

Volume 1, Issue 142

October 2026

Ó Máille



O'Malley Clan Association Monthly Newsletter

This month's highlights....

- Happy Halloween from the O'Malley Clan!
- Share your stories with the O'Malley Clan!
- Edward O'Malley and the West Mayo Brigade
- When the "other Don" was Chieftain, 1998.
- Raglan Road, the story of a ballad.
- "Dauntless" a Grace O'Malley story
- Nominate the next O'Malley Clan Tánaiste
- Check your spam!
- US Chapter Update
- The O'Malley Clan Gathering 2027
- The O'Malley Clan crossword.,
- The O'Malley Clan Association Needs You! Join Today!!

Have a great spooky season!!!

Happy Halloween to you all out there around the world. We hope you have a spook-tacular scary season! As the evenings draw in, and the fire is lit, it's time to get those thinking caps on and get those flights booked for next year's O'Malley Clan Gathering in Sneem, County Kerry, on the weekend of June 18th to 20th. It'll be a mighty weekend in the Kingdom of Kerry, so get those trips planned!



Get in touch, and share your O'Malley Heritage!

Have you got an article or old photographs that you'd like to submit for future editions of "O Maille" The O'Malley Clan Association Newsletter.

We'd love to hear from you wherever you're based around the world. Old photographs and stories to go with them, old letters, family trees or just an article that you'd like to share with the rest of the clan. Drop us a line and We'll get right to it!



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

“If only the walls could talk”— Edward O’Malley & the West Mayo Brigade

If Only The Walls Could Talk

By Piaras Ó Raghallaigh

Stories about secret caverns full of guns and ammunition, furious and frightening black and tan raids and ambushes, a Lewis machine gun that could fire 600 rounds a minute and the mysterious and magical cry of the curlew all filled my youth with wonderment and excitement. My Grandfather Edward O’Malley played a crucial role in Ireland’s fight for freedom and his captive audience were spellbound as he relived and replayed the extraordinary events that took place in the tranquil village of Owenwee, 5km from Westport town.

In his book ‘Memories of a Mayoman’, he gives a first-hand account of the War of Independence in the West Mayo Brigade as experienced by a rank and file volunteer. The stories and events he retold to his grandchildren were not of legendary folklore heroes but of real-life figures, neighbours and friends who rallied to Ireland’s call.

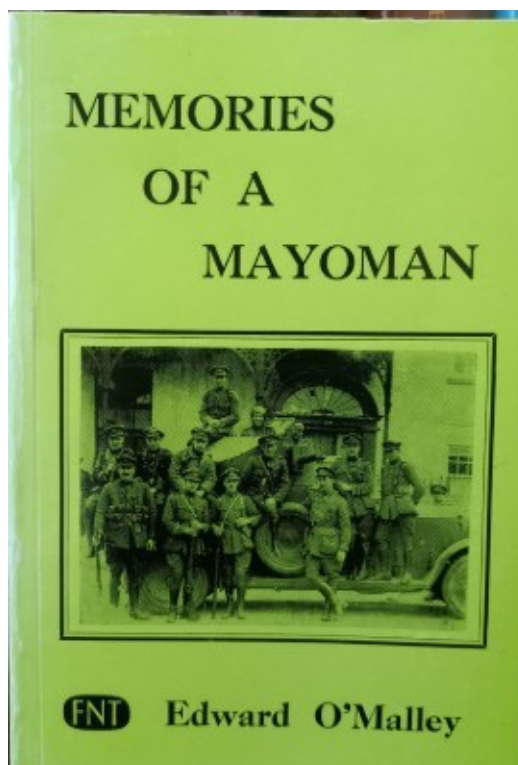
Owenwee was at the epicentre of Ireland’s fight for freedom during the war of Independence in west Mayo. The stone walls in the village still hold the secrets to many of the key events that occurred during those turbulent times. Hidden and unmarked caves are dotted across the landscape of Owenwee that protected those on the run and often housed guns and ammunition for critical ambushes.

As I wandered the fields and hillsides with my Grandfather, he often pointed to a cluster of rocks where he had hidden weapons for the flying column. Owenwee was a safe haven with loyal volunteers and safe houses. It had easy access to the surrounding hills and the woodlands provided cover for those on the run. The Croagh Patrick Sinn Féin club in the village was one of the first to be established in the region and with it a ‘B’ company, 3rd battalion to support its demands. Their activities consisted of route marches, sham battles and the holding of fundraising concerts. Irish classes also took place with an emphasis on the mantra ‘tír gan teanga tír gan anam,’ a country without a language is a country without a soul.

Born in 1904, Edward O’Malley was just seventeen years of age when he joined the volunteers. He trained as a hillside spotter and long before mobile phones or walkie talkies were invented he could send a message to another volunteer a mile away faster than the speed of any Black and Tans Calvary or lorry. The



Edward O’Malley during the 1920’s



“If only the walls could talk” – Edward O’Malley & the West Mayo Brigade

spotters were usually teenagers who hid in the hills camouflaged as sheepherders. When they spotted the Black and Tans on the move, they pulled a straight Sallystring leaf and held the blade between their thumbs and the palm of their hands. When the leaf was tightly in position, the young volunteers blew with all their might across the stem making a wild alarming and harsh whistle like sound that alerted the next spotter a mile away. The ‘Curlew Call’ was an ingenious mode of communication perfected by the young volunteers. The Black and Tans were perplexed and never figured out how the volunteers were always one-step ahead of them. Many the afternoon I sat with my grandfather and practiced this unique art form, I was mesmerized how a simple farmyard leaf could send a signal faster than a powerful British army truck.

Mauser and Martini rifles, magazine-fed repeating Lee-Enfield rifles, Webley and Bulldog revolvers, Parabellum and German Luger pistols, gas masks and a suitcase full of hand grenades were all hidden in Owenwee and distributed to the Active Service Unit as required. Those caves and secret hiding places are on no map or google site but they are etched on the hearts and minds of those living in Owenwee. Commandants Joe Ring, Broddie Malone and Michael Kilroy were regular visitors to the village, often staying overnight to support and reaffirm the local volunteers. Black and Tan raids were common in those days but the people living in Owenwee were resolute and they never buckled or wavered. Ambushes were discussed and meticulously planned in the safe houses of Owenwee. Ring, Malone and Kilroy were enthused and inspired by the local volunteers. Midgefield Hall was humming with excitement night after night when the volunteers gathered to get updates from the leaders of the flying column. Michael Kilroy was a studious religious man according to my grandfather; he spoke in slow, measured tones and commanded great respect among strangers. Joe Ring was a man of action. He was brave and courageous. Broddie Malone had a pleasant disposition and was very cautious and methodical.

