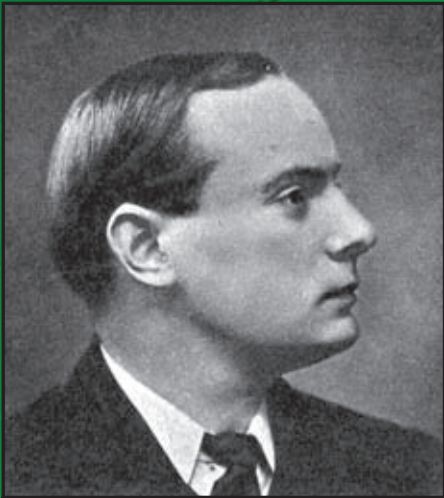


# An Chéad Dáil Éireann

## The First Dáil 90th Anniversary

1916-1917

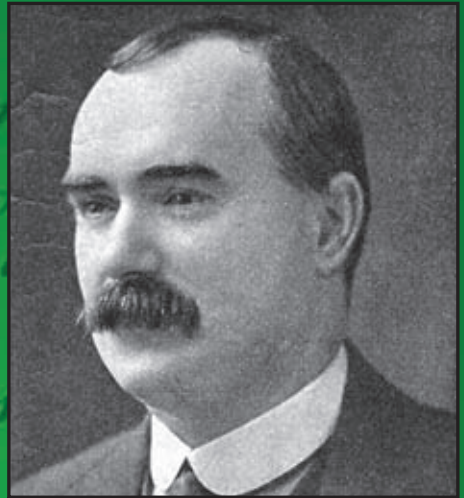
The 1916 Easter Rising transformed Ireland. The Proclamation of the Irish Republic set the agenda for decades to come and led directly to the establishment of an Chéad Dáil Éireann. The execution of 16 leaders, the internment without trial of hundreds of nationalists and British military rule ensured that the people turned to Sinn Féin. In 1917 republican by-election victories, the death on hunger strike of Thomas Ashe and the adoption of the Republic as the objective of a reorganised Sinn Féin changed the course of Irish history.



Pádraig Pearse



Ruins of the GPO 1916



James Connolly



Roger Casement on trial in London



Detainees are marched to prison after Easter Rising, over 1800 were rounded up



Thomas Ashe lying in state in Mater Hospital, Dublin, September 1917



Liberty Hall, May 1917, first anniversary of Connolly's execution



Tipperary IRA Flying Column



Crowds welcome republican prisoners home from England 1917



Released prisoners welcomed in Dublin 1918



Funeral of Thomas Ashe, September 1917



# Sinn Féin



# An Chéad Dáil Éireann

## The First Dáil 90th Anniversary

1918

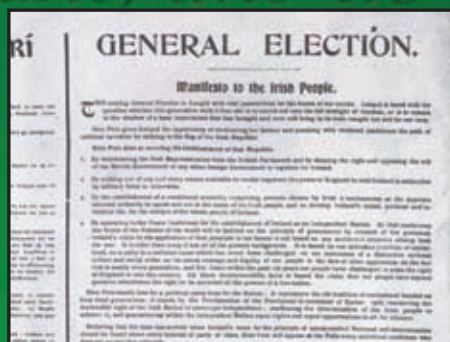
The British government attempted to impose Conscription on Ireland in 1918. They were met with a united national campaign, culminating in a General Strike and the signing of the anti-Conscription pledge by hundreds of thousands of people. In the General Election of December 1918 Sinn Féin triumphed, winning 73 of the 105 seats in Ireland.



The Anti-Conscription Pledge drawn up at the Mansion House conference on April 18 1919



Taking the Anti-Conscription Pledge on 21 April 1919



The Sinn Féin General Election Manifesto which was censored by the British government when it appeared in the newspapers



