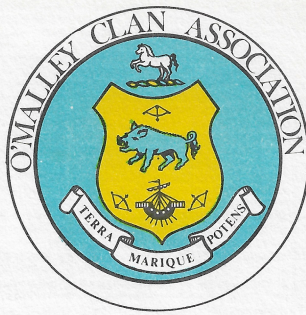


Ross House, Newport,  
County Mayo, Ireland.



CHIEFTAIN

M. J. O'Malley-Blackwell.  
Telephone: (098) 41452.

Our ref: A810  
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## THE O'MALLEY CLAN NEWSLETTER

PART I, 1987

The object of this newsletter is to try and keep the worldwide members of the Clan Association informed of developments at home and abroad and have them contribute their news and views as to the improvement of the present system.

The Clan Rally of 1987 was a great success. Nearly 250 people attended the dinner at Hotel Westport. The new Chief, Joseph O'Malley Blackwell, was presented with the staff of office by the outgoing Chief, Anthony of Doughmakeon. On assuming the Chieftainship he presented the Clan with a set of ceremonial standards. The Clan was greatly appreciative of so many visitors from as far away as New Zealand, Australia and California. We hope to welcome them back often to Westport. Alice O'Malley of Chicago was elected Tanaiste. Alice is renowned in the Clan as the driving force of the Chicago branch which is the largest overseas, and has nearly 3,000 members. We wish her success in the future and look forward to the expansion of the Clan during her tenure as Chieftain. She has been prominent all her life in civic and charitable affairs. Her father and mother were both born in the Kilmeena area and she is the niece of John J. O'Malley who was one of the founders of the present Clan association.

Your new Chief was born in Windsor, England, and educated in France and England. He lived for 11 years in Jamaica, West Indies, where he was engaged in the rum business and farmed extensively in cattle, bananas, coconuts and citrus. He then lived for 25 years in the U.S.A. engaged in the food distributing business and then formed his own company, covering the midwest of America. Over the years he spent a considerable time in Ireland and 17 years ago he returned and has since been living in Mayo.

After the Rally there was the Grace O'Malley Festival in Louisburgh where the premiere of the musical play 'Grania Uaile' was presented and received enthusiastically by a large audience. Amongst the audience was the past Chief, Anthony O'Malley of Doughmakeon. The next day the well known group of traditional musicians, The Chieftains, were presented in concert. Both these events were well attended by O'Malleys

from home and abroad. Next year it is hoped to be able to combine the Rally with the Festival, giving a week of entertainment to our visitors. Previous to this your Chief attended the 'Granuaile' festival in Greenwich, England, to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the meeting of Grania with Queen Elizabeth I. It was a combined effort in which England provided the setting, Scotland the pipers and galley, and Ireland the training ship, Asgard. Shaun Davey, the well known Irish composer presented his 'Granuaile' suite with the Irish Radio Symphony Orchestra and Rita Connolly as Grania. Shaun Davey has composed many works, amongst them the music to "The Brendan Voyage". The whole episode was presented on Irish television. The Festival was also attended by Pipe Major Michael O'Malley, a former Chieftain and Anne Chambers, the historian, who introduced the concert.

I would like to take this opportunity to point out the value of the Clan certificate in that it enables us to keep in touch with you and enables you to take part in the running of the Clan, not only in selection of the Tanaiste but also in suggestions as to the improvement in the conduct of Clan affairs. This is most important, especially for our Clan members abroad who are not resident in this area. This enables them to communicate with us and we to communicate with them. It would be a perfect scenario if we could have other branches of the Clan established abroad with whom we could deal. We will do all in our power to assist members in establishing branches in their respective areas who can then take a greater part in the running of the Clan. It is very important, if we possibly can, that we have descriptions of Clan gatherings abroad, with names and locations etc.

The Chicago branch dinner will be held on October 3rd at the 'Cafe Martinique' and will be attended by your Chief. It should be a gala affair this year to celebrate the election of Alice O'Malley as Tanaiste and to receive from your Chief the O'Malley Standard as the most outstanding branch of the Clan in the world. Ellen O'Malley-Hodges, Chicago Chief, headed a large Chicago delegation to the gathering in Westport, together with her husband.

Our next Clan gathering is set for July 24th, 1988. Mass will be celebrated in Kilmeena by the Chaplain of the Clan, Fr. Eamonn O'Malley, Parish Priest of Kilmeena, and Fr. Pat O'Malley who is at the moment attached to the staff of the University of Malawi, Africa, and afterwards a luncheon will be held, where the Chieftain's award for achievement will be presented. This award is presented for outstanding service for the benefit of the Clan. It is hoped to get a well known group of artists to entertain the guests. Please make reservations early so as to enable us to seat you as you wish, also to guarantee you entrance to the event. Any suggestions as to the improvement of the Rally for the enjoyment of our visitors would be gratefully accepted. At

