



An Garda Síochána

SCOTT MEDAL AWARD

Presentation Ceremony
Walter Scott House, Dublin 8



Friday 26th May 2023

Commissioner's Foreword



Throughout 2022 local communities across the State gathered to mark the Centenary of An Garda Síochána. As we shared in celebrating the history of our police service together it allowed us to reflect on the unique place that An Garda Síochána has been given in Irish Society. During our Centenary year, this landmark building, named after Colonel Walter Scott became the home of a number of our national bureaus and operational units. Colonel Walter Scott was an Honorary Commissioner of the New York City Police and a well-known philanthropist who 100 years ago this year, in 1923, offered An Garda Síochána an endowment in perpetuity of a gold medal for bravery to Gardaí who, 'distinguished themselves for valour in the performance of their duty'.

The Scott Medal is the highest decoration that can be bestowed upon a member of An Garda Síochána for their exceptional courage and bravery. The most valuable asset to An Garda Síochána is our personnel. Their dedication to keeping people safe and protecting the community remains as steadfast as it was in 1922. The work of all Gardaí is inherently dangerous, complex and can often stretch far beyond our day-to-day duty, but the selfless courage of some stands out. On this occasion, I am honoured to award the Scott Medal to 11 exemplary Gardaí for their bravery and heroism in service. We especially remember our colleagues being awarded Scott Medals posthumously.

These Gardaí performed their duties with extraordinary commitment to the communities they serve. Above all, they set aside all fear and consciously put the safety of others before their own in a moment of danger or threat. Today, we pay tribute to their dedication to duty.

Our ceremony today gives us an opportunity to reflect on and be inspired by the selfless actions of today's Scott Medal recipients. Their remarkable actions remind us all to continue with passion in our work to keep people safe.

Le meas agus buíochas,

J.A. Harris

Commissioner, An Garda Síochána

Réamhfhocal an Choimisinéara

I rith 2022 bhailigh pobail áitiúla ar fud an Stáit do Chomóradh Céad Bliain bhunú an Gharda Síochána. Le linn dúinn ceiliúradh á dhéanamh ar stair ár seirbhíse póilíníeanta le chéile bhí deis againn ár machnamh a dhéanamh ar an ról ar leith atá ag An Garda Síochána i Sochaí na hÉireann. Fad is a bhí an Comóradh Céad Bliain ar siúl, lonnaíodh roinnt dár mbiúrónna agus aonad oibriúcháin náisiúnta san fhoirgneamh sainchomhartha seo atá ainmnithe i ndiaidh an Choirnéil Walter Scott. Coimisinéir Oinigh de Phóilíní Chathair Nua-Eabhrac ba ea an Coirnéil Walter Scott agus daonchara cáiliúil a thairg maoiniú suthaine sa bhliain 1923, 100 bliain ó shin, de bhonn óir crógachta do Ghardaí, ‘a rinne gníomh gaisce le linn dóibh a bheith i mbun dualgais’.



Is é Bonn Scott an gradam is airde is féidir a bhronnadh ar chomhalta de An Garda Síochána a léirigh misneach agus crógacht eisceachtúil. Is é pearsanra an Gharda Síochána an acmhainn is luachmhair atá aige. Tá tiomantas chomhaltaí an Gharda Síochána don phobal a choinneáil sábháilte agus a chosaint chomh buanseasmhach anois is a bhí sa bhliain 1922. Bíonn obair chontúirteach, chasta á déanamh ag gach Garda agus go minic bíonn níos mó le déanamh ná cúraimí a bhaineann le dualgais laethúla, ach ní féidir misneach eisceachtúil daoine áirithe a ligean i ndearmad. Cúis áthais dom Bonn Scott a bhronnadh ar 11 chomhalta eiseamláireacha de An Garda Síochána a rinne gníomh gaisce le linn dóibh a bheith i mbun seirbhíse. Táimid ag cuimhneamh go speisialta ar ár gcomhghleacaithe a bhfuil Boinn Scott á mbronnadh orthu tar éis a mbáis.

Chuir na Gardaí seo a gcuid dualgas i gcrích go dúthrachtach dílis sna pobail a bhfuil siad ag freastal orthu. Seachas rud ar bith eile, lig siad an inní a bhí orthu i ndearmad agus thug siad tús áite do shábháilteacht daoine eile fad is a bhí siad ag déileáil le dainséar nó bagairt. Inniu, is mian linn aitheantas a thabhairt dá ndíograis i leith a gcuid dualgas.

Is deis é an lá searmanais seo chun machnamh a dhéanamh ar agus chun ár mbuíochas a ghabháil le faighteoirí Bhonn Scott inniu as an méid a rinne sin ar mhaithe le daoine eile. Spreagann na gníomhartha speisialta seo gach duine againn chun leanúint ar aghaidh lenár gcuid oibre agus iarracht a dhéanamh daoine a choinneáil sábháilte.

