

Margaret 'Peig' Tierney

(1938–2016)

Pioneering Garda Garda Ceanródaíoch

Born in Oughterard, Margaret 'Peig' Tierney was one of five children of John and Annie Tierney of Bridge Street. She joined An Garda Síochána in July 1959, becoming one of the first women to join the force. She and eleven other applicants were chosen from 178 women who had replied to an advert in the media requesting applications from women. They were assigned to the Dublin Metropolitan Division at Pearse Street. While stationed there, Peig was promoted to Sergeant.

Peig became the first female sergeant in Limerick when she and four other female Gardai were posted there in 1965. She married Detective Sergeant Michael Brown the same year and had to leave the force because of the 'marriage bar'.

In Uachtar Ard a rugadh Margaret 'Peig' Tierney, duine de chúigear clainne le John agus Annie Tierney a raibh cónaí orthu ar Shráid an Droichid. Chuaigh sí sa Gharda Síochána i mí Iúil 1959, agus í ar cheann de na chéad mhná a chuaigh leis an ngairm. Roghnaíodh í féin mar aon le haon iarratasóir déag eile as 178 bean a thug freagra ar fhógra sna meáin a lorg iarratais ó mhná. Cuireadh ar dualgas le Rannán Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath ag Sráid an Phiarsaigh iad. Fad a bhí sí lonnaithe ansin, rinneadh Sáirsint de Pheig.

Bhí Peig ar an gcéad bhansáirsint i Luimneach nuair a cuireadh í féin agus ceathrar ban-Ghardaí eile ar dualgas ann i 1965. Phós sí an Bleachtair-Sháirsint Michael Brown an bhliain céanna agus b'éigean di an fórsa a fhágáil mar gheall ar an 'mbac pósta'.



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Starting in Limerick in 1962
Photo Courtesy The Brown Family



Peig with her husband Detective Sergeant Michael Brown
Photo Courtesy The Brown Family



Former ban gardai:
Teresa Dundon, Mary Stratford, Dympna Canny, Kathleen O'Sullivan and Peig Browne
Photo Courtesy The Limerick Leader



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