



O'Malley Clan Association Monthly Newsletter

This month's highlights

- Here's to another great year for The O'Malley Clan!
- Get in touch and share your stories!
- Pdraig O'Malley— Peace-maker.
- Rockfleet, A home for the O'Malleys
- About the O'Malley Clan Association
- The O'Malley Clan Rally 2018

Here's to another great year for The O'Malley Clan!

We had a great weekend in Galway at the end of June, and We had our “regime change” (reasonably peaceful thankfully!)

Our new Chieftain for 2017-2018 is Pearce O'Malley from Westport, County Mayo. Pearce, a Partner in O'Malley & Company Accountants and Financial Advisers with their offices based in Castlebar, County Mayo, is looking forward to welcoming all of the Clan from near and far to Westport next June.



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O'Maille

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Our month's highlights

- Welcome to the new O'Malley Clan Association Newsletter "O'Maille" from the Clan Chieftain.
- The new US Ambassador to Ireland Mr Kevin F O'Malley.
- The O'Malley Clan Rally 2018.
- Pdraig O'Malley, Peace-maker.
- About the O'Malley Clan Association.
- The new US Ambassador to Ireland Mr Kevin F O'Malley.

Welcome to our new newsletter from Clan Chieftain Brigid O'Malley

Many, many thanks and welcome to all who have subscribed to the new O'Malley Clan Association Newsletter "O'Maille".

It is a pleasure to have you all as part of the O'Malley Clan Association family. We hope you will find the newsletter an interesting and useful read. We will be happy to hear from you all and to receive your suggestions for future editions.

The O'Malley Clan Association has been active in promoting the O'Malley name and heritage for many years. We have a long history of working together to promote the O'Malley name and heritage. We hope this newsletter will be a valuable addition to our efforts.

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The New US Ambassador to Ireland Mr Kevin F O'Malley

The O'Malley Clan Association is pleased to welcome the new US Ambassador to Ireland Mr Kevin F O'Malley to the O'Malley Clan Association family. Mr O'Malley has a long history of working together to promote the O'Malley name and heritage. We hope this newsletter will be a valuable addition to our efforts.

Welcome to Ireland's new Ambassador Mr Kevin F O'Malley

Mr Kevin F O'Malley has been appointed as the new US Ambassador to Ireland. He has a long history of working together to promote the O'Malley name and heritage. We hope this newsletter will be a valuable addition to our efforts.

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!



Padraig O'Malley Peacemaker



Padraig O'Malley was born in Dublin. He was educated at University College, Dublin, and at Yale, Tufts and Harvard universities in the United States.

O'Malley spent 20 years involved with the conflict in Northern Ireland. Working with all the political parties to the conflict, he convened the Amherst Conference on Northern Ireland (Massachusetts, 1975), the Airlie House Conference (Virginia, 1985), and co-convened the Arniston Conference with the government of South Africa (Western Cape, 1997).

In 1992, he participated in bringing some of the South African figures to Boston, Massachusetts for a meeting with representatives of the factions in Northern Ireland. In 1996, helped arrange a second such meeting, in Belfast, attended by South Africans Cyril Ramaphosa of the African National Congress and Roelf Meyer of the white National Party.

In 1997, the Arniston Conference (also known as The Great Indaba) convened all the key parties of The Northern Irish peace process in South Africa to meet with Nelson Mandela. Included in the meeting from Northern Ireland were Martin McGuinness, David Trimble and Peter Robinson.

"The outcome of the Indaba (the Zulu word for "gathering of the minds") was a series of historic events. Seven weeks after the conference, Sinn Féin declared a cease fire that paved the way for negotiations and ultimately the fragile Good Friday Agreement to share power, still in place today. A year later, Trimble and John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, were awarded the Nobel prize for peace. And most recently, in fall 2001, the IRA mustered the courage to destroy its weapons to further the cause of peace. That stunning announcement came two weeks after Gerry Adams of Sinn Féin once again visited former president Mandela in South Africa."

O'Malley was also a member of the Opshal Commission, which authored the report "Northern Ireland: A Citizens' Inquiry" (Belfast, 1993)

Between 1989-1999, O'Malley conducted 2,000 hours of interviews tracking South Africa's transition to democracy. His work is archived in written transcription and on audio tape at the Robben Island Museum/Mayibuye Archives [University of the Western Cape]. His assiduous work of recording the different perspectives and developing attitudes within South Africa during the ten-year period had earned Nelson Mandela's highest regard. What particularly impressed Mr. Mandela was O'Malley's determination to face the greatest challenge posed once upon a time by W.B. Yeats, namely 'to hold in a single thought reality and justice'.

