

St. Mary's Secondary School  
Mallow

Present

AOIFE SCOTT  
SONGS OF REBELLION CONCERT

The Aemilian Theatre

Thursday, 21st April 2016

*Complimentary Programme*



This concert is one of a series of events organised by the St. Mary's History Department aimed at remembering the 1916 Rising in this centenary year.

## WELCOME MESSAGE

Welcome to the Aoife Scott 'Songs of Rebellion' concert. Tonight's event marks the highlight of the St. Mary's 1916 Rising centenary programme.

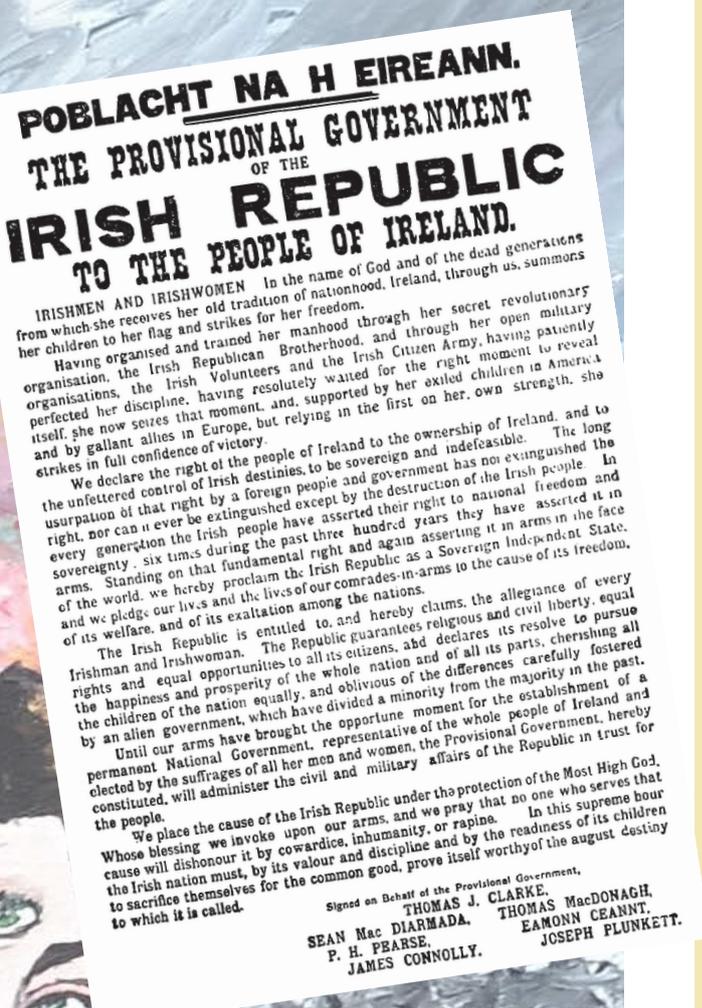
The Rising had a powerful impact on Ireland. The story, when told, could be mistaken for a Hollywood epic. Turtle Bunbury, in his book 'Easter Dawn', gives a good summary of the Rising:

*A band of poets and revolutionaries, men and women, posh folk and paupers, are bonded by a desire to shake off the shackles of empire. They rise up and hold out for nearly a week against impossible odds before they are defeated by a combination of superior artillery fire, armoured cars and their own moral qualms in the face of excessive civilian deaths. And then, when the empire overreacts and executes the leaders, the people of Ireland come on side in a sort of messianic second coming.*

The Easter Rising was followed by the rise of Sinn Fein, the War of Independence, the Anglo-Irish Treaty and the Civil War. Out of the ashes of this revolutionary period emerged the Irish Free State. The centenary of the Easter Rising offers us an opportunity to reflect and remember. The St. Mary's centenary programme included a History Week, a 'Women of 1916' art exhibition, Irish Flag Week and Proclamation Day. A St. Mary's contingent participated in the Passing on the Torch 1916-1966-2016 march, held at Cork Racecourse, Easter Monday.

Tonight, Aoife Scott and band will perform songs relevant to Ireland's long struggle for independence. St. Mary's music students will also entertain. Please keep this complimentary programme as a souvenir. The programme includes the concert itinerary, accounts of our centenary efforts, facts about the Irish Flag, a brief profile of Aoife Scott and a gallery of images.

We hope you enjoy!



# CONCERT ITINERARY

School Canteen

7 pm

Complimentary Refreshments

‘Women of 1916’ Art Projects

Aemilian Theatre

8 pm

First Year Traditional Music Players

Junior Choir

Eimear Keane

Kate Hickey

Philippa Maguire

Kate and Erin Hickey

Third Year Traditional Music Players

Interval

8.30 pm

AOIFE SCOTT AND BAND

8.45 pm



## WEEK-LONG CELEBRATION OF HISTORY

St. Mary's celebrated History Week from Monday 18th January. The theme of the week was 'Women of 1916'. Activities included quizzes, guest speakers, displays, scavenger hunts and competitions. The week was a huge success!

