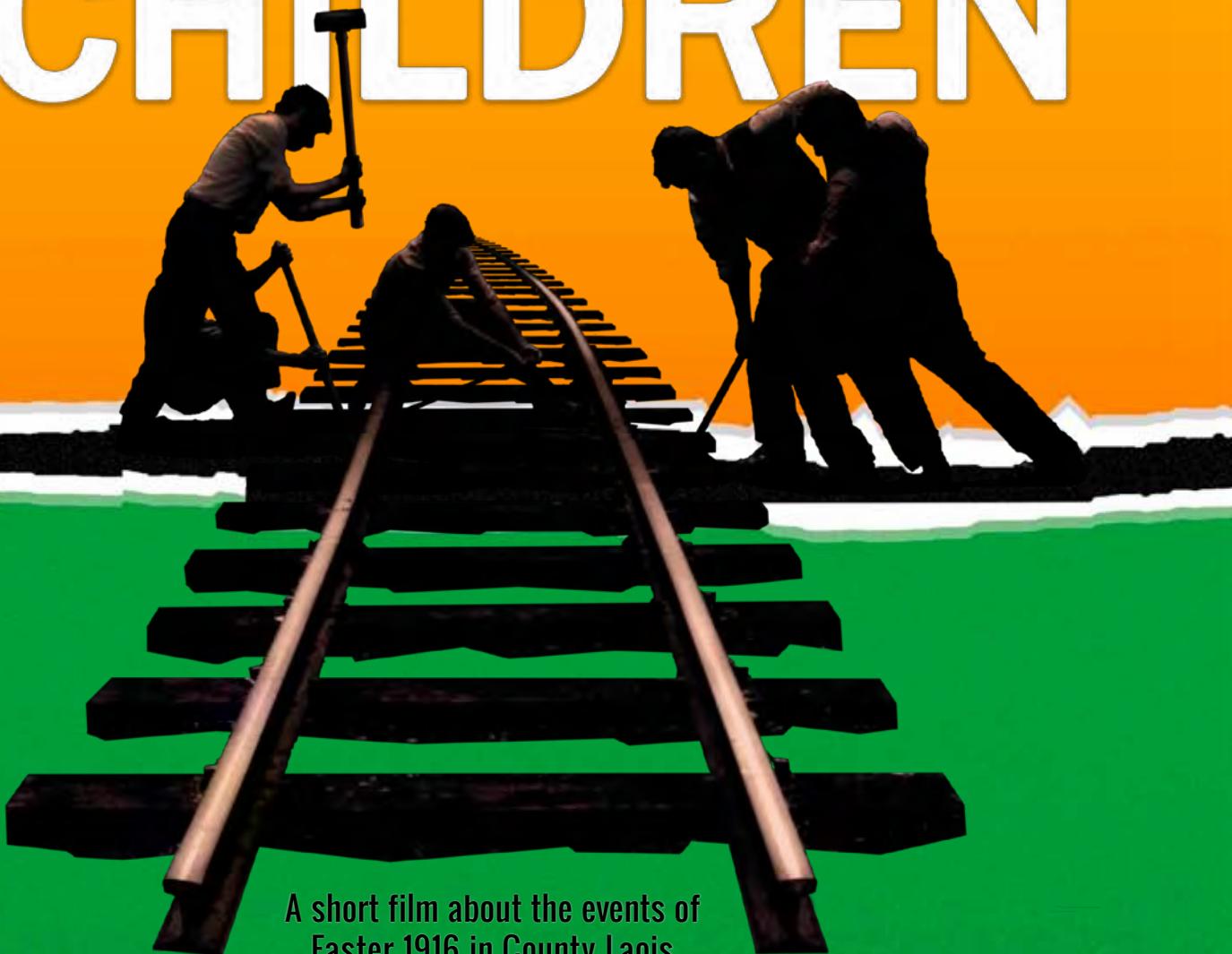




# SUMMON HER CHILDREN



A short film about the events of  
Easter 1916 in County Laois

The generations shall remember them, and call them blessed.

