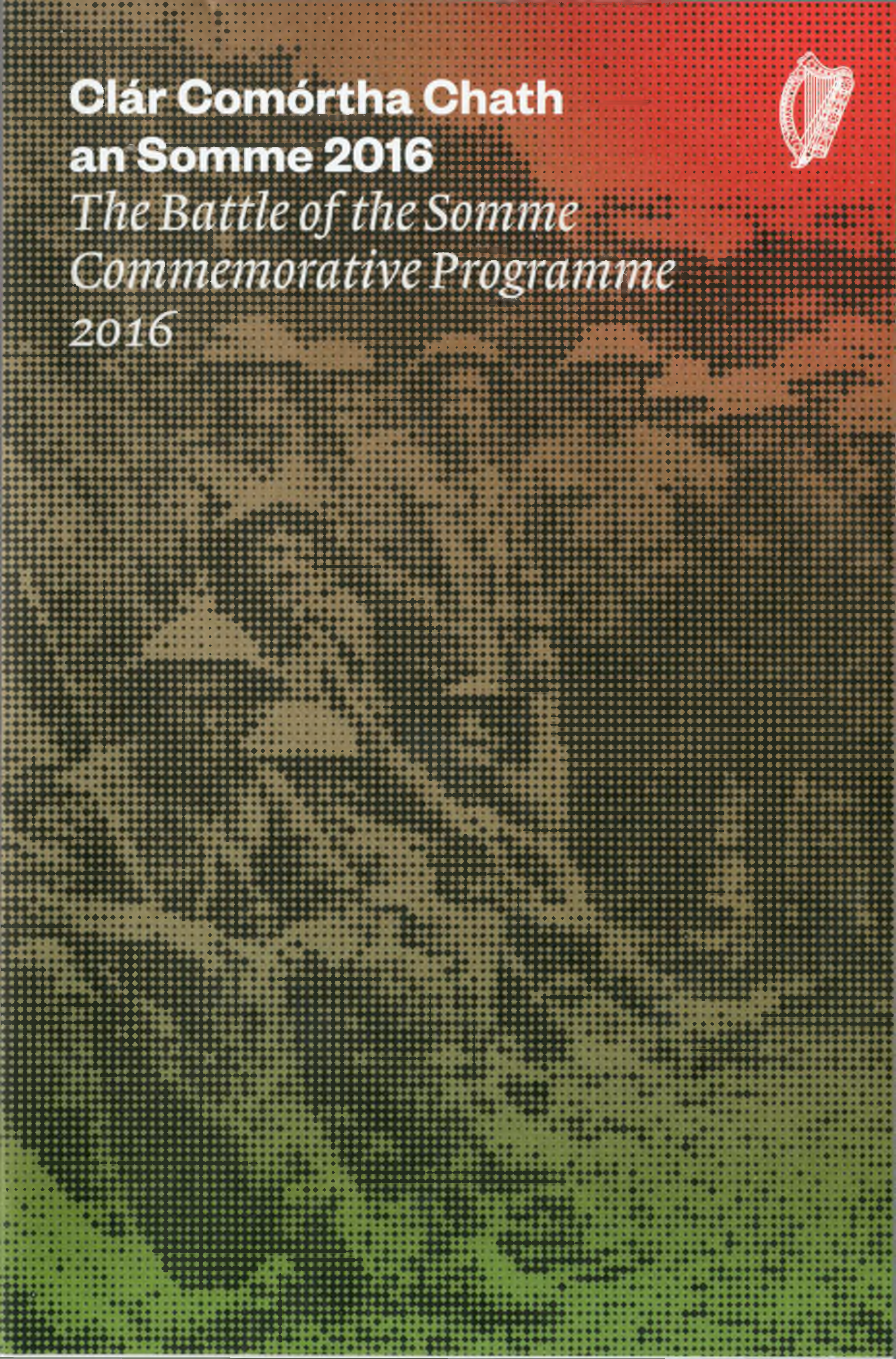
Clár Comórtha Chath an Somme 2016

The Battle of the Somme Commemorative Programme 2016



Foreword
Brollach

Since its inception in 2012, the Decade of Centenaries programme has sought to be measured and reflective and to commemorate significant events that shaped the history of the island of Ireland over the past hundred years – not only those that marked Ireland's path to independence but also those which enhance our understanding of the wider international landscape during this period.

