



O'Malley Clan Association Monthly Newsletter

This month's highlights

- Stay Together by Staying Apart
- Meeting the need—A New Zealand charity
- Social Distancing
- Making a life after rugby – Eoin O'Malley
- About the O'Malley Clan Association
- The O'Malley Clan DNA Project on Family Tree DNA

Stay Together, By Staying Apart!

Greetings to all you out there from Chieftain Tom O'Malley, and all of us in The O'Malley Clan Association! We hope all of our friends around the globe are staying safe and well in these trying times.

Say a prayer for all those Doctors, Nurses, and everyone else involved in the battle against the virus and We'll get through this in the end!

If we all practice our social distancing as advised by the authorities we'll eventually come out the other side of this. Stay together by staying apart!



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!



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

The O'Malley Clan Association was pleased to welcome the new US Ambassador to Ireland Mr Kevin F O'Malley to the new US Embassy in Dublin on 1st May 2020.

Mr O'Malley has been previously serving as an Ambassador to Ireland and was

born in 1955, he has worked with the Department of Justice during his career to date.

Welcome to Ireland Ambassador O'Malley

Meet the new O'Malley Clan Association member: 'O'Malley'

We hope with the creation of our brand new monthly newsletter that we'll be able to connect our sharing, support and help each other with our O'Malley heritage that we share the globe.

The O'Malley Clan Association has been working towards the aim of creating and maintaining a strong O'Malley presence in the world for over 50 years now, and with the brand new monthly newsletter, website, and social media, we hope to share the main aspect of our heritage in Ireland and around the world.

O'Malley Clan Chieftain

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O'Malley Clan Chieftain

Meating the needs of fellow Kiwis

Two dairy farmers, Siobhan O'Malley and Wayne Langford, have founded a charity that connects donated produce from farmers with processors and ultimately food banks.

"It has always felt not quite right that we farmers feed so many millions overseas, but there are still people hungry in New Zealand," says O'Malley, a mid-Canterbury dairy farmer.

A year in the planning, Meat the Need has been launched at the perfect time, enabling farmers to support New Zealanders hit by the economic fallout from the COVID-19 lockdown.

Meat the Need aims to smooth out supply for food banks so they get quality food, in regular amounts that they can plan around, and also to allow farmers to give at seasonal times when they are able.



"We are all about kiwi farmers feeding kiwi families," says Langford, a Takaka dairy farmer and the Feds' Golden Bay provincial president.

Langford said there were a lot of strings to pull to get the initiative underway, particularly around food security. At one point they considered a home-kill system, with meat packaged up by young farmer volunteers. But with Silver Fern Farms onboard as one of the founding partners, Meat the Need can run a model where the nominally donated animal won't necessarily provide the meat that actually gets to a food bank. Silver Fern also gives the scheme a nationwide reach.

Donated animals would just be collected as normal, alongside others being sent to the works, said Langford. Farmers are encouraged to donate via the Meat the Need website (meattheneed.org) or via Silver Fern Farms stock agents.

"Thanks to partnering with Silver Fern Farms, we are able to accept sheep, deer and cattle, and turn them into mince for kiwi families that need a hand," said Langford. Support has also come from DairyNZ, Federated Farmers and Beef + Lamb.

"A number of individual farmers and groups like AgProudNZ have also been in touch to see how they can help, so we are really excited to see how farmers can have an impact," said O'Malley.

The charity is being run by a board consisting of Langford and O'Malley, with Ruralco chair-elect Jessie Chan, NZX's Julia Jones, Tatua director Richard Luxton, and Young Maori farmer Cheyenne Wilson.

Stay at Home! But if you have to go out, keep your distance!

Coronavirus COVID-19



Coronavirus
COVID-19
Public Health
Advice

Social Distancing Outside

Spending time outdoors is good for our health.
But social responsibility is essential for ALL our health.



Avoid

close contact
with others



Distance

yourself at least
2 metres (6 feet) away
from other people



Small group

sizes should be kept
to a minimum



Don't arrange

to meet up with other
groups



Avoid

an area if it looks
very busy and go
somewhere else
for your walk

For Daily Updates Visit

www.gov.ie/health-covid-19
www.hse.ie

Ireland is operating a delay strategy
in line with WHO and ECDC advice



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Making a life after the rugby field– Eoin O'Malley



'There's no question I would have loved another few years in rugby'

AS EOIN O'MALLEY made the move from rugby into the pub industry, having been forced to retire from professional sport aged just 25, he soon learned that not everything from his former career was going to transfer into his new line of work.

One of the cultural elements Joe Schmidt had brought into Leinster when O'Malley was playing was everyone in the organisation shaking hands with each other in the morning. "I thought it was a brilliant thing to do, so I said we'd do it in the pubs," explains O'Malley with a smile.

"But you'd have people of all nationalities, some only working there a day, some for a year, some not in this for a career – all of these different people working in the pubs – and they're looking at you like you've lost your marbles!"

He also learned that the directness of communication that is part of daily life in professional rugby wasn't quite suited to his new gig. Delivering critical, constructive feedback requires a lighter touch outside the rugby bubble.

"When you're in a video session as a player and you've made a mistake and it's clear as day, it's called out in front of 40 or 50 people.

"Your heart sinks and you're embarrassed or whatever, that's just the way it is. You got used to it but you never loved it. You definitely have to be a bit more diplomatic about it in the workplace."

