

Volume 1, Issue 123

March 2025

# Ó Máille



## O'Malley Clan Association Monthly Newsletter

### This month's highlights....

- Happy St Patrick's Day- from The O'Malley Clan!
- Get in touch and share your stories!
- "Grace Notes" launch
- Brewing up a storm in Ohio! O'Malley Beer!
- Kirsten Sheridan with a new movie on Grace!
- Ken O'Malley wins award in LA!
- Middleton jazzing it up!
- Nominating our next Tánaiste
- The 2025 O'Malley Clan Gathering, Programme of Events
- O'Malley Clan Crossword
- About The O'Malley Clan Association
- The O'Malley Clan Association Needs You!

### A Happy St Patrick's Day to you all from The O'Malley Clan!

Happy St Patrick's Day to all of you O'Malley leprechauns out there! We hope you all have a great time at the parades, and the parties!

It'd be great to see you all having fun all around the globe! So don't forget to tag The O'Malley Clan Association in your pictures during the festivities!!



### 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 "Ó Máille" 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!



[www.omalleyclan.ie](http://www.omalleyclan.ie)



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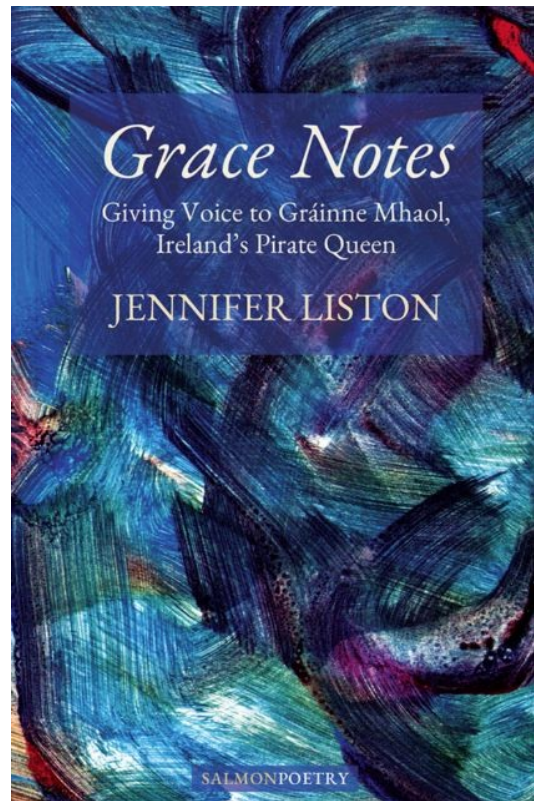
[o\\_malley\\_clan\\_association](https://www.instagram.com/o_malley_clan_association)

## The launch of “Grace Notes” by Jennifer Liston

At the recent launch of “Grace Notes” a collection of poetry from Jennifer Liston, inspired by The Pirate Queen, Grainne Mhaol, pictured right, O’Malley Clan Guardian Chieftain Ellen O’Malley-Dunlop with author Jennifer Liston, and below, biographer of The Pirate Queen, Anne Chambers, with Jennifer, and Chieftain of the O’Malley Clan, Grace O’Malley.



*Grace Notes* is a collection of poems that express fragments of the life of Grace O’Malley/Gráinne Mhaol. The Gráinne compositions place Gráinne at different points in her life and also situate her in a mediaeval past and a borrowed future via her dreams, or *aislings*. Interspersed with these compositions are ‘rescued’ poems. (I’ve posted many examples and written quite a bit on this site about my ‘rescued poetry’ process. You could also check out my [rescued poetry website](#).) I chose 17 texts connected to Gráinne – a selection of factual or fictional biographies of her and a small number of contemporary historical texts – from which I rescued 50 poems. (Click on the book cover for more!)





## Brewing up a storm in Ohio with some O'Malley Beer!!

We got a great email recently from one of our Clan Members over in Ohio in the US., Dave Kuhar, and a few friends sent us some pictures of them enjoying Dave's most recent production from his home brew, titled "Grace's Irish Red Ale" It looks fabulous, but you wouldn't want to over do it at 6.7% ! Everything is grand in moderation though guys! Great to see it! Happy St Patrick's Day to all the folks in Ohio!