Next year sees the centenary of the Battle of the Somme. This campaign, from 1st July to its winding down in November, saw over 1 million casualties from both sides, including 3,500 dead from the island of Ireland. From the 5,500 casualties of the 36th Ulster Division, the almost 2,000 soldiers killed on 1st July were men drawn almost entirely from the unionist community in the province of Ulster. In September, the 16th Irish Division, drawn mainly from the other three provinces, had 4,330 casualties, of whom 1,200 were killed. Added to these numbers were the Irish soldiers who fought in other divisions. The total number of Irish casualties cannot be calculated with certainty but they affected every part of the island. Official commemoration preparations for events in France to mark the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme are being co-ordinated jointly by relevant French and British authorities in consultation with Ireland and the Commonwealth Countries.

The campaign will also be commemorated throughout the island of Ireland and next year will see a range of events to mark this important event in our history.

The Government has engaged with the All-Party Oireachtas Group on Commemorations and the Expert Advisory Group on Commemoration in the development of the Government's commemorative programme and it is hoped that it will be a fitting tribute to those that lost their lives during this time.

The Government of Ireland.

Ó tionscnaíodh é sa bhliain 2012, d'fheach clár Dheich mBliana na gCuimhneachán le bheith meáite agus machnamhach agus le comóradh a dhéanamh ar na himeachtaí móra a mhúnlaigh stair oileán na hÉireann le céad bliain anuas. Ní hé amháin go mbaineann sé leis na himeachtaí sin a shonraigh bealach na hÉireann chun neamhspleáchais, féachann sé freisin le comóradh a dhéanamh ar na himeachtaí sin a mhéadaíonn an tuiscint atá againn ar an tírdhreach idirnáisiúnta leathan le linn na tréimhse sin.

Comóradh céad bliain Chath an Somme a bheidh sa bhliain seo chugainn. Gortaíodh breis agus 1 mhilliún duine san fheachtas sin, a thosaigh an 1 Iúil agus a bhí ag teacht chun críche i mí na Samhna. Ba ar an dá thaobh a throid na taismigh sin, lenar áiríodh 3,500 duine as oileán na hÉireann a cailleadh. De na 5,500 duine i 36ú Rannóg Uladh a gortaíodh, ba as an bpobal aontachtach i gCúige Uladh do gheall leis an 2,000 saighdiúir a maraíodh an 1 Iúil. I mí Mheán Fómhair, gortaíodh 4,330 duine sa 16ú Rannóg Éireannach, a bhí comhdhéanta go príomha de dhaoine as na trí chúige eile. Maraíodh 1,200 duine de na daoine sin. Ní áirítear leis na líonta sin na saighdiúirí Éireannacha a throid sna rannóga eile. Ní féidir líon iomlán na dtaismeach Éireannach a ríomh go cruinn ach chuir siad isteach ar gach cearn den tír.
I gcomhairle le hÉirinn agus le Tíortha an Chomhlathais, tá comhordú á dhéanamh i gcomhpháirt ag údaráis ábhartha sa Fhrainc agus sa Bhreatain ar ullmhúcháin chomórtha oifigiúil le haghaidh ócáidí sa Fhrainc chun Comóradh 100 Bliain Chath an Somme a chomóradh.

Déanfar an feachtas a chomóradh ar fud oileán na hÉireann freisin agus beidh raon ócáidí ar siúl an bhliain seo chugainn chun an t-imeacht tábhachtach sin i stair ár dtíre a chomóradh.

