

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Regina Fitzpatrick
Date of Interview	14 th Jan 2011
Location	Seán's home, near Cashel, Co. Tipperary
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Seán Ó Duibhir
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1942 Home County: Tipperary
Education	Primary: Cashel CBS, Co. Tipperary Secondary: Cashel CBS, Co. Tipperary Third Level: UCD
Family	Siblings: 2 sisters & 2 brothers Current Family if Different: Tipperary
Club(s)	Cashel King Cormacs GAA [Tipperary]
Occupation	Pharmacist
Parents' Occupation	Draper [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	None
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Conradh ns Gaeilge; Cashel Chamber of Commerce; Cashel Choral & Dramatic Society

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Date of Report	20 th June 2012
Period Covered	Early 1900s – 2011
Counties/Countries Covered	Tipperary, Cork, Kilkenny, Dublin, Antrim, Galway
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Supporting, Playing, Training, Media, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Identity, Rivalries, Irish Language, Culture, Scór, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Childhood, Impact on Life, Politics, Ban on Foreign Games and Dances, Socialising
Interview Summary	<p>Seán talks about his childhood in Cashel. He attended Cashel CBS and describes the attitude towards hurling there, listing some notable past pupils. He talks through his own playing career, both at school and with Cashel King Cormacs. He discusses the successes and disappointments of club teams and Tipperary teams at all levels, giving some insight into their respective rivalries, with particular emphasis on Tipperary's rivalry with Cork and Kilkenny. He recalls matches and players from the 1950s and 1960s, and more recently, that had particular impact on him, all the while stressing the importance of hurling, the GAA and Irish language and culture in his life.</p> <p>00.12 Seán welcomes Regina</p> <p><i>00.12 Cuireann Séan fáilte roimh Regina</i></p> <p>00.28 Talks about Cashel when he was young. Describes the industries that were present in the town in the 1950s and since then. Mentions agriculture. Mentions Alza and Rabaxy.</p> <p><i>00.28 Labhraíonn sé faoi Chaiseal agus é ina ghasúr. Cuireann sé síos ar an saghas fostaíochta atá le fáil sa bhaile ó na caogaidí ar aghaidh. Luann sé an talmhaíocht. Luann sé Alza agus Rabaxy.</i></p> <p>01.34 Discusses his parents and their families. Recalls going to a County Semi Final in 1948. Mentions Cashel King Cormacs GAA and Lorrha GAA. Mentions Thurles. Mentions Tony Reddan.</p> <p><i>01.34 Pléann sé a mhuintir. Is cuimhin leis dul go dtí Cluichi Leathcheannais an Chontae sa bhliain 1948 chun Caiseal Rí Chormaic a fheiscint agus iad ag imirt in aghaidh Lorrha. Luann sé Durlas Éile. Luann sé Tony Reddan.</i></p> <p>02.50 Talks about the club's fortune through the years.</p>

