

My great great grandfather, Daniel O'Connor used to live in Ballybrack Lodge in Douglas. During the war of independence he used to hide Irish Republican Army members who were wanted by the British in a secluded chicken coup that was across a stream at the back of their farm.

The English never bothered to cross the stream for the fear of getting wet. So the chicken coup was a safe hiding place from the British.

By Andrea Straub
4th class

They also used to hide people up the chimney breast in the front room.

There was room for one person to climb up inside the chimney and above the fireplace they would hang a picture of the Queen over the fireplace so that when the British forces called and saw the picture of the Queen they believed the household were loyal to the crown and would leave without searching.

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