

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Arlene Crampsie
Date of Interview	21 st Feb 2011
Location	Interviewee's home, near Hill of Down, Co. Meath
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Brigid Carney
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Female
Born	Year Born: 1937 Home County: Meath
Education	Primary: Belpatrick NS, Co. Louth Secondary: Ardee Technical School, Co. Louth
Family	Siblings: 1 brother & 1 sister Current Family if Different: Married to JJ
Club(s)	Killyon [Meath]; Liscannor [Clare]
Occupation	Post Office Worker and NEC Factory, Ballivor
Parents' Occupation	Farmers
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	Fine Gael
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

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Date of Report	6 th August 2012
Period Covered	1904 – 2011
Counties/Countries Covered	Meath, Clare, Louth, Dublin
Key Themes Covered	Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Playing, Training, Coaching, Refereeing, Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Administration, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Education, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Identity, Culture, Volunteers, Rivalries, Media, Religion, Relationship with the Association, Socialising, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Emigration
Interview Summary	<p>Brigid recalls early memories of being involved in the GAA. She discusses moving to Clare for a short period and beginning to play camogie. She discusses the steps involved in forming the camogie club in Killyon, County Meath. Brigid talks about the various administrative roles she has held over the years at both club and county level, the changes in camogie from her early involvement to now and what her involvement in Gaelic games has meant to her in her lifetime.</p> <p>00:00 Introduction</p> <p>00:24 Earliest memory of the GAA is travelling to Croke Park from the age of 12 on. Her highlight was going to see Louth beat Cork in an All-Ireland final in 1957. Recalls sitting in the upper deck of the Cusack Stand. Travelling by car.</p> <p>01:25 Recalls her first trip to Croke Park – mentions the crowds.</p> <p>01:45 Discusses growing up in Louth. Notes that camogie was not very dominant in the area and so she did not have much participation in Gaelic games at the time.</p> <p>02:09 Recalls moving to Clare to work and becoming involved with a camogie club in Liscannor.</p> <p>02:38 Talks about family involvement in the GAA – mentions that her brother played football with Hunterstown in Louth.</p> <p>03:01 Discusses moving to Meath after getting married and forming a camogie club in Killyon in 1975.</p> <p>03:32 Describes playing facilities in Clare. Recalls getting changed in huts. Mentions travelling to Tulla and Bodyke to play matches.</p>

