



O'Malley Clan Association Monthly Newsletter

This month's highlights

- Happy Easter from The O'Malley Clan!
- The O'Malley Clan Gathering 2021/2022
- Easter with Cardinal O'Malley in Boston
- Conor & Sal O'Malley, Galway Doctors, Blazing a Trail!
- About the O'Malley Clan Association
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Happy Easter from The O'Malley Clan Association

Chieftain Tom O'Malley, and all of us in The O'Malley Clan Association hope that you're all doing well out there and staying safe.

We're sure you all had a lovely Easter, if a little strange this year again.

Keep the hands clean, and get your vaccine when you can and soon enough We'll all be able to meet up again!



O'Malley Clan Association Monthly Newsletter

The month's highlights
 Welcome to the new O'Malley Clan Association Newsletter! We hope with the creation of our brand new monthly newsletter that we'll be able to continue our sharing, support and connection with all O'Malley's wherever they are around the globe.
 The O'Malley Clan Association has been active in the area of a meeting and maintain our O'Malley's (Clan) connection. We are in the area for over 50 years now and with the brand new meeting, celebration, website, and team we hope to be able to support our O'Malley's in the area.
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Brigid O'Malley, Chieftain



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.
 Mr O'Malley has been previously serving as an Ambassador to Ireland in the US.

Kevin F O'Malley, New US 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 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 O'Malley Clan Gathering 2021/2022



Announcement

We have taken the decision to postpone the 2021 O'Malley Gathering planned for next June in Newport, Co Mayo. Chieftain Tom, Tánaiste Martin and guardian Chief Ellen, together with the Council of former Chieftains have reluctantly taken this decision recognising that the great work of overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic won't have made enough progress to allow such an event to take place this year. Instead, we'll look forward to a super Gathering in 2022 as we all come back together again. Given this decision, Tom, Martin and Ellen will continue to hold their current offices for another year.

The success of last year's Virtual Gathering has led us to think about what we could do on-line towards the end of June this year in order to keep the O'Malley connections alive. We'd appreciate your thoughts. Tell us what you liked or disliked about last years online Gathering, and what new ideas you have that we could do this year. How can we make it more interactive and how can we involve as many O'Malleys and their relatives as possible? All suggestions and comments welcome, to omalleyclanireland@gmail.com

Easter celebrated by Cardinal O'Malley in Boston

A year ago, Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley noted, the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in the South End sat empty on Easter Sunday.

"What a difference a year makes," O'Malley said to congregants who gathered for an 11:30 a.m. Mass, filling less than half of the cathedral. "It's such a joy to see all of you here."

Like other houses of worship, the Roman Catholic cathedral could not open on Easter last year as the COVID-19 pandemic took hold in

Massachusetts. Now, almost 13 months later, churches must still take pandemic precautions, such as limiting attendance and requiring face masks. Worshipers must be spaced apart in pews. Still, congregations of all sizes found new ways to celebrate Christianity's most joyous day.



The tiny Nahant Village Church held a sunrise service on East Point. The faithful bundled up in winter coats, wore masks, and stood apart from one another as the Rev. Teri Motley led the 6:15 a.m. service as the sun rose over the North Shore town.

On Cape Cod, where coronavirus cases are rising again, First Church Sandwich held a morning service on a beach. And with a new setting, the church tried a new way to symbolize resurrection, the Rev. Jennie Valentine said in an e-mail.

"We flew kites high and low, and launched a kite at the end of the service which held streamers attached by attendees to the tail," Valentine said "We were looking for a playful and fun way to help people feel excited about being at the service and perhaps that would help them not to miss the sanctuary."

Some sanctuaries were still empty Sunday.

Trinity Church in Copley Square held a morning service online. The evening service was replaced with a 35-minute podcast, "Through the Door", hosted by the Rev. Paige Fisher. Fisher recommended listeners go on a walk while enjoying original musical selections and gospel readings by multiple guests. A wooden cross was placed on the door of the church facing Copley Square, and people were encouraged to stop by and place a flower on it, said Trinity's Rector, Morgan Allen. St. Patrick's Church in Stoneham had to cancel Holy Week services after four staff members and a deacon tested positive for COVID-19. The Rev. Mario Orrigo, the pastor, shared a brief Easter message on the parish website.

"Since Easter is fifty days long, we will have many opportunities to greet you personally and to thank you for the life you bring to St. Patrick Parish," he wrote.

At the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Easter Mass proceeded with precautions. Every other pew was empty, blocked with blue painter's tape. Instead of a full choir, music was provided by four masked singers, an organist, a violinist, and two horn players.

Still, there were familiar rituals, such as the solemn procession with incense, women dressed in springtime floral prints, and a child adorned with bunny ears.