the present moment we have thoughts of bus tours, trips to Clare Island, archaeological trips and items like that. We would appreciate very much your opinion as to these, owing to the fact that if we do not get sufficient customers we lose money and as I think you realise the Clan has no funds of its own. There are a few copies of the O'Malley Clan record of 1987 available at £2 plus postage. De Burca Rare Books of Castlebar carry a full line of books of O'Malley interest and will give a 5% reduction to all Association members. It is hoped that Association members will send us items of family interest to be incorporated in this letter. It is also hoped that you will recruit, if possible, new members for the Association. What about giving an O'Malley Clan Association Membership as a Christmas or New Year present. The subscription now is £10 or \$15 for 4 years. Please contact Mrs. Sheila O'Malley-Mulloy, Carrabawn, Westport, for your certificate. We have just had some Polyester Barathea ties made in the following colours: navy, maroon and green, with the O'Malley crest, coat of arms and motto. These ties strike me as being very smart, and they will cost approximately £7 each or \$10.50, plus postage. We also have the car stickers at £2 or \$3 each, plus postage.

#### OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The promotion of the O'Malley Clan in history and the establishment of regional Sub-Chieftainships. The Clan Association will be active in the following areas:

**FRATERNAL:** to enable members to contact fellow members of the Clan socially and personally.

**EMIGRATION:** to assist where possible in obtaining permits and finding employment for Association members, also giving advice.

**CHARITABLE:** Visiting of the sick and assisting in the rehabilitation of Clan members.

**HISTORICAL RESEARCH:** Where to obtain books of interest to the Clan and to assist members in trying to trace their "roots".

**RECREATIONAL:** Organization of Clan meetings, both home and abroad, picnics, musical events, dances, raffles etc. archaeological tours and other items which could be of interest to members of the family.

**FINANCIAL:** Organize donations for the restoration of family monuments which have fallen into grave disrepair e.g. the O'Malley tomb at Murrisk, the Frescos of Clare Island, the restoration of Murrisk Abbey, and my suggestion, with the Bourke Clan, the restoration of Burrishoole Abbey.

Each of these categories to be organized under the respective branches, keeping the Mayo branch, i.e. the Westport branch, informed of any arrangements so they can offer their assistance. Some of these, historical research etc., i.e. tracing of family pedigrees, unfortunately, will have to be paid for by those seeking the information.

There seems to be great curiosity about the various spellings of the family name. One of the best reference books in Ireland, as far as the spelling and derivation of names is - "Irish Names and Surnames" - and it was compiled by the Rev. Patrick Woulfe in 1923. The spellings of the name O'Maille are as follows: O'Maille, O'Mailie, O'Maillie, O'Mally, O'Maely, O'Malley, O'Meally, O'Mealy, Malley, Meally, Mealley, Melly, Melia. O'Maille means descendant of Maille, perhaps old Celtic Maglios Chief. The name first of a Connacht family who were chiefs of the two Umhalls, now the baronies of Burrishoole and Murrisk, in the west of Co. Mayo, and were particularly celebrated as naval commanders, being called the "Manannans", or Sea Gods of the western ocean and having a considerable fleet always under their command; and second of a Thomond family, who were chiefs of Tuath Luimnigh, the district of the neighbourhood of the city of Limerick.

It is understood that there is a great amount of interest being shown in the production of a film epic on the life of Grania.

We were visited recently by Anthony Joseph O'Malley and his wife Rebecca. They were over from Manchester and they had just been married on 29th August at Salford Cathedral. He was bringing his wife back to show her the land of his ancestors. It was a great pleasure and a wonderful chance to get to know them. I only hope that more members of the Clan will decide to show the beauty of the country and the history of the Clan to their future wives or husbands.

Cormac O'Malley, the son of the famous Ernie O'Malley who was very well known during the War of Independence, has now been transferred by his Company from Brussels to England.

De Burca Rare Books of Castlebar have very kindly consented to carry the tapes and records of the 'Grania Uaile' suite by Shaun Davey. This is rather hard to obtain on the regular circuit, and he has promised me he will carry a good stock and will give the usual discount. We would also like to recommend that as many travellers as possible who come into this area use Knock Airport. Knock is truly the "gateway to O'Maille territory" and can be reached from Luton. It is right near Charlestown and is in a most beautiful location. Luton Airport is in England and is a great center for travelling abroad to the Continent and to the United States.

It is exactly one hours flight from Luton to Knock and from Knock to Achill is approximately one hour and twenty minutes. Knock to Westport is approximately one hour.

I wish to thank James Morris and Windmill Lane Studios in Dublin for providing video tapes of the "Granuaile at Greenwich" concert and "The Pirate Queen" documentary for presentation at the Chicago branch Rally. Jim O'Malley, the Real Estate Agent, is to be thanked for donating the printing of this letter. We would like to thank all advertisers in the O'Malley Clan record and ask you to support them as they have supported us.

Any contributions to this newsletter will be gratefully received and, where possible, published.

#### ORDER FORM

O'Malley Clan Crested Ties:	£7 or \$10.50 No.
O'Malley Blue Maroon Green	
O'Malley Clan Assoc. Car Stickers:	£2 or \$3.00 No.
O'Malley Clan Record 1987:	£2 or \$3.00 No.
O'Malley Clan Assoc. Membership:	£10 or \$15.00

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