

Decade of Centenaries Programme 2012-2023 Public Engagement Platforms & digital resources

[Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media](#)

The Department coordinates the development and delivery of the Government's Decade of Centenaries Programme nationally and can be contacted via commemorations@tcagsm.gov.ie with regard to this document or any other matter arising under the programme. The approach taken to the remembrance of the period covered by the Decade of Centenaries is based on the ethos of authenticity, inclusivity and partnership. The Programme sets a measured, respectful and inclusive tone that encourages the public to engage with the history of this period through interesting and imaginative initiatives. This approach will help to encourage a deeper understanding of the context of the time, which is accepting of the differing perspectives on our shared history and seeks to strengthen peace and reconciliation on the island of Ireland.

The programme is underpinned by the principles set out by the Expert Advisory Group on Centenary Commemorations in its [Original Statement](#) (published in 2012), [Second Statement](#) (published in 2017) and its [subsequent guidance](#) (published in January 2019).

2022 is the mid-point of a final three-year programme of the Decade of Centenaries. The Programme elements share a common set of broad themes and ideas but are nuanced each year to allow for specific centenaries to be remembered in different ways. [The Programme for 2022](#) is the culmination of collaboration right across Government, the National Cultural Institutions, institutes of learning, local authorities, arts and cultural partners and other key stakeholders. It represents a snapshot in time and will be developed further as 2022 unfolds with new ideas and new partnerships developed as appropriate and in line with the objectives of the Decade of Centenaries Programme 2021-2023.

[Mná100](#)

Mná100 is a dedicated online platform that highlights the role of women in the key moments to be remembered over the remainder of the centenaries programme. It features new stories of women who were active in Ireland, as well as women abroad who assisted Ireland in the campaign for independence during these pivotal years. The website looks at how the events of those years shaped the lives of women who lived during this time and those who came afterwards.

[Markievicz Award](#)

The Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media makes Awards each year to up to 10 artists (either individual artists working alone or in collaboration with others) - to a value of €25k per individual or group. The Minister's department partners with the Arts Council on the administration of the Award to provide support for artists from all backgrounds and genres in producing new work that reflects on the role of women in the period covered by the centenary commemorations and beyond.

[National Cultural Institutions](#)

In 2022 the Decade of Centenaries Programme will continue to encourage artistic and creative expression. Artistic and creative endeavours will have an important role in encouraging reflection, exploration and debate, allowing people of all traditions to question and consider issues which may be challenging and difficult. Cultural engagement also offers a safe space to explore complex narratives which arise from the partition of the island and the Civil War.

The National Cultural Institutions have an important contribution to make to the Programme and the guidance of the Expert Advisory Group on Centenary Commemorations acknowledges their significant role as cultural brokers - managing conversations and engaging communities in a meaningful way through creative expression.

The National Cultural Institutions have put in place imaginative and informative programmes, engaging the public in new ways and encouraging and guiding citizens in interpreting the impact of this pivotal part of our history. The Department supports these initiatives that encourage ongoing research and free public access to authentic historical sources.

The [Artist-in-Residence Scheme](#) invited artists to reflect on the rich collections held by our institutions and other bodies to create innovative pieces to reach new audiences. The scheme is currently delivered in partnership with the National Museum of Ireland (NMI), the National Library of Ireland (NLI), the National Archives (NAI), the Beyond 2022 Project and the Military Archives.

www.decadeofcentenaries.com

The Decade of Centenaries Website is the online Decade of Centenaries public information platform, managed by History Ireland, funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and serves as a central repository and ‘noticeboard’ for Decade of Centenaries events nationwide

[Decade of Centenaries 2012-2023 local authority co-ordinators](#)

Local authorities across the country continue to play an important role in the inclusive remembrance of events and themes that took place in their localities from 1912-1923. In developing their 2022 Decade of Centenaries Programmes, local authorities are taking account of initiatives that support broad public engagement. Local stories and experiences are significant in understanding the events that took place across the country a century ago. Local authorities adopt a creative and inclusive approach to engaging communities through:

- Initiatives that encourage and support local research, scholarship and free public access to authentic local archival sources, including online access to digitised local archives.
- Support for an ‘historian-in-residence’ to drive public engagement with the Programme.
- Support for public libraries to enable them to enhance their collections of reading materials, including materials for young people.
- Digital Heritage Projects (e.g. geo-mapping initiatives).
- Collaborative initiatives with the National Cultural Institutions, including public outreach activities.
- On-line engagement with audiences of all ages, e.g. development of curated digital content, online exhibitions, podcasts, webinars, virtual tours, artistic and creative endeavours, and other outreach activities.

[Century Ireland](#)

The Century Ireland Project is an online historical newspaper that tells the story of the events of Irish life a century ago. This 10 year project was launched in May 2013 and the website is produced by a team of researchers at Boston College Ireland funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and hosted by RTÉ

News reporting on life in Ireland 100 years ago is supported by a wealth of visual, archival and contextual material to facilitate an understanding of the complexities of Irish life in the years between 1912 and 1923. The researchers have mapped out storylines and identified supporting archives for 2022 and are writing and commissioning analysis and feature articles to support the historical reportage.

Century Ireland content is also complemented by the RTÉ broadcast schedule and material from the RTÉ archives.

[Military Service Pensions Collection](#)

The Collection, of almost 300,000 applications files and supporting documentation, provides a detailed picture of Irish Volunteer, Irish Republican Army, National Army and anti-Treaty forces’ activities throughout the period from the 1916 Rising to the end of the Civil War in 1923.

[Military Archives](#)

The Military Archives is the official place of deposit for records of the Defence Forces, the Department of Defence and the Army Pensions Board.

[Irish Times ‘Century’ Newspaper Supplement](#)

The Irish Times is continuing its series of special newspaper supplements to mark the Decade of Centenaries 1912-1923. In addition to retail sales, these publications have been distributed to all post-primary schools in Ireland, with the support of the Departments of Education; and Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.