

My 1916 Family Story

Once upon a time, a long time ago, 100 years in fact there was a war, not just any war, but the biggest war that Ireland has ever been involved in. This war was called The 1916 Rising. The 1916 Rising was caused when Ireland got so fed up of Britain ruling her that The People Of Ireland decided to fight against Britain to claim her back but Ireland lost The 1916 Rising, people were killed, families were torn apart, but it was a great sign of leadership. In 1921, Micheal Collins went over to England and claimed 26 counties which is known as the Republic Of Ireland but England kept 6 counties which is known as Northern Ireland and 4th Class, 5th Class and 6th Class of a few schools around the Skibbereen area have been asked to put together their Family Story or any happening in Ireland from The 1916-1921 period so here is mine.

The Hayes Brothers

There was a man called Micheal Collins who was a key part in The 1916 Rising and he was the man who claimed back 26 counties for Ireland. He sadly died on the 22nd of August 1922. Two brothers plotted his death, their names were the Hayes Brothers. My Grandad on my fathers side knew these two and he was quite friendly with them.

Gearóid Ó Sullivan

Gearóid Ó Sullivan a native man from Skibbereen was asked by Pádraig Pearse to do the honour of raising the Irish Flag above the General Post Office (GPO).

War And Marriage

My Great-Grandfather took part in The 1916 Rising. I am not sure what his role was in the Rising. Although his role was not big he received numerous medals for his participation. Here is a story from around the time he was getting married: My Great-Grandfather's wife-to-be's name was Mary but she was commonly known as May. May used visit and bring shopping to an old woman that was a friend of the family. When May got engaged she went to visit the old woman. The old woman said, 'May, May, I heard you were getting married. Hold on a minute, I must go down to my dresser and get you a wedding present.' After a while she came back to my Great-Grandmother and gave her a gold jug which was called 'The Goldie Jug'. That was about 90 years ago and I wonder how long that Goldie Jug was on the old woman's dresser. In the house that my Nana lived in when she was young there were lots of lovely ornaments from around the 1916 period such as a crucifix and a Wall Clock and she has these in her current home as well along with a fruitbowl another wedding present that my Great-Grandfather and Great-Grandmother got.

Picture Pages



Michael Collins: A great, famous, Irish leader of the happenings of 1921 and was also a great part of the 1916 Rising, who lived very near my house.



Gearóid O'Sullivan: An avid supporter and was greatly involved in the 1916 Rising.

Rx. Moore Elizabeth Daisy St. Joseph's GWS 5th Class



This a picture of my mother's side of the family in 1919. From Left to Right, Top Row: My Gran-Aunt Mary O' Neill (Missy), My Gran-Uncle Patrick O' Neill (Sunny), My Gran-Uncle Jeremiah O' Neill (Jim), Bottom Row: My Gran-Aunt Elizabeth O' Neill (Dolly), My Grandfather James O' Neill, My Grandmother Anne O' Neill

Elizabeth O' Neill (Lizzie) (Annie)



My Gran-Uncle Jeremiah O'Neill (Miah) My Grandfather Sean O'Neill, My Gran-Uncle Patrick O'Neill (Sunny) My Gran-Aunt Anne O'Neill (Annie) My Gran-Aunt Elizabeth O'Neill (Lizzie)

My Family on my Mother's side in 1919: Left to Right: Top Row My Gran-Aunt Mary O'Neill (Missy), My Great-Grandfather Patrick O'Neill, My Great-Grandmother Elizabeth O'Neill (Lizzie),
My Gran-Uncle Jeremiah O'Neill (Miah) My Grandfather Sean O'Neill, My Gran-Uncle Patrick O'Neill (Sunny) My Gran-Aunt Anne O'Neill (Annie) My Gran-Aunt Elizabeth O'Neill (Lizzie)