

# Women of 1916

**Úna Brennan** (1888 – 1958) was an Irish republican and feminist. In 1908 she got a monthly column in *The Echo* newspaper where she covered topics like Women's rights both in the home and in public life.

**Elizabeth O'Farrell** (1884 – 1957) is best remembered for delivering the surrender with Pearse in the Easter Rising. She lived the rest of her life as a midwife in Dublin.

**Countess Markievicz** (1868 – 1927) was a **Countess Markievicz** (1868 – 1927) was a revolutionary nationalist, suffragette and socialist. In 1918 she was the first woman elected to the British House of Commons, but did not take her seat. She was also the first woman in the world to hold a cabinet position (Minister for Labour of the Irish Republic, 1919–1922).

**Lucy Agnes Smyth** (1882–1972) was an officer in Cumann na mBan, during the Easter Rising. She played a prominent role in the organisation as she was the section leader of its Central branch, and eventually in later years became its 1st Lieutenant.

**Kathleen Clarke** (1878 – 1972) was a founder member of Cumann na mBan. She was the wife of Tom Clarke and sister of Ned Daly, both of whom were executed for their part in the Rising. She went on to be a TD and Senator with both Sinn Féin and Fianna Fáil, and the first female Lord Mayor of Dublin (1939–41).

**Nora Connolly** (1892 – 1981) was an activist, writer and member of the Irish Senate. The daughter of James Connolly, she canvassed for Sinn Féin in the 1918 general election and continued to promote labour and republican issues throughout her life.

**Winifred Carney** (1887 – 1943) was a suffragist, trade unionist and independence activist. She was the only woman present during the initial occupation of the GPO in 1916. She stood as a Sinn Féin candidate in the 1918 general election. She continued to be involved in the trade union movement, working for the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union.

**Dr Kathleen Lynn** (1874 – 1955) was a Sinn Féin politician, activist and medical doctor. She was a member of the executive committee of the Irish Women's Suffragette and Local Government Association from 1903. After release from prison

in 1916, she was elected vice-president of the Sinn Féin executive in 1917 and was elected to Dáil Éireann in 1923.

**Elizabeth Corr** (1887 – 1987) and her sister Nell travelled from Belfast to Dublin to join the 1916 Rising, where they ran dispatches for the Irish Citizen Army. Elizabeth's written accounts of Easter Week are a valuable insight into life in the Rising at that time.

**Sorcha McMahon** (1888 – 1970) was an active republican during the Easter Rising, the War of Independence and the Irish Civil War. She was on the executive committee for Cumann na mBan from 1915 to 1919 and was a main organiser for the O'Donovan Rossa funeral.

**May Gibney** (1893 – 1984) tended to the rebels in the GPO during the 1916 Easter Rising and joined Cumann na mBan later that year. Throughout the War of Independence she acted as courier between Dublin commands and the rest of the country.

**Catherine Rooney** (1897–1971) was an Irish nationalist and republican active during the Easter Rising of 1916 and the War of Independence. She risked her life to hide Volunteers and move munitions.

**Helena Moloney** (1883 – 1967) was a prominent Irish republican, feminist and labour activist. She fought in the 1916 Easter Rising and later became the second woman president of the Irish Trade Union Congress

**Louise Gavan Duffy** (1884 – 1969) was a suffragist and Irish nationalist who was present in the GPO during the Easter Rising. She was an educator, Irish language enthusiast and Gaelic revivalist who set up the first Gaelscoil in Ireland.

**Julia Grennan** (1884 – 1972) was an Irish nationalist, republican, suffragette, socialist and member of Cumann na mBan, and was one of the three last women to leave the Headquarters during the Easter Rising of 1916.

**Madeleine French Mullen** (1880 – 1944) was a revolutionary and labour activist who joined Inghinidhe na h'Eireann and took part in the 1916 Easter Rising. In Sinn Féin she was elected to Rathmines District Council in 1920. She remained a radical feminist and republican during her life.

**Margaret Skinnider** (1892 – 1971) was a revolutionary and feminist. She fought during the 1916 Rising as a sniper, among other roles, and was the only female wounded in the action. She worked for women's rights throughout her life.

**Rose MacNamara** (1885 –1957) was an Irish nationalist, republican and Vice Commandant during the Easter Rising of 1916.

**Rosie Hackett** (1893 – 1976) was an Irish insurgent and trade union leader. She was a founder-member of the Irish Women Workers' Union, and supported strikers during the 1913 Dublin Lockout. She later became a member of the Irish Citizen Army and was involved in the 1916 Easter Rising.

**Molly O'Reilly** (c.1900 – 1950) became active in the national movement at an early age and was still a teenager when she was running dispatches from the GPO during Easter 1916. In 1923 she took part in the mass hunger-strike by republican prisoners in demand for the general release of all political prisoners.