

## GAA Oral History Project

## Interview Report Form

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Arlene Crampsie
<b>Date of Interview</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2010
<b>Location</b>	Interviewee's home, near Knockcroghery, Co. Roscommon
<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	Eileen Fallon
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Female
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1947 <b>Home County:</b> Roscommon
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Ballymurry NS, Co. Roscommon <b>Secondary:</b> Convent of Mercy, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 4 brothers & 2 sisters <b>Current Family if Different:</b> Married to Tommy with 3 daughters and 2 sons
<b>Club(s)</b>	St. Dominic's
<b>Occupation</b>	CIE Clerical Officer
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	General Secretary of National Association of Transport Employees (NATE) Union [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
<b>Religion</b>	Roman Catholic
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	N/A
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	Community Games; Association for the Mentally Handicapped.

**REFERENCE NO. RN/1/6**

<b>Date of Report</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> July 2012
<b>Period Covered</b>	1930s – 2010
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Roscommon, Dublin, Americas, USA, Kerry, Tyrone, Derry
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Supporting, Facilities, Playing, Managing, Refereeing, Officials, Administration, Commiserations, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Media, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, GAA Abroad, Culture, Scór, All Ireland, Club History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Northern Ireland, The Troubles, Relationship with the Association, Socialising, Relationships, Economy / Economics
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>Eileen talks about her involvement in Scór and Camogie with St Dominics GAA in Co. Roscommon. She places heavy emphasis on the social aspect of the association and on the enjoyment she has gotten from her experiences. She also tells of her involvement in compiling the club history and the administrative roles she has held at both club and county level.</p> <p>00:00 Introduction</p> <p>00:25 Recalls going to matches as a child and in recent years. Describes the importance of the GAA to her family and to the community in general. Mentions travelling by car.</p> <p>02:27 Talks about getting involved in Scór.</p> <p>03:11 Gives a brief background to her club, Naomh Dominic. Mentions Ballymurry, Rahara, St Johns, Knockcroghery, St Patrick's. Mentions Bishop Dominic Connolly.</p> <p>04:22 Describes her father's (Michael Cox's) involvement in the GAA. Mentions Dublin. Mentions the formation of the supporters club.</p> <p>05:57 Talks about growing up. Mentions Irish dancing and handball. Talks about the development of the local field.</p> <p>07:31 Recalls playing camogie and becoming involved in the administration of the club, the county board and the Connacht Council.</p> <p>08:21 Recalls the games she used to play with her siblings and the neighbours. Mentions soccer. Mentions farming.</p>

	<p>09:30 Mentions her uncles Tony, Harry and Paddy and their involvement in the 1930s. Mentions Mayo.</p> <p>10:05 Talks about the benefit of the GAA to people, specifically her own children. Mentions the Division 1 All-Ireland Camogie Féile and Scór.</p> <p>11:44 Recalls stories about novelty acts she was involved in for Ceol, Caint agus Damhsa (CCD). Mentions Parnell Hall, Dublin. Mentions Pat Bevan from Bantry who wrote the scripts for Novelty Acts.</p> <p>12:50 Talks about the social club in St. Dominics GAA. Mentions Kathleen Gannon, Liam Gilmartin. Mentions women in the club and the organisation of the Dinner Dances on New Year's Eve and the book launch.</p> <p>14:45 Discusses her mother and her sisters and their involvement in the GAA. Mentions washing jerseys. Mentions Kathleen Gannon. Mentions volunteerism and professionalism. Mentions Meath.</p> <p>18:30 Talks about the bureaucracy of the association.</p> <p>19:22 Describes how she became involved in administration. Compares her involvement with that of her daughter. Mentions Parnell Park and Phoenix Park, Dublin. Mentions being secretary and chairperson.</p> <p>21:07 Recalls incidents that happened at meetings. Mentions Connacht Council. Mentions Mullagh GAA, Co. Galway. Mentions the All-Ireland Club Semi Final.</p> <p>22:52 Describes the difference between administration at club, county and provincial level. Talks about friends and enemies. Mentions Galway. Mentions referee Sean Mullaney.</p> <p>25:52 Recalls stories about different characters involved in camogie, particularly with St Dominics. Mentions Phil Fanning, Mícheál O'Connor. Mentions Taughmacconnell GAA, St. Coman's GAA. Mentions travelling in the back of a truck and having a Volkswagen car.</p> <p>29:04 Talks about taking underage teams on trips and the parents of younger players. Mentions Féile na nGael and Community Games. Mentions Kilkenny.</p> <p>31:17 Tells a story about seeing Roscommon play in New York. Mentions meeting Peter Lyons in Gaelic Park.</p> <p>31:47 Talks about compiling the history of St Dominics. Mentions her father, Donald Feeley, JJ Weir, Liam Byrne,</p>
--	---

