



CONNAUGHT RANGERS ASSOCIATION

New Committee Appointed



PJ Maloney MA
Chairman



Padraig Mc Donnell
Secretary



Brian Quinn
Treasurer



Tony King PhD
Liaison Officer



Daniel Dalton
Development Officer



Dermot Kelly
Web Master



Dermot Davitt
Working Member



Michael Cryan
Working Member

Committee profile

- Chairman: PJ Maloney** is a serving member of the Defence Forces based in Dun Uí Mhaoilíosa, Galway, the former depot of the C.R. He is curator of the military museum in the barracks which has a large section dedicated to the C.R. His grandfather served with the 1st Bn and was wounded whilst deployed on the Mesopotamian campaign. PJ has an M.A in History and has been a committee member for the past number of years.
- General Secretary: Padraig Mc Donnell** is a native of Co Galway. He retired from the Defence Forces in 2016 having served 31 yrs. His grandfather, Thomas Smyth, served in the 1st Bn Connaught Rangers. Padraig worked in the Military Museum for over 25yrs and retired as Curator. He studied in NUI Galway and attained a Higher Diploma in Community Development and Education. He also studied Professional Photography in Griffith College Dublin.

Committee profile

- **Development Officer: Daniel Dalton** is a native of Co Westmeath. He is currently serving in the Defence Forces and is Assistant Curator in Dún Uí Mhaoiliosa Museum. He is the representative for the West of Ireland Military Archives Oral History Project. He graduated from NUI Galway with a Diploma in Archaeology. He is currently studying Earth and Ocean Science. His great-grandfather served in the Connaught Rangers.
- **Liaison Officer: Tony King** is a former member of the Irish Defence Forces. Tony retired from the Army in 2010 to enroll in NUI Galway as a mature student. Awarded a PhD in 2019, Tony's interest in the Connaught Rangers stems from his extensive service in the military and his recent qualification as a professional historian.
- **Treasurer: Brian Quinn** served in the Defence Forces for 19 yrs. A native of Galway City he served as Chairman of the Galway Post 30 Irish United Nations Veterans Association from 2016–2019. He currently works in Medtronic Medical Device manufacturing. He is married and lives in Oranmore, Co Galway. His Granduncle, Pte John Cummins, was killed in action on the 10/10/1918 while serving with the 5th Bn Connaught Rangers.
- **Web Master: Dermot Kelly** is a native of Athlone in Co Westmeath. Dermot retired from the Defence Forces in 2011, after 24 years service. He has been involved in web design for the past 20 years. Dermot holds an MSc in Environmental Health and Safety Management and a BA (Hons) in Law and Justice. He is married and lives in Longford and is currently employed with the Irish Prisons Service.
- **Working Member: Dermot Davitt** was at the first meeting of the C.R.A in Boyle in 2002 and has been a member ever since. He has been a committee member previously and served as Membership Secretary. Dermot is a regular attendee at the Remembrance Sunday ceremony. He has travelled extensively with the Association on trips abroad and has visited Gallipoli on two occasions.
- **Working Member: Michael Cryan** is a retired hydraulic engineer from the Merchant Navy. He has been a committee member for a number of years and has a strong connection with the Connaught Rangers as both his grandfather and uncle served in the regiment.

Chairman's Address

Fáilte.

As Chairman of the C.R.A, I wish to welcome members and former members of the Association to the first edition of our Newsletter. I hope you find it interesting and informative.

2020 will be a significant year as we are commemorating the centenary of the Mutiny. The play *No Comet Seen* and a series of talks are planned to take place.

Discussions will also be held on how best to commemorate the centenary of the disbandment of the Irish Regiments in 2022. Initial contact has been made with other associations. Members will be informed in due course.

I would appeal to former members to rejoin the C.R.A as without members there is **NO ASSOCIATION**.

The Newsletter will be a source of information and if members wish to publicise any event please contact

chairman@connaughttrangersassoc.com

Regards

PJ Maloney.

“ Quis Separabit ”

New Uniform Supplier Sourced

We have sourced a new supplier for our blazer and crest at a reduced cost. The blazer is similar in style and colour with the addition of an embroidered crest sewn directly onto the jacket. The Association tie remains unchanged. Total cost of the three items is €100. Photographs of the blazer and crest will be available to view on our Web Site in the Members Section. We hope this will make the uniform more affordable.

