

O'Malley Clan Association Monthly Newsletter

- Happy St Patrick's Day to all of the O'Malleys
- Get in touch and share your stories!
- A life changing hat! The story of John Malay
- The O'Malley Clan Gathering 2019, Programme of Events
- About the O'Malley Clan Association
- The O'Malley Clan DNA Project on Family Tree DNA

Happy St Patrick's Day to all you O'Malleys out there!

It's the week when our thoughts turn to Parade's and our Irish roots and Irish cousins, Irish food, and drink, Irish music, and dance, basically, all things Irish!

We hope you enjoy the parades wherever you are and if you'd like to send in some pictures of your 2019 festivities, don't be shy, drop us a line at omalley-clanireland@gmail.com



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!



A life changing hat– the story of John Malay

John Malay

1816 (?) - 6 September 1880

From convict to farmer

John Malay was the son of a plasterer, Thomas Malay, who lived in Marylebone, England which, in the early 1800's, was an outer area of London populated by many Irish families. In 1830 John Malay was convicted for stealing a hat and sentenced to seven years transportation to the colonies. I am one of John Malay's great great grandsons: a fourth generation Australian.

Although I have been undertaking family research for many years, I have not been able to determine through written records how Thomas Malay and family arrived in London or where he came from. However, through FamilyTree DNA research, I have been able to establish that my family is a member of the 3a Group in the O'Malley DNA Project, and my closest match's ancestors hail from Kinnadoohy in County Mayo. It is possible that Thomas Malay's father (John Malay's grandfather) was Sean O'Malley and his mother was Bridget Burns.

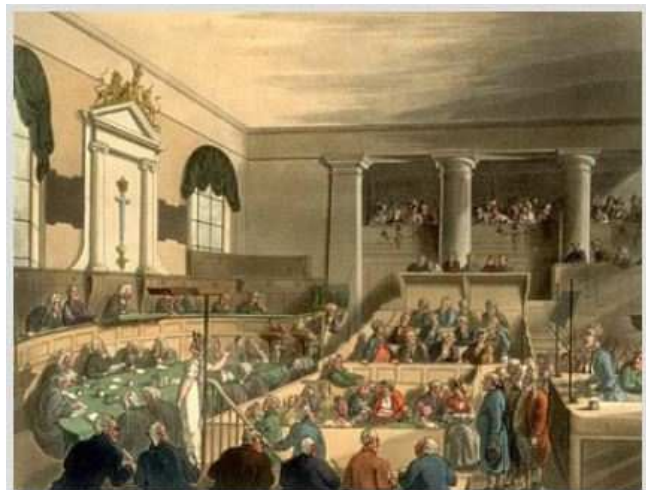
Interestingly, the family name in Australia was changed from Malay to Maley then to O'Malley in the 1880's due to the influence of an American, King O'Malley, (who claimed he was born in Canada) . King was the local 1 Labor representative in Tasmania where my family lived and he was elected to the House of Representatives at the inaugural 1901 Federal Election. King O'Malley was a political radical, and joined Labor Party upon its creation despite his status as one of the wealthiest members of parliament. In 1910 King became Minister for Home Affairs and planted the first peg for the establishment of Canberra, Australia's Capital.

Following discussions with King O'Malley, in the 1880's, most members of my Malay (Maley) family in Tasmania added an "O", an apostrophe and an "l" to become O'Malleys. Some added just an "O" and an apostrophe, while others just added an "l". The descendants of John Malay therefore include Maleys, O'Maleys, Malleys and O'Malleys.

John Malay's trial

John Malay said that he was 19 years of age when, on 9th December 1830, he was convicted at the Old Bailey in London for stealing a hat. That would indicate his year of birth was 1811. However, family oral history suggests that he might have been just 15 years of age and born in 1816. The Trial Summary² heading records his name as John Morlay. The original text reads:

"John Morlay and John Lucker were indicted for stealing, on 24th of November, 1 hat, value 9s, the goods of Thomas Cridland."



¹ See King O'Malley 'The American Bounder' A.R.Hoyle 1981 The MacMillan Company of Australia Pty Ltd

² The Proceedings at the Old Bailey, oldbaileyonline.org John Morlay, John Lucker Theft: Simple grand larceny 09 Dec 1830. Ref: t18301209-37

"I am a shopman to Mr Thomas Cridland – he lives at Old Brentford 3. I make his hats. I was in his shop on 24th of November, and on the 25th, as soon as I opened the shop in the morning between seven and eight o'clock, I missed a hat which I had seen about seven the night before: I told the Policeman – I do not know either of the prisoners."

