

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Arlene Crampsie
Date of Interview	2 nd Sept 2010
Location	Peter's home, near Bailieborough, Co. Cavan
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Peter Reilly
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1975 Home County: Cavan
Education	Primary: St. Felim's NS, Bailieborough, Co. Cavan Secondary: Bailieborough Community School, Co. Cavan Third Level: DIT, Bolton Street, Dublin
Family	Siblings: 2 brothers and 1 sister Current Family if Different: Married to Síneád with one son and one daughter
Club(s)	Knockbride
Occupation	Quantity Surveyor
Parents' Occupation	Farmer [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Golf Society

REFERENCE NO. CN/1/17

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	PJ Reilly
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1944 Home County: Cavan
Education	Primary: Drumanespie NS, Co. Cavan
Family	Siblings: 2 brothers & 3 sisters Current Family if Different: Married to Tessie with 3 sons and 1 daughter
Club(s)	Knockbride
Occupation	Farmer
Parents' Occupation	Farmers
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

REFERENCE NO. CN/1/17

Date of Report	5 th July 2012
Period Covered	1800s – 2010
Counties/Countries Covered	Cavan, Donegal, Down, Tyrone, Derry, Meath, Europe, Bulgaria, Americas, USA, Australasia, Australia, Great Britain, England
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Officials, Administration, Celebrations, Commiserations, Fundraising, Material Culture, Education, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, Identity, Rivalries, Culture, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Challenges, Relationship with the Association, Professionalism, Socialising, Food and Drink, Economy/Economics, Emigration, GAA Abroad, Politics, Purchase of Grounds
Interview Summary	<p>Peter and PJ Reilly from Knockbride, Co. Cavan talk about their experience of the GAA over the years. PJ discusses the role of the local club in the community during his early years before he emigrated to England when he was 18. Peter talks about the club's local rivals and his own early experiences with the club. He discusses his career as a county footballer and the highs and lows he experienced such as winning the Ulster championship in 1997. He talks about having two brothers, Michael and Larry, and how at one point they were all on the Cavan panel. Peter and PJ discuss the development of the club's grounds over the years and the work volunteers put into building new dressing rooms in the last ten years. Peter talks about playing in the Railway Cup and gives his opinion on the competition. Towards the end of the interview, Peter and PJ discuss the role of the GAA in their lives and how important the Association has been to them.</p> <p>00:00 Introduction</p> <p>00:28 (PJ) Discusses his earliest GAA memory, the 1947 All-Ireland final. Listening to it on the radio in the barracks.</p> <p>01:10 Talks about the type of GAA facilities in the area.</p> <p>01:43 (Peter) Peter talks about his earliest GAA memory, being at a hurling final in 1980 in Limerick where Knockbride were playing.</p> <p>02:11 Recalls the type of facilities during those times – fields</p>

	<p>beside Tunnyduff and Knockbride. Talks about improvements in recent years.</p> <p>03:45 (PJ) Discusses the GAA during his school days. Gathering and selling scrap to buy footballs to play with.</p> <p>04:45 Recalls the characters of the club at the time. Mentions Anthony Clarke, Packie Clarke, Phil 'The Gunner' Brady (who played when he was stationed at Grousehall Barracks).</p> <p>06:00 (Peter) Talks about the GAA in school. Going to school in Bailieborough, only a few from Knockbride.</p> <p>06:55 Discusses the role of the GAA in the local community. The change over the years. No other sports in the area when he was growing up.</p> <p>08:25 (PJ) Recalls the types of transport they used to use, mostly walking and cycling</p> <p>08:42 Talks about their main rivals: Bailieborough and Killinkere.</p> <p>09:13 (Peter) Discusses the changes in the rivalry between Bailieborough over the years. Other rivalries were with Shercock and Drumgoon.</p> <p>10:24 Discusses the lack of success the club has had over the years. Mentions Simon Easterby, Gerry Oliver Clarke, Tom Trainer, Joe Cassidy who went to America.</p> <p>11:26 (PJ) Talks about the impact of emigration on the area. Leaving for Birmingham when he was 18 and not coming back until he was 30. Winning an Under 14 championship with Bailieborough in 1957.</p> <p>12:25 Moving to Birmingham, going to watch Cavan play Galway in Wembley in the 1960s. Talks about people not getting involved in the GAA in England.</p> <p>13:46 Recalls emigration during the 1960s in Cavan, the amalgamation of local clubs.</p> <p>14:16 (Peter) Talks about the history of the club. Mentions Vincent Clarke. Improvement in the 1990s.</p> <p>16:20 Discusses his own GAA career. Playing with the school and with the club. By 21 he had lost 21 finals. Lack of numbers for teams. He was playing senior football when he was 15.</p> <p>17:30 Losing junior finals to Mounthugent, Arvagh and</p>
--	--

