

preservation of historic sites and buildings such as Kilmainham Jail and The Croppies Acre. The N.G.A. is currently involved in the campaign to preserve the internal and external structures of 14-17 Moore Street, a designated National Monument that short sighted developers want to alter and include as part of a new shopping centre.

We are a voluntary body, with no party political affiliations. We operate as an autonomous body. The committee is made up of people who are dedicated to honouring the men and women who died in the cause of Irish Freedom. Each member gives his/her time on a voluntary basis. Associate membership is open to all who believe in the objectives of the association.

Fund Raising Campaign

The National Graves Association will be organising a number of fund raising events over the next couple of years. As part of the fund raising campaign the N.G.A. will be selling a limited edition print by renowned artist Robert Ballagh. The print titled "Birth of the Irish Republic" will be limited to 300 copies, each one numbered and signed by Robert Ballagh. The print size is 720mm X 640mm (28" X 25" approx..) and the cost is €350 plus p&p. To order a copy please contact Aidan Lambert at 087 6202680, donations@nga.ie or Matt Doyle at 087 2282033, matt@nga.ie.

Official Launch

The official launch of the fund raising campaign will take place at Glasnevin Cemetery on Sunday 9th September 2012 at 12.30pm. A new memorial to Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa will be unveiled by two of his great grandsons Williams and Rossa Cole from New York. The funeral of O'Donovan Rossa was a pivotal event in the lead up to the 1916 Rising. Pdraig Pearse's oration at the graveside is regarded as one of the most famous speeches in Irish history.



The funeral of Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa, 1st August 1915.

Birth of the Irish Republic



As far as I am concerned the Easter Rising has always represented a seminal event in Irish history, so when the N.G.A. told me about their plans to restore the plot in St. Paul's, Glasnevin in time for the centenary of the Rising and the obvious requirement to raise the necessary funds, I was delighted to become involved in their project.

I suggested that I would produce a limited edition print as a fundraiser. My immediate problem, of course, was to come up with a suitable image. Many years ago, inspired by Goya, Delacroix and David, I created several works in response to the conflict that was just beginning in the North of Ireland, and it was with this experience in mind that I approached the N.G.A. project.

From my schooldays I remembered a black and white reproduction of a painting by an English artist Walter Paget which depicted the fighting in the G.P.O. during the Easter Rising. I decided to base my art work for my print on this image.

Interestingly Walter Paget was intended to be the illustrator of the Sherlock Holmes mysteries but the invitation was mistakenly addressed to his brother Stanley, who nevertheless went on to use Walter as the model for Holmes. So the original artist of the "Birth of the Irish Republic" was the face of Sherlock Holmes.

Robert Ballagh

If you would like to donate towards the St. Paul's renovation project, cheques can be made payable to:
National Graves Association
and sent to; P.O. Box 7105
Dublin 2, Ireland.

Bank Transfers can be made to;
A/c No: 91748120
Sort Code: 93-20-86

International Transfers can be made to;
IBAN: IE30AIBK93208691748120
BIC: AIBKIE2D

