

County Tipperary Old I.R.A. Commemorative Calendar 1996



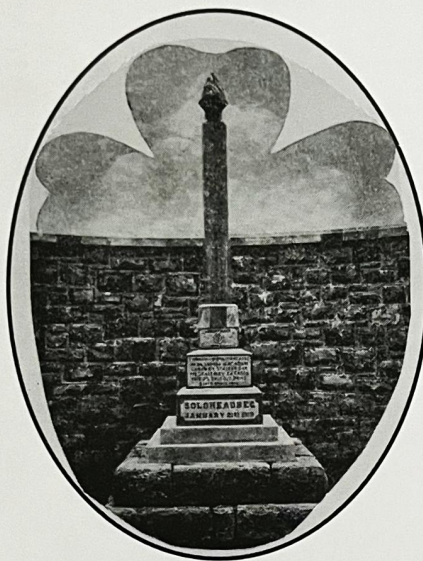
**Containing a short Biographical Sketch
and Photographs of a number of Patriots.**



Tipperary Old I.R.A. Memorial Calendar -- 1996

JANUARY

SOLOHEADBEG



As a placename, Soloheadbeg is linked with medieval and modern Irish history. Brian Boru and his brother, Mahon, defeated the Danes there just before the end of the 10th century. Almost a thousand years later Sean Treacy chose his own townland to write the first paragraph in the chapter of the War of Independence. Soloheadbeg was a townland of good land and comfortable farm holdings when Dan Breen and the other volunteers joined Treacy there to strike the first blow in a new war to free Ireland 77 years ago. When the smoke of the shots had drifted away across the rich pasture land two policemen were fatally wounded, two stunned County Council employees handed over the gelignite they were bringing under police protection to the local Council quarry and the attackers, with their explosives, faded into the misty evening of a winter's day. They had relit the flame of Irish Freedom and made history.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Treaty was Accepted in 1922
7	8	9	10 Sparkie Breen killed by Free State Soldiers in Tipperary in 1923	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 First Dail meets. Soloheadbeg Ambush - First action in War of Independence in 1919	22	23	24	25	26	27 F. O'Meara killed in Tipperary in 1921
28	29	30	31			

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FEBRUARY

DINNY LACEY



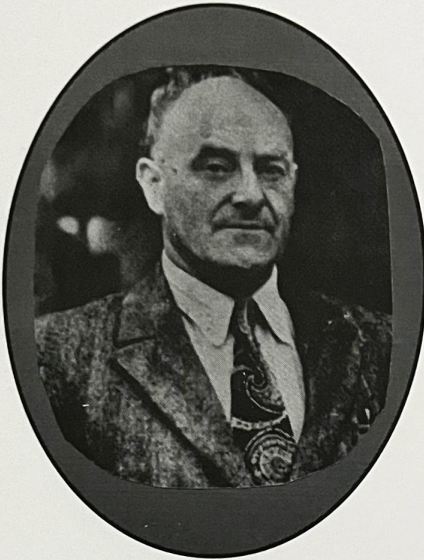
Of all the young men who put Irish freedom before everything else in the second decade of this century, Dinny Lacey will always be in the forefront. He was a man of strong Christian faith who never asked a fellow volunteer to do anything he was not prepared to do himself. His critics would always accept his deep sincerity, his exceptional bravery, his integrity and though a stringent disciplinarian no one ever questioned his standards in seeing that fair play and justice was given to friend and foe. As a military leader he commanded full respect from his Flying Column. He never sought the limelight and preferred a low profile. Affirmative in manner and firm in his convictions, his Column was the best disciplined fighting unit in the Irish Republican Army. His death in the tragic Civil War shocked the soldiers of both sides into realising the folly and tragedy of such a conflict. All County Tipperary mourned the death of a great Chief of the fight for Irish Freedom.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 James Devaney killed by Crown Forces at Pallas, Toomevara in 1921	3
4	5 Jim O'Keeffe, native of Ballinvoher, killed at Two-Mile-Bridge, Co. Tipperary, in 1921	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 D. Quinlan killed in Hollyford, Co. Tipperary in 1921	14 Sean Treacy born in 1895	15	16	17 Dinny Lacey killed in 1921
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Sean Allen executed in Cork Jail in 1921	29		

