



The 67th Annual



O'MALLEY
CLAN GATHERING

CLARE ISLAND

Co Mayo, Ireland
23 - 25 June 2023

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS



Clare Island

NOTE: Details of events below are the best information available at time of publication (1st June 2023) and are subject to change. In the unlikely event of bad weather preventing ferry sailings, alternative venues will be organised.

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

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



GENERAL INFORMATION PHONE NUMBER (from 22nd June to 23rd June) +353 85 134 9651

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

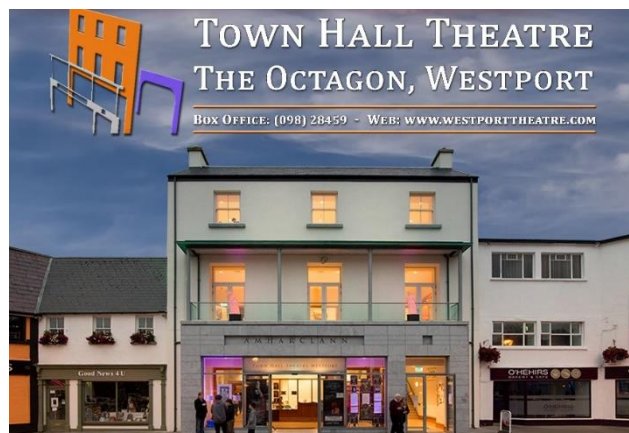
Join Chieftain Martin and others in the Castlecourt hotel, Westport, to raise a glass or two to the O'Malleys!



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's DNA project. We're trying to track down her genetic signature, so that O'Malleys everywhere can check and see how closely they may be related to the famous Pirate Queen.



11:00 a.m. Travel to Clare Island

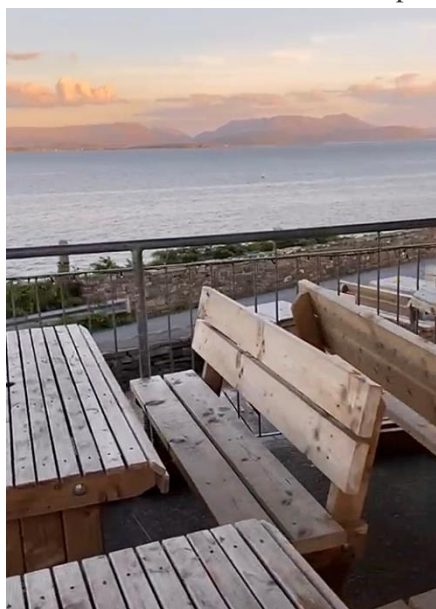
Buses from the Octagon, Westport outside the Town Hall Theatre will take you to Roonagh, to catch a special ferry to Clare Island at 12:15. The normal scheduled ferry timetables will also operate. If you do not wish to take the bus, and would prefer to make your own way to Roonagh, ferry tickets may 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.

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. 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 or just relax with a drink and enjoy the scenery. There will be games and events for our younger visitors. Then assemble at Sailors Bar around 4:00 pm for an evening of music and dancing. We'll have some famous and not-so-famous performers, and a chance to join in

the Céilí. 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 10:30 pm.



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

11:45 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 Óro 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