

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Arlene Crampsie
Date of Interview	16 th March 2010
Location	Peetie's home, near Drumlish, Co. Longford
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Peetie McWade [Peter McWade]
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1931 Home County: Longford
Education	Primary: St Mary's NS, Drumlish, Co. Longford
Family	Siblings: 2 brothers & 1 sister Current Family if Different: Married to Lily with 1 son and 1 daughter
Club(s)	Fr Manning Gaels
Occupation	County Council Digger
Parents' Occupation	Farmers and Publicans
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

REFERENCE NO. LD/1/12

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Terry McKenna
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1946 Home County: Longford
Education	Primary: Kiltycreevagh NS, Co. Longford Secondary: St Mary's, Athlone Third Level: Agricultural College, Ballyhaise, Co. Cavan
Family	Siblings: 1 sister Current Family if Different: Married with one son
Club(s)	Fr Manning Gaels
Occupation	Civil Servant
Parents' Occupation	Farmers
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	Fine Gael
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Community Development; Longford Resource; Ballinamuck Enterprise Group; Gun Club

REFERENCE NO. LD/1/12

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Micheál Joyce
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1949 Home County: Galway
Education	Primary: Inagh NS Secondary: St Mary's, Galway
Family	Siblings: 5 brothers & 2 sisters Current Family if Different: Married
Club(s)	Fr Manning Gaels
Occupation	Factory Manager
Parents' Occupation	Forestry Worker [Father]; Housewife & Farmer [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	Fianna Fáil
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Golf; Soccer

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Date of Report	12 th June 2012
Period Covered	1920s – 2010
Counties/Countries Covered	Longford, Galway, Waterford, Wexford, Cork, Kerry, Leitrim, Roscommon, Meath, Great Britain, England, Scotland
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Coaching, Refereeing, Officials, Administration, Celebrations, Commiserations, Fundraising, Material Culture, Education, Religion, Emigration, Involvement in GAA Abroad, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, GAA Abroad, All-Ireland, Club History, Irish History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Challenges, Alcohol, Violence, Northern Ireland, The Troubles, Ban on Foreign Games and Dances, Opening of Croke Park, Relationship with the Association, Professionalism, Food and Drink, Socialising, Purchase of Grounds, Relationships, Economy/Economics
Interview Summary	<p>Members of Fr. Manning Gaels GFC discuss their involvement with Longford club. They outline the history of the formation of the club, amalgamating the parishes of Drumlish and Ballinamuck, and they describe the club's wins and losses. They describe the celebrations after winning the 1996 senior championship in Longford and consider their hopes for the future of the club. In addition, they reflect on such topics as the negative impact of emigration on Fr. Manning Gaels, the role of the clergy in the club, the lifting of the ban in Croke Park, and professionalism in the GAA.</p> <p>00:49 Peetie recalls his earliest GAA memory, cycling to matches, no dressing rooms or showers. Travelling to such places as Colmcille, Granard, Edgeworthstown, Ballymahon. No cars.</p> <p>02:07 Discussion of facilities. Hard field. Pearse Park had tin house for dressing rooms. McKeowns' field for local matches, Purtys' field.</p> <p>02:59 Outlines history of club. Men running on roads to get fit. Peetie's father playing football, emigrating to England.</p> <p>03:44 Michael recalls his earliest memory: Living in Connemara in 1964 when Galway played in an All-Ireland semi-final and listening to the match on the radio. Emigrating to England aged 17, playing with clubs over there, returning</p>