D'oibrigh an Rialtas leis an nGrúpa Uile-Pháirtí Oireachtais um Chuimhneacháin agus leis an Sainghrúpa Comhairleach ar Chuimhneachán le haghaidh clár comórtha an Rialtais a fhorbairt agus táthar dóchasach go mbeidh sé ina ómós cuí do na daoine sin a cailleadh sa tréimhse sin.

Rialtas na hÉireann.

Troops of the Royal Irish Rifles resting in a communication trench during the opening hours of the Battle of the Somme, 1 July 1916, Imperial War Museum
Trúpaí Raidhfil Ríoga na hÉireann ag ligean a scíthe i dtrinse cumarsáide le linn na chéad chúpla uair an chloig de Chath an Somme, 1 Iúil 1916", Músaem Cogaidh na hImpireachta

2 Historical and Educational Reflection
Machnamh ar an Stair agus ar an Oideachas

National Museum of Ireland Programme
Clár Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann

A partnership project is being prepared by the National Museum of Ireland and the National Library of Ireland to facilitate a screening in the July-September period of an Imperial War Museum, London, 1916 documentary film of the Battle of the Somme. This will initially be shown by the Imperial War Museum on a single date in July at multiple viewing points.
Tá Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann agus Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann ag ullmhú tionscadal comhpháirtíochta chun cabhrú leis an Músaem Cogaidh Impiriúil clár faisnéise 1916 ar Chath an Somme a thaispeáint sa tréimhse idir mí Iúil agus mí Mheán Fómhair. Taispeánfaidh an Músaem Cogaidh Impiriúil é ar dtús i láithreacha amhairc éagsúla ar dháta aonair i mí Iúil.

The 'Other Voices' project, involving the National Museum and Poetry Ireland, with Dermot Bolger as poet-in-residence (March to August 2016) has an all-island element and explores the multiplicity of stories of Irishmen at the Somme and those who were involved in the 1916 Rising.
An tionscadal 'Other Voices' ('Guthanna Eile') lena bhfuil baint ag an Ard-Mhúsaem agus ag Éigse Éireann agus ina bhfuil Dermot Bolger ina fhile cónaitheach (Márta go Lúnasa 2016), tá gné uile-oileáin ag gabháil leis agus iniúchtar ann scéalta éagsúla na nÉireannach a bhí ag an Somme agus na nÉireannach a bhí páirteach in Éirí Amach na bliana 1916.

A partnership project with the Design and Crafts Council of Ireland and the National Museum, entitled 'Who do we think we are?', will involve a high-profile designer exploring themes of Irish and collective identities through the stories of Irish soldiers who joined up and fought at the Somme, including engagement with local community groups and young people.
Agus é á reachtáil i gcomhar le Comhairle Dhearaidh agus Cheardaíochta na hÉireann agus leis an Ard-Mhúsaem, is é a bheidh i gceist leis an tionscadal comhpháirtíochta dar teideal 'Who do we think we are?' ('Cé sinne, dar leat?'), ná scrúdú a bheith á dhéanamh ag dearthóir iomráiteach ar fhéiniúlachtaí Éireannacha agus ar fhéiniúlachtaí coiteanna araon ach leas a bhaint as scéalta na saighdiúirí Éireannacha a throid ag Cath an Somme. Beidh rannpháirtíocht ann le grúpaí pobail áitiúil agus le daoine óga mar chuid den tionscadal freisin.

An Post Commemorative Stamps Programme
Clár Stampaí Comórtha An Post

A series of commemorative stamps to mark the centenary of the Somme will be issued by An Post next year.
Eiseoidh An Post sraith stampaí comórtha an bhliain seo chugainn chun comóradh céad bliain Chath an Somme a shonrú.

