



# AN GARDÁ SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY | GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

# 1922

This exhibition gives an insight into the founding of An Garda Síochána and how An Garda Síochána developed its own style of policing in Ireland since the foundation of the state. With a particular focus on County Galway and its Gaeltacht, the exhibition highlights how An Garda Síochána has contributed to building a safe and peaceful society, and how members of An Garda Síochána forge strong relationships with the local communities in which they work and live.

Tugtar léargas sa taispeántas seo ar bhunú an Gharda Síochána agus ar mar a d'fhorbair an Garda Síochána a stíl póilíneachta féin in Éirinn ó bunaíodh an stát. Leis an taispeántas, ina bhfuil béim ar leith ar Chontae na Gaillimhe agus an ceantar Gaeltachta atá inti, tarraingítear aird ar mar a chuir an Garda Síochána le sochaí sábháilte agus síochánta a chothú, agus ar an gcaoi a gcruthaíonn comhaltaí an Gharda Síochána caidrimh láidre leis na pobail áitiúla ina bhfuil cónaí orthu agus ina mbíonn siad ag obair.

It shows the changing roles and evolving codes of conduct of An Garda Síochána over the past 100 years, which do not only manifest themselves in the training and behaviour of the members of the force but also in their gender and cultural backgrounds, their uniforms and their equipment.

Léiríonn sé na ról atá ag athrú agus na cóid chleachtais atá á bhforbairt le 100 bliain anuas sa Gharda Síochána. Ní hamháin go mbíonn na ról agus cóid seo le sonrú trí oiliúint agus iompar chomhaltaí an fhórsa, ach bíonn siad le sonrú freisin i gcúlraí inscne agus cultúir na gcomhaltaí, sna éide a chaitheann siad agus sa trealamh a bhíonn in úsáid acu.

Furthermore, the exhibition pays tribute to members of An Garda Síochána who made outstanding efforts to keep their communities safe, some of them losing their life in doing so. Their bravery is remembered in a Roll of Honour and through the awarding of Scott medals.

Anuas air sin, tugtar aitheantas sa taispeántas do chomhaltaí an Gharda Síochána a rinne sáriarrachtaí chun a bpobail a choinneáil slán, cuid acu a fuair bás lena linn sin. Tugtar crógacht na gcomhaltaí seo chun cuimhne le Roll Onóra agus trí na boinn Scott a bhronnadh.

# 100 YEARS OF KEEPING PEOPLE SAFE

Sergeant Dan Gallagher and child; taken in Carna c.1925.  
Courtesy of Tony Gallagher.  
An Sáirsint Dan Gallagher agus leanbh; glactha i gCarna c.1925.  
Le caoinhead Tony Gallagher.



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

# 1922





# AN GARDÁ SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

19  
20 22



The two Royal Irish Constabulary members are probably supervising cleaning-up operations after a fair at Ahascragh, Co. Galway. Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland.  
Is dóigh go bhfuil an bheirt chomhaltai de Chonstáblacht Ríoga na hÉireann i mbun maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar ghlanadh suas i ndiaidh aonach in Áth Eascrach, Co. na Gaillimhe. Le caoinchead Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann.

## Constáblacht Ríoga na hÉireann, 1822~1922



Bunaíodh Constáblacht Ríoga na hÉireann (an RIC) le hacht Pharlaimint na Breataine sa bhliain 1822 agus chun críocha eagraíochtúla, roinneadh Gaillimh ina dhá dhúiche, Thoir agus Thiar, faoi cheannas bheirt Chigirí Contae a thuiriscigh chuig Coimisinéir an RIC i gCaisleán Bhaile Átha Cliath. Muintir an phobail i gcoitinne a bhí sna céimeanna ísle go hiondúil, ach ag leibhéal na sinsearachta, fíorbheagán Caitliceach a bhí ann ó thús deireadh an fhórsa.

Ó bunaíodh an fórsa, bhí dúshlán ar leith roimhe i nGaillimh mar gheall

go raibh saint chun talún de shíor ar cheann de na clocha is mó ar an bpaidrín i measc bhochtáin na Gaillimhe. Fadhbanna a thagtaí aníos arís is arís eile iad cumainn rúnda, seoladh eallaigh agus babhtáí aighnis foréigneacha arbh é an talamh ba bhun leo; is é seo an chúis a raibh an méid is mó póilíní i gContae na Gaillimhe i gcomparáid le háit ar bith eile sa tír.

Dúradh an méid seo a leanas in eagarfhocal sa *Connacht Tribune* i Márta 1915:

*The second main factor after drunkenness that leads to unrest in the County is the delay in the agrarian settlement of certain districts. Unfortunately, this leads to evils by no means directly connected with the land problem, for there is no disguising the fact that instances have occurred where reckless irresponsible men have made so-called agrarian emancipation the cloak for acts of outrage that bring disgrace and shame upon the whole community.*

Bheadh sé fós ina dhúshlán ag na póilíní idirghabháil a dhéanamh i gcásanna aighnis faoi chúrsaí talún go ceann na ndeicéanna de bhlianta eile. Chuir an Cigire Dúiche i nGaillimh Thoir in iúl do lucht Chaisleán Bhaile Átha Cliath sa bhliain 1914 go raibh saint chun talún an-choitianta timpeall Bhaile Átha an Rí agus go raibh fórsaí na hainrialach ann an-eagraithe agus go hiomlán gan scrupall.



RIC Officer, Main Street, Athenry, c.1911. Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland.  
Oifigeach Chonstáblacht Ríoga na hÉireann, An Príomhshráid, Baile Átha an Rí, c. 1911. Le caoinchead Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann.

## The Royal Irish Constabulary, 1822~1922



The Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC) was founded by an act of the British Parliament in 1822. For organisational purposes, Galway was divided into two districts, East and West, commanded by two County Inspectors who reported to the RIC Commissioner in Dublin Castle. The religion of the ordinary ranks of the force tended to reflect that of the

wider community; however, at senior level, the force was overwhelmingly non-Catholic throughout its history.

From its foundation, the force faced particular challenges in Galway due to the persistence of land hunger among the poor, who organised themselves in secret societies and resorted to cattle driving and violent disputes over land; as a result, County Galway had the highest concentration of police in the entire country.

The *Connacht Tribune* declared in an editorial in March 1915:

*The second main factor after drunkenness that leads to unrest in the County is the delay in the agrarian settlement of certain districts. Unfortunately, this leads to evils by no means directly connected with the land problem, for there is no disguising the fact that instances have occurred where reckless irresponsible men have made so-called agrarian emancipation the cloak for acts of outrage that bring disgrace and shame upon the whole community.*

Mediating in disputes over land would remain a challenge for the police for many decades. In 1914, the District Inspector for East Galway informed Dublin Castle that “land hunger is very keen around Athenry and the forces of disorder there are thoroughly organised and quite unscrupulous”.



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

19  
20 22





# AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

# 1920 2022

## Republican policing during the Independence struggle, 1918~21

The formation of the notorious Black and Tans during the Independence struggle resulted in a series of atrocities committed by this force across Galway, including the burning of Tuam on 19 July 1920 and the notorious murders of Fr Michael Griffin, the Loughnane brothers and Mrs Eileen Quinn later the same year. In March 1921, the RIC County Inspector for Galway West wrote: “The life of the police is scarcely bearable. They are shamed and boycotted and for the most part cannot get the necessities of life unless they commandeer them. The people generally are out for a republic and they propose to get it.”

The actions of the Black and Tans left the reputation of the RIC in tatters and an editorial in the *Tuam Herald* pleaded for a respite from police reprisals as “the country is bleeding to death, bleeding at every pore”. During the same month, Archbishop Gilmartin of Tuam wrote: “if the full tale of flogging, burning, terrorism and looting could be told, the whole picture would make even savages ashamed”.

While the RIC was boycotted by the community, the Irish Volunteers began performing the role of the police and republican courts were particularly effective in reconciling disputes over land. Volunteer John Feehan recalled:

*Wholesale sheep stealing was prevalent throughout Connemara at this time and the RIC were taking no action. We made a roundup of the Twelve Pins with a force of Volunteers and farmers concerned, and collected the sheep into one area where the farmers could collect their stolen sheep.*

Volunteer Thomas Mannion recalled that in north Galway:

*Some disputes between neighbours never went into the courts but were settled by the Volunteers. Such cases still hold good. The people then had a very great regard for the sincerity of the Volunteers and sank their small differences out of respect for them.*



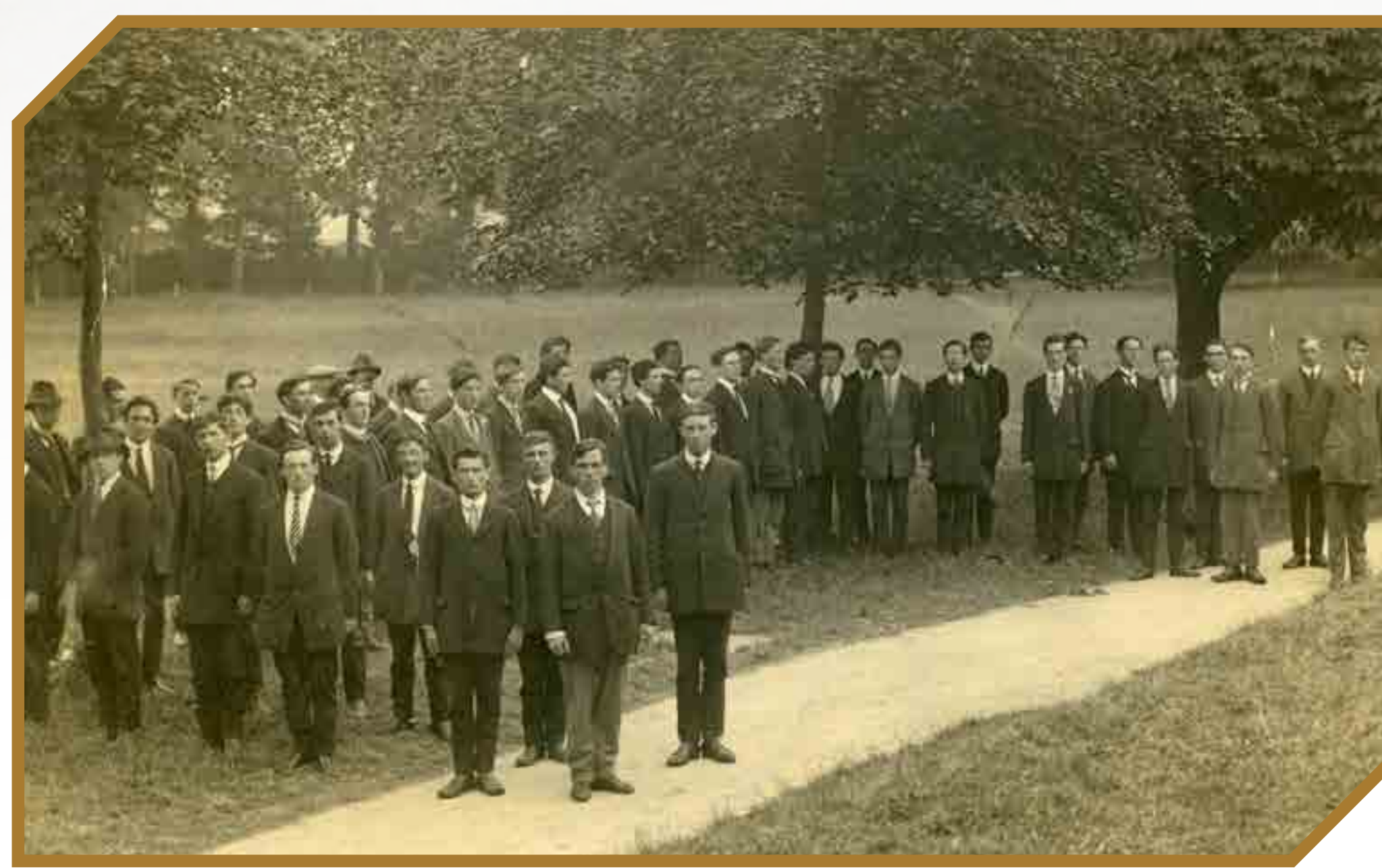
A mixture of local RIC, Black and Tans and the D Company Auxiliaries were responsible for policing in 1920. Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland.  
Grúpa ina bhfuil meascán den RIC, na Dúchrónaigh agus Póilíní Cúnta Chomplacht D a bhí freagrach as póilíneacht sna 1920idí. Le caoinhead Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann.  
Second from top: West Connemara flying column. Permission to use provided by Leonard



West Connemara flying column. Permission to use provided by Leonard Collection (copyright owner).  
Colún reatha Iarthar Chonamara.  
Le cead Bhaillúchán Leonard (úinéir cóipchirt).



Volunteers from the 2nd Battalion (Claregalway, Annaghdown and Killoona) of the Mid-Galway Brigade IRA at Killeen Castle, Castlegar, 1921. Courtesy of Cathy Fahy. Colourized by Brendan McGowan.  
Óglaigh de chuid an 2ú Cathlán (Baile Chláir, Eanach Dhúin agus Gíll Chuanna) de Bhriogáid Lár na Gaillimhe den IRA ag Caisleán an Chillín, An Caisleán Gearr, 1921. Le caoinhead Cathy Fahy. Daite ag Brendan McGowan.



The UCG Volunteers, 1918; Many of these young men were involved in republican land courts and policing during the independence struggle. Courtesy of the Hardiman Library, NUI Galway.  
Óglaigh Cholaíste na hOllscoile, Gaillimh, 1918; bhí baint ag go leor de na fir óga seo le cúirteanna talún poblachtaigh agus i bpóilíneacht le linn choimhlint an neamhspleáchais. Le caoinhead Leabharlann Hardiman. Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh.

## Póilíní Poblachtánacha agus an Troid ar son an Neamhspleáchais, 1918~21

Rinne na póilíní go leor ainghníomhartha i nGaillimh le bunú na nDúchrónach míchlúiteach le linn na Troda ar son an Neamhspleáchais, lena n-áirítear loscadh Thuama an 19 Iúil 1920 agus dúnmharuithe scannalacha an Athar Michael Griffin, na nDeartháireacha Loughnane agus Eileen Quinn uasal níos déanaí an bhliain chéanna. Seo mar a scríobh an Cigire Dúiche i nGaillimh Thiar i Márta 1921: “The life of the police is scarcely bearable. They are shamed and boycotted and for the most part cannot get the necessities of life unless they commandeer them. The people generally are out for a republic and they propose to get it.”

