# **GAA Oral History Project**

# **Interview Report Form**

Name of Interviewer	Arlene Crampsie	
IIII VIEWEI		
Date of Interview	25 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2011	
Location	Ballinderry Shamrocks Clubhouse, Ballinderry, Co. Derry	
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Paula Bell	
Biographical Summary of Interviewee		
Gender	Male	
Born	Year Born: 1984	
	Home County: Derry	
Education	Primary: Derrychrin PS, Ballinderry, Co. Derry	
	<b>Secondary:</b> St. Mary's Grammar School, Magherafelt, Co. Derry	
	Third Level: Jordanstown	
Family	Siblings: 2 brothers & 1 sister	
Club(s)	Ballinderry Shamrocks GAC	
Occupation	Technical Engineer	
Parents' Occupation	Self Employed [Father]; Home Help [Mother]	
Religion	Roman Catholic	
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A	
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A	

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Martin McKinless
	Biographical Summary of Interviewee
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1964
	Home County: Derry
Education	Primary: Derrychrin PS, Ballinderry, Co. Derry
	Secondary: St. Pius, Magherafelt, Co. Derry
Family	Siblings: 2 brothers & 3 sisters
	Current Family if Different: Married with 3 sons
Club(s)	Ballinderry Shamrocks GAC
Occupation	Farmer
Parents' Occupation	Farmer [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Bowling Club, Greyhound Racing

Date of Report	1 <sup>st</sup> August 2012
Period Covered	1933 – 2011
Counties/Countries Covered	Derry, Tyrone
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Coaching, Refereeing, Officials, Administration, Celebrations, Commiserations, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Material Culture, Education, Religion, Media, Emigration, Involvement in GAA Abroad, 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, Outsider's Perspectives, Alcohol, Violence, Bribery, Politics, Northern Ireland, The Troubles, Ban on Foreign Games and Dances, Opening of Croke Park, Ban on Security Forces, Relationship with the Association, Professionalism, Retirement, Food and Drink, Socialising, Purchase of Grounds, Relationships, Economy / Economics
Interview Summary	Martin and Paula talk about the Ballinderry club and how it has evolved over the years. Martin was a player before becoming involved in administration and later managing underage teams to victory within the county and beyond. Paula is heavily involved in camogie and over time got involved in the administrative side of the club. Together they discuss issues such as the changing role of women within the club, co-operation between the camogie and football sides, and overcoming problems such as the increasing demand for space. They also discuss how being located so close to Tyrone has affected their own sense of identity and how the club has been perceived by others in Derry.
	00:00 Introduction
	00:35 (Paula) Earliest memory is Derry's 1993 All-Ireland football final win. Going to the game and what that was like.
	01:50 (Martin) Winning an Under-14 title with his club. Winning an All-Ireland with his club in 2002.
	02:30 (Martin) Involvement with the club in different roles over the years.
	03:00 (Martin) Football the only thing to do in the parish

growing up.

03:55 (Martin) His playing days with the club and success they enjoyed. Taking a break and returning as manager in 2006. Reaching Ulster finals against Crossmaglen of Armagh. Playing in Casement Park and Brewster Park. Playing Derrylaughan of Tyrone.

05:40 (Martin) Involvement in administration. Developing grounds. Seeking a grant.

06:55 (Paula) Working as PRO for the football club. Executive with camogie club. Playing camogie with her school. Involvement on coaching side of things. Working with football club treasurer Donna Doherty to merge with camogie club. What PRO role involves. Fundraising.

10:05 (Martin) History of club.

10:30 (Paula) Club as heart of the parish.

11:00 (Martin) Different clubs in the parish in the past – Kinturk, Moss Road, Drumaney Road.

11:30 (Paula) Playing in the Tyrone league in the past. Reason for that. Pitch at the Windmill.

12:15 (Paula) Underage success. Winning Féile na nÓg and Ulster minor titles. First championship they won was in 1933. Artefacts they have from the past.

13:55 (Martin) Friends of Ballinderry fundraiser and gaining an insight on the history of the club.

14:45 (Martin) Grandfather a big GAA supporter. How he reacted to negative results.

16:45 (Paula) Family's GAA involvement. Brother, Jarlath Bell, suffering injury setbacks. Younger brother Fintan Bell on Derry minor team. Her sister Una. Mother a Bellaghy woman.

19:10 (Martin) Father playing for club and county. Getting suspended. Brothers' involvement. Son attending St Pat's, Maghera and playing for county teams.

22:00 (Martin) Population of parish.

22:50 (Paula) Youth set-up expanding over the years.

23:55 (Martin) People having less children and implications of that.