It was the Owenwee ‘B’ Company that set the trap for the Carrowkenedy ambush on June 2nd 1921. Men from the village had cut the road south of Carrowkenedy dance hall and provided the cover as the flying column under the direction of Kilroy took up their positions. Kilroy masterminded the operation having learnt from the failed Kilmeena ambush on May 19th, 1921. He handpicked snipers to kill the lorry drivers and machine gun operator. After two hours of gunfire, eight RIC officers were killed with the IRA volunteers seizing all of their weaponry and ammunition. The 25 rifles, the Lewis machine-gun, 28 revolvers, 60 hand grenades and over 5,000 rounds of ammunition was all moved swiftly to the safe houses and hills of Owenwee. The flying column were marked men following the Carrowkenedy ambush with the Crown Forces sending thousands of officers to the region to capture them. Spotter planes flew over the region for days looking for



Edward O’Malley in 1981

“If only the walls could talk”— Edward O’Malley & the West Mayo Brigade

the flying column but they disappeared into the mountain mist and were never captured.

The flying column under Kilroy returned to Owenwee eight days before the truce was signed on July 11, 1921. Weary and tired after traversing the hillsides of West Mayo, the group of fifty men were given food and shelter as they planned their next move. The village Cumann na mBan ladies mended their uniforms as they slept in safe houses that night and also knitted socks for the volunteers ahead of their next venture across the hills of Mayo. When they arose and slowly crept through silent ravines the volunteers could see the Blank and Tans closing in behind them. The volunteers decided to break up into smaller groups and dump their guns and ammunition. The village ‘B’ company supported their efforts and rapidly dispersed the weaponry in the caves and caverns around their homes. Expert local guides escorted the volunteers through dangerous mountain passes and helped them escape once again.



A group of Westport volunteers

The following morning Owenwee was a hive of military activity. Hundreds of soldiers searched every home in the village. An observation plane scoured the landscape looking for the volunteers. People were dragged from their beds and houses were ransacked. The guns and ammunition; hidden hurriedly the previous night were often only a few feet away from the crown forces. The village people were unyielding in their defiance and never flinched.

My grandfather told us a story about a local man who was lucky not to be killed. He was cleaning a gun when he spotted soldiers arriving at his door. He went to hide the gun in the mattress of his bed but changed his mind at the last minute and secured the gun to the inside of the kitchen table. The soldiers tore his mattress apart but never looked under the kitchen table and he survived to tell the tale.

“If only the walls could talk” – Edward O’Malley & the West Mayo Brigade

Today, I walk the land in Owenwee with my own children and show them the same caves and caverns that helped shape Irish Independence. When our home was built in 1939 Edward O’Malley dropped the last remnant of the war of Independence into the cavity of the stone wall of our house. It was an old Mauser rifle, a keepsake from the war of independence. If only the stone walls could still talk.

END

Piarsa Ó Raghallaigh is a grandson of Edward O’Malley, Owenwee, Westport. Co. Mayo. He is a secondary school teacher at Coláiste Pobail Acla on Achill Island. He worked for over twenty years as a journalist and broadcaster with RTÉ, TG4, Raidió na Gaeltachta and Irish TV.

Former O’Malley Clan Chieftains Maurice O’Malley and Pearce O’Malley are also grandsons of Edward O’Malley. Edward O’Malley was a regular attendee at Annual O’Malley Clan Rallies from the first one in 1953 and for many years afterwards.

Copies of “Memories of a Mayoman” are available from several public library locations across Ireland, and a digital version is available [here](#)



Minister Denis Gallagher launching Edward O'Malley's book 'Memories of a Mayoman' in 1981. Piarsa Ó Raghallaigh is on his knees in the front middle

When the “other Don” was Chieftain—Limerick 1998

An extract from the O'Malley Journal 1999.....

Chieftain Don and the O'Malleys of Limerick were delighted to have the Clan members visit their historic city in June 1998. Altogether, we had close to 300 people attending the various functions. Naturally most of those were from Ireland but we also had O'Malleys and friends from the USA, Canada, Mexico, New Zealand, Australia and the United Kingdom. The Rally in Limerick was mainly located on the University Campus which was much admired by all the visitors. This year is the 25th Anniversary of the University of Limerick, which is located on a beautiful campus on the banks of the River Shannon. Student population is approximately 8,000.



Chieftain Don and his family

On Friday evening we had the registration at Kilmurry Village Hall. This was an ideal venue to start the Rally, where we had our guest speaker, Tony McCarthy, author of 'The Irish Roots' who spoke to us about Irish families, tracing our heritage, and gave a very interesting talk on the 'faction fights' which occurred late in the last century throughout rural Ireland.

Following the talk, we then visited the collection of the O'Malley Heads in the new University Library building. This exhibition is part of the Collection by Helen O'Malley Roelofs, donated to the University for safekeeping. Helen O'Malley's son, Cormac, past Chieftain, was at hand to explain to the members and friends the details and anecdotes associated with the Collection.

The evening was completed with a visit to the University Stables Bar where we enjoyed meeting old friends and making new acquaintances, with plenty of refreshments before retiring for the evening.

Saturday, as always, is a busy day in the Rally and the first event was the Golf Tournament at Limerick County Golf and Country Club nearby. Some twenty players competed for the Granuaile Cup, which was won by Kevin O'Malley of Birmingham. The weather was kind to the players, although many of them found the course somewhat tough. Needless, all enjoyed themselves.

Later that morning the O'Malley coach left University of Limerick to visit King John's Castle (1185) where we were given a guided tour through the Interpretative centre and subsequently through the Castle itself. The Castle overlooks the lordly Shannon and we were very fortunate with the weather. we had a wonderful time looking through the various sections of this historic building and enjoyed the views from the battlements. Following the Castle tour, the party then went a short distance to the Hunt Museum where we had lunch before

When the “other Don” was Chieftain—Limerick 1998

visiting the Museum itself. We were most fortunate to have two O'Malley docents of the Hunt Museum to guide us through the exhibition. Denis O'Malley (Madaboy) and Elaine O'Malley (Castleconnell) did a wonderful job in explaining to the visitors the various artifacts now in the Hunt Museum.

The party and guests were very impressed with the exhibition which is now very much part of the Limerick scene. The Hunt Collection is an internationally important collection of original works of art and antiquities.

One of the strengths of the Hunt

Collection is its medieval material. Its range covers objects commissioned and used by both ecclesiastical and lay patrons, and includes statues in stone, bronze and wood, crucifixes, panel paintings, metalwork, jewellery, enamels, ceramics and crystal.

The importance of the collection is such that some items are currently on loan to the British Museum and the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, while others have been shown in international exhibitions.

The links between the Hunt Collection and other museums can be illustrated by the fact that one fragment of the Beaufort, late 14th century armorial tapestry, is on display in the Hunt Museum in Limerick, while other fragments of the same tapestry are in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and the Burrell Collection, Glasgow.

