



O'Malley Clan Association Monthly Newsletter

This month's highlights

- Great Value to be had in Ireland this Summer
- Get in touch and share your stories!
- O'Malley Clan Rally 2015 Events Programme
- Brigid O'Malley Clan Chieftain, A Profile
- About the O'Malley Clan Association
- Croagh Patrick, The Holy Mountain

Great Value to be had when spending Dollars in the Eurozone!

As if you didn't have enough reasons to plan a visit to Ireland this summer already!! (the most beautiful scenery in the World, friends and family and The Annual Clan Rally in Louisburgh, fabulous food and drink, Irish music & dancing, history at every turn of the road, and Guinness!), at the moment the Euro and the Dollar are almost trading at parity which means that every dollar you spend on flights, fabu-



lous food, creamy pints of Guinness, souvenirs, car hire etc will go a whole lot further.

2015 could be a fantastic summer of opportunity for our US

cousins to make the trip when it'll cost a whole lot less!!

Need help planning your trip? Drop us a line omalleyclanireland@gmail.com



Welcome to the new O'Malley Clan Association Newsletter
 The new O'Malley Clan Association Newsletter is now available online. It is a free service for all members of the O'Malley Clan Association. The newsletter is published monthly and contains news, stories, and information about the clan and its activities. It is a great way to stay up to date on all the latest news and events. The newsletter is available in both print and digital formats. You can subscribe to the newsletter online or by mail. The newsletter is a valuable resource for all members of the O'Malley Clan Association. It is a great way to stay up to date on all the latest news and events. The newsletter is available in both print and digital formats. You can subscribe to the newsletter online or by mail. The newsletter is a valuable resource for all members of the O'Malley Clan Association.

The New US Ambassador to Ireland Mr Kevin F O'Malley
 The O'Malley Clan Association is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Kevin F O'Malley as the new US Ambassador to Ireland. Mr O'Malley is a highly qualified and experienced diplomat. He has served in various capacities for the US State Department. He is a member of the O'Malley Clan Association and is a proud descendant of the clan. We are delighted to have him as our ambassador to Ireland. He will be based in Washington DC and will be representing the US in Ireland. He will be working closely with the Irish government and the O'Malley Clan Association. We are sure that he will do a great job of representing the US in Ireland. We are proud to have him as our ambassador to Ireland.

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 arti-

cle that you'd like to share with the rest of the clan. Drop us a line and We'll get right to it!



The Annual Clan Rally 2015, 26th to 28th June

Programme of Events

Friday 26th June 2015:

- **7:30pm Registration at The Granuaile Centre, Louisburgh
Meeting of Former Chieftains**
- **8pm** **Talks by:**
Chieftain Brigid O'Malley
Former Chieftain Ellen O'Malley-Dunlop
John O'Malley McNamara

Saturday 27th June 2015:

- **Coach Tour of some of O'Malley country, leaving Westport along the coast road to Louisburgh, then South through the spectacular scenery of the Doolough Valley into Leenane, and then to Kilmilkin where We will stop to take a look at the O'Malley stained glass window by Evie Hone.**

Onwards then to Cong village where people can explore the village and find the cross of cong, or the monastic settlements, and the Quiet Man Museum, and stop for lunch in one of the lovely restaurants in Cong.

After Lunch then its on to Lisloughry for a short cruise of Lough Corrib, with a stop off on Inchagoill Island, returning to the pier We will return by coach to Louisburgh via Joyce Country in time for the evening events.

9:30am: Pickup from Westport Coast Hotel

9:45pm: Pickup from Murrisk Bus Stop

10am: Pickup from The Derrylahan, Louisburgh.

8:30pm Annual Clan A.G.M. All Welcome, The Derrylahan, Louisburgh

9pm: Chieftains Reception: Join our Chieftain Brigid in celebrating the 61st Anniversary of the first clan rally. Meet old and new friends and enjoy the vast array of clan talent.

Sunday 28th June 2015:

11:30am Clan Mass in The Holy Family Church, Killeen, Louisburgh.

2pm Annual Clan Luncheon in The Derrylahan, Louisburgh followed by investiture of Denis O'Malley of Limerick as Chieftain for 2015-2016.