BRICK BY STONE PRODUCTIONS IN ASSOCIATION WITH LAOIS 1916 COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE AND LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL  
PRESENTS SUMMON HER CHILDREN WRITTEN BY MICHEÁL FLEMING DIRECTED BY WESLEY O'DUINN MUSIC BY BRIAN GOSKER AND GABRIEL GONZÁLEZ  
PRODUCED BY JOHN DELANEY AND MARTIN TWOMEY ASSOCIATE PRODUCER WESLEY O'DUINN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JIM FLEMING AND MALVINA WALSH  
DIRECTORS DAWID PITOR SZLAGA AND KARA SWEENEY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR BAIBA BERZINA FEATURING LEAH EGAN  
OF PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL-DAVID MCKERNAN ARON HEGARTY STE MURRAY ADAM MCCOOEY  
DAVE ROWE PAUL ELLIOT AND ANGEL HANNIGAN



Laois County Council



Brick by Stone  
Productions

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## Tag Line

The generations shall remember them, and call them blessed.

## Overview

'Summon Her Children' is a c. 25min. drama adaptation of events Co. Laois, over Easter 1916. Two Brothers Paddy and Eamon Fleming, who were local volunteers, received orders from Headquarters in Dublin to attack the main railway lines and prevent the transport of British reinforcements from the south to put down the Rising.

The script has been written by Michéal Fleming, the grandson of Paddy Fleming, and is based on local research and family history. The production will have a cast of twenty five characters, which are drawn from the historical documents and research with several extras cast locally.

Principal photography took place on location in Laois from in August 2015, release date April 2016.

## Synopsis

The film follows the untold story of a group of neighbours in County Laois in 1916, who were willing to lose everything to gain the freedom they had so long desired and so tirelessly fought for.

Centred around two brothers, Paddy and Eamon Fleming, who were local volunteers, the film depicts their struggle to carry out orders received from their commanders in the IRB, orders that would mark the beginning of the Easter Rising and the rebellion against the British Empire.

But their love of country is also bound up with their love for those closest to them, and at times this emotion confronts some of the characters with the hardest of decisions and the reality that; to attain one may risk losing the other.

Together with a group of local volunteers, men who knew the land better than any, they devise a plan to prevent British reinforcements from reaching Dublin in an effort to allow their comrades in the capital and around the country to strike the blow that would be heard. A blow that would herald the beginning of their journey to independence.

But their plans do not survive the first encounter with their enemy, and when guerrilla warfare rapidly turns to close quarter fighting, the main protagonists have stark choices to make; to stand and fight for what they believe in, or to abandon their orders, their hopes, and their beliefs.

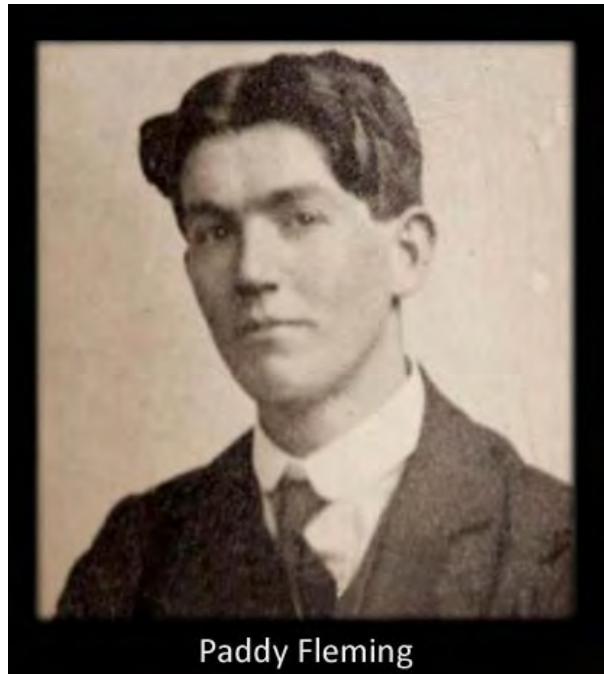


*Original derailed train 1916*

## **Background - The Story and the Producers**

Brick by Stone Productions are a collective of creative minds committed to producing the highest standard in film production. The experienced production team; who are based in Ireland, London, Melbourne and the USA; aim to create unique and special films that appeal to and engage all audiences both young and old.