National Library of Ireland Programme
Clár Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann

The National Library will highlight Irish involvement in the Battle of the Somme within its ongoing exhibition 'World War Ireland 1914 – 1918: Exploring the Irish Experience'. Film and graphic panels will explore the front-line experiences endured by the men of the 16th Irish Division and the 36th Ulster Division at the Somme, against the context of the Easter Rising and its aftermath. Original collection items will demonstrate the complex involvement of individual Irish families and the specific impact of the year's events upon two sisters, Hannah Sheehy-Skeffington and Mary Kettle, both of whom would be widowed during 1916, but in very different circumstances.
Tarraingeoidh an Leabharlann Náisiúnta aird ar na hÉireannaigh a bhí páirteach i gCath an Somme tríd an taispeántas 'Éire agus an Chéad Chogadh Domhanda 1914 – 1918: Eispéireas na hÉireann a Iniúchadh'. Úsáidfear scannán agus painéil ghrafacha chun iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar an eispéireas a bhí ag fir sa 16ú Rannóg Éireannach agus i 36ú Rannóg Uladh ar an líne thosaigh ag Cath an Somme i bhfianaise Éirí Amach na Cásca agus a iarsmaí. Taispeánfar le bunmhíreanna bailiúcháin a chasta agus a bhí rannpháirtíocht teaghlach Éireannach aonair agus an tionchar sonrach a bhí ag eachtraí na bliana ar bheirt deirfiúracha, Hannah Sheehy-Skeffington agus Mary Kettle, ar fagadh ina mbaintreach iad le linn na bliana 1916 i gcúinsí an-difriúil.

1 Ceremonial
Searmanais

25.04.16
ANZAC Day
Grangegorman Military Cemetery
25.04.16 Lá ANZAC
Reilig Mhíleata Ghráinseach Ghormáin

The Irish who died fighting at Gallipoli and elsewhere during WW1, while serving with the Australian and New Zealand armies, will be remembered in the annual military ceremony at Grangegorman on ANZAC Day. The Government will be represented at a high level at this event.

Is sa searmanas míleata bliantúil i nGráinseach Ghormáin ar Lá ANZAC a chuimhneofar na hÉireannaigh a fuair bás agus iad i mbun troda in Gallipoli agus in áiteanna eile le linn dóibh seirbhís a dhéanamh in Arm na hAstráile nó in Arm na Nua-Shéalainne le linn an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda. Déanfar ionadaíocht ardleibhéil don Rialtas ag an ócáid sin.

01.07.16
Thiepval, France
Thiepval, an Fhrainc

The principal commemoration for the Battle of the Somme will take place at the Thiepval monument on 1st July 2016, jointly hosted by France and the UK (co-owners of the site). Ireland will be officially represented at a high level at this event.

Beidh an príomhchomóradh le haghaidh Chath an Somme ar siúl ag séadchomhartha Thiepval an 1 Iúil 2016. Déanfaidh an Fhrainc agus an Ríocht Aontaithe (comhúinéirí an tsuímh) óstáil air i gcomhpháirt. Déanfar ionadaíocht oifigiúil ardleibhéil d'Éirinn ag an ócáid sin.

01.07.16
Islandbridge
Droichead na hInse

A military ceremony will be held at 7.30 a.m. on 1st July at the Irish National War Memorial Park, Islandbridge, honouring the Irish Regiments who fought at the Somme and WW1.

Cuirfear searmanas míleata ar siúl ag 7.30r.n. an 1 Iúil i nGairdíní Náisiúnta Cuimhneacháin Cogaidh na hÉireann, Droichead na hInse, chun urraim a thabhairt do na Reisimintí Éireannacha a throid ag an Somme agus sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda.

09.07.16
Islandbridge
Droichead na hInse

A State-led commemoration will take place at the Irish National War Memorial Park, Islandbridge, in conjunction with the Royal British Legion, on the same weekend as the National Day of Commemoration.

