



O'Malley Clan Association Monthly Newsletter

This month's highlights....

- All roads lead to Mayo for The Gathering
- The full programme of events for the Gathering 2023
- An Amazing Friday night concert in Westport! And another feast of music, on Clare Island on Saturday 24th June
- The South Kerry O'Malleys , Part 1
- Memorial Unveiled to Michael O'Malley in Rossmuc
- Tomás O'Maille exhibition comes to Westport
- Anne Chambers book signing event in Westport on Friday June 23rd.
- Dr Grace O'Malley on childhood obesity
- Helen Hooker O'Malley Exhibition on Clare Island
- Jane O'Malley RIP
- "Slat na Ríge" The Rod of Kingship
- Clare Island – The 2023 Football Champions!
- About the O'Malley Clan Association
- The O'Malley Clan needs you! Join Today!

All roads lead to Mayo for the O'Malley Clan Gathering!

The time has come to pack the bags and head for beautiful County Mayo and the O'Malley Clan Gathering 2023. We're looking forward to welcoming O'Malleys from all around the globe to what promises to be an amazing weekend in Westport and on Clare Island. There are events scheduled for the whole weekend, with music, song, and dance, Irish history, family roots, glorious scenery, plenty of good food, and friends old and new to be met. It's not too late to book, so head over to www.omalleyclan.ie and secure your place at the events on the weekend of 23rd to the 25th June. Capacity is limited at some of the events during the weekend, so don't leave it too late to book. Details of all of the events in the packed programme for the weekend are here in the newsletter, and on the website too, so have a look and plan your trip to Mayo. If there's any help you need in planning your trip, pop us over an email to omalleyclanireland@gmail.com



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www.omalleyclan.ie

The O'Malley Clan Gathering 23-25 June 2023



The 67th Annual



O'MALLEY
CLAN GATHERING

CLARE ISLAND

Co Mayo, Ireland
23 - 25 June 2023



Clare Island

The O'Malley Clan Gathering 23-25 June 2023



Chieftain Martin O'Malley and the O'Malley Clan Association invite you to gather with us in Co Mayo from the 23rd to 25th June, 2023 on the 70th anniversary of the first Annual Clan Gathering in 1953

GENERAL INFORMATION PHONE NUMBER

(from 4pm on 23rd June to 6pm on 25rd June)

+353 85 134 9651

All event bookings should be made at <https://www.ireland101.com/booking/book/omalley> only. Please do not contact the venues looking for tickets as they do not have them. A small number of tickets for the Gala Concert on Friday 23rd are available at Westport House.

Don't forget to join the chat at [leaderschat1.ireland101.com](https://www.ireland101.com/leaderschat1) courtesy of our booking partners Ireland101. Log in with your email address and use Welcome#123! as the initial password

NOTE: Details of events below are the best information available at time of publication (15th June 2023) and are subject to

Friday 23rd June

5:00 p.m. Annual General Meeting of the Clan at Westport House

Guardian Chieftain Ellen O'Malley Dunlop will chair the AGM, which will include the election of a new Tánaiste.

5:45 – 7:15 p.m. Chieftain's Reception at Westport House

Welcome to the 67th annual O'Malley Gathering from Chieftain Martin O'Malley. Special guest Anne Chambers, biographer of Grace O'Malley.



8:00 p.m. Gala Concert at Holy Trinity Church, Westport

Shaun Davey, Rita Connolly, Donal Lunny and Cora Venus Lunny will perform extracts from Shaun Davy's renowned Granuaile suite, portraying episodes in the life of Grace O'Malley, Ireland's Pirate Queen, and other works.

Later

Join Chieftain Martin and others in the Castlecourt hotel, Westport, to raise a glass or two to the O'Malleys!

The O'Malley Clan Gathering 23-25 June 2023

Saturday 24th June

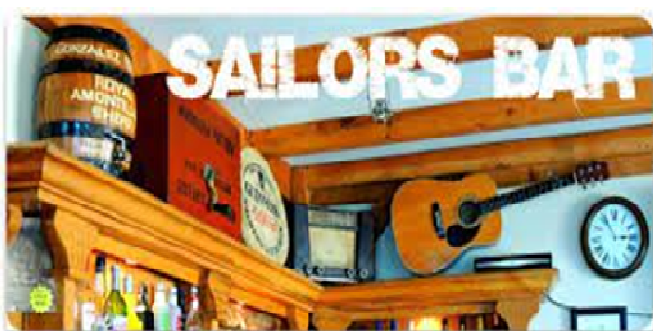
10:00 a.m. Update on the O'Malley DNA genealogy project. Venue: Upstairs Meeting room at Town Hall Theatre, Westport. Note: There is another event in the main auditorium.

Dr Maurice Gleeson and Brendan O'Malley will update us on the exciting "Finding Grace" DNA project. We're trying to track down her genetic signature, so that O'Malleys everywhere can check and see how closely



1:00 p.m. Saturday Festivities on Clare Island

On arrival at Clare Island harbour, overlooked by Grace O'Malley's castle, walk to the Community Centre for a light lunch, served until 3 pm. Enjoy the exhibition of photographs of Clare Island by Helen Hooker O'Malley from the 1930s introduced by her son Cormac O'Malley. Use the early afternoon as you wish - rent a bike to explore the island or join Sandy Dunlop for a walk through 500 years of island and Irish history. You could go for a swim at the beach, go visit the tall ship in the harbour, watch a sheepdog demonstration at the football pitch beside the Community Centre or just relax with a drink and enjoy the scenery. There will be games and events on the beach for our younger visitors.



11:00 a.m. Travel to Clare Island

Buses from the Octagon, Westport outside the Town Hall Theatre will take you to Roonagh, to catch a special ferry to Clare Island at 12:15. The normal scheduled ferry timetables will also operate. If you do not wish to take the bus, and would prefer to make your own way to Roonagh, ferry tickets may be booked directly from the ferry companies at <https://www.omalleyferries.com/> and <https://www.clareislandferry.com/>. Ferries may also be available from Kildavnet pier, Achill Island. Check with the ferry companies.



Then assemble at Sailors Bar around 4:00 pm for an evening of music and dancing. The line-up includes Niall McCabe, Patricia Treacy, Luka Bloom, O'Malley's March and Leo Moran. Join in Céilí, led by local musicians and dancers. Eat at the barbecue and drink at the bar (not included in your ticket) as you wish. Weather permitting, we'll sit around a bonfire and sing a song or two before departing to catch the ferry and bus back to Westport. Choose between the early ferry around 6:00 pm or the late ferry around 10:00 pm.

