

NEWS

HISTORY: EXHIBITION TO BRING LOCAL MILITARY HERITAGE BACK INTO FOCUS

Military history to get a city showcase

ANNE SHERIDAN
anne.sheridan@limerickleader.ie
@annesherdan1

PEOPLE are being asked to contribute to a newly announced exhibition focusing on Limerick's military heritage, spanning nearly three centuries, from the Sieges of Limerick in 1690-91 to the end of the First World War.

Limerick Museum and Archives says the exhibition, entitled Stand Up and Fight, due to be held in April, coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign (April 1915 - January 1916) which claimed the lives of 800 members of the Royal Munster Fusiliers.

The exhibition intends to feature both Limerick's ties to international military campaigns and the social and economic effects of these at home.

Supported by the Limerick Branch of the Royal British Legion, the Royal Munster Fusiliers Association and the Irish Naval Association, the exhibition will be preceded by a road-show at Limerick City and County Council civic buildings, Merchant's Quay, on Saturday,



Member of the Royal Flying Corp, the forerunner of the RAF

From the departure of the Wild Geese in 1691 with Sarsfield to the dressing of international armies by Tait's clothing factory Limerick's history is intrinsically linked with military history

January 24 from 12pm to 5pm.

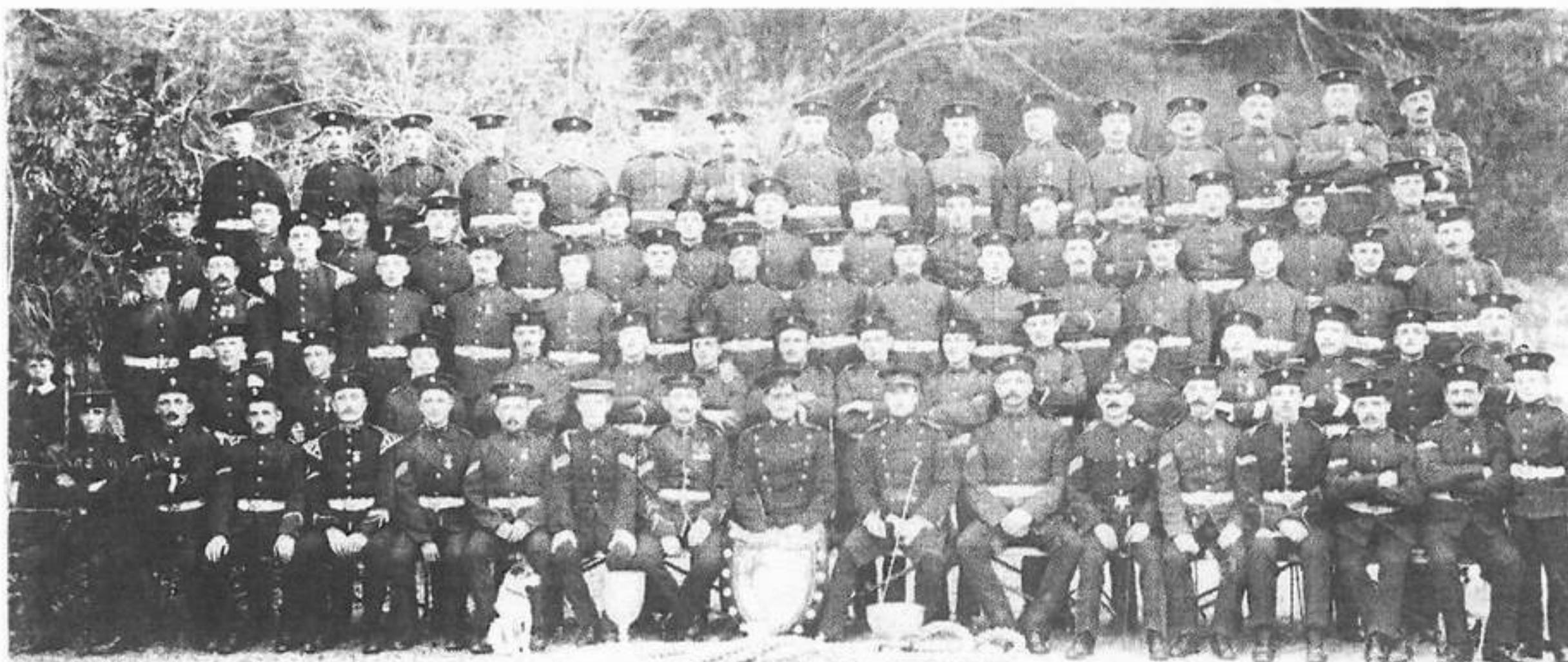
Military experts will be in attendance to speak with members of the public interested in donating images, letters, stories, medals, objects relating the experience of Limerick people at times of combat.

"While much of the exhibition will be concerned with the participation of Limerick men and women in the First World War, it will also deal with Limerick's long military and naval tradition. From the departure of the Wild Geese in 1691 with Sarsfield to the dressing of international armies by Tait's clothing factory Limerick's history is intrinsically linked with military history," said Limerick archivist Jacqui Hayes.

Among the exhibition themes will be the regiments that drew their recruits from Limerick; the campaigns in which Limerick soldiers fought such as the Napoleonic, Crimean and Boer Wars; famous Limerick generals; Limerick's participation in the First World War, and Limerick recruitment in other countries such as the USA, France and Australia will also be covered, along with Limerick's naval tradition.



The call to arms during World War One: 'Irishmen don't you hear it', is the appeal to enlist in the army



The H Company, 2nd Battalion The Royal Munster Fusiliers, pictured in Gibraltar in 1906

Man not guilty of careless driving

A MOTORIST who was accused of performing a dangerous overtaking manoeuvre on the outskirts of the city was acquitted of careless driving writes David Hurley.

Alan Foley, aged 29, of Keyanna, Ballysimon was prosecuted for careless driving following an incident on August 10, 2013.

Garda Pat Kirwan of the divisional traffic corps said while on patrol in the Ballysimon area shortly before 11.30pm he observed a Volkswagen Caddy van - being driven by the defendant - crossing into a hatched area as it was overtaking another vehicle.

He said the vehicle appeared to be travelling above the speed limit at the time but added that he was not in a position to give an exact speed.

Garda Kirwan said the road where the incident happened is a "busy thoroughfare" with lots of traffic - even late at night.

He told the court he did not believe it was necessary for Mr Foley to have overtaken in the manner that he did as the road widens into two lanes a short distance after where he performed the overtaking manoeuvre.

"He could have waited 30 or 40 seconds," he said.

Being cross-examined by solicitor John Herbert, Garda Kirwan agreed that no other vehicles or road users had been discommoded by his client's actions.

Mr Herbert said Mr Foley was willing to give evidence that he did not cross over the white line as the car he was overtaking had pulled in.

He submitted that under the provisions of the Road Traffic Act, the evidence put forward relating to his client's alleged speeding was not sufficient.

"His opinion is not evidence, it is not good enough," said Mr Herbert as he applied for the charges to be dismissed.

Judge Marian O'Leary agreed and added there had been no evidence from Garda Kirwan regarding the registration number of the vehicle which was being driven by the defendant. She dismissed the charge.