On Monday, first year girls brought history cakes into school. The cakes were put on display, and then judged by home economics teacher, Ms. Buckley. The lovely cakes featured flags, the 1916 Rising and burial tombs from Ancient Ireland. The joint winners were Emer O'Grady and Róisín O'Hanlon. They made a cake of the Irish Republic flag that flew over the GPO in 1916.

A number of quizzes took place throughout the week. Mr. O'Connor challenged transition years to complete his 'Women of 1916' Kahoot quiz in the Computer Room on Thursday. Kahoot is an interactive quiz tool which uses images, text and sound. First, second and third year quizzes were held in the Sports Hall, Theatre and in-class. These were organised by Ms. Foley and Ms. Hickey. Each team of four was named after a man or woman associated with the 1916 Rising. Spot prizes, treats and 'I Love History' stickers were given out. Some first years even dressed-up as people from history. Prizes included calendars, mugs, chocolates, CDs and DVDs. Not to be excluded, teachers participated in a picture quiz at snack time on Friday.

A history model competition was held for second years on Friday. Entries included models of Newgrange, Pompeii, the Book of Kells and the American War of Independence. The winner was Gabriela Kosowska who made a model of a medieval castle. She received perfume and chocolates donated by generous staff members. First years also made models. These were put on display in the upstairs corridor along with a transition year 'Women of 1916' display.

On Thursday during snack, Mr. Rafferty organised a 'Buildings of 1916' scavenger hunt for first years. Students reported that this was hugely enjoyable. It really helped make history fun!

The highlight of History Week was a 'Women of 1916' talk for seniors in the Aemilian Theatre on Friday. Professor Margaret Kelleher, UCD English Department and Dr. Mary McAuliffe, UCD Women's Studies, spoke passionately about the extraordinary role played by women in the 1916 Rising. It was a particularly enjoyable experience for Margaret as she is a past pupil of St. Mary's. She invited members of her family to the talk. Also in attendance was Mayor of County Cork, Cllr. John Paul O'Shea. The talk was organised by Ms. O'Leary and her fifth year history class.



Prof. Margaret Kelleher, Noirin O'Leary and Dr. Mary McAuliffe



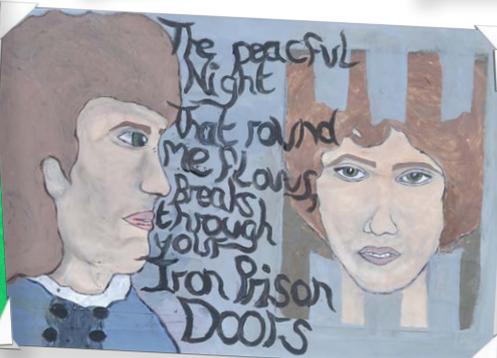


## 'WOMEN OF 1916' ART AND HISTORY EXHIBITION LAUNCH

On Thursday evening, 28th January, St. Mary's launched a 'Women of 1916' art and history exhibition at Mallow Library. The exhibition ran until February 10th. The pieces on display were the work of transition year students. The exhibition was launched by Mayor of County Cork, Cllr. John Paul O'Shea. It was organised by Ms. Evelyn Mullen, art teacher, Ms. Ann Marie Buckley, home economics teacher and Mr. Christian O'Connor, history teacher. Attendees were treated to an evening of poetry, music and public speaking.

The keynote address was delivered by Ann Matthews, historian and playwright. According to Ann, 'The Women's Section of the Rebel Army that launched a rebellion in Dublin at Easter 1916 was a disparate group. It comprised members of Cumann na mBan, the Irish Citizen's Army Women's Section and a few members of the Clann na Gael Girl Scouts, formed in 1910 by the Hibernian Rifles. The Rebel Army included approximately 200 women.'

Emma O'Callaghan, sixth year English student, read a speech entitled, 'Why should we remember the women of 1916?' Julie Crowley, sixth year Irish student, recited a self-composed poem about the story and legacy of the 1916 Rising. Jane Walsh, fifth year history student, read the Irish Proclamation as Countess Markievicz. Marie Carey and Niamh Walshe, fifth year history students, recited 'The Foggy Dew' and 'Remembering Con Markievicz'. Kate Hickey, third year music student, sang 'Grace' and 'Róisín Dubh'. Traditional music was provided by Aoife Fitzpatrick, third year, Hannah O'Flaherty, third year, and Niamh Fitzpatrick, sixth year.



## 12 FACTS ABOUT THE IRISH FLAG

'The flag is a statement of intent. It holds aloft our aspiration to be a peaceful country where all traditions are respected and reconciled.' – Former president, Mary McAleese

1. The Irish Tricolour which Young Irelander Thomas F. Meagher flew for the first time at the Wolfe Tone Confederate Club in Waterford on 7<sup>th</sup> March 1848 was inspired by the French Tricolour.
2. Article 7 of the Irish Constitution states: The National Flag is the tricolour of green, white and orange.
3. An Irish Tricolour travelled to the moon and back on board the Spacecraft America during the Apollo XVII mission in December 1972.
4. When the National Anthem, Amhran Na bhFiann, is played in the presence of the National Flag, all present should face the National Flag.
5. In raising or lowering, the National Flag should not be allowed touch the ground.
6. The National Flag should never be defaced by placing slogans, logos, lettering or pictures of any kind on it, for example at sporting events.
7. Care should be taken to make sure the flag does not touch the ground, trail in water or become entangled in trees or other obstacles.
8. Don't fly a worn out flag.
9. Often different shades of yellow, instead of orange, are seen at civilian functions. This should be actively discouraged.
10. Where the National Flag is flown at half-mast no other flag should be half-masted.
11. The National Flag should not be draped on cars, trains, boats or other modes of transport.
12. One Direction's Irish member Niall Horan claims he keeps a tricolour by his bed when he is on tour.