The O'Malley Clan Gathering 23-25 June 2023

Sunday 25th June

9:15 a.m. Travel to Clare Island

Buses from the Octagon, Westport outside the Town Hall Theatre will take you to Roonagh, to catch a special ferry to Clare Island at 10:30 am. As on Saturday, if you wish to make your own way to Roonagh, ferry tickets may be booked directly from the ferry companies at <https://www.omalleyferries.com/> and <https://www.clareislandferry.com/>. Ferries may also be available from Kildavnet pier, Achill Island. Check with the ferry companies. The regular ferry timetables will also operate



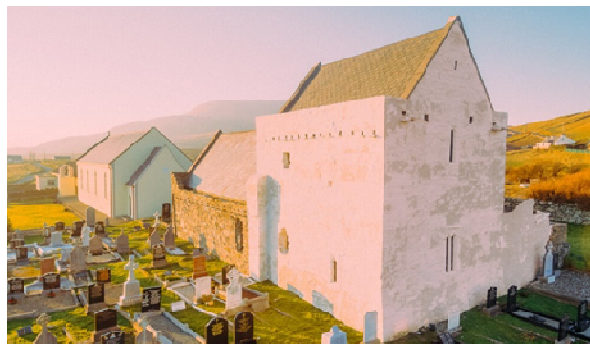
11:00 Arrive on Clare Island

Walk/cycle/minibus to Clare Island Abbey. It takes about 30 minutes to walk to the abbey from the pier. We will have two minibus taxis available for those who may not be up to the walk. These are not bookable in advance



11:40 Mass at Clare Island Abbey

Saint Bridget's Cistercian Abbey was founded in the 12th/13th century. It was rebuilt around 1460 and contains numerous O'Malley tombs. Tradition claims it as the site of the baptism, marriages and burial of Grace O'Malley. The Clare Island Choir will perform at the mass.



1:30 p.m. Clan Lunch at Clare Island Community Centre

The formal heart of the O'Malley Clan Gathering. After a sit down lunch Chieftain Martin will review his year in office and recognise contributors to the O'Malley Clan.

3:00 p.m. (approx.) Inauguration of new Chieftain Nano O'Malley MacMahon

After the inauguration and the singing of Óró Sé do Bheatha 'Bhaile, relax and enjoy the company until it's time to say farewell and catch the ferry back to the mainland around 4:45 pm where the bus to Westport will depart around 5:15 pm

Saturday 24th June on Clare Island, A feast of music!



**CHIEFTAIN
MARTIN
O'MALLEY
PRESENTS**



Saturday 24th June
Sailors Bar, Clare Island
Bookings at www.omalleyclan.ie



LEO MORAN



LUKA BLOOM



NIALL MCCABE



O'MALLEY'S MARCH



PATRICIA TREACY

ALONG WITH A WHOLE HOST OF CLARE ISLAND SINGERS, MUSICIANS, AND DANCERS

Friday night 23rd June in Westport will be amazing!



**CHIEFTAIN
MARTIN
O'MALLEY
PRESENTS**



**Friday 23rd
June 2023,
8PM**

Holy
Trinity
Church,
Westport,
Co Mayo



Shaun Davey & Rita Connolly with Donal Lunny & Cora Lunny



**RITA CONNOLLY &
SHAUN DAVEY**



DONAL LUNNY



CORA LUNNY

**FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY,
A FEAST OF MAGNIFICENT
MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT**

Tickets €30

Bookings at
 www.omalleyclan.ie

Kindly Supported by



Limited Number of Tickets also
available at Westport House
Booking Office

The South Kerry O'Malleys, The Liberator, and more!

A history of the O'Malleys of Termons, Derrynane, and Gleesk, South Kerry

By Timothy (Thady) O'Malley, 25th May 1903 – 24th April 1990. (prepared and typed during the 1980's and 1990's). While writing the history of the South Kerry O' Malleys Thady experienced deteriorating eyesight. Due to this, the original typed version contains some inaccuracies, as the typist located in Cork, was unable to interpret some of the text provided. This abridged version will be published in two parts. Part 1 deals with the origins of the O' Malleys of South Kerry.

Part 2 deals with some of the descendants of the O' Malleys of Termons and Spunkane who departed to other locations in Ireland, UK and USA.

A big thank you to Thomas Horgan, Waterville, Co Kerry, and Gerard O'Malley, Castletroy, Limerick. Heritage Iveragh/Oidhreacht Uíbh Ráthaigh who provided the article.

Part 1

"The O'Malleys came to South Kerry and Derrynane early in the 17th century as the O'Connells who brought them, were a seafaring family, and were acquainted with the O' Malleys. The O'Connells gave them lands at Termons which were then owned by Baron Moritz O'Connell, who served in the Austrian army as a high ranking captain. The O'Connells owned all the lands of Termons and one of the Liberator's family lived on the lands now owned by O'Malleys. The kitchen garden, even now, is still to be seen on the said lands. The O'Malley Clan are descendants of The Great Queen of The West, Grace O'Malley. The O'Malleys got possession of the Termons lands in 1770. When the Poet Piper's daughter Nora married James O'Malley in Termons, the O'Connells gave church island in Waterville lake and two yearling heifers as a wedding present. James had two sons, one Crohan, the second Patrick (Pat) and one daughter Ellen. Crohan emigrated to the US, where he joined the US Navy. He married Mary O' Donoghue. from Dromkeare, Waterville. They settled in Randolph, Massachusetts .They had four children, Charles (Charlie,) Mary, (Molly), James F. and Nora (Nancy). When Crohan retired from the US Navy he carried on a shoe manufacturing business. He died in 1909 and is buried in Randolph, USA.

Patrick(Pat) married Mary Lyne of Spunkane. Pat and Mary had eight children, Crohan, James, Timothy (Tim), and daughters Kate, Bridget, Mary, and Denis and Ellen who died young.



Above: O'Malley family 1940, Crohan and Abbie on the right, and Bobbie and Mamie on the left

The South Kerry O'Malleys, The Liberator, and more!



Right: Thady & Crohan in the 1940's
Above: John O'Malley "The Ghillie" (Thady's Brother),
on the right



Crohan married Abbie in Spunkane, and the family was Timothy, (Tim/ Thady) , John, Pat, Mary, (Mamie) and Doreen.

Crohan died on 23rd January, 1947 aged 74. Abbie died on 20th April 1962, Thady's sister Mamie Whyte, died 6th January 1987. Pat and Doreen emigrated to England and Tim/ Thady, John and Mamie, Mrs. White remained in Spunkane. Doreen's daughter returned from the UK and she now lives in the Rathmore area of Kerry .

