

## GAA Oral History Project

## Interview Report Form

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Regina Fitzpatrick
<b>Date of Interview</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> March 2011
<b>Location</b>	Ballygalget GAC Clubhouse, Co. Down
<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	Paddy Braniff
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1940 <b>Home County:</b> Down
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Ballygalget PS <b>Secondary:</b> Newtownards Technical School
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> None
<b>Club(s)</b>	Ballygalget GAC [Down]
<b>Occupation</b>	Retired Driver
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	N/A
<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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Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	William Coulter
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1946 <b>Home County:</b> Down
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Ballygalget PS <b>Secondary:</b> St Columba's
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 3 siblings
<b>Club(s)</b>	Ballygalget GAC [Down]
<b>Occupation</b>	Brick Layer
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Farmers
<b>Religion</b>	Roman Catholic
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	None
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	N/A

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Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Johnny Dorrian
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1934 <b>Home County:</b> Down
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Ballygalget PS
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> N/A <b>Current Family if Different:</b> 3 children
<b>Club(s)</b>	Ballygalget GAC [Down]
<b>Occupation</b>	Driver
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Agricultural Contractor [Father]
<b>Religion</b>	Roman Catholic
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	Sinn Féin
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	Young Farmers' Club

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Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Hugh Dorrian
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1936 <b>Home County:</b> Down
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Ballygalget PS
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 6 siblings <b>Current Family if Different:</b> N/A
<b>Club(s)</b>	Ballygalget GAC [Down]
<b>Occupation</b>	Retired Bus Driver
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Farmers
<b>Religion</b>	Roman Catholic
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	Sinn Féin
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	N/A

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Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Benedict A. Crawford
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1940 <b>Home County:</b> Down
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Ballygalget PS <b>Secondary:</b> St. Malachy's College, Belfast <b>Third Level:</b> St Joseph's Teacher Training College, Belfast
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 6 brothers & 2 sisters <b>Current Family if Different:</b> 1 son & 2 daughters
<b>Club(s)</b>	Ballygalget GAC [Down]
<b>Occupation</b>	Retired Teacher
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Farmers
<b>Religion</b>	Roman Catholic
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	Sinn Féin
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	N/A

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Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Seamus Bailie
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1939 <b>Home County:</b> Down
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Ballygalget PS
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 2 brothers & 2 sisters
<b>Club(s)</b>	Ballygalget GAC [Down]
<b>Occupation</b>	N/A
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	N/A
<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>	12 <sup>th</sup> July 2012
<b>Period Covered</b>	Early 1900s – 2011
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Down, Antrim, Kilkenny, Cork, Dublin, Great Britain, England
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Travel, Supporting, Facilities, Playing, Fundraising, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, Identity, Rivalries, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Irish History, Challenges, Northern Ireland, The Troubles, Ban of Foreign Games and Dances
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>The group talk about hurling on the Ards Peninsula. They talk about the history of the relationship between their club, Ballygalget GAA and the other clubs in the area and paint a picture of the hurling scene in Co. Down in general. They also refer to playing in the Antrim League. They describe the dynamic between football and hurling in the county and how success in the former affects the latter. They recall their club successes and big games they played against teams from Kilkenny and Cork. They recall what it was like organising the club during the troubles. They refer to an incident with the UVF and the positive reaction of the volunteers and the community in general in its aftermath.</p> <p>00.48 Johnny and Benny talk about the tradition of Gaelic games in the area. Mention Ballycran and Portaferry. Mention the Ards League. Mentions Newcastle Hurling Club.</p> <p>02.20 Johnny tells of the popularity of the Ards League. Benny explains how the clubs have changed in the area. Mention Éire Óg GAA, Kevin Barrys GAA, O’Rahillys GAA, St Josephs Ballycran, Newcastle Mitchells GAA.</p> <p>03.38 The group discuss naming of the Mitchells club. Mentions Willie Sisk and Henry Joseph Lennon.</p> <p>04.40 Johnny recalls playing hurling at school.</p> <p>05.05 Hugh recalls a teacher, Mr Leonard, from Fermanagh. He remembers the hurleys and balls they used to play with. Tells of early matches he remembers. Describes the influence of Micheál Ó hEithir. Mentions Ballygalget and Éire Óg in 1942.</p> <p>08.13 Johnny recalls listening to the 1947 All-Ireland Football Final on the radio.</p> <p>09.28 The group discusses the strong hurling clubs in Down</p>

