

The meeting for peace.

My name comes from Ballingulley near Ballincollig. A meeting took place in the house she grew up in during the Irish Civil War.

After General Michael Collins was shot in August 1922 the two sides grew even further apart. However, some of Michael Collins' oldest friends hated the war and wanted it to end. They organised some meetings between the free state and Republic. Liam Deasy and Tom Barry a Rosscarbery man. The first of these meetings took place in Knockstown and the final took place at my nan's house in Ballingulley when my great grandfather, Tim O'Connell was 23 years old and lived there. This meeting was organised by Fr. Tom Duggan one of the leading peacemakers during the civil war. Fr. Duggan said in an interview with Ennis O'Malley: "Deasy, Tom Barry and Hyde met Ennis in O'Connell's near Ballincollig. I was the guide... They met at 7 in the night time and the meeting continued until 4 in the morning". Fr. Tom Barry's report after this meeting he wrote that the both sides agreed to disband their armies. Although the Irish Civil War didn't end until May 1923, it is nice to think that the two sides in the fighting helped to bring peace to Ireland at the table in my nan's homeplace in Ballingulley.