Scríos gníomhartha na nDúchrónach cáil an RIC go hiomlán agus impíodh in eagarfhocal sa *Tuam Herald* go bhfaighfí faoiseamh ó dhíoltas na bpóilíní mar go raibh an tír ag fáil bháis de dheasca cailleadh fola, ag cur fola ó bhaithis go bonn. Le linn na míosa céanna, scríobh an tArdeaspag Gilmartin, Ardeaspag Thuama, a leanas: ‘if the full tale of flogging, burning, terrorism and looting could be told the whole picture would make even savages ashamed’.

Ó tharla go raibh an pobal ag déanamh baghcat ar an RIC, ghlac Óglaigh na hÉireann ról na bpóilíní orthu féin agus bhí na cúirteanna poblachtánacha éifeachtach go maith ó thaobh aighneas faoi chúrsaí talún a réiteach. Chuimhnigh an tÓglach John Feehan ar a leanas:

*Wholesale sheep stealing was prevalent throughout Connemara at this time and the RIC were taking no action. We made a roundup of the Twelve Pins with a force of Volunteers and farmers concerned, and collected the sheep into one area where the farmers could collect their stolen sheep.*

Chuimhnigh an tÓglach Thomas Mannion ar an méid seo a bhain le Tuaisceart na Gaillimhe:

*Some disputes between neighbours never went into the courts but were settled by the Volunteers. Such cases still hold good. The people then had a very great regard for the sincerity of the Volunteers and sank their small differences out of respect for them.*



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

# 1920 2022





# AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

# 1920 22

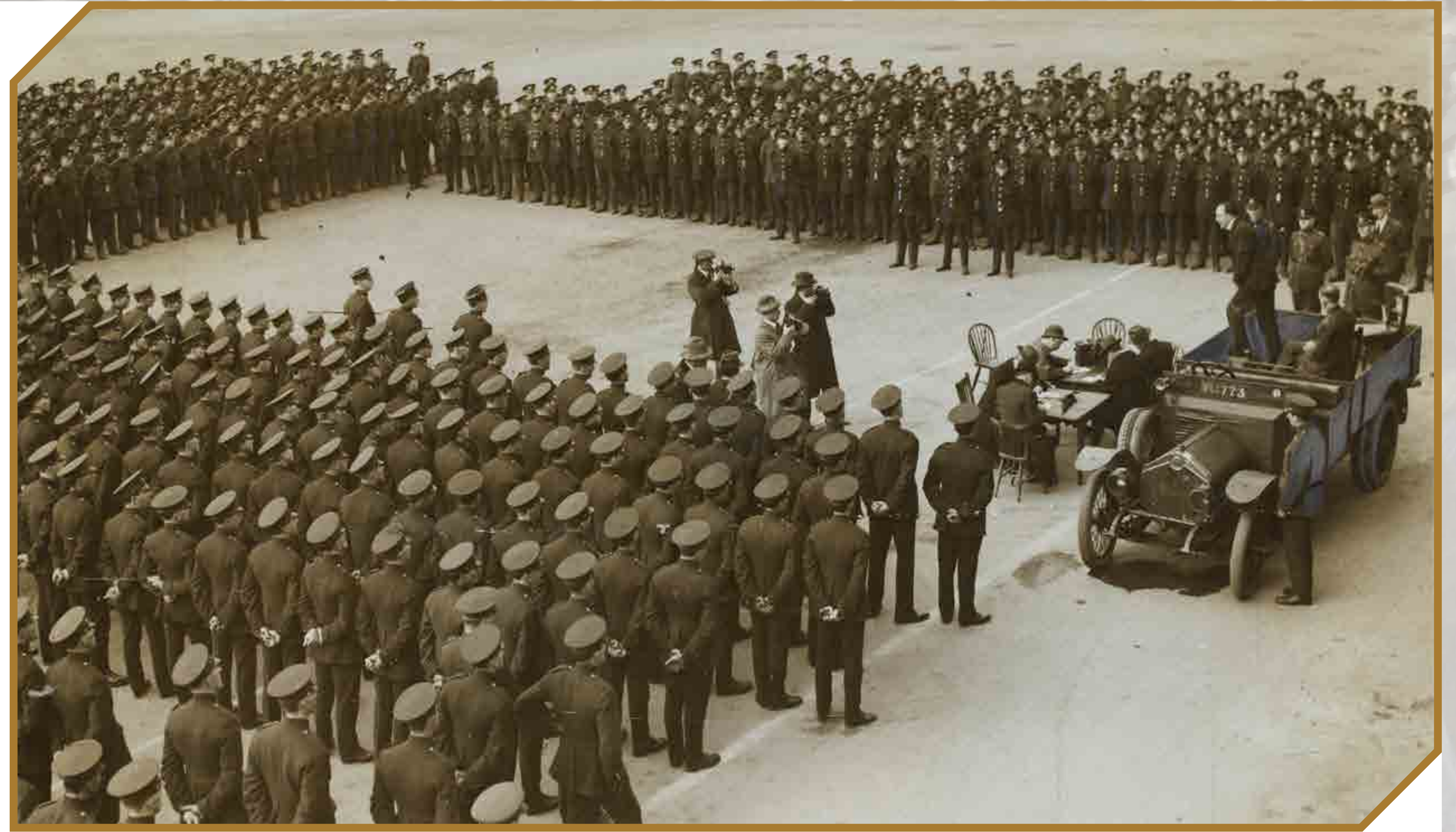
## Bunú an Gharda Sibhialta i nGaillimh, 1922

Le bunú an tSaorstáit, tarraingíodh amach an RIC as beairicí ar fud an Chontae i mí Márta na bliana 1922. I dtús báire, bhí freagracht na póilíneachta ar an Arm Náisiúnta agus chuimhnigh an tOifigeach Laurence Flynn ar an uair a raibh sé ag teacht i gceannas ar bheairic an RIC i mBaile Locha Riach, tráth ar scairt oifigeach na Breataine a bhí ar tí imeacht an méid seo: ‘hurry up and get finished with this farce, we will be back again soon’.

Ag tús na bliana 1922, luadh sa *Connacht Tribune* go raibh sé riachtanach fórsa póilíneachta éifeachtúil, sár-oilte, neamhspleách a bheith againn. Go mb’fherr linn i bhfad fórsa iomlán sibhialta, a bheadh freagrach don phobal i ngach ceantar, gan claonadh polaitíochta ar bith acu. Dúradh freisin sa nuachtán:

*Police work in Galway is left to the military. This is an impossible situation, for the simple reason that the military frankly dislike police work, are not trained or fitted for it, and have no real interest in police efficiency.*

Thosaigh an Ceannfort Sean Broderick, 1ú Rannán an Iarthair, an tArm Náisiúnta, ag glacadh le hiarratais uathusan a raibh sé i gceist acu a bheith ina n-earcaigh póilíneachta le scrúdú a chur orthu i gCaisleán an Léana Báite, Gaillimh i Márta 1922. Buailadh buille air ag céim luath, áfach, nuair a thóg gasra d’fhórsaí poblachtánacha an t-áitreabh ar lámh le linn na chéad seachtaine in Aibreáin agus gabhadh na doiciméid ar fad a bhain le hearcú póilíní.



Kevin O'Higgins Esq. Minister of Home Affairs addressing the Civic Guard on their return to the Phoenix Park Depot. Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland.

An tUasal Kevin O'Higgins, an tAire Gnóthaí Baile ag labhairt leis an nGarda Sibhialta ar filleadh chuig Iosta Pháirc an Fhionnuisce dóibh. Le caoinchead Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann.

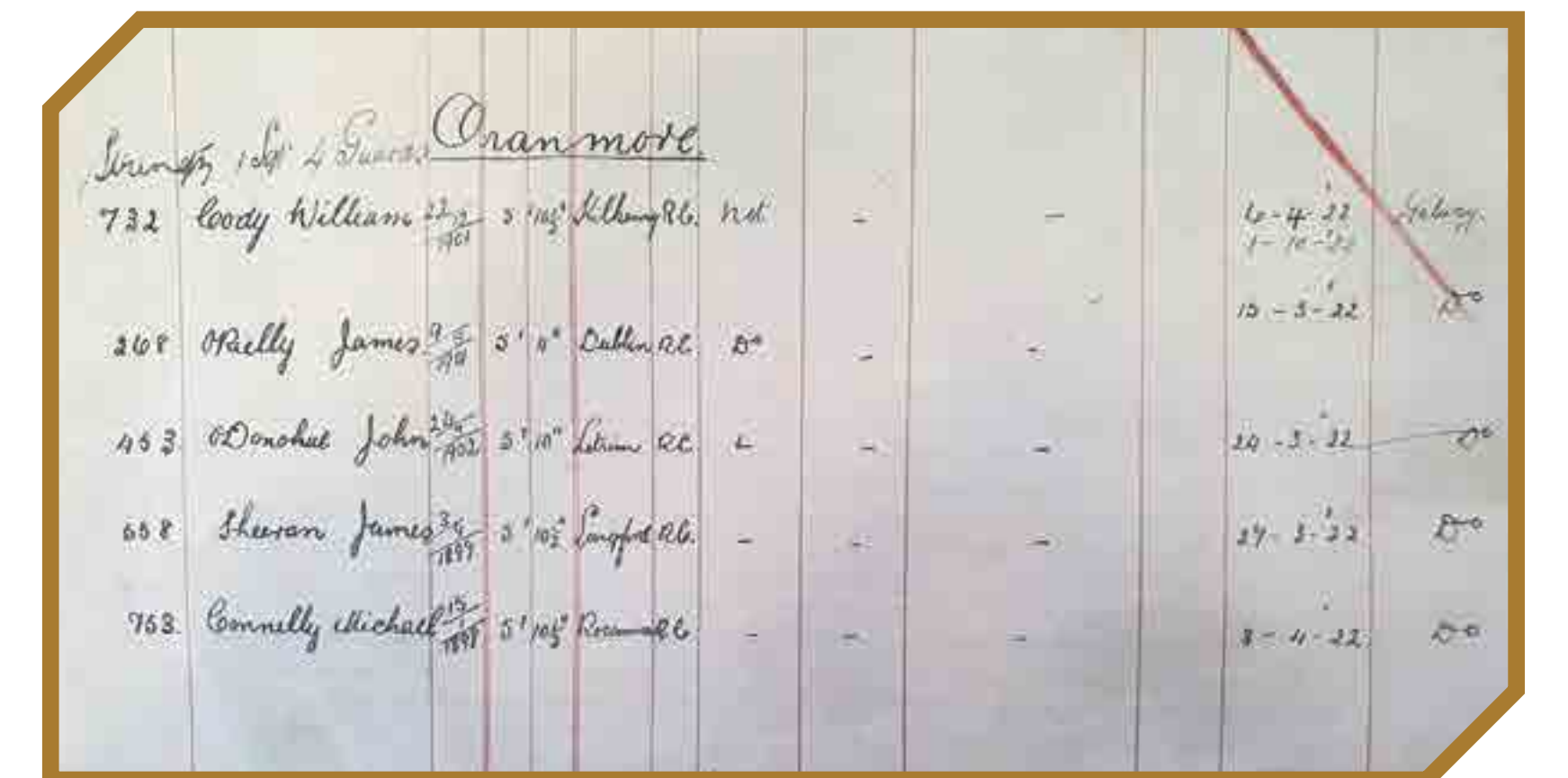
Aistríodh an chéad díorma den Garda Sibhialta i nGaillimh ó Bhaile Átha Cliath le linn sheachtain dheireanach mhí Mheán Fómhair, tráth a lonnáiódh 25 fear i gClub an Chontae, Gaillimh; bunaíodh fórsa den mhéid céanna, a bheag nó a mhór, ón díorma céanna ar an lá chéanna i mBéal Átha na Sluaighe. I ráiteas a thug sé do na nuachtáin ar theacht go Gaillimh dóibh, dúirt an Ceannfort nua:

*We are an entirely civil force and do not carry any fire arms. Our only weapon is a truncheon and our mission is to carry out the civil law quite irrespective of party or politics. We shall consult with the local parish and district judges as to how this may best be done in this area.*



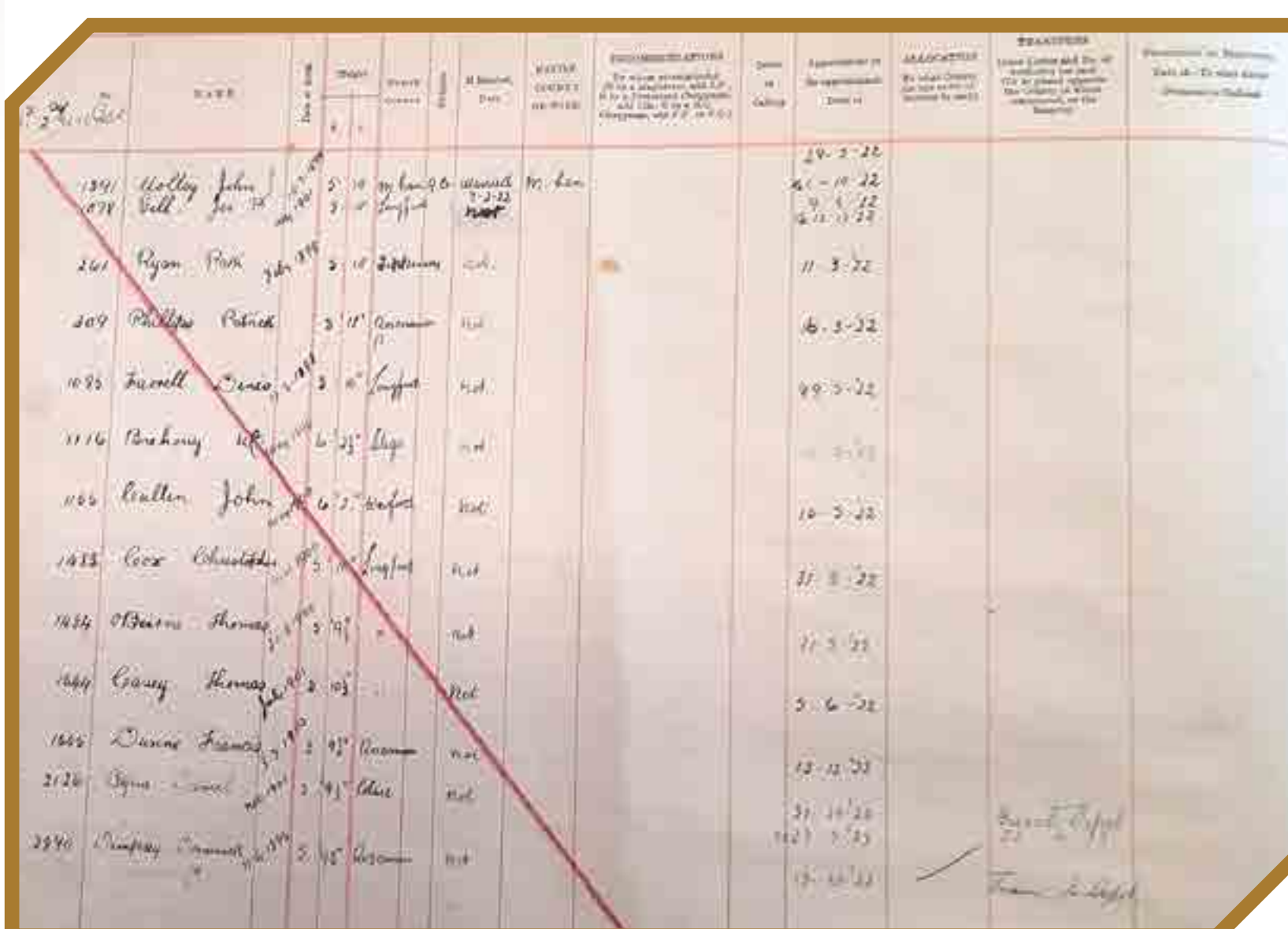
Garda Andrew Gara. 298. A native of Roscommon, who joined the force in 1922. He retired in 1952. Courtesy of Maura O'Riordan.

