

GAA Oral History Project
Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Arlene Crampsie
Date of Interview	8 th March 2011
Location	Jim's home, near Caragh, Co. Kildare
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Jim Kennedy
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1938 Home County: Kildare
Education	Primary: Caragh NS, Co. Kildare Secondary: Vocational School, Naas, Co. Kildare
Family	Siblings: 3 sisters & 2 brothers Current Family if Different: Married with one daughter
Club(s)	Raheens FC; Éire Óg, Hurling Club; Éire Óg Chorra Choill Camogie Club
Occupation	Farmer; Labourer; Bord na Mona; Insurance Salesman; Meat Firm; Landscaper
Parents' Occupation	Painter [Father]; Housewife, Farmer [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	President of Local Athletics Club, Community Association

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Margaret Sexton
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Female
Born	Year Born: 1948 Home County: Kildare
Education	Primary: Nurney NS, Co. Kildare Secondary: Vocational School, Co. Kildare
Family	Siblings: 5 brothers & 3 sisters Current Family if Different: Widow with 4 daughters and 2 sons
Club(s)	Brownstown Camogie; Nurney; St. Laurence's
Occupation	Farmer; Waitress; Sweet Factory
Parents' Occupation	Farmers
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	ICA; Community Games; Youth Club; Women's Group

Date of Report	8 th August 2012
Period Covered	1920s – 2011
Counties/Countries Covered	Kildare
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Coaching, Refereeing, Officials, Administration, Celebrations, Commiserations, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Material Culture, Education, Media, Role of Women, 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, Violence, Politics, Relationship with the Association, Professionalism, Retirement, Food and Drink, Socialising, Purchase of Grounds, Relationships
Interview Summary	<p>Margaret and Jim talk about their involvement in the GAA over the years. They discuss growing up in Kildare and how they became involved in the GAA. Jim recalls having an early interest in hurling and playing in school in Naas. Margaret talks about her mother's interest in camogie and how she became involved in the game. Jim talks about the make-up of the GAA in his parish of Caragh and how the team is known as Raheens. He discusses the formation of the Éire Óg team and his involvement in the club. Margaret talks about her camogie career, playing with Brownstown, Nurney and Kildare. She talks about the development of the game over the years in the county. Jim talks about the formation of a camogie club in Caragh as part of the Éire Óg club. They talk about the Kildare camogie team and how they are involved. They discuss the difficulties faced by both the camogie and hurling teams in Kildare, a county where football is the dominant game. They talk about the different issues in camogie in Kildare and describe the relationship between the Kildare camogie board and the Leinster board. Towards the end of the interview they talk about the different roles they have held in Kildare GAA and describe the important place the GAA has had in their lives over the years.</p> <p>00:00 Introduction</p> <p>00:38 (Margaret) Talks about her earliest memories of the GAA. Recalls how there was a pitch across the road from her home.</p> <p>01:10 (Jim) Discusses his earliest GAA memory. Talks about football and hurling being organised by a priest in 1952.</p>

	<p>Going to school in Naas and having an interest in hurling. Playing with Naas and Raheens.</p> <p>03:30 Talks about her involvement in the GAA. Describes how her mother played camogie with Suncroft and how she bought 9 hurls for her brothers and sisters every St. Patrick's day. Recalls making hurls from sticks and dances being held at crossroads to raise funds. Notes the amount of camogie clubs in the area.</p> <p>06:20 Discusses her father's and brother's interest in the GAA. Playing football in a field beside her house.</p> <p>07:12 (Jim) Talks about his family's interest in the GAA. Discusses Kildare winning the All-Ireland in 1927 and 1928. Describes how the team used to train across the road from his house.</p> <p>08:30 Recalls a story about a player on that team, Mick Buckley.</p> <p>09:27 Talks about playing minor with Naas while playing junior with his home club.</p> <p>10:26 Describes the formation of the Éire Óg hurling club. Talks about the people that were involved. Becoming the club's first secretary and later treasurer.</p> <p>16:00 (Margaret) Talks about her playing career, starting with Brownstown. Describes the gear they wore and how they were short on numbers. Playing illegal players. Mentions Sean Carey and his sister Maureen. Being in Hal Conway's bus, stopping at the picture house and bringing players out. Illegal players. Mentions Mrs Corcoran Kildare chairperson. Working in Lawlor's in Naas and having a Honda 50 to travel to matches.</p> <p>18:30 Starting with a club in Nurney. Describes the second crossbar in camogie, making it tougher to get a point. Making pulleys to put up the second crossbar. Recalls playing in a match a week before her wedding.</p> <p>21:30 Discusses possible reasons for the second crossbar in camogie.</p> <p>22:56 Talks about getting involved in administration with the club and county.</p> <p>24:35 Discusses playing ladies' football with Suncroft and Kildare. Recalls playing while pregnant.</p> <p>26:34 (Jim) Talks about getting involved in camogie and</p>
--	---