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MARCH

PADDY KINANE



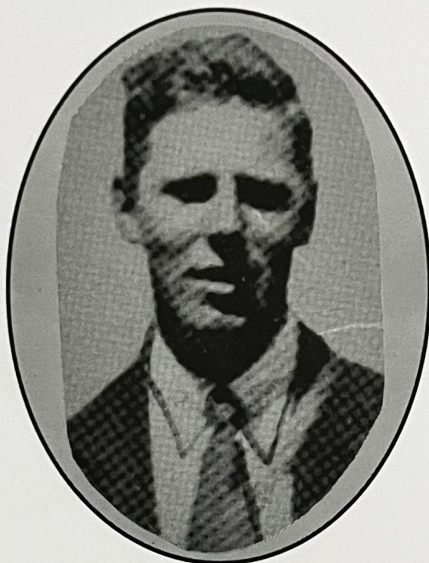
Paddy Kinane was officer in command of 2nd Battalion Mid Tipperary Brigade during the War of Independence. He joined the Irish Volunteers in July 1914 and during a life dedicated to Ireland he never deviated from his Republican principles. He was an inspiring figure in the Irish Ireland movement of his time and his love of Irish music and his ability as a step dancer were features of a man whose many roles enhanced our native culture. It is as a soldier of Ireland who manned the gap of danger in Ireland's hours of need and who provided leadership to those who joined him in her defence that marked him out as a chief among great men. As a member of Dail Eireann under the leadership of Sean McBride he was part of an Irish Government that declared the country a Republic.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Thomas Devaney, brother of James killed by Crown Forces at Pallas, Toomevara. T. Looby killed Shrough, Ardavillane Co. Tipperary in 1921	2
3 Patrick Hogan Bat. Comdt., Native of Hymenstown, Co. Tipperary killed at Derryclooney, Cahir, in 1921.	4 Volunteer Tom Lee killed near Fethard, Co. Tipp. J. Hayes dies as a result of wounds inflicted at shooting at Ardavillane in which Tom looby died, native of Knockarden, Co. Tipperary, in 1921.	5	6 Pierce McCan dies of pneumonia in Glouster prison. Knockroe ambush 1921. M. Clancy killed Ballyuskey, Co. Tipp. R. Fleming killed Drangan, Co. Tipp. P. Hackett killed Rathkenny, Drangan, Tipp	7	8	9
10 W. Loughnane killed Thurles, Co. Tipperary and L. Hickey killed Main St., Thurles, Co. Tipp. in 1921.	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 1858 Irish Republican Brotherhood founded.	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 1920 Arrival of Black and Tans to Ireland	26	27	28	29	30 Tom Dwyer and J. McCarthy killed, The Ragg, Thurles and Fianna Rd., Thurles in 1920
31						

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APRIL

CON MOLONEY



One of the many outstanding leaders of the War of Independence was Con Moloney. His father, P.J. Moloney, was elected to the first Dail Eireann in December 1918. Con held the rank of Adjutant of the Third Tipperary Brigade before going on to IRA headquarters and ended up Deputy Chief of Staff of the IRA in the Civil War. A man with a good military brain and an able administrator, Con Moloney filled many key roles throughout the War of Independence. He was one of the main organisers of Sean Treacy's funeral from Dublin to Kilfeacle, despite being a much wanted man. Moloney avoided capture right up to the Truce. His brother, Paddy, lost his life in action against British forces at Gortdrum. The Moloney family served Ireland well and paid a big price to win us freedom from foreign rule.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5 James O'Loughlin killed Cormackstown, Thurles, Co. Tipp in 1921	6
7	8	9 Dan Carew killed, Golden Gardens, Dundrum, Co. Tipperary. in 1921	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 National Cabinet called to meet in Dublin's Mansion House in 1918.	19 J. Bergin killed, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary in 1921.	20
21	22	23	24 1916 Easter Rising commences. Proclamation read at GPO by Padraic Pearse.	25 Thomas Trainer hanged in Mountjoy Jail in 1921.	26 1916 Pearse and Connolly surrender.	27
28 Liam Lynch fell in battle in Knockmealdown Mountains 1923. Ballylanders Barrack cap- tured 1923.	29	30 Sean Duffy and Patrick Moloney killed by Crown Forces 1921.				

