

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Regina Fitzpatrick
Date of Interview	9 th Nov 2010
Location	Clonard Community Centre
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Angela McCormack
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Female
Born	Year Born: 1955 Home County: Wexford
Education	Primary: Mercy Convent, Summerhill, Wexford. Secondary: Presentation Convent, Wexford Town Third Level: Carysfort College, Dublin
Family	Siblings: 6 siblings Current Family if Different: 3 children
Club(s)	Clonard GAA [Wexford]
Occupation	Retired Teacher
Parents' Occupation	Farmer / Revenue Collector [Father]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

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Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Gerald Cashman
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1949 Home County: Waterford
Education	Primary: St Declan's NS, Ardmore, Co. Waterford Secondary: Mount Mellery, Co. Waterford Third Level: Carysfort College, Dublin
Family	Siblings: 3 siblings Current Family if Different: 3 children
Club(s)	Ardmore GAA [Waterford]; Clonard GAA [Wexford]
Occupation	Bank Official
Parents' Occupation	Teacher [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Lions Club; Wexford Golf Club

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Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Joe Brennan
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1932 Home County: Wexford
Education (Optional)	Primary: N/A Secondary: CBS Wexford
Family	Siblings: 3 siblings Current Family if Different: 6 children
Club(s)	Sarsfields GAA [Wexford]; Clonard GAA [Wexford]
Occupation	Works Manager
Parents' Occupation	Sailor [Father]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

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Date of Report	22 nd August 2012
Period Covered	1940s – 2010
Counties/Countries Covered	Wexford, Waterford, Kilkenny, Meath, Tipperary, Cork
Key Themes Covered	Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Coaching, Administration, Education, Media, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Identity, All-Ireland, Club History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Impact on Life, Challenges
Interview Summary	<p>Joe, Ger and Angela discuss their earliest memories of the GAA and their family involvement. Joe details the history of the GAA club in Clonard, referencing local nuances. He recalls players and matches from the past. Ger speaks as an “outsider” having moved to the area from Waterford. He emphasises the role that a GAA club can play in the community, discussing the positive part it can play in people's lives. Angela describes her involvement in the club, and mentions the role of women in the club. They all discuss past successes of the club and what direction it needs to take to establish itself in the community. They recall memories of matches and recall stories from the past. They conclude by describing their favourite memories from the GAA, and explain what motivates them to remain involved in Gaelic games.</p> <p>00:51 Joe recalls his earliest memories of the GAA. Recalls playing street league with The Blues and Whites. Mentions match against The Volunteers. Recalls early meeting place in Talbot Street, and training in St Michael's Field. Mentions the area covered by The Blues and Whites – as far as High Rath View. Recalls joining Sarsfields, first match in New Ross. Recalls successes with Sarsfields.</p> <p>04:20 Joe recalls the beginnings of Clonard GAA club. Recalls using George O'Connor's field in Piercestown. Discusses club participating in Slaney Hurling Festival in New Ross. Mentions Gusserane, Fethard, Jason Giltrap, Blackwater. Mentions the Sinnott twins. Final was against Kilmore, which they lost. Mentions the introduction of hurling to the club. Recalls a Féile competition, winning final against Shamrocks from Enniscorthy.</p> <p>10:15 Joe recalls Sarsfield's reaction to the new Clonard club. Mentions Fr Dorey. Recalls quiz in Mayflower – Sarsfields the only club that would not participate. Mentions Tony Doran,</p>