In his nearly 10-minute homily, O'Malley did not dwell on the pandemic. Instead, he focused on the power of resurrection.

Easter celebrated by Cardinal O'Malley in Boston

"We have been scattered by the pandemic and death and sickness and isolation, and loss of job and family," O'Malley said during the service, which was livestreamed on the cathedral's Facebook page. "The risen Christ is alive, assuring us of his presence, that death does not have the last word. His gospel is a challenging message of joy. Jesus teaches us to love and to forgive, to identify with the suffering in the oppressed, to raise our voice against injustice, to return love for hatred, to be witnesses of his resurrection, like those disciples on Easter afternoon."

John Snyder, 63, said he was recovering from COVID-19 around this time last year. This year he has already gotten one dose of the Moderna vaccine and came to the cathedral in part to hear the music again.

"To see the church so bathed in all this light of glory," he said. "It's overwhelming, how we've come a long way."

Denise Seno, 25, and Nicholas Nguyen, 24, roommates who live in the North End, said feeling the camaraderie inside the church made them both emotional.

"I hadn't gotten a blessing from a priest in maybe a year," Seno said.

Nguyen said he spent last Easter in Pittsburgh, watching Easter services on TV.

"Being here one year later, it's incredible," Nguyen said. "So much has changed between now and then."

The Boston Globe



Conor & Sal O'Malley, Galway Doctors Blazing a trail

Two remarkable Galway people, Conor O'Malley and Sal Joyce, grew up in the Maam Valley, Connemara, in the closing years of the 19th century. Although they were cousins, they probably never met until they were both doctors working side by side in the Galway Central Hospital, on Prospect Hill, the forerunner of the present University Hospital, in the 1920s. Even though both the O'Malleys and the Joyces were successful sheep farmers and wool merchants, they didn't speak to each other. Like many family rows the reason for the original falling out became less clear as the years went by. Nevertheless each would cross the road rather than pass by on the same side.

The education of these two bright young people was initially similar but later remarkably different. The O'Malleys, all fluent

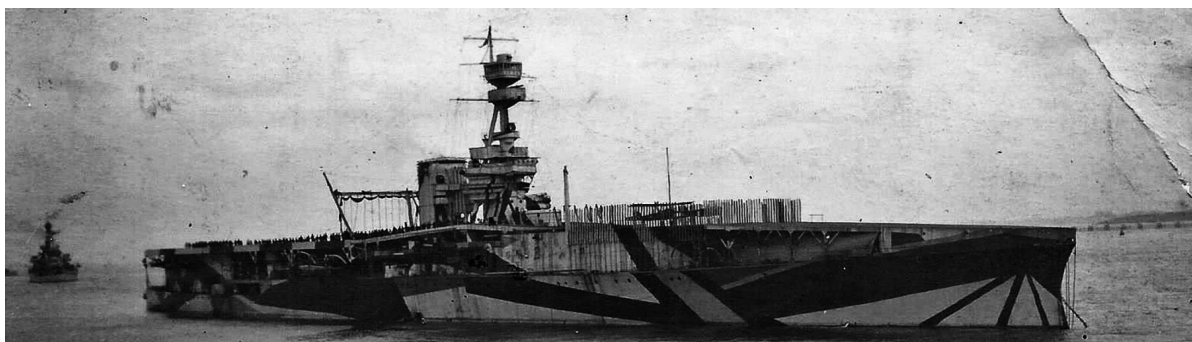
Irish speakers, were a united and proud collection of families all living near to each other at Kilmilkin or Muintir Eoin, with parents who strongly believed in education. Having no faith in the local national school, Conor's father Peter, and uncles, each paid £10 per annum for a private teacher, Peaitsín Pheige, to teach the boys. This continued until the practice was eventually stopped when their local landlord, Lord Leitrim, demanded an end to the practice. But it was too late to quench the boys thirst for learning. The older boys taught the smaller ones, and so, on until all had attained a very high level of competence. Conor, the youngest of 14 children, was inspired by his eldest brother John Francis, who had become a doctor in London and later president of the Royal College of Surgeons. He encouraged the others to become doctors. Conor studied for the matriculation examination by correspondence, and to his delight, was accepted to study engineering at UCG.

Conor O'Malley absolutely loved university life. He transferred first to arts and then to medicine.

