

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Arlene Crampsie
Date of Interview	11 th Nov 2010
Location	Mattie's home, near Shrule, Co. Mayo
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Mattie Murphy
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1948 Home County: Mayo
Education	Primary: St. Joseph's NS, Shrule, Co. Mayo Secondary: St. Mary's, Galway
Family	Siblings: 1 brother & 3 sisters Current Family if Different: Married to Margaret with 3 sons and 1 daughter
Club(s)	Shrule-Glencorrib; Ballinrobe; Cong Hurling
Occupation	An Post
Parents' Occupation	Farmer [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Gun Club

REFERENCE NO. MO/1/28

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Tom Mohan
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1936 Home County: Mayo
Education	Primary: Glencorrib NS, Co. Mayo
Family	Siblings: 1 brother & 1 sister Current Family if Different: Married with 3 sons
Club(s)	Shrule-Glencorrib; Glencorrib; Cong
Occupation	Farmer
Parents' Occupation	Farmer [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	IFA; Farming Advisory Groups

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Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	John Muldoon
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1944 Home County: Mayo
Education	Primary: St. Joseph's NS, Shrule, Co. Mayo Secondary: Belcamp, Dublin Third Level: UCG
Family	Siblings: 2 brothers & 2 sisters Current Family if Different: Married with 2 daughters
Club(s)	Shrule-Glencorrib
Occupation	Chief Technician in Chemistry, UCG
Parents' Occupation	Postman [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Community Alert

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Date of Report	11 th July 2012
Period Covered	1920s – 2010
Counties/Countries Covered	Mayo, Galway, Dublin
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Coaching, Refereeing, Officials, Administration, Celebrations, Commiserations, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Material Culture, Education, Religion, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, GAA Abroad, 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, Politics, Relationship with the Association, Food and Drink, Socialising, Relationships, Economy / Economics
Interview Summary	<p>Tom, Mattie and John, members of the Shrule-Glencorrib GAA club, talk about their involvement in the GAA. They discuss the role of the GAA in their childhoods and talk about the type of facilities available in the area during their early years. They discuss the history of the club, how it disbanded in the 1950s and how it reformed a number of years. They talk about the amalgamation of the clubs in Shrule and Glencorrib and the issues surrounding this when it first happened in the early 1990s. They discuss the prominence of football in the area and how little or no hurling is played while handball used to be well supported in earlier years. They describe their involvement in administration at a club and county level and John discusses his role in the Scór competition. Towards the end of the interview they highlight their disappointment with Mayo losing the 1996 All-Ireland final and discuss the important role the GAA has played in their lives.</p> <p>00:00 Introduction</p> <p>00:34 (Tom) Talks about his earliest GAA memories. Going on a Bill Donoghue's lorry to a Connacht final in 1947 in Tuam to see Galway play Mayo.</p> <p>02:00 Discusses the Shrule club reforming in 1956.</p> <p>02:29 (Mattie) Recalls his earliest GAA memory. Going to see a match with his father and seeing players like Joe Mullan, Tom Gibson, Pdraig Farragher. Seeing Shrule and their blue jerseys.</p>