Besides the medieval, there is a wealth of other material ranging from Egyptian, Greek and Roman items through to the 19th century metalwork and ceramics. There is also an important collection of Irish archaeological material ranging from Neolithic flints, through Bronze Age gold, the unique 8th century Antrim Cross, hand pins, pennanular brooches, down to penal crucifixes of the 18th and 19th century. Irish decorative arts are represented too in a range of items including Irish delph, Belleek porcelain, 18th century Dublin tapestries as well as ecclesiastical and domestic silver. The Hunt Collection of European decorative art, fine art and archaeology is acknowledged as one of the foremost private medieval art collections made in this century. The Hunt family has presented this unique collection to the people of Ireland. The Collection was made by John (1900-76) and Gertrude (1903-95) Hunt, people who were respected internationally as leading experts in medieval art. They advised Sir William Burrell in forming his collection and gave advice to such other important collectors as William Randolph Hearst and the Aga Khan. They also worked in an advisory capacity on medieval works with Sotheby's, London.

After our trip to the Hunt Museum, the coach took us on a guided tour of the historical parts of Limerick City, including O'Connell Street, The Crescent, St. John's Cathedral and the Old Limerick centre.

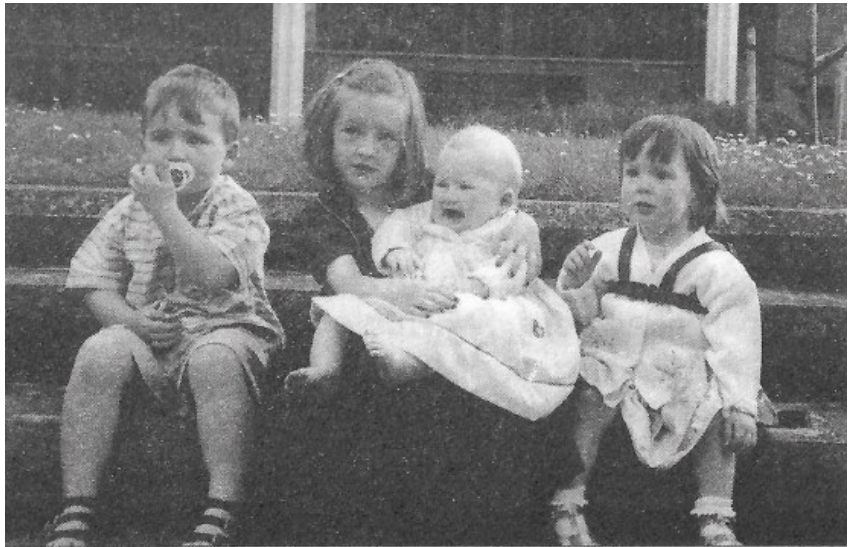


*Gertie O'Malley, Elaine O'Malley, Maeve O'Malley
and grandchildren*

When the “other Don” was Chieftain—Limerick 1998

Later that evening, the members and guests attended the A.G.M. at the Stables Bar at University of Limerick. Following the AGM, the Chieftain's Reception took place in the Stables Bar where the gathering was provided with a meal and some very lively entertainment by a local group samhlaíocht (Imagination).

During the course of the evening, Chieftain Don presented an O'Malley plaque bearing the Coat of Arms to Harold O'Malley from Perth. Harold, a remarkable man who was celebrating his 95th birthday, had arrived the day before from Perth on his 2nd visit to Ireland.



The next generation

Incidentally, the youngest member at the Rally was a babe in arms of 5 weeks. The entertainment and sing-song went on into the late hours before we finally had to retire in the early hours of Sunday morning.

Sunday, as usual, was an important day in the event of the Rally where we had the traditional O'Malley Mass in the Jean Monet Theatre of the University. The celebrant was Fr. Donogh O'Malley of Limerick and the homily was given by Fr. Pat O'Maille of Louisburgh. (Music and singing was provided by Madeleine Meehan and Mairead Shinnors, Harpists and Emma Culhane, Guitarist).

Fr. Pat again gave a wonderful sermon on the O'Malley Clan, its traditions and history. He posed a question for the Clan as to how they might in some way help the people of the Third World. (For many years Fr. Pat served in the missions in Malawi). After mass, a special blessing was given by Fr. Donogh to Bob and Jackie Malley from Florida who were celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. This came as a great surprise to Bob and Jackie who were much appreciative of the thought and honour bestowed on them during their visit to Limerick.

After mass, the gathering retired to the Stables Bar for further refreshments before joining in the procession led by Piper Eoin to the luncheon in the main restaurant in the University. This was a lovely affair where we were served with a wonderful lunch in a beautiful setting overlooking the University grounds and the lordly River Shannon in the background. After luncheon the prizes for the golf were distributed and the raffle took place for the various prizes. The Tony O'Malley painting was also raffled during this period and was won by Mr. Charles O'Malley of Limerick.