	<p>helping start a team in Caragh. Recalls how well the camogie team was organised.</p> <p>33:00 (Margaret) Describes the type of people involved in ladies' football in Kildare. Mentions being a selector with John Courtney. The relationship between camogie and ladies football today.</p> <p>34:50 Talks about the state of camogie in Kildare at the moment. Camogie is clustered in North Kildare mainly. Talks about St. Laurence's and their success. Discusses the state of the county team, commitment levels are healthy, but finances are problematic.</p> <p>38:48 (Both) They describe the poor support that camogie gets in Kildare. Margaret recalls doing reports for the KFM radio station.</p> <p>44:03 (Jim) Talks about camogie county boards and what they are like. Describes the type of issues that come up. Compares them to the men's meetings.</p> <p>45:46 (Margaret) Describes her role as club delegate to the men's county board. Notes how Kildare is a footballing county and this is reflected in spending. Mentions Pat Dunney. Compares the skill levels in ladies' football and camogie.</p> <p>51:35 (Both) They talk about the type of issues faced by hurling and camogie in Kildare. Describe the situation with grounds for Éire Óg.</p> <p>54:49 (Margaret) Discusses the main issues faced by camogie at the moment.</p> <p>58:15 Talks about the relationship between the Kildare camogie board and the Leinster and Central councils for camogie.</p> <p>01:01:48 (Jim) Describes his best GAA memory. Talks about working with the Éire Óg camogie team. Recalls winning the senior league with Raheens.</p> <p>01:03:23 (Margaret) Recalls playing with Kildare in Croke Park. Talks about her daughter winning a championship with Nurney and the Kildare winning the camogie All-Ireland.</p> <p>01:05:15 (Jim) Talks about playing with the Kildare football team.</p> <p>01:07:10 (Margaret) Describes the Kildare camogie team at the moment. Talks about what it was like when she was</p>
--	---

	<p>playing and the differences in facilities and transport.</p> <p>01:12:07 (Both) They talk about the differences in injuries between their time and now.</p> <p>01:13:43 (Jim) Chooses Pat Dunney as his GAA hero.</p> <p>01:15:20 (Margaret) Talks about how Pat Dunney trained the camogie team. Mentions Jack Donnelly, Eddie Molloy and her brothers, Pat and Seamus, both from Nurney.</p> <p>01:16:20 Recalls her mother listening to Micheál O’Hehir on the radio. Mentions Jimmy Doyle, John Doyle, Ollie Walsh and Mick O’Connell.</p> <p>01:16:43 (Both) They talk about their biggest GAA disappointments, not seeing Kildare win an All-Ireland. Losing the final in 1998.</p> <p>01:19:00 They describe what they would change in the GAA and the issues between club and county players.</p> <p>01:21:07 They talk about what the GAA has meant to them over the years. Describe their families’ involvement in the GAA.</p> <p>01:24:18 They both recall being on a Tug of War team.</p> <p>01:25:45 (Margaret) Talks about working at the Special Olympics in Croke Park.</p> <p>01:26:28 (Jim) Gives his hopes for the future of his club and county.</p>
<p>Involvement in GAA</p>	<p>Jim:</p> <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> <p>Margaret:</p> <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p>

	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____
Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)	<p>Jim: Played from the age of 14 to 37/38. Won minor hurling, Under 14 football, 8 senior hurling, 3 senior football, intermediate football, junior hurling and 12 league titles. He won all his football titles with Raheen's, except the Under 14 which he won with Caragh. The hurling titles he won with Éire Ógs.</p> <p>Margaret: Played for 8 years. Won 2 Leinster junior championships with Kildare, a junior championship and leagues with Nurney Camogie.</p>
Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)	<p>Jim: Has been involved in administration since 1955.</p> <p>Club: Assistant Organiser with Prosperous; Éire Óg Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Delegate to Hurling Board, Delegate to Football Board, Delegate to Camogie Board, Chairman of Camogie.</p> <p>Camogie County: Fixtures Committee</p> <p>Hurling County: Chairman of Hurling Board</p> <p>Margaret: Has been involved in administration since 1965.</p> <p>Club: Brownstown Delegate to County; Nurney Chairperson of Camogie, Delegate from GAA to County Board; St. Laurence's Delegate to County Board.</p> <p>Camogie County: Vice-chairperson, Chairperson, Delegate to Leinster Council, Delegate to Congress</p> <p>Games Director of ICE Community Games</p>
Format	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 01:27:35
Language	English

REFERENCE NO. KE/1/7

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: _____08/08/12_____