Top Left: "Grace's Irish Red Ale" from "Leaping Geezer Brewing" Top Right: The fabulous looking label for Grace, Bottom Right: Grace getting fermented, and Bottom Left: Jack, Josh, and O'Malley Clan Member Dave, the "Leaping Geezers"



## Oscar Nominated Kirsten Sheridan with a new movie on Grace!



Oscar-nominated filmmaker Kirsten Sheridan has optioned the rights to the book *Grace O'Malley - The Biography of Ireland's Pirate Queen* by Anne Chambers with production due to begin next year.

The feature film, supported by Fís Éireann/Screen Ireland, will be produced by Dublin's Wild Atlantic Pictures in collaboration with the Los Angeles-based Reclaim Entertainment Ventures.

Sheridan has been developing the project with author Chambers for a number of years, and it is to be followed by a planned television series.

The film will tell the true story of the meeting between Grace O'Malley and Britain's Queen Elizabeth I.

"When her youngest son is taken prisoner, Grace sails right up the Thames to confront Queen Elizabeth directly," said Wild Atlantic Pictures.

"Over the course of just one week, these leaders of two warring nations question each other's identity, pierce each other's wounds, win each other's respect, and come together as equals to define not only their nations, but their most intimate selves."

"Unlike traditional period dramas, Sheridan's vision for the film is raw and contemporary, exploring themes of sexuality, identity, and gender with a fresh and provocative lens," Wild Atlantic Pictures added.

"The project will not only depict Grace's legendary exploits but will also dive into her complex personal journey as a leader, mother, and survivor."

"This is a deeply personal passion project," said Sheridan.

"Every Irish woman knows Grace O'Malley's story. It is one of power, resilience, and rebellion. She defied



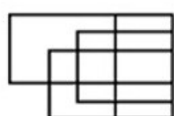
## Oscar Nominated Kirsten Sheridan with a new movie on Grace!

gender norms, controlled her own destiny, and stood toe-to-toe with the most powerful woman in history." Sheridan's recent credits include the teleplay for the series *Say Nothing* and executive producing the series *Lockerbrie: A Search for Truth*.

In 2004, she was Oscar-nominated alongside her father Jim and her sister Naomi for the screenplay for Jim Sheridan's film *In America*.



Meeting between Grace O'Malley and Queen Elizabeth I at Greenwich Castle, September 1593.  
Illustration from *Anthologia Hibernica*, vol. 11, 1793



**Fís Éireann**  
Screen Ireland



## Ken O'Malley—Irish Person of the Year in LA !

Another O'Malley picks up an award! Musician, Actor, and Tour Group Leader, Ken O'Malley is being honoured by the City of Los Angeles for his work in promoting Irish Culture over the past 50 years. Ken is being awarded the "Irish Person of the Year" by his hometown in California.

Ken O'Malley arrived in Los Angeles from Dublin in 1974 at the age of twenty and has been playing, singing, acting, teaching and producing Irish music ever since. Throughout his career he has appeared in feature films, television, plays and stage productions, and has performed throughout the US and Europe. Ken is a valued historian of Irish music, history and culture and is in constant demand for his wealth of knowledge and experience. He is one of the best known tour guides to Ireland and leads several group trips annually. Ken is the son of the late Raymond O'Malley of Shop Street in Westport, County Mayo. For information on Ken's music, tours, and more visit [www.kenomalley.com](http://www.kenomalley.com)

Congratulations Ken from all of us here in The O'Malley Clan Association!



Ken O'Malley to be named Los Angeles, "Irish Person of the Year" on St Patrick's Day

Click on the image below to hear Ken perform that beautiful number "No Fontiers"



## Former O'Malley Clan Chieftain Middleton O'Malley jazzing it up!

Feel like sitting back and chilling out? Maybe a chill hour of jazz music is just what you need!

Our 1999-2000 Clan Chieftain Middleton O'Malley, based in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, is keeping those smooth tunes spinning every Friday morning on his radio show "Groove Street"

If you're in the New Orleans area you can tune in on the FM band at 99.1, or if you're anywhere else you can tune in via the World Radio Map!

Check out Middleton's show by clicking on the Dolphin Radio button below!