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MAY

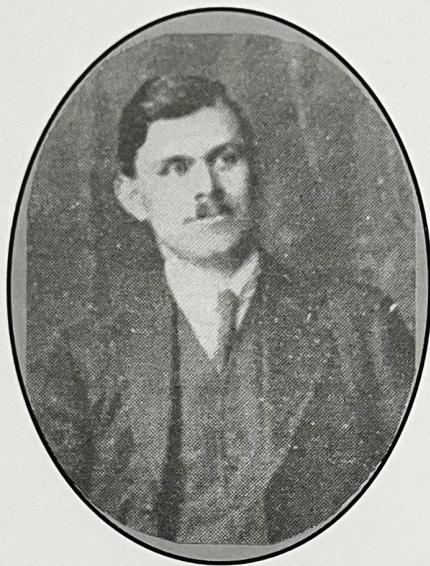
THOMAS McDONAGH



Poet, patriot and revolutionary, born in Cloughjordan the youthful McDonagh was a student of Rockwell College and a graduate of University College Dublin. Well known in Dublin literary circles, he was one of the poets of the day who joined the Irish Volunteers on their formation. With James Connolly he was arguably one of the strongest realists among the leadership of the 1916 Rising. A contemporary of McDonagh's, writing on the brave manner in which the leaders faced execution, wrote that they all faced death bravely but McDonagh died like a prince. He had imaginative and practical ideas on education that were decades in advance of his time. Throughout the Rising he displayed courage, calmness and leadership qualities. He was a worthy son of Tipperary who won a permanent place in Irish history.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 P. Starr, killed Silver St., Nenagh, Co. Tipperary in 1921	2	3 Thomas McDonagh, Cloughjordan, 1916 Rising leader, executed by Crown Forces, Kilmainham Jail, Dublin.	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 1919 Sean Hogan captured
12	13 1919 Sean Hogan rescued at Knocklong Station	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Cornelius Gleeson killed at Upperchurch, Co. Tipperary in ambush by Crown Forces, 1921	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Martin Purcell and William O'Brien, killed while prisoners in Tipp Military Barracks 1921. Natives of Dundrum, Co. Tipp.	31	

DAN BREEN



Known to his comrades as the happy warrior, Dan was a man of stocky build and immense physical strength. He was a fearless fighter in the cause of Irish freedom and with his neighbour and comrade Sean Treacy was instrumental in replacing the rhetoric of Sinn Fein politicians with physical force in the aftermath of the 1918 election. Throughout his life he was a man of great common sense and was never afraid to do the unpopular things if they advanced the cause of Ireland. He involved himself fully in a desperate bid to avert the Civil War. He broke from De Valera to enter the Dail and always remained firm in his opinions when convinced he was right. He was a man whose name and deeds will live and grow with the passing of time. Tipperary and Ireland forever will be indebted to him.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 1921 Modreeney Barracks attack.	4	5	6 Martin Foley and Paddy Maher were hanged in Dublin in 1921.	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Dan Breen and Bridghid Malone were married in 1921.	14	15
16	17	18 T. Brett killed, Drombane, Co. Tipperary in 1920.	19	20	21	22
23	24 Frank Aiken orders I.R.A. ceasefire. End of Civil War in 1923.	25	26	27 W. Connolly killed, Upperchurch, Co. Tipperary in 1921.	28 J. O' Meara killed, Ballyhone, Emly, Co. Tipperary in 1921.	29
30						