Credit Card payments can be made via
www.paypal.com and sent to donations@nga.ie

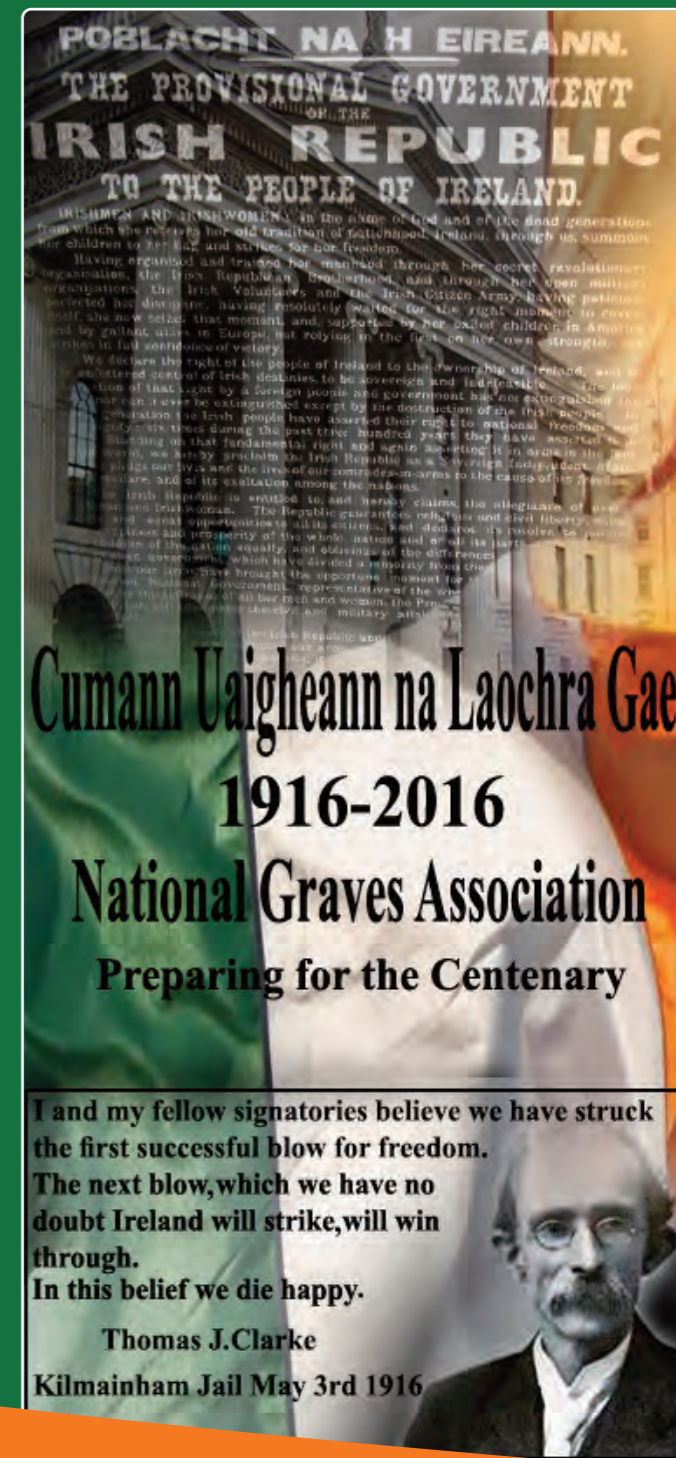
Fund Raising Committee

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Caring for the graves of our Patriot dead of all generations

Front cover design by Seamus McKernan.



Cumann Uaigheann na Laochra Gael
1916-2016
National Graves Association
Preparing for the Centenary

I and my fellow signatories believe we have struck the first successful blow for freedom. The next blow, which we have no doubt Ireland will strike, will win through. In this belief we die happy.

Thomas J. Clarke
Kilmainham Jail May 3rd 1916



Ag teacht i dtreo 2016

Beidh sé ait chun breathnaigh ar roinnt daoine ag teacht amach ag moladh na fir is na mná a d'fulaing ar son saoirse na hÉireann. Pé scéal é, sin é an radharc a bheidh ós ár gcomhar ar feadh cúpla bliain. Beidh siad ag athfhoghlaim "Amhrán na bhFiann", ag deannaigh an Bhratach Náisiúnta agus ag athléamh na leabhair staire.

Bhí Cumann Uaigheann na Laochra Gael chun tosaigh ag comóraigh na laochra céanna ó am na bhFíiníní, táimid fós agus

beimid go deo. Bhíomar ann nuair a bhí cosc ar gach uile chomóradh agus sna tréimhsí nuair nach raibh sé faiseanta chun aitheantais ar bith a thabhairt dár laochra náisiúnta.

Le sin ráite, mar ghrúpa neamhspléach, fáiltíonn muid aon rud a ardaíonn próifíl na hóglaigh cróga siúd. Bígí linn chun ómós a thabhairt dóibh siúd a ghlac an ról sin ar son saoirse na hÉireann. Beimid faoi chomaoin acu go deo.