Le meas agus buíochas,

J.A. Harris

Coimisinéir, An Garda Síochána

Ceremonial Order

- 10:30 am** Medal Recipients, families and invited guests will arrive at Walter Scott House, Military Road, Dublin 8.
- 10:45 am** Medal Recipients, families and invited guests will be requested to take their seats.
- 10:55am** The Commissioner will meet the Minister for Justice Simon Harris, TD at the entrance to Walter Scott House.
- The Minister for Justice Simon Harris, TD will inspect the Garda Ceremonial Unit.
- The Commissioner and the Minister for Justice Simon Harris, TD will enter Walter Scott House, Military Road, Dublin 8.
- The Minister for Justice Simon Harris, TD will be invited to sign the visitor's book.
- The Commissioner and the Minister for Justice Simon Harris, TD will take their seats on the Podium.
- 11:00 am** Superintendent Michael Fleming, will invite Father Joe Kennedy and Archdeacon David Pierpoint to say the opening prayers.
- 11:05 am** Superintendent Michael Fleming, will invite Deputy Commissioner Shawna Coxon, Strategy, Governance and Performance to make an opening address.
- 11:15am** Superintendent Michael Fleming, will invite Chief Superintendent Aidan Glacken, Donegal/Sligo/Leitrim Division to the Podium.
- Chief Superintendent Aidan Glacken, will read the Citation for Retired Sergeant PJ Gallagher and invite Retired Sergeant Gallagher to the Podium to receive his Bronze Scott Medal.
- Chief Superintendent Aidan Glacken, will read the Citation for Retired Garda Thomas McGuinness and will invite Retired Garda McGuinness to the Podium to receive his Bronze Scott Medal.
- Chief Superintendent Aidan Glacken, will read the Citation for Sergeant Daniel Kelleher and invite Sergeant Kelleher's wife, Mrs. Caroline Kelleher to the Podium to receive a Bronze Scott Medal which is being awarded posthumously.
- Superintendent Michael Fleming, will invite Superintendent Darren McCarthy, DMR North Division to the Podium.
- Superintendent Darren McCarthy, will read the Citation for Sergeant Andrew O'Connor and invite Sergeant O'Connor to the Podium to receive his Silver Scott Medal.

Ceremonial Order

Superintendent Darren McCarthy, will read the Citation for Detective Garda Niall Minnock and invite Detective Garda Minnock to the Podium to receive his Silver Scott Medal.

Superintendent Darren McCarthy, will read the Citation for Garda Conor Garland and invite Garda Garland to the Podium to receive his Silver Scott Medal.

Superintendent Michael Fleming, will invite Chief Superintendent Aidan Glacken, Donegal/Sligo/Leitrim Division to the Podium.

Chief Superintendent Aidan Glacken, will read the Citation for Sergeant Edward Griffin and invite Sergeant Griffin to the Podium to receive his Silver Scott Medal.

Chief Superintendent Aidan Glacken, will read the Citation for Garda Louis Browne and invite Garda Browne to the Podium to receive his Silver Scott Medal.

Chief Superintendent Aidan Glacken, will read the Citation for Detective Garda Darren Carter and invite Detective Garda Carter to the Podium to receive his Silver Scott Medal.

Chief Superintendent Aidan Glacken, will read the Citation for Detective Garda Enda Jennings and invite Detective Garda Jennings to the Podium to receive his Silver Scott Medal.

Superintendent Michael Fleming, will invite Chief Superintendent Alan McGovern, Louth/Cavan/Monaghan Division to the Podium.

Chief Superintendent Alan McGovern, will read the Citation for Inspector Samuel Donegan and invite Inspector Donegan's son, Mr. John Donegan to the Podium to receive a Gold Scott Medal which is being awarded posthumously.

12:10 pm Superintendent Michael Fleming, will invite the Commissioner to address the Medal Recipients, their families and invited guests.

12:20 pm Superintendent Michael Fleming, will invite the Minister for Justice, Simon Harris, TD to address the Medal Recipients, their families and invited guests.

12:30 pm Superintendent Michael Fleming, will call on Deputy Commissioner Shawna Coxon, Strategy, Governance and Performance to close the ceremony and invite the Director of the Garda Band to play Amhrán na bhFiann.

Refreshments will be provided in Walter Scott House for Medal recipients, their families and invited guests.



Award of Bronze Scott Medal Sergeant PJ Gallagher, 23097K



On 7 October 1983 shortly after 11pm, Garda PJ Gallagher and Garda Thomas McGuinness were on mobile patrol duty. At that time, there had been a spate of robberies in isolated rural areas in County Sligo. As a preventative measure uniformed mobile patrols were operating from Sligo Garda Station, specifically targeting persons committing such crimes. Garda Gallagher and Garda McGuinness were aware of criminal paramilitary activity in the area.

At approximately 11.30pm, when passing Dooney Woods in the townland of Aughamore Far, County Sligo, Garda Gallagher and Garda McGuinness observed a number of vehicles with lights activated acting suspiciously in the picnic layby area of the woods. The presence of vehicles in this area would have been considered particularly unusual at this time of night. On driving the patrol car into the layby and activating the spotlight, Garda Gallagher and Garda McGuinness were suddenly and unexpectedly surrounded by a number of armed males who emerged from the woods. Garda Gallagher and Garda McGuinness were ordered at gunpoint to get out of the patrol car, to lie on the ground face down and remove their clothing. Given the risk to their lives, both Garda Gallagher and Garda McGuinness calmly complied with the order.

Garda Gallagher and Garda McGuinness were then ordered to get into a van and subsequently into the boot of a red Sierra car. After travelling for some time the red Sierra car stopped at a layby at Bawnboy, County Cavan and Garda Gallagher and Garda McGuinness were ordered at gunpoint to get into the boot of a hijacked Fiat car. They were driven erratically for some distance and stopped at Ballinagh Road, Kilnaleck, County Cavan. Garda Gallagher and Garda McGuinness then heard people getting out of the car. There was silence for a considerable period of time and after approximately one hour the alarm was raised. Cavan Garda Station was contacted and Gardaí arrived at the scene and released Garda Gallagher and Garda McGuinness from the boot of the car.

Garda Gallagher displayed intelligence, professionalism and thoughtfulness whilst under extreme pressure and remained calm in spite of the imminent risk to his life and the life of his colleague Garda McGuinness. Despite being involved in such a serious incident Garda Gallagher resumed duty the next day on 8 October 1983, to assist with the subsequent investigation.

For exceptional courage and bravery involving personal risk to life in the execution of his duty, the Bronze Scott Medal is awarded to Sergeant PJ Gallagher.



Award of Bronze Scott Medal Garda Thomas McGuinness, 17300B



On 7 October 1983 shortly after 11pm, Garda Thomas McGuinness and Garda PJ Gallagher were on mobile patrol duty. At that time, there had been a spate of robberies in isolated rural areas in County Sligo. As a preventative measure uniformed mobile patrols were operating from Sligo Garda Station, specifically targeting persons committing such crimes. Garda McGuinness and Garda Gallagher were aware of criminal paramilitary activity in the area.