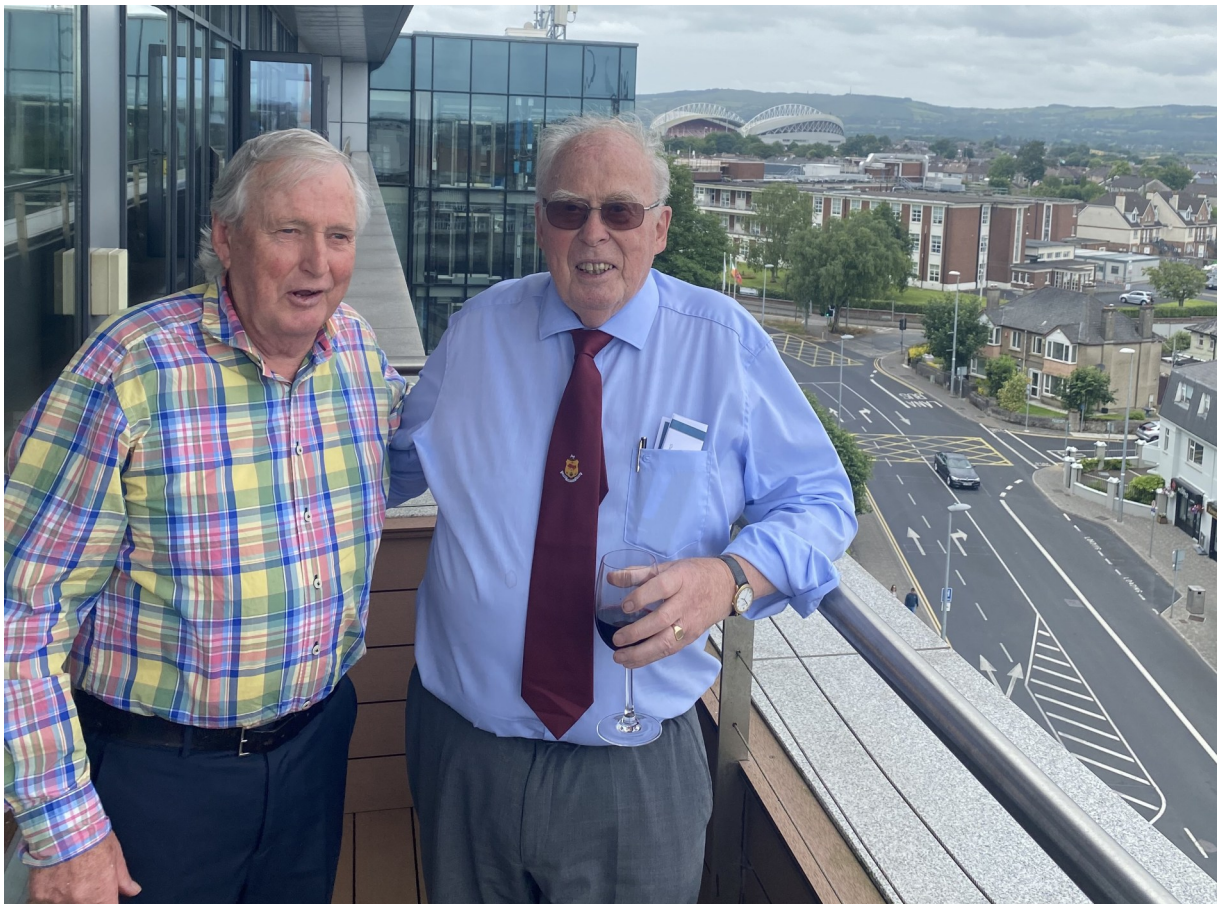
The Chieftain Don, in his closing address, thanked all the visitors who had come to the Rally in Limerick, particularly those who had come from abroad. He was very proud of the fact that all the members of his own family had come, including their wives, husbands and children, etc. and it made for a lovely family gathering in Limerick. Don particularly thanked his wife, Elaine, and his family members for their help during the Rally and encouraged all those attending to 'spread the gospel' and do everything possible to get more O'Malleys to attend future rallies.

When the “other Don” was Chieftain—Limerick 1998

He hoped that those attending enjoyed their visit to Limerick and hoped to see most of them in Castlebar in 1999.

Finally, Don passed the Chieftain's Cloak and Staff to the new Chieftain Maurice, who thanked Don for all his efforts in preparing a very successful Rally in Limerick.

A lovely trip down memory lane from 1998 there, and below, former Chieftain Don O'Malley, with Noel O'Malley from Otago, New Zealand at the 2024 Gathering in Limerick, with Thomond Park standing in the background.



“Raglan Road” - The story of a ballad



This month marks 80 years since Patrick Kavanagh put Hilda Moriarty into verse in what would become one of Ireland’s best known songs.

Her son, Daragh O’Malley has reflected on the woman behind it saying his mother was Kavanagh’s “muse”. The poet had met Ms Moriarty, then a 22-year-old medical student, in Dublin in 1944 when he developed an unrequited love for her.

He then wrote a poem about her first published in *The Irish Press* on October 3, 1946 under another title to hide her identity, “*Dark Haired Miriam Ran Away*” before it became “*On Raglan Road*”

Reflecting on their relationship actor Daragh O’Malley told *Oliver Callan* on RTÉ Radio One: “During the holy hour Paddy would take up a bench at the north gate at Stephen’s Green and he would be spotting. And who he would be spotting were the female students who would be streaming out of the lectures where UCD was, and one day he spotted this girl who turned out to be Hilda Moriarty and for the next 18 months he virtually stalked her around town.”

The relationship between 42-year-old Patrick Kavanagh and 22-year-old Hilda Moriarty would then turn into a friendship over the years.

“He would pass her notes. There’s a three line poem I don’t think it was ever published called Grafton Street admiration where he passed this to her in a brown paper bag in Mitchell’s and it read:

“Have you felt that way too? That someone was in love with you and was afraid to speak the air vibrated with your mutual prayer without an introduction one is doomed to love and never woo.”

On Raglan Road did not immediately become the cultural celebration it is today.

“Raglan Road” - The story of a ballad

After it was initially published in the Irish Press, it disappeared for a while until it came up again in Kavanagh’s *Collected Poems* until 1964. In the collection it was printed as a song lyric with the title followed by the tune *On Raglan Road (Air: The Dawning of the Day)*. It has since been popularised as a song, most famously through Luke Kelly and The Dubliners, Van Morrison and Sinéad O’Connor.

Ms Moriarty later married engineer and politician Donogh O’Malley who served as education minister. But behind the familiar story and melody from Kavanagh’s words, there is a story of a real woman whose own life extended far beyond her role as the poet’s inspiration and had a huge influence in Irish life. She later became a doctor and a champion for education alongside her husband. During a family dinner shortly after his father had got into Dáil Éireann, the actor recalled his mother saying: “What kind of a genius would Paddy Kavanagh have been if he didn’t leave school at 13. That was really the light bulb for my father. Well I believe it was.”

According to Daragh O’Malley, her belief in education and social equality will have provided a “light bulb moment” for his father, which would shape his role in education, eventually leading him to announce free education in Ireland.

Recently, a proposal was put forward to name a new 14-storey landmark building at Limerick’s Opera Square after Donogh O’Malley to honour his work during his tenure.

Irish Independent



“Dauntless” - A Grace O’Malley Story

An Evocative and Magical Evening

A review of “Dauntless, Grace O’Malley – Pirate Queen”

Despite being part of the Story Museum’s Fairytales For Grown-Ups series, the subject of this evening’s tale, Grainne ni Mhaille (Grace O’Malley to her English enemies), was a more-than-real woman. Then again, historical women gather so much rumour and scandal they become part legend. This Irish pirate queen was no different.



With a confident stride and an easy rapport with her audience, performer Debs Newbold brings the story of her personal hero to the stage. Without a single costume change and just a chair as a prop, Debs has the magical ability to shift characters, time, and space. When her face and body contorted, you looked into Grace’s thousand-yard stare, or at the prim condescension of a sexist English captain, or the calm bulk of Grace’s most trusted warrior. Age, gender, and nationality mean nothing to this talented actress.

Throughout, Debs asks her audience to imagine a scene before them, as they would in a cinema. This is easy to do with her vivid, detailed storytelling. Her tale starts with the powerful image of Grace, a day after child-birth, taking a musket up deck to defend the ship she gave birth on from pirates. Another, more heartbreaking moment comes when she believes her eldest son has come to visit, only to realise he comes to her dead. The emotion of this moment comes from the audience realising the son’s demise before his mother. As Debs says herself, this story could truly be a Ridley Scott picture.