## Anne Chambers to visit Galway Museum for an illustrated talk

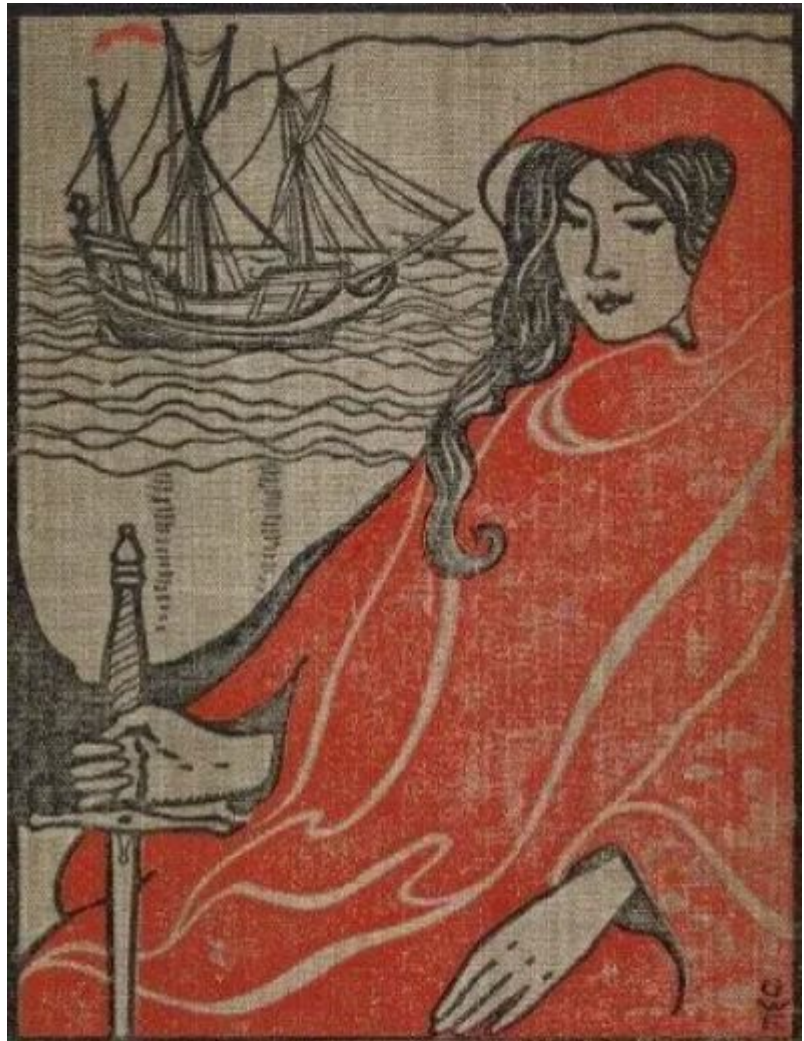
There's a fabulous illustrated lecture coming up at the Galway City Museum from our friend Anne Chambers, the author of the definitive biography of The Pirate Queen, Grace O'Malley.

On Saturday 22nd March from 2pm Anne will tell us all about the life and times of Grainne Mhaol, and considering the venue in the heart of the "City of the Tribes" will focus a lot on Grace's ties with the city of Galway.

Always a fabulously passionate and enthralling speaker, its sure to be a treat . Come along for a lovely afternoon in the beautiful city of Galway.

Check out more information by clicking on the Galway City Museum button below, and be sure to register for this free event, as while the event is free, places are limited, so don't miss out!

We'll see you all there.





## The Table Quiz in Cappamore, and another one coming up in Dublin!

Well done to Paddy McMahon and his teammates on a mighty win at the recent O'Malley Clan Table Quiz at Hayes' Bar in Cappamore, Limerick. After a tight battle in the tie breakers Paddy's team came out on top. A great night was had by all with a fabulous €665 being raised to help with expenses at this year's Gathering. Winning team captain Paddy is seen here on the left with, tough but fair, quizmaster, Don O'Malley.

What could be better than a table quiz I hear you ask, well two table quizzes of course! Check out the details below of the O'Malley Clan Table Quiz coming up in Dublin next month. It'll be a mighty night once again, with lots of fun, and a big raffle with lots and lots of prizes to be won.

Make sure you save the date and come along!