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JULY

MICHAEL COLLINS



The greatest honour that Tipperary can bestow on any Cork person is to rank them with their bravest and best. Of all who took part in the War of Independence no one played as key a role in thwarting the objectives of the enemy as Michael Collins, a son of West Cork. He was the friend of Sean Treacy and Dan Breen when they had practically no other support among the elite leadership of the Irish Volunteers and Sinn Fein after Soloheadbeg. A man of action and of immense ability, his many roles within the IRA, Sinn Fein and Dail Eireann were central and vital to the success of the military and political movement that forced Britain to seek a Truce in July 1921. His death in the tragic Civil War was the greatest national tragedy to befall the Irish nation in the 20th century.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 1920 Newtown/ Dualla ambush	3	4 Michael Small killed Upperchurch, Co. Tipperary in 1920	5	6
7	8	9	10 1917 Eamon De Valera elected to Parliament.	11 1920 Rearcross Barrack attack. 1921 Truce.	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

AUGUST

SEAN FITZPATRICK



Sean Fitzpatrick as Brigade Adjutant was head of intelligence for the IRA in South Tipperary. In such a role he held vital information that influenced Brigade decisions on military actions and counter espionage activities. With the Brigade Commanding Officer, Seamus Robinson, Sean Fitzpatrick was involved in many vital roles and decisions, throughout the final twelve months of the War of Independence in South Tipperary. A methodical man, Fitzpatrick brought perfection to the administration and intelligence machine of the movement in South Tipperary. No other officer including the Brigade Commander had the same knowledge of what happened throughout the South Tipp Brigade areas as Fitzpatrick during the very special and vital time in our history. Sean Fitzpatrick had a calculating mind, a clarity of vision about the future and a firm conviction that what he and his comrades did was right and proper. His foresight, courage and military brain served his country well.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 1922 Arthur Griffith's death.	13	14	15	16	17 P. Clancy killed, Ballylanders, Co. Tipperary in 1920.
18	19	20	21	22 1922 Michael Collins killed at Beal na Blath	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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SEPTEMBER



SEAN TREACY

More than any other individual, he stood out as the greatest IRA leader in County Tipperary. Despite being a shy reserved person, he was a most successful organiser and an excellent motivator. It was his thinking, planning, and hard work that developed and moulded the Third Tipperary Brigade into the efficient and successful military machine it was throughout the War of Independence. His death in action in Dublin on October 14th, 1920, was a severe blow at national as well as local level to the IRA. Being a secretive person about his plans and actions, much of Treacy's contribution in Dublin died with him and with Michael Collins. Dan Breen, his loyal comrade, said that Sean Treacy never got adequate recognition for his many roles. The fact that his name and his deeds live on firmly in the minds of the people is proof that the man to whom all his peers in the movement looked to for guidance and leadership is and always will be remembered as the greatest Tipperary man of the 20th century.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 1920 Blackcastle Races Third Tipp Brigade raided by Crown Forces.	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 1917 Thomas Ashe dies on hunger strike in Mountjoy Jail.	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

