

## The 1916 Medal

The 1916 Medal was instituted on 24 January 1941 and was to be issued to persons with recognised military service during Easter Week 1916.

This concerned the members of the Irish Volunteers, Irish Citizen Army, Hibernian Rifles, Na Fianna Éireann and Cumann na mBan, or their dependants, whose claim for service during the month of April had been recognised as “active service” under the Army Pensions Acts, 1923 to 1932 and the Military Service Pensions Acts, 1924 and 1934.

Since 1943, the examination and granting of posthumous medal claims and awards to dependants has been administered by the Department of Defence.

Veterans or their dependants who did not claim for a pension or a service certificate had to prove that they would have qualified, had they done so.

Department of Defence records, surveyed and processed to date and released through the Military Archives, show that the applications of **2,594** veterans of the Easter Rising are verified. Moreover, there is a very small number of individuals (including Cathal Brugha, Countess Constance Markievicz and Seán Russell) with verifiable, historically proven service during Easter Week 1916. No claim has ever been received by the Department in these cases and no medal was issued.

One other development relating to holders of the 1916 Medal is important. This is the introduction of Special Allowances under Section 7 of the Army Pensions Act, 1943. This allowance was designed to give financial assistance to those who had served during the Rising and who were in necessitous circumstances and were prevented by reason of age or permanent infirmity of mind or body from supporting themselves.

Full Christian Name and

Surnames:-

## An Bonn 1916

### The 1916 Medal

#### Conditions of award:

The medal is awarded to persons who participated in The Rising during the week commencing 23rd April 1916.

#### Design:

A bronze circular medal approximately one and two fifth inches (38mm) in diameter, fashioned (after the manner of the official Irish army crest) in the form of a circle of flame representing the sunburst on which eight points of a star are superimposed. Within the circle on the obverse is a representation of the death scene of Cúchullain (a legendary Irish hero), partially surrounded by an ancient warrior's sword belt.

On the reverse appears the following inscription: "**Seachtain Na Cásca 1916**", which is translated "Easter Week 1916".



OBVERSE

#### Ribbon:

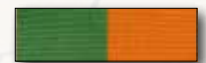
Green (to the observer's left) and orange in two vertical panels.

#### Suspension bar:

The suspension bar from which the ribbon is suspended bears a celtic interlaced design.



REVERSE



RIBBON

Full Christian Name and  
Surname: -

NOTE: FINAL CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS IS THE  
30th NOVEMBER, 1944.