	<p>Buffers Alley. Mentions animosity between the two clubs in the town. Joe's son played soccer with Town Celtic and was suspended for life from Sarsfields. Mentions Fr Harry.</p> <p>12:25 Ger mentions Fr Lory Kehoe and his contribution to the club. Recalls that original club was called Our Lady's Clonard. Mentions committee that was established, included John McNicholas. Recalls foundation of the modern Clonard club in 1986/87. Discusses the importance of sound financial practice by GAA clubs. Mentions former treasurers Donal Sheehan and Mattie Banville, as well as current treasurer Sean O'Dwyer.</p> <p>14:15 Ger recalls his memories from involvement with Clonard. Recalls victories against Horeswood and Naomh Éanna. Joe recalls details of some of the matches. Mentions Robert Doyle, referee John Sinnott. Mentions Tim McGrath going to Celtic in Scotland and Kevin Doyle going to Leeds. They discuss the history of Our Lady's Clonard and Clonard GAA clubs. Mention Faythe Harriers hurling club.</p> <p>17:47 Ger discusses introducing hurling to the new Clonard club. Recalls early successes, mentions match against St Annes.</p> <p>18:59 Ger and Joe recall some successes in Gaelic football. Mention the Loch Garman Cup.</p> <p>19:48 Ger discusses Fr Lory Kehoe's involvement with the club.</p> <p>20:24 Ger discusses the impact of the formation of the club on the parish. Discusses that Wexford Town is unusual in that there is no parish rule. Joe discusses the intricacies of the situation in relation to Clonard. Ger describes the attitude of other clubs in Wexford to Clonard. Joe mentions transfers from St Josephs to St Mary's Maudlintown.</p> <p>25:45 Ger discusses facilities at the club. Mentions using St Peter's College pitches and Coolcotts. Mentions other clubs in the town having their pitches in Páirc Garman. Mentions Christian Brothers school in the town, the Mercy in John's Road. Refers to "predators" in the Christian Brothers school on behalf of Sarsfields. Joe recalls Brother Cusack in the Christian Brothers. Mentions St Martins and The Wexford People newspaper. Mentions Paddy O'Connor, Fr Devereux.</p> <p>30:03 Angela recalls being in charge of sport at the Kennedy Park School. Also mentions Scoil Mhuire. Explains the complexities of having children in the schools from different</p>
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	<p>clubs in the town. Mentions the efforts of Joe Brennan. Recalls a story regarding Joe Brennan, Sarsfields and the Rackard League and mini-sevens. Mentions Sean Higgins of Sarsfields. Mentions Páirc Garman and the CBS.</p> <p>32:46 Angela discusses child safety guidelines. Discusses female teachers being in charge of teams.</p> <p>33:45 They discuss the fact that there is no natural school that feeds into Clonard GAA club.</p> <p>34:41 Ger discusses the development of Clonard GAA club. Mentions Diarmuid Lyng and Eoin Quigley from the Wexford senior hurling panel and Ciarán Lyng and Donal Quigley from the Wexford senior football panel – all four began their careers with Clonard. He mentions the transfer rules that exist in Wexford. Joe mentions Enniscorthy, and Martin Codd and the Quigleys. Angela speaks about the underage and adult situation at Clonard.</p> <p>38:06 They discuss the challenges faced by a GAA club in an urban area. Ger mentions Gorey – Castletown, Carrig, New Ross and Enniscorthy. Mentions Wexford team of 1960s containing players mainly from urban areas - New Ross, Enniscorthy and Wexford Town. Mentions soccer and rugby. Joe mentions contribution of Mary Kavanagh.</p> <p>41:19 They discuss women's Gaelic games in the club. Angela recalls the history of camogie in the club – Chrissie Cleary and Angela Turner, Jimmy Healy. She discusses ladies football in the club, mentions Treasa O' Connor, Pauline Cleary. Recalls Rihanna Jarrett, player on Irish women's soccer team.</p> <p>44:06 They discuss players at the club playing other sports. Mention soccer.</p> <p>45:28 They discuss the effect that the club has on the parish. Mention championship winning team having only one player who didn't grow up in the parish - Damien O'Donnell.</p> <p>47:29 They discuss their family involvement in the GAA. Ger mentions The Blues and Whites, Joe mentions where his parents came from. Recalls his mother going to The Blues and Whites matches, mentions Green Street. Ger discusses being “an outsider”, having come from Ardmore in Co Waterford. Mentions the Prendergast brothers and Clinton Hennessy. His father was a teacher in Ardmore. Mentions Fr Phelan from Kilmeaden and Frank Farrelly, a sergeant from Meath. Recalls playing Gaelic football as a child. Recalls</p>
