

tion, which was read out after the ceremonial raising of the flag and the singing of the national anthem.

Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Heather Humphreys speaking in advance of events nationally, said that all primary school schedules around the country would be replaced by ceremonial activities, commemorating 1916.

A number of schools, including the newly-amalgamated Thomond Primary School used the day as an opportunity to dress up in old-style attire.

O'Connell Avenue was one of many city areas to be bursting with patriotism, as pupils at Limerick School Project celebrated their Proclamation Day with Minister for Education Jan O'Sullivan and newly-elected TD Maurice Quinlivan.

Before the national flag was raised by two pupils, principal Orla McCoy congratulated the school's efforts, and said that their own Proclamation will hang next to the original "for generations to come".

Minister O'Sullivan said that Proclamation Day is about commemorating the events of 1916, the history, and re-imagining Ireland's future.

"That is why the schools have been asked to write a Proclamation for the future, and I know everybody got really involved.

"You are our future. All of you young people are our future. And it is really important that we have all really engaged in this, and we are here today, on Proclamation Day, to celebrate our country, to celebrate everything that is good and positive about our country, to remember



Children and staff from Gaelscoil Chaladh An Treoigh dressed up in their interpretations of 1916 style on Proclamation Day this Tuesday

our history, and to look to the future."

Deputy Quinlivan addressed the enthusiastic crowd and said that he was "delighted" to be attending the celebrations at the school.

"It's great to be here on a day like today, and one of the kids over there suggested that I ask the teachers to give them no homework tonight," he said, which prompted a loud cheer from the eager children.

"Well done to all the kids who got involved. A line in the Proclamation got me involved in politics and that

**“All of you are our future. And it is really important that we have all really engaged in this”**

Minister for Education Jan O'Sullivan

is 'cherishing all the children of the nation equally', and hopefully we will be able to deliver to the Republic that the men and women of 1916 fought for," he added.

The day before Proclamation Day, Our Lady Queen of Peace primary school launched an outdoor portrait exhibition, with illustrations of 19 influential figures of 1916 Ireland who have streets named after them, including Limerick's Ned Daly and Con Colbert, and WB Yeats.

Though the exhibition finished

on Wednesday, principal Micheal Ryan said he hopes it can be a permanent exhibition in the future.

Minister Humphreys said that the education aspect has been "the most wide reaching and successful element of the Ireland 2016 centenary programme to date.

"It has allowed our children and young people to learn about their history in a new and interesting way and it has encouraged them to think ambitiously about the kind of Ireland they want to build in the years ahead."



Darragh Ryan raising the flag with teacher Catherine Troy, at St Gabriel's primary school



Eliya Cerniute and Arlen Casey at Limerick School Project this Tuesday

# Glin to mark 1916 by naming Centenary Bridge

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THE first fatality of the 1916 Rising was Glin man, James O'Brien who was a constable in the Dublin Metropolitan Police and who died while defending Dublin Castle from the rebels.

But another Glin man, medical student, Eamon Dore of Main St, was on the side of the rebels. He fought with the Irish Volunteers in the GPO.

Both men will be remembered in their native Glin on Easter Monday at a special centenary ceremony in the town park.