At approximately 11.30pm, when passing Dooney Woods in the townland of Aughamore Far, County Sligo Garda McGuinness and Garda Gallagher observed a number of vehicles with lights activated acting suspiciously in the picnic layby area of the woods. The presence of vehicles in this area would have been considered particularly unusual at this time of night. On driving the patrol car into the layby and activating the spotlight, Garda McGuinness and Garda Gallagher were suddenly and unexpectedly surrounded by a number of armed males who emerged from the woods. Garda McGuinness and Garda Gallagher were ordered at gunpoint to get out of the patrol car and to lie on the ground face down and remove their clothing. Given the risk to their lives both Garda McGuinness and Garda Gallagher calmly complied with the order.

Garda McGuinness and Garda Gallagher were then ordered to get into a van and subsequently into the boot of a red Sierra car. After travelling for some time, the red Sierra car stopped at a layby at Bawnboy, County Cavan, and Garda McGuinness and Garda Gallagher were ordered at gunpoint to get into the boot of a hijacked Fiat car. They were driven erratically for some distance and stopped at Ballinagh Road, Kilnaleck, County Cavan. Garda McGuinness and Garda Gallagher then heard people getting out of the car. There was silence for a considerable period of time and after approximately one hour the alarm was raised. Cavan Garda Station was contacted and Gardaí arrived at the scene and released Garda McGuinness and Garda Gallagher from the boot of the car.

Garda McGuinness displayed intelligence, professionalism and thoughtfulness whilst under extreme pressure, and remained calm in spite of the imminent risk to his life and the life of his colleague Garda Gallagher. Despite being involved in such a serious incident Garda McGuinness resumed duty the next day on 8 October 1983, to assist with the subsequent investigation.

For exceptional courage and bravery involving personal risk to life in the execution of his duty, the Bronze Scott Medal is awarded to Garda Thomas McGuinness.



Award of Bronze Scott Medal Sergeant Daniel Kelleher, 19904D



On 24 November 1983, Mr. Don Tidey, a prominent businessperson, was taking his young daughter to school when he was abducted in Rathfarnham, County Dublin, by armed members of the IRA posing as members of An Garda Síochána.

An Garda Síochána launched a major operation for the purpose of attempting to locate Mr. Tidey and to identify those involved in his abduction. In the course of the following days, a nationwide search for Mr. Tidey led to the locating in County Kildare of vehicles utilised in his abduction and the arrest of suspects in Tralee, County Kerry.

On 14 December 1983, the focus of the nationwide search for Mr. Tidey switched to County Leitrim and involved participation by a large contingent of members of An Garda Síochána, including Garda recruits who had recently joined An Garda Síochána, but had not yet completed their training at the Garda Training Centre in Templemore, County Tipperary.

On 16 December 1983, when Mr. Tidey was in his twenty-third day of captivity and upon receipt of confidential information, members of An Garda Síochána were joined by Irish Army personnel assigned to the 58th battalion, based in Finner Camp, County Donegal, in undertaking a search of a wooded area located at Ballinamore, County Leitrim.

At the time, Detective Garda Daniel Kelleher was attached to the Security Task Force involved in the search to locate Mr. Tidey. On hearing an urgent call for assistance, Detective Garda Kelleher rushed to the area, accompanied by Detective Inspector Somers and Detective Sergeant Rice. Upon arrival, a number of bursts of automatic gunfire rang out, coming from the direction of Drumcroman Wood. Despite the active shooting and in full knowledge of the potential danger, Detective Garda Kelleher exited his vehicle and crept forward using a low ditch as cover. Detective Inspector Somers and Detective Sergeant Rice went ahead whilst Detective Garda Kelleher provided armed cover at the back.

After travelling approximately 200 yards, Detective Garda Kelleher noticed a uniformed Garda and a person who he thought was a soldier, about 70 or 80 yards ahead. They were crouched behind a ditch. Detective Sergeant Rice crawled up to these individuals. Detective Garda Kelleher and Detective Inspector Somers remained in position and provided armed cover. Detective Sergeant Rice subsequently returned accompanied by Mr. Tidey.

Whilst waiting for transport to escort Mr. Tidey to safety, Detective Garda Kelleher provided armed cover. A car then approached at high speed and a number of shots were discharged by the occupants of the car. This resulted in Detective Garda Kelleher being shot and injured in both legs. Subsequently, three people were convicted relating to criminal charges arising from their involvement in the abduction of Mr. Tidey.

For exceptional courage and bravery involving personal risk to life in the execution of duty, the Bronze Scott Medal is awarded posthumously to Sergeant Daniel Kelleher, RIP.



Award of Silver Scott Medal Sergeant Andrew O'Connor, 28670B



On 11 March 2019, shortly after 4.30pm, Sergeant Andrew O'Connor, Garda Conor Garland and Garda Niall Minnock were on unmarked mobile patrol on Ballymun Road, when a call was relayed by Command and Control that a male was outside the Centra shop in Poppintree waving what was believed to be a firearm.

Sergeant O'Connor, accompanied by Garda Minnock and Garda Garland, immediately made their way to the location. On arrival at the Centra shop, a large group of people gathered on the street outside were looking up the road in the direction of Doon and Knowth Courts area. Due to the people facing this direction, the Gardaí decided to keep on driving. As they passed the laneway between Doon and Knowth Courts, they observed a male running up the laneway. The male was observed carrying something in his hand as he ran. Garda Garland brought the unmarked patrol vehicle to a stop.

