

## GAA Oral History Project

## Interview Report Form

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Arlene Crampsie
<b>Date of Interview</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2011
<b>Location</b>	Interviewee's home, near Tempo, Co. Fermanagh
<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	Damian Campbell
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1946 <b>Home County:</b> Fermanagh
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> St. Mary's PS, Tempo, Co. Fermanagh <b>Secondary:</b> St. Michael's, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh <b>Third Level:</b> Queen's University Belfast
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 5 brothers & 3 sisters <b>Current Family if Different:</b> Married to Teresa Donnelly with 4 daughters and 1 son.
<b>Club(s)</b>	Tempo Maguires GAC
<b>Occupation</b>	Retired Teacher; Journalist
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Chemist [Father]; Draper [Mother]
<b>Religion</b>	Roman Catholic
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	SDLP
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	Fermanagh District Councillor, Amateur Dramatics Club, Credit Union

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<b>Date of Report</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> August 2012
<b>Period Covered</b>	1900s – 2011
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Fermanagh, Tyrone, Monaghan
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Playing, Training, Coaching, Refereeing, Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Administration, Fundraising, Education, Role of Clergy, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Identity, Culture, Volunteers, Rivalries, Media, Religion, Scór
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>Damian discusses his early playing days with Tempo Maguires GAC and his short inter-county career. He recalls the success of tournaments in Northern Ireland and changes within the GAA in the 1960s. Damian discusses the development of facilities within Tempo GAC. He talks about his involvement in the administrative side of the GAA and his career as a referee. He gives his opinion on “assessment” within the GAA. Damian talks about the importance of the GAA within the community and the role the GAA has played in his life.</p> <p>00:00 Introduction</p> <p>00:24 Discusses his earliest memory of the GAA – playing in a parish league between 4 local primary schools.</p> <p>01:10 Talks about the primary schools in the area and the differing levels of GAA involvement within the schools.</p> <p>02:20 Describes the leather laced ball used in the parish league. Mentions a parish priest, Fr Donnelly, who allowed them to borrow a ball to play locally.</p> <p>03:40 Recalls playing football in the school yard.</p> <p>04:29 Discusses the history of the name of the club – Tempo Maguires.</p> <p>05:48 Recalls that the club was initially called Éire Ógs. Gives an account of the history of GAA in Tempo. Mentions that hurling was dominant in the area at that time. Mentions the Hurley Field in the townland of Beagh.</p> <p>08:01 Discusses family involvement in the GAA. His father played soccer and became involved in the establishment of Tempo Maguires upon moving to the area. Talks about his brothers and their involvement in GAA.</p>

