



1916  
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2016

CLÁR COMÓRTHA CEÁD BLIAIN  
*CENTENARY PROGRAMME*

LEARPHOLL / LIVERPOOL

**W**elcome to a first look at our programme of events to commemorate the centenary year of the 1916 Easter Rising in Dublin. Liverpool has a very close connection to the events of Dublin 1916. The men on the front of our programme are the 4 King brothers from Liverpool, Patrick (top left) John (top right) George (bottom left) and Edward (bottom right). Patrick, John and George fought during the Rising, while Edward was later to fight during the War of Independence.

Since 2014 the Liverpool Easter 1916 Commemoration Committee has been working hard to research and discover the role these Liverpool Irish women and men each played during the Rising. Our aim is to highlight the unique story of the Liverpool volunteers and tell their stories through a variety of experiences as outlined in this programme. During February 2016 we will formally launch a printed Centenary Programme of events for 2016 which will include findings from our research and reveal more about the lives of these Liverpool women and men, whose actions would ultimately contribute to the development of an independent Irish state. In the meantime, we invite you to the events contained here and to look out for other events/projects planned for the remainder of the centenary year.

### *O'Donovan Rossa Lecture - Dr Deaglan O Donghaile*

*More Details to follow*

**Date: Friday 26th February**

**Time: 7.30pm**

**Venue: Liverpool John Moores University**

**Admission: Free**

### *Liverpool Lambs*

An original production, which aims to celebrate the little known story of the men and women from Liverpool who helped to change the course of Irish history. We wish to remember their contribution to the formation of an independent Irish republic, through drama, dance and music. Our story begins in Liverpool, in January 1916 and follows the exploits of a group of volunteers, who travel to Dublin to take part the Easter Rising, in April 1916.

Devised by the Liverpool 1916 commemoration committee drama group.

Script by Peter King / Steve Nolan

**Date: Sunday 20th March 2016**

**Time: 7.30pm**

**Venue: St Michaels Irish Centre,  
6 Bounday Lane, Liverpool L6 5JG**

**Admission: £5.00 Tickets available  
from St Michaels Irish Centre**

**Date: Thursday 31st March 2016**

**Time: 8.00pm**

**Venue: Unity Theatre, 1 Hope Place,  
Liverpool, L1 9BG**

**Admission: £5.00 Tickets available  
from the Unity box office**

## ***Piaras Béaslaí and Easter 1916 – Professor Pádraig Ó Siadhall***

Béaslaí was a member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB), a member of Dáil Éireann (Irish Parliament) and also an Irish author, playwright, biographer and translator. He was born on Breckfield Road South and learned to speak the Irish language in Liverpool where he was an enthusiastic member of the Gaelic League. Educated at St. Francis Xavier's Jesuit College in Merseyside, he headed for Ireland at the age of 24. Béaslaí fought in both the Rising and the Irish War of Independence.

**Date:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016

**Time:** 6.30pm

**Venue:** Central Library, William Brown Street, Liverpool, L3 8EW

**Admission:** Free

## ***Women of 1916 - Panel discussion***

Chair:

Professor Peter Shirlow

Panel:

HE Dan Mulhall (Irish Ambassador to London)

Dr Lauren Arrington (Senior Lecturer in Irish Literature in English, Institute of Irish Studies)

Dr Senia Paseta (Associate Professor of Modern History, St Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

Sinead McCool (Irish historian and curator, author of *Easter Widows*)

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**Date:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016

**Time:** 6.00pm

**Venue:** University of Liverpool (more details to follow)

**Admission:** Free but registration is required via [DLynch@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:DLynch@liverpool.ac.uk)

## ***Service of Remembrance – Celebrant Right Rev Tom Williams, Auxiliary Bishop of Liverpool.***

A special service of remembrance for the Liverpool Irish community with specially invited dignitaries and guests. Hosted by the parish church of St Anthony's on Scotland Road, this service will provide an opportunity to remember the many local parishioners of the Scotland Road area who participated in the Easter Rising. Respectfully remembering all those killed in conflict, the service will provide the community with an opportunity for reflection through music, song, prayer and thanksgiving.

**Date:** Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016

**Time:** To be confirmed

**Venue:** St Anthony's Roman Catholic Church, Scotland Road, Liverpool.

**Admission:** Free

## *The Liverpool Men and Women of the Easter Rising 1916 – Dr Kevin McNamara*

Dr McNamara will present the Liverpool story of the 1916 Easter Rising and explain how Liverpool Irish women and men came to be part of the rebellion. Dr McNamara will provide a unique insight into the lives of these individuals who ignored the call to arms to fight in The Great War but chose instead to fight for an Irish democracy. Based mainly in the Kimmage Garrison in the suburbs of Dublin before the Rising, the majority of the Liverpool Irish volunteers found themselves part of the General Headquarters Staff at the General Post Office. Michael Collins dubbed them the refugees but Padraig Pearse — who lectured them on street fighting — called them: “The first standing army in Ireland since the days of Patrick Sarsfield.”

**Date: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

**Time: 6.00pm**

**Venue: University of Liverpool. More details to follow.**

**Admission: Free**

### *Liverpool and the Easter Rising*

A display at the Museum of Liverpool will tell the fascinating story of the men and women from Merseyside who travelled to Dublin to take an active part in the Easter Rising. Liverpool played a more significant role than is generally acknowledged. Piaras Beaslai, a founder member of the Irish volunteers, was from the city as was Joseph Gleeson who raised the Irish tricolour over the GPO during the Rising. The display case will feature items preserved by their relatives and descendants - medals, photos, diaries and oral accounts. Visitors will learn why they went, what they did and what happened to them afterwards. How did the Liverpool Irish community - which had many sons enlisted in the British army - respond to the Rising? Who were the women involved? What was the local press reaction? Come along and find out.

The display is made possible by the support of the National Heritage Lottery Fund and the Irish Government Department for Foreign Affairs.

**Date: From April 2016**

**Venue: Museum of Liverpool, Pier Head, Liverpool Waterfront,  
Liverpool, L3 1DG**

**Admission: Free**

**Liverpool Easter 1916 Commemoration Committee**

**C/O St Michaels Irish Centre 6 Boundary Lane Liverpool L6 5JG**

**Liverpooleaster1916@gmail.com**

**<https://liverpooleaster1916.wordpress.com/>**

**<https://www.facebook.com/liverpooleaster1916>**

**Twitter: @lpooleaster1916**



**Working in Partnership with the following:**



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