Beidh comóradh faoi threoir an Stáit ar siúl i nGairdíní Náisiúnta Cuimhneacháin Cogaidh na hÉireann, Droichead na hInse, i gcomhar leis an Léigiún Ríoga Briotanach, an deireadh seachtaine ar a mbeidh Lá Náisiúnta na gCuimhneachán ar siúl.

03.09.16
Guillemont
Guillemont

The Somme Association is planning to hold its major annual event in Guillemont on 3rd September 2016. This marks the participation of the 16th Irish Division, which saw action during the first weeks of September. Ireland will be officially represented at this event.

Tá sé ar intinn ag Cumann an Somme a mhórócáid bhliantúil a chur ar siúl in Guillemont an 3 Meán Fómhair 2016. Comóirtear léi sin rannpháirtíocht an 16ú Rannóg Éireannach, rannóg a bhí i mbun gnímh sna seachtainí tosaigh de mhí Mheán Fómhair. Déanfar ionadaíocht oifigiúil d'Éirinn ag an ócáid sin.

13.11.16
Remembrance Sunday
Belfast and Enniskillen
Domhnach an Chuimhneacháin
Béal Feirste agus Inis Ceithleann

The annual Remembrance Sunday events will take place in Belfast and Enniskillen to commemorate Armistice Day and the ending of the First World War. Ireland will continue to be represented at a high level at these events.

Beidh ócáidí bliantúla Dhomhnach an Chuimhneacháin ar siúl i mBéal Feirste agus in Inis Ceithleann chun Lá an tSosa Cogaidh agus deireadh an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda a chomóradh. Leanfar den ionadaíocht ardleibhéil d'Éirinn ag na hócáidí sin.

National Gallery/Crawford/ Other Galleries
Gailearaí Náisiúnta/Gailearaí Crawford/agus Eile

The National Gallery of Ireland will offer a series of lectures during 2016, featuring Somme-related topics. Other galleries are developing appropriate events.
Cuirfidh Gailearaí Náisiúnta na hÉireann sraith léachtaí ar fáil le linn na bliana 2016, agus ábhair a bhaineann le Cath an Somme á bplé lena linn. Tá imeachtaí cuí á bhforbairt ag gailearaithe eile faoi láthair freisin.

National Archives of Ireland
Cartlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann

The National Archives of Ireland will highlight its digitised collection of wills from soldiers killed in WW1.
Tarraingeoidh Cartlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann aird ar an mbailiúchán digitithe atá aici d'uachtanna de chuid saighdiúirí a maraíodh sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda.

Embassy-led events
Imeachtaí faoi threoir Ambasáidí

The Irish Embassy in Paris is exploring options to mark the participation of Irish sportspersons in WW1 (including the Somme), particularly in February 2016 to coincide with the six Nations Rugby Tournament. Additional events are also under consideration.
Tá an Ambasáid Éireannach i bPáras ag féachaint ar na roghanna atá ann rannpháirtíocht lúthchleasaithe Éireannacha sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda (Cath an Somme ina measc) a chomóradh, go háirithe i mí Feabhra 2016 ionas go mbeidh an comóradh i gcomhthráth le Comórtas Rugbaí na Sé Náisiún. Tá imeachtaí eile á mbreithniú freisin.

Commemorative events will be organised by the Irish Embassy in London in 2016 to mark the centenary of the Battle of the Somme.
Eagróidh an Ambasáid Éireannach i Londain imeachtaí comórtha sa bhliain 2016 chun comóradh céad bliain Chath an Somme a shonrú.

Third-Level Institutions
Institiúidí Tríú Leibhéal

UCD will host an event on 9th September 2016 to mark the death of Tom Kettle at Ginchy. Poetry Ireland will organise a special event as part of its 'Poetry Aloud' series to coincide with this.
Óstálfaidh UCD ócáid an 9 Meán Fómhair 2016 chun bás Tom Kettle in Ginchy a chomóradh. I gcomhthráth leis an ócáid sin, eagróidh Éigse Éireann imeacht speisialta mar chuid den tsraith 'Filíocht os Ard' dá cuid.