Sergeant O'Connor and Garda Minnock alighted from the unmarked patrol vehicle and pursued the male. Garda Garland also followed on foot. As they gained ground, they observed the male enter a house on Crannoge Road. Sergeant O'Connor followed the male into the house. In the house Sergeant O'Connor met one of the occupants who directed him through to the rear of the house to an extension. The male was located in a bathroom in the extension, holding what Sergeant O'Connor believed to be a sub-machine gun in his hand. The male had his arm extended and was waving the firearm at Gardaí. Sergeant O'Connor repeatedly shouted at the male to put the firearm down.

Sergeant O'Connor saw the barrel of the firearm point downwards and jumped forward to grab the wrist and arm of the male holding it. Prior to contact being made with the male he fired a number of shots into the hallway behind Sergeant O'Connor. Sergeant O'Connor grabbed the arm of the male and managed to release the firearm from his hand and kicked it into the hallway in order to prevent the male from retrieving it. Sergeant O'Connor and Garda Garland restrained the male who was violent and intoxicated. During the course of the arrest Sergeant O'Connor observed what he believed to be a black hand grenade on the floor in the bathroom. Sergeant O'Connor gave instruction that the house and the area were to be cleared and a cordon put in place.

Although he resisted, the male was arrested and escorted from the house. The Irish Defence Force Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit was requested to examine the hand grenade and a controlled explosion was conducted. The male was subsequently prosecuted in the Special Criminal Court and received a custodial sentence of 15 years.

For exceptional courage and bravery involving personal risk to life in the execution of his duty, the Silver Scott Medal is awarded to Sergeant Andrew O'Connor.



Award of Silver Scott Medal Detective Garda Niall Minnock, 31366A



On 11 March 2019, shortly after 4.30pm, Garda Niall Minnock, Sergeant Andrew O'Connor and Garda Conor Garland were on unmarked mobile patrol on Ballymun Road, when a call was relayed by Command and Control that a male was outside the Centra shop in Poppintree waving what was believed to be a firearm.

Garda Minnock, accompanied by Sergeant O'Connor and Garda Garland, immediately made their way to the location. On arrival at the Centra shop, a large group of people gathered on the street outside were looking up the road in the direction of Doon and Knowth Courts area. Due to the people facing this direction, the Gardaí decided to keep on driving. As they passed the laneway between Doon and Knowth Courts, they observed a male running up the laneway. The male was observed carrying something in his hand as he ran. Garda Garland brought the unmarked patrol vehicle to a stop.

Garda Minnock and Sergeant O'Connor alighted from the unmarked patrol vehicle and pursued the male. Garda Garland also followed on foot. Garda Minnock observed the male carrying what he believed to be a black machine gun. Garda Minnock shouted at the male to stop but he continued to run and entered a house on Crannoge Road. Garda Minnock followed the male into the house. In the house, Garda Minnock met one of the occupants who directed him through to the rear of the house to an extension. Garda Minnock went outside to the rear of the house where he observed three children on a roof who informed him that the male was still inside.

On hearing this, Garda Minnock ran back into the house. As he approached the bathroom door, he heard a number of shots coming from the bathroom and observed a bullet fly across his eyeline into the wall across the hallway. Garda Minnock was also hit by the shell of a bullet on the left forearm. Garda Minnock observed Sergeant O'Connor and Garda Garland attempting to arrest the male. Garda Minnock observed a firearm on the ground. Sergeant O'Connor pushed the firearm with his foot out of the bathroom in Garda Minnock's direction. Garda Minnock removed the firearm to a safe location.

Garda Minnock returned to the bathroom to assist with the arrest of the male, and he observed what he believed to be a grenade on the floor. Sergeant O'Connor gave instruction that the house and the area were to be cleared and a cordon put in place.

Although he resisted, the male was arrested and escorted from the house. The Irish Defence Force Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit was requested to examine the grenade and a controlled explosion was conducted. The male was subsequently prosecuted in the Special Criminal Court and received a custodial sentence of 15 years.

For exceptional courage and bravery involving personal risk to life in the execution of his duty, the Silver Scott Medal is awarded to Detective Garda Niall Minnock.



Award of Silver Scott Medal Garda Conor Garland, 32132L



On 11 March 2019, shortly after 4.30pm, Garda Conor Garland, Sergeant Andrew O'Connor and Garda Niall Minnock were on unmarked mobile patrol on Ballymun Road, when a call was relayed by Command and Control that a male was outside the Centra shop in Poppintree waving what was believed to be a firearm.

Garda Garland, accompanied by Sergeant O'Connor and Garda Minnock, immediately made their way to the location. Garda Garland was driving the unmarked mobile patrol vehicle. On arrival at the Centra shop, a large group of people gathered on the street outside were looking up the road in the direction of Doon and Knowth Courts area. Due to the people facing this direction, the Gardaí decided to keep on driving. As they passed the laneway between Doon and Knowth Courts, they observed a male running up the laneway. The male was observed carrying something in his hand as he ran.

Garda Garland immediately stopped the unmarked mobile patrol vehicle to allow Sergeant O'Connor and Garda Minnock alight to pursue the male on foot. Garda Garland also pursued the male on foot and observed the male enter a house on Crannoge Road. Being aware of the area, Garda Garland went to the rear of the house in anticipation of the male making his escape. At the rear of the house Garda Garland observed two children on a roof who shouted, "he has a gun". Garda Garland immediately ran to the front of the house and gained entry. In the house, Garda Garland met one of the occupants who directed him through to the rear of the house to an extension. As Garda Garland was passing the bathroom, he heard a panting noise and when he looked into the bathroom, he observed a male holding what he believed to be a black machine gun in his hand. Garda Garland was joined by Sergeant O'Connor. The male had his arm extended and was waving the firearm at Gardaí. Garda Garland shouted at the male to put the firearm down. The male continued to point the firearm at Garda Garland.

