Lieutenant John Connolly

1894 – 1920

I am doing my project about my great gran uncle John Connolly.
He was born in Foxes Street on the 28th of November 1894, he moved to Boyle Street when he was four years old.
He was enrolled in Warners lane School on the 6th of September 1898. he then left school in 1909 and returned for a short time before his sister Norah died and he left school again.

His first Job was in Walshes brewery New Road Bandon, and he later worked in Beamish and Crawford brewery at Watergate Street.

He became a member of the Gealic League before joining the Volunteers in the early 1918, and he used to drill with local Company at the quarry field Kilbrittain Road.

He was on the run from Brittain when his Mother passed away 5 January 1920, but he returned to Bandon for the funeral.

He was returning from firing practice in Castleack accompanied by James o Brien and James Begley.
They were passing the Munster Arms Hotel when blackened hands / British soldiers spat at them. James Begley was wounded in the shoulder, but thankfully didn't die. John did not move freely in Bandon again.

After this the British Soldiers continuously raided his house

On 1920, 18 volunteers from the Bandon Battalion, Supported by 24 men blocking the approach roads, attacked the station.
This was the second attack. The 15 Coastguards manning to Station surrendered, and the station was burnt and abandoned by the Coastguards

Howestrand Coastguard Station 2017

on the fourteenth of september, 1920 John and his Cousin, Richard Fitzgerald were on the farm together when they were captured by the British Soldiers.
John and Richard were questioned about a British Soldier that had been killed, but John was brave and didn't tell them anything. So he

-took the beating.
While Richard was being moved to a different prison, they decided to ask John more questions But John still wouldn't talk.

on Octaber 15th 1920 John's brother Patrick Cannally went to visit him, when he was told John had been released. But Patrick knew it meant they had killed him.
Patrick then sent out a search party to find John's body.

on the 16th of Octaber 1920 three women were collecting sticks for the fire in Castle bernard park when they found John's body that had been left the 2 weeks ago/15 days ago.
A cross was left by the tree he was found and outside the entrance to Castle bernard park

Cross by tree in Castle Bernard Park

Cross outside entrance or park

on the 18th of October they had Johns funeral in the Kilbrogan Cemetary where he was burried.

They were stopped by the military, and only a few mourners were allowed to continue.

heres what it says on Johns grave:
In Loving memory of Julia Connally, Died 19th of January 1926, her husband Daniel Died 1929, Their daughter Norah Died 12th of May 1911 aged 10 years and Their son John Connolly I.R.A Murdered at Gardon T. October 1st 1920

inside of kilbrogan cemetary Church 2017

John Connolly

Patrick Connolly — Brothers

Paddy Connolly — Maud Kelleher

Ger O'Sullivan — Liz O'Sullivan

Carolyn O'Sullivan — Matt Bean

Me / Daisy

Carolyn Cullen,
Carolyn O'Sullivan

Laragh, Bandon, County Cork.