# Table Quiz

**The Teachers Club**  
**36 Parnell Sq West**  
**Dublin 1**  
**D01 T6V6**

**Teams of 4 for €40**

**SAT 26TH**  
**APRIL**  
**8PM**



COME ALONG AND TEST THE BRAIN OUT AT OUR TABLE QUIZ NIGHT.

A BIT OF FUN AND A GOOD NIGHT OUT!

CHECK OUT THE O'MALLEY CLAN ASSOCIATION ON

[WWW.OMALLEYCLAN.IE](http://WWW.OMALLEYCLAN.IE)





## “In the Garden” - Tom O’Malley

### *In the Garden*

I watch my father shovel up the loose clay  
Of the vegetable plot, he levers it deftly  
Casting the cold mound onto the Spring ridge.  
Suddenly, appears the green shell of a tortoise  
All dirtied now, mine once, thirty years back:

I’m quietly sitting, aged five, under the red  
Beam of evening sunlight, by our back west-window,  
Totally absorbed in in its head-nodding mystery

His shovel clanks an old claypipe, earth dyed.  
I lift it and note where the brittle stem snapped:

My grandfather sits by an open kitchen fire  
Telling stories of wakes, with irreverant mirth,  
The corpse of a neighbour propped on a bed.

Hair-cracked bits of victorian delph lie scattered  
Among the ridge pebbles: I note their willow pattern.

God knows for how long this tiny earth patch  
Has sustained our family going back and back. I see  
Our relics still retained by clay: yes, the earth  
Has given, then takes – I’m already half there.

*Tom O’Malley*

*“By Lough Mask”*

*A poetry collection published in 1985*

*Tom O’Malley was born near Cong in County Mayo, A graduate of U.C.G. he taught in Belfast and and Trim, and later relocated to Navan in County Meath. He won the Patrick Kavanagh Award for a collection of poems in 1984. Many of his poems are set in the rugged, stark landscape around Lough Mask where he grew up.*





## The O'Malley Clan Gathering 2025—Programme of Events

### Friday 27th June 2025

#### **Walking Tour with Anne Chambers: “Westport House and the Descendants of Grace O'Malley”**

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm (Ireland Time). Cost: Free

Location: Westport Adventure Park

Walking Tour of Westport Demesne grounds. Learn about the history of Westport House and the families who lived there from Anne Chambers, biographer and leading authority on Grace O'Malley - Granuaile the Pirate Queen. Note that this does not include a tour of Westport House itself. Tours of Westport House can be booked directly at [www.westporthouse.ie](http://www.westporthouse.ie)

#### **Annual General Meeting**

7:00 pm - 7:45 pm (Ireland Time). Cost: Free

Location: Castlecourt Hotel, Westport

Guardian Chieftain Ellen O'Malley Dunlop will chair the AGM of the O'Malley Clan Association. All O'Malleys and their families are welcome but only members of the association may vote. The Chieftain, Treasurer and Secretaries will present their reports, a new Tánaiste will be elected and any motions submitted for discussion will be debated.

#### **Chieftain's Reception**

8:00 pm - 10:30 pm (Ireland Time). Cost: Free

Location: CastleCourt Hotel, Westport

Welcome to the O'Malley Gathering from Chieftain Grace. Mingle and meet other O'Malleys to the sound of traditional Irish music.



## The O'Malley Clan Gathering 2025—Programme of Events

### Saturday 28th June 2025

#### **"Bus Tour led by Anne Chambers: "Grace O'Malley and the Bourkes of Mayo"**

9:30 am - 3:00 pm (Ireland Time). Cost: €35.00

Location: Pickup and return at Castlecourt Hotel, Westport

A bus tour of the O'Malley Castles at Carrigahowley and Kildavnet. Anne Chambers will be on hand to talk about the castles and their association with Grace O'Malley. A light lunch at Alice's restaurant in Achill Sound is included.

#### **Screening of The Cry of Granuaile**

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm (Ireland Time). Cost: Free

Walnut Suite, Westport Plaza Hotel

A recent film about Granuaile by director Dónal Foreman, shot on Clare Island.

#### **Genealogy workshop with Dr Maurice Gleeson**

A discussion on the genealogy of the O'Malleys, the Finding Grace DNA project and an opportunity for those exploring their O'Malley family trees to make contact with like-minded others. Led by Dr Maurice Gleeson, renowned genetic genealogist.