A life changing hat– the story of John Malay

Stephen Marchant said: *"I am a Police officer⁴. On the 25th of November, about half-past twelve o'clock in the day, I saw the two prisoners on Ealing-green⁵, and knowing they were not inhabitants, I suspected and watched them; they went into the Red Lion publichouse⁶ – I followed, and asked the landlord if he knew them; he said 'No', but they had sold a hat there that morning for 3s, and he told me to whom they had sold it – I took the prisoner, and on the road to Brentford, Lucker said his brother gave him 10s to buy a hat at Brentford, and Malay said his father had given him 12s to buy it; they were not together at the time they said it – I then found the prosecutor, who identified the hat."*

Robert Lake advised: *"I bought the hat on 25th November, between eight and nine o'clock in the morning; Lucker offered it for sale – Malay was with him, standing before the fire at the Red Lion, Ealing; I paid Malay 3s for it, and a pot of half-a-half – Malay said his father gave him 8s to buy it, and it was too little for him; they both went out together – I sold it again."*

George Taylor said *"I bought this hat of Lake for 4s – I gave it to the officer as soon as I knew it was stolen."*

Lucker's defence was: *"I was not with this young man at the time – we met at Hammersmith; my cousin gave me half a sovereign – I went to buy the hat, and I really believe the witness is the person I bought it off; I told the person I sold it to not to sell it, as I would give him more money for it if he brought it to London."* Francis Dobson said: *"There had not been a hat sold that day; this hat is my employer's, and is worth 9s – it had been two yards from the door, and I think could not be got without coming into the shop."*

³ Brentford is about 1 kilometre south of Ealing Green – a separate hamlet in 1830. , *Robson's Directory of Middlesex for 1837* described Brentford as one of the meanest looking towns of the same extent of population in all England; the main street is inconveniently narrow, occasioning frequent obstruction every day. The market house is disreputably mean and it has not a single public edifice to claim attention.

⁴ Ealing and New Brentford lay within the Metropolitan Police District. The Peelers were the Metropolitan Police Force, which Sir Robert Peel founded when he was Home Secretary in Lord Liverpool's Tory Cabinet. In 1829 the Metropolitan Police Act was passed which provided permanently appointed and paid Constables. The first thousand of Peel's police, dressed in blue Tail-coats and top hats, began to patrol the streets of London on 29th September 1829.

The uniform was carefully selected to make the 'Peelers' look more like ordinary citizens, rather than a red-coated soldier with a helmet.

⁵ Ealing Green is an extension of St Mary's Road. In 1830 it was a hamlet and considered a rural area.

⁶ See photo of Red Lion below

Malay said nothing. Both Malay and Lucker were found guilty and sentenced to be "Transported for Seven Years."⁷

The Red Lion public house at 13 St Mary's Road Ealing today



A life changing hat– the story of John Malay

7. On 9th December 1830 Lord Wynford put a motion to the House of Lords on the “State of the Country”. He asked the Lords to agree to appoint a Committee to find “the causes of the distress which prevailed in the country, and exercise their best endeavours to apply a remedy to that distress.” However, he was unsuccessful, and the distress continued. The artificially high corn prices encouraged by the Corn Laws meant that the urban working class had to spend the bulk of their income just to survive. Since they had no income left over for other purchases, they could not afford manufactured goods. So manufacturers suffered, and had to lay off workers. These workers had difficulty finding employment, so the economic spiral worsened for everyone involved and crime levels increased. Between 1788 and 1868, about 162,000 men and women were transported to the various penal colonies in Australia on 806 voyages. These included about 69,000 transported to Van Diemen’s Land between 1803 and 1853.

8 The pub was mentioned in local papers in 1826 as having favour with the then vicar of St Mary’s, Sir Herbert Oakle. Apparently, it was a suitable distance from the vicarage and had a good image with its gardens, bowling greens and a tree in front. In the coaching days of the mid 18th century, until 1879-80, the pub was on the coach route from Kew to Uxbridge.

The Red Lion is a splendid example of a traditional London pub. It is known to its regulars as *Stage Six*, the hallowed watering hole of characters, workers and actors from the famous Ealing film studios which are almost opposite. Inside the walls are hung with photographs depicting glorious moments in British filmmaking.

