

**The Chairman and Members of
North West Area Committee.**

Meeting: 16th February 2021

Item No: 15

DCC Decade of Commemorations Programme for 2021

Dublin City Council is committed to delivering a varied, engaging programme of history and heritage events in 2021. This document sets out some of the proposed activities: the programme will be added to during the year.

Due to the pandemic we are planning for the moment at least, online talks, events, and classes¹ (on social media or Zoom etc.).

Decade of Centenaries

There are a number of significant Decade of Commemorations anniversaries in 2021 including the burning of the Custom House, various incidents in the War of Independence, the Truce on 11th July 1921, and the Treaty.

Historians-in-residence programme

Speaker	Subject ²	Draft dates
Cormac Moore	A short course on 'Ireland in 1921' with talks on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – An Overview of Ireland in 1921 – The Final Six Months of the War of Independence – The Partition of Ireland – The Truce – The Treaty 	March
Cormac Moore	The Birth of the Border - partition	TBC
Mary Muldowney	Four-part lecture series called <i>Class Consciousness and Conflict in the Irish War of Independence</i> (with accompanying reading)	TBC
Mary Muldowney	1921 events including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – local and international press coverage of incidents; 	TBC

¹ The format of events may change as public health guidelines change: if real, in-person events are permitted, some lectures can be repeated or take place in libraries later in the year.

² The HIRs will continue to give online talks to many local/community groups on various history topics e.g. Lemons Sweets, weaving/textile industry etc

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the declaration of war on the British administration in Ireland on 11 March 1921 – the Battle of Brunswick Street – the General Election of May 1921 – burning of the Custom House – the signing of the Truce in July 1921 – 	
Mary Muldowney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Dublin’s Disappearing Workplaces – The ‘state o’ chassis’ in Sean O’Casey’s Tenement World (14 Henrietta Street) 	TBC
Mary Muldowney	Online exhibition and lecture series - <i>Women at Work in Dublin City Council</i> . Sarah Cecilia Harrison, Ellen Duncan, Kathleen Clarke and others will feature.	March
Mary Muldowney	A series of short films (10/15 minutes) on aspects of local history including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – incidents and personalities from the War of Independence (especially 1921) – history of Arnotts – history of Mountjoy Square – tenement housing in Dublin 1 – history of the Clery’s building – history of the retail areas in Central Dublin, on a street-by-street basis 	Posted online
Cathy Scuffil	The troop train ambush at Killeen Bridge (for Ballyfermot Arts Festival). This will be repeated and become part of a War of Independence lecture series for SC area. (some talks may be delivered via parish webcams to reach more people, especially for cocooners.	January and other dates TBC
James Curry	<i>Irish Revolution course (1916-23)</i> : Building on the success of this twelve-part course in Ballymun and Cabra libraries in 2019/20, the course will be adapted for online delivery.	TBC
James Curry	<i>After the Irish Revolution course (1923 – 49)</i> : a sequel course to the Irish Revolution course (above) looking at Irish history from the aftermath of the Civil War until Ireland became a Republic.	TBC
James Curry	A series of lectures on the life of Rosie Hackett.	TBC
James Curry	A series of online talks related to the City’s sculptures, particularly related to the Irish revolutionary era, e.g. statues of people who fought in 1916, sculptures of Countess Markiewicz, etc.	TBC

James Curry	Continuation of the series of blog posts and online presentations about the City Council) commemorative plaques.	Posted online
-------------	--	---------------

The Truce

The Truce of 11 July 1921 ended the hostilities of the War of Independence. It came after two and a half years of conflict with more than 1,000 people killed in the first six months of 1921 alone. The leader of Sinn Féin, Éamon de Valera, accepted the British Prime Minister David Lloyd George's invitation to talks in early July and a truce was formally signed in Dublin's Mansion House between Dáil cabinet members Robert Barton and Eamon Duggan and the British Military Commander in Ireland Nevil Maeadey on 9 July, to come into effect two days later.

We are working with the Lord Mayor's Office and the Mansion House to devise a programme of events, and the Round Room has been booked for weekend of 9-11 July 2021.

Dublin Festival of History from 20th September to 10th October

The Festival will take place online, and in person if Covid restrictions allow. The podcasts of the 2020 Festival will be published.

City Hall Lecture Series

To be delivered online in April, the theme is 'Death and Disease in Dublin'.

Blog Posts

The historians-in-residence will continue to write history blog posts for libraries website on events in 1921, including death of Sir Charles Cameron, the Truce, and the Treaty.

Books

We plan to publish four books in 2021. A series of talks will be organised to coincide with the publication of each title:

- *Vindicating Dublin: The story behind the controversial dissolution of the Corporation in 1924* by Aodh Quinlivan (June 2021).
- *Building Healthy Homes: Dublin Corporation's First Housing Schemes 1880-1925* by Joseph Brady and Ruth McManus (Autumn 2021).
- *History on your Doorstep, Vol. 4*: the historians-in-residence will write local history chapters for the fourth volume in the popular *History on Your Doorstep* book which, as before, will be available for free in public libraries throughout the city and online (Autumn 2021).
- *Sarah Cecilia Harrison* by Margarita Cappock (Autumn 2021).

History on Your doorstep – outdoor panels

The outdoor panels scheme will be re-activated. Working with City Council Area Offices, we propose to install temporary HOYD panels at various sites around the City and suburbs.

Commemorative Plaques Scheme and Commemorative Community Grants Scheme

Both schemes will be continued in 2021. The information on the Council website has been updated and new online forms published.

- Plaques - <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/arts-and-events/decade-commemorations/commemorative-plaques-scheme>
- Grants - <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/arts-and-events/decade-commemorations/commemorations-community-grants>

Exhibitions

We have commissioned an exhibition on the Liffey Swim, which will be delivered online to coincide with the running of the event in 2021.

Other

Near FM's show *Northside Today*, features an interview with Cormac Moore every fortnight and many of these slots will relate to events of 1921.

Cathy Scuffil is developing a self-directed history/heritage trail for the Liberties and a scrapbook for young people in the area (summer project). Cathy is also supporting the development of a printed history journal for the Liberties.

The Tenter's housing development is 100 this year: Cathy Scuffil is working with the local group to celebrate this. There will be an online Exhibition on the Liffey Swim.

Funding

In addition to the City Council's commemorations budget for 2021, the Council has been allocated funding from the Decade of Centenaries Fund in the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport, and Media. A proportion of this funding will be allocated to a project(s) *'to support artistic and creative endeavours'*.