The writer, Micheál Fleming, has been a member of the Brick by Stone collective since 2014 and has been developing the script for over the past year, based on historical and family information. The team have been developing the project since January this year and have brought members of the Fleming family, the main protagonist's direct descendants, on board as Executive producers. We have now launched the preproduction programme to bring the film to the screen for the centenary year of 2016.



Paddy Fleming

## **Screening & Distribution**

The producers of Summon Her Children have entered the film to a range of international film festivals including festivals in Ireland, EU & UK, Canada, U.S.A. and Australia and received the following accolades:

*Waterford Film Festival 2016*

*Best Short Film - Runner Up Award*

*ReelHeART International Film & Screenplay Festival 2017*

*Best Short Film Award*

*Comme Il Faut International Film Festival 2017*

*Best of the Fest Award*

*Elevation Indie Film Awards 2017*

*Spotlight Award*

*ReelHeART International Film & Screenplay Festival 2017*      *Nomination for Best Cinematography*

Theatrical screenings have been presented locally and nationally including a Gala Screening at Liberty Hall, Dublin as part of the 1916 centenary. The producers also intend to approach a number of television networks with a view to negotiating broadcast rights.

The film will also be distributed on DVD nationally and internationally.

## **Technical Details**

**Production Country:** Ireland

**Completion Date:** April 2016

**Running Time:** c. 25min.

**Language:** English

**Picture:** Colour

**Aspect Ratio:** 2.35:1

**Shooting Format:** 4K HD

**Exhibition Formats:** DVD, Blue Ray and DCP

**Sound:** L/R Stereo



## 2 DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Summon Her Children, a comment on the history of the Volunteers from County Laois in the 1916 rising, is a story that had yet to be told. The story follows the movements of a group of volunteers, on orders from Pearce, who derail one train full of British soldiers bound for Dublin and fail in their attempt to derail another train.

What catches me about this script is how personable and real the characters are. This is what I will be focusing on. There is a lot of emotion in the conflict between home and country, as depicted in the relationship between Paddy and Sinead. Also there is a wonderful sense of time and place. The movements of the characters, where they meet to discuss their plans, their homes and their community and how they are seen as heroes, particularly by the youth of the time, all plays a part in driving this story.

I aim to capture the mood and tone of this film by simply and subtlety observing the action. I want the audience to feel a part of this experience. To draw them into the world of our characters and to feel what they felt from moment to moment in what was a highly dangerous time. These were ordinary people asked to do extraordinary things and they rose to that challenge. This is something people can empathise with and feel proud about.

This is a story that will be celebrated and experienced by many. In order to do it justice, I feel it is important to allow the story to live without complicating the production. My team and I will set the tone through careful planning, research and design. Once we create the World we will act like a silent witness to the events as they unfold, giving the audience a unique insight into the action of this most important time in our history.

*Wesley O'Duinn*



# 3 CAST

The story's characters are drawn from the historical research of the events in Lois during Easter 1916.



## Ste Murray - EAMON FLEMING

Ste is an actor from Dublin. His recent work includes 'Carmen Disruption' at the Beckett Theatre in Trinity College, a one-man show 'Panned' at Theatre Upstairs, a tour of 'Angels in the Park', 'Cornerstones' at Civic Theatre, 'The 24 Hour Plays' at The Abbey, 'Fused' at Project Arts Centre, 'Tales from Briar Hall' at Theatre Upstairs, 'The Waiting Room' at Civic Theatre, and Fishamble's Tiny Plays for Dundrum. Previous work with We Get High Collective includes 'Narf!' and 'Sluts' at Smock Alley and Edinburgh, respectively. He features in a web-series called 'The Goo', playing the part of Baby Goo. Other roles on screen include parts in 'Corp+Anam', 'Republic of Telly', 'All is by My Side', and upcoming TG4 production 'Eipic'.