Those lessons aside, O'Malley has made a success of his enforced retirement from rugby. He's now part of the Loyola Group – who own and run pubs including The Bath, The Landmark and The Leopardstown Inn in Dublin – along with his brother, Brian,

Making a life after the rugby field– Eoin O'Malley

and group director Stephen Cooney.

In an alternate universe where a knee injury hadn't ended his playing days, O'Malley – could have been one of the squad preparing for a World Cup with Ireland last year.

An intelligent outside centre, O'Malley helped Belvedere College to the Leinster Schools Senior Cup in 2005 and went on to excel for Ireland at underage levels before making his senior Leinster debut under Michael Cheika in 2009.

A year later, with Schmidt having taken over, O'Malley – who friends know as 'Chubbo' – shone in a highly impressive Heineken Cup debut in Leinster's 13 shirt away to Clermont, underlining his ability.

In total, he won 54 caps for his province and would have had more but for the presence of Brian O'Driscoll. O'Malley was part of Ireland's 2012 Six Nations squad too and, again, would almost certainly have gone on to win many caps after O'Driscoll's retirement.

But O'Malley was cut down by injury. Having overcome a career-threatening hip injury earlier in his career, he suffered a serious knee injury in what he called a "freak accident" in the 2012 Pro12 semi-final against Glasgow.

Though he showed grit to battle through 10 months of rehab and play for Leinster five more times the following season, O'Malley was eventually forced to accept that his time in the game was up. He announced his retirement in August 2013.

Naturally, it was a devastating blow but O'Malley came through the dejection and began to look to what came next. He had been keeping an eye on life post-rugby and was in the midst of a Master's degree in Finance when forced to retire.

"I had the hip injury when I was about 20 and thought I might have to finish playing then, so that gave me a bit of a reminder that you're not invincible and needed to keep an eye on post-rugby."



Making a life after the rugby field– Eoin O'Malley

It left O'Malley well placed to eventually go into business with his brother and Cooney, as they expanded their portfolio, which has continued to grow in recent years and now includes a gastropub called The Cheeky Pup in the Algarve in Portugal.

O'Malley admits the learning curve was steep.

"The first pub I was involved in, the manager, John O'Toole, had been running pubs for 20 years and I was talking to him as if I had a clue. I'd say he was looking at me wondering what I was talking about."

But many of the habits O'Malley had relied on in rugby did transfer and the Dubliner believes ex-pros have a skillset that can be adapted to new careers.

He was recently part of a Rugby Players Ireland panel with Kevin McLaughlin and Andy Dunne as they spoke to current pros to share their experiences of life post-rugby.

"The discipline is huge, the level of training, and players are really ambitious," says O'Malley. "Most have had success and they want more, they want to be the best. It's been in them since they were 10 or younger."

"It's just directing that somewhere else when you finish. I do think that there are a huge amount of transferable skills."



Many rugby folk who knew O'Malley as a player will tell you he was destined to be O'Driscoll's heir, but the man himself says his discipline came from a belief that he wasn't as naturally gifted as those around him.

"I was never the most talented. I always felt you need the discipline to get ahead of someone more talented. I motivated myself out of fear that way probably – 'if you don't work this hard, you won't get picked.'

"The only downside to that is you probably don't enjoy it as much. I used to use negatives and fears as motivators instead of saying, 'This is brilliant.'"

O'Malley is still close friends with several of the current Leinster squad but his direct involvement in rugby extends to getting to the big games as a casual fan.

He initially liked the idea of coaching but with his young family – wife Lara and son Bobby – the commitment even at a lower level of club rugby would be too much.

When he speaks with former team-mates who are still playing, O'Malley can see the benefits of having been out of the game since 2013, but there is also the recognition of how special a job professional rugby is.

"There are definitely positives like the flexibility and the fact you don't have to make the sacrifices. If you were playing a game, it just wasn't an option to go to a friend's wedding or a family occasion. It did feel like you were in school at times – 'be here at this time, wear these clothes.'

Making a life after the rugby field– Eoin O'Malley

“But there’s no question I would have loved another few years in rugby. I really enjoyed it while I was there.

“I think it’s class what the lads are doing, it’s an unbelievable career. You won’t get that buzz again, I don’t think – that adrenaline and that same team environment.”

While his retirement was difficult, O'Malley is grateful for his experiences in rugby.

Playing and training alongside the likes of O'Driscoll, Johnny Sexton, fellow Belvo old boy Cian Healy and Jamie Heaslip, as well as working under coaches like Cheika and Schmidt leave him with many fond memories.

“Joe was very good to me,” says O'Malley of the Ireland boss. “I found his detail as a coach phenomenal and everyone probably has insight into that now.

“As a person, he was very good to me, even when I was injured. He was making sure I got the best of care, trying to get me back. And when it didn’t happen, he was unbelievably supportive with the pubs.”

Indeed, O'Malley is appreciative of the support the rugby family continues to show him even now after he has successfully moved on from the game.

He tells of how, after one of Ireland’s Six Nations games, Schmidt stopped the team bus after leaving the Aviva Stadium and brought the entire squad into one of O'Malley’s newly -opened pubs.

“All the players, the physios, the coaches, everyone all arrived in and had a couple of beers.

“After the first game of the Six Nations, it’s not something Joe would be encouraging regularly, so that was class. Even for the business, it had a great effect.

“The last time the squad were over in Portugal training [before this year’s Six Nations], they all booked in for their team night at The Cheeky Pup.

“They went out of their way to support it and that happens here in Dublin with the pubs too, ‘Oh, we’ll go to Chubbo’s place,’ and that’s class.”





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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.

