

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Adrian Roche
Date of Interview	20 th April 2010
Location	Interviewee's home, near Kinsale, Cork
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Neil O'Regan
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1926 Home County: Cork
Education	N/A
Family	Siblings: 2 daughters Current Family if Different:
Club(s)	Kinsale GAA Club [Cork]
Occupation	N/A
Parents' Occupation	N/A
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

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Date of Report	12 th July 2012
Period Covered	1930s – 2010
Counties/Countries Covered	Cork
Key Themes Covered	Earliest Memory, Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Administration, Celebrations, Commiserations, Education, Religion, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, Identity, Rivalries, Irish Language, All-Ireland, Club History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Challenges, Sacrifices, Opening of Croke Park, Socialising
Interview Summary	<p>Neil speaks about his lifetime with the Kinsale club, from his earliest memories through to his role in the club buying its first grounds. He mentions many of the key Cork players of the time, as well as touching on the role of the clergy, women and money within the GAA over the years</p> <p>00:00:00 Gives biographical details</p> <p>00:02:30 Discusses early involvement with Kinsale, and setup of local clubs.</p> <p>00:04:30 Remembers getting pony and trap to go to match in 1944.</p> <p>00:06:30 Talks about cycling to matches, and going by pony and trap, and later by lorry and by car.</p> <p>00:08:00 Hurling the main game in Kinsale. Difficulty of keeping players because of lack of work. Many moved to Cork, or emigrated.</p> <p>00:10:00 Talks about kit and equipment, where they played. Reads piece from written article (included with docs sent). Sponsorship unheard of.</p> <p>00:13:15 Talks about the club and community, that rural parishes held members better, the struggle to keep members.</p> <p>00:15:30 Momentous moments for the club. Buying their pitch.</p> <p>00:17:00 Discusses club rivalry, major games, winning and losing. Clubs kept officers for a long period, which has now changed. Why lose good people?</p>

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	<p>00:19:00 Talks about social aspects, going to the pubs, annual dinner dances, concerts held.</p> <p>00:20:30 Interaction of club with other organisations, such as the church, and schools.</p> <p>00:21:30 Little input or interaction from women in the 50s and 60s.</p> <p>00:22:00 Talks about the Irish language, and the social advantages of the GAA.</p> <p>00:23:45 Mentions current sponsorship.</p> <p>00:24:30 Talks again about social aspects, the pubs and the dancehall.</p> <p>00:25:15 Talks about volunteers and volunteering.</p> <p>00:27:00 Discusses the clergy in the GAA.</p> <p>00:29:15 Talks about county games, away games, and travelling to them.</p> <p>00:31:00 Mentions having the Railway Cup in his shop window 1940-41. Players in the All-Ireland, Jack Barrett. Talks about fitness and training in the 50s.</p> <p>00:35:00 Talks about contact with, and general accessibility of, county heroes.</p> <p>00:38:45 Mentions that many of the big factories in Cork, such as Fords and Dunlops, supported the GAA and the players locally. The Cork City grounds development fund.</p> <p>00:41:30 Going to other sports, breaking Rule 42, getting suspended for doing so, but this was not usually common. Jack Lynch once suspended.</p> <p>00:45:30 Talks about the club's proudest achievement – buying their pitch.</p> <p>00:46:30 Asked about memorable games. He comments on the differences of the level of skill and fitness between the 50s and today. Mentions heroes like Mick Mackie, Christy Ring, and Jim O'Regan. Disappointments in games.</p> <p>00:50:30 Talks about what the GAA has meant personally to him, involvement, pride in achievements, great memories, and lifelong friendships.</p>
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Involvement in GAA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Coach <input type="checkbox"/> Steward <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): President
Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)	Junior football championship and league; played for 4 years
Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)	Secretary, manager, Chairman and President of the Club between 1941 and 1991
Format	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 00:51:00
Language	English

To be filled in by Interviewer:

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Signed: Adrian Roche

Date: 20th April 2010