

THOMAS MACDONAGH WEEK



Lament For Thomas MacDonagh

*'He shall not hear the bitter cry
In the wild sky, where he is lain,
Nor voices of the sweeter birds,
Above the wailing of the rain'...*

Francis Ledwidge

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CILL CHAINNIGH / KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL



19
2016

MACDONAGH WEEK (30th April - 9th May 2016)



ÉIRE
IRELAND

19
2016

Clár Comórtha
Céad Bliain
Conteann
Programme

THOMAS MACDONAGH WEEK

- **'Rise' presented by Heritage Tales - Street theatre from 30th April to 3rd May 2016, 7pm daily. Booking essential at Rollercoaster Records, Kieran Street, Kilkenny**

The Stories of the past are woven in stone...

Rise with revolutionary Thomas MacDonagh as he summons the people of Kilkenny to join in the campaign for independence. Join the men and women of Kilkenny who were influenced by MacDonagh and fought for a free Ireland. Their stories are brought to life on the historic streets of Kilkenny. For more information please visit

[Facebook.com/the1916project](https://www.facebook.com/the1916project)

- **The Stories Our Streets Can Tell: Kilkenny's Military Heritage 1913-1923, from 30th April to 7th May 2016, 10.30am & 3pm daily. Free of charge for Seachtain MacDonagh, Tours are normally €5/person**

Take the Military Heritage Tour of Kilkenny's military heritage sites. You will be expertly guided around the landmark buildings and places which were linked to all aspects of activity in the lead up to Easter 1916, and its aftermath. Get the story of the use of buildings such as the Tholsel, Kyteler's Inn, Rothe House and hear the story of the Friary Street ambush. Tours are guided and booking is through the Watergate Theatre at www.watergatetheatre.com.

- **Mass: Capuchin Friary Church in Kilkenny, 1st May 2016, 10.30am - Aifreann ag comóradh Laochra na Cásca**

- **The 53 Inf Gp currently preparing for its upcoming departure to Lebanon will have their Ministerial Review in Kilkenny Castle on 3rd May 2016 at 2.30pm**

The Group are commanded by Lt Col Stephen Ryan and are made up of troops predominantly from James Stephens Barracks and the Southern Brigade. The Ministerial Review will commence with a ceremony in Kilkenny Castle followed by a march through High Street where a Minister of Cabinet will be present at the Town Hall for the March past to review the group. The troops have prepared for their tour of duty with extensive training since March in Kilworth Camp and the Glen of Imaal.

- **Watergate Theatre, Kilkenny, 3rd May 2016 at 8pm 4th May 2016 11am**

FREE OF CHARGE, ticketed, booking is through the Watergate at www.watergatetheatre.com.

Carnation Theatre is proud to present: "Midwives of a Nation" co-written with Joe O'Byrne. "Midwives" celebrates the oft forgotten contribution of women to the events of 1916 - the big and the not so big characters of which there are so many: Elizabeth O'Farrell, Margaret Skinnider, Countess Markievicz, Winnie Carmie to name but a few. These ladies were the dispatchers, the doctors, the First-Aiders, the snipers, the tea makers, the gun runners...the list goes on!

Join Carnation theatre as we celebrate the women who were there at the birth of our nation.

- **Watergate Theatre, Kilkenny, 5th May 2016, at 8pm**

**The Count, The Countess & The Tommy
FREE OF CHARGE, ticketed, booking through
www.watergatetheatre.com**

Kilkenny's Watergate Theatre will be the venue this May for the premiere of Myles Dungan's new 1916 show – The Count, The Countess & The Tommy.

The show, starring soloist Simon Morgan - as seen on RTE's Late Late Show - centres on the life and music of the celebrated Irish tenor Count John McCormack, and features some of the best-known songs of a hundred years ago.

May 5th is the date set for the first-ever performance of the show, which goes on to tour Dublin, Roscommon, Cavan, Leitrim and beyond, as part of broadcaster Myles Dungan's Paths To Freedom roadshow project, a unique package of lectures, presentations and shows remembering the Rising, one hundred years on.

- **Teach an Rútaigh (Rothe House), Léacht Cuimhneacháin 1916, 6th May 2016, 7.30 i.n.**

Conradh na Gaeilge Cill Chainnigh léacht: "Thomas Mac Donagh agus a Ról san Éirí Amach 1916" a thabharfaidh Alan Titley, Údar agus Scoiláire

Fáilítíú agus Contóirí an Rútaigh

- **MacDonagh Train Station Kilkenny, Remembering Thomas MacDonagh, 7th May 2016 at 10am**

"1916 - Portraits and Lives"

Portraits and Lives of Rising leaders to be brought to daily commuters, Iarnród Éireann, in partnership with Royal Irish Academy In 1966, the State renamed fifteen stations on the rail network after the executed Leaders of 1916 to mark the 50th anniversary

of the Rising. A further fifty years on, and to mark the centenary of the Rising, Iarnród Éireann have partnered with the Royal Irish Academy to enable daily commuters, tourists and visitors to learn more about the people whose names are celebrated in these stations. Kilkenny's Railway station was named after Thomas MacDonagh, who was a signatory to the Proclamation and who was executed on 3rd May 1916. MacDonagh Lived and worked in Kilkenny in the early years of the 20th Century.

The display in Kilkenny will feature a specially commissioned portrait of MacDonagh by artist David Rooney and information about his life, taken from the Royal Irish Academy's "1916 - Portraits and Lives" publication. A QR code is included in so that customers can download the chapter of the book about Thomas MacDonagh for free. They can also be downloaded through the following link <https://www.ria.ie/research-projects/1916-portraits-and-lives>. As part of Iarnród Éireann's 1916 commemoration programme we will be hosting a special event to remember Thomas MacDonagh, after whom Kilkenny Station was renamed in 1966

- **MacDonagh Junction Shopping Centre, Kilkenny, will hold a schools poetry recital, 7th May at 11am**

As part of their 1916 commemorations, St Kieran's College are celebrating the lives of former members of staff Thomas MacDonagh and Francis Sheehy-Skeffington with an inter-schools poetry competition. This event will showcase the finalists chosen by poet Stephen Murray from first year secondary schools in Kilkenny.

In addition Stephen Murray will hold a free poetry masterclass for interested persons in the Shopping Centre on the day. Any person wishing to register for this event should email info@macdonaghjunction.com or see www.macdonaghjunction.com for further details.

There will also be traditional music and dance performances on the day.

- **Carnegie Library, John's Quay, Kilkenny. 9th May 2016 - 12 noon to 4pm
Free event**

To mark the centenary of the Easter Rising, family history experts from Findmypast and Eneclann are touring Ireland to help you trace your ancestors. Join us for a FREE day full of family history on 9th May 2016 in the Carnegie Library, Kilkenny. On the day you can expect: Free access to billions of family history records on www.findmypast.ie. Talks on finding your roots and the 1916 Rising.