GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Arlene Crampsie
interviewer	
Date of Interview	15 th March 2011
Location	Kilcock GAA Clubhouse, Kilcock, Co. Kildare
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Tom Durkan
	Biographical Summary of Interviewee
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1956
	Home County: Mayo
Education	Primary: Ballyglass NS, Co. Mayo
	Secondary: Ballinafad College, Co. Mayo
Family	Siblings: 5 brothers
	Current Family if Different: Married with 4 daughters and 1 son
Club(s)	Kilcock [Kildare]; Ballintubber [Mayo]; Mayo Gaels [Mayo]; Shannon Gaels [Cavan]; Manorhamilton [Leitrim]
Occupation	Prison Officer
Parents' Occupation	Farmers
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	Fine Gael
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Kilcock Athletics Club

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Brian Connaughton
	Biographical Summary of Interviewee
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1945
	Home County: Galway
Education	Primary: Windfield NS
	Secondary: Mountbellew, Co. Galway
	Third Level: Kevin Street College
Family	Siblings: 2 brothers & 3 sisters
	Current Family if Different: Married with 2 daughters and 1 son
Club(s)	Mountbellew [Galway]; Emly [Tipperary]; Leixlip O'Toole's [Kildare]; Kilcock [Kildare]
Occupation	Factory Quality Control Officer
Parents' Occupation	Farmers
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	Fine Gael
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Micheál Ó Muineog
	Biographical Summary of Interviewee
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1942
	Home County: Clare
Education	Primary: Drumcharley NS and Feakle NS
	Secondary: St. Flannan's College, Ennis, Co. Clare
	Third Level: St. Pat's, Drumcondra, Dublin; UCD
Family	Siblings: 3 brothers & 2 sisters
	Current Family if Different: Married with 3 sons and 1 daughter
Club(s)	Tulla [Clare]; Erins Hope [Dublin]; Edenderry [Offaly]; Kilcock [Kildare]
Occupation	Teacher
Parents' Occupation	Farmer
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Glór na nGael; St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee

Name of Interviewee (Maiden	Michael J. McGinley
name / Nickname)	
	Biographical Summary of Interviewee
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1933
	Home County: Donegal
Education	Primary: Massinass NS, Creeslough, Co. Donegal
	Secondary: St. Eunan's College, Co. Donegal
Family	Siblings: 2 sisters & 2 brothers
	Current Family if Different: Married with 2 sons and 1 daughter
Club(s)	St. Michael's [Donegal]; Ballina Stephenites [Mayo]; Clogheen [Tipperary]; Enniscrone [Sligo]; Inniskeen Grattan's [Monaghan]; Trim [Meath]; Summerhill GFC [Meath]; Kilcock [Kildare]
Occupation	Garda Sergeant
Parents' Occupation	Donegal County Council [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

Name of Interviewee (Maiden	Brendan Macken
name / Nickname)	
	Biographical Summary of Interviewee
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1947
	Home County: Mayo
Education	Primary: Ballinrobe CBS, Co. Mayo
	Secondary: Ballinrobe CBS, Co. Mayo
Family	Siblings: 1 brother & 2 sisters
	Current Family if Different: Married with 4 sons and 3 daughters
Club(s)	Ballinrobe [Mayo]; Enfield [Kildare]; Kilcock [Kildare]
Occupation	Garda
Parents' Occupation	Farmers
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	Fine Gael
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Tidy Towns, St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee

Date of Report	9 th August 2012
Period Covered	1900s – 2011
Counties/Countries Covered	Kildare, Mayo, Clare, Donegal, Galway
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Coaching, Refereeing, Officials, Administration, Celebrations, Commiserations, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Material Culture, Education, Religion, Media, Emigration, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, Identity, Rivalries, Irish Language, Culture, Scór, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Irish History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Challenges, Sacrifices, Alcohol, Relationship with the Association, Professionalism, Retirement, Food and Drink, Socialising, Purchase of Grounds, Relationships, Economy / Economics
Interview Summary	Members of Kilcock GAA talk about their involvement in the GAA over the years. The group discuss their early memories of the Association and growing up in counties like Donegal, Galway, Mayo and Clare. Micheál talks about becoming a teacher and his involvement in different clubs before moving to Kilcock. They describe what facilities for GAA were like when they were growing up and give their first impressions of the GAA in Kilcock. Micheál discusses the history of the club and the GAA in the area and talks about writing the club's history. The group talks about the development of the club over the years and how it has improved and they discuss the club's main rivalries and success. They talk about the club's participation in the Scór competition and how Kilcock has performed in this. The group gives its opinion on various issues in the GAA and discuss the impact of the Celtic Tiger on the club and how that has changed in recent years. Towards the end of the interview they highlight the important role the GAA has played in their lives and talk about what the GAA means to the local community. 00:00 Introduction 00:57 (Tom) Talks about his earliest GAA memories. Growing up in Ballintubber in Mayo. Going to Croke Park with his father. Describes how they travelled to matches.
	02:26 (Micheál) Recalls his earliest GAA memories. Talks about his father taking him to matches in Tommy Daly Memorial Park in the late 1940s in Tulla Co. Clare. Describes

