

The Plunkett Boys

Joseph, George and Jack Plunkett were brothers who fought as part of the 1916 Rising.

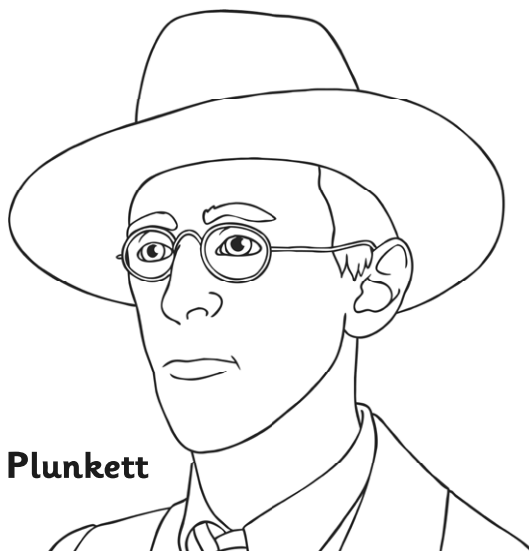
Joseph was the eldest boy. He was a sickly boy, often having to spend time in hospital or nursing homes. During the 1916 Rising he was particularly weak. However, he was determined to fight for his country. He left his nursing home on Easter Monday and made his way to Liberty Hall, with his gun in hand. Joseph marched to the GPO with Pádraig Pearse. He was stationed inside the building for six days. He was eventually captured by the British and imprisoned. He was executed on May 4th 1916.

George was 22 when the Rising began. He had joined the Irish Volunteers two years before and was the Captain of an army in South Dublin. On Easter Monday, George led his group of Volunteers into the city. En route, they stopped a tram. The driver was very scared because the men had weapons. However, George paid for all 52 tickets and instructed the driver to take his group to the city. Once there, he met with Joseph and their younger brother Jack to march to the GPO. George was almost killed during the Rising when he stopped to help a wounded British soldier.

Both George and Jack, along with their mother and father, spent time in prison for their roles in the Rising.

Questions

1. Who was the eldest Plunkett child?
2. Why do you think Joseph left his sickbed to fight?
3. Where was Joseph stationed during the Rising?
4. What important role had George during the Rising?
5. Why do you think the tram driver was scared?
6. What sort of person do you think George was? How do you know?
7. Why do you think the Plunkett's parents were also imprisoned?



Joseph Plunkett

[Redacted text]