The male then pointed the firearm downwards and Sergeant O'Connor jumped forward to grab the wrist and arm of the male holding the firearm. Prior to contact being made with the male, he fired a number of shots into the hallway. Garda Garland physically engaged the male to restrain him. Sergeant O'Connor managed to release the firearm and kicked it into the hallway. Garda Garland and Sergeant O'Connor restrained the male who was violent and intoxicated. During the course of the arrest, Garda Garland observed what he believed to be a grenade on the floor in the bathroom. Sergeant O'Connor gave instruction that the house and the area were to be cleared and a cordon put in place.

Although he resisted, the male was arrested and escorted from the house. The Irish Defence Force Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit was requested to examine the hand grenade and a controlled explosion was conducted. The male was subsequently prosecuted in the Special Criminal Court and received a custodial sentence of 15 years.

For exceptional courage and bravery involving personal risk to life in the execution of his duty, the Silver Scott Medal is awarded to Garda Conor Garland.



Award of Silver Scott Medal Sergeant Edward Griffin, 23682K



On the evening of 21 February 2020, Sergeant Edward Griffin attached to Glenties Garda Station, County Donegal took up duty as Sergeant-in-Charge. Shortly after midnight on 22 February 2020, Sergeant Griffin was in his office when he heard the sound of approximately three gunshots in rapid succession. Sergeant Griffin met with Garda Louis Browne and they made their way in an official mobile patrol vehicle to Main Street, Glenties to investigate further.

While en route, Sergeant Griffin and Garda Browne met with a witness who informed them that a male had discharged a shot at his vehicle and was still on the street. Sergeant Griffin and Garda Browne proceeded to the top of Main Street, Glenties.

On arrival at Main Street, Sergeant Griffin and Garda Browne observed the armed male walking on the road and activated the blue lights in order to alert members of the public and to divert them from any potential danger. Sergeant Griffin and Garda Browne followed the armed male. The armed male then took the firearm off his shoulder and took cover at the side of the road. The official mobile patrol vehicle was brought to a stop. Sergeant Griffin got out of the vehicle in order to obtain a closer look and updated the control room on the movements of the armed male. Armed Gardaí arrived at the scene and Sergeant Griffin briefed them on the situation. Suddenly, Sergeant Griffin observed a flash and heard a gunshot, followed by a whizzing sound and took cover, this was followed by another gunshot which was felt on the official mobile patrol vehicle.

The armed male advanced towards Gardaí with the firearm hung over his shoulder. Armed Gardaí identified themselves and shouted instruction at the armed male who kept walking holding his hands in the air. Following instruction, the armed male dropped to his knees, was restrained and arrested by Gardaí. The firearm recovered was classified as a high-powered rifle.

The armed male was subsequently charged and convicted before the courts, and received a custodial sentence.

For exceptional courage and bravery involving personal risk to life in the execution of his duty, the Silver Scott Medal is awarded to Sergeant Edward Griffin.



Award of Silver Scott Medal *Garda Louis Browne,* *25440A*



On the afternoon of 21 February 2020, Garda Louis Browne attached to the Roads Policing Unit at Donegal Town took up duty. Shortly after midnight on 22 February 2020, Garda Browne was in Glenties Garda Station when Sergeant Edward Griffin informed him that there had been shots fired at Main Street. Garda Browne also heard gunshots. Garda Browne and Sergeant Griffin made their way in an official mobile patrol vehicle to Main Street, Glenties to investigate further.

While en route, Garda Browne and Sergeant Griffin met with a witness who informed them that a male had discharged a shot at his vehicle and was still on the street. Garda Browne and Sergeant Griffin proceeded to the top of Main Street, Glenties.

On arrival at Main Street, Garda Browne and Sergeant Griffin observed the armed male walking on the road and activated the blue lights in order to alert members of the public and to divert them from any potential danger. Garda Browne and Sergeant Griffin followed the armed male. The armed male then took the firearm off his shoulder and took cover at the side of the road. The official mobile patrol vehicle was brought to a stop and Garda Browne got out of the vehicle for fear of being shot. Armed Gardaí arrived at the scene.

Garda Browne then observed a vehicle coming towards the scene. Garda Browne left his position of cover to speak with the occupants in order to divert them away from danger. Garda Browne then returned behind the official mobile patrol vehicle. Suddenly, Garda Browne observed particles shoot out from the direction of the armed male and realised a shot had been fired in his direction. Following this, Garda Browne sought out better cover at the fire station.

The armed male advanced towards Gardaí with the firearm hung over his shoulder. Armed Gardaí identified themselves and shouted instruction at the armed male who kept walking holding his hands in the air. Following instruction, the armed male dropped to his knees, was restrained and arrested by Gardaí. The firearm recovered was classified as a high-powered rifle.

The armed male was subsequently charged and convicted before the courts, and received a custodial sentence.

For exceptional courage and bravery involving personal risk to life in the execution of his duty, the Silver Scott Medal is awarded to Garda Louis Browne.



*Award of Silver Scott Medal
Detective Garda Darren Carter,
32776L*



On 22 February 2020, Detective Garda Darren Carter was on mobile patrol in an official unmarked vehicle accompanied by Detective Garda Enda Jennings in Falcarragh, County Donegal. A transmission was received over the Garda radio system of a male walking along Main Street, Glenties, County Donegal in possession of a firearm. Both Gardaí made their way to the scene of the incident and en route further transmissions were received that the armed male had discharged a number of shots.

On arrival at the scene, Detective Garda Carter and Detective Garda Jennings met with uniformed Gardaí who were already present. The area had already been cordoned off and the armed male was identified by uniformed Gardaí. The armed male was approximately 200 yards from them and was moving along the front wall of a house. The armed male was clearly visible holding a firearm which he then laid across the pillar of the boundary wall of a house, took up a shooting stance and pointed the firearm at Gardaí. Detective Garda Carter then heard a shot being discharged. The shot hit an official mobile patrol vehicle.