Other Third-Level institutions, including the Royal Irish Academy, will consider suitable academic events as part of their commemorative programme.
Déanfaidh Institiúidí Tríú Leibhéal eile, Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann ina measc, breithniú ar imeachtaí acadúla oiriúnacha a eagrú mar chuid dá gclár comórtha.

Educational Activities
Gníomhaíochtaí Oideachasúla

History Ireland magazine, as a Decade of Centenaries partner, will continue with its series of "Hedge Schools" featuring Somme-related topics.
Agus í ina comhpháirtí de chuid an Chláir Deich mBliana na gCuimhneachán, leanfaidh an iris History Ireland leis an tsraith "Scoileanna Scairte" dá cuid, áit a bpléifear ábhair a bhaineann le Cath an Somme lena linn.

The Irish Times, as part of the continuing series of supplements on centenaries, will produce an appropriate publication for distribution to the public and schools.
Agus é ag leanúint le sraith forlíontaí ar chomórthaí céad bliain a chur ar fáil, ullmhóidh an Irish Times foilseachán cuí lena dháileadh ar an bpobal agus ar scoileanna araon.

Elements of the Ireland 2016 Schools Programme relate to the Somme, including the all-island schools art, history, drama, essay and song competitions.
Is le Cath an Somme a bhaineann gnéithe de Chlár Scoileanna Éire 2016, lena n-áirítear comórtais uile-oileáin ealaíne, staire, drámaíochta, aistí agus amhránaíochta do scoileanna.

The Ireland 2016 Programme also includes a genealogy project, which invites primary and post-primary pupils to find out more about what their ancestors were doing in 1916. Many will find connections with WW1 and the Battle of the Somme.
Tá tionscadal ginealais á reáchtáil mar chuid de Chlár Éire 2016 freisin, rud ina dtugtar deis do dhaltaí bunscoile agus iar-bhunscoile tuilleadh eolais a fháil faoi shaol a sinsear sa bhliain 1916. Gheobhaidh a lán díobh amach go bhfuil baint acu leis an gCéad Chogadh Domhanda agus le Cath an Somme ag an am céanna.

3 Cultural
Léiriú Cultúrtha

The Abbey Theatre
Amharclann na Mainistreach

The Irish Embassy in Paris is finalising plans with the relevant French authorities to present a co-production between the Abbey Theatre, Headlong, Citizens Theatre and Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse Theatre of the iconic play Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards The Somme by Frank McGuinness, on the eve of the Somme commemorations in June 2016 in France, close to the scene of the battle.

Tá an Ambasáid Éireannach i bPáras ag cur pleananna i gcrích leis na húdaráis iomchuí sa Fhrainc ionas gur féidir le hAmharclann na Mainistreach, Headlong, Citizens Theatre agus Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse Theatre comhléiriú den dráma cáiliúil "Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme" le Frank McGuinness a chur i láthair díreach roimh chomóradh Chath an Somme i mí an Mheithimh 2016. Taibheofar é sa Fhrainc i ngar do láthair an Chatha.

The Abbey Theatre, Citizens Theatre, Headlong and Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse Theatre will present "Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme" by Frank McGuinness on tour in Britain, Northern Ireland and Dublin in 2016.

Déanfaidh Amharclann na Mainistreach, Citizens Theatre, Headlong agus Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse Theatre "Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme" le Frank McGuinness a chur i láthair agus é ar camchuairt sa Bhreatain, i dTuaisceart Éireann agus i mBaile Átha Cliath in 2016.

Glasnevin Cemetery
Reilig Ghlas Naíon

Glasnevin Trust will present a Somme-related outdoor exhibition starting on 1st July with a focus on the 36th Ulster Division, changing in September to reflect the participation of the 16th Irish Division in September 1916.