"Patrick O' Sullivan Casure of Eightercua, Waterville, Musician Piper and close friend of Daniel O' Connell, Liberator. He travelled a good deal with O'Connell on land and sea and was always the old Irish musician in the " Derrynane " home of O' Connell. When the young French smugglers were invited to the parties and dances they sang their french songs and Pdraig Casure gave them the Irish airs on his pipes. The Liberator's son Maurice and the " Piper " were taken along the coast and landed in numerous islands. The islanders gave them a hearty welcome when the Piper tuned his pipes and played ancient tunes.

There is a tombstone erected to the memory of Patrick O' Sullivan Musician Piper in the Old Abbey, Ballinskelligs. This stone was located in 1935 by his great grandson Timothy O' Malley, (Thady) RN Lifeboat Member, Spunkane. Thady was a member of the Kerry Archaeological Society established by Captain O' Connell that year.

Mr. O' Malley received the inscription from his cousin in the USA. After a search of the Abbey the slab stone of Valentia slate was found , cleaned and lettering deciphered, which reads:

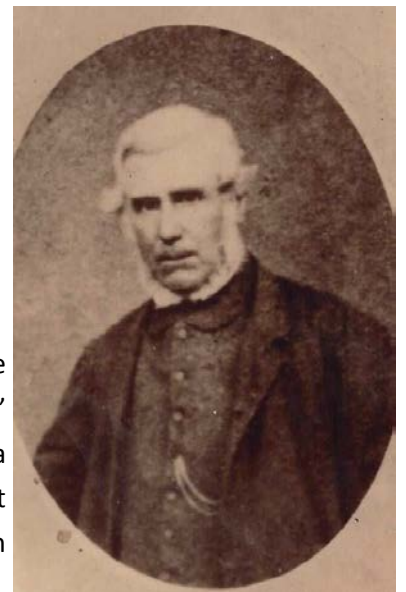
The South Kerry O'Malleys, The Liberator, and more!



Above: Kerry Archaeological Society 1938

"Beneath is interred the body of Musician Piper, Patrick O' Sullivan Casure, Eightercua, Waterville, who died on 22nd November, 1841. To much acuteness of mind, genial wit and original humour, he added the more qualities of honesty, fidelity and compassion. This stone is placed here as an attribute to his memory by Maurice O' Connell, M.P. son of the Liberator, who valued him living and regrets him dead". The O' Sullivan tomb is located in the cemetery annex against the main wall of the old priory.

The Piper's son Daniel, had property in Derrynane and was Clerk of Petty Sessions and Foreman in the great O' Connell home in Derrynane. Daniel Casure O' Sullivan had ten daughters and two sons. The daughters married into farms in Cork and some to Mariners, Coastguards and Lighthouse Keepers. Hence, we have his grandchildren scattered all over the coast- Hamiltons, Murphys and O' Malleys. One of the Pipers' daughters had married a Murphy in Tarmons, another to an O' Malley in Tarmons and another to a Curran in Dromid parish." "The O'Malleys of Derrynane were a branch of Termons' O'Malleys. They were always in charge of the Sale Lodge around the Liberator's home in Derrynane." The Census of 1901, recorded that Hanorah Malley, Head of Household, Nora Malley, daughter, Maurice Malley, son, and Katie Sullivan, niece were resident at Derrynane. Hanorah O' Malley was married to John O' Malley. John died in 1892 at the age of 87.



*Above: Daniel O'Sullivan Casure,
Son of The Piper*

The South Kerry O'Malleys, The Liberator, and more!



Above: John O'Malley, Sitting outside The Western Lodge at Derrynane House, (Photo from The Lawrence Collection 1865-1914)

"The last of that branch, Maurice O'Malley died in 1940 and is interred in the Old Abbey, Derrynane. Maurice O'Malley's nephews Crohan and James Murphy of Derrynane. Crohan was a comedian and musician and a well known Gaelic scholar. He was invited to perform at the Oireachtas, the premier Gaelic Culture Gathering at the time, at the Mansion House, Dublin. He was a gifted singer. Gaelic and English. His brother James Murphy was highly educated and served a number of years as postman Caherdaniel area. On his retirement he got well earned farewell. James had two sons Charles and John, which now reside at Ballybrack Waterville, their granduncle Maurice O'Malley was a jobsman for years in the Liberator's residence also maintenance man besides. All of the remaining O'Malley branch left Derrynane and settled down in Gleesk, a fishing village near Sneem and carried on fishing there." A letter from Wilfred (Bill) Malvey, a descendant of the Derrynane/ Gleesk O' Malleys, Boston, Massachusetts, USA, dated 04/06/1973, to his cousin Thady O' Malley Waterville shows that the name changed to Malvey while that branch of the family still resided at Gleesk.

The South Kerry O'Malleys, The Liberator, and more!

Old Time Fishing Smack:

"Which came around the coast from 1912, namely Dingle, Arklow, Skerries. Those old timers were manned by a crew of four and a coxswain and given a week fishing in the various bays and fishing grounds. In those days it was a grand sight to see a fleet of those (smacks) sailing into Dingle, Ballinskelligs, Valentia, or Kenmare Bay, and the farmers residing along seaboard always looked forward to seeing the smacks – a sign of settled weather. The smacks were fully rigged and manned by experienced fishermen – no motor engines, and they very often gave days to enter a harbour or fishing ground because they depended on the wind ...calm, no move, windy, full speed.

There was one man who took interest in these vessels because of his family tradition. He constructed a model of an old time fishing smack, fully rigged and with ladders, lifebuoys etc, and all copper fastened clinker. He undertook to do the job at N.A.I.D.A. exhibition in 1942 the volunteer Crohan O'Malley of the C.L.S.S. Waterville sent his smack to the exhibition and won a prize in which the late Sean Lemass TD explained how a man in remote Kerry with crude tools and time built this model. The certificate and letters are in possession of T.O'Malley, Waterville Coast Life Saving Station, which he highly values.

The above account was written by Timothy O'Malley, No 1 Man, Waterville Coast Life Saving Station. Timothy was a son of Crohan O'Malley, who designed, built and rigged the model boat."

Photo 1 shows Crohan O' Malley with his model Smack boat,

Photo 2 shows Thomas Horgan who presented the model boat to the National Museum of Ireland, Country Life, Castlebar on behalf of Heritage Iveragh/Oidhreacht Uibh Rathai.



The South Kerry O'Malleys, The Liberator, and more!

The Irish Coast Guard Lifesaving Service— Waterville.

The O' Malley family in Waterville played a key role in establishing and organising the Waterville unit of the Irish Coast Guard Lifesaving Service.

The following are extracts taken from Thomas Horgans, recently published- Waterville Coast Guard.