Padraig O'Malley Peacemaker

In 2007, based on his philosophy that cultures in conflict are in the best position to help other cultures in conflict, O'Malley became involved in working toward reconciliation within Iraq. He helped arrange a conference at a resort in Finland, where 16 Iraqis met senior negotiators from South Africa (SA), including Cyril Ramaphosa, chief negotiator for the African National Congress (ANC) under the leadership of Nelson Mandela; Roelf Meyer, chief negotiator for South Africa's last whites-only government and Mac Maharaj, who was co. secretary of the South African negotiating process. Senior negotiators from Northern Ireland (NI), including Martin McGuinness from Sinn Féin, currently Deputy First Minister of NI, Jeffrey Donaldson from the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP).

O'Malley's role included recruiting the Iraqi participants, then roaming around Baghdad with \$40,000 in cash and covertly procuring their airline tickets. The Iraqis concluded the meeting by agreeing among



themselves on a statement based partly on the Mitchell Principles developed during the Northern Ireland peace process. *The Boston Globe* reported:

There would be two meetings, Helsinki I and Helsinki II. "The participants in what O'Malley calls "Helsinki II" are an even more senior influential group than those who drafted the Helsinki principles. They include senior members of parliament and prominent tribal leaders. Among them is the head of the Iraqi Constitutional Review Committee, Sheik Humam Hamoudi, whose participation was endorsed by the speaker of the Iraqi parliament. The ethnic representation of the 36 at the meeting roughly reflects that of the Iraqi population, with 25 percent Sunni, 25 percent Kurdish, and 50 percent Shi'ite participation."

Padraig has owned the Plough and Stars pub in Cambridge, Massachusetts since the early 1970s. His brother Peter O'Malley, with DeWitt Henry, started the renowned literary magazine *Ploughshares*, publishing it at first, out of the back of the bar.

O'Malley has monitored elections in South Africa, Mozambique, and the Philippines on behalf of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs. He is also a frequent contributor to *The Boston Globe*.

At the University of Massachusetts Boston, he is the John Joseph Moakley Professor of International Peace and Reconciliation at the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies; a Senior Fellow in the Center for Development and Democracy; and the founder and editor of the *New England Journal of Public Policy*, a semiannual publication of the McCormack Graduate School. He is also a Visiting Professor of Political Studies at the University of the Western Cape in South Africa.

Padraig O'Malley Peacemaker

(A piece by Kevin Cullen of the Boston Globe in 2007 on some of Padraig's Adventures)

Piecework of peace

By Kevin Cullen, Globe Columnist | September 13, 2007

A couple of weeks ago, Padraig O'Malley was skulking around Baghdad with \$40,000 in his pocket.

Traipsing around the most dangerous city on earth with 40 large might not seem like the smartest thing, especially for someone universally regarded as brilliant. But then O'Malley, a professor at the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies at the University of Massachusetts at Boston, was on a secret mission.

The cash was to buy airline tickets for Iraqi politicians, so they could fly to Finland to meet with politicians from South Africa and Northern Ireland, who had been quietly flown to Boston in 1992 in a similar exercise in conflict resolution. That conference 15 years ago, putting in the same room in Boston people who wouldn't be seen on the same block in Belfast, is now viewed in the rear mirror of history as a giant step toward ending the Troubles. It got people who despised each other talking, with the encouragement of South Africans who had seen it all before.

"The theory," O'Malley explained on the phone from Johannesburg, "is that people from divided societies are in the best position to help others from divided societies."

O'Malley was raised in Dublin and spent much of his adult life in Boston, so for all his impressive academic credentials, he is steeped in a philosophy that holds it's not what you know, it's who you know. He holds the Joe Moakley Chair of Peace and Reconciliation, and used Moakleyesque moxie to assemble a gathering aimed at fostering the kind of dialogue that, it became obvious this week, is sorely lacking.

In January, following a confab at Tufts University, O'Malley and Mac Maharaj - the last African National Congress fighter to put down his gun, whose biography O'Malley wrote - began sounding out Iraqis about meeting with African and Irish facilitators. They called their old ANC friend Cyril Ramaphosa, who called Martti Ahtisaari, the former president of Finland. Ramaphosa and Ahtisaari oversaw weapons decommissioning in Northern Ireland. Finland agreed to host the conference. One of O'Malley's former students, Robert Bendetson, president of the Cabot House furniture stores and a Tufts trustee, agreed to pay for it.

