

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Regina Fitzpatrick
<b>Date of Interview</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> April 2011
<b>Location</b>	Ned's home, Tynagh, Co. Galway
<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	Ned Dervan
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1939 <b>Home County:</b> Galway
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Tynagh NS
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 6 brothers & 3 sisters <b>Current Family if Different:</b> Wife (Ber); 2 sons & 3 daughters
<b>Club(s)</b>	Tynagh GAA [Galway]
<b>Occupation</b>	Farmer
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Farmers
<b>Religion</b>	Roman Catholic
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	None
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	Portumna Golf Club; Irish Farmers Association

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<b>Date of Report</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> July 2012
<b>Period Covered</b>	1920s - 2011
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Galway, Dublin, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Wexford
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Administration, Celebrations, Fundraising, Material Culture, Education, Emigration, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of the Club in the Community, Identity, Rivalries, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Irish History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Challenges, Sacrifices, Alcohol, Violence, Relationship with the Association, Retirement, Food and Drink, Socialising, Purchase of Grounds, Relationships, Economy/ Economics
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>Ned talks about his involvement with the GAA over the years. He talks about growing up in Tynagh and the role of the GAA in the area. He discusses his family's deep involvement in the Association and how his father and uncle played for the county team during the 1920s. He talks about the prominence of hurling in the area and the strength of the local team. Ned recalls his involvement in the Galway minor and senior teams during the 1950s and 1960s, and the Oireachtas competition. He describes the journeys to Dublin and playing in Croke Park. He talks about the development of the club over the years and how the club has fared. He discusses Tynagh's amalgamation with Abbey Duniry and how local people reacted to it. Towards the end of the interview Ned talks about his own family's involvement in the GAA. He gives his opinion on the modern game and highlights the best teams and players he played against during his playing career with the senior Galway hurling team.</p> <p>00:20 Ned talks about his early life growing up in Tynagh. His early memories of playing GAA and his county career.</p> <p>01:18 Talks about the prominent position of hurling in the area. Played football in Portumna.</p> <p>01:44 Discusses his family's involvement in the GAA. Father Jack and uncle Mick who played for Galway in 1923. Describes how he and four of his brothers played on the same Tynagh team. Mentions Michael, Justin, Bill.</p> <p>03:40 Describes how Tynagh was a hurling stronghold in the 1920s.</p>

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	<p>03:55 Recalls playing hurling with his brothers and locals outside the house when he was young.</p> <p>04:55 Talks about getting their hurls made by local man Jordan. Mentions Frank Larkin, Jack Whelan.</p> <p>05:56 Discusses playing hurling in school. The role of older hurlers in the area.</p> <p>07:04 Describes the impact of emigration on the area and on the club.</p> <p>07:40 Recalls his first experience of hurling with Tynagh. Talks about the 'big row' between Tynagh and Fohenagh in Kiltormer.</p> <p>09:50 Talks about the positions he played in growing up.</p> <p>10:14 Describes the club when he was growing up. Buying a pitch in the 1950s and holding fundraisers.</p> <p>10:55 Discusses the purchasing of the field for the club. The role of the Land Commission. Mentions James Keelaghan.</p> <p>11:33 Talks about the type of fundraising they did. Had dances twice a year.</p> <p>12:12 Recalls being selected to play for Galway minors. Playing against Ballymacward. Mentions Nicholas Murray.</p> <p>13:04 Describes playing against Kilkenny in a minor All-Ireland semi-final in Dublin. Playing against Tipperary the following year. Mentions Jimmy Doyle.</p> <p>13:57 Talks about collective training with the senior team in Clarinbridge.</p> <p>14:25 Describes playing with Galway and his family's involvement in the county team. Difference in tactics between now and then.</p> <p>15:37 Talks about players he admired. Mentions Joe Salmon, Jimmy Duggan.</p> <p>16:12 Discusses the Galway teams of the 1950s and the 1960s. The county board of the time and how the players were treated.</p> <p>17:22 Describes how they travelled to matches. Getting lifts with Jack Whelan. Mentions Brendan Whelan.</p> <p>18:00 Discusses playing matches in Croke Park and how</p>
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	<p>players dealt with the situation.</p> <p>19:00 Talks about the strongest hurling clubs in Galway during the 1950s and 1960s. Mentions Turloughmore, Fohenagh, Castlegar, Liam Mellows. Talks about how Tynagh were unbeaten for 10 years during the 1920s.</p> <p>20:05 Describes the development of Tynagh over the years. Discusses winning the junior championship in 1971. Playing Killimor in the east final that year. The celebrations after.</p> <p>22:00 Talks about the changes in the club and the area over the years. Describes how there were two teams in the parish, Tynagh and Father Colly Boyle's. Amalgamating with Abbey Duniry in recent years.</p> <p>23:05 Discusses Clarinbridge winning the All-Ireland and how they beat Tynagh.</p> <p>23:34 Talks about the opening of the Tynagh mines and the effect of that on the club and the area. Guards moving to the area.</p> <p>24:55 Discusses his work in the administration of the club.</p> <p>25:35 Talks about playing with his brothers on the Tynagh team.</p> <p>26:20 Discusses his playing career and his retirement.</p> <p>27:00 Recalls the east final against Killimor in 1971 and his preference for playing for Tynagh over Galway.</p> <p>27:50 Talks about winning the Oireachtas competition, beating Wexford in Thurles in the final. The Wexford team of the 1950s.</p> <p>30:00 Recalls playing against Christy Ring.</p> <p>31:10 Talks about the journey to Dublin for matches. Staying in Towers of Harcourt Street. Going to the dogs in Harold's Cross. Mentions Father Paddy Gantley, Father Sole, Jack Whelan.</p> <p>32:35 Discusses the amalgamation of Tynagh and Abbey Duniry.</p> <p>34:14 Talks about the future of the club and emigration.</p> <p>34:46 Discusses the changes in training over the years and the differences between the past and now.</p> <p>35:40 Talks about the best players and teams in his team.</p>
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	<p>Mentions the Tipperary team of the 1960s with Jimmy Doyle, Tony Reddin. Chooses John Connelly and Joe Cooney as the best players.</p> <p>36:46 Discusses his playing role on the team.</p> <p>37:20 Talks about the type of training he did.</p> <p>38:10 Discusses his sons', Ian and Eamon, involvement in the GAA and how Eamon has an All-Ireland GAA medal. Both were on the All-Ireland winning Portumna school teams. Pride at watching his sons play.</p> <p>39:50 Gives his opinion on the modern game.</p> <p>40:24 Talks about the role of the GAA and the club in Tynagh today. His hopes for the club for the future. Mentions Liam Hodgins and Kevin Broderick.</p>
<b>Involvement in GAA</b>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coach <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input checked="" 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>
<b>Record as a Player</b> (Titles won; Length of time played)	<p>Played for Tynagh for 27-28 years; Won Galway Junior Championship (1971); Played minor hurling with Galway (2 years); Played senior hurling for Galway, 1958-66; Won Oireachtas medal playing with Galway in 1958.</p>
<b>Record as an Administrator</b> (Positions held; how long for)	<p>Member of Tynagh GAA committee for many years holding many positions including Chairman (7 years); Secretary (7 years)</p>
<b>Format</b>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual</p>
<b>Duration</b>	<p>Length of Interview: 00:41:36</p>
<b>Language</b>	<p>English</p>

**To be filled in by Interviewer:**

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Signed: Regina Fitzpatrick

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> July 2012