John Malay’s personal records

The records kept by the British Government are quite detailed and are readily available for reference. The convict record for John Malay shows 9 that his stated age was 19 years, his trade was plasterer. He was tried in Middlesex on 9th December 1830 for larceny, stealing a hat. His Native Place was Marylebone¹⁰.



Maps of St Mary Le Bone (Marylebone) 1830

John was transported for 7 years, arrived Hobart Town 4 Aug 1831 per *Argyle*. He was a single, Protestant. He could read but not write. His father, Thomas Malay, was a Plasterer at NP (Native Place - Marylebone). He had one brother, Thomas, a Plasterer with Mr White and 1 sister Mary Ann who was living with Father and Mother. There is no record of his mother’s name.

9 Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office (TAHO) CON 14/2 10 Marylebone is an area of West London, England in the City of Westminster. It is commonly pronounced as Mar-lee-bone. However according to the local Marylebone Association the correct pronunciation is Mar’l-e-b’n. The name originates from a church, called “St Marys”, that was built on the bank of a small stream or “bourne” called the tybourne, in an area named after the stream. Tyburne was a former village in the county of Middlesex which now forms part of London’s City of Westminster. The church and the surrounding area later

A life changing hat– the story of John Malay

became known as St Mary at the bourne, which over time became shortened to its present form Marylebone. See maps above of Marylebone as it was in 1830

The convict indent of John Malay provides the following 11 information:

Name: Mallay John (as spelled in the records)

Trade: Plasterer

Height without shoes: 5/2 ½

Age: 19

Complexion: fair

Head: Round large

Whiskers: none

Visage: full round

Forehead: round low

Eyebrows: brown arched

Eyes: blue

Nose: small

Mouth: ditto

Chin: ditto

Remarks: IM Sun Moon Stars R Arm & Mermaid rt arm Rose Thistle Anchor Jug

Glasses heart S.C. C.M. & M.M. left arm¹².

Transported on the Argyle

John sailed from Portsmouth to Van Diemen's Land aboard the *Argyle*¹³ on 18th March 1831 with 249 other passengers. He travelled via Rio de Janeiro and arrived after 138 days on 2nd August 1831 with 243 other male prisoners, who disembarked on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th. Six of the prisoners died during the voyage or absconded at Rio. It was not a pleasant trip, there being a conspiracy by 46 of the prisoners to take the ship¹⁴. 7 were charged with conspiracy on the high seas and on 22 April 1831 were found guilty by the Hobart Town Court. 4 had their term extended by 4 years the other 3 by 2 years.

¹¹ TAHO CON18-1-3 page 242

¹² According to Prof Hamish Maxwell-Stewart 27% of male convicts and 25% of female convicts had some form of tattoo on their bodies. Many received their tattoos on the voyage. Ink and gunpowder were used as staining agents. The anchor tattoo was a favourite, apparently because it is the ancient symbol of hope. The heart and initials were no doubt those who John most cherished S.C may have been his girl friend, CM his mother and MM his sister Mary Maley. For more details see Chapter by Hamish Maxwell-Stewart in *Written on the Body: The Tattoo in European and American History* Reaktion Books 200, London 0 Caplan J Editor.

¹³ Argyle departed Plymouth 18th March 1831, Peter Mellish Stavers Master, Henry Gordon Brock Surgeon Superintendent

¹⁴ Details can be found in the Surgeon Superintendent H G Brock RN's Medical Journal of the Convict Ship *Argyle* ADM 101/4/5 AJCP Reel 3188 See also letter from unnamed Captain of Military Guard of *Argyle* and *Conspiracy by convicts to seize Argyle Papers* by Sir Byam Martin, *British Library* : MS 41399, pp 40r-41v. AJCP M1535 Also *Launceston Advertiser* 12 September 1831 page 283.

A life changing hat- the story of John Malay

Working at Westbury

On arrival John was assigned to Mr William Elliot Leith, a free 15 settler who, until 1819, was the Superintendent of Convicts and Inspector of Public Works at George Town, Tasmania. John's skills as a plasterer would have been much in demand as homes, shops, public buildings and a church were being built at the new town of Westbury which was expected to develop into a major centre in the north. However, Westbury did not grow as expected an major development occurred at Launceston.