An Garda Andrew Gara. Uimhir Chláraithe 298. Ba as Ros Comáin é ó dhúchas agus chuaigh san fhórsa sa bhliain 1922. D'éirigh sé as sa bhliain 1952. Le caoinchead Maura O'Riordan.



First Gardai in Oranmore, 1922. Courtesy of An Garda Síochána. Na chéad Gardai in Orán Mór, 1922. Le caoinchead an Gharda Síochána.

## Foundation of the Civic Guard in Galway, 1922



First Gardai in Ballinasloe, 1922. Courtesy of An Garda Síochána. Na chéad Gardai i mBéal Átha na Sluaighe, 1922. Le caoinchead an Gharda Síochána.

The establishment of the Free State led to the withdrawal of the RIC from barracks across the County in March 1922. Initially, policing was then the responsibility of the National Army. Officer Laurence Flynn recalled that, when he took command of the Loughrea RIC Barracks, the departing British officer declared:

“Hurry up and get finished with this farce, we will be back again soon”.

In early 1922, the *Connacht Tribune* noted that “it is necessary to have an efficient, highly trained, independent police force. We should prefer an entirely civil force, responsible to the people in each area, free from any political bias.” The paper continued:

*Police work in Galway is left to the military. This is an impossible situation, for the simple reason that the military frankly dislike police work, are not trained or fitted for it, and have no real interest in police efficiency.*

Commandant Sean Broderick, 1st Western Division, National Army, began receiving applications for intending police recruits for examination at Lenaboy Castle, Galway, in March 1922. An early set back occurred, however, when a section of republican forces took over the premises in the first week of April and seized all papers pertaining to police recruitment.

The first detachment of the Civic Guard in Galway was transferred from Dublin during the last week of September, 25 men being stationed in the County Club, Galway. A similar-sized force was established on the same day in Ballinasloe. On their arrival, the new commander stated to the papers:

*We are an entirely civil force and do not carry any fire arms. Our only weapon is a truncheon and our mission is to carry out the civil law quite irrespective of party or politics. We shall consult with the local parish and district judges as to how this may best be done in this area.*



Galway Garda football team, 1923. Courtesy of the Old Tuam Society. Foircann peile Gardai na Gaillimhe, 1923. Le caoinchead The Old Tuam Society.



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

# 1920 22





# AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

# 1920 22

## An Garda Síochána 1920s~1930s



Garda Joseph McEvoy, Registered Number 657. Native of Offaly who joined the force in 1922. Retired from Monivea in 1952. Courtesy of Eamon Dolan (Retd. Supt.)  
An Garda Joseph McEvoy. Uimhir Chláraithe 657. Ba as Uíbh Fhailí é ó dhúchas agus chuaigh san fhórsa sa bhliain 1922. D'éirigh sé as sa bhliain 1952 fad a bhí sé i Muine Mheá. Le caoinchead Eamon Dolan (Ceannfort. ar Scor.)



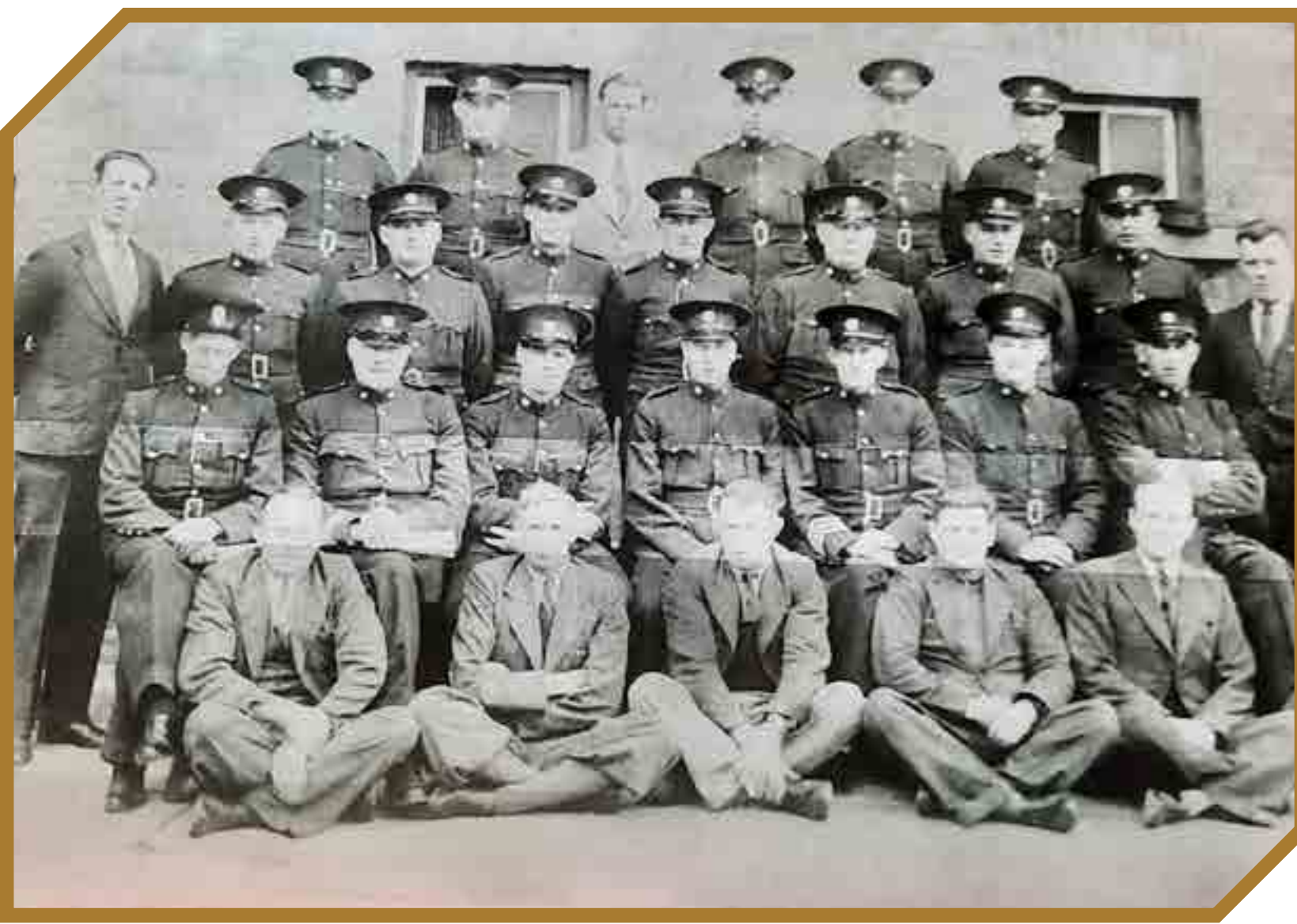
Galway Civic Guards, Eglinton St., Galway, 1929. Sitting- Left to Right: Gd. J. Farrell, Sergeants P. Devoy, Tom Fallon, Supte. J. Greaney, Sgt. T. Morrisrie, Gds. P. Allen, J. Armstrong, Sgt. A. Monohan. Standing: Gds. T.P. Sheridan, P. Donovan, P. Boyle, F. Donolon, P. Flynn, B. Keant, J. Donovan, T. Healy, J. Scanlon. Courtesy of An Garda Síochána.  
Gardaí Sibhialta na Gaillimhe. Ina Suí - Ó Chlé go Deas: An Garda J. Farrell, Na Sáirsintí P. Devoy, Tom Fallon, An Ceannfort J. Greaney, An Sáirsint T. Morrisrie, Na Gardaí P. Allen, J. Armstrong, An Sáirsint A. Monohan. Ina Seasamh: Na Gardaí T.P. Sheridan, P. Donovan, P. Boyle, F. Donolon, P. Flynn, B. Keant, J. Donovan, T. Healy, J. Scanlon. Le caoinchead an Gharda Síochána.



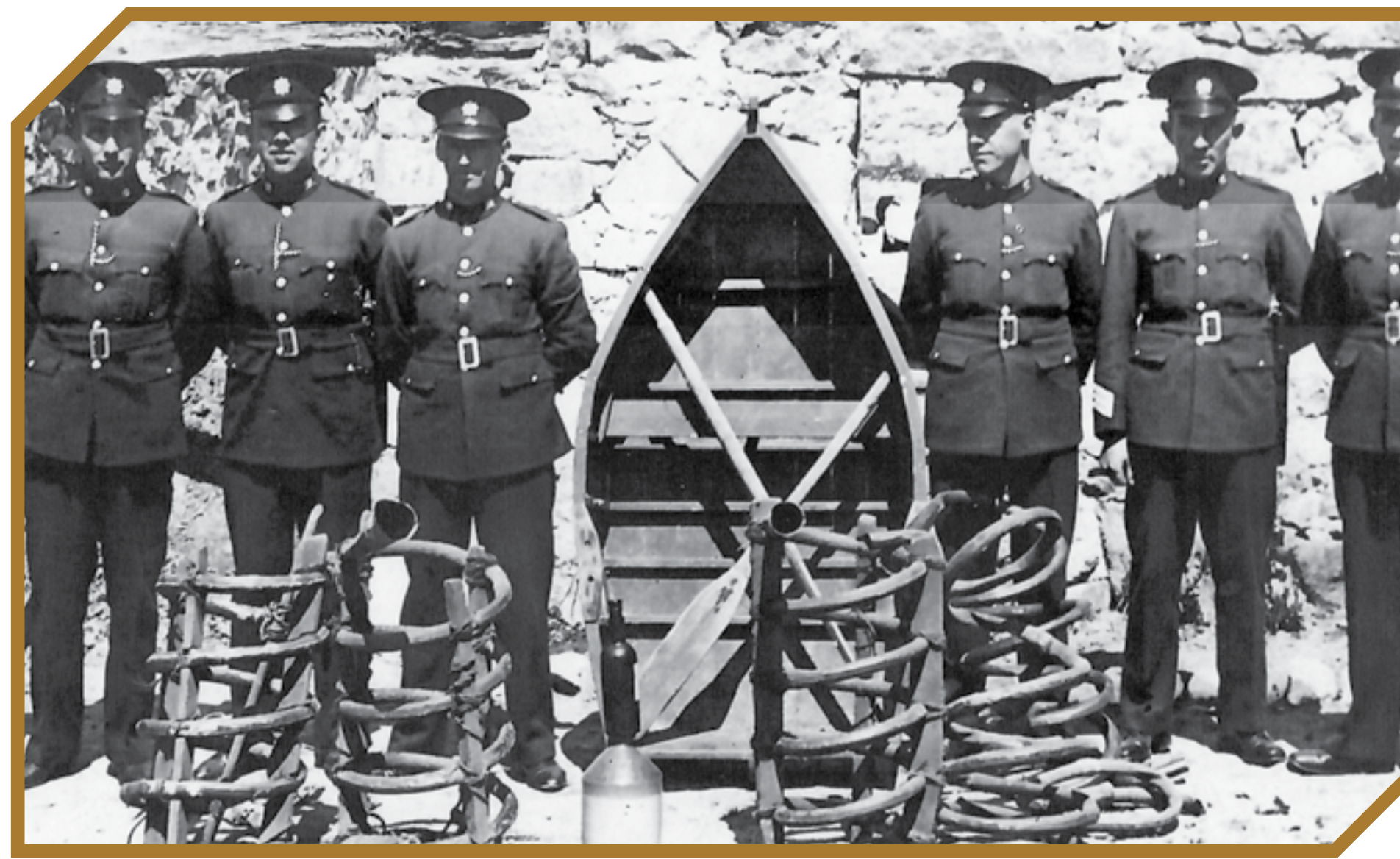
Part of Gort Station Party, 1938/9: Back Row: Gardaí J. Watkins, Pat Spillane, Tom Duffy, Pat McHugh, John Kelly, member not known, Garda Gillespie. Centre row (with rifles and revolvers) Gardaí McCaffrey, member not known, member not known, Tom Ryan, John Doyle, Jim Snee, Sergeant Beirne. Front Row: Detective Officer Mick Medlar, Inspector Tobin, Sergeant Sheehy, Detective Officer Bill Duffley. Courtesy of Mick Medlar.  
Cuid de Bhuíon Stáisiún an Ghoirt, 1938/9: Ar Chúl: Na Gardaí J. Watkins, Pat Spillane, Tom Duffy, Pat McHugh, John Kelly, comhalta anaithnid, An Garda Gillespie. An tsraith láir (a bhfuil raidhfilí agus gunnaí acu) Na Gardaí McCaffrey, comhalta anaithnid, comhalta anaithnid, Tom Ryan, John Doyle, Jim Snee, An Sáirsint Beirne. Chun Tosaigh: An tOifigeach Bleachtaire Mick Medlar, An Cigire Tobin, An Sáirsint Sheehy, An tOifigeach Bleachtaire Bill Duffley. Le caoinchead Mick Medlar.



