



O'Malley Clan Association Monthly Newsletter

This month's highlights

- The “Grace O’Malley” arrives in Ireland
- “Finding Grace” during Heritage Week in Westport
- More from the 2022 Clan Gathering
- “Fireman Sam” Learning the ropes with Warwickshire’s bravest.
- Mary O’Malley’s poetry on the poetry trail.
- About the O’Malley Clan Association
- Spreading the word about the O’Malley Clan Association.

The “Grace O’Malley” has arrived!

The Grace O’Malley, (still known by her previous name the “Lady Ellen” until the official re-naming ceremony to come soon), has finally arrived in Ireland. The crew, including some O’Malleys from Clare Island, brought the new Irish sail training vessel from Sweden during July and arrived in Derry just in time for the Foyle Maritime Festival. She’ll be visiting more ports around Ireland during the rest of the summer. See a full report on the Grace O’Malley inside.....and port schedule on page 15



“Finding Grace” at Westport House last Saturday afternoon was a great success! More details inside.....



Westport House

**NATIONAL
HERITAGE
WEEK** 

The “Grace O’Malley” arrives in Ireland

Grace O'Malley: The all-island tall ship training future sailors

An "all-island" tall ship which aims to bring young people together at sea is on its first visit to Northern Ireland.



Above: The Grace O’Malley making its way to Derry recently

The cross-border Atlantic Youth Trust plans to take about 1,000 young people a year on voyages on board the Grace O'Malley. Irish President Michael D Higgins has given his backing to the project.

The Grace O'Malley replaces two other ships used to train young people which sank within two years of each other more than a decade ago. The Asgard II sank off the French coast in 2008, while the yacht Lord Rank sank near Ballycastle in Northern Ireland in 2010. All of those on board both ships were rescued safely. But since the two ships sank, there has been no dedicated sail training ship in Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland.

The Grace O'Malley has now been bought from Sweden with money raised by the Atlantic Youth Trust to fill that gap.

It is a three-masted 164ft (50m) schooner which has previously sailed a number of times across the Atlantic.

It was originally called Lady Ellen but is being renamed Grace O'Malley by the Atlantic Youth Trust in honour of the famous 16th Century pirate queen of Ireland.

O'Malley - also known as Granuaile or Gráinne Mhaol in Irish - sailed to a famous meeting with Queen Elizabeth I at Greenwich Castle in 1593, which led to the release of her sons from captivity.

In a message recorded for the Atlantic Youth Trust, President Higgins said Grace O'Malley was "a woman unafraid to question the world she inhabited, to overcome barriers, to blaze new trails".

"Her fearless arrival up the Thames is one of the great events of colonial confrontation with a monarch that generated respect between two of the strongest women in the history of the period," he said.

"How appropriate then that the tall ship planned to bring young people from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland together for youth development voyages will be named after this inspirational woman, heroic warrior and legendary seafarer."

The Atlantic Youth Trust is an all-island charity which takes young people from a range of communities and backgrounds in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland to sea.

According to the president of the trust, Peter Cooke, the plan in 2023 is to begin taking groups of about 40 young people on 10-day voyages aboard the Grace O'Malley.

The “Grace O’Malley” arrives in Ireland

"All of the kids, who do not know each other before they start, build a new community," he told BBC News NI.

"We show them all the different jobs that take place on a boat - from the captain to the navigator to the cook to the person who climbs the rigging.

"It's really designed about youth development and personal confidence.

"I think the maritime side is almost an irrelevance, what you need is to create an environment which is entirely alien.

"Out of that you get them as raw material where you can allow their personalities to come through, their confidence to come through and their interpersonal skills across communities - north, south, east, west - to come through and build a community."

There is already a bursary to pay for a young person from a disadvantaged background to take part in a voyage and the trust is creating more.

The Grace O'Malley, which sailed to Northern Ireland from Sweden for the Foyle Maritime Festival, is now in Belfast and will then sail on to Warrenpoint and Dublin.

Northern Ireland Executive funding for the ship was mentioned in Stormont's Fresh Start agreement and a business case is also being looked at by the Department of Defence in the Republic of Ireland.

"As part of the mid-term Review of the Capital Plan, the Irish government will work also with the Northern Ireland Executive to seek agreement on a funding plan for the Atlantic Youth Trust initiative," the 2015 Fresh Start Agreement said.

"This proposal involves a new sail training vessel to facilitate youth development, mentoring, and training on an all-island basis."

Now that the Grace O'Malley has been bought, Peter Cooke said the trust was hopeful the two governments would now "crystallize" that funding.

And in a modern day twist, O'Malleys from Mayo are now crewing the Grace O'Malley.

Operations manager and engineer Brian O'Malley and his brother Owen helped sail the ship from Sweden to Northern Ireland. "There's actually a very strong connection," Brian O'Malley told BBC News NI.

"We're both from Clare Island, and there's a castle at the harbour in Clare Island - Grace O'Malley's castle.

"In the abbey there's also a tomb where supposedly she's buried. "We all have a claim to Grace O'Malley on Clare Island definitely!"