Cuirfidh Iontaobhas Ghlas Naíon taispeántas allamuigh a bhaineann le Cath an Somme i láthair. Osclófar an taispeántas an 1 Iúil agus is ar 36ú Rannóg Uladh a dhíreofar ar dtús. Ó mhí Mheán Fómhair, is ar an ról a d'imir an 16ú Rannóg Éireannaigh i mí Mheán Fómhair 1916 a scrúdófar.

Nerve Centre Exhibition
Taispeántas Ionad Nerve

The Nerve Centre in Derry will hold an exhibition entitled 1916 to 2016: 100 Years of Change. The exhibition will take 1916 as a starting point and will explore the key events of that year, particularly the Easter Rising and the Somme. The exhibition will be on display in Derry from February, Belfast from early June and in Dublin later in the year.

Óstálfaidh Ionad Nerve i nDoire taispeántas dar teideal 1916 to 2016: 100 Years of Change (1916 go 2016: 100 Bliain an Athraithe). Féachfar ar an mbliain 1916 ar dtús agus déanfar iniúchadh ar phríomheachtraí na bliana sin, go háirithe Éirí Amach na Cásca agus Cath an Somme. Beidh sé ar taispeáint i nDoire ó mhí Feabhra, i mBéal Feirste ó thús mhí an Mheithimh agus ansin i mBaile Átha Cliath níos déanaí sa bhliain.

4 Community Participation
Rannpháirtíocht

Local Authority events
Imeachtaí Údaráis Áitiúil

A number of locally-based events will be held across the country to commemorate the events of WW1 and the Battle of the Somme. Cavan County Museum's WW1 Trench Experience and Exhibition will continue during 2016 to be a focal point for reflecting the experience of trench warfare at the Battle of the Somme in particular.

Reachtálfar roinnt imeachtaí áitiúla ar fud na tíre chun eachtraí an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda agus Chath an Somme a chomóradh. Leanfaidh Eispéireas agus Taispeántas Trinse an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda i Músaem Chontae an Chabháin de bheith ina phointe fócasach le linn na bliana 2016 le haghaidh eispéireas na cogaíochta trinse ag Cath an Somme a léiriú.

The Battle of the Somme Commemorative Programme 2016
Clár Comórtha Chath an Somme 2016

This programme aims to honour all those who took part in the conflict and to acknowledge the devastation caused to their families, friends and communities.

The proposed programme will comprise a range of events under four programme strands, as outlined below:

1. Ceremonial
2. Historical and Educational Reflection
3. Cultural
4. Community Participation

Further events will be added to this programme over the coming months, details of which will be available on:

www.decadeofcentenaries.ie.

Is é aidhm an chláir seo urraim a thabhairt do gach duine a ghlac páirt sa choibhleacht agus aitheantas a thabhairt don scrios uafásach a rinneadh ar a dteaghlach, ar a gcairde agus ar a bpobal dá bharr.

Beidh raon ócáidí i gceist leis an gclár a bheartaítear. Tagann siad faoi cheithre shnáithe cláir mar atá leagtha amach thíos:

1. Searmanais
2. Machnamh ar an Stair agus ar an Oideachas
3. Léiriú Cultúrtha
4. Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail

Cuirfear tuilleadh imeachtaí leis an gclár seo sna míonna le teacht agus beidh sonraí ina leith ar fáil ar:

www.decadeofcentenaries.ie.

Extract from the Statement by the Expert Advisory Group

The commemoration will be measured and reflective, and will be informed by a full acknowledgement of the complexity of historical events and their legacy, of the multiple readings of history, and of the multiple identities and traditions which are part of the Irish historical experience.

Sliocht ón Ráiteas ón Sainghrúpa Comhairleach

Meáite agus machnamhach a bheidh an comóradh agus déanfar eolas dó le haitheantas iomlán ar chastacht na n-imeachtaí stairiúla agus a leagáide, ar na léamha éagsúla ar an stair agus ar na féiniúlachtaí agus na traidisiúin éagsúla atá ina gcuid d'eispéireas staire na hÉireann.