

THE
BURNING
OF THE
BARRACKS AND
The
Crossbarry
Ambush



My name is Sorcha Hurley and I am a fourth class pupil of Scoil Eoin National School, Tonishannon Co. Cork.

John O'Callaghan, My Grandad's Godfather lived and worked as a farm worker in Lauravolta in Enniskeane. He participated in the War of Independence including the Crossbarry Ambush with the Newscostown Contingent on the 19th of March 1921. They marched from Newscostown to Crossbarry. During this ambush, Brigadier Charlie Hurley from Kiltinstown died and subsequently the GAA pitch in Bandon was named after him. John O'Callaghan

MAINLY WESTWARD FROM THIS MONUMENT AND LATER FROM VARIOUS OTHER DIRECTIONS ON SATURDAY MARCH 19th 1921 104 OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE WEST CORK BRIGADE FLYING COLUMN ATTACKED AND SMASHED AN ENCIRCLING BRITISH FORCE OF 1200 MEN THE ESSEX AND HAMPSHIRE REGIMENTS AND THE BLACK AND TANS THE I.R.A. CAUSED HEAVY CASUALTIES TO THE ENEMY CAPTURED ARMS AND AMMUNITION AND DESTROYED MILITARY TRANSPORTS THE BRITISH RETREATED TO THEIR MAIN BASES AT CORK, BANDON, KINSALE AND BALLINCOLLIC, LEAVING THE I.R.A. VICTORS ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE PRAY GOD THAT IRELAND IN HER HOUR OF NEED WILL ALWAYS HAVE SONS LIKE THESE TO FIGHT AND DIE FOR HER

ALSO BRIGADIER CHARLIE HURLEY KILLED BY THE BRITISH NEAR HERE ON THE MORNING OF THE ENGAGEMENT



died in 1978 and the Irish Army fired a volley of shots over his grave at St. Finian's in recognition of his part in the War of Independence.

Also my Gran's father and uncle (Jim and Paddy Riordan) were also involved in activities during the War of Independence in Civil Road / Ballyouray Area in Muskerry. Some of these activities are documented in the book "Memoirs of an old warrior" by Jamie Moynihan including the burning of a police barracks (which was occupied by the British forces) in 1920. This police was situated near the current day Mills Inn in Bally-

Ballyouray. Subsequently in July 1923 Paddy Riordan was appointed to the Irish state police force (a forerunner to the Garda Síochána). His first posting was to Lisnow Co. Kerry.

I got this information from my Grandad Jim Hurley and my Gran's Joan Hurley (Riordan) who live in Skewish, Lisshannon, Co. Cork.



MEMOIRS OF AN OLD WARRIOR

JAMIE MOYNIHAN'S FIGHT FOR
IRISH FREEDOM 1916-1923

COMPILED & EDITED BY
DÓNAL Ó HÉALAI THE



John O'Callaghan's
grave in Newscestown
who died on the 16th
of February 1978



John O'Callaghan on the far right
and my Granddad in the middle front left

Paddy Riordan
at the gate
of his home
farm in Tuil
Aodh



← Jim Riordan
with his wife
Mary

