

## GAA Oral History Project

## Interview Report Form

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Tommy McCann
<b>Date of Interview</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2010
<b>Location</b>	N/A
<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	Terence Donegan
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1966 <b>Home County:</b> Louth
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Collon National School, Co. Louth. <b>Secondary:</b> Ardee Community School, Co. Louth
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 3 brothers; 2 sisters
<b>Club(s)</b>	Mattock Rangers GFC [Louth]
<b>Occupation</b>	N/A
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Builder [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
<b>Religion</b>	N/A
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	N/A
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	N/A

REFERENCE NO. LH/1/36

<b>Date of Report</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> July 2012
<b>Period Covered</b>	1950s – 2010
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Louth, Meath, Dublin, Kerry
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Officials, Administration, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Material Culture, Education, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, Identity, Rivalries, Irish Language, Culture, Club History, County History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Challenges, Purchase of Grounds, Relationships, Economy/ Economics
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>Terry Donegan describes his earliest memories of the GAA and the closeness of the links between Collon and neighbouring areas. As well as documenting the highs and lows of the club's history in recent decades, Donegan outlines the nature of his own involvement, in the process shedding light on issues such as the youth and grounds development, the diversity of Gaelic games on offer within the club and the role played by women as administrators and players. Donegan contemplates the future challenges and sets out his views on the core values of the GAA.</p> <p>00:00:05 Terry Donegan introduces himself as a member of Mattock Rangers GAA club.</p> <p>00:00:25 Earliest memories: travelling to Louth matches with grandfather. Mentions father's lack of interest and the involvement of Uncles with Hunterstown.</p> <p>00:00:55 Recalls being in Croke Park on day when Louth wore all red kit and Meath wore an all green kit.</p> <p>00:01:23 Beginning of playing career in school in Collon. Reference to internal school competition and underdeveloped nature of underage competitive football at time.</p> <p>00:02:20 Family involvement in GAA – parents background.</p> <p>00:02:45 Story about programme on LMFM and relationship between Collon (in Louth) and Syddan (in Meath). Links between Collon (where Mattock Rangers are based) and Hunterstown are also discussed.</p> <p>00:03:55 Rivalry between Mattock Rangers and Hunterstown.</p> <p>00:04:20 Admiration for Damien Reid, a neighbour, and his</p>

## REFERENCE NO. LH/1/36

	<p>influence in getting him involved with Mattock.</p> <p>00:05:26 Admiration for non-Louth players, especially Kerry players of the 1970s and the way they played football.</p> <p>00:06:15 Highpoints of club involvement: sub on Intermediate winning team in 1982 and club record in the early to mid 1990s.</p> <p>00:06:55 Club breakthrough in winning senior championship in 2002.</p> <p>00:07:17 Low point in club history – playoff to hold Intermediate status in 1994.</p> <p>00:07:50 Local club rivalries</p> <p>00:08:25 Involvement in club administration, starting aged 18. Ongoing participation of players in club administration and the value of it.</p> <p>00:10:00 Administrative roles filled within club.</p> <p>00:10:30 Challenges in getting new people involved in club – reference to the success of club nursery and to concerns over lack of opportunities for physical exercise among children.</p> <p>00:12:20 Future objectives of club: complete pitch development, maintain juvenile structure...</p> <p>00:12:45 Grounds: existing facilities and current developments. Reference to growing demands from hurling, camogie and ladies football.</p> <p>00:13:10 Background to start-up of hurling in club. Influence of key individuals, the numbers of dual players, competition with football.</p> <p>00:15:20 Role of women within Mattock Rangers – reference to participation on committees and in officer roles.</p> <p>00:16:10 Interest among young people in participating in club.</p> <p>00:16:35 Sponsorship: support from named local businessmen.</p> <p>00:17:15 Economic recession and impact on fundraising – reference to the cost of club development, ongoing financial commitments and the money already raised.</p> <p>00:18:00 Recalls compulsory Irish language in school and reflects on the place of language within the GAA.</p>
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**REFERENCE NO. LH/1/36**

	<p>00:18:55 GAA and Irish identity: reference to importance of national anthem.</p> <p>00:19:35 Pride in GAA: reference to amateur status and benefits that flow from it.</p>
<b>Involvement in GAA</b>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player   <input type="checkbox"/> Manager   <input type="checkbox"/> Coach   <input type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chairperson   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member   <input 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>
<b>Record as a Player</b> (Titles won; Length of time played)	Player for 30 years
<b>Record as an Administrator</b> (Positions held; how long for)	Club Committee member from 18 years of age
<b>Format</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
<b>Duration</b>	Length of Interview: 00:20:06
<b>Language</b>	English

**REFERENCE NO. LH/1/36**

**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: Tommy McCann

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2010