## Michael-David McKernan - PADDY FLEMING

Michael-David McKernan has trained in Physical Theatre at the London Academy of Dramatic Art, Screen Acting under Louise Kiely, and at the Samuel Beckett Centre at Trinity College. Most recently Michael-David played the lead character of Duke in 'Bonsoir Luna', an Irish-language film-musical, which premiered at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival. As well as Brick By Stone's 'Summon Her Children', Michael-David has been cast in the screen adaptation of Colm Toibin's short story, 'Three Friends', being produced by Seattle-based Rodeo Stick Productions. Theatre credits include Rough Magic's 'The Critic' at the 2013 Dublin Theatre Festival, 'According To His Need' at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and The New Theatre in Dublin, as well as 'God of Carnage' at The Lir.



## Leah Egan - SAOIRSE

A graduate of the Gaiety School of Acting, upon graduating, she was cast in TG4's Ros na Rún, where she played the challenging role of behavioural misfit Alanna Ní Ruairc, the resident female Garda.

Leah has worked in Irish television since 2012. Key roles include Garda Alanna Uí Ruairc in TG4's Ros na Rún, and the recurring role of Louise Doyle in RTE's Fair City.

Outside of that, she has both written and directed for Dagda Theatre Company, of which she is co-founding artistic director.



## Aron Hegarty - RUAIÍRÍ

Aron is an actor, writer and storyteller based in Dublin. Keen interest in performance has encouraged further insight into to the various methods and means of portraying story.

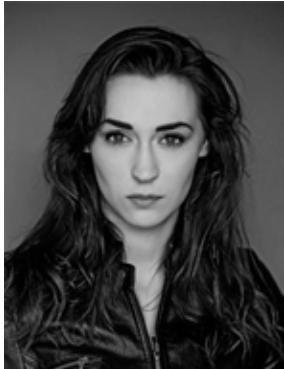
This years Aron is attending the Bow Street Screen Acting Program for film, and will appear in the coming months in new series of Vikings, Ripper Street or Game of Thrones.

He also hosts a monthly Irish Mythology Storytelling night in the Stags Head, Dublin.



### **Adam McCooey - JOHNNY FRAWLEY**

This is Adam's first production with Brick By Stone Productions and he is thrilled to be part of the cast. Adam is 13 years old and lives in Longwood, Co. Meath. Adam has a twin sister 'Caoimhe' and is going into 2nd year in Longwood Secondary School. Adam lives with his Mam, Granny, Grandad & twin sister. Adam started drama when he was 6 and has enjoyed it every since, he has gained a lot of experience on stage through his stage school 'Brennan Performing Arts'. Adam has played many colourful roles from Edna Turnbald in Hairspray to Scar in The Lion King.



### **Angel Hannigan - MAY BRADY**

Angel Hannigan graduated from the Gaiety school of Acting in 2010. Since leaving the Gaiety Angel has been in "The Comedy of Errors" directed by Kristian Marken, "Faustus" Directed by Roger Gregg and Bryan Burroughs, "Blood Wedding" directed by Ronnie McCann. Angel performed the part of Evelyn in "The Shape of Things" in 2012. She has also been in several short films, "Sales Manager of the year 2130", "The Watch", "Radio Therapy" As well as promotional films for the European Parliament and The Taxi regulator. Her voice work includes "Any other Dublin" written and directed by Gareth Stack and regularly features with "The Bee-Loud Glade" Cabaret as a singer and instrumentalist.



### **Dave Rowe - (RAM) P.J. RAMSBOTTOM**

Dave Rowe is an Irish actor from Waterford, based in Dublin. He is a graduate of the Gaiety School of Acting full time course. He performed in their graduation play Dirty Laundry, written and directed by former WAAPA director Chris Edmund. Theatre credits include: The Critic (Rough Magic), Out of Print (Gumption Theatre Co/ Theatre Upstairs), Romeo and Juliet, and Othello (Shakespeare Schools Programme) The Navigator (Icarus Theatre Co. - Collaborations Festival), The Wise Wound (The Cup Theatre Co- Collaborations Festival) and Deadly (Abbey Theatre). Film credits include: Do It Now (Viko Nikci), The Last Date (Viko Nikci), Irelands Greatest Robberies (TV3), and the latest Referendum Ad campaign.