It’s easy to see why Debs has been called “*a master of words and space*” (Views From the Gods). Her use of language is evocative and unique, something I appreciate as a writer. Sir Richard Bingham, Grace’s nemesis, arrives in Ireland ‘straining at the leash’, being earlier described as Elizabeth I’s ‘guard dog’. Elizabeth herself is later described in terms of a ship when Grace comes to petition her at Greenwich Palace. It’s an apt comparison; just as Grace had to learn how to navigate boats on the seas, so she must navigate the English court to save her lands.

My favourite part was the overarching parallel between Grace and Elizabeth. Two girls born of noble blood, not expected to do much more than marry and have babies, achieving so much more in their lifetimes. This is best shown in Deb’s first clever transition between the two queen’s lives. ‘900 miles to the east’ of young Grace, young Elizabeth is on her royal barge, tracing her fingers through the Thames. It comes at a moment where both girls are feeling confined by their roles as women in noble families.

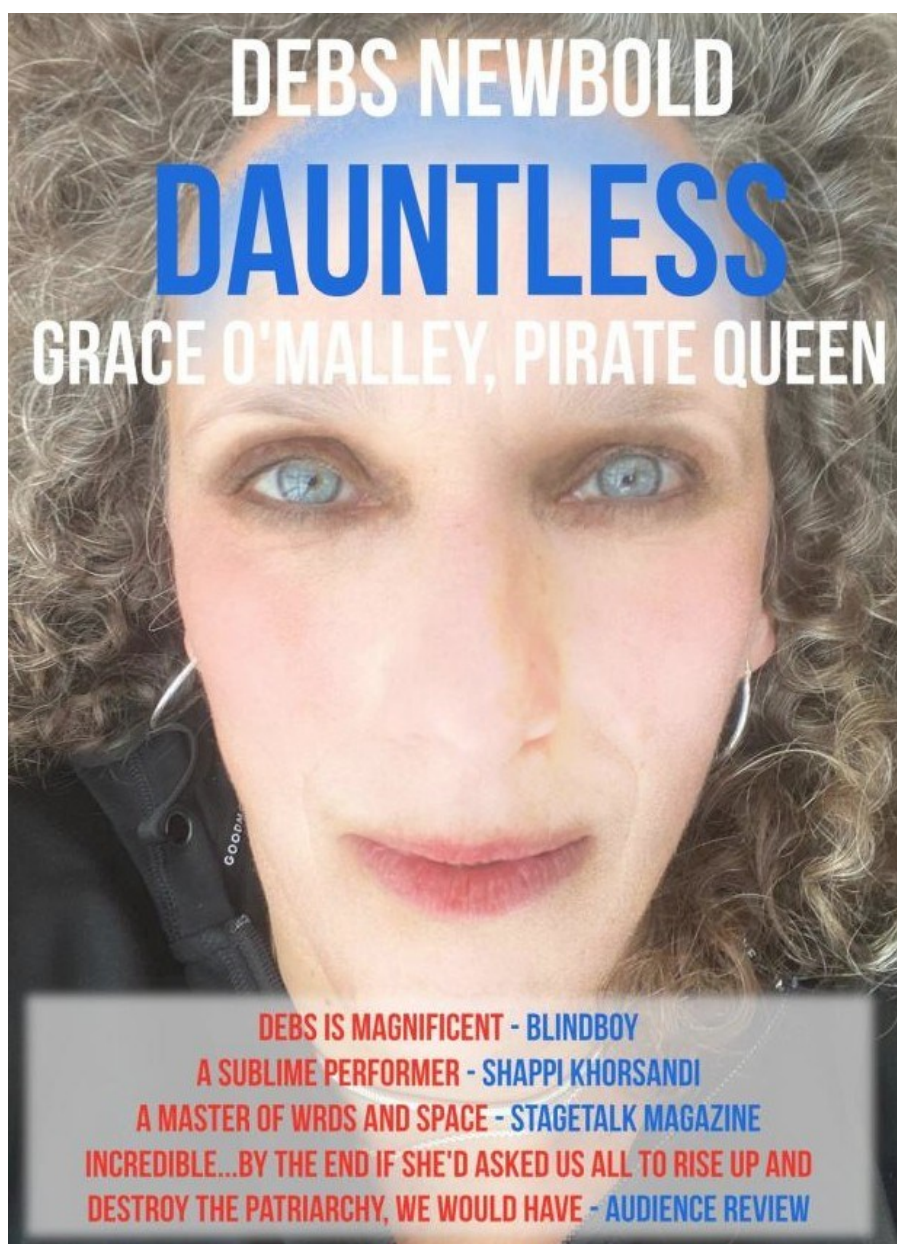
Sadly, it seems Grace had far more freedom than Elizabeth, who never even left England. The best Elizabeth can do, as Debs concludes, is to blow the wind behind Grace’s sails as she glides down the Thames, back towards her second home, the sea.

Dauntless - Grace O’ Malley, Pirate Queen was a feminist epic, reviving not only the story of a brave and re-

“Dauntless” - A Grace O’Malley Story

sourceful leader, but bringing a new perspective to the life of the ‘Virgin Queen’. What makes this even more impressive is that this lifetime is told through the skilful acting and attention-grabbing storytelling of just one woman. Even if Ridley Scott got his hands on Grace’s story, I doubt he could beat this.

“Dauntless, Grace O’Malley – Pirate Queen” continues its run in Nottingham, London, Amsterdam, and Leeds during October and November. Click on the image below for details



Get thinking about nominating the next O'Malley Clan Tánaiste

Every organisation needs a leader and the O'Malley Clan is no different. If you go back through the mists of time, the O'Malleys most famous leader would be usually acknowledged to have been Granuaile, or Grace O'Malley, often known as The Pirate Queen.

Our current Chieftain, Don O'Malley, is leading the O'Malley Clan during 2026 and up to June 2027, where he will host O'Malleys from all around the world at The O'Malley Clan Gathering in Sneem in County Kerry on the weekend of 18th to 20th June.

At the end of the annual O'Malley Clan Gathering next June, our current Tánaiste, Mary Madec, will take over the reins from Don and will be inaugurated as the new Chieftain of the O'Malley Clan for the remainder of 2027 up to June of 2028. Mary will then host the annual O'Malley Clan Gathering in County Mayo in June of 2028.

As has been done since 1953, a Tánaiste is elected each year as "Chieftain elect" and they then become Chieftain and continue an unbroken line back through the decades.

So what does the O'Malley Clan Chieftain actually do in the 2020's I hear you ask?

There aren't any tribal wars in which the Chieftain will need to lead us into battle thankfully, and so the main role of the Chieftain is ceremonial. Events can pop up from time to time during the year, but the main duty of each Chieftain is to lead the organisation, and the running of the annual O'Malley Clan Gathering in June each year.

You don't need to have a qualification in event management, so not to worry. There's a great team of folks on the O'Malley Clan Association committee who have literally decades of experience in putting the weekend together. All you'll need is a bit of enthusiasm, and a good sense of humour.