John would have witnessed the laying of the foundation stone for St Andrews Church of England by the Lieutenant Governor George Arthur on 7th March 1835. He would most likely also have been involved in the construction of the Church and of the Church of England Rectory for the Reverend John Bishton¹⁶ who arrived in the same year.

Ticket of Leave/freedom

On 26th August 1835 John was issued with A Ticket of Leave¹⁷. Ticket-of-leave holders were permitted to marry or to bring their families from Britain, and to acquire property, but they were not permitted to carry firearms or board a ship. John became a free man on 19th December 1837.¹⁸

Marriage to Mary Ann Fitzpatrick

On 9th May 1842, John Maley aged 26 yrs¹⁹ (Free) married Mary Ann Fitzpatrick aged 22 years (Free) at the Westbury Police Office²⁰. The Minister was John Bishton.²¹

John and Mary Ann were "Married in the Police Office according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England by Banns. Both John and Mary Ann placed their marks on the form as neither could write. The witnesses were William Fitzgerald and James Moulden.¹⁵ In the early 1820's William and Alice Leith became the first European settlers at Westbury when granted land about half a mile to the south-west of the proposed Town. Leith became licensee of the Rose Hotel in Westbury in 1829. *Westbury* was named by Governor George Arthur on 5th July 1828. Leith died in 1852 at the age of 85 yrs and is buried in the Westbury General (Anglican) Cemetery.

¹⁶ The Rev John Bishton Church of England Minister arrived in Westbury in 1835. In 1841 he purchased 8 acres of land in the Westbury village, 1 acre of which he later sold to John Malay.

¹⁷ The Hobart Town Courier 4 Sept 1835 Page 4

¹⁸ The Hobart Town Courier 8 December 1837 Page 2

¹⁹ This age would indicate an 1815 or 1816 year of birth.

²⁰ The wedding took place in the Police Office because St Andrews Church of

England was not completed until later that year.

²¹ 1842 Marriages in the District of Launceston No.1415

Land purchases

John purchased an acre of land in Westbury from the Rev John Bishton on 8th March 1844 for £35 . The deed of sale was made on 29th January 22 1844 for the corner of land on Mary Street, Westbury adjacent to the Church of England. This was part of 8 acres of land that John Bishton had been granted on 13th December 1841. (See Map of a portion of Westbury right).



A life changing hat- the story of John Malay

John and Mary Ann had two sons John born in 1843 and Edward born in 1845. On 2 February 1849, Mary Ann Malay died in Westbury from "Debility from miscarriage"²³ and John was left to care for the two young boys. His occupation was given as "Plasterer in Westbury". On 31st May 1849 John purchased 57 acres, 2 roods of land at Emu Plains just outside the town of Westbury from the deceased estate of William Thomas Lyttleton for the sum of £150, settling on 25th March 1853²⁴. That triangular block of land is located on the north side of the Bass Highway where the old Western Line Railway crosses it. 3 roods, 36 perches of that land were sold to the Launceston and Western Railway Company in 1869 for the purpose of building the railway²⁵. In November 1856²⁶, John mortgaged the property to D Murray to be repaid by 25th May 1878²⁷.

²² Tasmania Lands Office Book 2, No 6986 Note: Most records now digitised.

²³ Record of Death District of Westbury Central Folio No C 0003/1849. His age is recorded as 34 which would indicate a birth year of 1815 or 1816.

²⁴ Tasmania Lands Office Book 3, No 4976. John's occupation was given as "Plasterer".

²⁵ Tasmania Lands Office Book 5, No 6139.

²⁶ Tasmania Lands Office Book 4, No 3741

²⁷ Tasmania Lands Office Book 6, No 4164



The Malay property at Emu Plains east of Westbury.

On 25th April 1853 John married Sarah Wainwright in Launceston, Tasmania. By 1856 John had been placed on the Electoral Roll for the District of Meander.²⁸ John continued to prosper and on 1st September 1858 he took out a lease on 365 acres of the Ashburner property at Selbourne, north of the town of Westbury where John also became involved in breeding²⁹ and selling horses³⁰ and keeping bees.³¹ Like a number of free men, John was often requested to serve on criminal juries.³² The Westbury District Directory of 1867-68 records John Malay Snr farming at Selbourne and his son John Malay Jnr farming at Emu Plains. It would appear that John and Sarah continued to farm the Ashburner property at Selbourne until John became unable to work and moved back to Emu Plains. Sarah Malay died at Westbury on 25th September 1875 from "Inflammation of the Lungs"³³. The informant was "Edward Maley, son, Farmer, Selbourne". John's Death Certificate indicates that he was born in 1806 and was therefore 74 years of age when he died from heart disease at his home at Westbury on 6th September 1880.³⁴ However, this is five years older than his stated age at the time of his transportation and ten years older than his stated age of 26 when he married and his stated age of 34 when Mary Ann died. I am inclined to believe family folklore that John was born in 1816 and was 15 years old when he was transported. He would therefore have been about 64 years old when he died.