But it fell upon the 64-year-old O'Malley to get the Iraqis to Finland. He went to Baghdad in July and spent five weeks in what was not an ivory tower.

"In Baghdad, nothing works," he said. "For the first eight days, there was no electricity or water in the hotel."

He ate stale bread and tried to sleep in a stifling, threadbare room. But he found a diverse group, both Shi'ite and Sunni, willing to go. He stole out of Iraq to get the money before returning in late August, with three days to seal the deal before a religious holiday prohibited travel. He picked up two Iraqi bodyguards and went to a rundown storefront. He waited four sweaty hours before some guy handed him the airline tickets.

As he and his bodyguards drove away with the tickets in a brown paper bag, they were waved down at a checkpoint by Iraqis in uniforms.

"They didn't look in the bag," O'Malley said. "We got through."

Ensnared four days in a hotel three hours north of Helsinki, the Iraqis heard how the Irish and South Africans made many mistakes and wasted years and lives before they found a compromise that ended generations of violence. They heard Martin McGuinness, a former IRA commander, explain how he and lifelong enemy Ian Paisley haven't shaken hands but are running a government together. Alone, the Iraqis hashed out a 12-point communiqué committing themselves to democratic principles.

"Some of the Iraqis gave me their worry beads," O'Malley said.

The next step is up to the Iraqis.

Some people say the Finland conference won't amount to much.

Funny. That's what everybody said 15 years ago, when enemies stared out at Dorchester Bay and found they were looking at the same thing.

Rockfleet, An O'Malley Home



Rockfleet Castle is 8km (5 miles) west of Newport, off the Achill Road (N59). It is also known as Carraigahowley, a corruption of the Irish Carraig an Chabhlaigh, meaning “rock of the fleet”. This tower house, built in the mid-16th century, is most famously associated with Granuaile, the chieftain of the O'Malley clan and notorious pirate queen in the late 16th century.

Rockfleet was owned by Risteárd an Iarainn Bourke, known as “Richard in iron”, who is reputed to have always worn a coat of chain mail inherited from his Anglo-Norman ancestors. The nickname may also have come from the fact that he controlled the ironworks at Burrishoole, where his main castle and lands were.

Granuaile married Richard, her second husband, in 1566. When she moved her ships and army into Rockfleet, she divorced him. The following year her son Tiobaid na Loinge (Toby of the ships) was born aboard her galley, which was later attacked by Barbary pirates. When she returned to Rockfleet, she reunited with Richard to protect themselves from the English. Tiobaid is buried at Ballintubber Abbey.

She spent her latter years here, and legend has it that the door in the top-most room was where the rope from her galley came through from the outside and was tied to her bed. She most likely died at Rockfleet Castle around 1603 aged 73.

The castle, restored in the 1950s, is over 18 metres high and has a small rectangular corner turret rising above the parapet. Of the four floors, including ground level, the middle two are of wood and the top one is stone flagged. This stone floor may have been included to prevent fires from reaching that level. The ceiling is a fine example of a barrel vault.

Every nook and cranny can be explored including the passages within the walls. A very unusual wooden ladder is used to access the first floor above ground level, and from there to the top there is a spiral stone stairway.

As was common in tower houses, the staircase winds clockwise upwards, so that an intruder would need to wield his or her sword left handed to advance to the upper floors. The gate to the outside at the top is padlocked for safety.

Source: Destination Westport Website.

For more on the life and times of Grace O'Malley, *Granuaile– Ireland's Pirate Queen* by Anne Chambers is a magnificent read!



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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.

The O'Malley Clan Rally 22nd to 24th June 2018



The Annual O'Malley Clan Rally for 2018 takes place in beautiful **Westport**, County Mayo on the weekend of the **22nd to 24th June 2018**. It'll be a fabulous weekend for O'Malleys from all over the globe. There'll be plenty of music, dancing, ceol agus craic!

It's time to begin planning your trip, there's well under a year to go!!!.

The full programme of events will be up on the website in the coming months, and you'll be able to book online there too!,

We hope to see you all there.

If you need any help with planning your trip, Or with further information on the Annual Rally, drop us a line by email (the address is at the top of this page), and We'll get back to you right away!