



Tipperary County Museum
Lecture Series

Debating 1916

March - August 2016



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council



19
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2016

Clár Comórtha
Cead Bliain
Centenary
Programme

Debating 1916

On Easter Monday 1916 countless years of planning, training and thought culminated in the declaration of an Independent Irish Republic and a week long violent struggle in Dublin.

- But who and what lead to this momentous event in Irish history?
- Was it an ideal doomed to failure from the outset or was there a chance of victory?
- Did the leaders of the Rising understand the consequences of their actions and what did they foresee as the outcome?

In this series of 6 lectures Tipperary County Museum invites you to join with us to look at some of the people, the events and the legacy of the Easter Rising from differing points of view. Lecturers with family connections, professional interest and personal opinions will share their thoughts and opinions in this the Centenary year.

	DATE	SPEAKER	SUBJECT
Lecture 1	Wed 9th March, 7.30pm	Dr Martin Mansergh	The Easter Rising: Taking advantage of a window of opportunity
Lecture 2	Thur 7th April, 7.30pm	Dr Gabriel Doherty, UCC	Remembering O' Donovan Rossa
Lecture 3	Wed 18th May, 7.30pm	Kevin Myers	The 1916 Rising - A century long disaster
Lecture 4	Wed 15th June, 7.30pm	Catherine Marshall	Commemorating the Heroes, Irish art and the 1916 Rising
Lecture 5	Wed 13th July, 7.30pm	Brian Crowley, The Pearse Museum	Patrick Pearse A revolutionary Life
Lecture 9	Wed 17th August, 7.30pm	Michelle Drysdale	Married to MacDonagh



LECTURE

01



Image courtesy of The State Library

The Easter Rising: Taking advantage of a window of opportunity

Wednesday 9th March 2016

Martin Mansergh



Biography: Dr. Martin Mansergh is vice-chair of the Government-appointed Expert Advisory Group on centenary commemorations. Between 2002 and 2011, he served as

a Senator, TD, then as Minister of State for the OPW, Finance and the Arts. A member of the British-Irish Parliamentary Body till 2008, and the Council of State during President McAleese's second term. Former diplomat, then political advisor to Taoisigh Charles Haughey, Albert Reynolds, and Bertie Ahern, he was a back-channel and negotiator during the peace process. Author of *The Legacy of History* for making peace in Ireland, and co-winner of the 1994 Tipperary Peace Prize.

Synopsis: The lecture will address a number of key questions. How democratic was Ireland's position under the Union? Was putting Home Rule on the statute book and suspending it in September 1914 a promise of independence in due course? Did the unsanctioned drilling and illegal arming of the Ulster Volunteers open the door for the Rising? What were the impact of the First World War and the role of 'gallant allies in Europe'? How did the Rising affect partition? What of its later influence and effect? Did it need a mandate?

LECTURE

02

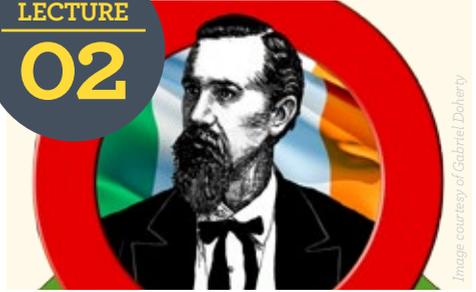


Image courtesy of Gabriel Doherty

Remembering O'Donovan Rossa

Thursday 7th April 2016

Gabriel Doherty



Biography: Gabriel Doherty is a college lecturer in the School of History, University College Cork, with a particular research interest in the 'Revolutionary decade' (1912-23)

in modern Irish history. He is the co-ordinator of commemorative events relating to this decade within UCC's School of History, and is also a member of the Academic Advisory Group to the Irish Government on the 'Decade of centenaries'.

Synopsis: The talk will focus on the life of Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa (1831-1915), with particular emphasis upon the significance of his famous funeral for the 1916 Rising; the commemorative programme to mark the centenary of his death undertaken in the summer of 2015 in west Cork, New York and Glasnevin cemetery, Dublin; and the consequent public debate about his life, and that commemorative programme.

