

Many years ago there was a potato famine in Ireland. This was a very sad time in Irish History.

The potatoes had a disease and did not grow.

At that time the poor people of Ireland ate a lot of potatoes but because the potatoes did not grow the people had no food to eat. In the year 1847 many people died.



A lot of poor people died from hunger. And many people had no homes. The British took their land and homes and had no pity for them.

The British owned Ireland and were in charge. They sent lots of Irish grown grain like wheat and corn to England, though the Irish were hungry and had no food for themselves.

There were some good people who did try to help the people and gave them food. The Quakers helped by having 'Soup Kitchens' to feed the hungry.

Many people went to live in other countries like England, America and Australia. They were not always welcome because they were so poor and sick with hunger and disease.



They travelled to the other countries by ship. These ships were called 'Coffin Ships' because so many people died on them. The ships were not healthy to travel in. People got very sick.

We are very lucky today that we have such lovely food to eat and such nice homes to live in.



Who?

Irish men and women fought against the British Army in Ireland. Because the English would not leave Ireland they wanted to keep it for themselves. Irish people fought against other Irish people also.



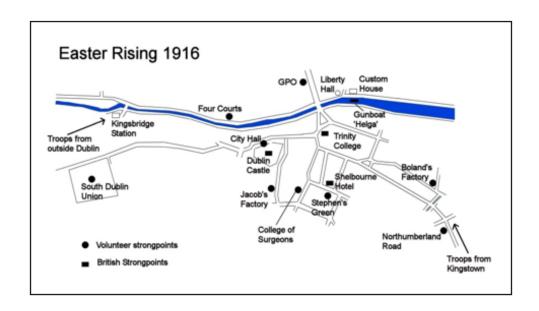
What?

The Easter Rising in 1916 was a fight against the English in Ireland for Irish freedom.



Where?

It happened in Dublin city. At the 'Post Office' building and other places around Dublin like the 'Jacobs Biscuit Factory' and 'St. Stephens Green'. There was more fighting in other places around Ireland.





When?

The Irish fight happened in the year 1916 at Easter time when the First World War was happening also.

How long?

There were six days of fighting. Many people died.

Why?

Most people in Ireland wanted their own country of Ireland back from the British who took it from them a very long time ago.





National Leadership Local Support