A life changing hat– the story of John Malay

²⁸ The Courier (Hobart), 22 April 1856, Page 3 and 29 July, 1856Page 3.

²⁹ 19 November 1856 The Cornwall Chronicle Page 8 John offering “Young Providence”for “Three guineas each mare, groomage included.”

³⁰ Launceston Examiner 3 September 1859 Page 4 John selling Providence “pronounced by judges to be the purest and best Lincoln horse in the colony.”

³¹ The Cornwall Chronicle 26 March 1870 P12 Horatio Jones charged with stealing two boxes of bees and honey from John Malay

³² Launceston Examiner, 10 October 1863, Page 2, The Cornwall Chronicle 19 October 1867, Page 3

³³ Record of Death District of Westbury No C 0971/1875

³⁴ Record of Death District of Westbury No C 0872/1880

Closing

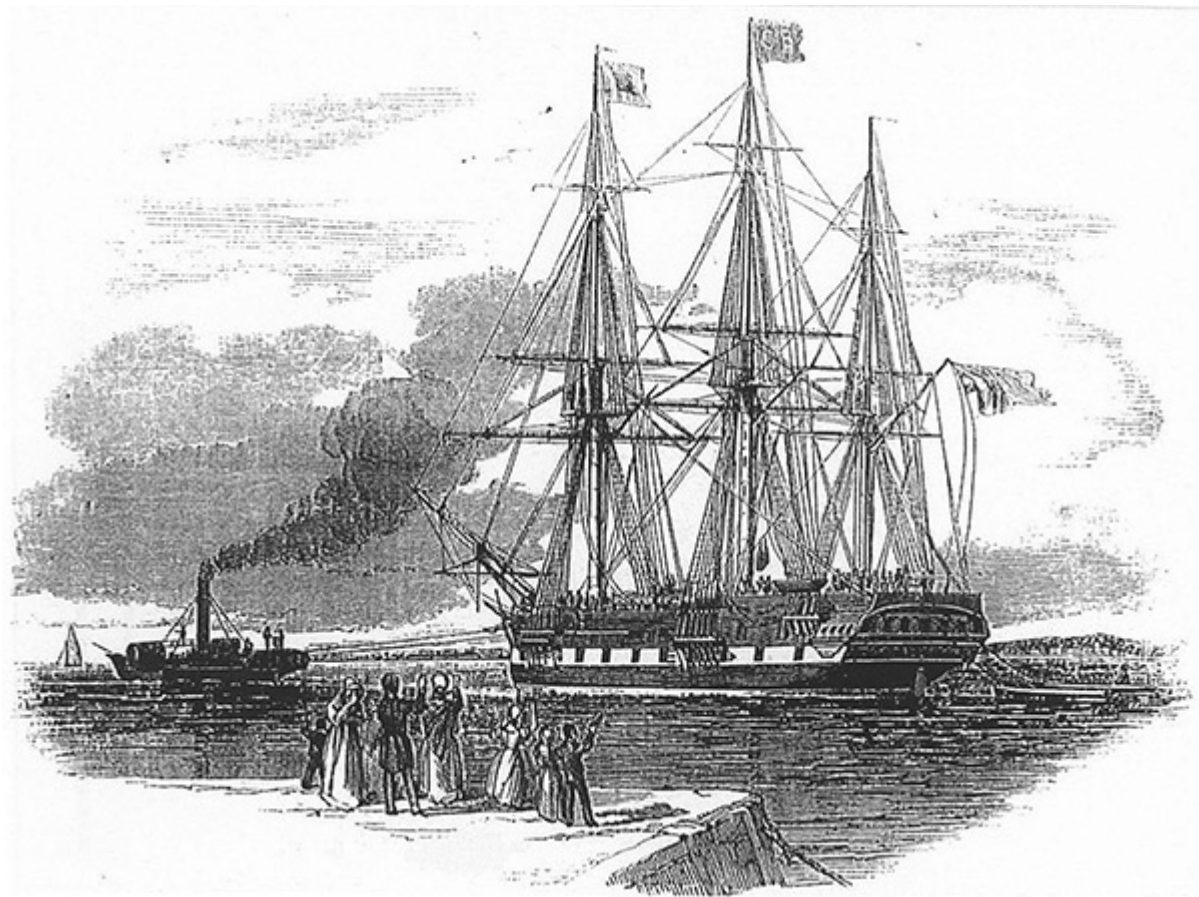
John’s transportation to Van Diemen’s Land in 1831 for stealing a hat might have been considered harsh. However, it was a blessing in disguise. He made a success of his life and like most ex-convicts made no attempt to return to England at the completion of his term. By 1844 he was married and already had an acre of land which he added to in subsequent years. His two sons also became successful farmers and raised families.