Garda Martin Higgins. Registered Number 2135. Native of Mayo who joined the force in 1922. Retired from Moylough in 1966. Courtesy of Dominic Higgins.  
An Garda Martin Higgins. Uimhir Chláraithe 2135. Ba as Maigh Eo é ó dhúchas agus chuaigh san fhórsa sa bhliain 1922. D'éirigh sé as sa bhliain 1966 fad a bhí sé i Maigh Locha. Le caoinchead Dominic Higgins.



Part of Eglinton Street, Galway, Station Party 1936. Courtesy of An Garda Síochána.  
Cuid de Bhuíon Stáisiún Shráid Eglinton, Gaillimh, 1936. Le caoinchead an Gharda Síochána.



Illicit Distillation at An Spidéal, 1933. Left to Right: Garda D.J. Manley, Garda J.A. Walsh, Garda P. Hallisey, Sergeant D Colhoun, Sergeant D Gallagher, Garda O. Lynch. Courtesy of An Garda Síochána.  
Driogadh neamhcheadaithe ar an Spidéal, 1933. Ó Chlé go Deas: An Garda D.J. Manley, An Garda J.A. Walsh, An Garda P. Hallisey, An Sáirsint D Colhoun, An Sáirsint D Gallagher, An Garda O. Lynch. Le caoinchead an Gharda Síochána.



The Civic Guard, later renamed the Garda Síochána, line up at Dublin Castle before the evacuation. Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland.  
An Garda Sibhialta, a dtabharfaí an Garda Síochána air tráth níos déanaí, ag seasamh i line roimh an aslonnú. Le caoinchead Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann.



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

# 1920 22





# AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

# 1922

## An Garda Síochána 1920s~1930s

The Garda Síochána Establishment Scheme, 1930, provided for a “reduction in the Force” and shedding some of the responsibilities An Garda Síochána had heretofore. However, this did not affect the number of Garda Divisions (22) and Galway East Riding and Galway West Riding remained two separate Divisions. Within Galway East Riding, only two Stations were to be temporarily (Kilreeckle) or potentially (Laurencetown) closed, whereas in Galway West Riding four Stations were closed (Kilkieran, Cleggan, Clonbur and Ballinahinch). Nationwide, the number of Station closures was 404 (33%). This resulted in a nationwide reduction of the strength of the Force of 2,216 (roughly 30%); in Galway East Riding the reduction amounted to 297 (63%) and in Galway West Riding 238 (56%), the most numerous reductions in the country, due to the turbulent past in those areas when the RIC presence was most numerous there. Furthermore, some Sub-District Stations were replaced by others, e.g. in Galway East Riding, Castleblakeney Station was replaced by a new Station in Mountbellew, and, in Galway West Riding, the Rosmuck Sub-District Station changed from Clifden District to Oughterard District.

The East Riding Division of Galway had its Divisional Headquarters, with a Chief Superintendent, in Ballinasloe and was divided into four Districts, each with its own District Headquarter and a Superintendent, in Ballinasloe, Loughrea, Athenry and Gort. The numbers of Sub-Districts, with a Garda Station each, within the four Districts were Ballinasloe 9, Loughrea 7, Athenry 8, and Gort 7.

The West Riding Division of Galway had its Divisional Headquarters, with a Chief Superintendent, in Galway and was also divided into four Districts, each with its own District Headquarter and a Superintendent, in Galway, Tuam, Clifden and Oughterard. The numbers of Sub-Districts were Galway 7, Tuam 9, Clifden 6, and Oughterard 8.

(The notes are in the present tense but refer to the situation that existed in 1930; they are taken verbatim from the *Garda Síochána Establishment Scheme*, published in that year.)

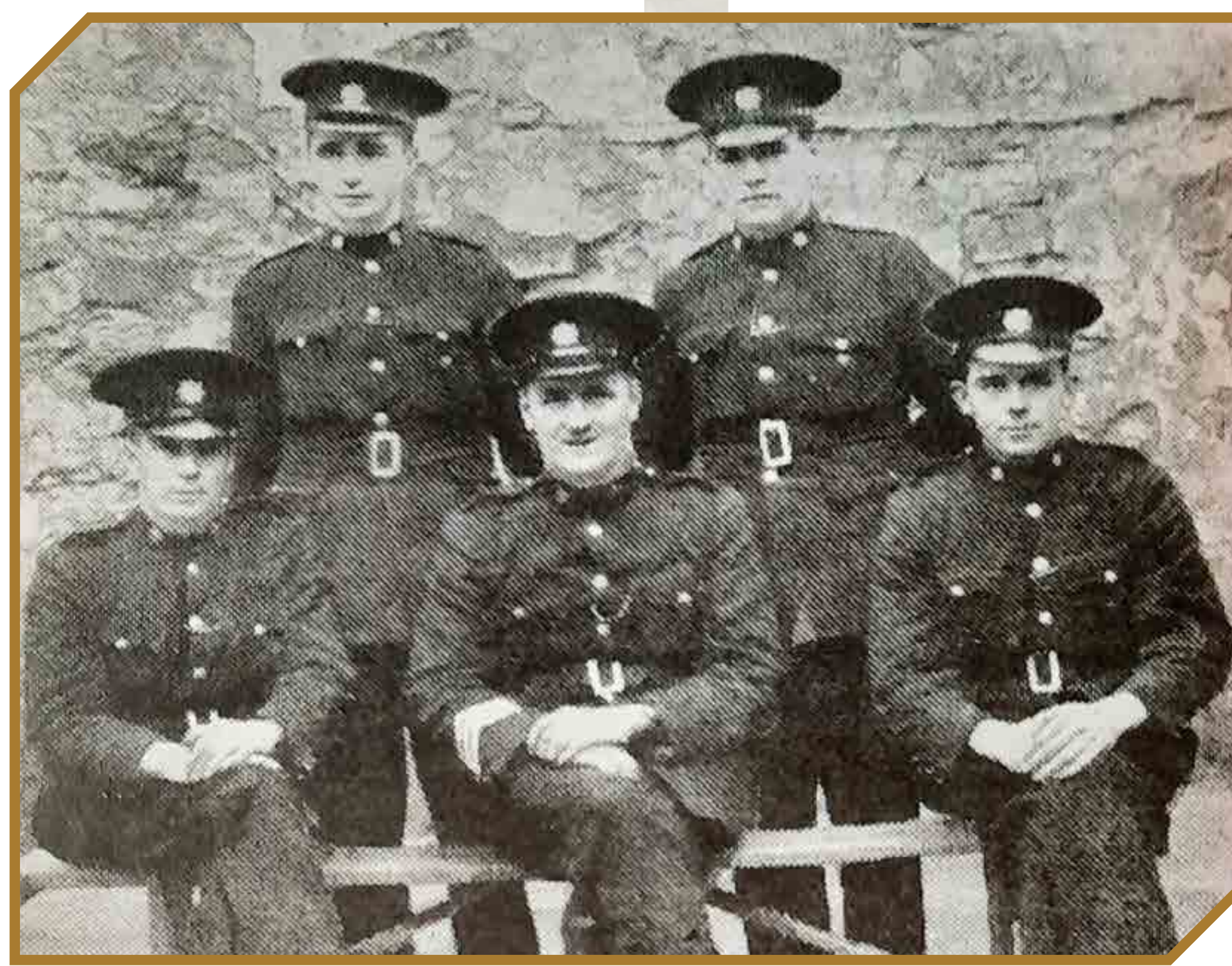
Rinneadh foráil leis an Scéim um Bunú an Gharda Síochána, 1930, do “laghdú ar an bhFórsa” agus chun fáil réidh le cuid de na freagrachtaí a bhí ar an nGarda Síochána go dtí sin. Mar sin féin, ní raibh aon tionchar aige sin ar an méid

Rannán Gardai a bhí ann (22) agus bhí Trian Thoir na Gaillimhe agus Trian Thiar na Gaillimhe fós ina ndá Rannán ar leith. Laistigh de Thrian Thoir na Gaillimhe, ní raibh ach dhá Stáisiún a bhí le dúnadh go sealadach (i gcás Chill Ríicill) nó a bhí i mbaol a dúnta (i gcás an Bhaile Mhóir), cé gur dúnadh ceithre Stáisiún i dTrian Thiar na Gaillimhe (Cill Chiaráin, An Cloigeann, An Fhairche agus Baile na hInse). Dúnadh 404 Stáisiún (33%) ar fud na tíre. Mar thoradh air sin, tháinig laghdú 2,216 (nó thart ar 30%) ar neart an Fhórsa ar fud na tíre; laghdú 297 (3%) a bhí ann i dTrian Thoir na Gaillimhe agus laghdú 238 (56%) a bhí ann i dTrian Thiar na Gaillimhe. B’ionann iad sin agus na laghduithe ba mhó sa tír ar fad, de bharr na tréimhse corraí a bhí ann sna ceantair sin nuair a bhí go leor den RIC ann. Ina theannta sin, tháinig roinnt Stáisiún Fochéantair in ionad cinn eile, e.g. i dTrian Thoir na Gaillimhe, tháinig stáisiún nua sa Chreagán in áit Stáisiún Ghallaigh agus i dTrian Thiar na Gaillimh bogadh Stáisiún Fochéantair Ros Muc ó Dhúiche an Chlocháin go dtí Ceantar Uachtar Ard.

Bhí Ceanncheathrú Rannáin Thrian Thoir na Gaillimhe i mBéal Átha na Sluaighe, áit a raibh Ard-Cheannfort ann. Roinneadh ina cheithre Rannán é, a raibh a Cheanncheathrú Ceantair agus a Cheannfort féin ag gach ceann acu, i mBéal Átha na Sluaighe, Baile Locha Riach, Baile Átha an Rí agus an Gort. Laistigh de na ceithre Cheantar bhí líon Fochéantar agus Stáisiún Gardai i ngach ceann acu. Bhí 9 fochéantar i mBéal Átha na Sluaighe, 7 fochéantar i mBaile Locha Riach, 8 fochéantar i mBaile Átha an Rí agus 7 fochéantar sa Ghort.

Bhí Ceanncheathrú Rannáin Thrian Thiar na Gaillimhe i nGaillimh, agus bhí Ard-Cheannfort ann. Roinneadh ina cheithre Rannán é sin freisin, a raibh a Cheanncheathrú Ceantair agus a Cheannfort féin ag gach ceann acu, agus ba i nGaillimh, i dTuaim, sa Chlochán agus in Uachtar Ard a bhí siad sin. Bhí 7 fochéantar i nGaillimh, 9 fochéantar i dTuaim, 6 fochéantar sa Chlochán agus 8 fochéantar in Uachtar Ard.

(Is san aimsir láithreach atá na nótaí ach tagraíonn siad don chás mar a bhí sa bhliain 1930; luaitear focal ar fhocal iad ón Scéim um Bunú an Gharda Síochána a foilsíodh an bhliain sin.)



Civic Guard, Oranmore, County Galway. Sitting left to right: Gd. P. King, Sergt. J. Driscoll, Gd. P. Sheardon. Standing left to right: Gds. A. J. O'Mally, T. Clifford. Courtesy of An Garda Síochána. An Garda Sibhialta, Órán Mór, Contae na Gaillimhe. Ina sui ó chlé go deas: An Garda P. King, An Sáirsint J. Driscoll, An Garda P. Sheardon. Ina seasamh, ó chlé go deas: Na Gardai A. J. O'Mally, T. Clifford. Le caoinchead an Gharda Síochána.



Civic Guard, Ballinasloe, County Galway, 1929. Courtesy of An Garda Síochána. An Garda Sibhialta, Béal Átha na Sluaighe, Contae na Gaillimhe, 1929. Le caoinchead an Gharda Síochána.



Civic Guard, Athenry, County Galway, E.R., 1930s. Front row, left to right: D.O. James Keegan, Sgt. M. Masterson, Supt. J. J. Cooney, Sgt. J. Ryan, D. O. M. Mulkeen. Back row, left to right: Gardai P. Kearns, P. M. McHugh, Jno. Rooney, M. Brehany, P. Hennessey, Thos. Moore and E. Neill. (sic). Courtesy of An Garda Síochána. An Garda Sibhialta, Baile Átha an Rí, Contae na Gaillimhe, E.R., 1930idí. Chun tosaigh, ó chlé go deas: An tOifigeach Bleachtair James Keegan, An Sáirsint M. Masterson, An Ceannfort J. J. Cooney, An Sáirsint J. Ryan, An tOifigeach Bleachtair M. Mulkeen. Líne cùil, ó chlé go deas: Na Gardai P. Kearns, P. M. McHugh, Jno. Rooney, M. Brehany, P. Hennessey, Thos. Moore agus E. Neill. (sic). Le caoinchead An Gharda Síochána.



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

# 1922





# AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY | GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

# 1922

## Gaeltacht Policing | Galway Division

When An Garda Síochána were first formed in 1922, approximately 10% of the population spoke Irish as their everyday language, mostly in regions on or near the western seaboard. Since this time, concerted efforts were made by subsequent Governments to revive the Irish language. Various Garda Commissioners over the years were also to the forefront in this regard.

In 1923, 500 places were reserved for Irish-speaking recruits to the Force. Extensive recruiting campaigns in Gaeltacht areas met with little success for various reasons. From the late 1920s to the mid-30s preferential treatment was given to Irish-speaking recruits. Basic instruction in conversational Irish was also provided to all recruits in training to improve the situation.

Given his background, Commissioner O'Duffy was adamant that the newly-formed force should be in the vanguard as regards the revival of the Irish language and was instrumental in setting up Conradh Gaelach an Gharda, a society to promote both the Irish language and the culture as a whole in the force. Garda periodicals Iris an Gharda and later Guth an Gharda regularly carried articles in the Irish language, actively encouraging the men (as most of the force were at the time) to study the language.

Even in stations where the members were capable of conversing in Irish, official correspondence continued to be carried out in English. The lack of amenities and remoteness of many of the Gaeltacht Stations was an obstacle to both the policing of these areas and the promotion of the language. A Government Commission in as early as 1926 recommended that members who could carry out their duties in Irish should receive extra pay. The Government disagreed.

Gardaí in some stations continued to make their own arrangements to improve in the language. In certain Stations the Sergeant provided lessons, others employed teachers whom they paid for themselves. Some studied on their own or joined the local Gaelic Leagues. Competency in Irish later became a prerequisite for promotion.