the teams at the time. Discusses going to Ennis to see Clare playing. Mentions Jimmy Smith. Talks about the different matches he went to. Recalls being on holidays when Tulla won a county championship.

07:33 (Michael) Talks about his involvement in the GAA. Growing up in Creeslough in Donegal. Playing soccer before getting involved in Gaelic games. Playing a match in Ards Friary. Helping to form a GAA club there. Having a meeting with Martin McNeely, Tony Langan, Dr Coll and Jim McCafferty. Recalls the first match the club played and how they got on in the early years. Joining the Gardaí and playing with different clubs around the country. Getting involved with the Kilcock club in the 1970s.

12:04 (Brendan) Discusses his early GAA memories. Listening to Michael O'Hehir and the All-Ireland final on the radio in 1953. Going to school in the CBS in Ballinrobe, Mayo. Playing in street leagues. Joining the Gardaí. Getting involved with the Kilcock club.

15:01 (Brian) Talks about growing up in Mountbellew in Galway. Discusses his uncle's involvement in the GAA. Discusses listening to the 1953 All-Ireland final between Galway and Cork. Recalls a match between Mountbellew and Newbridge in Tuam. Getting involved with the Kilcock club in the 1960s.

18:20 (Tom) Discusses his playing career. Playing with Ballintubber.

21:42 (Micheál) Playing with Erin's Hope in St Patrick's College in Dublin. Moving to Edenderry and later to Johnstown Bridge in Kildare. Getting involved with Kilcock and writing the history of the club. Mentions Micheal Noonan, Mick O'Donnell.

25:22 (Michael) Describes the type of facilities when he was growing up.

26:45 (Brendan) Talks about the facilities for GAA when was young.

28:38 (Micheál) Discusses the type of facilities available in Tulla.

30:45 (Brian) Talks about the type of facilities in Mountbellew and what it was like in Kilcock. Mentions the people involved in the club when he first moved there. Discusses the improvements in the facilities.

33:48 (Brendan) Discusses getting involved in the GAA in Kilcock. Describes what the facilities were like in 1978.

35:55 (Tom) Talks about the club's grounds.

36:45 (Micheál) Discusses the history of the club in Kilcock. Talks about the people involved in the club in the early years and where they came from. Describes how some were involved in the Kildare teams of the 1910s. Notes the club struggled during the War of Independence. Talks about the make-up of the parish and the nearby area of Cappagh.

46:54 Talks about the role of different players in the club and the amalgamation of Kilcock and Cappagh. Describes the success of the club in the 1950s. Mentions Sean Brennan a Kilkenny footballer. Talks about the rivalry with Moorefield. Mentions Davey Dalton.

50:55 Discusses the role of hurling in the club.

52:38 (Brian) Talks about moving to Kilcock and his first experiences of the GAA club.

53:42 (Tom) Discusses his first involvement in the Kilcock club.

54:58 (Brendan) Talks about his first impressions of the GAA in Kilcock and what it means to be a part of the Association.

56:31 (Michael) Discusses being in the Gardaí and his involvement in the GAA in different parts of the country. Moving to Kilcock. Developing the club's grounds.

59:00 (Brendan) Talk about the development of the club and the introduction of ladies' football.

01:00:10 (Michael) Discusses camogie in the club.

01:00:58 (Micheál) Talks about his first impressions of the GAA in Kilcock.

01:02:10 (All) They talk about the club moving to their new ground.

01:03:00 They discuss the different families involved in the club and the involvement of outsiders. Talk about the influence of the Celtic Tiger.

01:05:35 They talk about the different fundraisers they have run for the club.

01:07:35 (Micheál) Talks about the Bán Óg area in Kilcock. Describes cricket being played there. Talks about his family's

history.

01:10:42 (All) They discuss the different fundraisers they ran and the role of the club's bar.

01:12:30 They talk about the issue of identity in the club and in the county.