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	<p>02:58 (John) Talks about how the club declined in 1954 and was revived in 1958. Mentions Enda and Ger Heneghan.</p> <p>03:24 Recalls his earliest memories of the GAA. Playing a seven a side tournament in Shrule. Teams from South Mayo and North Galway like Renvyle, Oughterard, Milltown, Corofin, Dunmore, Annaghdown, Caherlistrane, Headford, Garryowen team from London made up from Irish immigrants, many from Kilmane.</p> <p>05:08 (Mattie) Talks about his father's involvement in the GAA. Cycling to matches or going in Davin's lorry. Recalls the stories his father told him about Mayo teams.</p> <p>06:41 (John) Discusses his grandfather's involvement in the club in 1930s. Mentions Malachy Craddock. Going to Tuam with his father in a lorry.</p> <p>07:50 (Mattie) Recalls how his uncle Frank Payne and John Langan walked from Roscommon home after staying in the pub after a match.</p> <p>08:26 (Tom) Talks about his family's involvement in the GAA. Describes what the ground in Tuam was like in 1947.</p> <p>09:49 (Mattie) Discusses how transport was scarce. Working in the bog for Máirtín Fitz to get a seat to Castlebar in 1963. Recalls a Galway v Roscommon match when Aidan Brady broke the crossbar.</p> <p>10:58 (John) Talks about club matches and the O'Meara Cup. Playing teams like Kilmaine, Ballinrobe, Hollymount, Claremorris.</p> <p>11:48 (Tom) Recalls travelling in Curly Donovan's lorry to play the Neale.</p> <p>12:08 (Mattie) Talks about travelling in John's car to watch a match.</p> <p>12:40 (Tom) Describes how the club struggled when the club reformed in 1958. Didn't win a match for two years, winning against Ballindine or Crossboyne. Ball getting lost in the rushes on the pitch in Castlemacgarrett.</p> <p>14:44 (John and Mattie) Talk about clubs facilities in the early days.</p> <p>17:00 (All) Discusses the club's ground and its previous owner Sean McGann.</p> <p>17:30 (John) Talks about the history of the club. Formed in</p>
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	<p>1925 by Father Denis O'Hara and Malachy Craddock. Playing Galway teams. Mentions Father Coyne.</p> <p>19:00 (Mattie) Talks about the support Kilmaine and Caherlistrane brought to the Shrule tournament.</p> <p>19:26 (Tom and John) Discuss the falling out between Shrule and Glencorrib in the 1960s. Mentions Father Walsh.</p> <p>21:45 (Tom) Discusses the issue further.</p> <p>22:15 (Mattie and John) Talk about the split between the clubs. No established leagues in Mayo until the 1980s.</p> <p>23:25 (Mattie) Talks about the strength of the team now.</p> <p>24:00 (Tom and Mattie) Discusses the underage structure of the club. Holding Cúl Camps during the summer.</p> <p>25:42 (Mattie and Tom) Talk about the amalgamation of Shrule and Glencorrib.</p> <p>27:03 (John) Notes how the two clubs were in the same parish.</p> <p>27:26 (Tom and Mattie) Discusses the make-up of the club. Mentions Father Crosby.</p> <p>28:03 (All) Talk about the Shrule school and the problems with getting people to play for the club. Mentions Ger Heneghan and Martin Kinneavy.</p> <p>30:27 (Mattie) Describes what it was like to play when he was young.</p> <p>30:58 (John) Recalls the first training they did with Sergeant Fintan Monaghan. Winning the county minor final in 1961 with a team made up from the teams from Shrule and Ballinrobe and the Neale.</p> <p>33:10 (All) Talk about the developments in training and how injuries weren't prominent. Believe men were harder in their times.</p> <p>34:55 (Mattie) Recalls brining in a PE teacher to help with the team.</p> <p>35:29 (All) Discuss the origins of the O'Meara Cup. Named after Stephen O'Meara. A fixture dispute meant Shrule were thrown out.</p> <p>36:58 They talk about the club's colours. Disagree what colours came first. Changed when the clubs amalgamated.</p>