A Brief History by Heritage Iveragh/ Oidhreacht Uíbh Ráthaigh

"The Irish Coast Lifesaving Service (C.L.S.S.) began in 1923. Tom Casement, seafaring brother of Sir Roger Casement, played a vital role in this, and became its first director, with the title of "Inspector" By 1924 he had recruited 758 volunteers for the new service and surveyed the former Coast Guard stations. Archive material of Thady O' Malley (1903 - 1990) of Spunkane, Waterville, a member of the first Waterville Unit, notes that " down in Kerry where the coastline was treacherous and rocky, there were no coastguards. The rocket houses were there. Fishermen and others took up with Tom Casement and so the 5 Kerry stations were manned in 1924. Mr. Tom Casement, first Inspector visited each and in the first - Waterville- formerly in charge of British Coast Guards, he got 15 volunteers- a No.1 Man and 14 volunteers. He was skillful in his selection and so he got a former Volunteer to act as No.1 Man- B. Huggard accepted. An IRA signalman T.O'Malley also and ex IRA Volunteer Tom Fitzpatrick- those three together with Denis Falvey, Crohan O' Malley, Maurice Kelly who served under British Coastguards in the old rocket brigade- and other volunteers formed the first Kerry C.L.S.S.." Records show the date of re-establishment of Waterville station as 13th October 1924, with four of those who joined in 1924, Albert Huggard, Denis Falvey, Abraham T. Huggard and Rev. Charles Loftus Haines having previously served under the Board of Trade Coast Guard Service.

On 3rd February 1928 Thady O' Malley became No. 2 Man. His archives, from which much of the information about his era in the C.L.S.S. is extracted show that in the 1930s training at Waterville was as often as 3 nights weekly.

On 12th July 1934 Thady was appointed No. 1 Man, under pay at the rate of £15 (Fifteen Pounds) per annum" and received a naval type uniform. The crew of 1940 are listed as : Tim O' Malley No.1; Edward Falvey, No. 2; D. Falvey; Patrick McGillicuddy; Thomas Fenton; Maurice Kelly Snr; Michael O' Donoghue; Tim Curran; Crohan O' Malley; John O' Shea; Patrick Fogarty; Maurice Kelly Jnr.; John O' Malley; Thomas Fitzpatrick; Cornelius Curran.

Crohan O' Malley died on 23rd January 1947. On 25th May 1973 Thady O' Malley, having already received a five year extension , retired on reaching his 70th birthday after almost 50 years of service. A special certificate was later presented to him.



The South Kerry O'Malleys, The Liberator, and more!



Thady's interests in all maritime matters were extensive. He took a great interest in the Muirchú/Helga gunboat. As Helga, it shelled the Dublin insurgents in 1916. Renamed Muirchú, it was often used by the new Irish state on naval duties from 1922 onwards, until in 1947 it was the first ship commissioned for the new naval service, though it never saw operational use in that role. It sank without loss of life off the Saltee Islands on the 8th May 1947 when it was on its way to Dublin to be scrapped— the Government having decided that it was not suitable after all for its

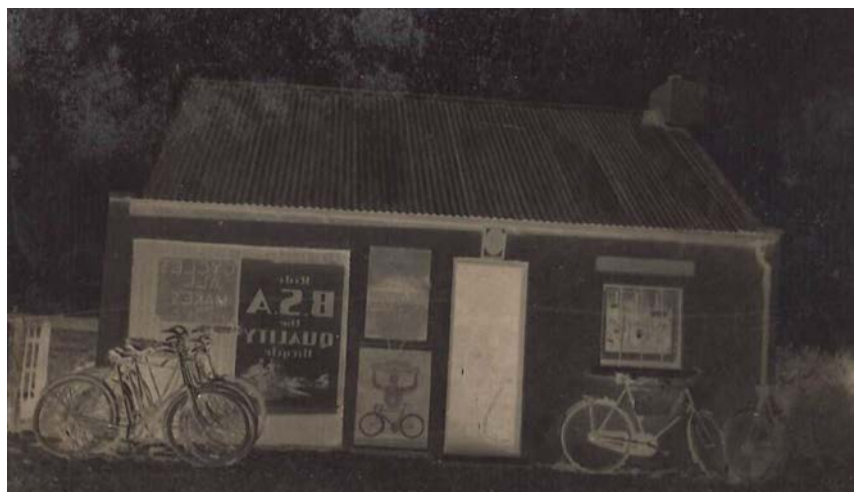
newly commissioned naval or any other maritime role. It had been a regular visitor over the years to Valentia Harbour and Ballinskelligs Bay. Thady managed to obtain a transom of a small boat with the name Muirchú on it . He may have got this from a relative , Capt. Hamilton, who had served on Muirchú, from which the transom may have come during a refit of the ship in one of its regular ports of call, like Valentia.

Thady's non - maritime interests and activities included farming , radio sales, bicycle sales and repairs, acting as an IRA Scout, membership of the LDF, archaeology, national and local history, genealogy, etc. His main passion though was his Waterville C.L.S.S. unit and its role in maritime safety.

He died on the 24th April 1990.

His cottage and its remaining contents were bought by Anne and the late Tim Maher of Tullamore, Co. Offaly and Waterville. The contents which included many important papers, photographs, and artefacts of Thady's relating, inter alia , to the Waterville C.L.S.S., were kindly donated by the Mahers to Tom Horgan of Heritage Iveragh/ Oidhreacht Uíbh Ráthaigh. The apparent scarcity of Irish C.L.S.S. records in Government archives increases their importance. "

Without Thady's archives the history of the Irish C.L.S.S could not have been written by Tom Horgan and this brief history of the South Kerry O' Malleys could not have been edited by Gerry O' Malley. It is hoped to lodge the originals of his material for safe keeping and for wider access to the interested public with a suitable repository of such material.



The South Kerry O'Malleys, The Liberator, and more!

Thady ended his family history on the South Kerry O' Malleys as follows:

" I am sure that this is the history of our family from both sides, namely O' Malleys, O' Connells, Lynes, Keatings, Coffeys, and I hope that this history will be kept for years ahead, D.V.

Agus do Gloire De Dia agus Onoir na hEireann,

Mise Taidg de Maille,

Timothy O' Malley "

Editorial Comment:

The origins of the South Kerry O' Malleys would not have been widely recognised until the writing of Timothy (Thady) O' Malley's history published in this article. His archive provides extensive additional information about the intermarriage of members of the South Kerry O' Malleys and their extended families.

Please note that readers should use the spelling "Termons" when attempting to source Census information etc. The District Electoral Location, DED is "Loughcurrane".