Despite the efforts involved, progress was slow for a number of reasons, one being



Members of Carraroe Station Party with Kate Sullivan (sitting) and her daughter Julia Sullivan (Joyce). Courtesy of Julia O'Donnell.  
Comhaltáí ó Bhuíon Stáisiún na Ceathrún Rua i dteannta Kate Sullivan (ina sui) agus a hiníon Julia Sullivan (Joyce). Le caoinchead Julia O'Donnell.



In the Heart of the Gaeltacht, December 1934. Lettermore station party, with Sergt. Morris Roe. Courtesy of An Garda Síochána.  
I gcroílár na Gaeltachta, Mí na Nollag, 1934. Buíon stáisiún Leitir Móir, i dteannta an Sáirsint Morris Roe. Le caoinchead an Gharda Síochána.

the fear of being posted to remote Gaeltacht stations. One member writing to the Garda Review at the time described his station as follows: "the áras [station] is 4 miles from the nearest church, 8 miles from the nearest railway station, 20 miles from the nearest Doctor, 19 miles from the nearest District Court, 33 miles from the nearest District HQ and 36 miles from the nearest Divisional HQ. 99% of the people speak no English at all and there is no field for hurling or football."

Other initiatives in the early years to improve the situation included a Linguaphone gramophone with Irish records being provided to all stations. Sadly, further efforts to officially promote the language involved a degree of compulsion from the authorities, leading to resentment on behalf of the members who had their duties to attend to.

In 1934, the Galway West Division was designated an all-Irish Division, with only men capable to speak the language stationed there. In 1937, Irish was made compulsory for entry to the Garda Síochána. In December 1935, then Commissioner Eamon Broy ordered members in all Irish-speaking Districts to provide their evidence to the courts exclusively in Irish. This led to controversy among certain members of the Judiciary and had to be relaxed later.

This reluctance in regard to using the Irish language persisted in the force and in 1934, Broy persuaded the Government to pay an additional 7.5% to members based in Gaeltacht areas.

Overall, the efforts to promote the language in the early years failed and a Government Minister at the time stated that "there was no sense in making the Force bilingual when the rest of the country was not".

Since the foundation of the Force, Gardaí have been assigned to the following Gaeltacht Stations in the Galway West Division: Úarán Mór, Leacht Seoirse, An Ceathrú Rua, Cill Ronáin, Indreabhán, Maigh Cuilinn, Leitir Mór, Ros Muc, An Spidéal, Carna, An Mám and Sraith Salach.

The first Gardaí posted to An Ceathrú Rua in 1923 were Sergeant Thomas Burke, 4915, Garda J. Keane, 4336, Garda M. Patten, 4576, Garda D. Twomey, 4562 and Garda E. Mahoney, 4495.

In 2021, An Garda Síochána commissioned a special Fáinne Gaeilge (gold, silver and cupla focal) developed by Conradh na Gaeilge to further the efforts to increase the use of the Irish language. The goal of the initiative is to encourage all personnel to use whatever Irish they have and to provide an effective way for members of the public to identify Irish-speaking personnel.

*Our focus is on strengthening our Irish language services through recruitment, training and promotion of the language in order to provide a policing service that supports communities and staff who wish to engage through the medium of Irish.*

(Commissioner J.A. Harris, An Garda Síochána, Irish Language Strategy, 2022 – 2025.)



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

# 1922





# AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

# 1922

## Póilíneacht sa Ghaeltacht | Rannán na Gaillimhe

Nuair a bunaíodh an Garda Síochána an chéad lá riamh sa bhliain 1922 labhair tuairim is 10% de dhaonra na tíre Gaeilge mar a dteanga laethúil, i réigiúin ar an gcósta thiar nó in aice an chósta thiar den chuid is mó. Tá a míle dícheall déanta ag Rialtais ón tráth sin i leith an teanga a thabhairt ar ais. Bhí Coimisinéirí éagsúla den Gharda Síochána ar thús cadhnaíochta ina leith sin freisin.

Sa bhliain 1923, cuireadh 500 áit ar leataobh d'earcaigh chuig an bhFórsa a raibh Gaeilge acu. Níor éirigh rómhaith le feachtais earcaíochta i gceantair Ghaeltachta ar chúiseanna éagsúla. Ó dheireadh na 20idí go dtí lár na 30idí tugadh cóir fhabhrach d'earcaigh a raibh Gaeilge acu. Tugadh teagasc bunúsach i nGaeilge labhartha do na hearcaigh go léir a bhí i mbun oiliúna chun feabhas a chur ar an scéal.

I bhfianaise a chúlra féin bhí an Coimisinéir O'Duffy diongbháilte go mbeadh an fórsa nuabhunaithe ar thús cadhnaíochta maidir le hathbheochan na Gaeilge agus bhí sé lánach i mbunú Chonradh Gaelach an Gharda, cumann a bunaíodh chun Gaeilge agus cultúr na Gaeilge a chur chun cinn san fhórsa. Bhí ailt i nGaeilge go minic i dtréimhseacháin an Gharda Síochána, Iris an Gharda agus Guth an Gharda, tráth níos déanaí, inar tugadh spreagadh do na fir an teanga a fhoghlaim.

Fiú sna stáisiúin ina raibh na comhaltaí breá ábalta comhrá a dhéanamh trí Ghaeilge, ba i mBéarla ar tugadh faoin gcomhfhreagras oifigiúil. Ba bhac iad an easpa áiseanna agus chomh scoite amach agus a bhí go leor de na Stáisiúin sa Ghaeltacht i mbealach póilíneacht a dhéanamh sna limistéir sin agus i mbealach an teanga a chur chun cinn iontu. Bhí Coimisiún Rialtais ann chomh fada siar le 1926 a mhol gur cheart go bhfaigheadh comhaltaí a thabharfadh faoina ndualgais trí Ghaeilge pá breise. Níor aontaigh an Rialtas leis an moladh sin. Lean comhaltaí i gcuid de na stáisiúin dá gcuid socruithe féin a dhéanamh chun a gcumas teanga féin a fheabhsú. I Stáisiúin áirithe chuir an Sáirsint ceachtanna ar fáil, fostaíodh múinteoirí i stáisiúin eile, múinteoirí ar íoc siad féin astu. Rinne cuid acu staidéar ar an teanga astu féin agus chuaigh cuid acu isteach sa chraobh áitiúil de Chonradh na Gaeilge. Bheadh inniúlacht sa Ghaeilge



Captured poitin still, Indreabhán Garda station c. 1930s. Courtesy of Tony Gallagher. Stíl phoitin a gabhadh, stáisiún Gardai Indreabháin thart ar na 1930idí. Le caoinchead Tony Gallagher.



South Conemara c. 1920s/1930s. Courtesy of Tony Gallagher. Conamara Theas sna 1920idí/1930idí. Le caoinchead Tony Gallagher.



South Conemara c. 1920s/1930s. Courtesy of Tony Gallagher. Conamara Theas sna 1920idí/1930idí. Le caoinchead Tony Gallagher.

riachtanach i gcomhair ardú céime tráth níos déanaí.

D'ainneoin na n-iarrachtaí a bhí i gceist, bhí an-mhoill leis an dul chun cinn, a raibh roinnt cúiseanna leis. Ar cheann de na cúiseanna bhí an faitíos go gcuirfí chuig stáisiún Ghaeltachta a bhí scoite amach iad. Is mar seo a leanas a chuir comhalta amháin síos ag an am ar a stáisiún féin agus é ag scríobh chuig Athbhreithniú an Gharda Síochána, "the áras (station) is 4 miles from the nearest church, 8 miles from the nearest railway station, 20 miles from the nearest Doctor, 19 miles from the nearest District Court, 33 miles from the nearest District HQ and 36 miles from the nearest Divisional HQ. 99% of the people speak no English at all and there is no field for hurling or football."

I measc na dtionscnamh eile ar tugadh fúthu sna luathbhlianta chun an post a fheabhsú bhí gur cuireadh gramafón Linguaphone ar fáil do na stáisiúin go léir chomh maith le ceiríní Gaeilge. Faraor bhain éigeantas le hiarrachtaí na n-údarás an teanga a chur chun cinn níos mó go hoifigiúil, a d'fhág comhaltaí míshásta ó tharla go raibh a gcuid dualgas le déanamh acu freisin.

Sa bhliain 1934, ainmníodh Rannán Iarthar na Gaillimhe ina Rannán lán-Ghaeilge, gan ach fir a bhí inniúil sa Ghaeilge lonnaithe ann. Sa bhliain 1937 rinneadh Gaeilge éigeantach chun dul sa

Gharda Síochána. I mí na Nollag 1935, d'ordaigh an Coimisinéir ag an am, Eamon Broy, ar gach comhalta i nDúichí Gaeilge a bhfianaise a chur ar fáil os comhair na gCúirteanna trí Ghaeilge amháin. Tharraing sé sin conspóid i measc comhaltaí áirithe sa Bhreithiúna agus béigean é a mhaolú tráth níos déanaí.

Lean den drogall sin san fhórsa i leith na Gaeilge agus sa bhliain 1934, d'éirigh le Broy a chur ina luí ar an Rialtas 7.5% breise a íoc le comhaltaí a bhí lonnaithe i gceantair Ghaeltachta. Tríd is tríd, níor éirigh le hiarrachtaí an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn sna luathbhlianta agus dúirt Aire Rialtais ag an am nach raibh ciall ar bith an Fórsa a dhéanamh dátheangach nuair nach raibh an chuid eile den tír dátheangach.

Ó bunaíodh an Fórsa, cuireadh Gardaí chuig na Stáisiúin Ghaeltachta seo a leanas i Rannán Iarthar na Gaillimhe (Gaillimh) - Órán Mór, Leacht Seoirse, An Cheathrú Rua, Cill Rónáin, Indreabhán, Maigh Cuilinn, Leitir Móir, Ros Muc, An Spidéal, Carna, An Mám agus Sraith Salach.

Ba iad seo a leanas na chéad Gardaí a cuireadh chuig an gCeathrú Rua sa bhliain 1923 - An Sáirsint Thomas Burke, 4915, An Garda J. Keane, 4336. An Garda M. Patten, 4576, An Garda D. Twomey 4562 agus An Garda E. Mahoney, 4495.

Sa bhliain 2021, choimisiúnaigh an Garda Síochána Fáinne Gaeilge speisialta (Fáinne óir, airgid agus cúpla focal) arna fhorbairt ag Conradh na Gaeilge chun cur lenár ndícheall níos mó Gaeilge a úsáid. Ba é b'aidhm leis an tionscnamh ugach a thabhairt do phearsanra go léir pé Gaeilge a bhí acu a úsáid agus bealach éifeachtúil a thabhairt do mhuintir an phobail pearsanra a bhfuil Gaeilge acu a aithint.

*Our focus is on strengthening our Irish language services through recruitment, training and promotion of the language in order to provide a policing service that supports communities and staff who wish to engage through the medium of Irish.*

(An Coimisinéir J.A. Harris, An Garda Síochána, Straitéis Gaeilge an Gharda Síochána 2022 – 2025.)



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

# 1922





# AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

19  
20 22

## Community Policing

*The Civic Guard will not succeed by force of arms or numbers but on their moral authority as servants of the people.*

(Michael Staines, first Commissioner of An Garda Síochána).

Commissioner O'Duffy (second Commissioner of An Garda Síochána) later saw sport as a method of integration of the new force into the communities in which they were to serve. He also emphasised the use of flexibility and discretion in their duties without recourse to prosecution for every trivial offence. This pragmatism, along with the fact that the Gardaí lived among their communities, differed from the methods of their predecessors, the RIC, and helped Gardaí to win public acceptance. The relationship that then developed between the communities and the Gardaí, which is the envy of many other police forces, could be seen as the basis of the formal Community Policing models that followed.

While it could be argued that all Gardaí in past times were Community Policemen, in order to meet the needs of the 21st-century community, An Garda Síochána had to change as an organisation. Traditional policing responses are under continuous pressure from 21st-century challenges and our service delivery must change accordingly.

The Community Policing Framework Strategy emphasises that the definition of community is broad and that communities are made up of individuals with diverse needs. A one-size-fits-all approach is no longer acceptable. A community/customer policing approach, adopting modern processes and procedures to manage relationships with communities and individuals, and to better understand their needs, is now part of the work and values of all members.

There are currently 2 Sergeants and 22 Gardaí employed on full-time Community Policing throughout Galway City and County.

Despite the changes in society and within the Garda organisation, it is interesting to note that the key word in regard to An Garda Síochána and their communities remains "relationship".



Garda Aidan Heneghan and Garda John Flanagan, Ballinasloe Garda Station, policing the Ballinasloe Horse Fair in the 1980s. Courtesy of An Garda Síochána.  
An Garda Aidan Heneghan agus an Garda John Flanagan, Stáisiún Gardai Bhéal Átha na Sluaghe, i mbun póilíneachta ag Aonach Capall Bhéal Átha na Sluaghe sna 1980idí. Le caoinchead an Gharda Síochána.



Garda Mounted Unit, in Loughrea. Photo courtesy of Denis Callaghy.  
Marc-Aonad an Gharda Síochána i mBaile Locha Riach. Grianghraf le caoinchead Denis Callaghy.



Galway Blue Challenge charity event. Courtesy of Inspector Senan Wall.  
Imeacht Carthanais Dhúshlán Gorm na Gaillimhe. Le caoinchead an Chigire Senan Wall.

## Póilíneacht Phobail

*The Civic Guard will not succeed by force of arms or numbers but on their moral authority as servants of the people.*

(Michael Staines, céad Choimisinéir an Gharda Síochána).

Bhí Coimisinéir O'Duffy (an dara Coimisinéir den Gharda Síochána) den tuairim go bhféadfaí leas a bhaint as spórt mar mhodh imeasctha an fhórsa nua leis na pobail a raibh siad le freastal

a dhéanamh orthu. Mhol sé úsáid solúbthachta agus breithiúnais chomh maith le linn do chomhaltaí a bheith ag comhlíonadh a ndualgas, gan dul i muinín ionchúisimh i gcás gach aon chiona fhánaigh. Níorbh ionann an pragmatas seo ná an chaoi a raibh na Gardaí seo ag cur fúthu i measc a bpobail agus modhanna an dreama a bhí ann rompu, an RIC. Chabhraigh na difríochtaí sin leis na Gardaí tacaíocht an phobail a fháil. D'fhéadfaí breathnú ar an gcaidreamh a d'fhás idir na pobail agus na Gardaí, ar caidreamh é a bhfuil go leor Fórsaí Póilíneachta eile in éad air, mar eiseamláir do na múnlaí foirmiúla Póilíneachta Pobail a tháinig ina dhiaidh sin.

