

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Colin Hegarty
Date of Interview	15 th Jan 2009
Location	N/A
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Órla Brennan
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Female
Born	Year Born: 1984 Home County: Dublin
Education	Primary: Scoil Bhríde, Blanchardstown, Dublin Secondary: Coolmine Community School, Blanchardstown Third Level: DCU
Family	N/A
Club(s)	St Bridgid's GAA Club [Dublin]
Occupation	Care Assistant
Parents' Occupation	Self-Employed [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	None
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

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Date of Report	24 th July 2012
Period Covered	1984-2010
Counties/Countries Covered	Dublin
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Supporting, Playing, Training, Managing, Officials, Education, Media, Involvement in GAA abroad, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, Identity, Rivalries, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Sacrifices
Interview Summary	<p>Orla talks about the role played by the GAA in her life. She is an avid sportsperson and the GAA has always been a major part of her identity. Her local club is St Brigid's in Blanchardstown and she has represented her county in ladies football. She talks about her family's long involvement with the association, playing football and camogie growing up, supporting the Dublin footballers, being made captain of the Underdogs team and her views on the role of women in the GAA.</p> <p>00:05 She was born in 1984 and plays for the St Brigid's club.</p> <p>00:30 Earliest memory is being brought to GAA games and her father teaching her to play.</p> <p>00:55 The GAA has always been big in her family - her mother's father is one of the founders of the Oliver Plunketts club on the Navan Road in Dublin and her father's grandfather was a founding member of Erin's Isle in Finglas, Dublin.</p> <p>01:40 her family now live in Blanchardstown, Dublin and play for St Brigid's.</p> <p>02:05 Her father played for Erin's Isle and managed teams while her mother played camogie for Oliver Plunketts.</p> <p>03:05 Her father's commitment to the GAA has inspired her.</p> <p>03:30 Her family has had great times because of the GAA - looking forward to big inter-county games and travelling down the country to attend big matches.</p> <p>04:20 She used to idolise the Dublin county players when she was growing up.</p> <p>04:45 Best game she ever played was with the Underdogs in</p>

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	<p>London - a very important game for her.</p> <p>05:35 She has travelled far and wide and made lots of new friends thanks to the GAA.</p> <p>05:40 She has played for her county at Under-16, Under-18 and junior level and was picked to play with the Underdogs.</p> <p>06:35 For the Underdogs she attended trials and made the final panel, going on to become captain of that team.</p> <p>08:45 Her club has helped develop her skills over the year and playing with the Underdogs has brought her on a lot.</p> <p>09:20 She hopes to try and break into the Dublin senior team.</p> <p>09:45 The GAA club makes her community and everyone pitches in when necessary.</p> <p>10:25 Recalls a championship final against Ballyboden and the entire community making a huge effort to support Orla and the team.</p> <p>11:10 GAA was the most important thing in her school life - she played as much sport as she could.</p> <p>12:00 She admires anyone who is committed to their sport and plays for their county as it requires a lot of commitment.</p> <p>12:35 'The boys in blue' is a GAA song that means a lot to her.</p> <p>13:20 Changes she has observed include the expansion of Croke Park and the growth of population in her area.</p> <p>14:15 The role of women has changed over the years and things are improving but more recognition is needed.</p> <p>15:35 Disappointments include losing games herself or watching Dublin lose.</p> <p>16:05 The GAA has given her a lot of confidence over the years.</p> <p>16:30 She has played football and camogie since she was five years old but prefers football.</p> <p>17:05 Rivalries are very important and her biggest rivals are Peregrines, while the men's greatest rivals are Oliver Plunketts.</p> <p>18:10 Volunteers are essential to the GAA.</p> <p>19:00 She has never had a bad experience in the GAA and</p>
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	<p>has met lots of great people.</p> <p>19:10 She would like to manage teams in the future and is very ambitious in her plans.</p> <p>20:20 Recalls going to London with the Underdogs.</p> <p>21:25 Media coverage of men's football has grown a lot over the years but it's not the same for ladies' GAA.</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 type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p>
Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)	Playing since the age of 5. Member of the All-Ireland Champions 2012 - Dublin Senior B Team
Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)	N/A
Format	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 00:23:09
Language	English

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To be filled in by Interviewer:

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Signed: _____

Date: _____