The archive includes extensive correspondence with members O' Malley diaspora, Sir Owen O' Malley, at the time of the formation of the O' Malley Clan Association, the authors Anne Chambers- Granuaile and Grace O' Malley Cantillon - The Round House O' Malleys - The Power of One Woman, politicians and former Ministers Erskine Childers TD, Jack Lynch TD and John Wilson TD, together photographs, personal letters, historical correspondence and newspaper cuttings. "

[LINK TO HISTORY OF WATERVILLE COASTGUARD BY TOM HORGAN](#)

Gerard O' Malley



The Western Lodge in Derrynane in June 2023

Memorial unveiled to Michael O'Malley in Rosmuc

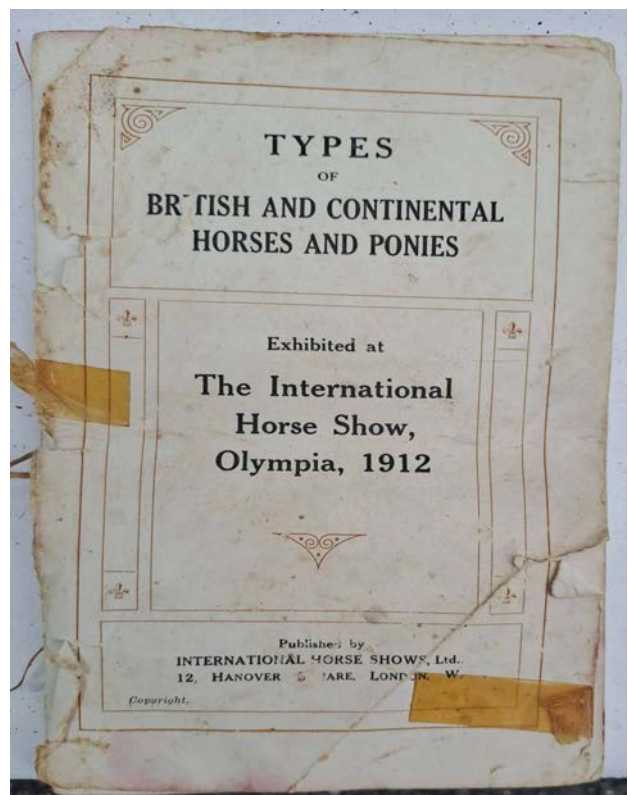
As centenary celebrations continue, marking 100 year of the Connemara Pony Breeders' Society, Saturday saw the significant contribution of Micheal J. O'Malley to both the breed and the formation of the Society honoured. The event was marked by the unveiling of a commemorative plaque in his home place, the beautiful village of Rosmuc, on the 27th May. Connemara enthusiasts, members of Michael's family and neighbours gathered with officials from the Connemara Pony Breeders' Society including the President Dave Sheedy and Vice President Ann Marie Conroy.



A special part of the event was having local breeders the Naughton, Joyce and Mannion families present their ponies for the occasion, examples of the breed Micheal championed for much of his life. Prior to the unveiling of the commemorative plaque in Michael's honour, Mr. Sheedy spoke of the challenges faced by O'Malley at that time following a decade of revolution from 1913 to 1923 culminating in the formation of the Society on the 12th December 1923. Michael's Grandson Seamus O'Malley gave a special contribution to the event by sharing some great memories and Mary Coyne, Grandniece of William Roe a founding fathers of the CPBS, spoke eloquently of her memories of both Michael O'Malley and Bartley O'Sullivan. Following the tributes to Michael the plaques was then unveiled by President Dave Sheedy in the company of the O'Malley family. Those that had gathered then adjourned to the Community Hall for some refreshments.

The CPBS wish to thank & acknowledge the hospitality afforded to all by both the O'Malley family and the people of Rosmuc during their visit. The display of memorabilia such as the program from 'The Parade of Types of British & Continental Horses & Ponies' and the diploma awarded to O'Malley from the International Horse Show for taking part in the showcase (included in the pictures) brought history to life allowing all to relive a part of the breed's history.

Stay up to date with all centenary celebrations on the CPBS website: <https://cpbs.ie/centenarycelebrations/>



Memorial unveiled to Michael O'Malley in Rosmuc



Tomás O'Maille Exhibition comes to Westport in June!

Culture & Citizenship: Tomás Ó Máille

Tomás Ó Máille (1880-1938) was the inaugural Professor of Irish at University College Galway. Born in 1880 in the Maam Valley in Connemara into a prosperous, Irish-speaking family, Tomás trained in Dublin, Manchester, Liverpool, Baden, Berlin, and Freiburg where he was awarded his doctorate in 1909. He was associated with the West Connemara flying column, and his brother Pádraic (1876–1946) was a member of the first Dáil. Belonging to the coterie of radical intellectuals and political and cultural leaders of the War of Independence, Ó Máille's achievements are rightly considered alongside those of his fellow revolutionaries, his friend Patrick Pearse and fellow academics Thomas McDonagh and Éamon de Valera. A folklore and song collector, newspaper editor, linguist, and teacher, Ó Máille was a pioneer in many ways. His greatest foresight was his commitment to the newest technology of his day – audio recording. From 1928, he created hundreds of recordings of Irish speakers from Connacht and Clare, and assisted the recording work of other collectors and scholars. In celebrating Ó Máille's outstanding legacy, this exhibition shares his message of cultural equity and active citizenship, principles that are hugely significant for minoritized languages all over the world.

Exhibition will be open at Westport Public Library from June 21st to July 29th

Note: Public Lecture (as Gaeilge), on the life and work of Tomás Ó Máille by Deirdre Ní Chonghaile of University of Galway at the Library on Weds 21st June at 7pm if you're in Westport early!

Saiocht & SAORÁNACHT
CULTURE & CITIZENSHIP

Taispeántas dátheangach ag ceiliúradh saol agus saothar an Ollaimh Tomás Ó Máille, an chéad ollamh le Gaeilge in Ollscoil na Gaillimhe.

A bilingual exhibition celebrating the life and work of Prof. Tomás Ó Máille, first professor of Irish at the University of Galway.

Leabharlann Chathair na Mart
Cathair na Mart, Co. Mhaigh Eo
21 Meitheamh - 29 Iúil 2023

Westport Library
The Crescent, Westport, Co. Mayo
21 June - 29 July 2023

universityofgalway.ie/tomasomaille/

Canál Eglington i dtreo an Chéilidh. Le caelchead Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann, Eglington Canal looking toward Queen's College, Galway. Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland.