LECTURE

03

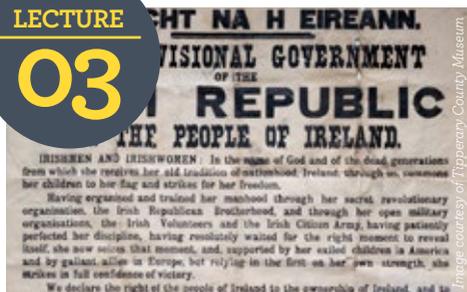


Image courtesy of Tipperary County Museum

The 1916 Rising: A century-long disaster

Wednesday 18th May 2016

Kevin Myers



Biography: Kevin Myers is a journalist and author. He has written extensively on the role of violence in Irish life and its utter futility as a means of resolving the central issues

of the Irish people. He also pioneered the re-discovery of the role of the Irish in the Great War. He now is columnist with the Irish edition of The Sunday Times. Previously, he has written for The Irish Times, The Irish Independent, The Sunday Telegraph, The Spectator and The Observer.

Synopsis: I believe that the conspirators of 1916 were profoundly anti-democratic militarists and Catholic zealots. Their actions not merely caused hundreds of deaths, but also destroyed any possibility of an accord between Northern unionists and Irish nationalists. The rising was certainly not in protest at the war. The insurgents were in conspiracy with Imperial Germany, which had already slaughtered eight thousand civilians in Belgium and France, and hundreds of thousands of Africans. The Rising and the war that followed were a doomed attempt to refute the geographical truth that two islands are economically and politically bound together.

LECTURE

04



Image courtesy of Catherine Marshall

Commemorating the Heroes, Irish art and the 1916 Rising

Wednesday 15th June 2016

Catherine Marshall



Biography: Catherine Marshall is an Art Historian, Writer and Curator. She lectured on Art History at Trinity College Dublin and the National College of Art, before becoming

the founding Head of Collections at the Irish Museum of Modern Art. She left IMMA on secondment in 2007 to act as adviser to the Touring Experiment at the Arts Council and to co-edit Twentieth Century Volume V, Art and Architecture of Ireland for the Royal Irish Academy. She has published and lectured widely on Irish Art.

Synopsis: This lecture will look at the challenges facing Irish artists as they attempted to paint Irish revolutionary men and women into a tradition that had never recognised Irish history and its leading players. It will look at how artists like William Orpen and John Lavery, and more contemporary artists like Robert Ballagh met this challenge, the constraints on their vision, the gendered nature of historical commemoration and the support offered by the wider society of Irish people to their efforts. It will raise questions about the myths that dominate historical narrative and see how they have impacted on the visual image.

LECTURE

05



Image courtesy of Brian Crowley

Patrick Pearse A Revolutionary Life

Wednesday 13th July 2016

Brian Crowley



Biography: Brian Crowley works for the Office of Public Works as the Curator of the Pearse Museum. He is a graduate of Trinity College where he studied History and

English and the University of East Anglia where he completed a Masters in Museology. He is the author of 'Patrick Pearse: A Life in Pictures' and has had articles on Pearse included in 'The Life and After-Life of P. H. Pearse' and, most recently, 'Making 1916'. He is the current chairman of the Irish Museums Association.

Synopsis: Patrick Pearse remains one of the most complex and intriguing figures associated with the 1916 Rising. He was a shy, mild-mannered educationalist and Irish-language scholar who could also move crowds with his fiery and skilful oratory. He was a sensitive figure who abhorred cruelty and acts of aggression, yet he also led a violent uprising rebellion against British rule in Irish. This lecture will explore his path to becoming a revolutionary leader and our enduring fascination with his life and legacy.

LECTURE

06



Image courtesy of Michelle Drysdale

Married to MacDonagh

Wednesday 17th August 2016

Michelle Drysdale



Biography: Michelle Drysdale is a Great Gran-daughter of 1916 Leader, and Signatory of the Proclamation, Thomas MacDonagh. In more recent years Michelle has enjoyed

many visits to Cloughjordan in Co. Tipperary where MacDonagh was born and also from where he drew much inspiration for his writing and poetry. Michelle is a Primary School teacher and particularly enjoyed researching MacDonagh's parents who were teachers in Cloughjordan. Michelle is married to Andrew and has 2 young children Grace (named after her great great gran aunt, Grace Gifford) and Matthew.

Synopsis: Muriel MacDonagh was a wife and mother to two very young children at the time of the 1916 Rising. Drawing on family stories, Michelle Drysdale, also a mother of 2 young children, explores family life in the run up to the Rising for the MacDonagh family. Michelle will share stories of how Muriel and Thomas met, their wedding, the birth of their children Barbara and Donagh and paint a picture of family life as the 1916 Rising approached. Michelle will also discuss the aftermath of the Rising and the executions for the young family and how they would be set to face further tragedy.



All lectures will be held in
The Main Guard, Clonmel.



Lectures will commence at
7.30pm sharp.



€5 per lecture. Limited to 100
spaces, allocated on a first
come first served basis.



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www.tipperarycoco.ie/museum



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