

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	N/A
Date of Interview	15 th Feb 2011
Location	N/A
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Bernard O'Neill
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: N/A Home County: Armagh
Education	N/A
Family	N/A
Club(s)	St. Mochua's, Derrynoose GAC Club [Armagh]
Occupation	N/A
Parents' Occupation	N/A
Religion	N/A
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

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Date of Report	15 th July 2012
Period Covered	1960s - 2011
Counties/Countries Covered	Armagh
Key Themes Covered	Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Coaching, Officials, Administration, Emigration, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, Club History, County History, Earliest Memories, Childhood, Purchase of Grounds
Interview Summary	<p>The recollections of Bernard O'Neill, a member of Derrynoose GAC in Co. Armagh, reach back to the early 1960s, when the club was successful in winning a county junior title. O'Neill's active involvement in the club began in the early 1970s when, after a period of lapse, the club re-emerged to win another junior championship. O'Neill's plots the various landmarks in the club's subsequent development and his own involvement at underage level in the mid-1980s and later, into the 1990s and 2000s, as an officer in the club's administration. In addition, O'Neill touches on the place of the club in a rural community and the contemporary challenges it faces. He also reflects on changes in the way Gaelic football is played and stresses the importance of encouraging participation at an early age.</p> <p>00:00:05 Earliest memories of Derrynoose GAC: although not present, he recalls the winning of the 1963 junior championship and some of the players involved.</p> <p>00:00:52 Mentions the late Pat Flanagan, who he describes as a leading member of the club in the early 1960s.</p> <p>00:01:05 Talks about the demise of the club in the 1960s, its re-emergence in the early 1970s and becoming a member.</p> <p>00:01:20 Memory of club winning 1973 junior championship and the 'youth of the team'.</p> <p>00:01:45 Talks about other landmarks in the club's history: the purchase of land for playing fields in 1983, winning Intermediate championship in 1985 and playing senior club football. Mentions leading players on that team, including Jimmy Christie, Pat Lee, the Lennon brothers etc.</p> <p>00:02:17 Discusses the deepening of his involvement with the club at underage level in the mid 1980s.</p> <p>00:02:36 Refers to the formation of a Derrynoose hurling</p>

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	<p>team in 1991 and the success that followed.</p> <p>00:02:51 Talks about election and role as chairman of the club from 1993 to 1998. Lists achievements: re-seeding playing fields, development of club rooms and community centre; visit of GAA President Jack Boothman to local schools in 1997.</p> <p>00:03:35 Mentions serving as club secretary in 2004 and his current position as club Vice-President.</p> <p>00:03:50 Refers to club's place in the community and to the achievement of Armagh in winning its first All-Ireland senior title in 2002. Mentions also Armagh's 2009 All-Ireland minor success.</p> <p>00:04:10 Discusses his involvement as a delegate to county board, the friendships he has forged. Attending games as a supporter and meeting with old friends.</p> <p>00:04:50 Talks about the challenges facing rural club such as Derryoose: expresses concerns about unemployment and emigration and its potential impact on the club.</p> <p>00:05:30 Reflects on changes he has observed in the style of Gaelic football played – comments on tackling, improved skills and his own club's involvement with underage development.</p> <p>00:06:30 Emphasises importance of encouraging participation at an early age.</p>
<p>Involvement in GAA</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" 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>Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)</p>	<p>Chairman of Derryoose club, 1993-1998</p> <p>Derryoose club secretary, 2004</p> <p>Derryoose club Vice-President</p>

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Format	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 00:07:25
Language	English

To be filled in by Interviewer:

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Signed: _____

Date: _____