

GAA Oral History Project
Interview Report Form

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| Name of Interviewer | Arlene Crampsie |
| Date of Interview | 16 th March 2011 |
| Location | St. Laurence's Clubhouse, Co. Kildare |
| Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname) | Mark O'Brien |
| <u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u> | |
| Gender | Male |
| Born | Year Born: 1985 Home County: Kildare |
| Education | Primary: Crookstown, Co. Kildare Secondary: Dunlavin, Co. Kildare |
| Family | Siblings: 1 brother & 2 sisters Current Family if Different: 1 on the way... |
| Club(s) | St. Laurence's |
| Occupation | Electrician |
| Parents' Occupation | Lorry Driver [Father]; Child Minder, Housewife [Mother] |
| Religion | Roman Catholic |
| Political Affiliation / Membership | N/A |
| Other Club/Society Membership(s) | Mills Celtic Soccer |

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| Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname) | Mick Gorman |
| <u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u> | |
| Gender | Male |
| Born | Year Born: 1957 Home County: Kildare |
| Education | Primary: Ballymount NS and Crookstown NS, Co. Kildare Secondary: Dunlavin, Co. Kildare |
| Family | Siblings: 3 brothers & 7 sisters Current Family if Different: Married with 3 sons |
| Club(s) | St. Laurence's |
| Occupation | Revenue Collection, County Council |
| Parents' Occupation | Farmers |
| Religion | Roman Catholic |
| Political Affiliation / Membership | N/A |
| Other Club/Society Membership(s) | Golf Club |

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| Date of Report | 9 th August 2012 |
| Period Covered | 1970s – 2011 |
| Counties/Countries Covered | Kildare, Mayo |
| Key Themes Covered | Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Coaching, Officials, Administration, Celebrations, Commiserations, Fundraising, Material Culture, Education, Religion, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, Identity, Rivalries, Club History, County History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Challenges, Sacrifices, Outsider's Perspectives, Relationship with the Association, Professionalism, Food and Drink, Socialising, Relationships, Economy / Economics |
| Interview Summary | <p>Mark and Mick talk about their involvement with the St. Laurence's club over the years. They recall their early memories of the GAA and how they became involved in the Association. They talk about the history of the club and Mick discusses the amalgamation with Castledermot in the 1970s. They discuss the development of the club's facilities over the years and the role of volunteers in that development. They talk about the club's county final win in 2009 and what that meant to those involved with St. Laurence's. They describe the celebrations afterwards and playing at provincial level. Mick and Mark give their opinion on various topics in the GAA like the issue of pay for play and the relationship between clubs and county.</p> <p>00:00 Introduction</p> <p>00:30 (Mick) Talks about his earliest GAA memories. Playing football in school in Crookstown.</p> <p>01:08 (Mark) Recalls his earliest GAA memories. Playing with the club. Getting to the All-Ireland semi finals in Mosney at underage. Talks about his family's involvement in the GAA.</p> <p>02:18 (Mick) Discusses his family's interest in the GAA. Originally from Mayo. Recalls his first time to see St. Laurence's play.</p> <p>03:32 (Both) They describe the type of facilities St. Laurence's had in the past.</p> <p>05:05 (Mark) Talks about the role of the GAA in his school days.</p> |

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| | <p>05:50 (Mick) Discusses the importance of juveniles in the club.</p> <p>06:50 (Mark) Talks about playing soccer.</p> <p>07:36 (Mick) Recalls the club's amalgamation with Castledermot in the 1970s. Talks about the success over the years and the role of the club in the community.</p> <p>10:18 (Both) They describe how they travelled to matches. Running buses for matches and the problems this caused.</p> <p>11:57 (Mick) Talks about the club's amalgamation with Castledermot and gives his opinion on amalgamations.</p> <p>13:32 (Both) They describe the growth in participation in the club. They talk about the issue of identity in the community. Describe how the club is a business.</p> <p>16:45 They talk about the type of fundraisers the club has held.</p> <p>18:08 (Mick) Discusses the development of the club's facilities over the years.</p> <p>20:38 (Mark) Talks about the training he does with the club.</p> <p>21:53 (Mick) Compares the difference in training from his time. Talks about the relationship between the club and county.</p> <p>23:45 (Both) They talk about the players in the club that play with the county and their relationship with the club.</p> <p>25:54 (Mark) Discusses the sacrifices he has made for the club.</p> <p>26:20 (Mick) Talks about the refurbishment of the club's facilities by volunteers.</p> <p>27:04 (Mark) Discusses the treatment of the senior team in the club.</p> <p>27:55 (Both) They talk about the issue of pay for play. They describe the commitment and time players give. Give their opinion on the Gaelic Players Association.</p> <p>32:32 They discuss the role of women in the club. They talk about ladies football and camogie in the club. Describe the relationship between the ladies football and camogie.</p> <p>35:45 They talk about dual players and the role of hurling in</p> |
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| | <p>the club.</p> <p>36:45 They recall the club's county title win in 2009 and the people that were involved. Describe the celebrations after.</p> <p>42:19 They talk about their best memories from their time in the GAA, winning the county title in 2009.</p> <p>43:57 (Mark) Discusses his GAA heroes. Mentions Dermot Earley Junior and Darragh Ó Sé.</p> <p>45:03 (Mick) Talks about his GAA heroes. Mentions Matt Connor from Offaly.</p> <p>45:48 Discusses the issues he has with the GAA. Talks about the saying of prayers before county board meetings.</p> <p>46:56 (Mark) Talks about his disappointments in the GAA.</p> <p>47:25 (Both) They talk about issues and disappointments with the GAA.</p> <p>50:00 (Mick) Discusses his role of chairman in the club.</p> <p>51:30 (Mark) Talks about his involvement in the club and what the GAA means to him.</p> <p>53:00 (Both) They describe the friendships made through the GAA. Mick talks about how it opens doors for work.</p> <p>54:00 (Mick) Describes what the GAA means to the local community.</p> |
| <p>Involvement in GAA</p> | <p>Mark:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input type="checkbox"/> Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coach <input type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input 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>Mick:</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> |

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| <p>Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)</p> | <p>Mark: Has been playing since the age of 6/7. Won an Under 10 Leinster, Under 14 League, Under 21 A (2004), Minor B, Junior championship (2009), 2 senior leagues (2005, 2009).</p> <p>Mick: Played from the age of 12 to 35. Won a Minor league and championship, a Leinster Minor and Under 21, a junior A and B and an intermediate.</p> |
| <p>Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)</p> | <p>Mark: N/A</p> <p>Mick: Has been involved in administration since 1978.</p> <p>Club: Secretary, Chairman (8 years), PRO and Delegate to County Board.</p> |
| <p>Format</p> | <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual</p> |
| <p>Duration</p> | <p>Length of Interview: 00:54:31</p> |
| <p>Language</p> | <p>English</p> |

To be filled in by Interviewer:

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Signed: _____ Arlene Crampsie _____

REFERENCE NO. KE/1/16

Date: _____09/08/12_____

