



O'TOOLES 1916-2016 COMMEMORATION PROGRAMME BOOKLET

Cumann Uí Thuathail – O'Tooles Gaelic Athletic Club now based in Blunden Drive in Ayrfield, Dublin 13, but formerly based in Seville Place in the North Inner City is celebrating the 1916 Centenary Anniversary this year. The Club has an ambitious programme of events not only designed through sport, drama, talks and displays, but also a commemorative march and other activities to commemorate the 80 plus members of Cumann Uí Thuathail who participated in the 1916 Rising, not least of which were two of the signatories to the 1916 Proclamation, Tom Clarke and Sean Mac Diarmada who were executed on the orders of General Maxwell.

The organising committee invites you to join us in the following events will be held over the week commencing the 8th April 2016 to the 16th April 2016:-



8th April '16 (Friday) – Introduction to the Commemorations

7.45pm – A historical talk on O'Tooles involvement in 1916

This talk will be given by Jimmy Wren the Club's renowned North City Historian. Jimmy has been a long time member of O'Tooles and a playing member of both the Dublin Hurling Team and O'Tooles, winning a Dublin senior championship medal with the Club in 1969.

Jimmy is the author of a number of books including "*The Villages of Dublin*" (1982) "*Crinan – Dublin: A History of 13 North Inner City Streets*" (1993) "*St Laurence O'Toole G.A.C. Centenary History*" (2001) and was a contributor to "*The Gaelic Athletic Association in Dublin 1884-2000*", three vols. (2005). His father, James Wren, was a member of the GPO Garrison during Easter Week 1916.

9.15pm – Unveiling of Jack Carey's Medals

The Jack Carey medal collection (donated by his son Dr. Tom Carey) will be unveiled and put on exhibition in the clubhouse. Jack Carey came to O'Tooles in 1917 on disbandment of the Emeralds Gaelic Football Club, also based in the St Laurence O'Toole parish. His medal collection ranges from a schools medal won in 1912 up to an All Ireland medal won in 1922. He won his first senior football championship medal for the Club in 1919, a second in 1920 and a third in 1923. He was on the Dublin team on Bloody Sunday and won both a Leinster Championship and an All Ireland medal. Throughout his playing career, he distinguished himself in the O'Tooles and Dublin colours. Many of his medals, some of which are of huge historical importance, will be on display in the clubhouse.

9th April '16 (Saturday) – Exhibition Day

10.15am Official opening of the exhibition by the Lord Mayor

We are honoured that the Lord Mayor, Ard-Mhéara Bhaile Átha Cliath Críona Ní Dhálaigh has agreed to open this exhibition at 10.15am.

10.15am–5.30pm Irish Volunteers Exhibition

The Irish Volunteers Commemorative Organisation a non-political, non-profit organisation is dedicated to recording and preserving the history and artefacts of the Irish Volunteers during the period 1913 to 1923. Over the years its members have been collecting memorabilia relating to that period. At this stage the Organisation has amassed a large number of items and its members travel around the country exhibiting them to interested organisations and clubs. O'Tooles have engaged one of the Irish Volunteers Commemorative Organisation members, Paul Callery (whose grand uncle, John Halpin was a Volunteer and founder member of O'Tooles) to stage an exhibition in our clubhouse during our commemorative celebrations. This exhibition will contain letters, postcards, photographs, medals, rifles, and revolvers of the period, from both sides of the divide, i.e. from the insurgents and the Crown forces, as well as World War One kit. A centrepiece of the exhibition will be a mock-up of the 1916 court martial room where the proclamation signatories and others were sentenced to death. People who have viewed this exhibition have been moved by it and have recommended it very highly.

8.30pm Unveiling of Commemorative Plaque

A special commemorative plaque to mark the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Rising and especially the 80 plus members of O'Tooles who took part in the Rising will be unveiled in the clubhouse by the Club President, Brendan O'Donnell.

9.00pm Saturday Night Music

The normal Saturday night music will be provided by Karl Philips.

10th April '16 (Sunday) – Match Day

7.30pm Commemorative Football Match

The club has, with the co-operation of the Dublin County Board, organised a commemorative match that will be played on the O'Tooles senior pitch at 7.30pm. This match will be played between a Cumann Uí Thuathail team and an Áth Cliath selection. The Áth Cliath selection will be made up of players from the other 16 Clubs still in existence since 1916 and will be managed by the current Dublin manager, Jim Gavin. All players will wear specially designed traditional style and colour jerseys of the time. A commemorative medal struck for the event will be presented to each team member.

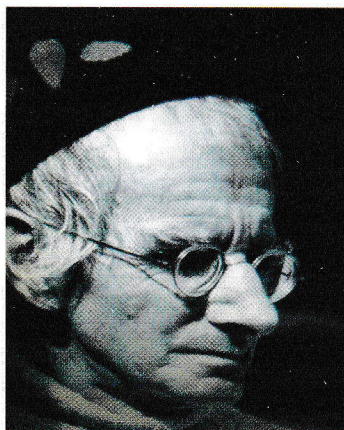
The "traditional style" jerseys may be ordered and subject to demand, will be provided for sale within the Club.



9.30pm Ballad Session

A post match ballad session will be held in the clubhouse after the match presentations.

14th/15th April '16 (Thursday/Friday) – Theatre Nights



8.00pm Commemorative Play

As Sean O'Casey, the renowned playwright and first secretary of the O'Tooles Pipe Band was a member of O'Toole's, and lived in the St. Laurence O'Toole Parish for many years, it seemed appropriate that O'Toole's and the Sean O'Casey Theatre in East Wall would come together to co-produce a performance to commemorate the 80 plus O'Toole's members who fought in the Rising.

This performance will consist of a specially commissioned piece will have 8 scenes and last for about an hour. It will be based on extracts from Sean O'Casey's plays, and music and images from the time. It will be performed by the Sean O'Casey

Theatre Group, augmented by members of O'Toole's Gaelic Athletic Club and students from The Donahies. It will be staged in the Sean O'Casey Theatre on St. Mary's Road, East Wall on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th April 2016. Tickets will cost €10.00 and because the Theatre has a capacity of 150, patrons are advised to book early to avoid disappointment.

O'Toole's memorabilia will be on display in the foyer of the theatre on the nights of the performance and it is hoped to have some commemorative merchandise on sale there too.

16th April '16 (Saturday) – March, Mass and Traditional Night

6.00pm Commemorative March to Seville Place

On this last day of the commemorative celebration week, O'Toole's will be re-engaging with the Club roots in the North Inner City. O'Toole's members and friends and people from the St Laurence O'Toole Parish will be led by a piper in a march from Croke Park through the parish, marching by St. Canice's School, O'Connells School, St Laurence O'Toole's School and on to 100 Seville Place – site of the "old" clubhouse – and then on to St Laurence O'Toole's parish Church for 7.30pm Mass.

9.00pm Traditional Night in Sheriff St. Youth Club

The celebrations will end with a night of traditional music/ballads in the Sheriff Street Community Hall. Entertainment will be provided by the South Union Ballad Group.



Organising Committee:

Des O'Brien, Paul Jennings, Jack Martin, Jimmy Wren, Peadar Nolan, Brendan Plunkett, Eamon Ryan, Ned Fahey, Tom Brabazon, Kieran Coyle.

The Organising Committee wish to thank Dublin City Council which has provided grants to various activities of the week and to the Dublin County Board whose sponsorship of the commemorative match has helped to defray the cost of staging this event.