



BADGES of revolutionary women.

Not everyone forgot the women in 1916

WOMEN'S absence from the State commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the 1916 Rising was noted by Bryan O'Connor of Ballycahalan, Gort, who was a Quarter Master for the Ballycahalan Brigade of the old IRA where Liam Mellows trained the revolutionaries.

In a letter to the Connacht Tribune in 1966 O'Connor wrote: "The brave women of Cumann na mBan (cannot) be left out: Nora Lynskey, Nora Loughrey, Mary and Delia Coen, Tessie Cunniffe, Mary Ann Cloonan, Ann Deeley and Mary Fahy."



PASSIONATE as always – Margaretta D'Arcy.



MICHELINE Sheehy Skeffington and Mary Ryan.



JUDY Murphy, Connacht Tribune and Orla Higgins, NUIG.



NÓIRÍN Lynch, Joan Lally and Mary Gleeson.

see a soap box at the Museum Square when young women (why only young women? I thought segregation was the preserve of the patriarchy?) will be invited to anticipate challenges which may face women during the next century.

The month of November may deal with some of those as Violence against Women becomes

the peg for a COPE event. The conference planned for September in NUIG may help to fulfil the mission for December which is to Leave a Legacy. Let us hope that this will be an intergenerational and multicultural event which could drill down through challenges suggested on the (intergenerational hopefully)

soap box in August and plan a strategy with clear and achievable objectives for ensuring that never again will the women of Ireland - old, middle-aged and young - be excluded by our State. More details are available on www.facebook.com/Mná2016. The launch concluded with song, music, dance and general merriment. Mná 2016 abú!



WOMEN Shoe the Donkey at the launch of Mná 2016.