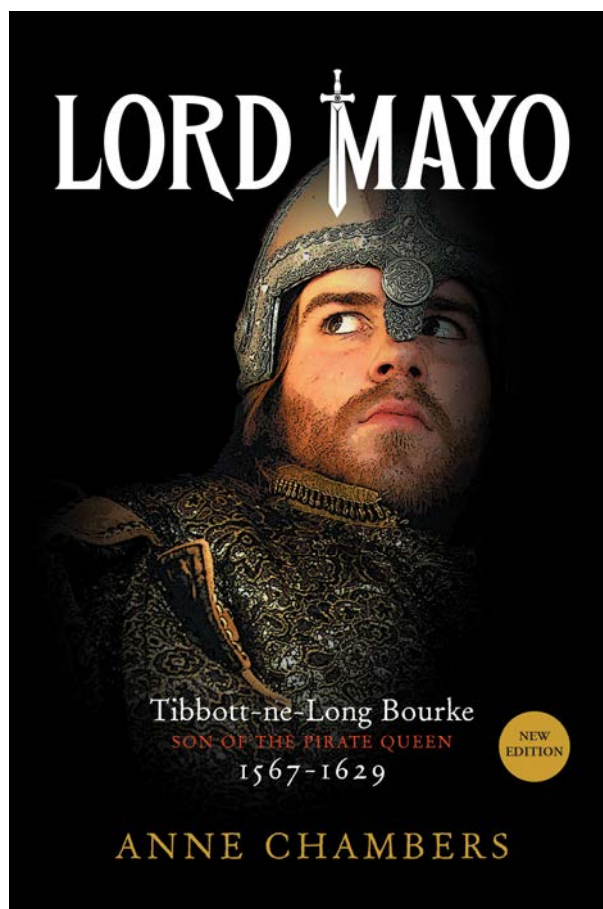
Author Anne Chambers book signing, Westport Friday 23rd June

**Book Signing & Meet and Greet
with Anne Chambers, Friday 23rd
June 2-3pm**

**The Bookshop, Bridge St,
Westport, F28 RC64**

The fabulous Anne Chambers, renowned biographer of Grace O'Malley, has just released to popular acclaim "Lord Mayo" a fascinating biography of Grace's son, Tibbott-ne-Long Bourke.

She will be signing copies of Lord Mayo in The Bookshop on Bridge Street, Westport from 2pm to 3pm on Friday, June 23rd to kickstart the weekend. It will also be a meet and greet with Anne who will also be available to sign other books connected to Grace O'Malley, including Grace O'Malley: The Biography of Ireland's Pirate Queen; From Rake to Radical: An Irish Abolitionist - Lord Sligo, 1788-1845; Pirate Queen of Ireland (children); Eleanor Countess of Desmond, 1545-1638; and Ranji, Maharajah of Connemara. Refreshments will be served in The Bookshop.



Top: "Lord Mayo"

Above: Author Anne Chambers with a copy of her fabulous new book

Left: Anne with Chieftain Martin O'Malley & Guardian Chieftain Ellen O'Malley Dunlop during the recent visit to Ireland by President Biden

Dr Grace O'Malley on Childhood Obesity

Obesity expert, Dr Grace O'Malley issues urgent warning as toddlers being treated for diabetes

Overweight toddlers and young children are suffering from conditions usually found in much older people such as high blood pressure, knee joint problems, type two diabetes and even blindness in extreme cases, leading obesity experts have warned. It comes as clinicians warned there has been up to a potential five-fold increase in severe obesity rates since the pandemic.



After appearing to level off before COVID-19 - except for those in disadvantaged areas - the rate of increase in obesity levels among children and teens is accelerating again. Detailing some of the worrying recent cases she has treated, the clinical lead of the national Child and Adolescent Obesity Service at Temple Street, Dr Grace O'Malley said: 'You'll see fat tissue building up around the heart or the airway so that breathing can be affected - children will be more breathless, have higher rates of asthma, high blood pressure.' Dr O'Malley said that, at the last count, just under half the children seen at the Temple Street clinic had high blood pressure.

'Many of the kids will develop bad headaches from a build-up of pressure,' Dr O'Malley added. 'Then chronic pain - that's a big problem. That means children and teenagers drop out of school. Around the excess loading joints we can have higher levels of pain, particularly the knees, feet, back pain.'

The obesity expert said non-alcoholic fatty liver disease is 'pretty problematic for a lot of kids because they'll have fatigue, may not sleep as well, they'll have abdominal pain'. Obstructive sleep apnea is 'pretty common', while 'about three per cent' of children seen have a high risk of type two diabetes.

'If you're developing type-2 diabetes early in life, it's a very serious condition,' she warned. 'We're used to maybe seeing this in 60-year-olds and 70-year-olds, but in the last 15 to 20 years we've started to see that in young adults, then in teenagers, and sometimes even kids younger than 10.'

The paediatric physiotherapist explained that conditions such as breathlessness, high blood pressure, pain, headaches and blurry vision often 'mean that you can't play in the same way as your friends'. She said: 'You might be a bit slower moving, and breathing might be affected, so you may not be picked for teams, you may not be included in the games in the same way other children would.'

She said in cases that are 'rare, thankfully', she has seen adolescents lose their eyesight because of intracranial pressure - where pressure builds up in the brain thanks to excess fat tissue.

Dr Orla Walsh, adolescent medicine and general paediatrician at Temple Street, agreed the conditions outlined by Dr O'Malley were 'sadly' prevalent in a growing number of young children.

Speaking ahead of the 30th European Congress on Obesity in Dublin this week, she said the rate of obesity among primary school pupils was 'levelling off' before the Covid-19 emergency, except for children at disadvantaged schools, where it is increasing.

In line with other western countries, children here in Deis schools [for disadvantaged children] have double the risk of developing obesity.

Dr Grace O'Malley on Childhood Obesity

Dr O'Malley, the lead of the Obesity Research and Care Group in the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland, said indications from other countries around the impact of the pandemic were 'very worrying' and likely to be mirrored here.

She said: 'In the UK they look at kids coming into primary school and when they leave, and usually the rate of increase in obesity was around 1% each year before 2020. Since 2020, that's gone up to between 3% and 5%. 'Then when you look at severe obesity, which is even more worrying, that went up from about 0.4% to around 3%.' For deprived children, there was 'three to four times the increase in obesity rates after the pandemic'. 'That's also repeated in Sweden, and it's also repeated in Italy,' she said. 'So more than likely the same thing has happened here.'

Dr O'Malley stressed 'not every child who has a large body will develop obesity'. She added: 'That's a really important thing for parents to understand. It's not just about the shape or the size of the child; you have to look at all the different metrics - look at their breathing, their blood pressure and their fitness levels.' Asked what needs to be done to tackle childhood obesity, the clinician-scientist called for regulation of online advertising, labelling the digital environment 'an absolute disaster for promotion of health'. She said our built environments should be obliged to incorporate play areas and safe passages for children to walk or cycle to school.

'Over 60% of children are driven to school and we don't need to have that,' she stated. 'When you speak to people from the south of Germany, they can't understand why the community would accept that everybody's driving to school. It makes a big difference to traffic and health - moving, playing, getting to know your friends.' The Health Service Executive (HSE) clinical lead on obesity, Professor Donal O'Shea, said he was 'delighted with the timing' of next week's conference.

