



## NEWS RELEASE

### **Exhibition commemorates Fingal's role in 1916 Rising**

**'Fingal and the Fight for Irish Freedom' exhibition launched in Swords County Hall**

**Dublin, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016** A new exhibition 'Fingal and the Fight for Irish Freedom' was launched in the Atrium of County Hall, Swords, this evening by Mayor of Fingal, Councillor David O'Connor. The exhibition, curated by Fingal Local Studies & Archives, is a combination of multi-media, digital, interactive and traditional displays and tells the story of many of the Fingallians who were involved in the events of Easter week.

Fingal Local Studies & Archives has been collecting archives relating to this significant period in Ireland's and Fingal's history for a number of years, and many of the items on display come from the Council's collections. Relatives and families of Fingallians involved in 1916 have also generously loaned family heirlooms, including letters home from the prisoners in Frongoch, and other memorabilia, to the Council, for the exhibition. Other museums such as Kilmainham Jail and Cork Municipal Museum have also lent items associated with Fingal.

In attendance at the launch were the relatives and family of the original members of the Fingal 5th Battalion and the Baldoyle Irish Citizen Army unit. The exhibition will be on display in County Hall until Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup>. It will then

move to the Reading Room of Fingal Local Studies & Archives, 2nd Floor, Clonmel House, where it can be viewed by appointment.

Speaking at the launch of the exhibition, Archivist Colm McQuinn said “The aim for this exhibition is to put on display in one place and at one time, the largest collection of original items and documents relating to the Fingallians who were involved in the events of 1916. This exhibition reveals through its artefacts the story Fingallians who were involved in the events of Easter week. We hope it will bring people throughout Fingal together in remembrance of those who lost their lives in the fight for Irish freedom.”

The ‘Fingal and the Fight for Irish Freedom’ exhibition is part of Fingal County Council's Centenary Programme, which will see over 50 lectures, film screenings, performances, re-enactments, talks and exhibitions cumulate in a special Commemorative Day in Swords on Sunday 24th April 2016.

For further information on the full Fingal 2016 Centenary Programme visit:

[www.fingal.ie](http://www.fingal.ie)

**ENDS**

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