1915 and was assigned to the Loos sector. They were in the trenches at Hulluch when the Germans launched a gas attack on April 27th, 1916. Of the 1980 casualties, 570 were killed and many of the wounded died later from respiratory diseases. The Division remained at Loos until August when it moved to the Somme area. The Division had suffered 6,000 casualties (1,496 killed).

THE RISING IN DUBLIN, April, 1916

As the number of casualties continued to rise with little prospect of early victory, the Irish Volunteers continued to train and prepare to resist any attempt to disarm them. The reality of war was brought home in the long lists of dead and wounded, which also increased the likelihood of conscription.

When the Rising began on the 24th April, there were about 5,000 soldiers deployed in the Dublin area. An additional 1000 were immediately sent from Belfast and further thousands were dispatched from England. The 4th, 5th and 10th Royal Dublin Fusiliers took part in the fighting as did a number of officers and soldiers who were on leave in Dublin at the time.



1917

MESSINES RIDGE, June 1917.

The 16th (Irish) and 36th (Ulster) Divisions went into battle together to take the Belgian village of Wijtschate in the well-planned attack on the Messines Ridge. General Plumer had a scaled model of the Ridge made so troops could see what lay ahead. He had mines dug for explosives beneath German defences. About 3 million shells bombarded Messines for over a week. The barrage eased just before Plumer detonated 9,500 tons of explosives under the Germans in 19 mines. Willie Redmond, M.P. and brother of John, leader of the Irish Party, died of wounds received in the attack.

PASSCHENDAELE, THE 3RD BATTLE OF YPRES, July 1917

The 16th (Irish) and 36th (Ulster) Divisions were transferred to General Gough's 5th Army in July 1917. On 31 July, the 36th (Ulster) Division took part in the opening attack on the strong German positions to the east of Ypres. The heavy rain, which continued for a month, made conditions for an attack impossible. Never the less, both Irish Divisions moved forward at Langemarck on August 16th. 65% of the leading units were lost before the attack due to heavy German shelling. The 36th (Ulster) had 3,585 casualties and the 16th (Irish) 4,231. Fr Willie Doyle, MC, chaplain to the 8th Dublins, was killed.

The 16th (Irish) Division was in action near Arras and the 36th (Ulster) Division near Cambrai in November. The 10th (Irish) Division went to Egypt in September.

1918

AN SOMME 1918 – NA 100 LÁ DEIRIDH

Thosaigh ionsaí na Gearmáine a raibh stíl le fada leis an 21ú Márta agus d'éirigh leis línte na Breataine a chur siar beagnach chomh fada le Amiens. Bhí an 16ú agus 36ú Rannán faoi lán-bhuille an ionsaí sin agus scriosadh iad mar aonaid troda. Bhí 6,435 taismeach sa 16ú agus 6,109 taismeach sa 36ú. Maraíodh an trian.

Cuireadh cathlán an 10ú Rannán agus an 16ú Rannán le chéile agus scaipeadh chuig rannáin eile ar an bhFrónta Thiar iad. Mar shampla, chuaigh an 1ú Baile Átha Cliath go dtí an 29ú Rannán agus cuireadh an 2ú agus an 7ú leis an 31ú Rannán. Is san ainm amháin a d'fhan Ulaidh ar an 36ú Rannán mar gur daoine a coinscríobhadh as Sasana na daoine nua a cuireadh ann. Bhí na cathlán Éireannacha páirteach sa dul chun cinn a ruaig na Gearmánaigh siar thar an bhfearann go léir a bhí gnóthaithe acu sna ceithre bliana den chogadh. Bhí an 2ú Baile Átha Cliath i gcath in aice le Le Cateau an 16ú Deireadh Fómhair, agus rinneadh taismigh de 44% in imeacht dhá lá. Ba é seo an áit a ndeachaigh siad chun comhraic den chéad uair i Lúnasa 1914. Chríochnaigh an Chéad Chogadh Domhanda laistigh de mhí.

TAR EIS AN CHOGAIDH

Nuair a d'fhill na saighdiúirí ar Éirinn, bhí an saol polaitiúil athraithe. Sa toghchán i mí na Nollag 1918 tacaíodh go láidir le Sinn Féin, seachas sna limistéir thraidisiúnta Aontachtacha. Cuireadh na hÍobairtí a rinneadh sa chogadh de leataobh i gcuigí an deiscirt agus bhí an cailleanas a tharla ag an Somme mar chuid den oidhreacht sa limistéar nua Tuaisceart Éireann.

