

JOHNNY MURPHY

My Nomp is Hazel Murphy. Me & my Dad live in Ballyhadwick, Dunmanway

My Great Grandfather was born in 1901, in Robins town, New Ross, Co. Wexford.

When he was young he went to National School in a place called Rathgaroge. Everyone walked in their bare feet across the field to school. In the winter they had to bring in sticks for the fire to keep themselves warm. At the time there were no TVs, radios, or any electronics, so every morning Johnny used to get the newspaper from the shop for the headmaster. He often told my dad that he was able to tell his class of the terrible news of the Titanic sinking. As he was first person in his school to read it. At the age of 13 when he left primary school he went back to work on the family farm. Johnny had siblings. There was John, Tom, Jimmy, William, and Abina. Johnny's brother Tom fought in World War 1. Back in the time of the troubles the black 'n' Tans often wrecked my Great Grandfather's house and sat him up on the front of the truck so they would not be ambushed on their way back into New Ross. As a result my other Great Grand Uncles were members of the G.R.A. and took great pride in telling stories of how they often ambushed the Black 'n' Tans. Later on in life Johnny Murphy married Hannah Doyle who only lived up the road from him. They went on to have 3 children who were all born in the 1940s. Peggy (R.I.P.), Richard (my Grandad) and Bridget. They all lived happily in Robinstown, until my Great Grandmother Hannah died in 1969 from cancer. And my Great Grandfather died in 1981 at the age of 80.