

## 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)	Patrick Geraghty
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1937 <b>Home County:</b> Louth
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Collon National School, Co. Louth. <b>Secondary:</b> Ardee, Co, Louth
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 4 brothers; 2 sisters
<b>Club(s)</b>	Mattock Rangers GFC [Louth]
<b>Occupation</b>	Retired
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	N/A
<b>Religion</b>	N/A
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	N/A
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	N/A

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<b>Date of Report</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> July 2012
<b>Period Covered</b>	1950s – 2010
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Louth, Dublin, Meath, Down, Cavan
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Coaching, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Education, Religion, Media, Emigration, Role of Clergy, Role of the Club in the Community, Rivalries, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Alcohol, Politics, Economy/ Economics
<b>Interview Summary (LOG)</b>	<p>Paddy Geraghty outlines his introduction to Gaelic football and his playing career with club and county. He mentions some of the leading teams and players in Louth in the 1960s, while shedding light on the nature of transport to Gaelic games and the role of the clergy in the affairs of clubs.</p> <p>00:00:09 Paddy Geraghty introduces himself as a member of Mattock Rangers GAA club; notes that he was once described as a 'speed merchant' by the <i>Dundalk Democrat</i>.</p> <p>00:00:33 Earliest memories: attendance at league final in 1950 between Meath and Cavan. Sitting along sideline in Croke Park.</p> <p>00:01:03 Travelling by car to Croke Park in 1950.</p> <p>00:01:25 Football in school but absence of school team. Mentions playing Under 14 for Syddan, Co. Meath, in early 1950s, where his parents were from and where he would spend his holidays.</p> <p>00:02:47 Describes parents interest in Gaelic games.</p> <p>00:03:11 Mentions importance of mother's influence.</p> <p>00:03:50 Contrasts tactical approaches to game at juvenile level between past and present.</p> <p>00:04:25 Highlights of playing career: captaining second division championship winning team in 1960, won junior championship in 1961, senior championship finalists in 1962.</p> <p>00:06:30 Mentions childhood football heroes from Meath and Louth.</p> <p>00:07:30 Describes the club scene in Louth in the 1960s and players involved.</p>

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	<p>00:08:30 Travel to games by car from the mid 1950s. Tells also of going games by bicycle to Navan and Drogheda, travelling on the back of a cattle lorry.</p> <p>00:09:20 Mentions the absence of other social distractions when he was growing up. Refers to the number of pioneer pins on show in an old team picture.</p> <p>00:10:00 Role or influence of club on community. Describes support received in 1960 when club was in county final.</p> <p>00:11:10 Remarks on the absence of lack of political intrusion on club affairs.</p> <p>00:11:45 Past involvement of church in club affairs – it was ‘nearly always a priest who would be chairman of the club’.</p> <p>00:12:15 Refers to professional approach to training and improvements in facilities.</p> <p>00:12:55 Sponsorship and the growing costs involved in running club.</p> <p>00:12:25 Touches on the difficulty in raising finance in most recent years.</p> <p>00:13:40 Local appreciation for club and its facilities.</p> <p>00:14:40 Comments on diminishing value attached to playing for Louth county team and suggests reasons why.</p> <p>00:15:50 Impact of GAA in shaping life.</p> <p>00:16:20 Comments on commitment of youth to GAA.</p> <p>00:16:55 GAA heroes: reference to admired players who played for he club and county.</p> <p>00:17:50 Mentions playing for Louth county and refers to greatest victory he experienced – beating Dublin in Drogheda in 1959 and playing in Leinster final against Offaly in 1960. Refers to quality of Louth football in late 1950s.</p>
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<b>Involvement in GAA</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input type="checkbox"/> Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Coach <input type="checkbox"/> Steward  <input type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person  <input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____
<b>Record as a Player</b> (Titles won; Length of time played)	Played for 25 years
<b>Record as an Administrator</b> (Positions held; how long for)	Club committee member for 7 years
<b>Format</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
<b>Duration</b>	Length of Interview: 00:19:18
<b>Language</b>	English

**To be filled in by Interviewer:**

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Signed: Tommy McCann

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 2010