Chuaigh roinnt daoine a bhí ina saighdiúirí leis an IRA, ar dhuine díobh sin bhí Eiméid Daltún a bhí ag fónamh le Tom Kettle. Dúirt sé nach raibh deacracht ar bith aige troid d'Éirinn leis an mBreatain agus nach raibh aon deacracht aige ach oiread troid d'Éirinn in aghaidh na Breataine. Chuaigh iarshaighdiúirí eile le harm nua na hÉireann.

An 12ú Meitheamh, 1922, díscaoileadh na reisimintí a bhí earcaithe in Éirinn a bhí anois neamhspleách. Ba iad sin:

Reisimint Ríoga na hÉireann
Fíannóglach Chonnacht
Reisimint Laighean Phrionsa na Breataine
Bige
Fiúsailéirí Ríoga na Mumhan
Fiúsailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath

Chlac an Rí na Bratacha agus cuireadh i dtaise i gCaisleán Windsor iad, áit a bhfuil siad fós.



1918

THE SOMME 1918 - THE LAST 100 DAYS

The long-expected German offensive began on March 21st and succeeded in driving the British lines back almost to Amiens. The 16th and 36th Divisions received the full weight of the attack and were effectively destroyed as fighting units. The 16th had 6,435 casualties and the 36th had 6,109. A third were killed.

The battalions of 10th and 16th Divisions were amalgamated and distributed to other divisions on the Western Front. For example, the 1st Dublins went to the 29th Division and the 2nd and 7th joined the 31st Division. The 36th Division remained Ulster in name only, as replacements were English conscripts. The Irish battalions took part in the advances which drove the Germans back over all of the territory gained during the four years of war. The 2nd Dublins went into battle near Le Cateau on October 16th, suffering 44% casualties within two days. This was where they had first gone into action in August 1914. The First World War ended within a month.

AFTERMATH

When the soldiers returned to Ireland, they found a changed political climate. The election in December 1918 was a clear endorsement of Sinn Fein outside of the traditional Unionist areas. The sacrifices made in the war were sidelined in the southern provinces whereas the losses at the Somme became part of the heritage of the new Northern Ireland.

Some ex-soldiers joined the IRA, notably Emmet Dalton who had served with Tom Kettle. He is on record as having no difficulty in fighting for Ireland with the British and fighting for Ireland against the British. Others joined the new Irish army.

On June 12th, 1922, the regiments which had been recruited in the new independent Ireland were disbanded. They were:

The Royal Irish Regiment
 The Connaught Rangers
 The Prince of Wales Leinster Regiment
 The Royal Munster Fusiliers
 The Royal Dublin Fusiliers.

The Colours were received by the King and were laid up in Windsor Castle where they remain.

STAITISTICÍ

TNílear ar aon intinn faoin líon iomlán saighdiúirí Éireannacha a d'fhóin in Arm agus i gCabhlach na Breataine sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda. Deir an tOllamh Keith Jeffery gur 210,000 é. Is cosúil go n-aontaítear gur maraíodh 35,000 ar a laghad, cé gur 49,400 an figiúr atá tugtha sa Chuimhneachán Náisiúnta Cogaidh.

Liostáil thar ar 140,000 in Éirinn i rith an chogaidh. Is cuid suntais an méadú a tharlaigh i 1918.

Bhí an líon earcach Éireannach sa chéad bhliain níos mó ná an líon iomlán don chuid eile de thrí bhliana an Chogaidh. De réir mar a chuaigh an Cogaidh chun cinn, ba daoine a coinscríobhadh sa Ríocht Aontaithe a cuireadh in áit chaillteanais na hÉireann. Mar shampla, ba 23% a bhí sa chéatadán de shaighdiúirí nárbh Éireannaigh iad a bhí i nRaidhfilí Ríoga na hÉireann, a bhí lonnaithe in Aontraim agus an Dún, sa bhliain 1916. Bliain ina dhiaidh sin ba 52% a bhí ann.

Mar a luadh níos túisce, d'fhóin saighdiúirí Éireannacha i bhfórsaí eile.

Tréimhse	Earcadh
Lún 1914 – Feabh 1915	50,107
Feabh 1915– Lún 1915	25,235
Lún 1915 – Feabh 1916	19,801
Feabh 1916– Lún 1916	9,323
Lún 1916 – Feabh 1917	8,178
Feabh 1917– Lún 1917	5,607
Lún 1917 – Feabh 1918	6,550
Feabh 1918– Lún 1918	5,812
Lún 1918 – Samh 1918 [3 Mhí]	9,843

Then lift the flag of the Last Crusade!

And fill the ranks of the Last Brigade!

STATISTICS

There is no agreement on the total number of Irish soldiers who served in the British Army and Navy in the First World War. Professor Keith Jeffery gives a figure of 210,000. There appears to be a consensus that at least 35,000 died, though the figure on the National War Memorial is 49,400.