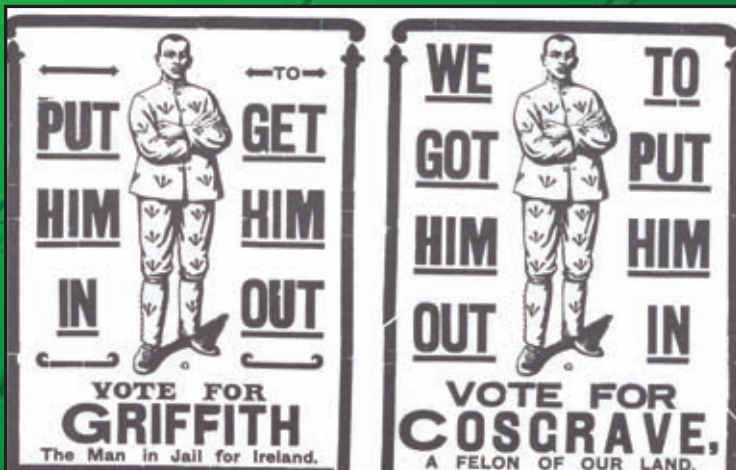
Campaigning in the General Election, December 1918



Constance Markievicz TD and First Dáil Minister for Labour, the first woman elected in Ireland



Sinn Féin postcard 1917



Sinn Féin by-election posters for East Cavan (1918) and Kilkenny City (1917)



Count Plunkett, key figure in the building of Sinn Féin 1917/1918



Joseph McGuinness, political prisoner, TD for South Longford



# Sinn Féin

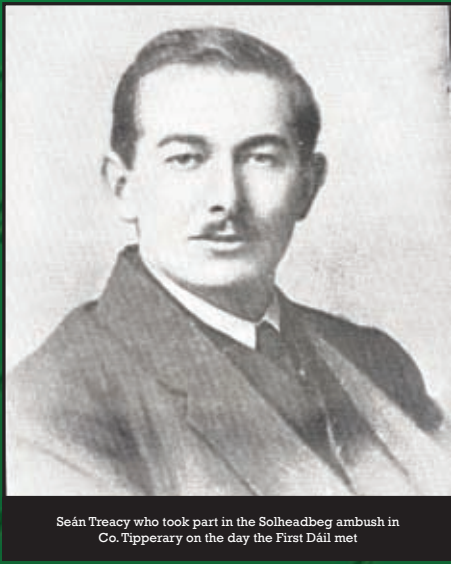
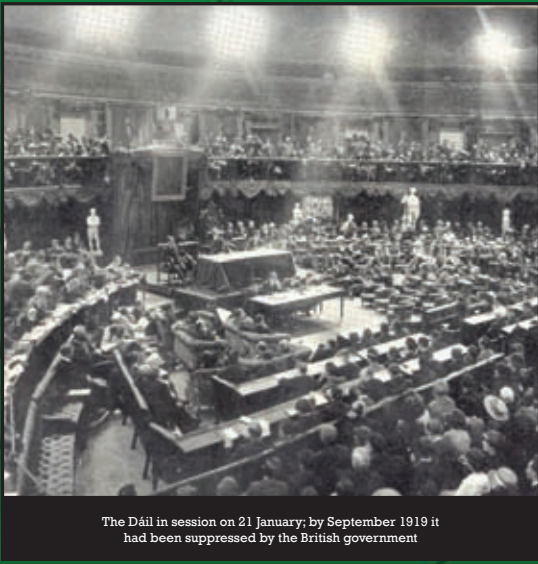


# An Chéad Dáil Éireann

## The First Dáil 90th Anniversary

1919

The First Dáil Éireann assembled in the Mansion House, Dublin, on 21 January 1919. It ratified the establishment of the Irish Republic and adopted a Declaration of Independence and a Democratic Programme committed to justice and equality. The British government suppressed the Dáil and the Irish Republican Army fought for Irish independence against an increasingly brutal British military regime.





# An Chéad Dáil Éireann

## The First Dáil 90th Anniversary

1920-1923

The Black and Tans and Auxiliaries were introduced in 1920 and terrorised Ireland. The IRA fought in guerrilla war against the British whose military infrastructure and intelligence system was badly damaged. British Prime Minister Lloyd George's 1920 Government of Ireland Act imposed Partition against the wishes of the people as confirmed by Sinn Féin's victory in the Second Dáil election in 1921. The Dáil, Sinn Féin and the IRA split on the Treaty of December 1921 which established the 26-County Free State and the Six-County 'Northern Ireland' state. Civil War was fought between June 1922 and April 1923, ending in military defeat for Republicans. But the vision of the Republic proclaimed in 1916 and ratified by the First Dáil Éireann lived on.



