

## RECENT CENSUS FIGURES FOR MILLTOWN?

A reliable and accurate way of finding out the population of a general area is of course, to rely on recorded census data. The collection of facts and figures gathered, when made available, is a much-valued source of important information. Many will be familiar with the Irish Census records from the years 1901 and 1911. So many names, addresses, dates of birth, occupations and more, from both of these census years, has helped researchers far and wide to present pictures of life from the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century in Ireland. None more so, than the detailed information presented from all those years ago, here on Milltown's Heritage website!

But what of today's population? Increasing diversity, an increase in the number of older people, housing challenges, etc., etc. The most recent Irish Census was taken on Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> 2016. The total population of Ireland on that night, was deemed to be 4.7 million, an increase of almost 170,000 persons from the previous census of the year 2011.

A huge variety of statistical data, taken from the last three Irish censuses, those of, 2006, 2011 and 2016, may be viewed, compared and contrasted on the Central Statistics Office website: [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie). An interesting and helpful online search tool on that site is called SAPMAP. Users of this can zoom in on virtual maps to see the populations of their area and view any comparisons between years, should they so desire.

So what do the three most recent Censuses tell us about the population figures for the Milltown area? Well, compiling this data is not as easy as you may imagine! The SAPMAP data as mentioned, does provide excellent detailed information, in some cases, right down to townland level and even, gender quotas, however, fixed population figures for example, at townland level, for across the three census years, (2006, 2011 and 2016), are not directly comparable. Some searches only allow population counts at Electoral Division level, some at individually numbered 'Small Area' level and some at Townland level.

However, despite these obstacles, it has been possible to provide a list of data on the number of persons living in and number of homes for each townland in Milltown Parish for 2011 and similar, 'Areas' data for the wider Milltown community for 2016. (Please see attached...)