	<p>John Murray, Tommy Fallon, Anne Connaughton, Edward John Beattie, Mary Gannon and Geraldine Beattie. Mentions Rahara, St John's and St. Patrick's.</p> <p>34:41 Discusses club members who played for the county in the 1940s. Mentions Jimmy Murray, Liam Gilmartin, Johnny Briens, Jim Brennan, Phelim Murray, Gerry O'Malley. Mentions Peamount Hospital. Mentions travelling by bicycle to Dublin. Fame of Jimmy Murray and the clay pipes. Mentions St. Brigid's GAA.</p> <p>36:58 Talks about how Gerry O'Malley came to play for the club. Mentions St. Brigid's GAA. Mentions Kerry. Mentions Croke Park.</p> <p>38:14 Recalls the 1980 All-Ireland Championship campaign. Mentions Conor Hayes. Mentions Kerry. Mentions Croke Park.</p> <p>39:33 Recalls Roscommon playing in a Junior Hurling final and players past and present. Mentions St. Coman's Park, Hyde Park, Gerry O'Malley, Dermot Earley, Tony McManus, Harry Keegan, Pat Lindsay, Tom Heneghan. Mentions McCranns. Mentions Warwickshire GAA. Mentions Ennis. Recalls winning the minor and the captain Mark Miley stopping with Jimmy Murray. Recalls that the village was burned by the Black and Tans.</p> <p>41:31 Describes how St Dominic's was formed. Mentions Rahara St Johns GAA, Ballymurry GAA, Knockcroghery GAA, St. Patrick's GAA. Mentions Jack Kirwan, Donald Feeley, Michael Cox, Tommy Fallon, Michael Craven and PJ Beades.</p> <p>43:35 Talks about the St Dominics colours.</p> <p>44:24 Discusses the history of hurling in the area. Mentions Tremane GAA. Mentions Jamesie Murray. Mentions the Junior Hurling County Championships 1965, Senior Hurling County Championships 1969, 1994.</p> <p>45:29 Explains how they generated interest for hurling in the national schools and subsequent underage hurling success. Mentions Galway hurlers Joe Connolly, John Connolly, Jimmy Cooney and people working with the underage in the club like John Dillon, Joe Connaughton.</p> <p>47:58 Discusses the relationship between the different codes in the club. Mentions football, hurling, camogie, ladies football.</p> <p>49:20 Discusses the role of the clergy and teachers in the</p>
--	--

	<p>area. Mentions Fr Killian, Canon Lavin and Eamon Spillane. Mentions camogie and hurling. Mentions Knockcroghery. Mentions Scór na bPáistí.</p> <p>51:26 Talks about religious and cultural diversity in the area. Discusses new people coming into the club.</p> <p>53:11 Describes the fundraising activities of the Roscommon supporters club in Dublin, set up in 1980. Mentions Four Roads GAA.</p> <p>54:53 Talks about travelling to New York to see Roscommon play. Mentions Gaelic Park. Mentions Michael Finneran and Terry Connaughton.</p> <p>57:07 Recalls seeing a match in London and travelling there with Dominics. Mentions Tara GFC London. Mentions Geraldine Sheridan, Damien Sheridan and Joe Sheridan.</p> <p>58:33 Talks about dealing with losing and with bad decisions. Mentions Scór.</p> <p>58:56 Discusses the role of the club in the parish.</p> <p>59:56 Describes the fundraising methods that have been employed by the club. Talks about sponsorship. Mentions the county board.</p> <p>01:03:01 Talks about the relationship between the Camogie Association, the Ladies' Football Association and the GAA.</p> <p>01:05:01 Talks about the relationship between ladies' football and camogie.</p> <p>01:07:19 Discusses the future of camogie. Talks about the skills in camogie and hurling and the expense of running a camogie club.</p> <p>01:08:59 Talks about the roughness of football. Mentions TG4.</p> <p>01:09:52 Describes the camogie kits when she was younger.</p> <p>01:11:46 Discusses her involvement in Scór and its history in the club. Mentions the involvement of the youth. Mentions Patrick Colgan, Donald Feeley, Phonsie Tully, Áine Shine, James Murray. Mentions Ballyforan, Castlebar. Mentions Spa GAA Club Kerry.</p> <p>01:16:58 Recalls adjudicating in Scór. Mentions Omagh, Ennis. Mentions Clara GAA Offaly. Mentions Brother Sylvester, Dorothy Whelan. Recalls incidents of controversy.</p>
--	---

**REFERENCE NO. RN/1/6**

	<p>01:20:26 Talks about the GAA's attitude to Scór. Mentions Jarlath Burns, Máire Graham.</p> <p>01:22:02 Discusses the role of the media in the GAA. Refers to a particular incident involving Roscommon players in Derry. Mentions Martin Breheny. Mentions amateur status.</p> <p>01:23:58 Recalls travelling to Northern Ireland during the Troubles. Mentions Scór na nÓg. Mentions St Enda's Hall in Omagh, Ballycastle in Belfast, The Bogside in Derry, Armagh and Tyrone. Mentions Amhrán na bhFiann.</p> <p>01:28:01 Talks about the role national politics has had in St Dominics.</p> <p>01:28:48 Describes he favourite memories of the GAA. Mentions Senior Hurling 1994. Mentions Scór. Mentions Áine Shine.</p> <p>01:30:24 Talks about her GAA heroes. Mentions Seán Kelly, Míchéal O'Callaghan, her parents.</p> <p>01:31:33 Describes the strangest places she has watched matches. Mentions New York.</p> <p>01:32:20 Talks about her biggest disappointment and her hopes in the GAA. Mentions 1980.</p> <p>01:33:11 Talks about the sense of identity the GAA has given her.</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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input checked="" 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 for 3 years. Won 2 Senior County Camogie Championships.</p>
<p><b>Record as an Administrator</b> (Positions held; how long for)</p>	<p>Has been involved in administration since 1968.</p> <p>Camogie Club: Secretary, Chairperson</p> <p>GAA Club: Parks Development Committee, Scór, History Committee</p> <p>Camogie County: Secretary, Chairperson and Delegate to Connacht Council</p>

**REFERENCE NO. RN/1/6**

	Camogie Connacht: Secretary and Chairperson
<b>Format</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
<b>Duration</b>	Length of Interview: 01:33:49
<b>Language</b>	English

**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:                      \_\_\_\_\_ 12/07/12 \_\_\_\_\_