*Ian O’Malley
February 2019*

Thanks to Ian for this wonderful story !



A life changing hat- the story of John Malay



The O'Malley Clan Gathering 2019

Chieftain Brendan and the O'Malley Clan Association invite you to...



Supported by



Ó Máille Abú!
O'Malley Forever!

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The O'Malley Clan Gathering 2019

65th Annual O'Malley Gathering Limerick City - 2019



Friday June 21st

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Limerick Courthouse,
Merchant's Quay

6:00 PM onwards
Istabraq Hall
Admission: Complementary

Walking Tour

Walking tour of Historic Limerick, led by Dr. Liam Irwin, distinguished historian. Maximum of 25 people. No charge but must book.

O'Malleys in Public Life Exhibition

To be opened by the Mayor of Limerick. Hear how O'Malleys have featured in the arts, politics, sport, music, and other fields.

Saturday June 22nd

10:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Pick up at Strand Hotel &
Cappavilla Village (UL)
(Exact locations TBC)
Admission: €25

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Strand Hotel
Admission: Complementary

7:00 PM
Strand Hotel
Admission: €35

9:30 PM - ~12:00 AM
Strand Hotel
Admission: Complementary

Bus tour of Limerick and its surroundings

Programme to be announced. Lunch included.

O'Malley Genealogy Workshop

Learn the essentials of genealogy research. Bring your O'Malley family tree & find out new connections. Learn about the O'Malley DNA Project and how to capture oral history.

Dinner

Enjoy a three course meal in the rooftop Harris suite of the Strand Hotel, with spectacular views over the Shannon river and Limerick City.

Chieftain's Welcome Evening

An evening of traditional music, song and dancing with an official welcome by Chieftain Brendan O'Malley. (attendance is complementary but please book your place to ensure we have enough space).



Sunday June 23rd

11:00 AM - 12:00 noon
St. Mary's Church,
Athlunkard Street

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Hunt Museum

1:30 PM - 2:15 PM
Hunt Museum

2:00 PM
Hunt Museum
Admission: €27.50
Under 12's: €15

O'Malley Gathering Mass

Special O'Malley Mass celebrated by Canon Donough O'Malley.

Family & Kids' Events

Watersports, archery, kids' events (entertainment, face painting, music). (Runs in parallel with AGM and Lunch)

Annual General Meeting

All members are welcome to attend and discuss ideas for the year ahead.

The Gathering Lunch

The highlight of the weekend! Chieftain's awards, Fundraising Raffle, Inauguration of new chieftain 2019-2020.



Book now to avoid disappointment.

Tickets and accommodation can be booked at special rates through:

<https://www.ireland101.com/booking/start/omalley>



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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 DNA Project on Family Tree DNA

The most common queries we get at The O'Malley Clan Association are queries in relation to helping to trace peoples ancestors in Ireland. As we all know, written records can only take us so far, (if you're lucky you'll get back to the early 1800's or late 1700's).

Many of the Irish Census Records and other historic documents were destroyed during the early part of the 20th century and as a result it can be very hard to trace ancestors back beyond the 19th century. Church records are a help, but can be patchy at times.

One way of narrowing down the search is through DNA testing. The O'Malley Clan Association is involved in a project with Family Tree DNA to test as many O'Malleys as possible to try and expand our knowledge of our roots as much as we possibly can.

There's a specific page for the project on the Family Tree DNA website:

<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/omalley/about>

Check it out, there's lots of info there, and administrators also for any questions.