About 140,000 enlisted in Ireland during the war. The increase in 1918 is worth noting.

The first year total of Irish recruits exceeded the total of the remaining three years of the War. As the War progressed,

Irish losses were replaced by UK conscripts. For example, the percentage of non-Irish soldiers in the 1st Royal Irish Rifles, which was based in Antrim and Down, was 23% in 1916. One year later it was 52%.

As mentioned earlier, Irish soldiers also served in other forces.

Period	Recruits
Aug 1914 –Feb 1915	50,107
Feb 1915- Aug 1915	25,235
Aug 1915 –Feb 1916	19,801
Feb 1916- Aug 1916	9,323
Aug 1916 –Feb 1917	8,178
Feb 1917- Aug 1917	5,607
Aug 1917 –Feb 1918	6,550
Feb 1918- Aug 1918	5,812
Aug 1918 –Nov 1918 [3 Months]	9,843

March on to the fields where the world's re-made,
 And the Ancient Dreams come true!

TM KETTLE



IRELAND'S
MEMORIAL RECORDS
1914-1918

BEING THE NAMES OF IRISHMEN WHO FELL IN THE
GREAT EUROPEAN WAR, 1914-1918, COMPILED BY
THE COMMITTEE OF THE IRISH
NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL
WITH DECORATIVE BORDERS
BY HARRY CLARKE

VOLUME ONE

A TO CAR

A Lament from the Trenches

I wish the sea were not so wide
That parts me from my love;
I wish the things men do below
Were known to God above.
I wish that I were back again
In the glens of Donegal,
They'll call me coward if I return
But a hero if I fall.

'Is it better to be a living coward,
Or thrice a hero dead?'
'It's better to go to sleep, my lad',
The Colour Sergeant said

PATRICK MCGILL

About the author

Patrick McGill was known as the "The Navy Poet" as he had worked as a navy before he began writing. During the First World War, he served with the London Irish Rifles and was wounded at the Battle of Loos on 28 October 1915.

"The Navy Poet" a tugadh ar Patrick McGill mar gheall gur oibrigh sé ina naibhí sular thosaigh sé ag scríobh. Le linn an Chéad Chogadh Domhanda, d'fhóin sé leis na London Irish Rifles agus gortaíodh é i gCath Loos an 28 Deireadh Fómhair 1915.



GAIRDÍNÍ NAISIUNTA CUIMHNEACHÁIN COGAIDH NA HEIREANN

Gairdíní Náisiúnta Cuimhneacháin Cogaidh na hÉireann ag Droichead na hInse tfoclachta i gcuimhne ar na 49,400 saighdiúir as Éirinn a bhásaigh idir 1914-1918 sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda.

Na Gairdíní

Ba é Sir Edwin Lutyens a leag amach na gairdíní agus is léir a stíl dínite shimplí. Clúdaíonn said thart ar ocht heicteár ar an taobh ó dheas den Life, trasna beagnach ón Daingean Ainm i bPáirc an Fhionnuisce agus thart ar thrí chiliméadar ó lár Bhaile Átha Cliath.

Tosaíodh ar thógáil líne-shlí na páirce a bhí thart ar 60 heicteár ó Dhroichead na hInse go Séipeál Iosóid in 1931 agus thóg thart ar dhá bhliain le déanamh. Leagadh amach na Gairdíní Cuimhneacháin idir 1933 agus 1939. Bhí leath den fhórsa oibre comhdhéanta d'iar-shaighdiúirí de chuid Arm na Breataine agus an leath eile d'iar-shaighdiúirí as Arm na hÉireann.

An Dearthoir Tírdhreach

Rinneadh Sir Edwin Lutyens (1869-1944), an t-ailtire agus tírdhearthóir mór le rá as an mBreatain a choimisiúnu chun an dearadh a ullmhú. Bhí eolas ag Lutyens ar Éirinn, d'oibrigh sé roimhe sin ar Reachrainn i gCo. Bhaile Átha Cliath do Lord Revelstoke, ag Caisleán Bhinn Fadair do TJ Gainsford-St Lawrence agus ag Heywood, Co. Laoise, don Choirnéal agus Bean Hutcheson Poe. Is sampla an-mhaith iad na gairdíní de shiméadracht chlasaiceach agus d'fhoirmiúlacht agus aithnítear go forleathan go bhfuil an coincheap do Dhroichead na hInse ar cheann de na cinn is fearr i measc na n-iliomad cuimhneachán cogáí a chruthaigh sé ar fud an domhain. Is léiriú é an gean a bhí aige ar ábhar áitiúil agus an mothú éagsúil i 'bpáirteanna' éagsúla de na gairdíní ar an imbarfeabhas a bhain leis mar ealaíontóir.

