

## John and Margaret Naylor

One of our objectives in preparing *The Revolutionary Years* was to illustrate the cross currents between *The Great War* and *The Rising*. We found many cases in which members of individual families died in both conflicts.

We also found that a number of families lost more than one member during those tumultuous times. One particularly sad case was that of the three Naylor brothers- John, James and William who died in the Great War.

John, the eldest, was killed in the German gas attack on Hulluck on March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1916 while the Rising was underway at home. In my original research I had failed to locate any reference to John's wife. I am indebted to my old friend Sean Connolly of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association for filling in the gaps.

John and his wife Margaret lived with their three children at 110 Great Brunswick (now Pearse) Street. By a dreadful co-incidence, on the very day John was killed in France, Margaret was crossing Ringsend Bridge with her three children when she was struck by stray rifle fire. She died in hospital two days later, leaving their three young children orphaned.

She was buried in Grangegorman Military Cemetery along with other victims of the Rising. Her grave was rediscovered last year by her descendants who have

erected a headstone which commemorates both Margaret and John.

We have set out below pictures of Margaret and her children, a press clipping on John's death and a photograph of their commemorative headstone.

