

# CUMANN NA MBAN: COUNTY GALWAY DIMENSIONS

GALWAY DECADE OF COMMEMORATION  
2013-2023



Cumann na mBan Brooch photograph courtesy of Páid O'Neachtáin

“They stand for the honour of Ireland, as their sisters in days that are gone, and they'll march with their brothers to freedom, the soldiers of Cumann na mBan<sup>1</sup>.”

*Cumann na mBan* in Galway during the Rising mirrored that of its members involved in the rebellion elsewhere. For the most part, they cared for the wounded, sourced and cooked food and carried messages for the Volunteers, while others carried packages and smuggled ammunition.

<sup>1</sup> Abstract from *The Soldiers of Cumann na mBan*, Brian O'Higgins (1916)

## BRAVE WOMEN



Kate Armstrong's 1916 Medals and Kate Clynn and Michael Armstrong's wedding 1921  
Photographs courtesy of Kathy Keane

Bridgit Morrissey packed first aid kits and collected food.

Kathleen Clery was both present in Galway during the Rising and also became an IRA courier in Liverpool during the war of Independence, while Mary Higgins smuggled ammunition for the rebels in Athenry.

Mary Kate Connor not only helped with cooking and packing haversacks for the men, but also smuggled arms and ammunition for Liam Mellows himself.



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