

DUBLIN CITY ARCHIVES

RDFA/103
Private Patrick Dolan, 1st
Battalion, Royal Dublin
Fusiliers

**Royal Dublin Fusiliers Collection at Dublin City
Archives**

**Cillian Fearon, Dublin City Archives Intern
(November 2016)**



Dublin City Library and Archive
138-144 Pearse Street,
Dublin 2
Tel: 00 353-1-674 4996/4997
Email: cityarchives@dublincity.ie
Twitter: [@dclareadingroom](https://twitter.com/dclareadingroom)

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Fonds Level Description

Identity Statement

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103

Title: Private Paddy Dolan, 10152, 1st Royal Dublin Fusiliers.

Dates: 1908-1925

Level: Fonds

Extent and Medium: 2 files, 17 items, 54pp

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Administrative History

The Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association, Ayrfield, Dublin 13, was established in 1996 to commemorate all Irish men and women who volunteered, served and died in the First World War 1914-1918. The collection was transferred to Dublin City Library from the RDFA in 2015. For this reason the RDFA have been credited in the “creator” field of the fonds level description. The items relate to the life of Patrick Dolan and his service in the 1st Battalion of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers.

Biographical History

Private Patrick Dolan was born on 14 March 1890 in the parish of St. Catherine’s. Before Patrick enlisted in the army he was employed as a grocer’s porter. On 6 July 1908 he joined the 1st Battalion of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Patrick served in Madras, India, which was the headquarters of the 1st Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers at the time. He also served in Poona and Ahmednagar in India in 1910. The 1st Battalion left for England at the outbreak of the war and was stationed in Torquay in the south of England for a short time.

Patrick Dolan was with the 1st Battalion when they landed at ‘V’ Beach in Gallipoli on 25 April 1915. The landing at ‘V’ Beach saw some of the most horrific fighting and the Royal Dublin Fusiliers sustained heavy casualties. While stationed at Gallipoli Patrick suffered a bullet wound to the head. He was evacuated from the peninsula on the 24 September 1915. He was treated at the Ear and Throat Hospital at the Golden Square in London. Patrick Dolan was discharged from the army on the 24 March 1916. His discharge papers cite that he was no longer physically fit for war service.

On the 31st of August 1919 Patrick Dolan married Mary Geraghty (born 28 September 1899) in St Andrews Church. Patrick Dolan died in 1953. He is buried in Deansgrange cemetery, Dublin.

Researched and written by Tom Burke MBE, Chairman, the Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association, 15 October 2000.

Scope and Content

Collection consists of material donated to the Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association by the son of Private Patrick Dolan. It includes personal artefacts, military memorabilia, and a small collection of wartime postcards. The last file in the collection contains laminated material to accompany the exhibition of the collection, including laminated caption cards.

System of Arrangement

Collection is listed at the file and item level. It is arranged in chronological order. The collection is relatively small and expanding the listing to series level would cause unnecessary complication. Reproduced material has been inserted based on the date of its content, not of its reproduction.

Archival History

Papers were donated to Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association in 1998 the son of Private Patrick Dolan. The collection was transferred to Dublin City Library and Archive via Tom Burke (chairman, RDFA) in December 2015. It was catalogued by Cillian Fearon, intern at Dublin City Library and Archives.

Access and Descriptive Control

Access Conditions: Available to view by public who apply for research card in Dublin City Library and Archive Reading Room, 138-144 Pearse Street, Dublin.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Access: The terms of the Copyright and Related Acts (2000) allows DCLA to provide photocopies of material for research purposes only.

Language: English

Related material: The Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association archive (IE DCLA/RDFA) is located at the Dublin City Archives

Finding aid: Descriptive catalogue.

Existence of Copies: Collection has been digitised & will be added to Dublin City Libraries and Archives Digital Repository

Archivist's note: Catalogue compiled by Cillian Fearon, Dublin City Archives intern.

Conventions: ISAD(G), IGAD.

Date of description: 10 November 2016.

Index Terms

Dolan, Patrick, 1890-1953

Dublin City, County Dublin

Royal Dublin Fusiliers, 1881-1922

Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

World War, 1914-1918

Gallipoli Peninsula (Turkey)

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/01

Title: Photograph of Private Patrick Dolan

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: 1908

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: 1p

Scope and Content: Portrait, 145mm x 105mm. Sepia photograph of Private Patrick Dolan in dress uniform with walking cane. Photograph was taken at Alexander Street, Aldershot. Location and date annotated on reverse.

Physical Characteristics: Bottom of picture is slightly faded.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/02

Title: Royal Dublin Fusiliers cap badge

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: [1908-1916]

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: One metal cap badge, 45mm x 50mm

Scope and Content: Royal Dublin Fusilier cap badge

Physical Characteristics: Metal badge suffering from some mild discolouration.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/03

Title: Private Patrick Dolan's identity disc

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: [1908-1916]

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: Metal identity disc 35mm x 35mm, metal religious medal 20mm x 20mm, metal chain 660mm in length

Scope and Content: Metal identity disc with inscription '10152 P. Dolan. R.C. Dub Fus'. Religious medal includes relief of Jesus on one side and Mary with baby Jesus on the reverse.

Physical Characteristics: Mostly good condition. Identity disc is slightly corroded.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/04

Title: Two Royal Dublin Fusiliers Regimental Souvenir Christmas Card

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: 1910

Level of Description: File

Extent and Medium: 24 pp

Scope and Content: Two booklets consisting of four images of the 1st Battalion of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers serving in Ahmednagar, India. It includes the logo on the cover with the regiment nickname “the blue caps”. Images include photograph of officers, warrant officers, staff-sergeants, and sergeants. Outside cover there are ribbons of RDF colours. One signed by P Dolan December 1910.