Please contact secretary@connaughttrangersassoc.com

Short / Medium Term Plans

- Two public lectures on the Indian Mutiny and the Crimean War.
- A trip to London in June 2020, to lay a wreath with the Combined Irish Regiments Association at the Cenotaph.
- One Day Symposium on the Connaught Rangers will be delivered by the C.R.A and invited guests in NUI Galway.
- Relaunch of the *New Ranger* Journal.
- Plan and prepare for 2022 commemorations of the disbandment of the Connaught Rangers.

The play *No Comet Seen* by John Kavanagh

Performed by Three Rings Theatre Company and set in the Solon hill-station North-Western India. The play tells the true story of James Daly and a detachment of the Connaught Rangers, who refused to carry out orders in protest of atrocities being carried out by Crown forces back home in Ireland. A short presentation on the history of the Mutiny will be delivered by the C.R.A before each performance. Dates and venues of plays: 19th March—Ballyglunin; 27th March—The Mall, Tuam; 28th March—An Taibhdhearc, Galway.

Booking information: 3ringstuam@gmail.com

The New Ranger Journal

The *Ranger* Journal was first printed in 1910 and was always at the heart of the Association. The last edition was published in 1969. It connected old comrades and allowed for the re-telling of personal stories and events which would have been lost. Now, almost one hundred years later, the journal is an important historical record with first hand

accounts of service in the famous Irish regiment. We are currently working on the next edition of *The New Ranger* Journal. We are eager to hear from members who may have stories, photographs, ideas or other interesting information that they would like published. We invite those wishing to submit articles for publication. We are especially looking

for photographs of members at official events to record for future historical provenance. The journal will be published later this year.

Please contact:

secretary@connaughtrangersassoc.com

NEWS: Old Tapestry Resurfaces!

The tapestry on the right, was found in a charity shop in Fremantle, Western Australia by Mike Williams in 2017. He had no know idea of it's origins, but showed it to friends. They in turn passed it on to Richard Hourigan, a native of Limerick and a former member of the Irish Defence Forces, with a great interest in military history, who instantly recognized it's significance. Richard wished it to be returned to it's rightful home in Connaught. He recently returned to Ireland and presented the tapestry to the Chairman of the C.R.A, PJ Maloney in Renmore Barracks, Galway. The Connaught Rangers Association is pleased to take charge of the tapestry and thankful to Mr. Hourigan for his kind donation. We will display it with pride in our Museum in King House, Boyle, Co. Roscommon. If anyone has any knowledge as to it's origins please contact us.



(Dimensions 600mm x 530mm)



"The faintest ink is more powerful than the strongest memory"

Chinese proverb

If you would like to make

a donation to assist us with our work going forward, it would be greatly appreciated!

C.R.A COMMITTEE



Social Media

Google Drive – Connaught Rangers Members shall have access to our collaborative Google Drive. The Drive consists of historical digital data relating to the Connaught Rangers. This comes in the form of pictures, books, newspapers and maps. These can be used for research or personal recreation. Members can contribute to their own digital data to the Google Drive for others to enjoy.

What's App –A group has been created for members to socialize, share web addresses, pictures, and other information, Connaught Ranger related.

We are looking at other social media platforms for communicating information to the wider public. To gain access to **Google Drive** and **What's App** or to learn more please contact Daniel:

development@connaughtangersassoc.com

Connaught Ranger Symposium NUI Galway

In recognition of the current Decade of Centenaries, the C.R.A will hold a one day symposium *Remembering the Rangers* on Saturday the 27th of June in the O Donoghue Arts Centre, NUI Galway. Members of the public who would like to participate are encouraged to contact the Secretary or Liaison Officer for inclusion in the programme. Admission is free and all are welcome.

liaison@connaughtangersassoc.com

secretary@connaughtangersassoc.com

Wreath laying at the Cenotaph London June 2020

We are currently in the process of planning a trip to London, to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph with the Combined Irish Regiments Association. Anyone interested in travelling with us please contact the Chairperson, PJ Maloney, to book your place. Flights, accommodation and itinerary are currently being arranged. We will have Costings within the next few weeks. We will strive to achieve the most cost affective way for our trip.

Lecture on Connaught Rangers Mutiny in India June 1920

A public talk on the centenary of *The Connaught Rangers Mutiny–1920*, by Dr Tony King, Liaison Officer, CRA, will take place at 8pm on Thursday 30th of April in the Purtill/Camus Suite in the Harbour Hotel. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Commemoration of the Disbandment of the Irish Regiments June 2022

Contact has been made with Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association and it is hoped that a suitable ceremony will be held in Ireland to commemorate the disbandment of the Irish Regiments in June 2020. CRA has also been in contact with the Combined Irish Association who are responsible for ceremonies in Windsor Castle. Members will be informed in due course.



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