

Information Sheet and Self-guided Resources for teachers

Dublin Lockout –Impact and Aftermath

Exhibition dates: October 2014 – March 2014

Suitable for: 5th+ 6th class and Post Primary Level

Recommended duration of visit: 20 minutes per groups of 15

Exhibition Summary:

The Dublin 1913 Lockout was an industrial dispute between The Irish Transport and General Workers' Union (ITGWU) and Dublin employers. The employers represented by the Employers Federation wanted to stop the rise of trade unionism in Dublin and from August workers were 'locked out' of their workplaces. With disputes breaking out on the streets, and the famous baton charge on 31st August, it was the most violent industrial dispute in Irish history. The Lockout ended in January 1914 as a defeat for the union movement, although it did lead to the strengthening of the cause of Irish Labour and the formation of the Irish Citizen Army.

Recommended Aims of the visit:

- To explore the effects, events and aftermath of the 1913 Lockout through the museum's exhibition
- To investigate the people involved focusing on the struggles and sacrifices they made
- To encourage the pupils to act as historians

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Participants will gain an understanding of:

- The causes and effects of 1913 Dublin Lockout
- Poor tenement living conditions in Dublin
- The growing divide of the struggling ordinary people and those living a prosperous life of comfort

Primary Curriculum Links:

SESE: History

- Working as a historian
- Local Studies : local communities involved in 1913 Lockout
- Life ,society, work and culture in the past
- Eras of change and conflict

Post Primary Curriculum Links:

History: This exhibition is linked to the later modern field of study

Irish History 1815-1993

- Movements for political and social reform, 1870-1914

Booking a visit:

To book a self-guided visit, contact the bookings office on + 3531 6486453 or bookings@museum.ie The bookings office is open Tuesday to Friday from 10am -1pm

Preparing your class for the visit –before your visit:

- The more you prepare your class for their visit, the more they will get from it.
- If possible, visit beforehand to get familiar with the displays. If you can't visit in advance, go to the National Museum's website www.museum.ie for details of this exhibition
- Get your class thinking before they visit the Museum. A question and answer session or class discussion relating to the 1913 Dublin Lockout can provide background knowledge, i.e living/work conditions, social divide of classes
- Talk to your class about museums and what they expect to see. Record their answers to look at following the visit. Are their views the same as before their visit to the museum or have they changed?
- Please see bibliography for educational sources relating to this
- Plan a project around your visit. Have an idea of what you would like to achieve from the visit. Contact a member of the Museum's Education staff about how the workshop could become part of a bigger project in school

During the visit:

- Use the 'Dublin 1913 Lockout' activity sheet to explore the exhibition. This activity can be downloaded from the Museum website and photocopied. As the exhibition is in two small spaces, it is advised to split your class into two groups, and take turns, while combining the visit to nearby exhibitions such as *Understanding 1916* or the *Asgard*. Please note all groups need to be accompanied by a supervising adult.
- The Learning Resource Room at the Museum can also be booked. This room can accommodate up to 30 people and can be used for follow on activities such as class discussion, debates or even role play.

Suggested Activities

- Why not split the class into two debating teams -Jim Larkin supporters versus William Martin Murphy supporters, focusing on the class divide that was so prominent at the time, discussing key events of the 1913 Lockout
- Split the class into groups of two. Assign one of the students an individual role involved in the 1913 Lockout such as a struggling striker, a wealthy business owner or a member of the Irish Women's Workers Union, while the other is a journalist interviewing their partner. Then prepare possible questions and answers based on events each of the roles may have been involved in.

Back in School –ideas for follow up work:

- Ask the students to recall and discuss an item in the exhibition that relates to a particular aspect of the Lockout they are interested in. Such as the suffragette items in display case 1, relating to female involvement or the Dublin Metropolitan Police baton which were freely used during lockout disputes causing severe injury and fatalities
- Ask students to write a review of their Museum visit.
- Plan a project around the visit, such as the role Museum's play in school education ie are exhibitions a good way of learning? How does it differ from the class room learning? Or maybe take on a local studies assignment – how was their local community effected by the 1913 Lockout?
- Start up a weekly reading group within the class using topic related material such as James Plunkett's *Strumpet City*

Useful book sources

Granville, Gary (1978, rev ed 2013) *Dublin 1913 Lockout & Legacy*

Yeates, Pádraig (2000) *Lockout : Dublin 1913*

Useful Links

<http://1913committee.ie/blog/>

<http://www.nli.ie/lockout/>

