

EMIGRANTS / IMIRCIGH



It is estimated that between 1850 and 1914 1.4 million people emigrated from Ireland. As a result of this, many Irishmen signed up to fight in the regiments of their new homes overseas.

The British government called upon its large empire to help fight the war. Australia, New Zealand and Canada sent large armies with many Irish born soldiers, and these were added to the Irish already serving in English and Scottish regiments.

Supplement of the 'Weekly Freeman' raising the issue of Irish emigration, 1888

Meastar gur fhág 1.4 mhilliún duine Éire idir 1850 agus 1914. Dá thoradh sin, liostáil líon mór Éireannach i reisimintí na dtíortha sin inar chuir siad fúthu.

Chuaigh rialtas na Breataine i muinín saighdiúirí ar fud na hImpireachta chun an cogadh a throid. Chuir an Astráil, an Nua-Shéalainn agus Ceanada airm mhóra ar fáil. B'iomaí saighdiúir de bhunadh Éireannach a bhí sna hairm sin, i dteannta na nÉireannach uile a bhí ar fiannas i reisimintí Éireannacha agus Albanacha.

Forlionadh ar an "Weekly Freeman" inar tarraingíodh anuas ceist imirce na hÉireann, 1888

ANZAC

During the war, Australian soldiers were nicknamed 'ANZAC' from the letters of 'Australian and New Zealand Army Corps'. Over 400,000 Australians fought in Gallipoli and on the Western Front. Like Ireland, conscription was never introduced in Australia and the soldiers were all volunteers. 6,600 of these soldiers were Irish born, and many more would have been second generation Irish Australians.

ANZAC

Tugadh an leasainm 'ANZAC' ar shaighdiúirí Astrálacha le linn an chogaidh, as túslitreacha 'Australian and New Zealand Army Corps'. Throid os cionn 400,000 Astrálach in Gallipoli agus ar an bhFronta Thiar. Ach oiread le hÉirinn, níor tugadh coinscríobh isteach riamh san Astráil, agus óglaigh ab ea na saighdiúirí uile. In Éirinn a rugadh 6,600 de na saighdiúirí sin, agus Éireannaigh-Astrálaigh den dara glúin ab ea líon mór eile.



Troops of the ANZAC Army leaving Sydney in October 1914

Trúpaí den Arm ANZAC ag fágáil Sydney i nDeireadh Fómhair 1914



Men from the West

Over 600,000 soldiers fought in the Canadian army, and it is estimated that 20,000 of them were Irish born. Newfoundland saw high levels of immigration from the south east of Ireland. The British Colony's response to war was enthusiastic and 12,000 enlisted; almost 35% of men aged between 19 to 35.

On the first day of the Battle of the Somme, 801 soldiers of the Newfoundland Regiment left the trenches and only 68 returned. 1st July is an annual day of mourning in Newfoundland.

Recruiting Poster of the Irish Canadian Rangers

Fir an Iarthair

Throid os cionn 600,000 saighdiúir in Fir an Iarthair, agus meastar gur de bhunadh Éireannach iad 20,000 díobh. Tháinig líon mór Éireannach ar imirce go Talamh an Éisc ó oirdheisceart na hÉireann. Bhí fonn ar lucht choilíneachtaí na Breataine tacú leis an troid, agus liostáil 12,000 díobh; bhí 35% nach mór de na fir idir 19 agus 35 bliain d'aois.

Ar an gcéad lá de Chath an Somme, d'fhág 801 saighdiúir de chuid Reisimint Thalamh an Éisc na trinsí, ach níor fhill ach 68. Lá náisiúnta caointe i dTalamh an Éisc is ea an 1 Iúil.

Póstaer Earcaíochta d'Fhianóglaigh Éireannacha Ceanada



The 'Footballers of Loos'
painted by Lady Butler (1916)

Peileadóirí Loos', pictiúr a phéinteáil
an Bantiarna de Buitléar (1916)



Ralph Thomas Summerland

‘Footballer of Loos’

In 1914, Irishman Ralph Summerland was living in England – like a number of his countrymen he enlisted in the First Battalion of the London Irish Rifles.

In September 1915, when the battalion was ordered to assault German positions at Loos, they went into battle kicking a football ahead of them.

Presumably Ralph was one of these light-hearted footballers, but we will never know since he was killed less than a month later, only 20 years old.

World War 1 medals of Ralph Summerland.

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Ralph Thomas Summerland

‘Peileadóir Loos’

Bhí an tÉireannach Ralph Summerland ag cur faoi i Sasana i 1914 agus, dála mórchuid d’fhir a thíre, liostáil sé sa Chéad Chathlán de Raidhfíli Éireannacha Londan.

I Meán Fómhair 1915, nuair a ordaíodh don chathlán ruathar a thabhairt faoi ionaid na nGearmánach ag Loos, bhí caid á ciceáil amach rompu acu agus iad ag dul isteach sa chath.

Meastar go raibh Ralph ar líon na bpeileadóirí gealgháireacha sin ach ní féidir a bheith cinnte, de bhrí gur maraíodh é laistigh de mhí, agus é gan ach 20 bliain d’aois.

Boinn ón gCéad Chogadhb Dombanda 1 de chuid Ralph Summerland.

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