#### **Gala Dinner**

8:00 pm - 11:00 pm (Ireland Time). Cost: €55

Ashleigh Suite, Castlecourt Hotel

An evening of merriment in true O'Malley fashion, bringing together all the Clan from near and far over a delicious four course meal, followed by music and dancing.





## The O'Malley Clan Gathering 2025—Programme of Events

### Sunday 29th June 2025

#### **Croagh Patrick climb**

8:00 am - 1:00 pm (Ireland Time). Cost: Free

Location: Meet in the car park beside the Murrisk Community Cafe

Climb the famous "Reek", Croagh Patrick mountain overlooks Clew Bay and is a famous site for pilgrims. Check out this guide to the climb: <https://www.destinationwestport.com/explore-westport/a-bluffers-guide-to-climbing-croagh-patrick>

**This is not an organised event, but book here to let other O'Malleys know you're planning to go.**

#### **Traditional Clan Mass**

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm (Ireland Time). Cost: Free

Location: Murrisk Abbey

Outdoor Mass beside the ruins of Murrisk Abbey on the shores of Clew Bay.

#### **Clan lunch and inauguration of new Chieftain**

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm (Ireland Time). Cost: €39

LuSeas Rooftop Restaurant, Westport Coast Hotel, Westport Quay

Clan lunch at LuSeas Rooftop Restaurant with panoramic floor to ceiling views of Croagh Patrick and Clew Bay. After lunch, Tanaiste Denise O'Malley Kelly will be inaugurated as the new Chieftain of the Clan.

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*All events/activities during the weekend are subject to change*



## Time to nominate our next Tánaiste, check out the details

Every organisation needs a leader and the O'Malley Clan is no different. If you go back through the mists of time, the O'Malleys most famous leader would be usually acknowledged to have been Granuaile, or Grace O'Malley, often known as The Pirate Queen.

Our current Chieftain, also Grace O'Malley, (but not a pirate!), is leading the O'Malley Clan during 2024 and up to June 2025, where she will host O'Malleys from all around the world at The O'Malley Clan Gathering in Westport in County Mayo on the weekend of 27th to 29th June.

At the end of the annual O'Malley Clan Gathering next June, our current Tánaiste, Denise O'Malley, will take over the reins from Grace and will be inaugurated as the new Chieftain of the O'Malley Clan for the remainder of 2025 up to June of 2026. Denise will then host the annual O'Malley Clan Gathering in County Clare in June of 2026.

As has been done since 1953, a Tánaiste is elected each year as "Chieftain elect" and they then become Chieftain and continue an unbroken line back through the decades.

So what does the O'Malley Clan Chieftain actually do in the 2020's I hear you ask?

There aren't any tribal wars in which the Chieftain will need to lead us into battle thankfully, and so the main role of the Chieftain is ceremonial. Events can pop up from time to time during the year, but the main duty of each Chieftain is to lead the organisation, and the running of the annual O'Malley Clan Gathering on the last weekend in June each year.

You don't need to have a qualification in event management, so not to worry. There's a great team of folks on the O'Malley Clan Association committee who have literally decades of experience in putting the weekend together. All you'll need is a bit of enthusiasm, and a good sense of humour.

In order to be nominated for the position of Tánaiste you are required to be a current member, and to be nominated, you have to have agreed to be nominated, and are required to be nominated in writing, (the nomination form is below), by two other current members.

Of course if there is more than one nomination, and both nominees wish to contest a particular year, then an election would be held at the Annual General Meeting, on a 50% + 1 basis.

If you're thinking about putting your name forward, and seeking a nomination from some fellow members, don't worry that you're going to be thrown into the deep end and be asked to run the organisation from a standing start. The entire organisational side of things within the O'Malley Clan Association is overseen by the Guardian Chieftain. This position is filled every three years from within the ranks of the former Chieftains of the clan, with the Guardian Chieftain being selected and appointed by the Council of Chieftains. The Guardian Chieftain is there to guide the Chieftain of the day in making their year of office as Chieftain of the O'Malley Clan a success, and chairs the O'Malley Clan Association committee.

So, to conclude, if you'd like to be a part of history, and think you have what it takes to lead this powerful, historic, Irish clan. Have a think about it and have a chat with your family or other members.