Cé go bhféadfaí a rá gurbh Phóilíní Pobail iad na Gardaí uile san am atá caite, bhí athrú ag teastáil ar an nGarda Síochána mar eagraíocht d'fhonn a bheith in ann freastal ar riachtanais an phobail sa 21ú haois. Bíonn brú leanúnach ar fhreagairt agus ar mhéadrachtaí traidisiúnta póilíneachta ó dhúshláin an 21ú haois agus ní mór athrú a chur ar sheachadadh seirbhísí an Gharda Síochána dá réir. Áitítear sa Chreatstraitéis maidir le Póilíneacht Phobail gur leathan an sainmhíniú atá ar phobal, agus go mbíonn gach aon phobal comhdhéanta de dhaoine a bhfuil riachtanais ilchineálacha acu. Ní féidir glacadh le cur chuige uilechoiteann a thuilleadh. Áirítear anois ar obair agus ar luachanna gach comhalta cur chuige póilíneachta pobail/custaiméara a ghlacadh, próisis agus nósanna oibre nua-aimseartha a ghlacadh chun caidrimh le pobail agus le daoine aonair a bhainistiú d'fhonn tuiscint níos fearr a fháil ar riachtanais.

Tá 2 Sáirsint agus 22 Gardaí fostaithe i láthair na huairé chun Póilíneacht Phobail a dhéanamh go lánaimseartha ar fud chathair agus Chontae na Gaillimhe.

In ainneoin na n-athruithe ar an tsochaí, agus ar eagraíocht an Gharda Síochána go deimhin, tá sé speisiúil a thabhairt faoi deara gurb é an focal "caidreamh" an focal is mó tábhachtacha i gcónaí maidir leis an nGarda Síochána agus na pobail a bhfreastalaíonn sé orthu.



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

19  
20 22





# AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

# 19 20 22

## First Galway Man to Lead the Gardaí

### Dónall Ó Cualáin | Career History

Dónall Ó Cualáin was appointed Acting Garda Commissioner in September 2017 and served in that role until his retirement in September 2018. He was the first Galway man to hold the highest rank in An Garda Síochána.

He was born in Leitir Móir in 1959 but grew up and went to school in Carna. His father was a National School Teacher in the area and his mother, originally from Kilrickle, Co. Galway, was the District Nurse in Leitir Móir.

Prior to joining An Garda Síochána, Dónall Ó Cualáin worked with Beirtreach Teo. and Taighde Mara while completing a Certificate in Aquaculture in the Galway Regional Technical College, as the present Atlantic Technological University (ATU) was then called. He worked in fish farming in both Connemara and Oranmore until 1983, when he joined An Garda Síochána.

Throughout the course of his Garda career, he attained the following professional qualifications:

- ◆ Grid Leadership (2004)
- ◆ Degree in Public Administration – Institute of Public Administration
- ◆ International Exchange Programme – Community Policing – Boston College (2007)
- ◆ Executive Masters in Business Administration – National University of Ireland, Galway (2008)
- ◆ Innovations in Governance – JFK School of Government – Harvard University (2008)
- ◆ Garda Executive Leadership Programme – Michael Smurfit Business School – University College Dublin (2009).

Having joined An Garda Síochána on the 20th of July 1983, he served in the following Stations:

1983	Donnybrook, Dublin
1987	Garda Technical Bureau, Garda Headquarters (HQ)
1988	Rannóg na Gaeilge, Garda College, Templemore (promoted to Sergeant 1990)
1993	Sergeant, Cill Rónáin, Aran Islands, Co. Galway
1993	Sergeant, In-Service School, Mill Street, Galway
1994	Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal (on promotion to Inspector)
1994	Inspector, Organisation Development Unit, Garda HQ
1996	Inspector, Western Regional Office, Mill Street, Galway
1999	Glenties, Co. Donegal (on promotion to Superintendent)
2002	Superintendent, Ennistymon, Co. Clare
2003	Superintendent, Mill Street, Galway
2006	Castlebar, Co. Mayo (on promotion to Chief Superintendent)
2006	Chief Superintendent, Sligo
2007	Chief Superintendent, Mill Street, Galway
2012	Southern Regional Office, Anglesea Street, Cork (on promotion to Assistant Commissioner)
2012	Assistant Commissioner, Western Regional Office, Mill Street, Galway
2014	Acting Deputy Commissioner, Strategy and Change Management, Garda HQ.
2015	Governance and Strategy, Garda HQ (on promotion to Deputy Commissioner)
2017	Acting Commissioner from September 2017 until retirement in September 2018

A fluent Irish speaker, Acting Commissioner Ó Cualáin was a champion of the language throughout his career in An Garda Síochána. He was the Chief Superintendent at Galway Garda Station when the Office of the Coimisinéir Teanga was created in 2003.

Acting Commissioner Ó Cualáin served in every province in the State and always believed in the concept of the Garda as a community policeman, stemming from the historical ties the force maintained with the community. This relationship, he feels, was and is the 'family silver' when it came to policing in Ireland in that Gardaí were both of the community and with the community. This unique tie, while becoming strained in recent times, has never been broken.

As the most enjoyable part of his career, he cites the variety of roles involved and he feels that he was allowed to have five or six separate careers in one, across the operational, tactical and strategic spectrum of An Garda Síochána.

## An Chéad Fhear as Gaillimh leis na Gardaí a Stiúradh

### Dónall Ó Cualáin | Stair Ghairme

Ceapadh Dónall Ó Cualáin ina Choimisinéir Gníomhach i Meán Fómhair 2017 go dtí gur éirigh sé as i Meán Fómhair 2018. Ba é an chéad fhear as Gaillimh a raibh an chéim is airde sa Gharda Síochána aige.

Rugadh i Leitir Móir é sa bhliain 1959 ach d'fhás sé aníos i gCarna agus is ann a d'fhreastail sé ar scoil. Múinteoir bunscoile sa cheantar ab ea a athair agus ba í a mháthair, arbh as Cill Ríochill, Co. na Gaillimhe ó dhúchas di, an tAltra Dúiche i Leitir Móir.

Sula ndeachaigh sé sa nGarda Síochána, d'oibrigh sé le Beirtreach Teo. agus Taighde Mara, fad a bhí teastas sa Dobharshaothrú á chur i gcrích aige i gCeardcholáiste Réigiúnach na Gaillimhe. D'oibrigh sé i bhfeirmeoireacht éisc i gConamara agus in Órán Mór araon go dtí an bhliain 1983 nuair a chuaigh sé sa Gharda Síochána.

Ghnóthaigh sé na cáilíochtaí gairmiúla seo a leanas le linn a ghairme:

- ◆ Cúrsa Ceannaireachta Gríd, (2004).
- ◆ Céim - Riarachán Poiblí - Institiúid Riaracháin Phoiblí.
- ◆ Clár Malartáin Idirnáisiúnta - Póilíneacht Phobail – Boston College, (2007)
- ◆ Máistreacht Feidhmiúcháin sa Riarachán Gnó, OÉG, (2008).
- ◆ Nuálaíochtaí i gCúrsaí Rialachais – JFK School of Government – Ollscoil Harvard, (2008)
- ◆ Clár Ceannaireachta Feidhmiúcháin an Gharda Síochána le Scoil Ghnó Michael Smurfit i gColáiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath, (2009).

Chuaigh sé sa Gharda Síochána ar an 20 Iúil, 1983, rinne sé seirbhís sna stáisiúin seo a leanas:

1983	Domhnach Broc, Baile Átha Cliath.
1987	Biúró Teicniúil an Gharda Síochána, Ceanncheathrú an Gharda Síochána.
1988	Rannóg na Gaeilge, Coláiste an Gharda Síochána, An Teampall Mór (Fuair Ardú céime go Sáirsint 1990).
1993	Sáirsint, Cill Rónáin, Oileáin Árann.
1993	Sáirsint, Scoil Inseirbhíse, Sráid an Mhuilinn, Gaillimh.
1994	Baile Sonnáin, Dún na nGall (ar ardú céime go Cigire a fháil dó).
1994	Cigire, Aonad Forbartha Eagraíochta, Ceanncheathrú an Gharda Síochána.
1996	Cigire, Oifig Réigiúnach an Iarthair, Sráid an Mhuilinn, Gaillimh.
1999	Na Gleannta, Dún na nGall (ar ardú céime go Ceannfort a fháil dó).
2002	Ceannfort, Inis Diomáin, Co. an Chláir.
2003	Ceannfort, Sráid an Mhuilinn, Gaillimh.
2006	Caisleán an Bharraigh, Maigh Eo (ar ardú céime go Ard-Ceannfort a fháil dó).
2006	Ard-Ceannfort, Sligeach.
2007	Ard-Ceannfort, Sráid an Mhuilinn, Gaillimh.
2012	Oifig Réigiúnach an Deiscirt, Sráid Anglesea, Corcaigh (ar ardú céime go Coimisinéir Cúnta a fháil dó).
2012	Coimisinéir Cúnta, Oifig Réigiúnach an Iarthair, Sráid an Mhuilinn, Gaillimh.
2014	Leas-Choimisinéir Gníomhach, Straitéis agus Bainistiú Athruithe, Ceanncheathrú an Gharda Síochána.
2015	Rialachas agus Straitéis, Ceanncheathrú an Gharda Síochána (ar ardú céime go Leas-Choimisinéir a fháil dó).
2017	Leas-Choimisinéir ó Mheán Fómhair 2017 go dtí gur éirigh sé as i Meán Fómhair 2018.

Ina chainteoir líofa Gaeilge thacaigh an Coimisinéir Gníomhach Ó Cualáin leis an teanga san eagraíocht i rith a ghairme. Ba é a bhí ina Ard-Ceannfort i Stáisiún Gardaí na Gaillimhe nuair bunaíodh Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga sa bhliain 2003.

Rinne an Coimisinéir Gníomhach Ó Cualáin seirbhís i ngach cúige sa Stát agus chreid riamh i gcoincheap an Gharda mar Phóilín Pobail, coincheap a bhfuil bunús leis sa cheangal stairiúil a choinnigh an fórsa leis an bpobal. Dar leis, is ionann an caidreamh sin agus an "family silver" mar a bhaineann sé le póilíneacht sa tír seo sa chaoi is gur ón bpobal féin a tháinig na Gardaí agus go raibh bá acu leis an bpobal sin. Níor chlis ar an gceangal ar leith sin riamh, cé gur cuireadh faoi bhrú é le blianta beaga anuas.

Deir sé gurbh iad na rólí éagsúla a raibh baint aige leo an ghné ba thaitneamhaí a bhain lena ghairm agus dar leis bhí sé ábalta cúig nó sé ghairm ar leith a bheith aige in aon ghairm amháin, ó réimse oibríochta, oirbheartaíochta agus straitéiseach na heagraíochta.



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

# 19 20 22





# AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

# 1922

## Roll of Honour, Galway Division

### Sergeant Patrick Forde, Registered No 5802, Maam Garda Station.

Sergeant Forde had 9 years service in An Garda Síochána when he lost his life. He was born in Nutgrove, Tynagh, Co. Galway on the 19th January 1904. Served in the Volunteers from 1919-1921. Joined An Garda Síochána on 27th of June 1925 and was promoted to rank of Sergeant on the 1st of March 1927. Served in Ballymote, Mohill, Fivemilebourne and Barnaderg. He was married with two children.

On the 18th of January 1934, Sergeant Forde was on duty with Garda Michael Kennelly. They were returning to their Station at Maam, having escorted a female patient to Ballinasloe Mental Hospital. On driving through Galway City, the hackney car in which they were travelling left the roadway and entered the River Corrib at Steamers Quay, Woodquay. Sergeant Forde was drowned along with Garda Kennelly, the Hackney Driver and a female passenger.

### Garda Michael Joseph Kennelly, Registered No 1408, Maam Garda Station.

Garda Kennelly had 11 years service in An Garda Síochána when he lost his life. He was born in Ahannanagha, Newtownsand, Co. Kerry on the 26th of January 1896. Served in the 8th Battalion, Kerry No 1 Brigade from 1916-1922. He joined An Garda Síochána on 30th of May 1922. He served in Galway, Monivea, Derrybrien, Letterfrack, Leenane, Clifden and Killimor. He was married with two children.

On the 18th of January 1934, Garda Kennelly was on duty with Sergeant Patrick Forde. They were returning to their Station at Maam, having escorted a female patient to Ballinasloe Mental Hospital. On driving through Galway City, the hackney car in which they were travelling left the roadway and entered the River Corrib at Steamers Quay, Woodquay. Garda Kennelly was drowned along with Sergeant Forde, the Hackney Driver and a female passenger.

### Garda Noel Martin Conroy, Registered No 19207D, Tuam Garda Station.

Garda Conroy had 15 years service in An Garda Síochána when he lost his life. He was born on the 30th of November 1951 and was a native of Renmore, Galway. Served for a period in the FCA before joining An Garda Síochána on the 11th of April 1973. Served in Monaghan and Ballintubber. He was married with three children. On Friday, the 28th of October 1988, while undergoing an official motor-cycle training course, Garda Conroy was involved in a road traffic collision at Glenmoy, Birr, Co. Offaly and fatally injured.

### Garda Paul Colleran, Registered No 26973E, Loughrea Garda Station.

Garda Colleran had 5 years service in An Garda Síochána when he lost his life. He was born on the 25th of April 1975 and was a native of Quarry Park, Moylough, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway. He held a Diploma in Construction Studies, a Certificate in Civil Engineering and worked as a Site Technician prior to joining An Garda Síochána on the 29th of October 1996. He also served in Fitzgibbon Street and Navan.

On Wednesday, the 5th of March 2003, while returning from the District Court at Navan, Garda Colleran was involved in a road traffic collision at Rattin, Kinnegad, Co. Westmeath. He passed away from his injuries on the 7th of March 2003.