	<p>10:25 Describes the facilities in Tempo in his early playing days.</p> <p>11:15 Recalls travelling on a bar of a bicycle to watch his uncles playing football against Tempo.</p> <p>12:01 Discusses changes to the Tempo Maguires colours down through the years.</p> <p>13:28 Talks about his first pair of football boots. Recalls wearing soccer boots for most of his football career.</p> <p>14:35 Recalls the team and spectators travelling to matches by bus.</p> <p>16:18 Discusses the club's participation in tournaments. Recalls the club hosting tournaments and travelling to Tyrone to play in tournaments. Mentions travelling to Augher, Dromore, Ballygawley and Monaghan.</p> <p>17:40 Discusses club rivalry in the 1960s. Mentions Devenish (P.T. Treacy). Mentions the successes of Devenish.</p> <p>18:15 Recalls Tempo beating Devenish in a league match in 1968. Mentions writing an article in the Fermanagh Herald subsequent to the victory.</p> <p>19:48 Discusses the importance of football tournaments in the 1960s. Mentions the social aspects.</p> <p>20:05 Talks about changes in society in the 1960s. Mentions media, improved mobility. Legacy of Irish Independence.</p> <p>22:01 Recalls an experience of playing in a tournament in Ederney. Discusses the social life attached with Ederney – the Ederney Carnvial, dance at night.</p> <p>24:45 Recalls a dinner dance held in Tempo in the late 1960s. Discusses the excitement in the community.</p> <p>26:09 Discusses fundraising efforts in the community to raise money for the club. Mentions the annual tournament, draws, sports days.</p> <p>27:25 Talks about his football career with Tempo Maguires. Recalls winning a senior championship final and league final in 1970. Discusses the successes of the team in the early 1970s.</p> <p>30:00 Talks about the high level of support within the community for the football team in the 1970s. Mentions that the team were made up of a small nucleus of families –</p>
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	<p>Campbells, Breens, McCaffreys.</p> <p>31:11 Describes the celebrations that ensued after winning the county finals. Recalls travelling to Clones to celebrate after winning the final in 1970.</p> <p>33:15 Talks about the population in Tempo. Notes that the community is made up of Protestants and Catholics. Mentions that the Protestant community did not have any significant involvement in the GAA in Tempo. Recalls that a lot of Catholics played soccer. Mentions the McPhillips family.</p> <p>36:15 Discusses sports played in Tempo Maguires. Notes that Tempo Maguires is fully integrated with the Ladies Club. Mentions the success of ladies football in Tempo. Mentions that hurling, camogie, handball and rounders are not played in the club.</p> <p>38:01 Discusses the tradition of hurling within Tempo in the early days.</p> <p>38:50 Discusses his own short county football career with Fermanagh.</p> <p>41:05 Recalls organised training sessions at club level in his playing days. Mentions Tom McNally. Discusses the difference in the role of Manager compared to nowadays.</p> <p>42:53 Talks about the unusual short-ball style of football that Tempo Maguires adapted in the 1970s.</p> <p>43:40 Describes the physical training involved at club level.</p> <p>46:20 Discusses the development of GAA facilities in Tempo. Mentions Hugh McCaffrey. Mentions that the club required a long-term lease on the grounds of Edenmore in the 1950s. Recalls the opening of the pitch in 1957, where Tyrone played Cavan in a challenge match.</p> <p>49:20 Discusses the developments carried out to the field and facilities in the 1960s. Recalls purchasing an adjacent field in the 1990s. Mentions the importance of the parish priest in acquiring the field.</p> <p>52:38 Discusses his administrative roles within the club. Talks about becoming involved in meetings at a young age. Recalls having AGM meetings in a back room of the parish tin hall. Bringing turf. Mentions Phil Breen. Mentions that he was Secretary for the club a number of times. Organising carnivals.</p> <p>54:11 Discusses becoming involved in refereeing. Talks</p>
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	<p>about the challenges that faced him as a referee. Gives his opinion on the faults of the GAA.</p> <p>57:37 Talks about the enjoyment he found in refereeing. Mentions that he didn't receive any training.</p> <p>59:12 Gives an account of refereeing his first senior club match between Lisnaskea and Enniskillen. Recalls his nervousness.</p> <p>59:37 Describes refereeing his first inter-county senior match in Ballybay between Monaghan and Cavan. Recalls his enjoyment.</p> <p>01:01:18 Discusses his opinion on what makes a good referee – “a thick skin and a deaf ear”. Talks about the importance of common sense.</p> <p>01:03:50 Mentions that he very rarely spoke to the teams before the match started.