In order to be nominated for the position of Tánaiste you are required to be a current member, and to be nominated, you have to have agreed to be nominated, and are required to be nominated in writing, (the nomination form is below), by two other current members.

Of course if there is more than one nomination, and both nominees wish to contest a particular year, then an election would be held at the Annual General Meeting, on a 50% + 1 basis.

If you're thinking about putting your name forward, and seeking a nomination from some fellow members, don't worry that you're going to be thrown into the deep end and be asked to run the organisation from a standing start. The entire organisational side of things within the O'Malley Clan Association is overseen by the Guardian Chieftain. This position is filled every four years from within the ranks of the former Chieftains of the Clan, with the Guardian Chieftain being selected and appointed by the Council of Chieftains. The Guardian Chieftain is there to guide the Chieftain of the day in making their year of office as Chieftain of the O'Malley Clan a success, and chairs the O'Malley Clan Association committee.

So, to conclude, if you'd like to be a part of history, and think you have what it takes to lead this powerful, historic, Irish clan. Have a think about it and have a chat with your family or other members.

If you've any questions at all on how it all works, there's information on the "about us" section of the O'Malley Clan Association website, or pop us over an email to omalleyclanireland@gmail.com

Get thinking about nominating the next O'Malley Clan Tánaiste



O'Malley Clan Association

Nomination of Tánaiste (Chieftain elect) for 2027 -2028

I, _____ (name), _____ (Membership No.)
 _____ (address)
 _____ (e-mail)
 _____ (phone)

AND

I, _____ (name), _____ (Membership No.)
 _____ (address)
 _____ (e-mail)
 _____ (phone)

hereby nominate

_____ (name), _____ (Membership No.)
 _____ (address)
 _____ (e-mail)
 _____ (phone)

For the position of Tánaiste of the O'Malley Clan and confirm that my candidate has agreed to be nominated.

Signed _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Please return completed forms (hard copy) to:

Brendan O'Malley, Guardian Chieftain
 Markree House, Iona Drive
 North Circular Road, Limerick V94 EHR7

OR Photo or scan of signed form by e-mail
 to: brendan.omalley@markree.ie

The O'Malley Clan Association—US Chapter, Latest News!



Former USA Ambassador to Ireland to Speak at **December 1st Zoom Meeting**

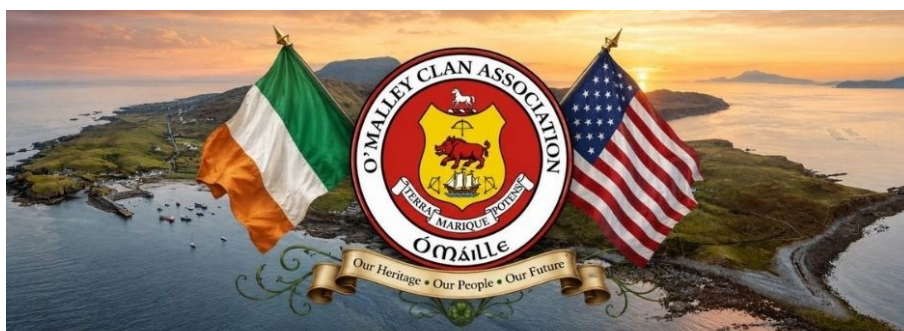
Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 1st, 6pm New York Time (11pm Irish Time). The USA Chapter will be holding its last quarterly meeting of 2026. Former Ambassador Kevin O'Malley will be discussing the position of U. S. Ambassador to Ireland as well as current Irish government issues. We will be honoring Former Chieftain Governor Martin O'Malley on this evening as he debuts a new musical piece titled 'On an Island'. Please join us as we listen, learn and laugh. Your participation is very much appreciated. Mark your calendars now. This promises to be a very informative, interesting and engaging event. It is simply a must not miss meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81024025127?pwd=rr8WOXk5wevGhvdYsY3bvJRFhn8kjH.1>

Passcode: 633653

You may also scan the QR code on the right to access the December 1st meeting.



**Ambassador
Kevin F O'Malley**

**O'Malley Clan Association -
US Chapter
Quarterly Zoom Meeting
Tuesday 1st Dec
6pm EST**



**Governor
Martin O'Malley**

The O'Malley Clan Association—US Chapter, Latest News!

Former Taoiseach Enda Kenny Speaks in Chicago

The Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago celebrated its 125th anniversary on September 21st. Over 600 guests gathered to celebrate this important milestone. Former Taoiseach Enda Kenny was the keynote speaker. Mr. Kenny gave a very powerful and wide-ranging speech. In particular he highlighted the importance of the establishment of free education in Ireland and the strong ties between the United States and Ireland. The Irish Fellowship Club nurtures a sense of Irish pride while fostering friendship and understanding among all who share an interest in Irish culture.

Interested in learning more? Check out their website. [Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago website](#)



Former Taoiseach Enda Kenny with
Kathi Carr, O'Malley Clan Aire

Boost Your Genealogy Research

Family Search, a free genealogy platform, has recently introduced a new AI powered search tool. It is called Family Search Full Text Search. The names, dates, and places on historical records are nearly impossible to find until they get indexed. Indexing puts these details into a digital format and makes them easy to search online. FamilySearch Full Text Search is a new tool that lets you search almost 2 billion historical records that haven't been indexed yet. It uses AI to read and interpret text directly from document images. Try it out for yourself by clicking here: [Family Search Full Text Search](#) It is a free service, but you do need to register for an account. Want more information? [Click here](#) to watch an informative video on Youtube.

While the Clan doesn't provide any direct genealogical assistance there are numerous resources listed on our website. [O'Malley Genealogy](#)

Maryland Irish Fest November 13-15th

It is with great excitement that Sean O'Malley, an Aire for the Clan, will be attending the Maryland Irish festival on November 14th. Please consider attending this event held at the Maryland State Fair Grounds, just north of Baltimore. The schedule is filled with music, dancing and other fun events. Click this link for more information <https://irishfestival.com/> or scan the QR code.

Planning to meet Sean? Please email Sean at usa@omalleyclan.ie and include 'MD Irish Festival' in the title. This will help us know who to expect and plan where to meet at the festival.



<https://irishfestival.com/>

All Things Irish - No Passport Needed



2026
IRISH FESTIVAL

FRI 11/13
6-11 PM - HAPPY HOUR 6-8 PM - BEER \$5

SAT 11/14
NOON-11 PM - CEILI SOCIAL DANCE 7 PM

SUN 11/15
NOON-6 PM - MASS 10:30 AM, FAMILY CEILI 2 PM



www.IRISHFESTIVAL.com
MD STATE FAIRGROUNDS • 2200 YORK ROAD • TIMONIUM

The O'Malley Clan Association—US Chapter, Latest News!

