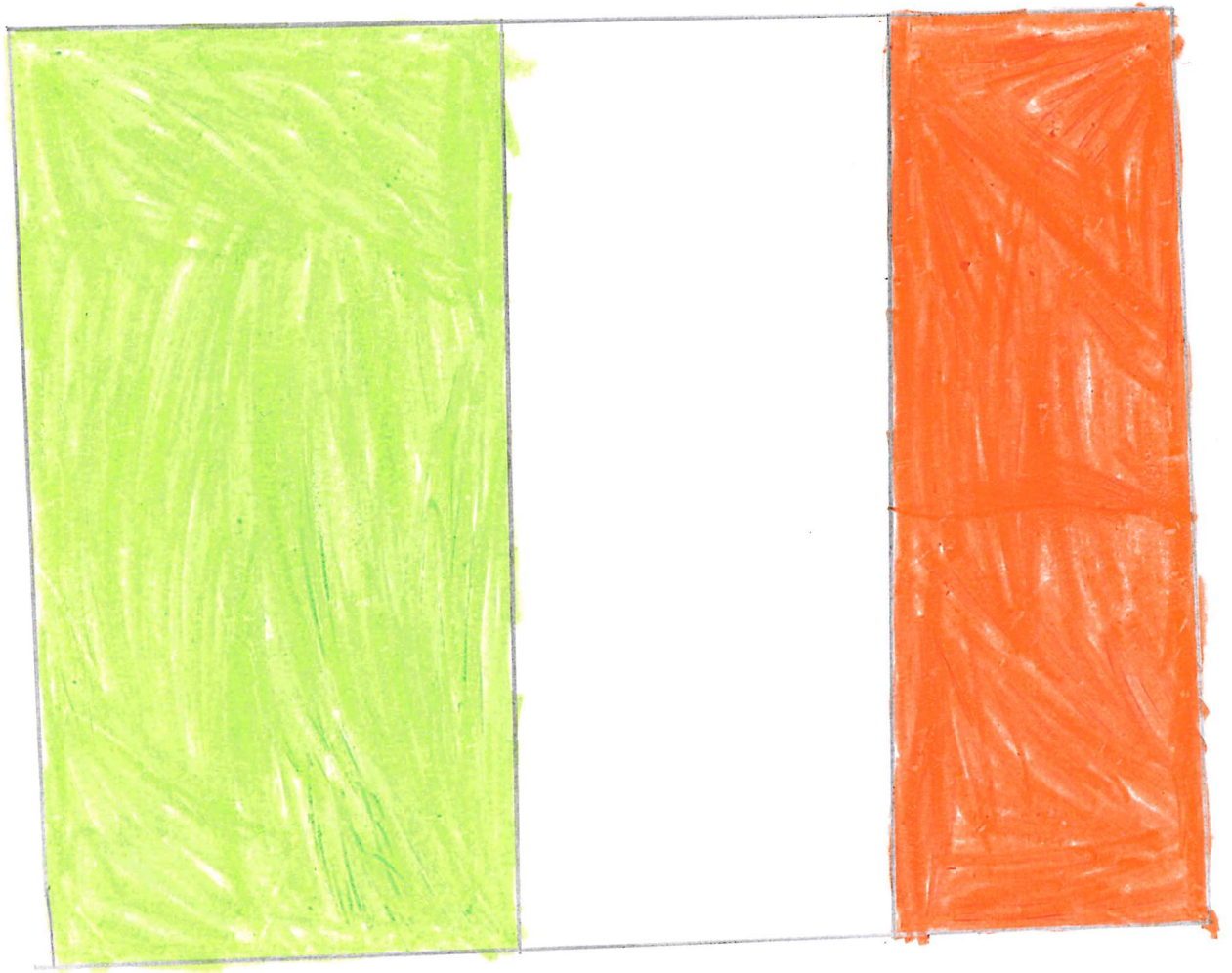
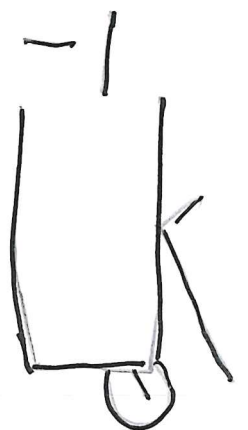


# Family History of the Rising



Made by Siam  
Henry Kearney



# Family History of the Rising

by Liam Henry Kearney

6 December 2018

In order to find out if I had any family members involved in The Rising, I interviewed both my Dad and my paternal Granny. This is what I found out.

My Granny's Dad, (my Great Grandfather) was named Henry McCullagh. He was from Manch and was born in 1898. I learned from my Dad that he was a member of the West Cork Brigade and made hand grenades for The Rising.

My Granny said that in 1916 he was only 18 years old but wanted to be involved in the fight for a free Ireland, independent of the English rule. Henry's father, William was a pacifist and a thinker, he was against the War for Independence and didn't want Henry to fight. William convinced Henry's older brother John to stay out of it. He wanted John to stay farming and keep safe. He also wanted Henry to stay safe, but Henry didn't want to listen. Henry was too young to be in active military service, so first he became a "Runner" for the movement.

My Granny told me when they were children playing out in the fields where they lived, they found shells from a bomb-making "factory". She heard her mother say to her father, "Henry, I told you get rid of those!" So we are pretty sure he was involved in bomb-making for the Cause. I asked my Granny did her parents tell her much about the War for Independence. She said no one wanted to talk about it and she felt that there was a constant atmosphere of fear and danger during that time and that there was a lack of trust among the people in the community. People were afraid of being taken out of their homes and shot for suspicion of being sympathizers.

I am named after both William my Great Great Grandfather and Henry, my Great Grandfather.

I also had two Great Grand Uncles Séan and Andy Kelleher from Inniscarra who were bomb makers in The Rising. These brothers sadly ended up on opposite sides during the Civil war. One supported DeValera and one supported Michael Collins. My Granny said this happened a lot in families during the Civil War. She said there were good people on both sides.

Liam Henry Kearney