Saint Paul's National Graves Association, 1916 Plot.



The National Graves Association has made a commitment to carry out a major refurbishment of the 1916 plot at St. Paul's section of Glasnevin Cemetery in time for the centenary celebrations.

History of the 1916 Plot by Ray Bateson.

After the Easter Rising, The O'Rahilly's sister, Áine, went around the cemeteries in Dublin trying to identify and mark the graves of the Volunteers who had been killed in action. She was able to ascertain that over 20 Volunteers were buried in one large plot in St Paul's section in Glasnevin Cemetery.

The National Graves Association was founded in 1926 to continue this tradition of identifying and marking the graves and memorials of our patriot dead of every generation. The first monument that the NGA erected was over the graves of these Easter Week Volunteers. In 1929,

they railed off the plot and erected a headstone engraved with the names of members of the Irish Volunteers and Irish Citizen Army who lie buried there.

Over the years the monument began to show signs of wear and tear and on the 50th anniversary of the Rising, the N.G.A., at considerable cost, replaced it with the present memorial. As we approach the centenary of the Rising, this memorial now needs to be refurbished. The cost of this work will be over €100,000 which the NGA has undertaken to raise in appreciation of the sacrifice that these brave heroes made in the fight for Irish freedom.

Proposed new look for the St. Paul's monument



Plan Design Associates were requested to examine the existing monument at St Paul's section of Glasnevin Cemetery with a view to updating / refreshing the appearance of the monument. Plan Design has worked with The National Graves Association for a number of years, often in a voluntary capacity.

The monument consists of 7 large concrete standing columns in excess of 5m high. These columns were erected in commemoration of Irish rebellions, wars and risings. The proposal is to update the columns by enclosing them in a polished natural stone with the dates, as engraved at present, engraved in the stone and the quote by W.B. Yeats on the central largest column to read 'we know their dream, enough to know they dreamed and are dead'.

The proposed facing of the standing columns will give the monument a more contemporary look rather than the bare faced concrete of the 1960's. The quality of the concrete paving slabs and the steps surrounding the monument are very poor and require replacement. It is proposed to finish the steps and the paving with a similar natural stone.

The new natural stone finish will enhance the monument and the surrounding steps and paving and restore the grace and respect that the monument deserves.

A Brief History of the National Graves Association.

The National Graves Association (N.G.A) was formed in 1926 and the first meeting of the association was presided over by Mrs Kathleen Clarke, widow of the executed 1916 leader Thomas J. Clarke. Other committee members were veterans of the Fenian movement and of the 1916 Rising. The association set out its objectives, which were and still are:

- To restore, where necessary, and maintain fittingly the graves and memorials of our patriot dead of every generation.
- To commemorate those who died in the cause of Irish Freedom.
- To compile a record of such graves and memorials.

The first memorial at St. Paul's, erected to the rank and file volunteers of 1916 was unveiled by Frank Ryan on the 31st March 1929.



Easter Commemoration held at St. Paul's in 1932

The inscription on the first memorial erected by the N.G.A. in 1929 represents the continuing work of the committee,

"TO PERPETUATE THE MEMORY OF MEMBERS OF THE IRISH VOLUNTEERS AND IRISH CITIZENS ARMY WHO FELL FIGHTING FOR THE FREEDOM OF IRELAND EASTER 1916 WHOSE REMAINS ARE INTERRED IN THIS PLOT"

The names of the volunteers on the monument are Seán Hurlley, Michael Mulvihill, Patrick O'Connor, Charles Carrigan, Gerald Keogh, Francis Macken, James Quinn, Patrick Shortis, Patrick O'Flanagan, Patrick Farrell, Charles Darcy, Louis Byrne, George Geoghegan, James McCormack, Fred Ryan and Eamonn Walsh.

Since the foundation of the N.G.A., the association has erected or taken into its care memorials in almost every county in Ireland. Over the years we have lobbied for the