Brigid O'Malley Clan Chieftain 2014-2015, A Profile

Bríd Ní Mháille, Brigid O'Malley, our Clan chieftain this year, 2014-15, celebrated her 80th birthday on October 8th 2014. Now resident in Chicago, Brigid was born to Anthony and Jane (Burke) in Doughmakeon, in the heart of O'Malley Country, in Louisburgh, Co. Mayo. After primary school at Accony National School, she cycled the three miles every day to Scoil Mhuire, the Mercy Convent School in Louisburgh where she was awarded her Intermediate Certificate in 1950.

In January 1951, she left Ireland with her brother Tom to join their elder sister, Mary Rita, in Chicago. She continued her studies at St. Sebastian's High School and graduated with distinction in June, 1952.

After working for a year, she joined the Ursuline Sisters in Toledo, Ohio. She studied for a BA in Education while training as a teacher, and taught a variety of grades while teaching at various Ursuline elementary and secondary and secondary schools in Ohio.

In the 70s she spent a number of years in Washington DC working with various Faith and Justice organisations and was active in the renewal movement of the laity and of women in the Catholic church. She also became involved with various Irish organisations in the larger DC area, and taught classes in the Irish Language to several people who were so interested. Many of her pupils became fluent in the language and still speak and correspond in it.

In 1982 after much soul searching she resigned from the Ursuline Sisters and continued to live and work in the DC area. She became an active member of the American Association of University Women, attended many conferences on Irish affairs in the United States and Ireland. She returned to teaching in DC during her final years there, before returning to Chicago, her original home in the United States, in 2000. She was welcomed back by Mary Rita, Tom and Frank and their families.

Since returning Brigid has been active in the affairs of the Irish American Heritage Center where she works for the welfare of both senior citizens and of Irish youth. She retains her enthusiasm for the Irish language, speaks it fluently and has been featured in programmes on Irish affairs in Chicago on Radio na Gaelteachta and TG4. She still teaches Irish to individuals and groups and is a keen promoter of all things Irish.

Over the past several decades Brigid has visited Ireland every summer and has been a regular participant in our annual Clan gatherings. She has been active in all the major debates on Clan policy and development and was chosen, unopposed, as our Tánaiste at our 2013 rally in Carna.

Brigid has attended several conferences on Irish affairs in the United States and in Ireland. She is a regular participant in the Bard Summer School on Clare Island. She is an enthusiastic promoter of natural health remedies and is an expert reflexologist. She is a professional graphologist – a handwriting analyst. She offers regular workshops on the subject to teachers.

Brigid looks forward to welcoming clan members and friends from the United States, especially from Chicago, and from other parts of the world. She hopes for a large attendance of local O'Malleys and people with links with the Clan. She plans to invite our recently appointed United States Ambassador, Mr Kevin O'Malley; our Clan Cardinal, Archbishop Seán O'Malley from Boston; and Maryland Governor, Martin O'Malley, all of whom, we hear, have Westport and Galway connections.

(Fr Padraig O'Malley)



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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.

Croagh Patrick, The Holy Mountain that overlooks Clew Bay

Croagh Patrick, which overlooks Clew Bay in County Mayo, is considered the holiest mountain in Ireland. The tradition of pilgrimage to this holy mountain stretches back over 5,000 years from the Stone Age to the present day without interruption. Its religious significance dates back to the time of the pagans, when people are thought to have gathered here to celebrate the beginning of harvest season.

Croagh Patrick is renowned for its Patrician Pilgrimage in honour of Saint Patrick, Ireland's patron saint. It was on the summit of the mountain that Saint Patrick fasted for forty days in 441 AD and the custom has been faithfully handed down from generation to generation. The Black Bell of St Patrick was a highly venerated relic on Croagh Patrick for many years.

The first stop on the pilgrimage is Saint Patrick's statue erected in 1928 by Reverend Father Patterson with money he collected in America towards the rebuilding of Saint Mary's Church in Westport. Each year, The Reek, as it is colloquially known, attracts about 1 million pilgrims. On 'Reek Sunday', the last Sunday in July, over 25,000 pilgrims visit the Reek. At the top, there is a chapel where mass is celebrated and confessions are heard. Croagh Patrick is 5 miles from the picturesque town of Westport and its conical shape soars majestically above the surrounding countryside. Magnificent views of Clew Bay and the surrounding south Mayo countryside are spectacular from all stages of the ascent of the mountain. It is one of the highest peaks in the West of Ireland. It rises 750 metres (2,500 feet) into the sky above County Mayo.