Physical Characteristics: Booklets are held together by string binding. Signed booklet is slightly loose.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/05

Title: Postcard with photograph of man in uniform

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: c1908-c1916

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: 1p

Scope and Content: Portrait, 85mm x 135mm. Postcard photograph of a soldier. It is untitled but laminated tag identified the figure as Patrick Dolan. Mac and Co Dublin stamp on reverse.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/06

Title: Photograph of Unknown Soldier

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: c1908-c1916

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: 1p

Scope and Content: Portrait, 130mm x 180mm. Sepia photograph of unknown Dublin Fusilier. Set on cardboard backing.

Physical Characteristics: Corners of the cardboard backing are damaged.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/07

Title: Canvas bag

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: [1908-1916]

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: One canvas bag, 450mm x 250mm

Scope and Content: Piece of canvas used as a soldier's hold-all bag.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/08

Title: Photocopy of note from Major-General Aylmer Hunter-Weston to the men of the 29th Division

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: c1998

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: 1p

Scope and Content: Note addressed to the men of the 29th Division (which included 1st Battalion of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers) congratulating them on their selection for a coming operation and offering words of encouragement. Address was likely given to the soldiers before their departure for the Dardanelles in 1915.

Physical Characteristics: Modern reproduction.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/09

Title: Gallipoli photographic segment from unknown magazine

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: [1915-c1916]

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: 4pp

Scope and Content: Sepia photographs from a magazine depicting the Gallipoli campaign. Photographs consist of Australian soldiers, battleships in the Dardanelles, the destruction of Kum Kale Fort, and the sinking of H.M.S Irresistible 18 March 1915.

Physical Characteristics: Significant fold damage.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/10

Title: Three postcards

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: 4 October 1915

Level of Description: File

Extent and Medium: 3pp

Scope and Content: Two blank colour postcards, one depicting the R.M.S. Celtic, the other depicting the R.M.S. Adriatic. Third postcard addressed to Private Patrick Dolan at Throat Hospital, Golden Square, London W. Postcard is signed 'From all of us at 131 Buckland Av Dover.' Postcard features colour print of Petitor, Torquay.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/11

Title: Photograph of Wounded Soldiers

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: ?1916

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: 1p

Scope and Content: Landscape, 215mm x 120mm. Sepia photograph on card backing depicting wounded soldiers. Tag suggests the photograph was taken at Military Hospital. Golden Square, London in 1916. Handwriting on reverse is faded and illegible. Private Patrick Dolan is marked, sitting on chair in a very upright position. Date comes from laminated tag.

Physical Characteristics: Photograph and backing both suffering slight tears.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/12

Title: Wartime postcard to Patrick Dolan from Polly

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: 1916

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: 2pp

Scope and Content: A wartime colour greeting card with flags of Scotland and England on front with inscription and poem. Hand written message on reverse 'To Dearest Patrick with best love from Polly'.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/13

Title: Discharge Certificate of Private Patrick Dolan

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: 24 March 1916

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: 5pp

Scope and Content: Discharge Certificate belonging to Private Paddy Dolan. Leather / canvas bound booklet. Contains description of Patrick Dolan including height, eye colour, hair colour, previous occupation and reason for discharge. Date of birth 14 March 1890, date of enlistment 6 July 1908, date of discharge 24 March 1916. He served in 'Mediterranean Expeditionary Force' between 16 March 1915 and 24 September 1915.

Physical Characteristics: Covering badly damaged. Internal binding in need of repair.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/14

Title: Private Paddy Dolan's Silver War Badge

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: 1916

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: One metal badge, 33mm x 33mm

Scope and Content: Silver War Badge with inscription 'For King and Empire Services Rendered'. Serial number on reverse: 386517.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/15

Title: Photocopy of Medal roll

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: c1998

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: 1p

Scope and Content: Colour copy of Medal Roll Index page. Includes entry for Private Patrick Dolan 10152. Embarked on 25 April 1915. Discharged 24 March 1916. Medal roll dated 17 November 1919.

Physical Characteristics: Modern reproduction

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/16

Title: Great War Medals

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: 1915-1919

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: Three medals pinned to cardboard backing for mounting. 110mm x 105mm

Scope and Content: Set of three First World War medals belonging to Private Patrick Dolan 10152, 1st Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Medals are mounted in a row. Consists of: 1914-1915 Star inscribed with name and service number, Silver British War Medal 1919, The British Victory Medal with inscription 'The Great War for Civilisation 1914-1919'.

Physical Characteristics: Three medals in good condition. Ribbon for 1914-15 Star is slightly faded.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/17

Title: Certificate of disbandment issued to the members of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: 12 June 1922

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: 1p

Scope and Content: Certificate issued to Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers thanking them for their service to the British crown. It includes a brief acknowledgment of the battalion's actions and is signed by King George V.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/18

Title: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association Fifteenth Annual Report 1924

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: 1925

Level of Description: Item

Extent and Medium: 9pp

Scope and Content: The Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association Fifteenth Annual Report 1924. Booklet printed in 1925 by Corrigan and Wilson Printers, 13 Sackville Place. Includes list of committee members of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association in 1924. Also includes a financial report for the year 1924, list of subscriptions for honorary members, list of ordinary members, abstract of accounts for the year 1924.

Reference Code: IE DCLA/RDFA/103/19

Title: RDFA Envelope including Dolan case labels.

Creator: Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association

Date: c1998

Level of Description: File

Extent and Medium: 1 envelope, 8 non-laminated labels, 14 laminated labels

Scope and Content: Envelope with label 'Case 3 Dolan', contains laminated labels related to the collection. Further biographical information is included in this file.