

## Revenge

In May 1921 Bere Island and Bantry Bay were used a lot by the British navy and British army. There was a British fleet in the bay. Three young naval officers were off duty they left Bere Island on to the mainland. When they got to the pier they were followed out the road by two women. They walked towards Hungry Hill and after about a mile one of the ladies walked into the house on the left hand side of the road, and they came back out. They continued on the journey for about three miles. Then they were shot at by a group of men. One marine was injured, one was lying on the road dying and the other managed to run down to the sea back to the pier and to Bere Island where he told his story, and then all hell broke loose. The British tanks were out. They rounded up all the single men in the area. My great granduncle was imprisoned, neighbours were imprisoned and my great granduncle Paddy Murphy who was the leader of the volunteers. First of all they were imprisoned on Bere Island then they were brought to Bantry prison, from there they were brought to Cork prison called the clink and then they were brought into Spike Island and then somebody escaped someone who was very smart. He was able to organise a boat to get off Spike Island. Then the whole lot of them were moved to Laois Prison. All involved in the shooting disappeared. People went to America and never came back. My great granduncle was imprisoned for five months in five different prisons and he

wasn't set free until the treaty was signed on December 1921  
captured and let out in December.

It was revenge for men being shot in Bandon. This story is not  
completely exact my grandaunt told it as she heard it.

Story told by Josephine O'Callaghan (grandaunt)

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