If you've any questions at all on how it all works, there's information on the "about us" section of the O'Malley Clan Association website, or pop us over an email to [omalleyclanireland@gmail.com](mailto:omalleyclanireland@gmail.com)



## Time to nominate our next Tánaiste, check out the details



### O'Malley Clan Association

#### Nomination of Tánaiste (Chieftain elect) for 2025 -2026

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name), \_\_\_\_\_ (Membership No.)

\_\_\_\_\_ (address)

\_\_\_\_\_ (e-mail)

\_\_\_\_\_ (phone)

AND

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name), \_\_\_\_\_ (Membership No.)

\_\_\_\_\_ (address)

\_\_\_\_\_ (e-mail)

\_\_\_\_\_ (phone)

hereby nominate

\_\_\_\_\_ (name), \_\_\_\_\_ (Membership No.)

\_\_\_\_\_ (address)

\_\_\_\_\_ (e-mail)

\_\_\_\_\_ (phone)

For the position of Tánaiste of the O'Malley Clan and confirm that my candidate has agreed to be nominated.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed forms (hard copy) to:

Ellen O'Malley Dunlop, Guardian Chieftain  
33 Springfield Road  
Templeogue  
Dublin 6W, Ireland

OR

Photo or scan of signed form by e-mail  
to: [ellenomalleydunlop@gmail.com](mailto:ellenomalleydunlop@gmail.com)

## **The O'Malley Clan Crossword!**

### **Across**

- 5. OLYMPIC EVENT FEATURING A PLANTING BOX
- 8. THE STANLEY CUP IS PLAYED FOR IN THIS SPORT
- 13. THE HOME OF GAELIC GAMES
- 14. A TIED SCORE IN TENNIS
- 15. THE NUMBER OF RINGS ON THE OLYMPIC FLAG
- 16. BOXER NICKNAMED "IRON MIKE"
- 18. THE FASTEST MAN IN HISTORY
- 21. SOCCER PLAYER WHO GUARDS THE NET
- 22. LEGENDARY ARGENTINE SOCCER PLAYER, DIEGO .....

### **Down**

- 1. VENUE FOR THE MASTERS IN GOLF
- 2. MOST DECORATED OLYMPIAN, MICHAEL .....
- 3. CLUB USED FOR LONG DISTANCES IN GOLF
- 4. IF YOU KNOCK ALL THE PINS IN BOWLING
- 6. THE BROWN BALL'S WORTH IN SNOOKER
- 7. THE MAN, OR WOMAN, "IN THE MIDDLE"
- 9. GAME PLAYED WITH A BAT AND WICKETS
- 10. RACE THAT LASTS 26.2 MILES
- 11. FAMOUS STADIUM IN BARCELONA
- 12. COUNTY WITH THE MOST ALL IRELAND FOOTBALL WINS
- 17. THE FASTEST FIELD SPORT IN THE WORLD
- 19. BIGGEST CYCLE RACE IN THE WORLD .... DE FRANCE
- 20. EVENT WHERE RUNNERS PASS A BATON