Above: Peter Cooke, President of The Atlantic Youth Trust

BBC NI

Below Left: Getting up in the rigging on Grace O'Malley, and Below Right: Brian O'Malley from Clare Island, Operations Manager



“Finding Grace” at Westport House

On Saturday last, 13th August, The O'Malley Clan Association, with the kind assistance of Westport House held an event at Westport House to mark Heritage Week.

The event was an outstanding success with a large group of attendees enthralled by the presentations made.

Our good friend Dr Maurice Gleeson was first up with the latest updates on the “Finding Grace” DNA project. Progress is moving along swiftly on that front, with testing continuing apace. Whether you're a Niall of the nine hostages O'Malley, or a Brian Boru O'Malley, its fascinating stuff!

Renowned Author, and also a long time friend of the Clan Association, Anne Chambers was next on the agenda, with a captivating talk on the life of Grainne Mhaol, and her family, and the events of historic significance in Ireland and in the wider Europe at the time that in many ways shaped the world we live in today.

Kathryn Connolly of Westport House then took us through the history of Westport House and the Browne family over the generations from when the house was built in the 1700's right up to the present day with the new owners, the Hughes family, and ongoing restoration works and developments being planned continuously.

Following Kathryn's brilliant talk then was a question and answer session with all three presenters along with local historian Peter Mallowney, who was MC for the whole event. The Q & A took us from parquet floors and window restoration to the Battle of Kinsale, the US War of Independence, and the Irish War of Independence, and was a brilliant end to what was a great day in Westport. As Anne said at the end, we were all “Graced Out”

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who was involved in putting the event together, especially Kathryn Connolly and the staff at Westport House, Anne Chambers, Dr Maurice Gleeson, and former Chieftain Brendan O'Malley.



Above : Dr Maurice Gleeson giving his update on the “Finding Grace” project at Westport House.



Westport House

**NATIONAL
HERITAGE
WEEK** 

“Finding Grace” at Westport House



Above Left and Below: Westport House resplendent in the sunshine

Above Right: Brendan O'Malley, Kathryn Connolly, Anne Chambers, Dr Maurice Gleeson, and Peter Mullaney



Some more images from the 2022 O'Malley Clan Gathering



Above: A lovely group photograph of some of the attendees at the Annual Clan Mass at Burrishoole Abbey. Below Left: Chieftain Tom with his wife Julie, and below right in Burrishoole Abbey



Some more images from the 2022 O'Malley Clan Gathering



Above : Basil and Annette Morrow at Burrishoole Abbey and

Below: Piper Des Cafferkey leads the former Chieftains, Táiniste, Guardian Chieftain, and Chieftain Tom into the Abbey grounds for the Annual Clan Mass at Burrishoole Abbey



Some more images from the 2022 O'Malley Clan Gathering



Above: Fr Todd Nolan celebrating mass at Burrishoole Abbey, and Below: Chieftain Tom and Dr Maurice Gleeson at Burrishoole Abbey



Some more images from the 2022 O'Malley Clan Gathering



Above: Chieftain Tom O'Malley, Táiniste Martin O'Malley, Guardian Chieftain Ellen O'Malley Dunlop, and former Chieftains Cormac O'Malley, Brendan O'Malley, Denis O'Malley, Don O'Malley, and Middleton O'Malley

Below: Former Chieftains Pearce O'Malley and Maurice O'Malley with piper Des Cafferkey at the Clan Luncheon on Sunday afternoon.



Some more images from the 2022 O'Malley Clan Gathering



Above: Chieftain Tom with his sons Conor, Andrew and Thomas with piper Des Cafferkey and

Below: Cormac O'Malley at the lakeshore in Burrishoole



Some more images from the 2022 O'Malley Clan Gathering



Above: Getting ready for the Annual Clan Luncheon and

Below: Piper Des Cafferkey with retiring Clan Secretary Mary Jane O'Malley and former Chieftain Kitty O'Malley Harlow



“Fireman Sam” one of Warwickshire’s Bravest!

This is life changing!: Meet firefighter **Sam O’Malley**, one of the newer recruits at Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service



“If you really want to be a firefighter, just be ambitious and passionate about the career and go for it! It’s very rewarding and I could not ask for a better job.”

Sam O’Malley recently joined Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service as a firefighter at age 26. He explained:

“I became a firefighter because I wanted a career with a purpose that not only benefited me personally but also gave me a sense of pride in the work I do. I love physical work as well as community engagement and wanted a long-term career so, as soon as positions became available, I jumped at the opportunity and seized it.

“I previously worked as a bin man while pursuing a career in acting, but this wasn’t progressing and I didn’t feel fulfilled. When COVID happened, it made me wake up and go for a career I never thought I’d be good enough to get into – that was the Fire & Rescue Service.

“I really enjoyed the recruitment process; it was challenging in that it tested me mentally with the computer assessments, and the physical assessments were fun but equally challenging. I knew a lot would be covered so I made sure I revised as much as possible to give myself the best possible chance.”

“Fireman Sam” one of Warwickshire’s Bravest!

