

DAISY BURKE PLUNKETT

COUNTESS OF FINGALL

MOYCULLEN
Co. GALWAY

Elizabeth Mary (Daisy) Burke was born in Moycullen, Co Galway, in 1862, to landlord George Edmund Burke JP, of Danesfield House, and his wife Teresa, daughter of former Limerick Mayor, Michael Quin.

After marrying the 11th Earl of Fingall, she moved to his neglected Killeen Castle in Co. Meath, which she refurbished with the assistance of art collector Sir Hugh Lane. At this time, Daisy associated with figures such as Countess Markievicz, King Edward & Queen Alexandra, WB Yeats, Lady Lavery, Horace Plunkett, and Charles Stuart Parnell.

Her ability to mix shamrock with crown was legendary.



Elizabeth Mary Burke Plunkett, Countess of Fingall.
Photo courtesy of the National Library of Ireland

ACTIVIST, FASHION ICON, PHILANTHROPIST & AUTHOR

Becoming very influential in social, industrial, agricultural, charitable and cultural circles and advocating women's strengths in Irish society, Daisy helped found the United Irishwomen/Irish Countrywomen's Association and was its president for 30 years.

Other organisations included the Camogie Association; the Irish Distressed Ladies Committee; the Irish Co-operative Movement; Conservative & Unionist Women's Franchise Association; Soldiers & Sailors Help Society; Irishwomen's Reform League; Irish Industries Association; and Alexandra College Guild.



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