

GAA Oral History Project

**Interview Report Form**

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Arlene Crampsie
<b>Date of Interview</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2010
<b>Location</b>	Interviewee's home, near Manorhamilton
<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	Joe McKiernan
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1926 <b>Home County:</b> Leitrim
<b>Education</b>	N/A
<b>Family</b>	N/A
<b>Club(s)</b>	Ballinaglera [Leitrim], Cloughaneely [Donegal], Glencar Manorhamilton [Leitrim]
<b>Occupation</b>	Hardware Manager
<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> August 2012
<b>Period Covered</b>	1930 – 2010
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Leitrim, Cavan, Roscommon, Dublin
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Playing, Training, Coaching, Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Administration, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Education, Role of Clergy, Role of the Club in the Community, Identity, Culture, Volunteers, Rivalries, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Club History, County History
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>Joe talks about his early playing days in Ballinaglera in Leitrim. He discusses the playing facilities and travelling to matches. He recalls playing football in Roscommon before moving to Manorhamilton and becoming involved in the club there. He talks about his involvement on the North Leitrim Board. He recalls experiences of illegal players within football in Leitrim and tells of his highlights of being involved in the GAA.</p> <p>00:00 Introduction</p> <p>00:30 Earliest GAA memory – standing at front door watching neighbours coming home from matches on bicycles with football boots hanging over the handlebars.</p> <p>01:14 Describes playing football in Ballinaglera, Co. Leitrim. Recalls the small numbers on the football team. Mentions renting a field from a local farmer. Notes that the curate ran an annual sports day and dance to fund the use of the field.</p> <p>03:02 Describes facilities in Ballinaglera in his early playing days. Recalls a drain running through the middle of the playing field.</p> <p>03:57 Recalls Glangevlin in Cavan being brought under the North Leitrim umbrella for championship football.</p> <p>04:44 Recalls Michael Fox and Fr Duffy on the Leitrim County Board amalgamating clubs to produce a senior team to contest the senior championship – called the team the Sean Treacys.</p> <p>05:59 Discusses travelling to matches in hackney cars funded by the annual sports day and dance.</p> <p>06:58 Recalls the jerseys worn by the Ballinaglera team. Mentions donations from the local community towards the</p>

	<p>purchase of the jerseys.</p> <p>07:31 Recalls leaving Ballinaglera as a teenager and playing football for a short while in Carrick-on-Shannon.</p> <p>08:10 Discusses playing football with St. Colman's in Roscommon for 6 years.</p> <p>08:48 Settled in Manorhamilton in 1953 – became associated with the club from the outset.</p> <p>09:08 Recalls the sophisticated style of football played in Roscommon compared with football in Manorhamilton. Mentions that St. Colman's in Roscommon were a senior team compared with the junior team in Manorhamilton. Gives his opinion that it is easier to play on a senior team.</p> <p>10:23 Discusses the formation of football in Ballinaglera in 1942. Mentions Packie McGrane organising a team in Mulvey's Loft. Mentions Dowra, Drumkeerin.</p> <p>11:53 Recalls continuing to play football for 2 years with Ballinaglera after his move to Manorhamilton. Discusses the illegality of playing for the club and starting to play with the club in Manorhamilton.</p> <p>13:00 Recalls football competitions in Manorhamilton – Feis Cup. Notes that he stopped playing football in the late 1950s and became involved at an administrative level within the club.</p> <p>14:21 Describes the facilities in Manorhamilton in early playing days. Mentions John McGourty, a local man who let his house be used for meetings of the North Leitrim Board.</p> <p>16:26 Talks about his involvement on the North Leitrim Board. Recalls instances that occurred at the meetings.</p> <p>19:19 Discusses the cessation of the North Leitrim Board.</p> <p>21:09 Mentions the successes of Manorhamilton at senior level. Notes that the club have won the senior championship for the last 2 years.</p> <p>22:26 Discusses his position on the playing field in his earlier playing days – left half forward.</p> <p>23:02 Discusses the development of facilities in Manorhamilton. Talks about the Bee Park. Notes the development of a soccer pitch and tennis lawn within the surrounds of the park.</p>
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	<p>24:56 Talks about the ban on foreign games – recalls vigilantes in Roscommon to ensure that people did not attend or play foreign sports. Recalls an experience of GAA men attending a rugby dance in Roscommon.</p> <p>27:04 Recalls a young player in Manorhamilton being suspended for attending a Sligo Rovers football match.</p> <p>27:35 Discusses hurling in Manorhamilton. Notes that hurling competed in popularity with football for a time. Recalls respectable hurlers in the area.</p> <p>29:35 Recalls his first time listening to a football match on the radio – Micheál O’Hehir’s first broadcast – listened to the match through a window at Peter Clancy’s house.</p> <p>31:15 Describes sitting on the sidelines at Croke Park in 1947 for the match between Cavan and Roscommon.</p> <p>32:23 Talks about his involvement in administration within Manorhamilton club.</p> <p>32:55 Discusses a match between Ballinaglera and Drumkeeran in Leitrim, played in Manorhamilton. Mentions Pat McGovern, an illegal player with the Ballinaglera side.</p> <p>40:14 Recalls his highlights of his involvement in GAA.</p> <p>41:15 Talks about his favourite role within the GAA – playing football and causing trouble to his opponents.</p>
<p><b>Involvement in GAA</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Supporter   <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer   <input type="checkbox"/> Referee   <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p>
<p><b>Record as a Player</b> (Titles won; Length of time played)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Record as an Administrator</b> (Positions held; how long for)</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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<b>Format</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
<b>Duration</b>	Length of Interview: 00:41:44
<b>Language</b>	English

**To be filled in by Interviewer:**

I hereby assign the copyright of the content of the above to the GAA Oral History Project on the understanding that the content will not be used in a derogatory manner. I understand that I am giving the GAA Oral History Project the right to use and make available to the public the content of this interview.

Signed:      \_\_\_\_\_Arlene Crampsie\_\_\_\_\_

Date:                \_\_\_\_\_16/08/12\_\_\_\_\_