

## GAA Oral History Project

## Interview Report Form

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Tommy McCann
<b>Date of Interview</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2010
<b>Location</b>	N/A
<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	Peter Murphy
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1946 <b>Home County:</b> Louth
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Collon National School, Co. Louth.
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 1 brother; 2 sisters
<b>Club(s)</b>	Mattock Rangers GFC [Louth]
<b>Occupation</b>	Lorry Driver
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Farmers
<b>Religion</b>	N/A
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	N/A
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	N/A

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<b>Date of Report</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> July 2012
<b>Period Covered</b>	1950s – 2010
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Louth, Meath, Galway, Kerry, Great Britain, Australia, Australasia
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Administration, Education, Emigration, Involvement in GAA abroad, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of the Club in the Community, Outsider's Perspectives, Volunteers, GAA Abroad, Rivalries, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Challenges, Economy/ Economics
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>Peter Murphy discusses his early introduction to the GAA, travelling to local games on his father's bicycle and eventually playing in school. He details his subsequent emigration to London, his return to Ireland and his reintroduction to club life. Serving as club chairman for a decade from 1999 onwards, he charts the highs and lows of club performance and outlines the challenges that faced the club in developing facilities and encouraging youth participation. Murphy also discusses past players admires and changes that he would like to see in how Gaelic football is played.</p> <p>00:00:15 Peter Murphy introduces himself as a member of Mattock Rangers GAA club. Refers to nicknames he was known by in his playing days.</p> <p>00:00:33 Earliest memories: the establishment of first team in 1952/3. Recalls living 2 miles outside village over the border in Co Meath and travelling with his father to home matches on a bicycle.</p> <p>00:01:27 Football in school. Started playing under 14 at 11 years of age, competed in schools league.</p> <p>00:01:45 Playing underage football for a period with Glen Rovers in Tullyallen under the management of Larry McGraine.</p> <p>00:02:05 Winning O'Duffy cup medal in 1961.</p> <p>00:02:16 Emigration in mid 1960s. Moved to London – life in London and lack of serious involvement. Difference between GAA at home and in London.</p> <p>00:03:16 Return to Ireland and occasional participation as</p>

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	<p>player. Work commitments, travel and lack of time for training.</p> <p>00:03:45 Beginnings of involvement at administrative level and as a team selector.</p> <p>00:03:55 Danger of being relegated to Junior football in 1994 and fears for future of club.</p> <p>00:04:10 Privilege of being associated with Damien Reid and Reid's contribution to club and county.</p> <p>00:05:00 Chairman of club in 1999, remaining for a decade. Highlights of tenure, including the winning of first senior championship in 2002 and playing in a Leinster club final. Reference to quality of committee around him.</p> <p>00:06:40 Winning senior championship in 2005 and Leinster club championship performance. Memory of the late Dermot Earley.</p> <p>00:07:19 Performance of club post-2005, championship finals.</p> <p>00:07:50 Mentions favourite Louth players of the past.</p> <p>00:08:20 Admiration for Seán Purcell, Mattie McDonagh and Jack Mannion from Galway and Mick O'Connell and Jack O'Shea from Kerry.</p> <p>00:09:00 Contrasts players past and present with reference to changing nature of Gaelic football and the training involved. Refers to lessons from Australian Rules in relation to curbing overuse of handpass and promoting high catching.</p> <p>00:10:05 Challenges and costs involved in running a club.</p> <p>00:10:45 Use of GAA community centre by wider community – reference to concerns over insurance and health and safety.</p> <p>00:11:40 Work of club in encouraging new members. Influx of new people into community and opportunities for club.</p> <p>00:12:35 Perception of clubs from Outsiders.</p> <p>00:13:45 Changes in transport and impact on lifestyles.</p> <p>00:14:45 The future of Louth football: the need for more commitment from players. Importance placed on wearing county jersey.</p> <p>00:16:30 Reasons for pride in GAA .</p>
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<p><b>Involvement in GAA</b></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 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><b>Record as a Player</b> (Titles won; Length of time played)</p>	<p>Junior Player from 11-18 years. Adult player for a few years</p>
<p><b>Record as an Administrator</b> (Positions held; how long for)</p>	<p>Club Chairperson for ten years</p>
<p><b>Format</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual</p>
<p><b>Duration</b></p>	<p>Length of Interview: 00:16:52</p>
<p><b>Language</b></p>	<p>English</p>

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**To be filled in by Interviewer:**

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Signed: Tommy McCann

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2010