### **Paul Elliot - LAR BRADY**

Paul Elliot is a graduate of the Gaiety School of Acting. His theatre work includes 'Playboy of the Western World', 'The Dead Woman's Son' (Smock Alley Players), 'Toxic' (Project Arts Centre) and 'King Lear' (Mill Theatre). Paul has also collaborated with the AC Production company on three occasions for William Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night' and 'Timon of Athens' (Project Arts Centre), 'Accidental death of an Anarchist' (New Theatre). Other credits include work as stage combat choreographer on Ramblinman's 'True West' and stunt work on the History Channel show 'Vikings'. Following his on-screen training with acclaimed Irish Director Graham Cantwell, Paul featured in 'The Break' (Cork Film Festival 2015) and is currently filming for BBC's 'Ripper Street'.



### **Killian Coyle - GRAY**

A Dublin native, Killian's acting interest stems from his time with the Independent Theatre Workshop which started him on his path to becoming a recent graduate of the full time professional actor training course at the Gaiety School of Acting. Most recently Killian played the part of Mel/Davey/Ogma in Philip Doherty's The Full Moon Hotel at Smock Alley Theatre 1662. Recent film work includes Ciaran in Who's Who, a Viko Nicki short with Welcome Home Pictures, and Hugo in Death of a Superhero directed by Ian Fitzgibbon.

# 4 Key Team Biographies

## **Executive Producer - James Fleming**

James Fleming Represented Laois for two years on National Council of ICMSA - Irish Creamery Milk Supplies Association and was active in IFA for over twenty years. He held several positions at local level.

He is a member of Laois Heritage Society for 20 years, Treasurer for 10 years, presently Vice Chairman. Jim has contributed to various articles for Laois Heritage Journal and compiled the book '1916 in Laois' with his brother Brendan. He also researched 1798 in Laois and Kilkenny and was responsible for overseeing the procurement and delivery of two 1798 monuments in the area as secretary of committee.

Jim is presently on the Laois County Council 1916 Committee and is also secretary of Laois 1916 Commemoration Committee, which raised funds of €30,000 in 1995 for the monument at Clonad, Portlaoise, which was designed by Robert Ballagh.

## **Executive Producer - Malvina Walsh (nee Fleming)**

Malvina is a Computer Science graduate from University of Limerick and is the Grand niece of the central characters Eamon and Paddy Fleming in the script. She has been a key instigator of the development of this commemorative film for the Centenary of the 1916 Rising activities in Laois.

Daughter of James Fleming and older sister of Micheál, the writer, Malvina is PRO of Laois 1916 Commemoration Committee, and a member of the 1916-21 club committee. She is also editor of 'Towards 2016', a newsletter aimed to motivate and inspire Irish citizens to commemorate the 1916 Easter Rising as a pivotal moment in Irish history.

She is a founding member and former event coordinator with Morro 16 samba group. Malvina works as a trainer for a large global technology company by day and is passionate about music, film and historical projects outside of the day job amongst many other interests.

## **Writer - Micheál Fleming**

Micheál is a Laois born Actor/Writer who has been honing his craft in Dublin for the last six years. After graduating from Biosciences in D.I.T, he studied acting with numerous acting coaches including Robbie Byrne (Meisner), Kathleen Warner Yeats (Acting for Camera)

He also attended Bull Alley Training Company for two years where he graduated with an Advanced Acting qualification. He is now writing, directing and acting in a variety of productions, along with a number of his own creations.

## **Director - Wesley O'Duinn**

Wesley is primarily an actor, with credits on the Hobbit, Cove, The Garda Series and a number of short films and stage productions based in Ireland and abroad. Wes was also the breakfast show host on commercial radio both in Ireland and in New Zealand where he was also treading the boards as a stand up comedian and improv performer.

Since graduating from The Gaiety School of Acting, Wes has become a writer, with his first short shot in Cork in August 2014. Wesley also trained as an events manager and worked at the highest level of this industry internationally for eight years.

## **Producer - John Delaney**

For over twenty years John has been collaborating as an actor, writer, director and producer with numerous companies for both stage and screen. He also spent over a decade teaching and mentoring acting students on the Full Time Training Programme in The Gaiety School Of Acting, The National Theatre School Of Ireland and was a co-founder and artistic director of the highly regarded Collaborations Theatre And Arts Festival, held annually in Smock Alley, Dublin.