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	<p>Discuss the material of the jerseys. Describes the crest of the club with the castle and Lough Corrib. Mentions Tommy Kerr.</p> <p>41:08 They discuss the involvement of the clergy in the club. Mentions Martin Kinneavy.</p> <p>42:41 (Mattie) Talks about coaches from FÁS courses coming into schools.</p> <p>43:12 (Tom) Discusses his involvement in the Glencorrib club. Becoming chairman of Shrule-Glencorrib. Acting as county board and south board delegate. Mentions Christy Cawley.</p> <p>46:15 (John) Describes what south Mayo county board meetings were like. Prominence of Garrymore. Mentions Jim Mannion.</p> <p>47:00 (All) They talk about Garrymore club.</p> <p>48:00 They discuss the issue of local and national politics at board meetings.</p> <p>49:30 (Tom) Recalls winning a county hurling medal in the 1960s.</p> <p>49:58 (Mattie) Discusses his involvement in the GAA. Playing a match against Garrymore. Captaining the team in 1973. Winning three hurling county titles. Becoming treasurer of the club and county board delegate.</p> <p>52:20 (John) Talks about his career in the GAA. Becoming treasurer of the South Mayo Board in the 1970s. Discusses his involvement in the Scór competition and the club's success in it. Being treasurer for the club and problems with All-Ireland tickets.</p> <p>57:30 (Tom) Being chairman for the 3 All-Irelands were in. Distributing match tickets.</p> <p>59:00 (John) Recalls the problems with getting All-Ireland final tickets for 1996.</p> <p>59:35 (Mattie) Describes how having county players makes getting tickets easier.</p> <p>01:00:10 (John) Recalls queuing for two hours in John Prenty's house in Ballyhaunis for All-Ireland tickets.</p> <p>01:00:58 (All) Talk about having county players at all levels in the club. Mention Mark Ronaldson, Kenneth, Conor, Ciaran and Trevor Mortimer, Dermot Geraghty and Kieran Conroy.</p>
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<p>01:02:36 They talk about hurling in the area. Was played by the Columban Fathers in Dalgan Park in the 1940s. Mentions Tom Conway and Pat Malone.</p> <p>01:04:02 (Mattie) Discusses playing hurling in school in St Mary's in Galway.</p> <p>01:04:24 (All) Talk about hurling in south Mayo and Moytura Hurling club. Mentions Dermot Kane.</p> <p>01:05:00 (John) Discusses ladies football in the area. Mentions Helena Lohan, Jackie Moran, Assumpta Boland and Sabrina Bailey who played with local clubs.</p> <p>01:06:06 (Mattie) Talks about camogie and handball in the area. Prominence of handball in the early days.</p> <p>01:06:52 (John) Describes the building of two handball alleys in the 1970s under a youth employment scheme.</p> <p>01:07:20 (Tom) Discusses having a number of handball alleys in the surrounding parishes.</p> <p>01:08:03 (All) Talk about the role of ladies in the club and how this has changed. Mentions Bernie Biggins.</p> <p>01:10:10 They discuss the work that Declan Ronaldson did for the club.</p> <p>01:11:24 They talk about the Craddock family and their role in the club in the past. They discuss the characters of the club. Mention Joe Murphy, Jack Reilly, the Gibbons, Ger and Enda Heneghan, Paddy Sheridan, Tommy Thornton, Sergeant Monaghan, Willie Sheridan, Bill Joyce.</p> <p>01:14:10 They discuss the type of celebrations the club have after they win titles. Mentions Trevor Giles, Kevin McStay, Micheál Ó Muirheartaigh, Liam McHale, TJ Kilgannon, Ambrose O'Donovan.</p> <p>01:15:50 (Mattie) Talks about the club's dinner dance and the type of people in the club.</p> <p>01:16:20 Discusses the role of alcohol in the GAA.</p> <p>01:17:28 (John) Talks about going to school in Dublin and going to All-Ireland games in Croke Park. Recalls going to Railway Cup finals on St Patrick's day. Mentions Des Foley.</p> <p>01:19:55 (Mattie) Discusses going to hurling All-Irelands. Going to Galway finals. Recalls having dinner with Sean Silke the day before the All-Ireland final. Mentions Brendan</p>