Sam has now been working at Coleshill Fire Station for the past five months. He shared what a typical day looks like and the impact this career has already had on his life:

“My typical shift will start at 07:30, we complete a morning parade with the Officer in Charge for the day giving us our brief: this could include training schedules, booked exercises, safe and well visits or business visits.

“Following that, we fall out to do our duties which, for me, include a daily check of my Breathing Apparatus set, changing over water rescue kit from the previous shift and then completing and signing off the inventory.

“After breakfast, it depends on the day, but we may have a schedule of equipment management system entries to complete or forms to print out for a visit. We’ll then have some form of physical training or computer-based training along with personal development – this is key for me as a development firefighter.

“Of course, all this can change should we have an emergency to attend to. Things move very quickly in that instance - in total it’s a few minutes from the emergency alert to being mobile on the way to an incident.

“I’ve already attended a few major incidents, including motorway crashes and a serious crash on an A-road. I’ve also attended a car on fire inside a locked garage and been involved in several multi-agency exercises.

“For me, the most rewarding part is when you complete a job and know that you’ve prevented a situation getting worse and may even have saved a life.

“My family are extremely proud of what I have achieved, and it gives me immense pride knowing that I work in the emergency services.”

When asked what advice he would give to anyone thinking of becoming a firefighter, Sam said:

“I’d advise them they need to study hard and that you really need to want it. There’s serious competition, so speak to firefighters – ask for a tour of your local stations – and incorporate exercises into your schedule to prepare for the physical elements of the job. Research is so important.

“Ambition is an essential quality for a firefighter, throughout your career and especially in the development stages. You need to want to work hard and be the best you can be. There’ll be lots of experienced people at your station, so be sure to learn from them as much as you can.

“If you really want to be a firefighter, just be ambitious and passionate about the career and go for it! It’s very rewarding and I could not ask for a better job.”

Mary O'Malley's poetry on the Galway Poetry Trail



Mary O'Malley pictured alongside the plaque after it was unveiled by author Donal Ryan.

Mary O'Malley poem added to the Galway Poetry Trail

The latest plaque on The Galway Poetry Trail was unveiled this afternoon at The Claddagh Basin, featuring the poem 'Lockdown Aubade' by distinguished poet Mary O'Malley.

The poem is inspired by Mary O'Malley's first walk out after lockdown, when she passed the Galway hookers and gleoiteogs moored in the Basin, and watched sails being raised. The scene symbolized liberation and escapism for her and she thought especially of her father whose gleoiteog had been built by a Claddagh man.

The plaque was unveiled by acclaimed author Donal Ryan, whose play "From a Low and Quiet Sea" is currently running in the Nun's Island Theatre as part of the Galway International Arts Festival. This is the 28th plaque to be added to The Galway Poetry Trail - a series of plaques dotted around the city which feature pieces of writing about the places in which they are situated. Plaques can be found in locations such as on the wall of Richardson's Pub in Eyre Square (featuring the poem 'Men with Tired Hair' by Rita Ann Higgins), at Nimmo's Pier in the Claddagh (featuring 'Galway' by Louis McNeice), and on the Salthill Prom (featuring 'Fear na Lasraí' by Máirtín O'Direáin and 'Haiku' by Little John Nee). The Galway Poetry Trail is organised jointly by Kennys' Bookshop and Galway City Council and in conjunction with Cúirt International Festival of Literature and has been added to annually since the first plaque was installed in 2005.

You can find brochures with a list of the plaques and their locations in Kennys Bookshop, Liosbán or visit www.kennys.ie/galway-poetry-trail

Galway Advertiser

In Other News.....

The primary democratic race for Attorney General in the State of Maryland in the US went right down to the wire on polling day over there, and it ended with Rep Anthony Brown winning out by a slim margin over Katie Curran O'Malley.

We'd like to congratulate Katie on an excellently run campaign, and while unsuccessful this time around, She should also be commended for the example She's setting for women everywhere to put themselves forward for high office.



The Grace O'Malley Tall Ship Schedule

Warrenpoint 11th-16th August

Dublin 17th- 24th August

Waterford, (Dunmore East) 25th -27th August

Cork 27th-29th August

Come along and see her if you're around any of the ports!



@clanomalley

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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 over 60 years now.

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

O'Malley Clan Association HELP SPREAD THE MESSAGE!

How can I help spread the message of the O'Malley Clan Association to everyone else with connections to this famous historic Irish Clan I hear you ask?

The Clan Association is very active on Social Media, and if you see a post, like it, share it, comment on it, share your feedback in comments, retweet if you're on Twitter, share our stories on Instagram and posts on Facebook.

EVERY BIT HELPS! ESPECIALLY IF YOU ATTENDED THE GATHERING IN MAYO

TAG THE O'MALLEY CLAN ASSOCIATION IN YOUR PHOTOS FROM THE WEEKEND

There are O'Malleys, Malleys, Melias, Maleys, out there that still don't know about the Clan Association and its efforts to connect O'Malleys all around the world, so lets try and spread the word

All interactions, (Likes/Shares/Retweets etc), get us onto more peoples feeds on their phones, laptops, and tablets, so get clicking!

Thanks for the Help

O'Malley Clan Association