01:16:45 They discuss the type of celebrations they hold after victories.

01:19:14 The group talks about the club's biggest rivals like Cappagh.

01:21:00 They talk about the club's songs, one about a match in Maynooth against Cappagh.

01:22:45 The group discusses the club's involvement in the Scór competition. They give their opinion on the competition.

01:26:10 They talk about the impact of the Celtic Tiger on the club and how things have changed in recent times.

01:27:42 (Micheál) Discusses the role of teachers and the clergy in the club. Talks about the people involved. Mentions Eamonn Costello, PJ Byrne and the work done by Father John McWee. Mentions Fr Harry Bohan.

01:33:12 (All) They talk about the club's relationship with the county board.

01:34:26 They talk about their best GAA memories.

01:38:04 (Brendan) Discusses his GAA heroes. Mentions Owen Roe O'Neill.

01:39:10 (Michael) Talks about his GAA heroes. Mentions Frank Stockwell and Sean Purcell.

01:39:50 (Micheál) Discusses his GAA heroes. Mentions Christy Ring, Mick Mackey, Jimmy Smyth and Brian Lohan.

01:40:57 (Brian) Chooses Mattie McDonagh and Mick O'Connell as his GAA heroes.

01:41:25 (Tom) Talks about his GAA heroes. Mentions Mickey Kerins.

01:41:45 (Micheál) Tells a story about Mick O'Connell and Larry Coughlan.

01:42:45 (Brendan) Chooses John Morley as his GAA heroes.

	01:44:00 (All) They talk about their favourite players over the years. Mention Davey Dalton.
	01:46:26 (Brendan) Discusses his biggest disappointments in the GAA over the years.
	01:47:26 (Brian) Gives his opinion on pay for play.
	01:47:56 (Micheál) Talks about the issues in the GAA.
	01:50:30 (Brendan) Recalls a story about the 1990 World Cup.
	01:51:21 (All) They talk about what the GAA has meant to them during their lifetimes. Micheál describes his mother's interest in the GAA. Talk about the friends that you make. Brendan tells a story about Pat O'Neill.
Involvement in	Tom:
GAA	✓ Supporter ✓ Player ✓ Manager □ Coach □ Steward
	✓ Chairperson ✓ Committee Member □ Grounds-person
	□ Caterer □ Jersey Washer ✔ Referee □ None
	☐ Other (please specify):
	Brian:
	✓ Supporter ✓ Player ✓ Manager ✓ Coach ✓ Steward
	☐ Chairperson ✓ Committee Member ✓ Grounds-person
	✓ Caterer ✓ Jersey Washer ✓ Referee □ None
	☐ Other (please specify):
	Micheál:
	✓ Supporter ✓ Player ✓ Manager ✓ Coach □ Steward
	☐ Chairperson ✓ Committee Member ☐ Grounds-person
	☐ Caterer ✓ Jersey Washer ✓ Referee ☐ None
	☐ Other (please specify):Scór and Club Historian
	Michael:
	✓ Supporter ✓ Player □ Manager ✓ Coach ✓ Steward

	✓ Chairperson ✓ Committee Member ✓ Grounds-person
	✓ Caterer □ Jersey Washer ✓ Referee □ None
	☐ Other (please specify):
	Brendan:
	✓ Supporter ✓ Player □ Manager ✓ Coach ✓ Steward
	✓ Chairperson ✓ Committee Member ✓ Grounds-person
	□ Caterer □ Jersey Washer ✓ Referee □ None
	☐ Other (please specify):Scór
Record as a Player	Tom:
(Titles won; Length of time played)	Played from 1969 to 1994. Won a Mayo Under 21 and intermediate with Ballintubber and a Cavan junior title in 1980 with Shannon Gaels.
	Brian:
	Played for 30 years. Won a junior title with Kilcock in 1981 and league with O'Toole's.
	Micheál: Played from 1955 to 1966.
	Michael:
	Played for 19 years. Won a league medal with St. Michael's, leagues, Hackett and Ward Cup medals with Inniskeen and a senior championship with Trim.
	Brendan:
	Played from 1965 to 1975. Won 1 junior (1972) and 1 intermediate title (1973) with Ballinrobe.
Record as an Administrator	Tom: Has been involved in administration since 2005.
(Positions held; how long for)	Club: Vice-chairperson.
	Brian: Has been involved in administration since 1977.
	Club: Assistant Secretary (6 years), Secretary (2 years), Delegate to County Board.
	County: Competitions Control Committee (1 year).
	Micheál:

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:	09/08/12