24:55 (Paula) Ladies football in the club. What happened to

that.

27:00 (Paula) History of camogie in the area. Caroline Wilson involved heavily, originally from Coalisland.

28:05 (Martin) Relationship with camogie. Competition for space.

28:45 (Paula) Camogie club was independent in the past. How set-up has changed in the past. Relationship with football club. Donna Doherty and herself securing roles on the Ballinderry executive.

30:15 (Martin) Why camogie should have been welcomed into club sooner.

30:55 (Paula) Getting use out of club facilities.

31:25 (Martin) Reaction when Donna became first female on the executive. Award she received.

32:45 (Martin) Struggle to get good volunteers.

33:10 (Paula) GAA male-dominated in the past.

33:50 (Martin) Problems with purchase of club grounds.

35:00 (Martin) Celebrations after their successes. Seamus Conway passing away after one particular victory. Fundraisers.

36:15 (Paula) Friends of Ballinderry initiative. Former GAA President Peter Quinn assisting with it. Slimathon initiative and how that works.

41:05 (Paula) Subcommittees and ambition to get involved in Scór. Appetite for that within the club.

42:30 (Paula) Role of Irish language within the club.

43:30 (Martin) Role of teachers within the club. Role of Clergy. Fr Donnelly involved in club.

45:25 (Paula) Teachers' lack of camogie experience.

46:30 (Martin) Religious diversity within the club.

46:35 (Paula) Approaching Church of Ireland for use of hall.

48:20 (Martin) Impact of the Troubles on the club.

49:45 (Paula) Emigration.

52:00 (Martin) Other teams wanting to beat them.

	52:35 (Paula) Winning club All-Ireland and other teams wanting to take them down.
	53:45 (Martin) Close proximity to Tyrone and impact of that on identity.
	55:50 (Paula) Having so many players on Derry team shielding them from accusations of being a Tyrone team.
	57:15 (Martin) Celebrations.
	58:50 (Paula) Losing more bitter after having tasted success. Defeat to Coleraine.
	01:01:05 (Martin) Best memory. Managing Ballinderry to championship victories.
	01:01:40 (Paula) Best memory is reaching a county final with camogie team.
	01:02:30 (Paula) Admiration for former Kilkenny hurler DJ Carey.
	01:03:45 (Martin) Admiration for former Tyrone player Peter Canavan. Enda Muldoon a clubman he admires.
	01:04:55 (Paula) Lack of integration of women's sports a disappointment. Ticket prices another problem.
	01:06:05 (Martin) People not pulling their weight within the GAA. Issues with referees. Controversial incident during 2010 Leinster football final between Meath and Louth and referee Martin Sludden's role. What can be done to make things better in future.
	01:09:55 (Paula) Playing Cork in a pitch which was of poor standard.
	01:10:50 (Martin) Taking a team to Kerry for the Féile na nÓg. Enjoying that like a holiday. Playing a London team in Ruislip.
	01:11:55 (Paula) What the GAA has meant to her.
	01:13:05 (Martin) What the GAA has meant to him.
	01:13:35 (Paula) Players that have passed away prematurely include Conor McCusker and Patricia Bateson. Dealing with tragedy as a club. Supporting grieving families.
Involvement in	Paula:
GAA	✓ Supporter ✓ Player ✓ Manager ✓ Coach □ Steward

	☐ Chairperson ✓ Committee Member ☐ Grounds-person
	✓ Caterer ✓ Jersey Washer ✓ Referee □ None
	☐ Other (please specify):
	Martin:
	✓ Supporter ✓ Player ✓ Manager ✓ Coach ✓ Steward
	☐ Chairperson ✓ Committee Member ✓ Grounds-person
	✓ Caterer □ Jersey Washer □ Referee □ None
	☐ Other (please specify):
Record as a Player	Paula:
(Titles won; Length of time played)	Has been playing camogie since c. 1994. Won 2 Derry intermediate championships, 8 Ulster Colleges, 12 Ulsters, 1 All-Ireland Junior, 1 Inter-Provincial.
	Martin: Played for 12 years. Won Under 14, 16, Minors and a reserve championship.
Record as an Administrator	Paula: Has been involved in administration since 2000.
(Positions held; how long for)	Camogie Club: Secretary, Assistant Chairperson, Underage Secretary, Delegate to Camogie County Board, Delegate to Football Club.
	Football Club: PRO.
	Martin:
	Has been involved in administration since the mid 1990s.
	Club: Vice-chairman, Assistant Treasurer, Fundraising Committee Member.
Format	✓ Audio □ Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 01:15:07
Language	English

### To be filled in by Interviewer:

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