Sergeant Patrick Forde



Garda Michael Joseph Kennelly



Garda Noel Martin Conroy



Garda Paul Colleran

## An Rolla Onóra, Rannán na Gaillimhe

### An Sáirsint Patrick Forde, Uimhir Chláraithe 5802, Stáisiún Gardaí an Mháma.

Bhí naoi (9) mbliana seirbhíse curtha isteach ag an Sáirsint Forde leis an nGarda Síochána nuair a bhásaigh sé. Rugadh an Sáirsint Forde san Fhiodh Breac, Tíne, i gContae na Gaillimhe an 19 Eanáir 1904. Bhí sé sna hÓglaigh idir na blianta 1919 agus 1921. Chuaigh an Sáirsint Forde isteach sa Gharda Síochána an 27 Meitheamh, 1925 agus fuair sé ardu céime chuig Sáirsint an 1 Márta 1927. Bhí sé ina gharda i mBaile an Mhóta, Maothail, Abhainn an Chartúin agus sa Bhearna Dearg. Bhí sé pósta agus bhí beirt leanaí aige.

Bhí an Sáirsint Forde ar dualgas leis an nGarda Michael Kennelly an 18 Eanáir, 1934. Bhí an bheirt ghardaí ag filleadh ar Stáisiún an Mháma tar éis dóibh othar mná a thabhairt chomh fada le hOspidéal Meabhairghalair Bhéal Átha na Sluaighe. Le linn dóibh a bheith ar a mbealach trí chathair na Gaillimhe d'imigh an hacnaí ina raibh siad ag taisteal den bhóthar isteach in Abhainn na Gaillimhe ag Cé na nGaltán, Barr an Chladaigh. Bád an Sáirsint Forde agus bád freisin an Garda Kennelly, Tiománaí an Hacnaí agus an bhean a bhí ina paisinéir sa hacnaí.

### An Garda Michael Joseph Kennelly, Uimhir Chláraithe 1408, Stáisiún Gardaí an Mháma.

Bhí aon bhliain déag (11) seirbhíse curtha isteach ag an nGarda Kennelly sa Gharda Síochána nuair a bhásaigh sé. Rugadh an Garda Kennelly in Ahannanagha, Maigh Mhéain, Contae Chiarraí an 26 Eanáir 1896. Bhí sé san 8ú Cathlán de Bhriogáid Chiarraí Uimhir 1 ó 1916-1922. Chuaigh sé isteach sa Gharda Síochána an 30 Bealtaine, 1922. Bhí sé ina gharda i nGaillimh, Muine Mheá, Daraídh Braoín, Leitir Fraic, sa Líonán, sa Chlochán agus i gCill Íomair. Bhí sé pósta agus bhí beirt leanaí aige.

Bhí an Garda Kennelly ar dualgas in éineacht leis an Sáirsint Forde an 18 Eanáir, 1934. Bhí an bheirt ghardaí ag filleadh ar Stáisiún an Mháma tar éis dóibh othar mná a thabhairt chomh fada le hOspidéal Meabhairghalair Bhéal Átha na Sluaighe. Le linn dóibh a bheith ar a mbealach trí chathair na Gaillimhe d'imigh an hacnaí ina raibh siad ag taisteal den bhóthar isteach in Abhainn na Gaillimhe ag Cé na nGaltán, Barr an Chladaigh. Bád an Garda Kennelly agus bád freisin an Sáirsint Forde, Tiománaí an Hacnaí agus an bhean a bhí ina paisinéir sa hacnaí.

### An Garda Noel Martin Conroy, Uimhir Chláraithe 19207D, Stáisiún Gardaí Thuama.

Bhí cúig bliana déag (15) seirbhíse curtha isteach ag an nGarda Conroy sa Gharda Síochána nuair a bhásaigh sé. Rugadh an Garda Conroy an 30 Samhain, 1951 sa Rinn Mhór i nGaillimh. Chaith an Garda Conroy tréimhse san FCA sula ndeachaigh sé isteach sa Gharda Síochána an 11 Aibreán, 1973. Bhí sé ina gharda sa Mhuineachán agus i mBaile an Tobair. Bhí sé pósta agus bhí triúr leanaí aige.

Bhain gortú marfach don Gharda Conroy an Aoine 28 Deireadh Fómhair, 1988 i dtimpiste bóthair i Glenmoy, Biorra, Contae Uíbh Fhailí le linn dó a bheith rannpháirteach i gcúrsa oiliúna oifigiúil gluaisrothair.

### An Garda Paul Colleran, Uimhir Chláraithe 26973E, Stáisiún Gardaí Bhaile Locha Riach.

Bhí cúig (5) bliana seirbhíse curtha isteach ag an nGarda Colleran sa Gharda Síochána nuair a bhásaigh sé. Rugadh an Garda Colleran an 25 Aibreán, 1975, i bPáirc Quarry, Maigh Locha, Béal Átha na Sluaighe, Contae na Gaillimhe. Bhí Dioplóma i Staidéar Foirgníochta agus Teastas in Innealtóireacht Shibhialta aige agus bhí sé ina Theicneoir Súimh sula ndeachaigh sé isteach sa Gharda Síochána an 29 Deireadh Fómhair, 1996. Bhí sé ina gharda freisin i Sráid Mhic Giobúin agus san Uaimh.

Le linn dó a bheith ag filleadh ón gCúirt Dúiche san Uaimh an 5 Márta, 2003 bhí an Garda Colleran i dtimpiste bóthair i Raitín, Cionn Átha Gad, Contae na hIarmhí. Básaigh sé an 7 Márta, 2003 mar gheall ar a chuid gortuithe.



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

# 1922





# AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

# 1922

## Garda Uniform

The Garda uniform is in this, our centenary year - 2022, about to undergo a change in style driven by necessity as regards operational practicality. The formal shirt and tie will be replaced by a more practical liveried polo-shirt and the trousers will be replaced by navy combats with extra pockets for day-to-day use. This will be the 5th change to the Garda uniform since the inception of the force.

The original uniform of 1922, when eventually issued, consisted of a formal, high-collared tunic and shirts with detachable collars. Up to the issue of this uniform in sufficient numbers, the original members of the force were distinguishable only by their Garda caps.

It was not until 1952 that the first major change took place with the issue of an open-neck tunic with the Garda crests on the lapels, a style which remains with the force to this day for formal occasions. The old police helmet, up to that time worn in Dublin and Cork, was withdrawn. This second issue of the uniform became known as the 'bulls-wool' as the material was stiff and notoriously hard to keep clean. The buttons were silver in colour and required regular polishing.

This 'bulls-wool' uniform was worn until 1987, when the material was changed to a lighter shade of blue with anodised gold buttons and insignia; the cap with the plastic peak was consigned to history. While impressive to look at, this uniform was still more appropriate for ceremonial duties on the parade ground rather than the realities of modern police work.



Garda Mick Lernihan, Eyre Square, 1956. Courtesy of Michael Lernihan (Retd. Supt.)  
An Garda Mick Lernihan, An Fhaiche Mhór, 1956. Le caoinchead Michael Lernihan (Ceannfort ar Scór).

In 1991, the formal tunic was replaced for outdoor duty with a more functional patrol jacket in an attempt to provide both comfort and practicality for varying weather conditions. A NATO sweater was also introduced for the first time.

In 2005/6, the uniform was again updated, with the patrol jacket being changed to a shorter blouse style. Protective boots were also issued at this time. The fit of the patrol jacket was changed once more some years later and this is the uniform in use today. Stab vests were issued in 2007 to all members of the force.

Despite the changes to the uniform over the years, the Garda cap remained largely consistent in design, with only the material of the peak having been changed in 1987. The only other change was in 2020, when regulations were amended to allow certain members of the force to wear particular headgear associated with their religious and cultural beliefs. Specialist Units such as Armed Support, Scenes of Crime, Mountain Bike, Motor-Cyclists and Public Order Units are issued with uniforms and equipment suited to their operational needs.

The first Garda Síochána Code in 1928 directed that "members on duty are to be clean and regular in their person, clothing and equipment. They are to be properly shaved with hair properly cut and dressed. Their buttons, handcuffs, truncheon and truncheon case are to be clean and polished". Eventually, in 2021, Gardai were permitted to wear beards.



Garda Dan Gallagher. Transferred to Galway on 13th June 1925 from Cahir in County Tipperary. Courtesy of Tony Gallagher.  
An Garda Dan Gallagher. A aistriodh go Gaillimh ar an 13 Meitheamh 1925 ón gCathair i gContae Thiobraid Árann. Le caoinchead Tony Gallagher.

## Éide

Táimid ar tí Éide an Gharda Síochána a athrú i mbliana, cothrom céad bliain ó bunaíodh an fórsa, toisc go bhfuil gá leis ó thaobh praiticiúlacht oibríochta. Tiocfaidh léinte pólaí faoi libhré atá níos praiticiúla in áit na léine agus an charbhait fhoirmiúil. Beidh brístí comhraic dúghorma a mbeidh pócaí breise acu ag teacht in áit na dtreabhsar, i gcomhair úsáid laethúil. An 5ú athrú ar éide na nGardaí ó bunaíodh an fórsa a bheidh san athrú seo.

Is éard a bhí san éide bunaidh sa bhliain 1922, nuair a eisíodh faoi deireadh é, ná ionar foirmiúil le cába ard air agus léinte arbh fhéidir na cábaí a bhaint díobh. Go dtí gur eisíodh an éide seo ar dhóthain Gardaí, níorbh fhéidir na chéad chomhaltaí a dhealú ón ngnáthphobal, a gcaipíní Garda amháin a dhealaigh iad.

Níor cuireadh aon mhóráthru i bhfeidhm ar an éide go dtí an bhliain 1952 nuair a eisíodh ionar muineál oscailte a raibh suaitheantas an Gharda Síochána ar na liopaí, agus is stíl é sin atá fós in úsáid ar an bhfórsa ar ócáidí foirmiúla. Cuireadh deireadh leis an seanchlogad póilínachta chomh maith, a chaití i mBaile Átha Cliath agus i gCorcaigh roimhe sin.

Tugadh 'bulls-wool' ar an dara tréimhse seo den éide ós rud é go raibh an t-éadach crua agus bhí cáil air as bheith deacair a choinneáil glan. Cnaipí airgid a bhí ann agus theastaíodh snasú rialta uathu.

Bhí an éide sin in úsáid go dtí an bhliain 1987 nuair a tugadh isteach éadach a raibh dath gorm níos éadroime agus cnaipí agus ionchomhartha óir anóidithe air. Caitheadh an speic caipín phlaisteach i leataobh freisin.

Ba bhreá an radharc iad na Gardaí agus an éide seo orthu, ach mar sin féin, bhí sí ní b'oiriúnaí fós do dhualgais searmanais ar thalamh na paráide seachas d'fhírinní obair nua-aimseartha na bpóilíní.

Tugadh isteach seaicéad patróil ní b'fheidhmiúla do dhualgas lasmuigh sa bhliain 1991, in áit an ionair fhoirmiúil, mar iarracht chun compord agus praiticiúlacht a chur ar fáil tráth a mbíonn an aimsir luaineach. Tugadh geansaí NATO isteach den chéad uair freisin.

Tugadh an éide cothrom le dáta arís in 2005/6 nuair a athraíodh an seaicéad patróil le go mbeadh stíl casóige níos giorra air. Eisíodh buataisí cosanta ag an tráth seo freisin. Cuireadh athrú ar thomhas an tseaicéid patróil roinnt blianta ina dhiaidh sin, agus is é sin an éide atá in úsáid sa lá atá inniu ann. Eisíodh seaicéid sá-dhíonacha chuig gach comhalta sa bhliain 2007.

In ainneoin na n-athruithe ar fad ar éide an Gharda Síochána i gcaitheamh na mblianta, bhí deardadh chaipín na nGardaí seasta tríd is tríd, cé is moite den athrú ar éadach na speice sa bhliain 1987. An t-aon athrú a rinneadh air seo ná sa bhliain 2020 nuair a leasaíodh na rialacháin chun cead a thabhairt do chomhaltaí áirithe ceannbheart ar leith a bhaineann lena gcreidimh reiligiúnacha agus cultúir a chaitheamh.

Eisítear éide agus trealamh a oireann dá gcuid riachtanas oibríochta chuig Sainaonaid amhail an tAonad Tacaíochta faoi Airm, Aonad na Láithreacha Coire, Aonad na Rothar Sléibhe, Aonad na nGluaisrothaithe agus an tAonad Oird Phoiblí.

Ordaíodh leis an gcéad Chód don Gharda Síochána sa bhliain 1928 nár mhór do chomhaltaí ar dualgas "a bheith glan agus dea-chóirithe, idir a gcuma féin, a gcuid éadaí agus an chuma atá ar a dtrealamh. Tá siad le bheith bearrtha i gceart agus a gcuid gruaige gearrtha agus cóirithe mar is cuí. Ní mór na cnaipí, na glais lámh, an crann bagair agus an cás crainn bagair atá acu a bheith glan agus snasta". Tugadh cead do Ghardaí féasóg a bheith orthu faoi dheireadh sa bhliain 2021.



Bottom left: Garda Imelda Flynn and Garda Maureen Ryan, the first female Gardaí in Galway. Courtesy of the Connacht Tribune.  
An Garda Imelda Flynn agus an Garda Maureen Ryan, na chéad Ghardaí mná i nGaillimh. Le caoinchead an Connacht Tribune.  
Bottom right: Garda Jim Cuddy. Courtesy of An Garda Síochána.  
An Garda Jim Cuddy. Le caoinchead an Gharda Síochána.



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

# 1922





# AN GARDÁ SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

19  
20 22

## Scott Medals, Galway Division

### About the Scott Medal

In 1923, General Eoin O'Duffy, Commissioner of An Garda Síochána, travelled to the International Police Conference in New York. There he met with Colonel Walter Scott, an honorary Commissioner of the New York City Police. Scott, a wealthy philanthropist, was very impressed with the newly formed Irish police force and presented O'Duffy with a 1,000-dollar gold bond; the interest on this was to finance an annual gold medal for members of An Garda Síochána. O'Duffy decided that the medal would be for outstanding valour.

The only condition attached to the award of the Scott Medal was that...

*no action, however heroic, will merit the award of the Scott Medal, unless it takes the shape of an act of personal bravery, performed intelligently in the execution of duty at imminent risk to the life of the doer, and armed with full previous knowledge of the risk involved.*

The medal takes the form of a Celtic Cross with five panels depicting the words "The Scott Medal", "For Valour", the Eagle and the Shield of the USA, the Harp and Sunburst, and the Garda Crest.

Scott Medals are presented by the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform at the Annual Scott Medal Ceremony.



the IRA suspects on this date. Three males were later arrested and convicted in relation to this event. D/Garda Connolly was awarded the Scott Medal 38 years after the event.