	<p>Describes the relationship between hurling and football in the area. Recalls Gary MacMahon practicing football in the 1960s. Mentions Bryan MacMahon, Dónal Ó Riain and Mick O’Connell. Mentions Kerry and Roscommon.</p> <p><i>02.50 Labhraíonn sé faoi rath an chlub thar na blianta. Pléann sé an caidreamh idir an iománaíocht agus an pheil sa cheantar. Is cuimhin leis cabhrú le Gary MacMahon agus é a cleachtadh peile sna seascaidí. Luann sé Bryan MacMahon, Dónal Ó Riain agus Mick O’Connell. Luann sé Ciarraí agus Ros Comáin.</i></p> <p>05.37 Describes the links between Gaelic Games and politics in Cashel. Mentions rugby, soccer. Discusses the length of the season.</p> <p>06.29 Talks about his time in Cashel CBS and the importance of hurling. Mentions the Rice Cup, Croke Cup, Kinnane Cup, Fitzgerald Cup and Harty Cup. Mentions the three Bonners, Pa Fitzelle, Tommy Grogan, John Grogan, the Slatterys and the Minogues.</p> <p>07.40 Talks about the influence of Michael ‘Monto’ Carrie in the early 1970s. A handball alley named after him.</p> <p>09.10 Gives account of the history of handball in the area.</p> <p>09.34 Refers to teachers who were interested in Gaelic Games in his school. Mentions Brother Boland, Mattie Finnerty, Johnny Gleeson, Brother Vaughan, John Kennedy, Declan Ryan, Joe Hayes and the O’Donoghues. Mentions Clonoulty.</p> <p>10.42 Recalls his own school career. Mentions the Rice Cup, and the Croke Cup. Mentions Thurles CBS. Describes what Jimmy Doyle was like as a teenager. Mentions Semple Stadium.</p> <p>11.44 Lists various teams who have competed for the Harty Cup. Refers to the importance of school size. Mentions Tipperary CBS, Templemore, Thurles CBS Arscóil Rís.</p> <p>12.36 Talks about where he played hurling when he was young and how he got involved in Cashel King Cormacs. Recalls the street leagues and the hurleys they used.</p> <p>14.30 Recalls his playing career. Mentions winning to Minor Divisional Titles in 1959 and 1960, an Under-21 Divisional title in 1962. Describes their training sessions. Mentions Michael ‘Monto’ Carrie, Tommy Prendergast and Jim</p>
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	<p>O'Sullivan.</p> <p>15.50 Recalls the opening of Leahy Park. Talks about Christy Ring, John Doyle. Mentions Cork and Tipperary. Mentions Matt the Thrasher (character in the novel <i>Knocknagow</i> by Charles J Kickham).</p> <p>17.04 Talks about the tradition and history of hurling in the area. Gives a brief history of the Cashel King Cormacs club and the divisional structure in Tipperary. Mentions Racecourse GAA.</p> <p>18.30 Tells a story about difficulties getting enough numbers for a Junior football match. Mentions Solohead. Mentions soccer.</p> <p>19.55 Revisits the opening of Leahy Park in more detail. Mentions Dr Kinnane. Mentions the rivalry between Cork and Tipperary. Mentions John Doyle, Pat Stakelum, Séamas Bannan, Phil Shanahan, Tony Reddan, Mickey 'Rattler' Byrne and Tony Brennan.</p> <p>21.28 Talks about the All-Ireland Championship campaign of 1958. Goes on to discuss the Tipperary team of the 1960s. Mentions Jimmy Doyle and Paddy Buggy, Hell's Kitchen (John Doyle, Michael Maher & Kieran Carey), Donie Nealon, John 'Mackey' McKenna, Liam Devaney, Tony Wall and Paddy Leahy. Mentions Galway, Kilkenny, Wexford and Dublin.</p> <p>24.56 Talks about a Tipperary man who has now moved to Dublin, Ryan O'Dwyer. Mentions Kilmacud Crokes.</p> <p>25.34 Tells a story of travelling to Dublin by train. Mentions Gould's Cross. Mentions Willie Walsh.</p> <p>27.25 Tells of stopping for a meal on the way home from the 1971 Munster Final in Killarney. Mentions John Flanagan.</p> <p>28.30 Talks about his reaction to Tipperary losing. Discusses the All Ireland Hurling Finals of 2009 and 2010.</p> <p>29.28 Discusses his about his wife's interest in Tipperary hurling. Talks about players he admires. Mentions his honeymoon. Mentions Donegal. Mentions Mick Roche, Jimmy Finn, Pat Stakelum, John Doyle, Jimmy Doyle, Theo English, Donie Nealon, Liam Devaney, Roche, Michael 'Babs' Keating, Pat Henderson, Eoin Kelly, Pat Fox, Nicky English, Cormac Bonner, Colm Bonner, Conal Bonner.</p> <p>32.27 Talks about the importance of having county players in</p>