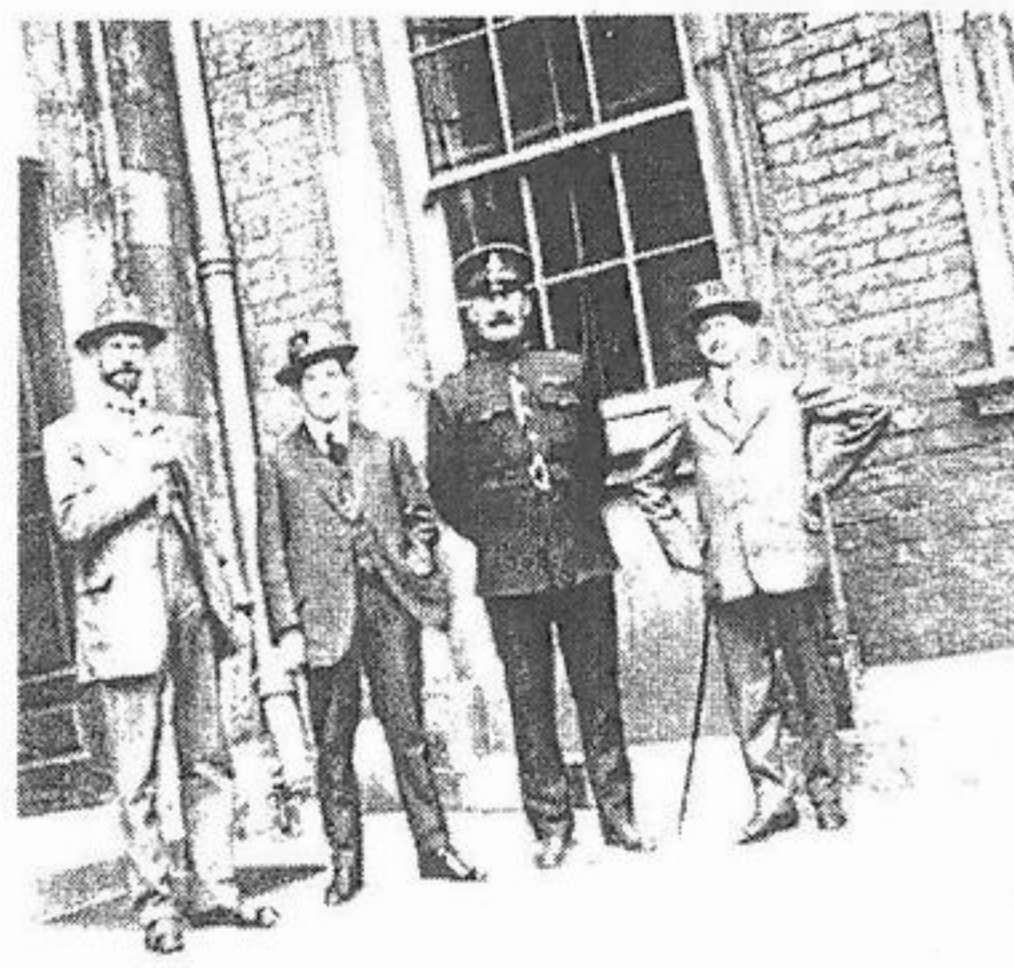
"The footbridge in the town park will be officially named The Centenary Bridge in their honour and commemorative plaques as well as an interpretive board will be unveiled," John Anthony Culhane, chairman of Glin Development Association said this week.

"As fellow parishioners, they

are being equally honoured and remembered and the plaques on the bridge acknowledge their involvement in the Rising," Mr Culhane added.

"One hundred years on, we want the Centenary Bridge to stand as a symbol of the ever-growing reconciliation in those differences which separated these two men who, although being from the same parish, happened to be on opposing sides in the struggle for Irish freedom."

James O'Brien, from Kilfergus, Glin joined the Dublin Metropolitan Police in 1895. On Easter Monday, April 24 1916, Constable O'Brien was on duty at the gate of Dublin Castle. Seán Connolly, a public servant and Abbey actor, was the leader of a group of Irish Citizen Army men and women, who had come from Liberty Hall to seize Dublin Castle.



Constable James O'Brien, Glin and the Dublin Metropolitan Police, left, was the first fatality of Easter 1916. Eamon Dore fought on the side of the rebel forces in the GPO

At around noon that day when Constable O'Brien tried to prevent them entering the castle, Seán Connolly approached him and shot him dead.

In the aftermath of the shooting the gates of the castle were shut. Seán Connolly then gained entrance to the nearby Dublin City Hall and went on to

the roof where he was immediately shot by a British army sniper from within Dublin Castle.

Seán Connolly thus became



both the the first rebel casualty of the Rising as well as being the man to cause the first fatality on the other side.

Eamonn Dore was born in 1886 at Main Street, Glin and went on to become a medical student at University College Dublin where he joined the Irish Volunteers.

He was a courier for Sean MacDermott, one of the signatories of the Proclamation of Independence.

Eamonn Dore fought alongside many of the rebel leaders in the GPO during Easter Week 1916, including Pdraig Pearse, James Connolly and James Clarke.

Later, describing the scene after the order was given to retreat from the GPO, Eamonn Dore wrote: "As we got out the door into Henry Street, we lined up 'two deep', with the O'Rahilly standing in front and Patrick Pearse by his side... Our gallant

attempt to break through failed and the survivors ended in an old burnt-out ruin in Moore Street. I saw O'Rahilly fall wounded and my nearest comrade, Pat O'Connor, was killed just in front of me, and falling on me pinned me under him."

Following the Rising, Eamonn Dore was detained in British internment camps with many other Irish Volunteers including Michael Collins and Eamon de Valera.

On this Easter Monday also, a third man will also be recalled, Mr Culhane said.

"The innocent casualties of the Rising must not be forgotten," he declared. "Michael O'Connor, from Ballyhahill, was killed in crossfire during the Rising. His grave in Kilfergus Graveyard lies near the grave of Constable O'Brien."

The ceremony in Glin Town Park will begin at 11.30am on Monday, March 28.

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