Terence MacSwiney



Ian McPherson, British Chief Secretary for Ireland and Lord French, British Lord Lieutenant of Ireland



Kevin Barry



The Auxiliaries



Trade union leaders under arrest after British raid on Liberty Hall, November 1920



Free State shelling of the IRA-held Four Courts, 1922



Tom Barry



Tipperary IRA Flying Column



Liam Mellows



Funeral of Terence MacSwiney



Anti-Treaty TDs after the Dáil debate



# Sinn Féin



# An Chéad Dáil Éireann

## The First Dáil 90th Anniversary

1923-1969

For nearly half a century between 1923 and 1969 Partitioned Ireland was divided between a sectarian state in the Six Counties dominated by the Unionist Party and the Orange Order and, in the 26 Counties, a state dominated by conservative politics with widespread poverty and social exclusion. In every decade internment without trial was used in the Six Counties against republicans seeking a United Ireland. Despite repression, Republicans battled on, enduring prison hunger strikes and executions in the 1940s and in the 1950s reviving the IRA to commence the Resistance Campaign of 1956-'62, an armed challenge to Britain's border in Ireland.



Republican women including Maud Gonne MacBride (right) protesting in Dublin in the 1930s



Margaret Buckley, President of Sinn Féin 1927-1980



Irish Volunteers fighting for the Spanish Republic, including IRA leader Frank Ryan (back row)



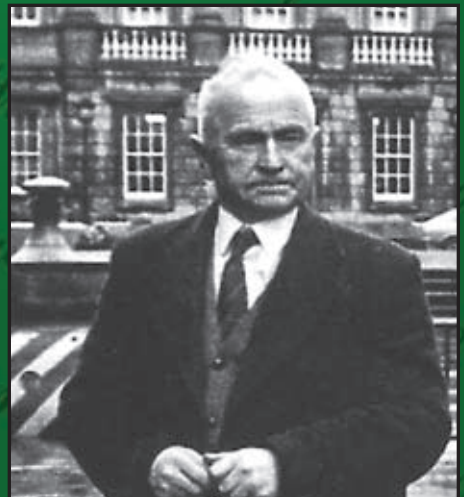
IRA Hunger Striker Tony Darcy who died in April 1940



Tom Williams, IRA Volunteer executed in September 1942



Funeral of Sean Sabhat who died in the Border campaign, 1957



John Joe McGill, Sinn Féin TD for Sligo-Leitrim 1957



# Sinn Féin



# An Chéad Dáil Éireann

## The First Dáil 90th Anniversary

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The Civil Rights Movement saw the nationalist people in the Six Counties challenge the sectarian Orange state. Unwilling to reform, Unionism staged a backlash, culminating in pogroms against nationalist communities in 1969. Determined to prop up the Orange state, the British Government imposed Internment without trial in 1971, massacred 14 civilians on Bloody Sunday 1972 and enforced military occupation on a scale not seen since the Black and Tans. The IRA was the spearhead of popular resistance, waging a long war of attrition against British rule.



The Civil Rights banner in Derry, Bloody Sunday 1972



The Civil Rights campaign 1968



The British Army in the 1970s rivalled the Black and Tans in brutality



Sinn Féin activist Marie Moore at Belfast street protest



Led by Máire Drumm (right) republican women defy British Army



Free Derry wall, near the scene of the Bloody Sunday massacre 1972



Victim of the Bloody Sunday shootings carried from the scene



In Long Kesh: front row - Tom Cahill, Tommy Toland, Gerry Adams; back row - Jim Gibney, Tomboy Loudon, Brendan Hughes, Terence 'Cleeky' Clarke, Bobby Sands.