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	<p>the club. Recalls the 1991 Munster Championship campaign. Mentions Holycross GAA, Clarecastle GAA, Midleton GAA. Mentions Justin McCarthy, John Fenton, Denis Mulcahy, Pat Hartnett, TJ Connolly, Raymie Ryan, the O'Donoghues, John Grogan, Tommy Grogan, the Slatteries, Joe Minogue.</p> <p>34.38 Tells of a club team travelling to Ruislip in London to play Brian Borus GAA.</p> <p>35.20 Recalls being asked to commentate for the Cashel King Cormacs GAA games against Kiltormer GAA. Mentions. Mentions Leahy Park, Ballinasloe and Croke Park. Mentions Conor Hayes, Seán Bán Breathnach and Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh. Mentions Raidió na Gaeltachta.</p> <p>37.13 Discusses recent Cashel teams. Refers briefly to underage successes. Talks about juvenile hurling. Mentions the parents.</p> <p>38.00 Remembers his role as an administrator – bringing underage teams to games. Mentions CBS Cashel and 'Monto' Carrie. Talks about his involvement in Scór.</p> <p>39.09 Talks about the role of the club in community. Briefly discusses the relationship between hurling and football. Mentions soccer, rugby, tennis, pitch and putt and handball.</p> <p>40.07 Talks about the abolition of the Ban in 1971. Mentions Irish culture and the Irish language (Gaeilge). Mentions rugby and hockey. Mentions Lansdowne Road. Mentions the vigilantes (vigilance committees).</p> <p>42.19 Describes the importance of Scór in the club over the years and his involvement. Mentions Halla na Féile, Premier Hall in Thurles, Semple Stadium and Croke Park.</p> <p>43.42 Discusses about the GAA's role in promoting the Irish language and culture. Refers to speeches. Mentions Conradh na Gaeilge. Mentions Seosamh Mac Donnchadha (Joe McDonagh), Joe Connolly, Seán Óg Ó hAilpín and Eoin Kelly.</p> <p>45.45 Talks about the importance of music and literature. Refers to the songs <i>Galtee Mountain Boy</i> and <i>Sliabh na mBan</i> and the novel <i>Knocknagow</i>. Mentions Pat Kerwick and Charles J Kickham.</p> <p>47.13 Talks about media coverage over the years. Recalls writing for the Gaelic Weekly under the name Carraig Chaisil. Mentions the Irish Press, the Irish Independent, the Irish Times. Mentions John D Hickey and Paddy Downey.</p>
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	<p>48.23 Remembers listening to the radio in the early 1950s. Mentions Micheál Ó hEithir.</p> <p>49.40 Recalls the Munster rivalry between Tipperary and Cork. Mentions Kilkenny, Wexford. Mentions Christy Ring, Paddy Barry, Josie Hartnett.</p> <p>51.32 Describes the All-Ireland Hurling Championships in 2010. Examines the progression of the team. Mentions Liam Sheedy, Éamonn O'Shea, Mick Ryan, Eoin Kelly, Michael Cahill, Brendan Maher, Pádraic Maher, Patrick 'Bonner' Maher, Noel McGrath, Tony Reddan, Theo English, John Doyle, Jimmy Doyle. Mentions Cork and Kilkenny.</p> <p>53.24 Compares Jimmy Doyle with Eoin Kelly. Talks about the tradition of Gaelic games in Mullinahone and Loughmore. Mentions Paul Curran, John Leahy, Noel McGrath, Pat McGrath, Bobby Ryan and Aidan Ryan. Mentions Templemore CBS. Mentions Harty Cup.</p> <p>55.29 Talks the importance of the GAA to the country. Discusses the importance of leadership. Mentions Muintir na Tíre, the Irish Countrywomen's Association.</p> <p>57.00 Discusses the relationship between the Irish language (Gaeilge) and the GAA.</p> <p>57.30 Recalls the 1984 Munster Championships. Mentions Seánie O'Leary, John McIntyre, Nicky English, Michael Doyle. Mentions Thurles.</p> <p>58.59 Quotes Liam Griffin's description of hurling.</p> <p>59.18 Revisits the Tipperary team of the 1960s. Singles out the All-Ireland Championship in 1963. Recalls meeting his wife (Anne Rea) in the Las Vegas Ballroom, Templemore. Mentions Waterford and Kilkenny.</p> <p>1.01.03 Remembers talking about hurling in his pharmacy.</p> <p>1.01.38 Talks about his thoughts on the future of the GAA. Gives his thoughts on Dublin, Antrim and Galway hurling. Mentions Anthony Daly, Richard Stakelum. Mentions Down and Derry.</p> <p>1.04.00 Tells of the importance of hurling in his life. Mentions Ger 'The Sparrow' O'Loughlin and Colm Bonner.</p> <p>1.04.49 Gives his predictions for the 2011 Championship campaign. Mentions Kilkenny, Tipperary and Cork.</p>
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<p>Involvement in GAA</p>	<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>
<p>Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)</p>	<p>Played football with Cashel King Cormacs for 10 years; won 2 West Tipperary Minor Championships, 1959 & 60; won 1 West Tipperary U21 hurling 1962.</p>
<p>Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)</p>	<p>Cashel King Cormacs: Committee member for many years; Ofigeach na Gaeilge, 2008 – ongoing.</p>
<p>Format</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual</p>
<p>Duration</p>	<p>Length of Interview: 1.06.11</p>
<p>Language</p>	<p>English & Irish</p>

To be filled in by Interviewer:

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Signed: Regina Fitzpatrick

Date: 20th June 2012