

Lilly Heaton-Jones and Jessie Holmes  
St. Joseph's R.S., Skibbereen, Co. Cork

On the 11th of January we went up to our grandparent's house and interviewed our grandad Donal Mc Carthy about our family history and involvement in the 1916 rising and civil war in Ireland. His uncle and our great granduncle was also called Donal and he was involved in the civil war. We really enjoyed going and finding out all this information and learned quite a lot of things that we didn't know before. Here is some of the information we found out!

Our great great granduncle Donal Mc Carthy was born on the 27th of March 1902, in Carrigbawn, Drinagh, Co. Cork. His father married first in 1888 to Margaret Fitzgerald, they had two children that we know of but my grandad thinks there could have been one other. Margaret died when she was 25 years old when she fell off a horse cart on the way to Mass in 1893. Daniel McCarthy then married our great great grandmother Kate O'Driscoll who was Donal's mother. His father was the principal and main teacher in Derryclough National School and was well known as The Master. Donal had eleven other siblings, he was the older brother of our great grandfather William McCarthy. When Donal was growing up he always had a strong belief that Ireland should be its own country.

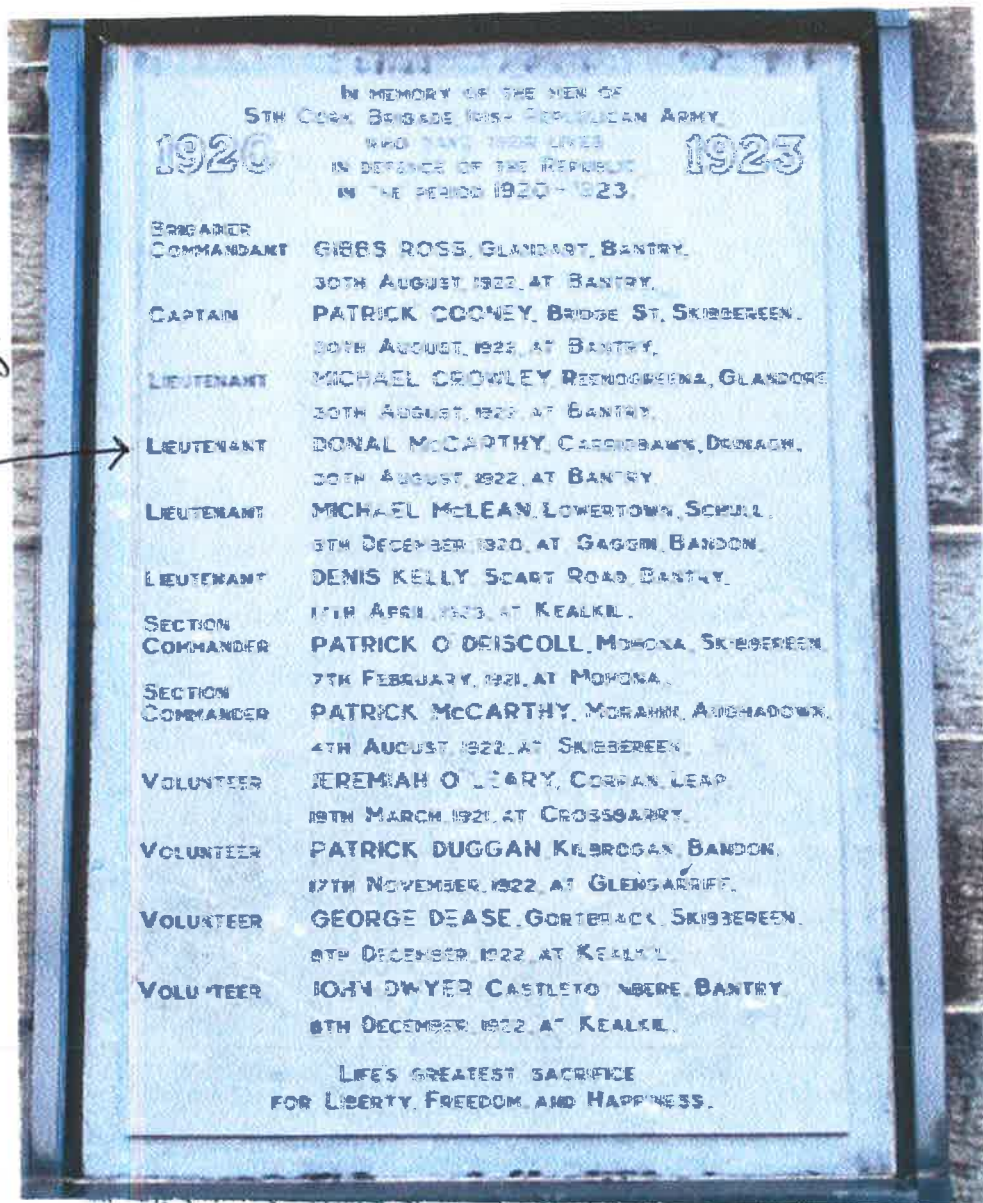
His family were strong republicans. During the 1916 rising he delivered messages (known as a runner) around west cork for the IRA, to safe houses. He would usually have to go and sneak through fields through the dark. The safe houses were situated all around West Cork and rebels or members of the IRA would be able to hide there. Our grandad told us that the black and tans or even the free staters would go into a barn and stab the hay with pikes to see if anyone was hiding underneath it and if they were they would probably be killed. Most republicans had a secret door under the hay so people would be able to hide without being killed.