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OCTOBER

SEAN ALLEN

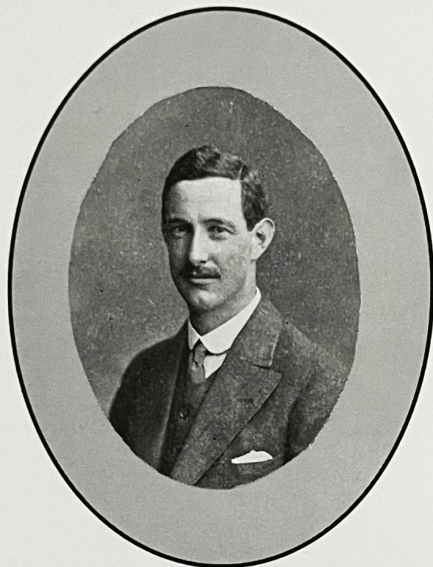


Sean Allen was a brave and dedicated IRA officer in a most active Tipp Town company and though young in years had displayed great maturity and intelligence as a leader at a crucial period. Captured by British Forces with arms he was detained in Cork jail and underwent trial under the British penal law code for Ireland and was sentenced to death. Despite the raising of many legal questions about the manner of his trial, British vengeance as so often, dominated even sham justice and this young brave soldier of Ireland gave his life for our freedom on a cold February morning in 1921 in Cork jail.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 1920 Sean Treacy, Solohead, killed in Dublin.	15	16 1890 Birth of Michael Collins.	17	18 Edward and Frank Dwyer killed in action at Ballydavid Co. Tipperary in 1920	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Volunteer Michael Ryan shot in bed while ill at Ballyduff, Co. Tipperary in 1920	26 Michael Gleeson killed instead of his father, Thurles, Co. Tipp in 1920
27	28	29	30	31 Tom Donovan killed Glengoose, Co. Tipperary in 1920		

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NOVEMBER



PIERCE McCAN

Pierce McCan was a born leader of men. From his childhood years McCan developed a great love of Ireland. Well educated by the standards of the time, McCan was an extensive landowner and successful farmer and good employer. A founder member of Sinn Fein and an Irish language enthusiast. Pierce McCan joined the Irish Volunteers at their formation and formed an active company of the movement in his native Dualla. When the split in the Volunteers came in 1914 Pierce McCan sided with McNeil and held the majority in his local company of Volunteers intact. He was officer in command of County Tipperary Volunteers. In 1916, at the time of the Easter Rising, McCan was ready to take the field of action but fate decreed otherwise. Arrested in May 1918 he was elected to Dail Eireann while in prison in December 1918. He died in Glouster prison, England on March 6th, 1919. He is remembered as one of the finest patriots of the 20th century.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 1920 Kevin Barry hanged in Mountjoy Jail.	2
3	4 John and Thomas O'Brien killed by Crown Forces, 'shot while trying to escape', Nenagh, Co. Tipp in 1920	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Michael Hogan killed at All-Ireland Football Final in 1920. Native of Grangemockler, Co. Tipperary	22	23
24	25 D. Carey killed Nenagh, Co. Tipperary in 1920	26	27	28 1920 Kilmichael ambush.	29	30



Patrick Maher and Edward Foley
Photo taken in Mountjoy Jail shortly before their execution in 1921
for their part in the rescue of Sean Hogan at Knocklong.

NED FOLEY and PADDY MAHER

Ned Foley was a Galbally Volunteer who took part unarmed in the Knocklong train rescue of Sean Hogan in May 1919. He was arrested several weeks later with Paddy Maher who had no involvement in the episode. After a long detention and a trial in Armagh both men were convicted on evidence that would be inadmissible in any reasonable court of law. Both young men showed remarkable calmness and retained a most impressive demeanour throughout their trials and long detention. They met their deaths with remarkable calmness and reconciliation towards their fellow men and at peace with God. Their executions five weeks before the truce on June 6th, 1921, in Mountjoy Jail was another example of British vengeance towards the Irish people. The manner in which they faced death gave a message to the British that you can kill the Irish but you will never keep their spirit down.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6 Anglo Irish Treaty signed.	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 M. Edmunds killed, Tipperary.	17	18 Bill Delaney, Jim Looby and J.J. Looby killed in Tipperary in 1920. Natives of Rosegreen and Dualla, Co. Tipp.	19 M. Walton and P. O'Connor killed Co. Tipperary in 1920	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 W. Slattery killed in Lisobyhane, Emly, Co. Tipp in 1920.				