He enjoyed debating and writing; and excelled at boxing and sprinting. He played on the first university team to win the Sigerson Cup. Still full of youthful energy, when he qualified in 1917, he joined the British navy medical corps. He served on the aircraft carrier *HMS Furious*, and later described the morning in 1918 when his ship sailed out from Scapa Flow in the Orkneys, to take surrender of the great German high seas fleet. 'It was an awe inspiring moment when the German battleships we had feared, *The Hindenburg*, *The Van den Tam*, etc, showed up out of the cold mist that morning...' After the war Conor continued his studies in Mercer's Hospital, Dublin, and in London, becoming an ear, nose and throat surgeon and phtharmologist. He came back to Galway's Central hospital, and St Brides, a private hospital on Sea Road, where his services were in much demand. He later became professor of ophthalmology at UCG, a post he held for 28 years.



Dr Michael O'Malley, with Conor and Sal at No 6 The Crescent, Galway



Conor & Sal O'Malley, Galway Doctors Blazing a trail

Sal Joyce's early schooling with her older brother and three sisters, was also given by a private tutor, Mr Finley, at their home *Joyce Grove*. Later when the family moved to the village of Leenane, the children attended the local national school, and from there Sal was sent as a boarder to the St Louis Convent, Kiltimagh, Co Mayo. Her husband Conor, humorously described the convent school as a place where the pupils were stuffed with learning but starved for food and heat. Despite these deprivations, Sal was an exceptional pupil and qualified to study medicine at UCG, achieving her medical degrees six years after Conor. During which time she was called home to nurse her brother Patrick who in 1919 had caught the so called Spanish flu, a world wide epidemic. He was the eldest in the family and farmed with his father. Patrick died, and sadly was followed later by her father.

Despite these set backs Sal studied the modern methods of anaesthesia in both the Adelaide and the Meath hospitals, and in London. She was anxious to get an appointment in the Galway area, to be close to home. She served as a locum for Dr James O'Brien, at Kilronan, Inis Mór. She was not impressed with the men of Aran. She wrote that having sailed the turf over from the mainland, the men 'took their leisure' while the women scrambled to unload the boats and haul the turf home.

Being a practical person she was equally unimpressed when one stormy evening a man came over by boat urgently seeking help for his wife in labour on Inis Mean. His wife was not doing well, she was overdue. But when Sal asked for volunteers to row her over to the island, the men refused. It was considered bad luck to be at sea in a storm with a woman onboard. Sal went to the police station and asked the guard to persuade the men. "Are you afraid of me?" she asked. One man replied: "Don't ask that. But if you go now in the storm, we will have to try and find what's left of four oarsmen and you. The sick woman won't be any better off." However, seeing how determined Sal was to go to help the woman, the men sullenly agreed to go. In the end Sal could do little more than use her physical skills as there was no nurse on Inis Mean; antibiotics had not been discovered, and obstetric forceps were not allowed for delivering babies. The mother was thankfully made safe, and the child was born.

Coming home

When she saw the position advertised for a visiting anaesthetist in the Central hospital, Galway, with a salary of £100 per annum, she applied. She was highly recommended by her professors as a doctor who 'had studied anaesthesia at various London hospitals, including University College Hospital, Charing Cross Hospital, Queen Mary's Hospital and Chelsea's Hospital for Women, and is familiar with the more modern types of anaesthetics and their administration. She has a good and practical knowledge of radiology, has a fair knowledge of Irish.'

Dr Sal Joyce was duly appointed, the first and only woman consultant among a team of men, whose duties not only included assisting at every operation, but to train the junior doctors and senior nurses on the use of administering anaesthetics by gas. Up to that point, anaesthetics were delivered by the rather crude chloroform way.

The salary of £100 per annum was pathetically small, and Sal would spend most of her professional life trying to be put on a scale equal to what was being paid to men. But there were compensations. She met her future husband, and medical colleague, Conor O'Malley. Any differences that may have existed between the O'Malleys and the Joyces were immediately forgotten. They were married in Dublin in October 1924, and went to live at 6 The Crescent, the first of several Galway homes, where Conor proudly put his doctor's plate on the wall.

Conor & Sal O'Malley, Galway Doctors Blazing a trail



Dr Sal O'Malley, consultant anaesthetist Central and Regional hospitals 1924 - 1959.



The Central Hospital, Galway at Prospect Hill. It closed April 1956.

It was never about the amount of money being paid to Dr Sal O'Malley, who was the first woman consultant appointed to the Galway Central Hospital in 1929, it was the principal of the thing.

Why should a woman, who was exceptionally well trained, and who had been acting as both a qualified anaesthetist, and teacher several years before her appointment, be paid a derisory sum compared to her male consultant colleagues? When 14 years later she still had not received one penny extra, she took up her pen, and in surprisingly mild tones, she outlined her case, concluding: 'Since my appointment by the Commissioners 14 years ago, I am still on my original salary of £100 per annum....I am one of the few members in Ireland of the British Association of Anaesthetists, and one of the few doctors specialising in anaesthetics. I would consider £250 per annum a reasonable remuneration.' Her letter was directed to the honorary secretary of the medical staff, approved by him, and forwarded to the county manager's office. The manager's office wrote to the Mayo County Council, Cork County Council, Clare County Council, and Limerick County Council (all of which ran public health for Local Government), who in turn passed on her comments to the minister's office in Dublin. Her request was refused.