Give the Gift of Family this Christmas

The very sad reality is that most Christmas presents given in December, will be forgotten by July. In our society things are often considered disposable. The gifting of experiences rather than things, is becoming more popular. Experiential gifting results in a long lasting and meaningful gifts. This Christmas, please consider giving the gift of a membership to our organization. The USA Chapter encourages you to give the gift of family heritage to your cousins, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and other family members. Each month, through our newsletter, they will remember your generosity. At only approximately \$22 for 12 month membership, it is a very reasonable price for such a memorable gift. Click this link to start your Christmas shopping today. [O'Malley Clan Membership Form](#) You may also scan this QR code.



Chicago Area In Person Events

All O'Malley and O'Malley descendants and friends are invited to meet at Gracie O'Malley's Pub on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Beginning at 6:30 we will enjoy good food, laughter, and a shared heritage as we participate in their always-fun Trivia Night event. Gracie O'Malley's Pub Portage Park is located at 4058 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60641



Help Needed!

Enjoying this newsletter? Please take a few moments and forward it to an O'Malley relative. We need your help spreading the news about the new O'Malley Clan Association USA Chapter. Please encourage your family members to sign up for our monthly newsletter as well as USA specific emails. [ENewsletter Sign Up Form](#) to sign up.

Volume 1, Issue 545
September 2026

Ó Máille

O'Malley Clan Association Monthly Newsletter

Donogh O'Malley, Commemorated in County Clare

This month's highlights...

- Donogh O'Malley event in County Clare
- Share your stories with the O'Malley Clan!
- Donogh O'Malley 1921-1980
- Vicent O'Malley claims literary rights in NZ
- A Q/L1 Reflection from Ft Timothy O'Malley
- Another "Gathering in Galveston" - Nora O'Malley
- The O'Malley Clan US Chapter Update
- New Jersey makes going solar easier for homeowners - Donogh O'Malley
- The O'Malley Clan Gathering 2027
- The O'Malley Clan crossword
- The O'Malley Clan Association Needs Your Join Today!

www.omalleyclan.ie

find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/omalleyclan

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



Sally Donogh passed away in 1968 as the result of a heart attack that he suffered while attending a meeting at Sanilakebridge in County Clare. Sanilakebridge Historical Society recently dedicated a plaque to Donogh O'Malley in the County Clare town, which was unveiled by current Minister for Education Hildegarde Naughton TD. See the full story, and lots of pictures from the event held on the 6th September 2026 inside.

Get in touch, and share your O'Malley Heritage!

Have you got an article or old photographs that you'd like to submit for future editions of "Ó Máille" The O'Malley Clan Association Newsletter?

We'd love to hear from you wherever you're based around the world. Old photographs and stories to go with them, old letters, family trees or just an article that you'd like to share with the rest of the clan. Drop us a line and We'll get right to it!

The O'Malley Clan Association—US Chapter, Latest News!



IMIRCE Project University of Galway

Kathleen Carr

As an 18-year-old I made the decision to move 1129 miles from home. With the hope of receiving a strong university education in agriculture, Texas A & M University became my home for 4 years. Consistently over the next 1461 days, letters arrived in the mail address to me from my family members. Those letters were my lifeline bringing stories from home encouragement and a bit of extra spending money. Forty years later a few of the treasured letters are kept safe in a box tucked away in a closet.

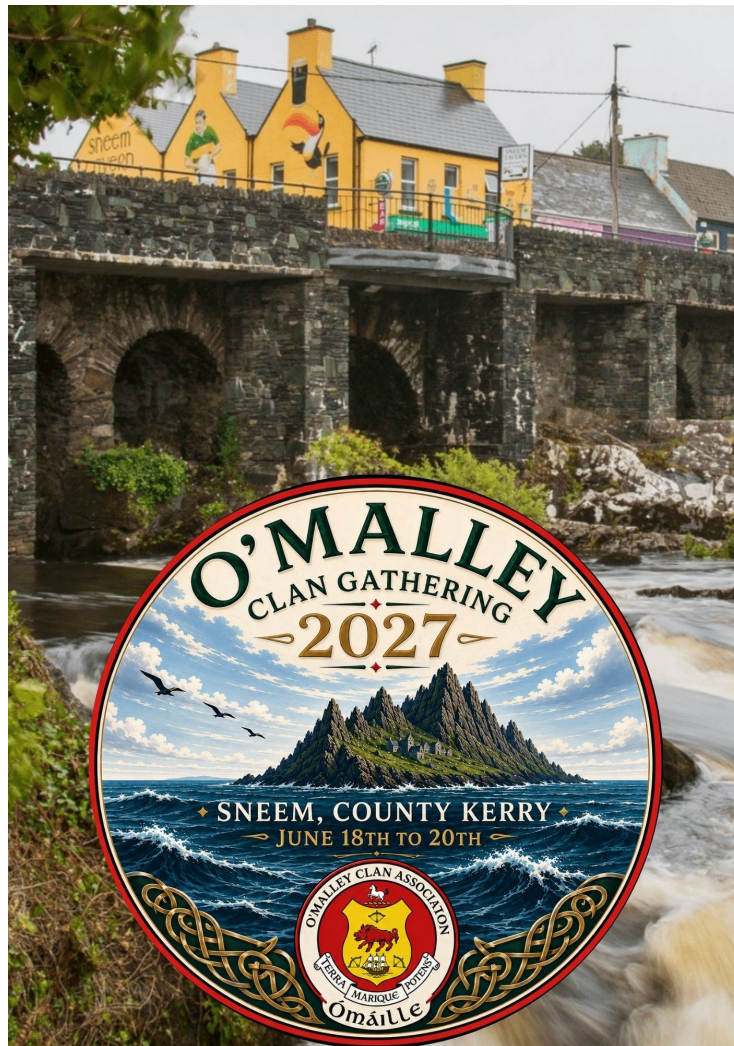
Letters from home have buoyed the spirits and helped maintained connections with Irish Immigrants in the United States for over 250 years. The University of Galway, has established a project to document and preserve letters sent between Ireland and North America. IMIRCE, which began in 2024, provides access to thousands of letters and life stories. These documents have been digitized and are available through the IMICRE website which may be accessed by [clicking here](#). Visitors to the website may search through the documents using a variety of different parameters including by the writer's or recipient's last name. A quick search of the name O'Malley reveals 324 results. In one particular document Hugh O'Daly details attending the World's Fair held in Chicago in 1933. The O'Gallagher family hosted a dinner party in honor of Mr. O'Daly. The dinner was attended by Mr. Ernie O'Malley and other Irish representatives. He described Mr. O'Malley's book "Army without Banners" as one of the best books that covered the fighting of the War of Independence.