IRISH NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL GARDENS

The Irish National War Memorial Gardens at Islandbridge are dedicated to the memory of the 49,400 Irish soldiers who died between 1914-1918 in the First World War.

The Gardens

The Gardens were designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens and are characteristic of his style of simple dignity. They occupy an area of about eight hectares on the southern banks of the River Liffey, almost opposite the Magazine Fort in the Phoenix Park, and about three kilometres from the centre of Dublin.

Construction of the linear parkway, about 60 hectares in extent stretching from Islandbridge to Chapelizod, began in 1931 and took about two years to complete. The Memorial Gardens were laid out between 1933 and 1939. The workforce for the project was formed of fifty percent ex-British Army servicemen and fifty percent ex-servicemen from the Irish National Army.

The Landscape Designer

Sir Edwin Lutyens (1869-1944), the distinguished British architect and landscape designer, was commissioned to prepare the design. Lutyens was no stranger to Ireland having previously worked on Lambay Island, Co. Dublin, for Lord Revelstoke, at Howth Castle for TJ Gainsford-St Lawrence and at Heywood, Co. Laois, for Colonel and Mrs Hutcheson Poe. The gardens as a whole are a lesson in classical symmetry and formality and it is generally acknowledged that his concept for the Islandbridge site is outstanding among the many war memorials he created throughout the world. His love of local material and the contrasting moods of the various 'compartments' of the gardens all testify to his artistic genius.



Wreaths laid by An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny and Prime Minister David Cameron at the Peace Park, Messines, December 2013.

Fleasca a leag an Taoiseach, Enda Kenny agus an Príomh-Aire David Cameron ag Páirc na Síochána, Messines, Nollaig 2013.

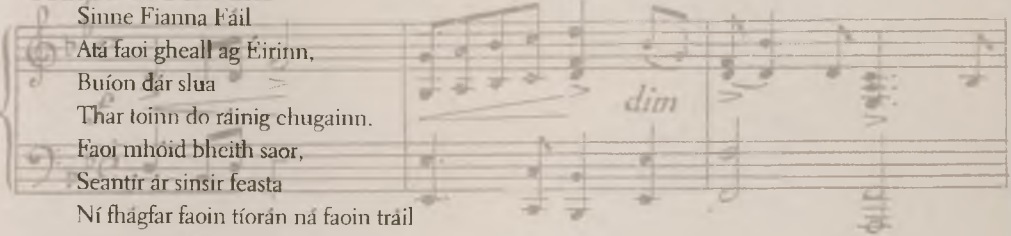
The Soldier's Song.

Words by Pádraig Ó hAonairt
The Soldiers' Song

Music by Pádraig Ó hAonairt.
Arranged by Cael Mac Duógaill.

Tempo di Marcia

Piano



Sinne Fianna Fáil
Atá faoi gheall ag Éirinn,
Buíon dár slua
Thar toinn do ráinig chugainn.
Faoi mhóid bheith saor,
Seantír ar sinsir feasta
Ní fhágfar faoin tíorán ná faoin tráil

Anocht a théim sa bhearna baoil,

Le gearr ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil

Le gunnascreach faoi lámhach na bpilear

Seo libh canaigí Amhrán na bhFiann

We'll sing a song, a sol-dier's song With cheer-ing, rous-ing
In vall-ey green, on tower-ing crag, Our fath-ers fought be-
Soldiers are we Men of the Gael, Men of the Pale, The long-watched day is
whose lives are pledged to Ireland;

Some have come
from a land beyond the wave.

Sworn to be free,

No more our ancient sire land
Shall shelter the despot or the slave.

Tonight we man the gap of danger

In Erin's cause, come woe or weal

'Mid cannons' roar and rifles peal,

We'll chant a soldier's song.

chor-us. As round our blaz-ing fires we throng. The star-ry heav-ens
fore us, And con-quer'd'neath the same-old flag That's proud-ly float-ing
break-ing, The ser-ried ranks of In-is-fail Shall set the tyr-ant





Roinn an Taoisigh
Department of the Taoiseach

Stained-glass windows in the Guildhall in Derry City commemorating the 56th (Ulster) Division and the 4th (Irish) and 26th (Irish) Divisions in the Great War 1914-1918. Einnscéala dárta sa Chaidhalla's of Cúirt an tOinrí. Nua chomórach ar an 26ú Bannán (Ulaidh), agus ar an 4ú Bannán (Éire) agus ar 56ú Bannán (Éire) sa Chogadh Mór 1914-1918.