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	<p>Lynskey.</p> <p>01:21:45 (Tom) Talks about the All-Irelands he was present at.</p> <p>01:22:40 (John) Recalls going to an All-Ireland hurling final in 1961 between Waterford and Kilkenny.</p> <p>01:23:20 (Tom) Discusses Mayo winning the All-Ireland in 1950 and 1951. Listening to the 1948 final on the radio. Mentions Mick and Sean Flanagan, McAndrews, Father Peter Quinn.</p> <p>01:25:25 (John) Describes being in a photo with the Sam Maguire in Shrule after Mayo won it in 1950.</p> <p>01:26:35 (Mattie) Talks about Gerry Smith, whose father who played for Meath.</p> <p>01:27:13 Discusses the O'Meara Cup and the Kenny Cup in Mayo.</p> <p>01:28:00 (Tom) Describes the make-up of the competitions in Mayo.</p> <p>01:29:00 (Mattie and Tom) Talks about the county league and championship and travelling to games in places like Ballina, Crossmolina, Charlestown, Kiltane, Ballaghaderreen, Belmullet, Achill.</p> <p>01:31:30 (Mattie) Discusses his best memories from the GAA. Winning the All-Ireland with his club. Getting to the county title in 2005.</p> <p>01:32:17 (Tom) Talks about his best memory of the GAA. Being part of the setting up of the club in 1950. Winning the O'Meara Cup. Getting to the county final in Castlebar. Mentions Ciaran and Mick McDonnell.</p> <p>01:34:00 (John) Recalls his best memories from his time in the GAA. Winning a county medal with Shrule minors in 1961. Winning his first O'Meara Cup. Talks about beating Knockmore in the 2005 county championship.</p> <p>01:35:45 (Mattie) Recalls playing in Croke Park with Mayo in 1985.</p> <p>01:36:16 (John) Talks about his GAA heroes. Mentions TJ Kilgannon.</p> <p>01:37:00 (Mattie) Chooses John Morley as his GAA hero.</p> <p>01:37:33 (Tom) Talks about his GAA heroes. Mentions</p>
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	<p>Kenneth Mortimer.</p> <p>01:38:43 (Mattie) Discusses his biggest GAA disappointment, Mayo losing the 1996 All-Ireland final. Not winning a senior title at club level.</p> <p>01:39:34 (Tom) Talks about his disappointments in the GAA. Describes the 1996 All-Ireland final and the 2005 county final.</p> <p>01:40:22 (John) Describes his biggest GAA disappointments. The 1996 All-Ireland final and Ballina losing the All-Ireland club final against Crossmaglen. Discusses the 2005 county final.</p> <p>01:42:00 Talks about what the GAA means to him.</p> <p>01:42:50 (Mattie) Discusses the role of the GAA in his life.</p> <p>01:44:08 (Tom) Talks about the GAA and the role of it in his life. Discusses becoming a referee.</p> <p>01:46:15 (All) They give their opinion on the current rules of football. Mentions Joe Corcoran and Cyril Dunne.</p>
<p>Involvement in GAA</p>	<p>Mattie:</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 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>Tom:</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 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>John:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Coach <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p>

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	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____
Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)	<p>Mattie: Played for 23 years. Won 2 South Mayo titles; 2 Leagues; 3 O'Meara Cups; 3 County Senior Hurling Titles and a Connacht Juvenile Hurling Title.</p> <p>Tom: Played for 16 years. Won a senior hurling title.</p> <p>John: Played for 16 years. Won 2 CBS Leagues (Secondary and Junior level); South Mayo Minor and County Minor Medal.</p>
Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)	<p>Mattie: Got involved in administration in 1974. He has been club Treasurer (for 1 year); Chairman; South Mayo Board Delegate; County Board Delegate and has been involved in the pitch development.</p> <p>Tom: Got involved in administration in 1975. He was Chairman of Glencorrib club; South Mayo Board Delegate; County Board Delegate and Chairman of Shrule-Glencorrib. He has also been involved in the pitch development.</p> <p>John: Got involved in administration in the late 1960s. He was club Secretary; Treasurer; South Mayo Board Delegate and County Board Delegate. He was Treasurer of the South Board from 1971 – 1976. He has also been involved on the county Scór committee and held the role of PRO of that committee.</p>
Format	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 01:50:05
Language	English

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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: _____11/07/12_____