On the 30th of August 1922 he was killed in Bantry near the post office along with Gibbs Ross, Patrick Cooney and Michael Crowley by the enemy. He was shot through the back of the mouth. The republicans moved his body and buried it in a shallow grave in a field near Drimoleague. During the darkness of night they carried his body to where he is now buried in Killmeen Old Cemetery. His death impacted his family greatly, as his brother Jeremiah Patrick was lost at sea just recently before that and four of his siblings already had or were planning to immigrate to America. Three of his siblings moved around the country and only two of them stayed in West Cork. Ellen became a teacher in the school with her father and William moved to Skibbereen, where we live now. Donal's death also made the family want independence for Ireland even more. But by peaceful means.

We also heard from our grandmother about her granduncle Tim Hourihane. One day he was walking through a field and the black and tans lorry was up the road. They yelled for him to halt, but because he was half deaf he didn't hear and they shot him dead thinking he was rebelling. This happened in Inchigeelagh. Tim had 10 or 11 young children at home also.

Surname	Forename	Age	Sex	Relation to head	Religion	Birthplace	Occupation	Literacy	Irish Language
McCarthy	Daniel	47	Male	Head of Family	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	National Teacher	Read and write	Irish and English
McCarthy	Kate	38	Female	Wife	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	-	Read and write	Irish and English
McCarthy	Kate	84	Female	Mother	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	-	Cannot read	Irish and English
McCarthy	Mary Kate	21	Female	Daughter	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	National Teacher	Read and write	Irish and English
McCarthy	Jerh Patrick	12	Male	Son	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	Scholar	Read and write	Irish and English
McCarthy	Cors Stephen	10	Male	Son	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	Scholar	Read and write	Irish and English
McCarthy	Daniel	9	Male	Son	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	Scholar	Read and write	Irish and English
McCarthy	Ellen	8	Female	Daughter	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	Scholar	Read and write	-
McCarthy	Kate Teresa	6	Female	Daughter	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	Scholar	Read and write	-
McCarthy	Charles	5	Male	Son	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	Scholar	Read and write	-
McCarthy	John Christopher	4	Male	Son	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	Scholar	Read	-
McCarthy	Michael	3	Male	Son	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	-	Cannot read	-
McCarthy	William	1	Male	Son	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	-	Cannot read	-
McCarthy	Bridget		Female	Daughter	Roman Catholic	Co Cork	-	Cannot read	-

This is the memorial plaque in Bantry.



Donal's  
name.



# Derryclough Boys' National School

X Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> day of October 1925

No. of school days absent from the date of last quarter		Date of pupil's admission into standard	Total attendance in this standard up to date of last quarter	Pupil's age in years and months on roll for current quarter	Register Number	PUPIL'S NAME	No. of attendance part of school year	On the last day of year the pupil is a member of the school	Pupil's Examination	Class Roll No.	October 22				
											Quarter Commencing, <i>Nov</i>	Week ending Saturday, <i>10</i>	Week ending Saturday, <i>17</i>	Week ending Saturday, <i>24</i>	Week ending Saturday, <i>31</i>
0	7.25	14	12.8	468	Richard Kingston	14		E.C	1	0	0	0	0	0	
0	7.25	12	12.7	457	Jim Donovan (In)	12		RE	2	0	0	0	0	0	
0	7.25	13	12.10	464	John Young ✓	13		RE	3	0	0	0	0	0	
0	7.25	14	11.5	489	John Kingston ✓	14		E.C	4	0	0	0	0	0	
0	7.25	13	11.6	490	James Dempsey ✓	13		RE	5	0	0	0	0	0	
									6						
									7						
									8						
									9						
									0						
									1						
									2						
									3						
									4						
									5						
									6						
									7						
									8						
									9						
									0						
<i>Sixth &amp; Seventh</i>															
0	7.25	12	14.8	452	John Donovan	12		RE	1	0	0	0	0	0	
									2						
									3						
									4						
									5						
									6						
<i>Pupils over 15 yrs</i>															
0	7.25	11	15.9	477	James Walsh ✓	10		RE	7	0	0	0	0	0	
0	7.25	399	16.2	437	William McCarthy	14		RE	8	0	0	0	0	0	
									9						
									0						
									1						
									2						
									3						
									4						
									5						
									6						
									7						
									8						
									9						
									0						
<i>Teacher's Attendance Roll</i>															
Daniel McCarthy (Prin)										1	320	340	360	380	
Eily McCarthy (J.A.M)										2	310	330	350	370	
										3	300	320	340	360	
										4	290	310	330	350	
										5	280	300	320	340	

This is the attendance records from the year 1925

← great grandad

← great great grandad

← great grandad

Here enter on the first school day of each Quarter

1. No. of pupils on the roll of this standard	5	/	3
2. Average age of these pupils	12.2	/	15.6

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