	<p>in the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s. Mentions Kilclief GAA, Newry GAA and Leitrim GAA.</p> <p>10.46 Johnny and Benny talk about Ballygalget playing in the Antrim League. Mentions John Pat and Fr George Watson.</p> <p>12.55 Hugh refers to Leslie Burnett a former secretary and his opinion of hurling on the Ards Peninsula. The group speculates about the population of the area.</p> <p>14.46 The group talks about the types of employment in the area in the 1950s. Mentions farming and construction.</p> <p>15.40 Willie recalls his career with the county. Tells of going to London for the Junior All-Ireland. Refers to travelling to Croke Park to see Wexford in the All-Irelands in the 1950s.</p> <p>18.08 The group talks about the club's links to county teams. Also describe the dynamic in the county team in the 1960s. Mentions Dixie Ferguson. Mention St Columba's school.</p> <p>19.57 Benny describes the selection process for the county teams.</p> <p>20.36 The group talks about the relationship between the clubs. Recalls dances and refer to the Ban.</p> <p>22.00 Benny describes the fundraising carried out by the club. Refers to the development of facilities in the 1960s.</p> <p>23.05 Willie and Benny recall the opening of the field in 1970. Refer to a dispute with the parish priest.</p> <p>24.11 Willie, Hugh and Benny talk about the role of the club in the community and the support the team gets. Mention James Stephens GAA and Newtownshandrum GAA.</p> <p>26.30 The group discuss the achievements of the club and refer to certain big players. Talk about Kilkenny's attitude to the league. Tell of the Hurling Championships 1959. Mentions Marty Coulter, Ger Coulter, Mickey Brennan, Paddy 'Diamond' Hayden.</p> <p>31.30 Paddy and Willie recall travelling to play James Stephens in 1975 after winning the Ulster Championship. Mention Newpark Hotel in Kilkenny. Mention Fran Larkin, Brian Cody, Mick Crotty, Hennessy, the McCormicks.</p> <p>32.50 The group talks about the relationship between hurling and football in Down. Mention Antrim and Kilkenny. Mention Bredagh GAA and Carryduff GAA. Refer to the aftermath of</p>
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	<p>football success in the 1960s.</p> <p>36.50 The group recall where they got hurleys from over the years.</p> <p>38.35 The group talks about the volunteers in the club. Refer to a fire in the clubhouse and the subsequent development. Mention the UVF.</p> <p>41.57 The group talks about travelling to matches during the Troubles. Mention the UDR. Mentions Belfast. Mention Donaghadee Golf Club.</p> <p>45.44 Benny describes the effect of the Troubles on the membership of the club.</p> <p>46.30 Benny and Johnny talks about the lifting of the Ban. Benny emphasises the importance of juvenile games. Mention Dublin. Mention rugby.</p> <p>48.28 The group highlights the difficulty and expense of hurling.</p> <p>49.36 Paddy and Hugh describe some of the fundraising techniques the club has employed. Paddy tells of a shinty team coming from Scotland. Mention the International Rules with Scotland.</p> <p>51.44 Willie talks about the club's success in 1975. Refer specifically to a game against Ballycastle GAA. Mentions John Convery.</p> <p>53.10 The group talk about a recent match against Newtownshandrum GAA. Mentions Ben O'Connor and Gerry O'Connor, Gardiner, Naughton.</p> <p>54.40 Johnny talks about the official opening of the club's field. Mentions Portaferry and Ballygalget.</p> <p>55.20 Willie recalls bringing his children to games with him. Benny highlights the distance Ballygalget teams need to travel to play.</p> <p>56.33 The group talks about a tournament in 1969. Mentions Moneyglass.</p> <p>56.50 Paddy and Benny remember football in the club. Mention soccer. Benny mentions Portaferry GAA's difficulties in 1958. Johnny recalls a Junior Football Final in Banbridge. Mentions John Coulter.</p> <p>59.04 The group talks about camogie in the club and in the county</p>
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<p><b>Involvement in GAA</b></p>	<p><b>Paddy:</b></p> <p><input 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 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>William:</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> <p><b>Johnny:</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" 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> <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>Hugh:</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Coach <input type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input 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><b>Benedict:</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" 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>
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	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> <p><b>Seamus:</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 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 checked="" 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><b>Paddy:</b> 1 All-Ireland Junior Championship; 7 Down Senior Hurling championships</p> <p><b>William:</b> Played for 15 years, 1 Ulster Junior Hurling Championship and 8 Down Senior Hurling Championships</p> <p><b>Johnny:</b> 3 Down Senior Hurling Championships; 1 Ulster Junior Hurling Championship</p> <p><b>Hugh:</b> 4 Down Senior Hurling Championships; 1 Junior Hurling All-Ireland; 5 Ulster Junior Hurling Championships; 1 Ulster Intermediate Hurling Championships; 13 Railway Cup appearances</p> <p><b>Benedict:</b> Played for 14 years and won 4 Down Senior Hurling Championships (1959, 64, 66, 70)</p> <p><b>Seamus:</b> 6 Down Senior Hurling Championships, 1959, 64, 66, 73, 75, 76.</p>
<p><b>Record as an Administrator</b> (Positions held; how long for)</p>	<p><b>Paddy:</b> Ballygalget GAC [Down]</p> <p><b>William:</b> Chairman of club 3 times for 3 years each time</p> <p><b>Johnny:</b> Vice-Chairman of club for 10 years</p> <p><b>Hugh:</b> Vice- Chairman of Club</p> <p><b>Benedict:</b> Chairman of National Referees' Advisors' Committee</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: 01.01.01</p>

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<b>Language</b>	English
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**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: Regina Fitzpatrick

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> July 2012