	<p>to Longford. Playing in McKeown's field. Injuring knee during first game with Drumlish. Overage, playing under-21 in his brother's name. No facilities then. No money to go to pubs.</p> <p>06:54 Arrival of Terence McKenna. Terence describes his earliest GAA memory. Late 50s, playing under Fr Manning, as Éire Óg, Young Irelands team. Playing with them in early 60s. Travelling in one car driven by Tom Whitney. Sitting in car boot. Mentions Michael Mulleady's involvement in underage football. Michael transporting team in bakery van. Also mentions trainers Jim Hannify Senior, Tom Murphy, Mike Joe Quinn.</p> <p>10:02 Terence reflects on tradition of football in parish. Mentions Pat Joe Davis. 1960s junior team, progressing to intermediate and senior in 70s. In 90s, strong team, winning four senior championships. Good underage structure in club, hopes for future. Club that's won most senior championships in Longford. Outlines successes of club since 1920s. Mentions Pat Flynn, Sean Lenihan, Francis Maher, Peetie McWade of 1950s team.</p> <p>13:07 Terence discusses the dominance of football in their lives. Mentions Mike Joe Quinn, Tom Murphy, Jim Hannify. Recalls meeting man in Meath who played in Longford.</p> <p>14:41 Michael recounts story about Wexford county champions in 1930s. Strength of Drumlish in that era. Terence mentions Fr O'Farrell's disagreement with county board. Peetie mentions medal from 1919.</p> <p>15:59 Discussion of split in parish: Ballinamuck and Drumlish. Emigration, Peetie's father emigrating to Glasgow. Concerns about the future of club, players emigrating. Peetie describes his father's passion for football.</p> <p>17:07 Terence recalls conversation in 1984 with John McVeigh about The Troubles. Using cover of local pipe band for Old IRA meetings in 1920s. Some individuals active in War of Independence also involved in football. Mentions Malachy and Willie Kelleher. Frank and Pat McNally, Fr Duignan and Jimmy Duignan, Farrells of 1920s and 1930s.</p> <p>19:29 Peetie describes training under Mick Joe Quinn. Road running. Terence describes training under Mick Joe Quinn too. Rubbing ointment of poteen and wintergreen on muscles. Terence recalls going to a dance with Gerry Brady in Longford Arms.</p> <p>20:58 Peetie recollects celebrations after winning county</p>
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	<p>championship. Eating in Drakes in Longford. Dance. Crowds meeting them. Terence describes homecoming after 1996 senior championship, driven in Mulleadys' lorry, party in square.</p> <p>22:44 Peetie describes eating sweets and minerals. Terence outlines separation of Ballinamuck and Drumlish. Mentions Seamus Quillen. Reasons for amalgamation of clubs. Fr Manning's credentials. Challenge of getting teams to cooperate. Mentions families Mahers, Lenihans, Sorohans. Terence recalls playing against Gormanstown.</p> <p>27:15 Terence recollects Longford winning Feis cup. Feis Ceol in Longford. Cup for senior teams, Drumlish's success. Mentions Conor Maher. Peetie's possession of the cup. Mentions Charlie Kiernan's mother having the Fr Lynch Cup. Drumlish winning it in 1930s. Cup in McQuaids, Charlie Kiernan Snr the club secretary. Also mentions Forresters cup.</p> <p>30:50 Michael reflects on his first impressions of the club when he came in early 70s. Mentions Gerry Brady and Gerry Corrigan. First game, beating Colmcille. Shortage of players in Drumlish compared with Connemara. Issue of emigration in 60s and 70s. Mentions return of Kevin and Jimmy Hannify, which attracted more players. Strong Longford team in New York. Peetie mentions Big Jim Newton.</p> <p>34:05 Terence recalls playing a tournament in 1961 for Ballinamuck Church. Peetie marking policeman who was driver for Albert Reynolds, policeman ending up in river.</p> <p>35:05 Discussion of gear. Leather ball, leather ankle boots, steel toe. Heaviness of wet leather ball. Club colours: maroon and gold. Jersey with lace in neck.</p> <p>37:12 Description of development of club. Re-forming in 70s, mentions Fr. O'Flynn, Brian Duffy. Running carnivals, mentioned in Declan Nerney song. Mentions Pat Crowe. Terence recounts story involving dealing with a peeping Tom in ladies' toilet. Recalls another violent incident. Carnival: dancing, bands.</p> <p>40:16 Description of purchase of grounds. Owned by Joe Mallon. Cost. Peetie levelling ditches with digger. Official opening in 1984. Decision to buy grounds in late 60s, early 70s. Depending on local farmers till then. Efforts to buy pitch midway between two parts of parish. Development of stand, dugout, dressing rooms. 1987 and 1988 winning senior leagues. Success in mid-90s. Talented players. Jim Hannify's</p>
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	<p>strong management.</p> <p>44:58 Discussion of role of clergy and teachers in the GAA. Mentions Fr Manning, Fr O'Farrell, Fr O'Grady, Fr McKeown. St. Mel's.</p> <p>49:43 Description of Fr Manning's role in the club in the late 40s, early 50s, when it was Young Irelands. Also chairman of county board. Terence recalls training with him in Purtys' field. Character description of Fr Manning.</p> <p>50:48 Songs about club: Sorohan who wrote The Boys in Blue. Local songs written in 1996 by Patsy Carty and Bill Kelleher. Mentions Dessie Barry.</p> <p>52:47 Description of celebrations after winning 1996 county final. Bunting in windows of pubs and shops. Mentions Mick Kelly. Banner. Boost for parish. Dancing and drinking. Players visiting schools.</p> <p>54:20 Discussion of the role of the GAA in the parish. Focal point. Stewarding. Fears for future, keeping clubs afloat in rural areas in harsh economic climate. Cost of running club. Cost of medical and dental insurance.</p> <p>56:22 Their views on professionalism. Terence's objections to professionalism. Mentions Fr Pat Lennon in Waterford.</p> <p>58:48 Terence considers his agreement with the lifting of the ban. Initial unease in Croke Park. Mentions McDonagh. Bitterness.</p> <p>59:35 Michael reflects on the GAA's seemingly preferential treatment of big counties. Recounts story of refereeing error in Longford. His agreement with the lifting of the ban. Financial benefits for the GAA. Terence's regret he couldn't play rugby. Not allowed go to soccer match.</p> <p>01:02:11 Discussion of Republican factor in opposition to lifting of the ban.</p> <p>01:02:56 Their GAA heroes: Pádraic Joyce, Seán Purcell, Frankie Stockwell, Packie McGarty, Paddy Doherty, Sean O'Neill, Jack O'Shea, Eamon Maher.</p> <p>01:05:22 Peetie mentions winning double championship in 1953 as his GAA highlight. Terence mentions the 1996 senior county championship. Mentions Eamon Kerrigan, former treasurer. Michael mentions winning junior championship illegally in Pearse Stadium. Playing with Renvyle. Also winning 1996 championship.</p>
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	01:08:06 Discussion of their biggest disappointments: Losing two county finals in two years, losing minor final in 1994, Michael describes losing county final with Renvyle.
Involvement in GAA	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Player <input type="checkbox"/> Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Coach <input type="checkbox"/> Steward <input type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person <input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____
Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)	N/A
Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)	N/A
Format	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 01:12:01
Language	English

To be filled in by Interviewer:

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Signed: _____ Arlene Crampsie _____

Date: _____ 12/06/12 _____