



Óglaigh Náisiúnta na hÉireann (ONE)
Organisation of National Ex-Service Personnel

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VOL 1 / ISSUE 2 – MAY 2022 – ONE NEWSLETTER

SLEEPING FLAGS NATIONAL FUNDRAISER

21ST MAY 2022

“ONE is conducting the Sleeping Flags Appeal on 21st May 2022 in five designated locations nationwide in order to improve awareness and provide funding to support the needs of Irish veterans by the provision of accommodation to homeless and other veterans in need of other advice and support through our nationwide network of Branches and Veterans’ Support Centres” – Cormac Kirwan, ONE CEO



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RECENT NEWS

The Irish Air Corps celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the handover of Baldonnel Aerodrome on the 3rd of May 2022. Many veterans and distinguished guests gathered along with serving personnel from the Irish Air Corps and the Defence Forces for a historical occasion to mark the 100th anniversary of the handover of Baldonnel Aerodrome from the Royal Air Force to the Irish Air Service as it was known, on the 3rd May 1922.

The Air Corps Guard of Honour was marched back through the gates of Baldonnel led by its own Pipe Band and members of the Defence Forces School of Music. In front of the runways and the open fields of Baldonnel, the Defence Forces Chief of Staff Lt General Sean Clancy greeted everyone with words of gratitude and of encouragement for the future of the Defence Forces.

General Officer Commanding the Air Corps and Director of Military Aviation, Brig General Rory O’Connor took to the podium. During his speech he acknowledged those who had lost their lives in service and who had passed away after service. He also acknowledged those on parade and those who had served in the Air Corps down through the years, ***“Each and every one of them, and all of you here today, have played a part in the Air Corps and its history, and we should all be very proud of that.”***



Two wreaths were laid in memory of those Defence Forces members who died in service by DF COS, Lt General Sean Clancy, while GOC AC Brig General Rory O’Connor laid one for those Air Corps members who died in service. This was followed by the playing of Last Post and then the raising of the National Flag and the pipe band played Amhrán na bhFiann. To finish there was a fly past by two PC9M directly overhead of the event.

For more on Air Corps history visit: <https://bit.ly/AirCorpsHistory>

BRANCH NEWS – NEW BRANCH & ALL FEMALE ELECTED OFFICERS

For the first time in ONE history, an all-female committee of elected officers will lead out a branch – in the newly formed South Tipperary Branch, with Chairperson Audra Ni Dálaigh Lorcáin, Secretary Noelle Gardiner and Treasurer Davina Long. The three elected officers have over 40-years combined service in the Defence Forces and bring a wealth of experience from their military service and their current professional careers. Best wishes.

The Sleeping Flags Appeal is one of the National Fundraising events and will take place in Athlone, Cork, Dublin, Galway and Limerick from 09:00hrs to 21:00hrs on the 21st May 2022, where Defence Forces Veterans will return to the streets to bring awareness to the plight of homeless veterans and fundraise to support ONE's services to help veterans in need.

- The Civic Centre, Athlone Town, Co Westmeath.
- Outside Brown Thomas on Patrick Street, Cork.
- Hueston Station, The GPO, and beside the Aviva Stadium in Dublin.
- Shop Street, off Eyre Square, Galway.
- Outside Debenhams on O'Connell Street, Limerick.

UPCOMING COURSES / TRAINING

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)

MHFA Course 1: is in Dundalk for branches in the area, on the 26th & 27th June 2022. MHFA Course 2: is in Clonmel for branches in the area, on the 3rd & 4th Sept 2022. ONE Welfare Officers Course will be conducted in McKee Bks on Saturday 10th Sept 2022.

Social Media Training Day – TBC

The planned 1-day Social Media training day for Branch PROs was postponed due to only 3 applicants applying. We will now plan to conduct the training *online* at a future date and anyone interested may apply. To register your interest please contact Wayne Fitzgerald.

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

← Sleeping Flags Appeal Fundraiser – 21st May 2022

IUNVA Annual Wreath-Laying Ceremony – 29 May 2022

Ceremony will take place in Arbour House at 1200.

Veterans Day – Sunday 19th June at 14:00hrs in McKee Barracks.

All Defence Forces Veterans are cordially invited. The day will celebrate our Veterans' contribution to the Defence Forces and offer Veterans' an opportunity to meet and reminisce.

RBL ROI Annual Somme Ceremony of Remembrance and Wreath Laying – 9th July 2022

From 12:00-14:30hrs, in the Irish National War Memorial in Islandbridge, Dublin 8 – You must register to attend www.eventbrite.ie

The National Day of Commemoration – 10th July 2022

Museum of Natural History, Collins Barracks Dublin (TBC). The National Day of Commemoration remembers all Irishmen and Irishwomen who died in past wars or on service with the United Nations. It occurs on the Sunday nearest July 11, the anniversary of the date in 1921 when a truce was signed ending the Irish War of Independence.

ONE Annual General Meeting (AGM) & Convention – 1st October 2022

The AGM and Convention will take place in the Breaffy Park Hotel, Castlebar, Co. Mayo. More information to follow.

NEED TO CONTACT US?

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