His screen credits include The Man Who Invented Christmas, Chips And Kissin', A Dangerous Fortune, Blight, Foxglove, Cove, Volkswagen Joe, Game Of Thrones, The Last Security Man, Ceart Coir, Cracking Crime, Fair City and Glenroe.

John's theatre directing credits include I Was An Emperor, For Whom We Deliver, Death In High Heels, End-Time, The Muse Unbidden, Oedipus At Colonus, A Midsummer's Night Dream, Last Call, Featuring Loretta, Boy Gets Girl, Tape, Othello and Bad Sunday.

## **Producer & Production Designer - Martin Twomey**

Martin is a London based Irish photographer and filmmaker working in the commercial and performing arts sector on drama and documentary projects in the UK and Ireland.

With twenty years experience in photography and graphic design, his specialist area is the creative use of the visual image in story telling for the screen, including director of photography and production design. Martin also has a wide range of experience in camera operating, script writing and editing.

Part of his commercial practice is the production and management of live entertainment and event production including live international tours involving management of media production, technical facilities, promotion, tour legals and finances as well as media co-ordination of film teams including BBC, CNN, ITV and Reuters.

## **1st Assistant Director - Baiba Berzina**

Baiba was born in Latvia and moved to Ireland five years ago. She began her career in film at Saint John's Central College, graduating in 2014. She has worked as Assistant Director on the short; 'Enemies at the End' and as Production Manager with Epic Productions on a music video for the U.S. hip hop crew; 'LEL Brothers'. She is presently working in various roles on a number of film projects.

## **Directors of Photography - Kara Sweeney & David Szлага**

Kara is an honours graduate of media production, who also qualified in visual media communications. Her key roles in filmmaking centre around the overall look of the film, by producing expressive ideas and translating them to screen. These roles include director of photography, camera operator and editing supervisor, but also extend to various other duties needed from concept and pre production through to post.

Kara currently works as a freelance producer of film, video and photography. She has gained experience in short film, documentary, music videos and commercial projects. Kara also teaches filmmaking and photography workshops, as well as co-ordinating and supervising short film productions through a Cork based branch of Youth Work Ireland.

David Szлага has an honours degree in Engineering from The National University of Ireland in Galway as well as an Economics degree from his native Poland.

David covers the technical aspects of video production, lighting, energy and technical digital facilities on set and has worked as cinematographer on a number of Brick By Stone short productions. He also specialises in aerial and steadycam filming.

## **Musical Director - Brian Gosker**

Brian is a multi-instrumentalist composer, producer and engineer based in Galway. Learning drums, guitar and piano from an early age, Brian went on to pick up a degree in Acoustical Engineering. He released his solo album in 2011, 'Here is Light, Night is Here', which received airplay in five countries.

Brian has performed and recorded with Mountains, Maybe, Anne Harrington and the Egomaniax, John Fairhurst, The Bahh Band and Miriam Donohue. Taken in audiences at venues such as Whelans, Roisin Dubh, The Spirit Store, Dolans, and Festivals such as Electric Picnic and Body & Soul.

# 5 PRODUCTION REPORT

## SUMMARY

Principal Photography on Summon Her Children commenced on 25th August 2015 on location in Co. Laois, Ireland.

Filming was completed on schedule over four days to the 28th August.

A crew of twenty-one were present on set throughout the production with a cast of up to thirty-three, including thirteen extras.



## PRODUCTION OUTPUT

Scheduled Hours: 51.5  
Lost time: 1.0 hrs.  
Additional Hours: 1.5 hrs.  
Production Hours: 53.0 hrs.  
Recorded Scenes: 21.  
Additional B-roll & cutaways recorded: c1.0 hrs.  
Audio Wild Tracks: c30 min.



## PRODUCTION NOTES

Weather was generally sunny and dry with severe downpours on day one.

Filming took place across twenty-four locations with eight constructed sets.

Vintage props and set dressing were hired for the production including vehicles, weapons, and domestic furniture and fittings.

A mock-up railway-track section was constructed for the sabotage scene at Stradbally steam railway facility.



# 6 CONTACTS

Enquiries regarding the production should be addressed in the first instance to the following team members:

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