</p> <p>01:05:18 Discusses the linesmen and umpires he worked with at county level. Mentions Mickey Breen, Artie Breen, Gerry McNally and Hugh Foy. Talks about the camaraderie among the men. Recalls travelling to matches together.</p> <p>01:07:07 Talks about the modern-day assessment in GAA. Notes that he is not in favour of assessment.</p> <p>01:08:35 Discusses the disadvantages of assessment from a referee's viewpoint. Gives his opinion on how the assessment of referees could be improved.</p> <p>01:10:53 Discusses the differences in training for referees from his refereeing days to nowadays.</p> <p>01:12:07 Recalls receiving minimal verbal abuse from players in his role as referee.</p> <p>01:14:25 Discusses the role of the GAA in his career as a journalist for the Fermanagh Herald. Recalls reporting county board meetings.</p> <p>01:18:07 Discusses the difficulties in being objective in writing about the GAA in the paper at times.</p> <p>01:19:12 Talks about Fermanagh's good run in football in 2004. Discusses his annoyance at people from other more successful counties looking down on Fermanagh football.</p> <p>01:21:24 Discusses the wealth of facilities and grounds in clubs around Fermanagh.</p>
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	<p>01:22:22 Discusses the change in how county board meetings are operated. Talks about the benefits of committees within the board.</p> <p>01:24:19 Discusses big changes in the GAA while he attended county board meetings. Mentions the lifting of the ban on foreign sports in Croke Park and Rule 21.</p> <p>01:25:55 Talks about the development of Brewster Park.</p> <p>01:26:57 Discusses the Centre of Excellence in Lissan. Mentions Joe McGurn's involvement.</p> <p>01:27:37 Describes the minimal relationship between the Men's County Board and Ladies County Board in Fermanagh.</p> <p>01:29:01 Discusses the impact of The Troubles on GAA in Fermanagh. Mentions that Tempo Maguires were not impacted as much as other clubs in Fermanagh by The Troubles.</p> <p>01:30:30 Notes that political views are not aired in Tempo Maguires.</p> <p>01:31:22 Discusses emigration and its impact on Tempo Maguires. Mentions that the current recession has not impacted largely on the club.</p> <p>01:33:13 Talks about the importance of media within the GAA. Discusses the impact of television. Talks about coverage of GAA in Fermanagh.</p> <p>01:36:58 Talks of his regret at the lack of Irish language and culture within Tempo GAC.</p> <p>01:38:50 Discusses the club's participation in Scór competitions.</p> <p>01:39:35 Discusses the growing professionalism within the GAA. Talks about the GPA. Gives his opinion that the GAA cannot afford professional players.</p> <p>01:42:44 Discusses songs he wrote for Tempo GAC. Recalls a song he wrote after winning the championship in 1970.</p> <p>01:44:00 Discusses his desire for the club to win another county championship. Talks about the potential within the current team to win a championship.</p> <p>01:45:45 Describes his best memories of his involvement in GAA – talks about winning his first championship, recalls refereeing big matches. Talks about the camaraderie and</p>
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	<p>friendships forged in being involved in the GAA.</p> <p>01:47:28 Talks about inspirational players within the GAA. Mentions Frank McGuigan of Tyrone playing against Armagh in an Ulster final.</p> <p>01:49:40 Recalls refereeing a match in London.</p> <p>01:50:34 Talks about a team from England, the Geraldines, coming to the club to play matches in Tempo in the 1950s.</p> <p>01:51:20 Discusses his disappointment within the GAA. Gives his opinion that football does not live up to its full potential due to continual rule changes.</p> <p>01:55:50 Talks about what his involvement in the GAA has meant to him.</p>
<p><b>Involvement in GAA</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manager <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p>
<p><b>Record as a Player</b> (Titles won; Length of time played)</p>	<p>Played from 1956 – 1978. Won 3 senior championships and 3 senior leagues.</p>
<p><b>Record as an Administrator</b> (Positions held; how long for)</p>	<p>Got involved in administration in the mid 1960s.</p> <p>Club: Secretary (3 terms), County Board Delegate</p> <p>County: Youth Board Chairman, PRO, Representative to Central Council</p>
<p><b>Format</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual</p>
<p><b>Duration</b></p>	<p>Length of Interview: 01:57:26</p>
<p><b>Language</b></p>	<p>English</p>

**To be filled in by Interviewer:**

I hereby assign the copyright of the content of the above to the GAA Oral History Project on the understanding that the content will not be used in a derogatory manner. I understand that I am giving the GAA Oral History Project the right to use and make available to the public the content of this interview.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_Arlene Crampsie\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_06/08/12\_\_\_\_\_