### **LAST MONTHS ANSWERS:**

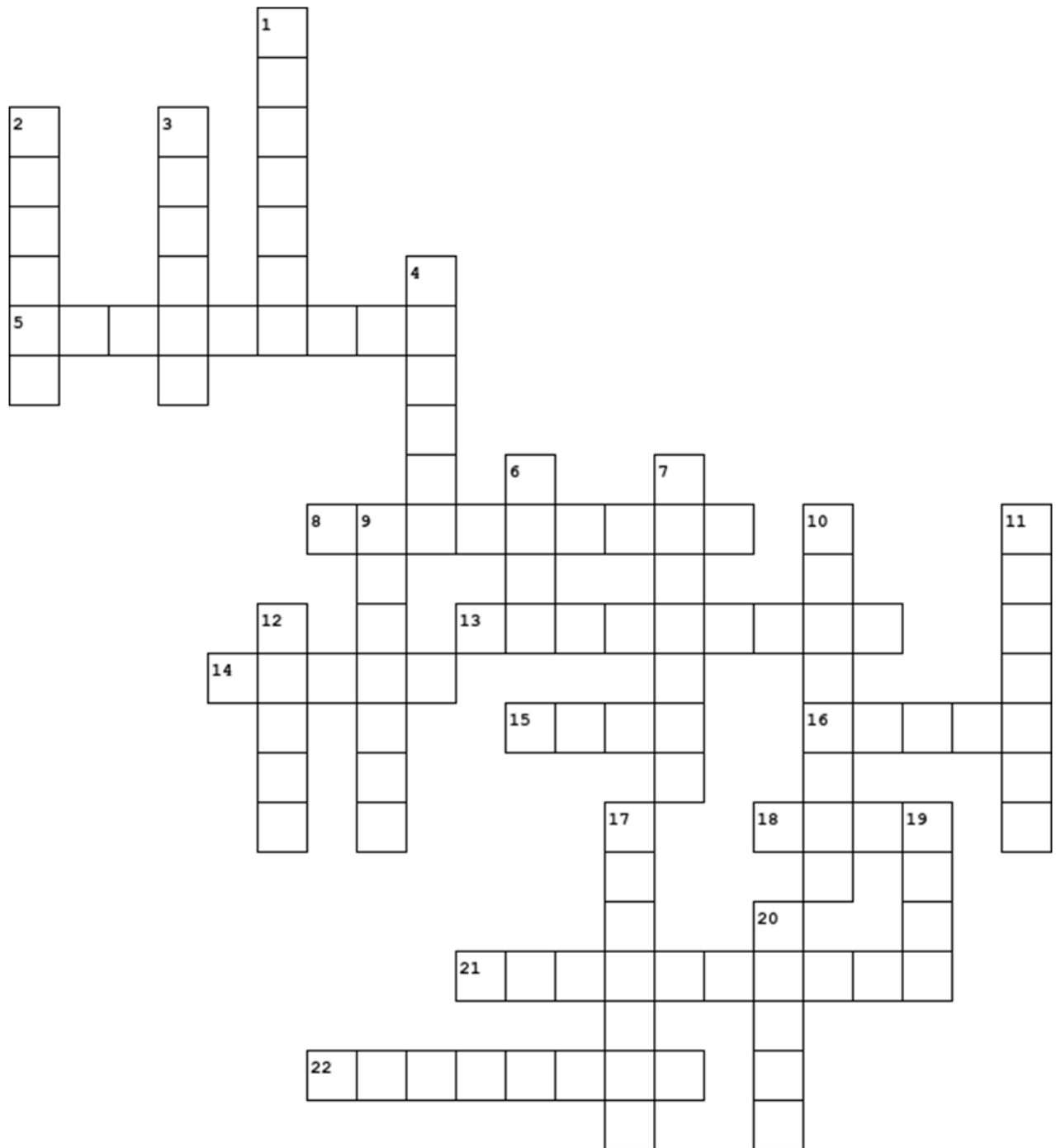
ACROSS: 3 FOX, 5 KANGAROO, 6 LION, 9 SHEEP, 10 RABBIT, 11 MOUSE, 13 BLUEWHALE 15 PIG, 16 COBRA, 19 GIRAFFE, 20 FROG, 21 TARANTULA, 22 ZEBRA.

DOWN: 1 DOLPHIN, 2 POLARBEAR 4 HARE, 7 OCTOPUS, 8 CAT, 9 SLOTH, 12 ELEPHANT, 13 BEAVER, 14 DOG, 17 TIGER, 18 JAGUAR

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## The O'Malley Clan Crossword!





@clanomalley

The O'Malley Clan  
Association  
Unit 11, Abington Enterprise Centre  
Murroe  
Co Limerick  
Ireland V94 XFD3

Email: [omalleyclanireland@gmail.com](mailto:omalleyclanireland@gmail.com)

Website: [www.omalleyclan.ie](http://www.omalleyclan.ie)



find us on  
**Facebook**

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[o\\_malley\\_clan\\_association](https://www.instagram.com/o_malley_clan_association)

*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 70 years now.*

*We hope with our 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 Association NEEDS YOUR HELP, Join Today!**



**Support  
the Clan,  
Be a part  
of it**

**The O'Malley Clan  
Association Needs You!**

**Join Today.....[www.omalleyclan.ie](http://www.omalleyclan.ie)**