A spokesman for the Department of Health said the 'high levels of overweight and obesity among the population, and in particular children and adolescents, are a concern right across Government'. He said Ireland is 'co-leading on a [European Union] work package called Best practices in reducing marketing of unhealthy food products to children and adolescents'.

Colm McGuirk Extra.ie



Helen Hooker O'Malley Exhibition on Clare Island

See rare photos of Clare Island in 1937

Opening on 10th June, this unique collection of 25 photographs by Helen Hooker O'Malley, wife of Irish revolutionary Ernie O'Malley, shows Clare Island in 1937. These Dibond blocc metallic 16" x 12" prints are available for sale and would make a wonderful gift. The exhibition will run until the O'Malley Gathering on the 23 - 25th June in the Community Centre on Clare Island. At 2 pm on Saturday 24th June, Cormac O'Malley, Helen's son, will introduce the pictures and recount the story behind them.

Helen Hooker O'Malley (1905 - 1993)

Helen Hooker O'Malley, though born in Greenwich, Connecticut, in 1905, became more Irish than the Irish after she married Ernie O'Malley, the author and Irish revolutionary in 1935 and went to live in Ireland. She was already a painting artist, a sculptor and a photographer, but in Ireland she concentrated on her sculptural works and photographic essays.

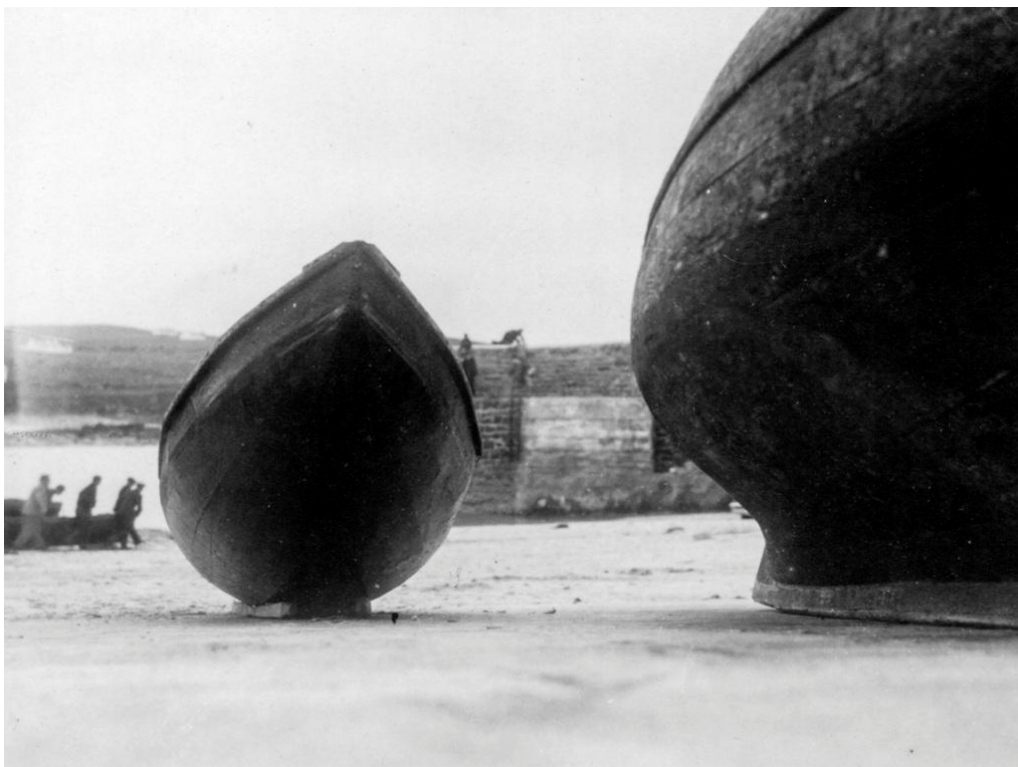
Starting in 1936 Helen and Ernie started to spend the weekends traveling out of Dublin to photograph rural Ireland as well as its hidden treasures of archaeological sites and medieval monastic sculpture and ruined abbeys. During the summer of 1937, they made their first trip out to Clare Island, and she made many photographs there.

By 1938 Helen and Ernie had moved to Louisburgh, Co Mayo and rented a house from which they could see Clare Island. During this period, they roamed the Louisburgh and Achill areas continuing to take photographs. Later that year they moved to Burrishoole Lodge, near Newport, which she loved and owned until 1981.



Helen's photography has been published in 'Western Ways: Remembering County Mayo Through the Eyes of Helen Hooker and Ernie O'Malley' (2015) and in 'A Modern Eye: Helen Hooker O'Malley's Ireland' (2019), which was produced in association with a major exhibit of her photography at the Photo Museum Ireland and the National Photographic Archives in Dublin in 2019. Her works have been exhibited at the Country Life Museum, part of the National Museum of Ireland, in Turlough, Co Mayo, as well as in Limerick University, the Linen Hall, Belfast, and the Irish Consulate, New York City.

Helen Hooker O'Malley Exhibition on Clare Island



The passing of Jane O'Malley, RIP

Renowned Kilkenny artist, Jane O'Malley, has died

The death has taken place of renowned Kilkenny artist Jane O'Malley (née Harris). Born in Montréal, Canada, in 1944, Jane met her husband, the late and well-known local artist Tony O'Malley, while working in St Ive's in Cornwall in 1970, and they married in 1973.



Jane and her husband worked side by side throughout their life together and eventually settled in Physicianstown, west of Callan, in 1990. Just as she devoted herself to his healthcare during his lifetime, Jane O'Malley has been hugely responsible for preserving the legacy of her late husband's work following his passing in 2003.

Her own importance as a champion of Tony's life work often meant that she did not promote her own paintings and prints as she might otherwise have done. Much of her work documents their shared life and the wonderful garden she created around their home in Physicianstown.

Jane had an eye for beauty and a gift for creating a strong sense of place, which is reflected in much of her subject matter. Jane displayed a confidence in her use of line right from the beginning. She loved to draw as a child and the more she drew, the stronger the work became.

Jane O'Malley has shown widely in the UK and Ireland, with solo exhibitions at Taylor Galleries, Dublin; Riverrun Gallery, Limerick; Montpelier Studio, London; Stour Gallery, Warwickshire; as well as Plymouth Arts Centre, the Salt House Gallery and Penwith Gallery in St. Ives.

Her work has been included in group exhibitions at the Stour Gallery, Warwickshire; Dyehouse Gallery, Waterford; Black Church Print Studio, Dublin; and the RHA Gallagher Gallery. O'Malley's work is part of private collections in Ireland, America and Europe, and features in the public collections of AIB, Bank of Ireland, the OPW, Dublin City University, the Arts Council of Ireland, Prudential Life Assurance and Kelly's Strand Hotel, Co. Wexford.