Detective Garda Carter kept a position of hard cover as he was in fear for his safety as the armed male had discharged two shots at Gardaí. The armed male advanced towards Gardaí with the firearm hung over his shoulder. Detective Garda Carter identified himself and shouted instruction at the armed male, who kept walking holding his hands in the air. Following instruction, the armed male dropped to his knees, was restrained and arrested by Gardaí. The firearm recovered was classified as a high-powered rifle.

The armed male was subsequently charged and convicted before the courts, and received a custodial sentence.

For exceptional courage and bravery involving personal risk to life in the execution of his duty, the Silver Scott Medal is awarded to Detective Garda Darren Carter.



*Award of Silver Scott Medal
Detective Garda Enda Jennings,
33019A*



On 22 February 2020, Detective Garda Enda Jennings was on mobile patrol in an official unmarked vehicle accompanied by Detective Garda Darren Carter in Falcarragh, County Donegal. A transmission was received over the Garda radio system of a male walking along Main Street, Glenties, County Donegal in possession of a firearm. Both Gardaí made their way to the scene of the incident and en route further transmissions were received that the armed male had discharged a number of shots.

On arrival at the scene, Detective Garda Jennings and Detective Garda Carter met with uniformed Gardaí who were already present. The area had already been cordoned off and the armed male was identified by uniformed Gardaí. The armed male was approximately 200 yards from them and was moving along the front wall of a house. The armed male was clearly visible holding a firearm which he then laid across the pillar of the boundary wall of a house, took up a shooting stance and pointed the firearm at Gardaí. Detective Garda Jennings then heard a shot being discharged and immediately knew by the noise that it was not a shotgun but a high-powered rifle.

Detective Garda Jennings communicated with the control room over the Garda radio system and provided an update to other Garda units proceeding to the scene of the incident. Detective Garda Jennings took up a position of cover and kept sight of the armed male. At one point Detective Garda Jennings lost sight of the armed male and moved his position to identify the armed male's location. Detective Garda Jennings got sight of the armed male, who then advanced towards Gardaí with the firearm hung over his shoulder. Detective Garda Jennings identified himself and shouted instruction at the armed male who kept walking holding his hands in the air. Following instruction, the armed male dropped to his knees, was restrained and arrested by Gardaí. While the armed male was being restrained Detective Garda Jennings recovered the firearm, which was classified as a high-powered rifle.

The armed male was subsequently charged and convicted before the courts, and received a custodial sentence.

For exceptional courage and bravery involving personal risk to life in the execution of his duty, the Silver Scott Medal is awarded to Detective Garda Enda Jennings.



*Award of Gold Scott Medal
Inspector Samuel Donegan,
8586*



On 8 June 1972, Inspector Samuel Donegan was on duty and was leading a Garda patrol in conjunction with an Irish Defence Force detachment on the border between County Cavan, part of the Republic of Ireland, and County Fermanagh, part of Northern Ireland. There was criminal paramilitary activity in the area at the time and there were sustained attacks in the Cavan, Monaghan and Fermanagh border areas.

Information was received in relation to a suspect device located along the Cavan border on the Cavan to Clones Road near Legakelly. The suspect device consisted of a sign painted with the word "BOMB" in large bold white letters. The sign was standing on a wooden triangular trestle. A box resembling a tea chest was also present a short distance from this sign. Shortly after 11.30am, Inspector Donegan arrived at the scene and approached the suspect device. Inspector Donegan examined the suspect device and declared to others present that it was a hoax and the box was empty.

On Drumboghanagh Lane, approximately 2,000 feet from the first suspect device, was a second suspect device which was almost identical to the first. Inspector Donegan approached the second suspect device. Inspector Donegan commenced an examination of the second suspect device, which suddenly exploded. Inspector Donegan was seriously injured and died a short time later in hospital as a result of these injuries.

For exceptional courage and bravery involving the loss of his life in the execution of his duty, the Gold Scott Medal is awarded posthumously to Inspector Samuel Donegan, RIP.

Scott Medal Recipients

*Award of Bronze Scott Medal
Sergeant PJ Gallagher, 23097K*

*Award of Bronze Scott Medal
Garda Thomas McGuinness, 17300B*

*Award of Bronze Scott Medal
Sergeant Daniel Kelleher, 19904D (Posthumously)*

*Award of Silver Scott Medal
Sergeant Andrew O'Connor, 28670B*

*Award of Silver Scott Medal
Detective Garda Niall Minnock, 31366A*

*Award of Silver Scott Medal
Garda Conor Garland, 32132L*

*Award of Silver Scott Medal
Sergeant Edward Griffin, 23682K*

*Award of Silver Scott Medal
Garda Louis Browne, 25440A*

*Award of Silver Scott Medal
Detective Garda Darren Carter, 32776L*

*Award of Silver Scott Medal
Detective Garda Enda Jennings, 33019A*

*Award of Gold Scott Medal
Inspector Samuel Donegan, 8586 (Posthumously)*

Colonel Walter Scott



Colonel Walter Scott
(1861 – 1935)

The donor of the Medal for Valour in the Garda Síochána, a noted philanthropist, friend of the international police community, leader in the Order of Scottish Clans in the United States and Canada, was born in Montreal in 1861, of Scots-Canadian parents, Walter and Mary (Sharp) Scott.

In 1864, the family moved to Boston, Massachusetts, where young Walter found a job in the grocery business, probably as a messenger boy, at \$2 a week. By the age of ten, he was manager of a small fruit store near Harvard University. At fifteen, the precocious young businessman joined Butler Brothers, a firm of general wholesalers. In 1889 he was appointed manager in New York. He retired in 1932 after 55 years' service with the same employers.

In his letter to General Eoin O'Duffy confirming the offer to endow a Medal for Valour for the new Irish police force, he wrote: "It has always been a practice of mine to present flowers during life, when one can enjoy their beauty and fragrance".

He sponsored scholarships at Smith College, the Stevens Institute of Technology and the American International College; he was a founder of the New York Broad Street Hospital, President of the Walter Scott Free Industrial School for Crippled Children and, among his many other charities, he endowed numerous hospital beds.