In many ways it was a good thing that her request was turned down, as it began a series of letters (1943 to 1956) to the county manager and others outlining her duties, and we all get a snapshot of a vital medical practice in the middle of the last century. It was suggested to Dr O'Malley that she could augment her salary by undertaking private work in either St Brides or the newly built Galvia (opened 1953), run by the 'Blue Nuns'. This was not easy as she was on call six days a week, she was married to an equally busy surgeon and college lecturer, and she was the mother of five children.

She passionately felt that she should be paid a similar wage to that of her male colleagues. In 1945

Dr Sal O'Malley wrote: 'My salary of £100 a year represents extreme type of sweated labour... When I was appointed 16 years ago the total salary of the whole surgical staff was £400 a year....In the interim the salaries of the surgical staff have climbed to their present figure while mine still remains at £100 a year.' 'My duties, which have become increasingly complex with the expansion of the hospital, consist in training everyone who administers a general anaesthetic in the hospital.'

Conor & Sal O'Malley, Galway Doctors Blazing a trail

In detail I train two new House Surgeons every three months - with particular attention to safety first principles. I personally administer the more technically difficult anaesthetics, or take the cases that are bad surgical risks. I take some pride in the fact that during my 16 years dealing with very many thousands of anaesthetics I did not have a single fatality (Deo Gratias)... 'On many occasions year in year out, I receive an urgent call from one operating theatre to another to rescue a patient in extremis from anaesthesia, in this respect I save the Central Hospital many coroners' inquests. 'A little reflection will show that I am virtually a whole-time anaesthetist to the hospital, to the detriment of my private work outside; since anyone of the six members of the surgical and dental staff may require me on any morning of the week. My hospital work precludes me from the simple routine bread and butter anaesthetic cases in private which are the mainstay of an anaesthetic practice.'

Impressive record

It all, however, came right in the end. In the mid 1950s, Sal painfully injured her ankle and was out sick. Panic in the hospital. The county manager, Clem Flynn, sought permission to call in one of two qualified anaesthetists in the district, and was forced to pay the going rate of a massive £3.30 per session. When eventually Sal returned to work it was obvious that her £100 a year was laughable. Her salary was immediately fixed at £750 per annum, later adjusted to a total of £809. 50 with an addition of £59.50 cost-of-living allowance. Twenty six years following her original appointment, Dr Sal O'Malley got justice. The quality of her work was taken for granted. Her impressive statistic of more than 4,500 tonsillectomies without one mortality has rarely been matched by anyone before or since.

Two to a bed

Finally, if over-crowding is a problem in today's busy University College hospital, it was totally off the wall in the old Central Hospital, at Prospect Hill. Between 1937 and 1943, it was necessary to send repeated circulars to all the doctors in County Galway, informing them of the dangerous overcrowding, and that only urgent cases could be admitted. At that time the nominal bed complement was 196 general medical and surgical beds, 20 tubercular, 20 maternity, and 63 fever, a total of 299 beds. On March 31 1944 there were 376 patients in the hospital, and on March 31 1945 there were 411. The hazards of overcrowding



Conor & Sal O'Malley, Galway Doctors Blazing a trail

and unsatisfactory nursing conditions were amply demonstrated by the many serious outbreaks of infectious diseases occurring within the hospital.

In 1933/34 there was a serious outbreak of diphtheria, with 73 cases among the staff and patients in the general wards; in 1936 there were 13 cases of erysipelas ('St Anthony's Fire'); and four cases of typhoid in 1940 were attributed to a 'carrier' in the general wards. Sal gave all the anaesthetics to

her husband, Conor O'Malley's, eye and ear patients. Prior to 1954 these operations were carried out in the Eye and Ear Hospital at the west corner of the campus. It was a converted old building with 18 beds often holding 36 adult patients. The patients slept two by two end to end. Once there was just one bed left but a man and a woman required accommodation. The sister in charge felt that it would be quite safe to have them share a bed for both would have bilateral eye patches...Conor O'Malley, however, vetoed the suggestion.

Some extracts from an article in the Journal of the Galway Archaeological and Historical Journal Volume 67, Sal O'Malley: pioneering Anaesthetist – A Memoire, by Ann O'Malley Kelly.

Additional information from Galway: A Medico Social History, by James P Murray, published by Kenny's Bookshop, 1992.

Thanks also to Sarah Kelly (Former Chieftain) for the article



University Hospital Galway today



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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.