Kieran Nugent, the first blanket man, welcomed home in 1979



Campaigning for the women prisoners in Armagh



Resistance



# Sinn Féin

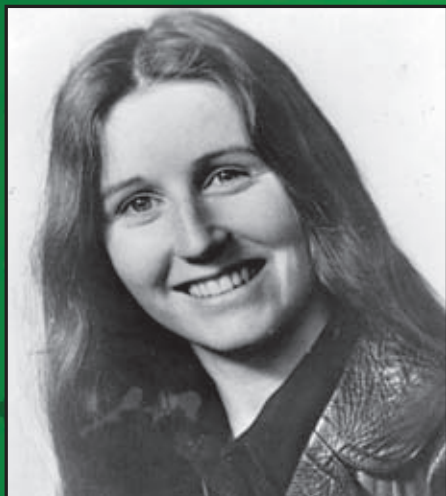


# An Chéad Dáil Éireann

## The First Dáil 90th Anniversary

1981

Prison resistance was always a key element in the struggle for the Irish Republic from 1916 onwards. Many First Dáil TDs were political prisoners. Britain tried to break Irish republicans in the prisons and in 1974 and 1976 IRA Volunteers Michael Gaughan and Frank Stagg died in English jails on hunger strike. From 1976 the British government attempted to criminalise Republican prisoners in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh and Armagh Women's Prison. The fight against criminalisation culminated in Hunger Strikes in 1980 and 1981. Ten hunger strikers died and the republican struggle was transformed, much as it was after Easter 1916.



Máiréad Farrell



National march in Dublin in support of the Hunger Strike



Bobby Sands



## REMEMBER THE HUNGER STRIKERS



Trade unionists mobilised in support of the Republican prisoners



1981 saw some of the largest ever mobilisations in Ireland



H Block protest outside Leinster House after the election of Kieran Doherty TD



The grieving family of hunger striker Joe McDonnell



The funeral of Bobby Sands MP



# Sinn Féin



# An Chéad Dáil Éireann

## The First Dáil 90th Anniversary

1982-1993

Throughout the 1980s the conflict in Ireland continued at great cost in human lives. The undefeated resistance of Republicans was seen in the mass breakout from the H-Blocks of Long Kesh in September 1983. Sinn Féin grew as a major electoral force in the Six Counties in 1982 and 1983 when Gerry Adams was elected MP for West Belfast, becoming President of Sinn Féin in November 1983. The British and Irish Governments signed the Hillsborough Agreement in 1985 to isolate Sinn Féin politically. The Border was reinforced. Censorship was tightened. Discrimination was undiminished. The war and the causes of the war persisted. Then in 1992 Sinn Féin initiated a Peace Process.



Gerry Adams elected MP for West Belfast 1983



38 IRA prisoners escaped from the H-Blocks in 1983



Funeral of IRA Volunteers killed in Gibraltar attacked with grenades in Milltown Cemetery, March 1988



Martin McGuinness at a Border road re-opening in the early 90s; the Hillsborough Agreement reinforced the Border



Joe Cahill & Christy Moore; censorship was tightened in the late 1980s



Sheena Campbell, Sinn Féin activist, assassinated 1992, one of the many killed through collusion between loyalist death squads and British crown forces



# Sinn Féin



# An Chéad Dáil Éireann

## The First Dáil 90th Anniversary

1994-2009

Intensive dialogue between Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams and SDLP leader John Hume resulted in the commencement of the Irish Peace Process. In August 1994 the IRA declared an historic cessation of military operations and Sinn Féin, the SDLP and the Irish Government of Albert Reynolds pressed for inclusive negotiations involving all parties. This resulted in the Good Friday Agreement of 1998. Since then Sinn Féin has worked to implement the Agreement, culminating in the formation of a Sinn Féin-DUP Executive in 2007. Inspired by the 1916 Proclamation, the Democratic Programme of the First Dáil and the sacrifices of generations of Irishmen and Irishwomen who have struggled for freedom, Sinn Féin today continues to play a leading role in the Peace Process, to campaign for social justice and equality and to work for a United Ireland.



Dublin Sinn Féin Councillor Larry O'Toole whose court challenge to censorship resulted in the lifting of Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act in January 1994



Gerry Adams, Albert Reynolds and John Hume with the world's press in the wake of the August 1994 IRA cessation



Sinn Féin locked out of negotiations, Stormont, 1996



Residents of the nationalist Carvaghy Road besieged by the Orange Order, RUC and British Army 1995-1997



Martin Ferris, Michelle Gildernew, Martin McGuinness, Gerry Adams, Lucilita Bhreatnach and Siobhán O'Hanlon at Sinn Féin's first meeting with the British Prime Minister, Downing Street, October 1997



Election of Caeimhghín Ó Caoláin as TD for Cavan-Monaghan in 1997



Joe Cahill, Republican leader 1920-2004



Arthur Morgan TD, Martin Ferris TD, Aengus Ó Snodaigh TD, Mary Lou McDonald MEP, Caeimhghín Ó Caoláin TD and Senator Pearse Doherty



South African President Nelson Mandela with Martin McGuinness and Gerry Adams



# Sinn Féin