	<p>04:43 Discusses the reasoning behind forming a camogie team in Killyon. Recalls the successes of the Killyon camogie team in its initial years.</p> <p>05:43 Describes the steps involved in setting up the camogie club and team. Talks about fundraising efforts.</p> <p>06:17 Describes the changes in the kit worn by the camogie team over the years. Mentions Mrs Raleigh.</p> <p>07:03 Talks about the reaction to the changes in the kit for the women in camogie.</p> <p>08:08 Discusses the status of camogie in Meath at the time of the formation of the Killyon club. Recalls winning a junior championship in 1977 and moving to the senior championship. Mentions winning senior championship in 1981.</p> <p>08:58 Talks about the successes of the Killyon camogie team over the years – mentions that they have won 6 senior championships.</p> <p>09:26 Discusses the effort that went into creating a successful team. Mentions the contribution by her husband JJ. Notes the dedication of the women on the team.</p> <p>10:22 Describes training regimes for the camogie team. Talks about the strength of the current camogie structure in Killyon.</p> <p>11:28 Discusses support from parents and the community. Talks about volunteering efforts – travelling to matches.</p> <p>11:54 Talks about the lack of hurling in Killyon in the past. Notes that a few ladies in the community played camogie with neighbouring parishes. Talks about rival teams. Mentions Dunboyne, Kilbride, Kentstown.</p> <p>13:10 Recalls winning a senior championship in the centenary year of the camogie association in 2004. Talks about the centenary celebrations held in Navan. Mentions Miriam O’Callaghan, Noel Dempsey, Fintan Ginnity and Ann Dempsey.</p> <p>14:37 Discusses events that were organised for the centenary celebration.</p> <p>16:47 Talks about the boost that the centenary celebrations gave to camogie in Meath.</p> <p>17:04 Discusses her introduction to administration on Meath Camogie County Board. Talks about her role as chairperson</p>
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	<p>from 1989 to 2006. Mentions that she was delegate to Leinster Council and Congress.</p> <p>18:30 Recalls county board meetings being held in Trim and Navan. Mentions that current meetings are held in Trim Castle. Describes her first county board meeting.</p> <p>20:29 Discusses the changes in the style of meetings over the years. Talks about a better understanding of the rules.</p> <p>21:09 Recalls becoming immediately involved in administration after the establishment of the camogie club in Killyon.</p> <p>21:49 Discusses her role as PRO in the hurling club. Talks about her duties – sending reports of matches to the local papers and radio station (LMFM). Mentions Brendan Cummins.</p> <p>22:34 Describes the developments in camogie over the years – notes the development at youth level. Mentions that the game has got more skilful.</p> <p>23:05 Discusses the changes in underage camogie. Talks about the cessation of championships at Under 10, Under 11 and Under 12 level in favour of blitz competitions, the ‘go games’.</p> <p>24:49 Talks about Féile na nGael –recalls travelling to Kilkenny. Mentions that Killyon won Best Dressed Team.</p> <p>26:31 Discusses travelling to matches in the early days of the formation of the club.</p> <p>27:44 Discusses the camogie clubs in Meath. Talks about a decline in camogie in some areas and a resurgence in others.</p> <p>29:33 Notes that two local men, PJ Massey and Billy Dixon provide the club with camogie sticks.</p> <p>32:44 Describes the attributes that make a good camogie player.</p> <p>33:06 Recalls her playing days with Killyon. Mentions senior championship success in 1981.</p> <p>33:22 Notes that Killyon has not faced many administrative issues. Talks about a peaceful club that holds a good relationship with the hurling club.</p> <p>35:01 Discusses the organised schedule given to the camogie club for the use of pitch facilities.</p>
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	<p>35:42 Talks about the absence of ladies football in Killyon. Mentions that a number of local girls play football with neighbouring clubs.</p> <p>36:30 Talks about the tradition of hurling in Meath. Mentions Kit Mitchell. Discusses the importance of a good relationship between the camogie and hurling county boards.</p> <p>37:31 Talks about her role as chairperson on the county board. Discusses the issues that were raised – mostly financial. Mentions the success of the current Meath camogie team.</p> <p>39:49 Discusses recent sponsorship for the Meath ladies.</p> <p>41:25 Talks about people involved on the Meath county board in the past – Anne Farrell, Terry Tormey, Aileen O’Regan, Mary Gannon.</p> <p>42:45 Discusses her husband’s involvement with camogie. Talks about his success as a hurler winning an All-Ireland and Leinster medal. Mentions that they travel to most county senior club championship finals.</p> <p>45:27 Talks about a growing positive relationship between the camogie board and the GAA board.</p> <p>46:45 Discusses the relationship between camogie and ladies football in Meath. Notes an effort to avoid a collision of matches. Talks about the formation of ladies football in Meath and a crossover of players.</p> <p>48:36 Discusses her role as Registrar of the Leinster Council. Talks about the duties involved. Mentions that there is no camogie in Leinster. Mentions Maureen Fulham, Marie Woods, Ray Quigley, Catherine Neary, Rachel Hogan and Mary Connor. Meetings held in the Ashling Hotel, Dublin.</p> <p>51:34 Favourite role within the GAA over her lifetime – chairperson of Meath County Board.</p> <p>52:46 Talks about the changes in camogie over the years. Mentions the change in uniform, a higher level of skill.</p> <p>53:20 Notes the new rule to make helmets compulsory on the playing field.</p> <p>54:28 Discusses her hopes for camogie in Meath and Killyon in the future.</p> <p>55:13 Talks about the importance of media coverage. Mentions coverage in the local paper on club and county</p>
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	<p>matches. Discusses television coverage for All-Ireland finals in Croke Park.</p> <p>56:58 Discusses her desire for camogie to be taken under the GAA umbrella.</p> <p>57:39 Talks about travelling to All-Ireland final matches. Discusses her involvement in Croke Park for the centenary celebrations.</p> <p>58:50 Describes the effects of emigration in Killyon and Meath. Notes that camogie has not been badly affected but it has impacted on hurling.</p> <p>01:01:15 Talks about Gaelic games within the local school. Mentions the influence of a new principal. Discusses her involvement in coaching the children in the school. Mentions Clonard and Coolronan schools. Mentions Georgina Foley.</p> <p>01:02:53 Best memory of involvement in the GAA – winning the senior championship in 1981.</p> <p>01:04:03 Describes celebrations in Killyon after victories. Mentions functions in the local pub and parties for underage in the GAA.</p> <p>01:05:39 Talks about her GAA heroes. In hurling Mark Gannon, Pat Gannon, Martin Massey, Martin Dempsey and all the Dempsey brothers. In Camogie the Laura Carney, Stephanie Heavey, the twin Burkes, Marian Tyrrell, Yvonne Tyrrell and Marcella McKeown.</p> <p>01:07:22 Describes her biggest disappointment within the GAA – 6 month suspension of a camogie player.</p> <p>01:08:55 Reflects upon her refereeing career within camogie.</p> <p>01:10:39 Describes what her involvement in GAA has meant to her in her lifetime.</p>
<p>Involvement in GAA</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manager <input checked="" 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 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>Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)</p>	<p>Played from 10 years. Won 1 junior championship and 1 senior championship with Killyon.</p>

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Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)	Has been involved with administration since 1975. Camogie Club: Founder, Chairperson, Registrar, Delegate to County Board Men's Club: PRO Camogie County: Chairperson (18 years), Vice-chairperson, Delegate to Leinster Camogie Leinster: Vice-chairperson and Registrar
Format	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 01:29:10
Language	English

To be filled in by Interviewer:

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Signed: _____ Arlene Crampsie _____

Date: _____ 06/08/12 _____