## PROCLAMATION DAY

On Tuesday 15th March all students and staff gathered in the Sports Hall to enthusiastically celebrate Proclamation Day. The Irish colours of green, white and orange were proudly displayed. A large scale copy of the 1916 Proclamation was projected for all to read.

Transition year art and history projects on 'Women of 1916' were put on view. Irish Flag pins, courtesy of the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation, were distributed. Marie Carey, fifth year, delivered a passionate speech entitled 'Pride in and respect for the Irish Flag'. Julie Crowley, sixth year, recited a self-composed poem in Irish. Kate Hickey, third year, stole the show by singing a beautiful version of 'Grace'.

Mr. Christian O'Connor, history teacher, spoke about the significance of the 1916 Proclamation. Yvonne Bane, principal, thanked the History Department for organising the event and gave an account of the St. Mary's centenary programme. Special thanks was reserved for Mr. Rory Coote and Paula Russell who prepared the Sports Hall. All were asked to stand and face the Irish Tricolour for the National Anthem. This was performed by Ms. Jo Ann O'Connor's music students. The tricolour in the Sports Hall was a gift from the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation. It was accompanied by a hand carved flag stand.

Following the whole-school assembly, students were sent outside to hear Jane Walsh, fifth year, read the 1916 Proclamation as Countess Markievicz. Mr. Coote then proudly raised the Irish Flag much to the delight of those present. '12 Facts about the Irish Flag' leaflets were given to every student to read, take home and share. The leaflets were printed especially for Irish Flag Week, 10th – 17th March. It was a very enjoyable and truly memorable day.



## PASSING ON THE TORCH 1916-1966-2016

A St. Mary's contingent of teachers, students and parents gathered outside Cork Racecourse, Mallow, on Easter Monday morning to participate in a 1916 Rising commemoration march. The march was led by the Thomas Davis Pipe Band. A similar event took place at the same venue in 1966. Participants marched from outside the racecourse, through the entrance, around the main stand and finished at the parade ground. Jane Walsh, fifth year, read the 1916 Proclamation to a large crowd. Students from Mallow's two other secondary schools also made contributions. Tim Sheehan, local historian, gave the keynote address. The National Anthem was played. A battle between RIC officers and volunteers was re-enacted. An exhibition tent was erected. The event was part of the Racing Home for Easter festival.



## AOIFE SCOTT

Aoife Scott is a rising star of Ireland's traditional and folk music scene. She has a deep interest in Ireland and its history. Aoife not only worked as a researcher for TG4's acclaimed historical docudrama series 'Seachtar na Cásca' but also provided the voice for its haunting music. Her first solo single, 'All Along the Wild Atlantic Way', reflects her love for Ireland.

Aoife's 'Songs of Rebellion' concert follows hot on the heels of a succession of television performances, including a recent appearance on The Late Late Show, and the successful release of her debut album, 'Carry the Day', in January. Reviewing the album, Irish Times music journalist and critic Siobhán Long heaped praise on Aoife's enchanting voice: 'Her vocal tone strikes a fine balance between keenly invested emotion, lyrical clarity and intuitive phrasing.'

Aoife, along with two of her cousins, performed a spine-tingling version of 'Grace' on RTÉ's 'Centenary' broadcast on Easter Monday night. The performance was universally commended.

The 'Songs of Rebellion' concert is a unique opportunity to experience a tremendous talent who is realising her dream of being a successful singer. The concert promises to be one of the stand-out 1916 commemorative events in Mallow this year.



## THE AEMILIAN THEATRE

In 2007 the Board of Management took the decision to refurbish an old school hall and create a modern theatre for school and community use. The old hall was built in 1966 and served as an all-purpose facility in the old school. In the planning for the new school, which was opened in 2004, the Department of Education listed the old hall for demolition. Thanks to the vision of the teaching staff, the school applied to the Department for permission to retain the old hall for the purpose of music and drama. The Department reluctantly agreed but only on condition that the building be 'decoupled' from the school. As a result the school could not receive grant aid for

either refurbishment or maintenance of the old hall. However, thanks to the generosity of the local community, parents and staff it was made possible to convert the old hall into a theatre. The theatre is named in honour of the late Sr. Helen Roberts (who was formerly known as Sr. Aemilian). Sr. Helen was principal of the school from 1980 to 1988.

The theatre is equipped with foyer, stage, auditorium, dressing rooms and lighting/sound control room. It can seat up to 200 people and is available for hire by contacting Gerard Spillane

[gerardspillane@stmarysmallow.com](mailto:gerardspillane@stmarysmallow.com)

