



Playing the Game: Sport, Ireland and The Great War

A joint conference by PRONI and Antrim and Down Western Front Association branch

5 November 2015 (Thursday), 10.00 for 10.30 until 16.00

Venue: Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI), 2 Titanic Boulevard, BELFAST, BT3 9HQ.

10.00: Arrival, registration and morning tea/coffee

10.30-10.45 – Welcome, introduction and opening remarks by Ian Montgomery, PRONI and Tom Thorpe, Chair, Antrim and Down WFA

Session 1 – The Home Front (Chair: Dr Timothy Bowman, University of Kent)

10.45-11.15 – Tara Lynne O’Neil – Women’s Football and the Great War

11.15-11.45 – Dónal McAnallen, The GAA and the First World War

11.45-12.15 – Ian Montgomery, PRONI, Football in Ireland during the First World War

12-15-13.00 – Panel discussion

13.00-14.00 - Lunch

Session 2 – At the front (Chair: Stephen Scarth, PRONI)

14.00-14.30 – Dr Tim Bowman, University of Kent, Recruiting Sportsmen’s Units in Ireland

14.30-15.00 – Tom Thorpe, King’s College London – The Military Value of Sport

15.00-15.30 – Steven Walker, Political Correspondent, BBC Northern Ireland, Irish Sportsmen and the Great War and author of *Ireland's Call: Irish Sporting Heroes who died in the Great War* (published in September 2015 by Merrion Press).

15.30-16.00 – Panel discussion/closing remarks