	<p>Belturbet. Beat Swanlinbar. Mentions Rayfield Rodgers, Ollie Mulvey, Liam Lynch, Dara Smyth, Sean Óg, Michael Donohoe, Tom Traynor, Gerry Oliver Clarke, Michael Hetherton.</p> <p>19:15 Losing to Lacken in a final in 1997. Getting injured. Beaten by Denn, beating Drung. Mentions Cavan Gaels and Gowna.</p> <p>20:05 Losing a semi final to Cavan Gaels.</p> <p>20:40 Being relegated to division two because some of their players were on the county team and they couldn't play.</p> <p>20:57 Describe the types of celebrations when they won. Having bonfires in 1996.</p> <p>22:00 Discusses the type of training. Influenced by county players on the team. Mentions Father Anthony Brady and his influence on the club, Hugo Reilly, Micky Sheanon and Tom Traynor.</p> <p>23:09 (PJ and Peter) Recalls the type of the training they did when he was young. Talks about the team in the 1970s. Mentions Eugene Carolan, Jimmy Smith, Gerry Farrelly, Benny Faye, Niall McGee and Singleton.</p> <p>25:11 (Peter) Talks about his involvement in county football in Cavan. Started under 16. Mentions Peter 'Tober' Connelly, Eamonn O'Hara, Paul Taylor, Norbet Reilly from Mullahoran. Winning a Manning Cup in 1991.</p> <p>26:10 Discusses starting with the minors in 1992. Donegal beating Cavan. Starting to play senior in 1994, playing Monaghan. Mentions Martin McHugh.</p> <p>27:50 (PJ) Recalls Peter being called up to the Cavan underage team.</p> <p>28:08 (Peter) Talks about how his brothers Michael and Larry played minor when he played senior. Talks about the county's fortunes over the years. 1995 Cavan beating Antrim and getting to the Ulster Final. Getting beaten by Down in 1996 and winning the Ulster Under 21. Mentions Gregory McCartan, the McEntee brothers, Oisín McConville, Sean Marty Lockhart, Enda Muldoon, Johnny McBride, Darragh Ó Sé, Eamon Fitzmaurice.</p> <p>30:07 Discusses winning the Ulster championship in 1997, playing Fermanagh, Donegal and Derry. Three brothers on the panel. Getting beaten by Kerry in the semi-final.</p>
--	---

	<p>31:20 Talks about the impact of Martin McHugh on the Cavan team. Beaten in the first round of the Ulster championship in the previous seven years.</p> <p>32:09 Describes the type of training they did with the county team. Mentions Joe Doonan, Catherina McKiernan</p> <p>33:59 Recalls the 1997 Ulster Championship. First time to win since 1969. Mentions Martin McHugh, Stephen King and Damien Reilly. A referee named Breen who he didn't think much of at a game against Donegal.</p> <p>35:24 Talks about why Cavan football is on the decline. Lack of underage success. Mentions Ronan and Fintan Cahill, Ciarán Brady and Damien Reilly.</p> <p>36:26 Discusses the underage structure in Cavan. Mentions Nicholas Walsh. Losing various matches to Tyrone and Down. Mentions Martin Clarke, Cillian Sheridan who plays soccer with CSKA Sofia in Bulgaria. Playing Derry.</p> <p>38:09 Talks about playing with his two brothers, Larry and Michael, on the Cavan county team in 1996 and 1997. Playing Antrim in Casement Park and Meath in Navan.</p> <p>39:14 Describes what makes a good footballer. Mentions Tober Connelly.</p> <p>40:30 Talks about the role of the GAA in their family. Discusses his mother's interest in the GAA and a uncle, Andy O'Gara in Donegal, who won an All-Ireland club medal with Ballyshannon in the 1960s.</p> <p>42:08 (PJ) Discusses renewing his interest in the GAA when his sons got involved.</p> <p>43:16 (Peter) Recalls the type of fundraising done to build the new pitch, having a £100 draw. Volunteers building the dressing rooms. Developments over the years.</p> <p>45:39 Describes the type of voluntary work they did on the field and the new dressing rooms. Organising all of the paper work. Mentions Gerry Carolan, his brother Larry and Eugene Carolan.</p> <p>49:00 Talks about his injuries and the involvement of the GAA in helping players.</p> <p>50:07 Discusses the end of his county career in 2005. Playing against Tyrone, Donegal, Meath, Mayo, Down and Kildare.</p> <p>51:28 Talks about the Manning Cup and the teams that</p>
--	--