A lifelong interest in police work was prompted, perhaps, by his contacts with the service in the course of his charitable work. He endowed medals for bravery by policemen in New York, Boston, Worcester, Holyoke, Detroit, in Argentina and, of course, in Ireland. The New York City Police made him one of their own by appointing him an honorary Commissioner.

Walter Scott died in 1935 at the age of 74, laden with honours at home and abroad. He was a knight of the French Legion of Honour, a member of the Belgian Order of Leopold and held the Silver Grand Cross of Austria. He was, also decorated by the British Government.

History of the Scott Medal

In 1923, Colonel Walter Scott, an Honorary Commissioner of the New York City Police and a well-known philanthropist, presented An Garda Síochána, then the world's youngest Police Force, with a \$1,000 gold bond, the interest of which was to pay for an 18-carat gold medal to be presented Garda members who had performed the most heroic act of bravery in any one year.

There was only one condition attached to the award of the Scott Medal: "No action, however heroic, will merit the award of the Scott medal unless it takes the shape of an act of personal bravery, performed intelligently in the execution of duty at imminent risk to the life of the doer, and armed with full previous knowledge of the risk involved".

The Scott Medal Award is the highest award for bravery that An Garda Síochána can bestow upon a member of the service and will only be awarded to the most deserving of members who have performed an exceptional act of bravery, risking their life in full knowledge of the risk concerned.

The medal is in the form of a Celtic cross. There are five panels on the face of the medal that depict the words "The Scott Medal", "For Valor", the eagle and the shield of the USA, the harp and sunburst and the Garda Crest. The reverse of the medal carries the inscription, "Garda Síochána na h-Éireann". The 4 outside panels are the arms of the four provinces of Ireland - Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connaught.



Gold, Silver and Bronze Scott Medals

History of the Scott Medal

Scott Medals of Gold, Silver and Bronze are awarded by the Commissioner. Gold medals may be awarded to members who have displayed exceptional courage and heroism involving risk to life in the execution of duty. The Silver and Bronze medals may be awarded to members who have performed similar acts in the execution of duty, but with less risk to their lives and who are next in order of merit.

Each member receiving a Scott Medal will also receive a wooden citation outlining the details of the incident for which they received the award.

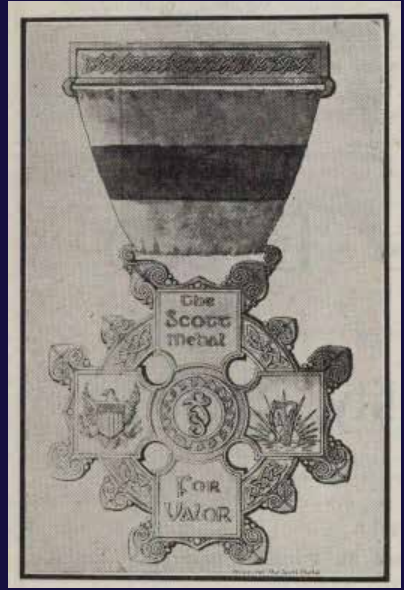
The largest number of awards was between 1971 and 1980, the worst decade for political violence, when 96 medals were awarded, followed closely by the period 1981 to 1990 when 88 medals were awarded. This period of heightened subversion contrasted sharply with the period 1951 to 1960 when medals were awarded to only six members of An Garda Síochána. To date, over 400 medals have been awarded to members of An Garda Síochána.



Walter Scott House, Military Road, Dublin 8.



Original design of the Scott Medal rear Iris an Garda, 1923



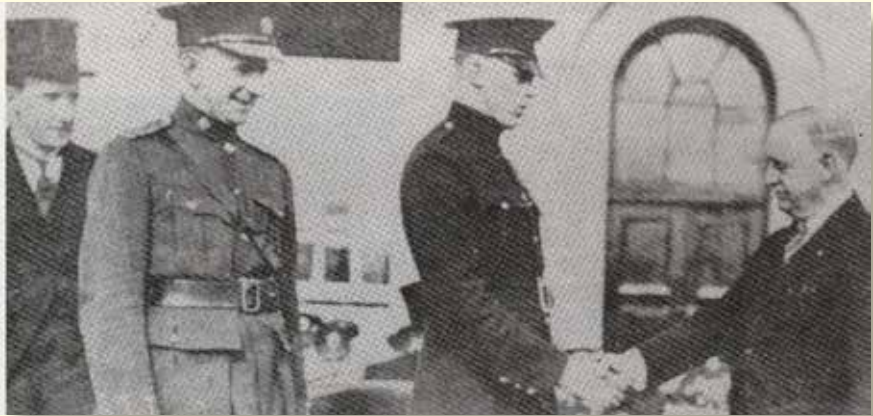
Original design of the Scott Medal front, Iris an Garda, 1923



Walter Scott and his daughter Edith Scott Magna in Ireland



Original dies for the Scott Medal made by Dieges & Clust, New York 1924.



*18th August 1924, Presentation of the first Scott Medal to Garda James Mulroy.
Left to right, Minister for Home Affairs, Mr. Kevin O'Higgins, T.D., Commissioner Eoin
O'Duffy, Garda James Mulroy, Colonel Walter Scott.*

WALTER SCOTT
FUCHS SIXTY-FOUR BROADWAY
NEW YORK

January 8, 1934.

General E. O'Duffy,
Board of Fire of Civil Guard,
Dublin,
Ireland.

My dear General O'Duffy:

It is with very great ordinary pleasure that I at last announce the news for you to see and your own presence here at the International Police Conference which offer was accepted by you as announced (officially), to present to the Irish Guard a gold medal to be known as the "Arthur Maguire Medal" for valor, and gold medal to be awarded annually by your Department to the member of the Civil Guard who in your judgment, in that year especially distinguished himself for valor in the performance of duty. It is understood that this medal is given in perpetuity, and for that purpose I have much pleasure in enclosing a \$1000.00 per cent gold bond of the United States Treasury, Detroit, Michigan, (1934), which is dated in 1934, this bond is to be held in your name as City Treasurer, the interest thereon to pay for the gold medal annually.