An easy-to-use map allows visitors to the IMIRCE website to pinpoint the origin and destination of the letters. This function is very valuable as it gives one a sense of what immigrants went through in particular areas of the country during various decades. Although, you may not be able to find a letter written by an ancestor, you may find one written by someone that lived in that area in the same time period.

The IMICRE project is actively soliciting contributions of letters that have been written and mailed from Ireland to North American and vice versa. Life stories written by Irish emigrants and/or their descendants are also accepted. They accept both digital copies and original manuscripts. If you have letters that you would consider sharing with this valuable project, please contact their team through their website. These valuable contributions allow others to read and learn from the words that passed over the Atlantic time and time again.

Just as letters have buoyed the spirits of our ancestors, I hope that you find joy in reading the words of Irish immigrants and their family members. [IMIRCE website](#)

The O'Malley Clan Gathering 2027, 18th to 20th June



Below: Sneem Hotel, our base of operations for June 18-20, 2027, click on the image to check it out



The O'Malley Clan Gathering 2027, 18th to 20th June

TIME TO START PLANNING YOUR TRIP, AND GET THOSE FLIGHTS BOOKED!



Test your brain with a crossword on Airlines of the World !

Across

1. Airline with a kiwi logo,
7. US airline with a globe for its logo,
9. Turkish Low cost airline named after a winged horse,
11. Airline with a maple leaf logo,
14. Low cost, blue and yellow, US airline,
15. US Low cost airline with bright yellow branding
16. Australias national carrier,
18. Hong kongs famous international carrier,
21. British Airline headed by Richard Branson,
22. Dutch airline, with famous blue and white colours, ...

Down

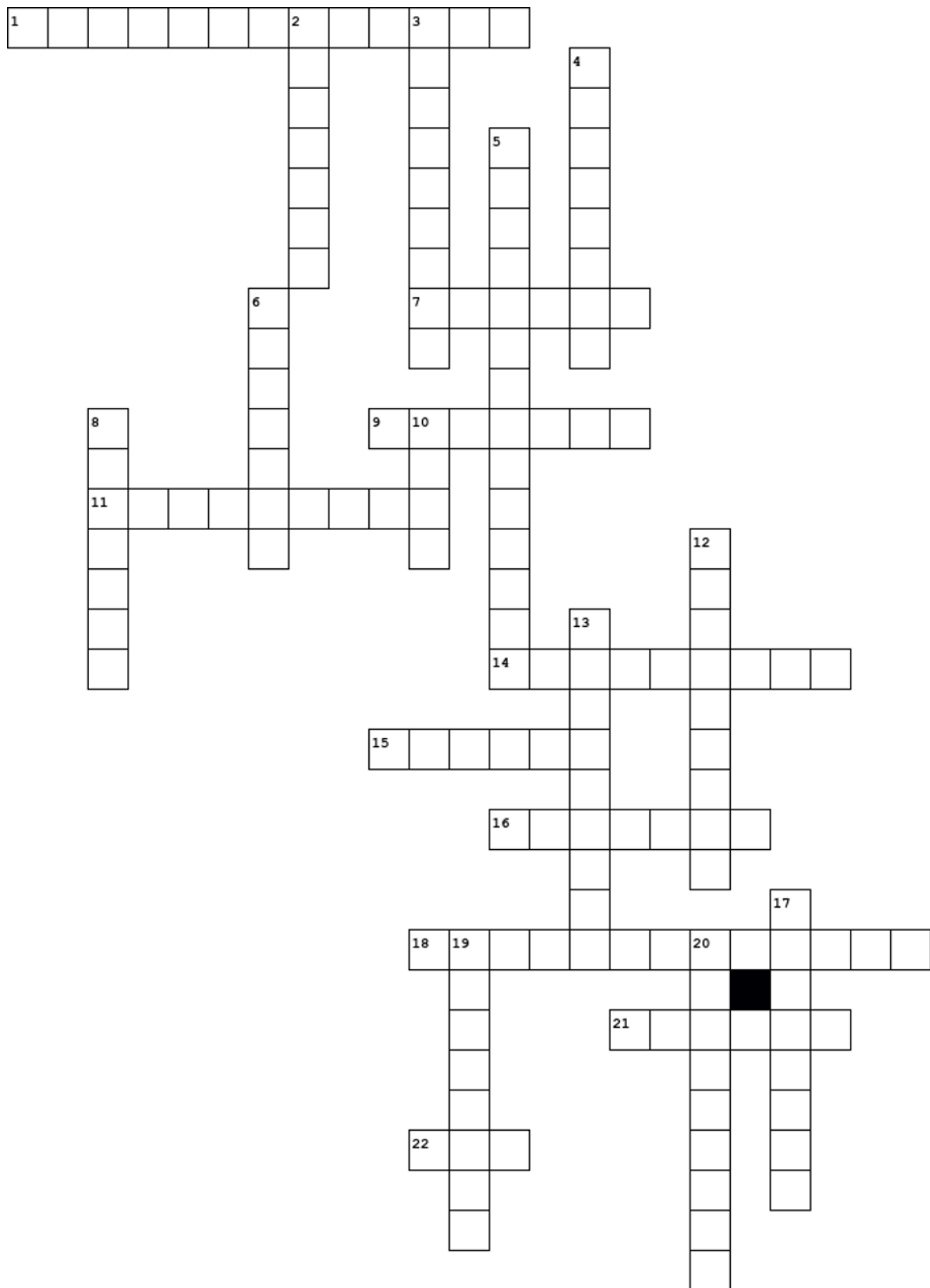
2. Low cost British airline, headquartered in Luton,
3. Ireland's National carrier,
4. Dubai's large international airline,
5. British National carrier, often shortened to BA
6. Spains national carrier,
8. Low cost Irish Airline,
10. Israels national carrier
12. Low cost scandinavian airline,
13. Germany's biggest airline, based in Frankfurt,
17. Indias national carrier,
19. Russias largest airline,
20. The national airline of France,

LAST MONTH'S ANSWERS: **ACROSS**, 3 NAAN, 4 HUMMUS, 5 TIRAMISU 8 FRIES, 9 CHORIZO 12 KIMCHI, 15 HOTDOG 16 ESCARGOT 17 PIZZA 18 PANCAKES. 20 LASAGNE 21 TAGINE **DOWN**, 1 BRATWURST, 2 HAMBURGER 5 TAPAS 6 SUSHI 7 QUICHE, 8 FISHNCHIPS 10.HAGGIS 11 RISOTTO 14 TEA 15 COLCANNON 19 GASPACHO

Editors Note: Apologies in relation to 14 down last month, for some reason the clu didnt print out. It would have been

Down: 14. Drink mainly produced in India, China, and Africa....TEA !

Test your brain with a crossword on Airlines of the World !





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find us on
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www.facebook.com/omalleyclan



@clanomalley



[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 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.

O'Malleys ! We need you! Join Today!



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

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

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