

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Eddie Nangle
Date of Interview	11 Nov 2011
Location	Interviewee's home, near Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Dickie Murphy
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1961 Home County: Wexford
Education	Primary: CBS, Enniscorthy Secondary: CBS, Wexford
Family	Siblings: 7 brothers
Club(s)	Rapparees-Starlights GAA
Occupation	Postman
Parents' Occupation	Engineering Works [Father]
Religion	N/A
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

REFERENCE NO. WX/1/42

Date of Report	10 th Nov 2011
Period Covered	1960s - 2011
Counties/Countries Covered	Wexford, Clare, Tipperary, Wicklow, Dublin
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Playing, Training, Refereeing, Officials, Education, Religion, Media, Emigration, Involvement in GAA abroad, Role of Clergy, GAA Abroad, All-Ireland, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Sacrifices, Alcohol, Retirement
Interview Summary	<p>00:00:30 Mentions that his name is Richard but he has been known as 'Dickie'.</p> <p>00:00:45 Born in Enniscorthy.</p> <p>00:01:10 Mentions that he is one of eight children, all boys.</p> <p>00:01:37 Lives 'up the road' from where his parents settled.</p> <p>00:01:50 Work: Joined Post office in 1977 and has been working in Enniscorthy since 1979.</p> <p>00:02:14 Early GAA memories: Refers to travelling to games with parents, both GAA enthusiasts; attending local games in Bellefield; profile of games in school; absence of other social distractions in the 1960s.</p> <p>00:02:40 Family background: discusses mother's family, the Lamparts involvement with Hollow Rangers and Wexford Intermediate team in 1961; father played hurling when living in Dublin. Reference to parents attending games and bringing children with them.</p> <p>00:03:12 Mentions father's Uncle who played and grandfather on mother's side who lined out with Hollow Rangers.</p> <p>00:03:50 Family conversations about GAA and profile of Wexford in the 1960s.</p> <p>00:04:22 Mentions involvement of two sons with Raparees-Starlights club and non-involvement of another son.</p> <p>00:05:05 Attending Presentation in Enniscorthy and onto CBS. Discusses role of Christian Brothers, profile of Gaelic games and class leagues. Mentions crossover with club (Raparees-Starlights), players and Christian Brothers.</p> <p>00:06:00 Refers to Christian Brothers who drove the GAA in and after school and comments on the subsequent changes.</p> <p>00:06:45 Local heroes growing up: Talks about Dan Quigley,</p>

REFERENCE NO. WX/1/42

	<p>Christy Keogh, Matt Brown.</p> <p>00:07:40 Mentions the position on the field he used to play and how it was influenced by the players he admired.</p> <p>00:08:15 Remembers watching Wexford winning All-Ireland in 1968 on black and white television and attending 1970 All-Ireland final.</p> <p>00:09:05 Refers to Mick Collins, who captained Wexford in 1970, and spotting him early on the morning of 1970 All-Ireland final when heading to early mass.</p> <p>00:09:40 Discusses his playing career with club – strength of underage in the 1970s and being a teenage member of senior panel when they won 1978 county championship.</p> <p>00:10:25 Reflects on his involvement with Wexford teams – minor, under 21 and senior – from the late 1970s to late 1980s.</p> <p>00:11:18 Beginning of his involvement in refereeing through Bord na nOg. Comments on the scarcity of referees at the time and the practical issues about contacting them.</p> <p>00:12:07 Reflects on his progression from refereeing juvenile to adult games and refereeing first senior county hurling final in 1985, aged 24.</p> <p>00:12:55 Perceptions of a player refereeing other players and avoiding potential conflicts.</p> <p>00:13:37 First National league game to referee, Wicklow and Mayo in Greystones. Discusses progression from refereeing Division 2 to Division 1 games and eventually to championship matches. Talks about some of the teams, the games and the players he refereed in the late 1980s.</p> <p>00:15:35 Discusses pre-match nerves and the enjoyment he drew from refereeing. Refers also to travelling to games by car with officials.</p> <p>00:16:25 Recalls refereeing first All-Ireland final in 1992 and the big games he was involved with earlier that year, including an All-Ireland club semi-finals and finals, National League final, Ulster hurling final and All-Ireland semi-final.</p> <p>00:17:02 Recollections of 1992 All-Ireland hurling final – Cork V Kilkenny – and receiving presentation the day after at reception in the Burlington.</p> <p>00:17:45 Refers to being linesman for 1990 and 1991 All-</p>
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	<p>Ireland hurling finals.</p> <p>00:18:10 Discusses the umpires he brought with him to games, his relationship to them and the importance of them to the referee.</p> <p>00:19:29 Reflects on the GAA as part of the Sunday ritual and the length of the day. Tells story having to go to Thurles to referee when son was in hospital and reflects the difficulty changing arrangements and finding a replacement.</p> <p>00:20:40 Mentions that it wasn't only a Sunday commitment and that he refereed games any night of the week and at any level.</p> <p>00:21:15 Reflects on subsequent All-Ireland hurling finals he refereed: 1995, 1997 and 1998.</p> <p>00:22:22 Tells story of ending up in court after referee Laois and Tipperary in National League semi-final when a dog strayed onto the field.</p> <p>00:23:30 Tells story of going to referee Goal match after Clare won All-Ireland in 1995.</p> <p>00:24:30 Memories of bad games he refereed. Recalls the intensity of Clare-Tipperary rivalry and criticism he received from Clare on television and elsewhere.</p> <p>00:25:58 Discusses his profile as a referee and the limited way it affected his life – mentions occasional social invites and not drinking.</p> <p>00:26:40 Discusses his good fortune to referee across the world – Australia, America, Asia, Britain and Europe – and the friendships he made. Recalls an exchange when refereeing at the Asian Games, meeting people from Wexford and the importance of the GAA to the Irish abroad.</p> <p>00:28:50 Reflects on changes in rules over his career – introduction of the card system, time-keeping and the influence of soccer and rugby. Reflects also on the physicality of games and how it has changed. Comments also on the difference between football and hurling and the importance of players approaching game positively.</p> <p>00:31:15 Comments on his attitude towards further rule changes.</p> <p>00:32:14 Discusses the process of monitoring referee's performance – his response to it and its potential impact on</p>
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REFERENCE NO. WX/1/42

	<p>younger referees.</p> <p>00:34:25 Reflects on encountering disappointed players and supporters.</p> <p>00:35:30 Discusses physical training for refereeing and the standards and tests that are set for top referees.</p> <p>00:37:05 Discusses payment to referees and the amounts paid at different levels.</p> <p>00:38:05 Reflects on his refereeing career – including 10 All-Ireland finals at various levels – and his good fortune.</p> <p>00:39:00 Rule requiring his retirement as a referee aged 50 and his attitude towards it – recalls addressing a meeting in Croke Park.</p>
Involvement in GAA	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Referee Tutor</p>
Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)	<p>Hurling: Cuntly Hurling - U12, U14, U16; Club hurling 1 junior hurling medal; 1 Senior Hurling County medal; U21 Elinster Hurling Championship; Walsh Cup and Oireachtas medals.</p> <p>Football: U21 Club football county medal.</p>
Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)	<p>District Bord na nÓg Secretary – 2 years</p> <p>County Bord na nÓg Secretary – 1 year</p> <p>Referee tutor – 7/8 years</p>
Format	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual</p>
Duration	<p>Length of Interview: 00:40:09</p>
Language	<p>English</p>

To be filled in by Interviewer:

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Signed: Eddie Nangle

Date: 11th November 2011.