**Garda Geoffrey Power, Registered No 16755L, Galway Garda Station. Scott Silver Medal**

At 03:20 on the 10th of April 1991, Garda Power was informed that a male had fallen into the River Corrib. The river was in flood at the time and Garda Power, on seeing the male pinned against a stanchion, dropped 10' into the water and made his way to the youth. He also had to make his way over an eight-foot gate layered with barbed wire. On reaching the exhausted youth, he managed to hold his head above the water before eventually after 45 minutes they were taken from the water by the Fire Brigade. The youth was hospitalised for 5 days and made a full recovery.

**Garda Thomas J. Flaherty, Registered No 22405G, Galway Garda Station. Scott Bronze Medal**

On the 31st of March 1994, Garda Flaherty rescued a female who had fallen into the City Docks. Having dived 15' into the water, he located the female and keeping her head above the water swam 60' to the dock wall where they were eventually taken from the water by colleagues. The female made a full recovery.

**Garda Denis Madden, Registered No 17523D, Galway Garda Station. Scott Bronze Medal**

On the 21st of December 1994, Garda Madden came to the rescue of a male in the canal at Lower Dominick Street, Galway. Garda Madden jumped 20' into the water and was initially dragged underwater by the male. He eventually dragged the male to the canal wall despite his resistance and was eventually assisted from the canal by colleagues. Garda Madden was for a period in great danger of being swept away. The male in question made a full recovery.

**D/Garda Kieran McNamara, Registered No 19562F, Loughrea Garda Station. Scott Bronze Medal**

On the 1st of March 2002, while on foot patrol, D/Garda McNamara noticed suspicious activity at the Irish Permanent Building Society at Main Street, Loughrea. He then intercepted two males wearing balaclavas and armed with a knife and hammer fleeing the building. After a struggle D/Garda McNamara managed to arrest the male wielding the knife. The second male escaped with a third getaway driver but both were later also arrested following a follow-up operation.

**Superintendent Enda Walsh, Registered No 19724F, Loughrea Garda Station. Scott Bronze Medal**

On the 6th of October 2006, two males armed with realistic imitation firearms entered the Bank of Ireland at Loughrea, terrifying customers and staff. Superintendent Walsh, who was off duty, was in the Bank at the time and immediately challenged both males, arresting one at the scene and leading to the arrest of the second. Both were subsequently convicted in regard to the incident.

**Garda Bernice Mulderrig, Registered No 29728C, Oranmore Garda Station. Scott Silver Medal.**

**Garda Alan Keane, Registered No 29624H, Oranmore Garda Station. Scott Silver Medal.**

On the 15th of February 2009, the above members confronted five armed men carrying a shotgun and hatchet at a private home at Lackagh, Turloughmore, Co. Galway. The culprits pointed a loaded firearm at the members and Garda Keane was struck with the hatchet. He then succeeded in grabbing the loaded shotgun from one of the individuals. Both members then gave chase to the males who were subsequently arrested and convicted.



**Garda Daniel Manley, Registered No 7628, Milltown Garda Station. Scott Medal Bronze**

On the 27th of August 1938 at 1am, while on patrol at Tuam, Co. Galway, along with Garda Curran, Garda Manley disarmed a man holding a single barrel shotgun. It was unknown at the time if the weapon was loaded. The male in question was subsequently arrested and sentenced to a period of imprisonment.

**Garda Michael McGann, Registered No 16395, Gort Garda Station. Scott Bronze Medal**

On the 4th of December 1970, Garda McGann rushed to the scene of a fire at a Licenced Premises at Church St, Gort. On arrival he was informed that a 2-year-old boy was still inside the building. He entered through the hallway and despite the fact that the ceiling was in flames and the house full of thick black smoke he crawled across the floor and located the child, effecting a rescue.

**D/Garda James Connolly, Registered No 17790C, Galway Garda Station. Scott Silver Medal.**

On the 16th of December 1983, D/Garda Connolly was part of a search operation for kidnapped businessman, Don Tidey. At Drumcroman Wood, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim, he came under intense automatic gunfire from the suspects and was forced to take cover. He returned fire and later went to the assistance of his colleagues. Recruit Garda Gary Sheehan and Private Patrick Kelly of the Defence Forces were both fatally wounded by

Garda Daniel Manley, Registered Number 7628, Milltown Garda Station. Courtesy of An Garda Síochána.  
An Garda Daniel Manley, Uimhir Chártaíthe 7628, Stáisiún Gardai Bhaile an Mhuilinn. Le caoinchead an Gharda Síochána.



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

19  
20 22





# AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA GALWAY GAILLIMH

100 Years of Keeping People Safe  
Ag Coinneáil Daoine Slán le 100 Bliain Anuas

# 1922

**Project Development Team:** Superintendent Damien Flanagan, An Garda Síochána; Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Galway County Council; Dr Conor McNamara, Historian in Residence, Galway County Council; Eithne Verling, Director, Galway City Museum; Brendan McGowan; Education & Outreach Officer, Galway City Museum, Damien Donnellan, Exhibitions and Education, Galway City Museum, Eoin O'Neill, Collections, Galway City Museum, James Reynolds, Conservation, Galway City Museum.

**Project Managers:** Superintendent Damien Flanagan, An Garda Síochána and Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Galway County Council.

**Text:** Superintendent Damien Flanagan, Dr. Conor McNamara, Marie Mannion, Marianne ten Cate

**Photographs:** as credited

**Proof-reading:** Marianne ten Cate, Superintendent Damien Flanagan, Marie Mannion, Dr. Conor McNamara, Ita Gordon and Sam Keady

**Translation:** Europus Teo

**Graphic Design:** Damien Goodfellow

**Printers:** A&T Printing, Athenry, Co Galway

**Administrative Support:** Ita Gordon, Sam Keady & Martina Creaven, Galway County Council

**Funded by:** Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (Decade of Centenaries Local Authority Funding), An Garda Síochána, Galway County Council and Galway City Council

**Sources of information:** *The Garda Síochána: Policing Independent Ireland, 1922-82*, Gregory Allen, Dublin: Gill and Macmillan, 1999; *A History of the Garda Síochána: A Social History of the Force 1922-52, with an Overview of the Years 1952-9*, Liam McNiffe, Dublin: Wolfhound Press, 1997; *An Garda Síochána and the Scott Medal*, Gerard O'Brien, Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2008; <https://www.garda.ie/en/about-us/our-history/>

**Assistance provided:** We would like to thank the following for all their help and assistance with regards to the development of this exhibition: Neil Carron, Kate Nevin and Muirne Lyons, Commemorations, Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media; Dr John Reynolds, Sergeant | Office of Deputy Commissioner, Policing & Security | Garda Headquarters; Mary Flanagan, Garda Staff Member, Galway Garda Station; Michael Lernihan (Retired Superintendent); Garda Síochána, Retired Members Association; Retired members of An Garda Síochána, who served in the Galway Division; Eamon Dolan (Retired Superintendent); Dominic Higgins, Michael Fahy, Garda Reserve; Inspector Senan Wall, An Garda Síochána; Retired Members Association (Galway Branch); Maura O'Riordan, Anne Tierney, Old Tuam Society; Emma Laffey, Skehana and District Heritage Group; Antoinette Lydon, Oughterard Heritage Group; Hazel Morrison, Moycullen Heritage Group; Cllr. Jim Cuddy, Mrs Julie O'Donnell, Tismean; Carraroe; Dave O'Connell, Editor, *The Connacht Tribune* and Mary Burke, *The Tuam Herald*.

To those who merit credit and who have inadvertently not been acknowledged sincere apologies and grateful thanks.

No part of this exhibition may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or by any information storage and retrieval system, without written permission from the author, except for the inclusion of brief quotations in a review. Whilst every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the compilation of this exhibition, the project management team can accept responsibility for errors, omissions, or inaccuracies. All information is received and published in good faith. All rights reserved.

Copyright: © An Garda Síochána, Galway County Council & Galway City Council



1<sup>st</sup> Galway Divisional Garda traffic corps, 1973. Courtesy of Cllr Jim Cuddy. An t-ú chór tráchtá den Gharda Síochána i Rannán na Gaillimhe, 1973. Le caoinhead an Chomhairleora Jim Cuddy.



Garda Gerard O'Callaghan, 1980s. Courtesy of An Garda Síochána. An Garda Gerard O'Callaghan, 1980idí. Le caoinhead an Gharda Síochána.



Closing the door on Eglinton Street, Galway Garda station in 1986. Garda Eugene Mellotte and Sergeant Mick O'Malley. Courtesy of the *Connacht Tribune*. Ag dúnadh na doirse ar stáisiún Gardai na Gaillimhe ar Shráid Eglinton i 1986. An Garda Eugene Mellotte agus an Sáirsint Mick O'Malley. Le caoinhead an *Connacht Tribune*.



Sergeant Brendan O'Grady and Garda Aidan McTigue, at the scene of a rescue 2021. Courtesy of the *Connacht Tribune*. An Sáirsint Brendan O'Grady agus an Garda Aidan McTigue ag láthair tartrhála in 2021. Le caoinhead an *Connacht Tribune*.

**An Fhoireann Forbartha Tionscadail:** An Ceannfort Damien Flanagan, An Garda Síochána; Marie Mannion, Oifigeach Oidhreachta, Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe; An Dr Conor McNamara, Staráí Cónaithe, Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe; Eithne Verling, Stiúrthóir, Músaem Cathrach na Gaillimhe; Brendan McGowan; Oifigeach Oideachais agus For-rochtana, Músaem Cathrach na Gaillimhe, Damien Donnellan, Taispeántais agus Oideachas, Músaem Cathrach na Gaillimhe, Eoin O'Neill, Bailiúcháin, Músaem Cathrach na Gaillimhe, James Reynolds, Caomhnú, Músaem Cathrach na Gaillimhe.

**Bainisteoirí Tionscadail:** An Ceannfort Damien Flanagan, An Garda Síochána & Marie Mannion, Oifigeach Oidhreachta, Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe.

**Téacs:** An Ceannfort Damien Flanagan, An Dr. Conor McNamara, Marie Mannion, Marianne ten Cate

**Grianghraif:** mar a shonraítear

**Profáil:** Marianne ten Cate, An Ceannfort Damien Flanagan, Marie Mannion, An Dr. Conor McNamara, Ita Gordon agus Sam Keady

**Aistriúchán:** Europus Teo

**Dearadh Grafach:** Damien Goodfellow

**Clóidóirí:** A&T Printing, Baile Átha an Rí, Co. na Gaillimhe

**Tacaíocht Riaracháin:** Ita Gordon, Sam Keady & Martina Creaven, Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe

**Arna mhaoiniú ag:** An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán (Maoiniú Údaráis Áitiúil do Chlár Deich mBliana na gCuimhneachán), An Garda Síochána, Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe agus Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe

**Foinsí eolais:** *The Garda Síochána: Policing Independent Ireland, 1922-82*, Gregory Allen, Baile Átha Cliath: Gill and Macmillan, 1999; *A History of the Garda Síochána: A Social History of the Force 1922-52, with an Overview of the Years 1952-9*, Liam McNiffe, Baile Átha Cliath: Wolfhound Press, 1997; *An Garda Síochána and the Scott Medal*, Gerard O'Brien, Baile Átha Cliath: Four Courts Press, 2008; <https://www.garda.ie/en/about-us/our-history/>

**Cúnamh a tugadh:** Ba mhian linn buíochas a ghabháil leis na daoine seo a leanas as an gcuidiú agus cúnamh a thug siad i ndáil le forbairt an taispeántais seo: Neil Carron, Kate Nevin agus Muirne Lyons, Cuimhneacháin, An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán; An Dr John Reynolds, Sáirsint | Oifig an Leas-Choimisinéara, Póilínacht & Slándáil | Ceanncheathrú an Gharda Síochána; Mary Flanagan, Ball Foirne an Gharda Síochána, Stáisiún Gardaí na Gaillimhe; Michael Lernihan (Ceannfort ar scor), An Garda Síochána, Cumann na gComhaltaí ar Scor; Comhaltaí den Gharda Síochána atá ar scor, a bhí lonnaithe i Rannán na Gaillimhe; Eamon Dolan (Ceannfort ar Scor); Dominic Higgins, Michael Fahy, Cúltaca an Gharda Síochána; An Cigire Senan Wall; Cumann an Gharda Síochána do Chomhaltaí ar Scor (Craobh na Gaillimhe); Maura O'Riordan, Anne Tierney, The Old Tuam Society; Emma Laffey, Grúpa Oidhreachta an Sceachánaigh & an Cheantair Máguaire; Antoinette Lydon, Grúpa Oidhreachta Uachtar Ard; Hazel Morrison, Grúpa Oidhreachta Mhaigh Cuilin; An Comhairleoir Jim Cuddy, Julie O'Donnell Uasal, An Tisméan, An Cheathrú Rua, Dave O'Connell, Eagarthóir, *The Connacht Tribune* agus Mary Burke, *The Tuam Herald*.

Maidir leis na daoine eile ar fad a bhfuil moladh ag dul dóibh ach nach bhfuil luaite anseo agam, gabhaim pardún libh agus gabhaim buíochas mór ó chroí libh.

Ní fheadfar aon chuid den taispeántas seo a atáirgeadh ná a sheachadadh in aon fhoirm ná ar aon bhealach, go leictreonach ná go meicniúil, lena n-áirítear fótachóipeáil, taifeadadh ná in aon chóras eolais stórála agus aisghabhála, gan cead scríofa ón údar, seachas i gcás athfriotail ghearra a úsáid i léimheas. Cé go bhfuil gach cúram déanta cruinneas a chinntiú agus an taispeántas seo á chur i dtoll a chéile, is féidir leis an bhfoireann bainistithe tionscadail freagracht a ghlacadh as earráidí, easnaimh, nó as eolas míchruinn. Glacadh agus foilsíodh an t-eolas ar fad de mheon macánta. Gach ceart ar cosaint.

Cóipcheart: © An Garda Síochána, Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe & Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe.

This project was funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media [Decade of Centenaries Local Authority Funding], An Garda Síochána, Galway County Council and Galway City Council. It is an action of Galway County Council's Decade of Commemoration Strategy 2013-2023.

Arna mhaoiniú ag: An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán (Maoiniú Údaráis Áitiúil do Chlár Deich mBliana na gCuimhneachán), An Garda Síochána, Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe agus Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe. Is gníomh é seo de Straitéis Deich mBliana na gCuimhneachán 2013-2023 de chuid Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe.



An Garda Síochána  
100 Years of Keeping People Safe

# 1922