

# THOMAS CLARKE

*Thomas Clarke was born in Milford on Sea, United Kingdom on March 11, 1858 .People associated with him were ,James Connolly PatrickPearse, Joseph Plunkett,Thomas MacDonagh. He was born in 1857 in Tipperary to an Irish protestant father, the British Army bombardier James Clarke, and an Irish catholic mother, Mary Palmer. His parents would marry two months after Tom's birth and go on to have two girls and another boy.He spent a lot of his childhood in South Africa. However, his father was transferred to Dungannon in County Tyrone when Tom was seven-years-old and that is where he spent his childhood. He was 20 when he joined the Irish Republican Brotherhood. Clarke quickly rose to a prominent role in the organisation,*

*becoming head of the local IRB circle after a visit to Dungannon by the Fenian John Daly. After leading a revenge attack against a member of the Royal Irish Constabulary, Clarke escaped custody and fled to the United States, where he would join Clan na Gael and plan campaigns in the name of Irish separatism. He was captured after a bombing campaign in the UK in 1883, Clarke was captured and would spend the next 15 years doing hard labour in English jails. Clarke would write about this time in his memoir*

*His return to Dublin would be the spark that led to the Rising, nine years later. Tom and Kathleen would return to Ireland in 1907 to open a tobacconist shop, with Tom immersing himself in reforming the IRB along with his protégé Sean*