Before departure where the idea was also being forwarded to you. They were held by General Maguire in that of this city, who also made the first medal.

I am also forwarding to you by registered mail the first gold medal, and it has been my custom to present the first one in addition to the bond and the idea of award, since the medal is intended you will have the recipient's own approval on the same.

It is the wish of those named by the medal, to see it awarded to it for

WALTER SCOTT
FUCHS SIXTY-FOUR BROADWAY
NEW YORK

Enclosed with letter upon cover and

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an act of heroism performed during the war, the named interest shall become a part of the principal.

Why I say it connection with this medal matter that great credit to our four people who proposed the design, the medal was made from very fine brass and is made of 100 gold coins. As you will perceive, the entire design is Celtic, and embodies the Fuchsia Celtic Cross.

And say I say in closing, "I dear General O'Duffy, that it affords me heartfelt pleasure to donate this medal in perpetuity to the Civil Guard of the Irish Free State. While I am not of the belief that it is necessary to offer medals as an incentive for the performance of duty yet it has always been a practice of mine to present winners during life when men and women their beauty and noble their fragments. Hence, this gift of the medal in perpetuity to your Department.

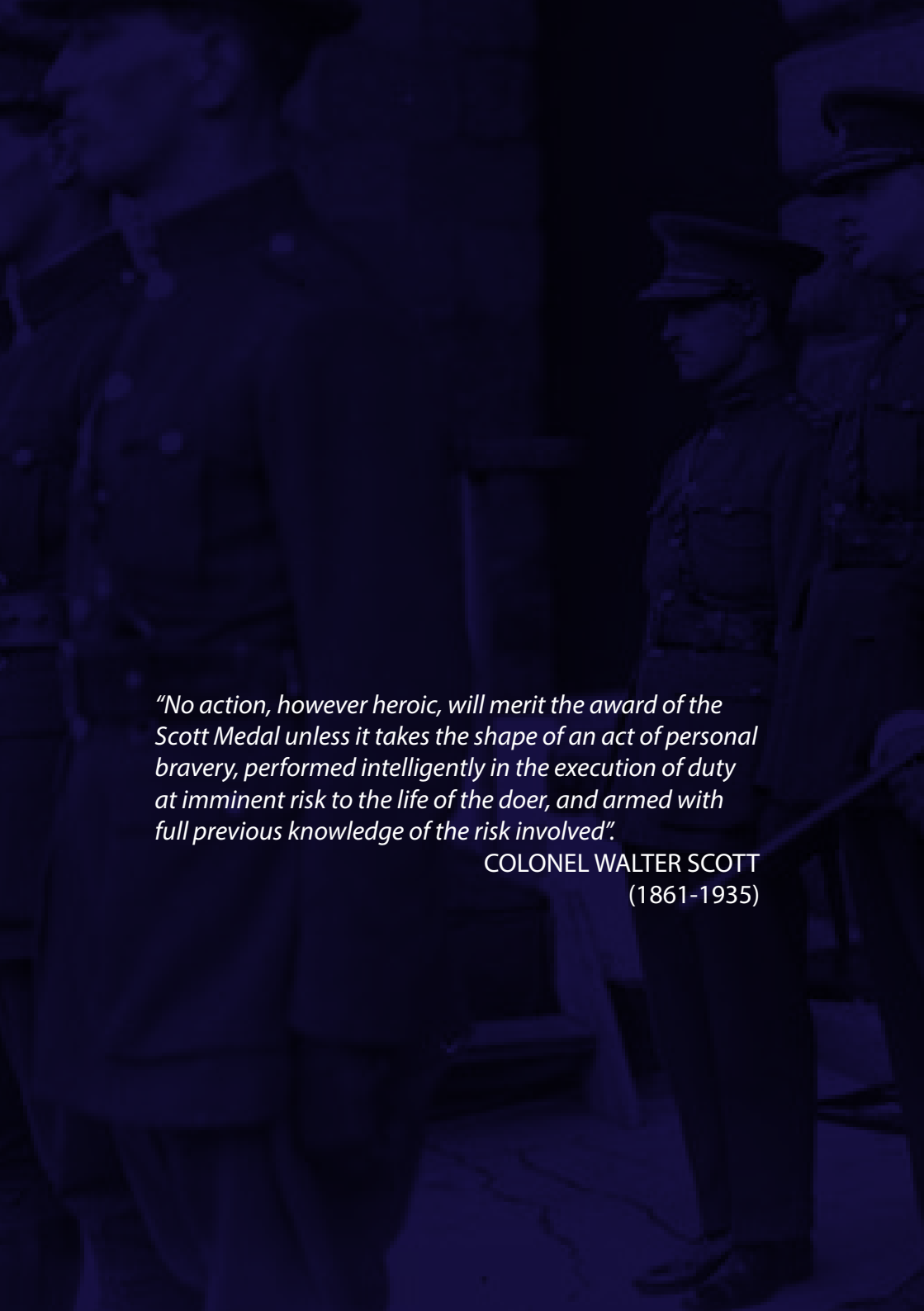
With best wishes to your Civil Guard, also to Mr. Walsh and your good wife,

Believe me,
Very sincerely yours,

Walter Scott

W. S.

Original letter from Colonel Walter Scott
to Commissioner Eoin O'Duffy,
8th January 1924



"No action, however heroic, will merit the award of the Scott Medal unless it takes the shape of an act of personal bravery, performed intelligently in the execution of duty at imminent risk to the life of the doer, and armed with full previous knowledge of the risk involved".

COLONEL WALTER SCOTT
(1861-1935)