	<p>compete in it. Longford, Westmeath, Leitrim, Sligo and Roscommon.</p> <p>52:00 Playing in the Gerry O'Reilly Cup with Meath, Westmeath and Louth. Dublin now plays too.</p> <p>52:30 Talks about the difference between club and county football.</p> <p>53:15 Discusses his future involvement in the GAA. Being a selector with Cavan. Mentions Tommy Carr.</p> <p>54:22 Talks about the high turnover in managers in Cavan football.</p> <p>55:05 Describes how football and ladies football are the only games played in the club. Camogie was played but not anymore.</p> <p>55:30 Talks about ladies' football in the club. Winning senior and intermediate championships. Made up from players from Knockbride, Bailieborough, and Cootehill.</p> <p>56:56 (Peter and PJ) Discusses the issue of professionalism in the GAA. Payment for managers. The amount of work involved. Mentions Martin Cahill, John Owens and Tipperary.</p> <p>59:40 (Peter) Talks about the role of politics in the GAA. Mentions St Pat's College.</p> <p>01:00:45 Discusses the role of the clergy in the local club. Mentions Father Peter McKiernan, Father Anthony Brady, Father Quinn and Father Duffy</p> <p>01:01:38 (PJ) Talks about the clergy. Mentions Father Tiernan's involvement.</p> <p>01:02:05 (Peter) Discusses being involved in administration and future plans in the GAA.</p> <p>01:02:50 (PJ) Describes his best memories of the GAA, Knockbride winning the junior championship. Playing with the club. Three sons playing with Cavan.</p> <p>01:03:33 (Peter) Describes his best memories of the GAA, winning the Ulster championship in 1997. Winning the club championship with the club in 1996 and in 2000. Getting to Under 21 finals.</p> <p>01:04:05 (PJ and Peter) Talks about Offaly's Pat Carroll and Tyrone's Peter Canavan. Mentions John Egan of Kerry.</p> <p>01:05:10 (Peter) Discusses playing in the Railway Cup for a</p>
--	--

	<p>number of years. Winning one in 1998. Mentions Brian McEniff and Art McRory and politics in the game. Also mentions Oisín McConville and Tommy Freeman.</p> <p>01:07:18 Talks about the relevance of the Railway Cup in modern times. Discusses the work of Clare's Martin Donnelly.</p> <p>01:08:00 Discusses playing against Kerry in New York in 1997. Playing Waterford in Dungarvan and Clare in Miltown Malbay.</p> <p>01:09:14 (PJ) Watching games in Wembley and New York. His son Larry getting on the International Rules team in 2000.</p> <p>01:09:38 (Peter) Talks about the trip to New York in 1997. Playing in Gaelic Park and playing for Cavan and Tyrone.</p> <p>01:12:00 Discusses Larry being picked for Ireland for the International Rules team. Mentions Dermot McCabe, Stephen King and Jim Reilly.</p> <p>01:12:47 Talks about competition between him and his brothers Larry and Michael.</p> <p>01:13:30 (Peter and PJ) Discuss their biggest disappointment within the GAA. Losing to Kerry in the 1996 Under 21 final. The big support from Cavan people at the final.</p> <p>01:14:37 (Peter) Talks about what the GAA has meant to him.</p> <p>01:15:10 (PJ) Talks about what the GAA has meant to him.</p> <p>01:15:30 Recalls a match in Knockbride in the 1950s and having no spare ball when the first one was burst.</p>
<p>Involvement in GAA</p>	<p>Peter:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coach <input type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input checked="" 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): __County Senior Selector (2 years)____</p> <p>PJ:</p> <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person</p>

REFERENCE NO. CN/1/17

	<input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____
Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)	<p>Peter: Played from the age of 8 to 35 at club and county level. Won a range of titles:</p> <p>Club: Under 14, 16, 21; junior championship, 1996; intermediate championship, 2000; 2/3 senior leagues; Division 2 league 1996.</p> <p>County: Fr Manning Cup; Ulster Under 21; Ulster senior championship, 1997; Division 2 and 3 leagues.</p> <p>Provincial: Railway Cup</p> <p>PJ: Played from age of 14 to 18. Won an Under 14 championship with Bailieborough.</p>
Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)	<p>Peter: Has been involved in administration since 2002/03. He has been club treasurer and development committee co-ordinator.</p> <p>PJ: Has been involved in administration since the 1980s as a club committee member.</p>
Format	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 01:16:14
Language	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: _____05/07/12_____