In a tribute, Butler Gallery stated that news of Jane's passing was met 'with great sadness'.

"Jane's work can be seen in our O'Malley galleries, named after both Jane, and her late husband, the artist Tony O'Malley, whose legacy she tirelessly worked to preserve since his death in 2003"

"A gentle, warm and charismatic person with a great sense of humour, Jane was always a joy to be with. She was a great supporter of Butler Gallery and we will miss her hugely"

“Slat na Ríge” The Rod of Kingship

Slat na ríge - The Rod of Kingship

The inauguration of an Irish Chieftain

A Chieftain's rod, staff or slat, was an essential element of the Irish Chieftain's inauguration up to the seventeenth century. The rod is required to be both white and straight in colour representing purity and the straightness of justice; an emblem of what the Chieftain's conduct and judicial decisions should be. It was called *Slat na ríge The Rod of Kingship*

It was decided by the Council of Chieftains of the O Malley Clan in 1987, to continue the tradition of the white rod, the white wand of inauguration or wand of Sovereignty tradition. It commissioned the making of the O Malley Chieftain's rod. The task of making the staff/rod was entrusted to Wayne Harlow (RIP). Wayne was the multi-talented poet and sculptor husband of our former Chieftain Kitty O Malley Harlow.

He chose a five foot length of white holly wood (which took a long time to source), two inches in diameter, and carved it most artistically with designs. On the head of the staff/rod we have two O Malley boars confronting each other and below them O Máille is executed in raised lettering along the length of the staff/rod. On top there is a Celtic ornament with a horse on one side and a Galley on the other – these elements were taken from the O Malley coat of arms. The ornamentation represents the elements of the O Malley Crest; Terra Marique Potens – Powerful on Land and Sea.

The Inauguration of the O Malley Chieftain

Having put aside the sword and other weapons and holding the staff/rod in their hand, the elected Tánaiste of the O Malley Clan is turned thrice round from left to right, and thrice round from right to left to view all the territory of the clan in every direction. The inauguration takes place in the Irish landscape and this year it will take place on Clare Island, the summer retreat of the great Pirate Queen Granuaile and venue of Chieftain Martin's Gathering.

All the former Chieftains then, led by the Guardian Chieftain pronounces in a loud voice together the new Chieftain with the words, Ó Maille Ó Maille Ó Maille.

The Inauguration of an Irish Chieftain

The great historian John O'Donovan in his *Genealogies, Tribes and Customs of the Fly Fiachrach (1844)*, after a thorough examination of the best available sources, writes: *We may infer that the following conditions were generally requisite to constitute a legitimate instalment of an Irish Chieftain:*

1. That he should be of the blood of the original conqueror or acquirer of the territory and free from all personal blemishes, deformities and defects and be of fit age to lead the clan to the field.
2. That the greater part of his sub-chiefs and freeholders should declare in his favour.
3. That the inauguration should be celebrated at a remarkable place in the territory appointed of old for the purpose, where there was a stone with the impression of two feet, believed to be the size of the feet of the first captain, chieftain or acquirer of the territory.



“Slat na Righe” The Rod of Kingship

4. That the hereditary historian or chronicler of the territory should be present to read to the Chief about to be installed the heads of the law relating to the conduct of the chieftain and that the latter should swear to observe those laws and to maintain the customs of the territory inviolable.
5. That after taking this oath, the chief laid aside his sword and other weapons, upon which the historian of the district, or some other person whose proper office it was, handed him a straight white wand as a sceptre and an emblem of purity and rectitude, to indicate that his people were to be so obedient to him that he required no other weapon to command them.
6. That after receiving this straight white wand, one of his sub-chiefs put on his shoe or scandal in token of obedience, or threw a slipper over his head in token of good luck and prosperity.
7. That after the foregoing ceremonies were performed, one of his sub-chiefs pronounced his surname without the Christian-name in a loud voice after whom it was pronounced in succession by the clergy according to their dignity and by his sub-chiefs and freeholders according to their respective ranks. After this the chieftain turned round thrice forwards and thrice backwards, in honour of the most holy Trinity, as the Irish still do all good things, and to view this people and his territory in every direction; which being done he was the legitimate chief of his name.

Ellen O Malley Dunlop

Guardian Chieftain



Below: The O'Malley Clan Chieftain's Staff

“Slat na Righe” The Rod of Kingship



Some views of the intricate carvings on The O'Malley Clan Chieftain's Staff



Clare Island Triumphant on The Football Field!

Mayo's Clare Island wins historic double at All-Island tournament

Clare Island GAA had its greatest ever day on Saturday last when their men's and women's teams won the 2023 All-Island Football Championship on home soil.

The All-Island tournament was first held on Clare Island in 1998 and has grown to become a massive celebration of sport, culture and the island way of life.

This year, men's and women's teams from the Aran Islands and Inishbofin in Galway, Bere Island and Whiddy Island in Cork, Arranmore Island in Donegal, and Inishturk and Clare Island in Mayo competed for the coveted annual prize.

The tournament is held on a different island each year, and this year it returned to Clare Island for the fourth time. The island men hold the proud record of having won each of their four home tournaments.

The Clare Island women dominated their competition from start to finish, defeating old rivals Inishmore in the final by a scoreline of 10-8 to 4-3.

Meanwhile, the men scraped a win against nearest neighbours Inishturk in the semi-final and went on to defeat defending champions Bere Island in the final by a scoreline of 0-6 to 0-4.

On the occasion of the tournament's 25th anniversary, a special presentation was made to former Clare Island Development Officer, Donal O'Shea, who was the driving force behind its creation.

The trophies were awarded to women's captain Tracie O'Leary and men's captain Eamonn O'Malley. Players of the match were Kayla Moran for the women's final and Olof Gill for the men's.



Clare Island Triumphant on The Football Field!



Top: The victorious Clare Island Women's team, and below The victorious Clare Island Men's team

Pictures courtesy of Elodie Chanal





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[o_malley_clan_association](https://www.instagram.com/o_malley_clan_association)

The O'Malley Clan Association aims to reach out to O'Malleys from all around the world and foster links between the O'Malleys around the globe and the clan at home here in Ireland.

The Clan Association formed in 1953 has been connecting O'Malleys around the world in The US and Canada, Britain, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, South America, and anywhere else you can think of for 70 years now.

We hope with our website, and newsletter, that We can go from strength to strength in our aim to connect all the O'Malleys around the world.

SUPPORT THE CLAN! JOIN TODAY AND BE PART OF IT!



**Support
the Clan,
Be a part
of it**

**The O'Malley Clan
Association Needs You!**

Join Today.....www.omalleyclan.ie