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	<p>going to matches in Lismore and Cappoquin. Joe mentions Sunday nights in Talbot Street, playing with a pig's bladder. He recalls listening to matches on the radio. Ger mentions his home club in Ardmore and Paddy Prendergast.</p> <p>52:49 Joe recalls a story from an under 14 match against Meath.</p> <p>53:10 Angela discusses her family involvement in Gaelic games. Mentions her cousin Dominic Williams. Her mother comes from Rathangan, her father from Crossabeg. Mentions St Josephs club and Fr Harry.</p> <p>54:56 Angela discusses the importance of developing the GAA in the area. Ger explains the importance of forming family affiliations with the club. He discusses relationships that are developed through the GAA. Mentions his bond with Clonard, and also the positive influence that a GAA club can have on society.</p> <p>58:51 Angela recalls a story relating to Joe.</p> <p>01:00:02 They recall the biggest changes that they have seen in the GAA. Angela discusses coaching methods, refers to the Rackards. Joe discusses emphasis on fitness and skill levels. He mentions changes in stadiums and facilities, mentions Rosslare. Ger recalls the change in facilities also, mentions Ardmore. Also discusses the quantity of games played and pressure placed on clubs. Joe discusses the involvement of women in the GAA.</p> <p>1:05:05 They discuss their favourite memories of the GAA. Angela mentions Wexford's victory in the 1996 All-Ireland Hurling Final. Joe mentions Wexford v Meath in a 1798 tournament final in 1949. Mentions the Rackard brothers, Paddy O'Brien. He recalls Wexford winning the 1945 Leinster Football Final, remembers players such as Willie Goodison, "Suck" Morris, Al O'Connor. Recalls that team training in Rosslare. Mentions John-Joe O'Reilly of Cavan. Discusses Wexford hurling teams in the 1950s. Angela discusses the revitalisation of football in Wexford. Joe mentions Mattie Forde. Ger recalls his memories, mentioning underage successes with the club. Also mentions 1996 All-Ireland Hurling Final win, mentions embracing "Hopper" McGrath after the final whistle. Mentions heading to Munster Hurling Final. Recalls 2002 Munster Hurling Final win at Páirc Uí Chaoimh against Tipperary, met Nicholas English before the match. Mentions players such as Tony Browne, the Prendergasts, Clinton Hennessy, John Mullane and Ken McGrath. Discusses backdoor system and Kilkenny and</p>
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	<p>Tipperary. Mentions Waterford winning 1959 All-Ireland Hurling Final against Kilkenny, recalling goal from Seamus Power in drawn final and seeing the games a few days later on the BBC.</p> <p>1:13:29 Angela talks about Joe's wife travelling with him to matches. Recalls rain at Dublin v Wexford match. They mention Wexford v Galway match also.</p> <p>1:14:21 They explain what keeps them involved in the GAA.</p>
<p>Involvement in GAA</p>	<p>Angela McCormack:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Player <input type="checkbox"/> Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coach <input type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> <p>Gerald Cashman:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coach <input type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> <p>Joe Brennan:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coach <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p>
<p>Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)</p>	<p>Angela: N/A</p> <p>Gerald: Played minor football in Waterford</p> <p>Joe: N/A</p>
<p>Record as an Administrator</p>	<p>Angela: Secretary of Clonard GAA; Member of Wexford</p>

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(Positions held; how long for)	Coiste na nÓg Gerald: Clonard GAA – Chairperson (14 years); Treasurer (1 year) Joe: N/A
Format	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 1:16:33
Language	English

To be filled in by Interviewer:

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Signed: Regina Fitzpatrick

Date: 22nd August 2012