GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Regina Fitzpatrick	
Date of Interview	22 nd Feb 2011	
Location	Kathleen's home, near Aughrim, Co. Wicklow	
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Kathleen McAllister (née Lacey)	
Biographical Summary of Interviewee		
Gender	Female	
Born	Year Born: 1945	
	Home County: Wicklow	
Education	Primary: Annacurra NS, Co. Wicklow.	
	Secondary: Arklow Community College	
Family	Siblings: 3 sisters	
	Current Family if Different: Husband (Tom), 4 daughters & 1 son	
Club(s)	Annacurra Camogie Club [Wicklow]	
Occupation	Seamstress and Overseer	
Parents' Occupation	Farm Manager [Father]; Housewife [Mother]	
Religion	Roman Catholic	
Political Affiliation / Membership	Fianna Fáil	
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	ICA; Pioneers Total Abstinence Association; Muintir na Tíre; Aughrim First Aid; Aughrim-Annacurra Community Games	

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Agnes Byrne	
Biographical Summary of Interviewee		
Gender	Female	
Born	Year Born: 1936	
	Home County: Laois	
Education	Primary: Arles NS, Co. Laois	
	Secondary: St Leo's Convent, Co. Carlow.	
Family	Siblings: 2 sisters & 2 brothers	
	Current Family if Different: Husband (Des), 3 daughters & 4 sons	
Club(s)	Annacurra Camogie Club [Wicklow]	
Occupation	Hotel Managerment	
Parents' Occupation	Farmers	
Religion	Roman Catholic	
Political Affiliation / Membership	Fine Gael	
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A	

Date of Report	17 th July 2012
Period Covered	1930s – 2011
Counties/Countries Covered	Wicklow, Dublin
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Coaching, Refereeing, Officials, Administration, Celebrations, Commiserations, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Material Culture, Education, Religion, Media, Emigration, Involvement in GAA abroad, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, GAA Abroad, Identity, Rivalries, Irish Language, Culture, Scór, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Irish History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Challenges, Sacrifices, Outsider's Perspectives, Alcohol, Violence, Bribery, Politics, Northern Ireland, The Troubles, Ban on Foreign Games and Dances, Opening of Croke Park, Ban on Security Forces, Relationship with the Association, Professionalism, Retirement, Food and Drink, Socialising, Purchase of Grounds, Relationships, Economy / Economics
Interview Summary	Kathleen and Agnes talking about their involvement in camogie with Annacurra GAA club over the years. They talk about the establishment of a camogie team in the area in 1957 and the type of facilities available at the time. They describe the type of clothes players wore and recall how men playing camogie was an often occurrence. Kathleen talks about her involvement in administration, becoming treasurer and fundraiser for the Annacurra club. She discusses playing for Wicklow and what that was like. They talk about the different fundraisers and Céilís that were held over the years. They discuss the development of the game in Wicklow over the years and how it has sometimes struggled for numbers. Kathleen talks about her involvement in county board administration and managing the team in 2009. She talks about being awarded for her work by the GAA and what that means to her.
	00:50 (Kathleen) Talks about her earliest memories of the GAA. Describes Jimmy Kavanagh started the camogie team in Annacurra in 1957. Recalls how her father made her a hurl. Talks about the other teams in the area and the club's first match against Glenealy. Winning their first championship.
	04:10 Recalls her parents' reaction to her playing camogie. Mentions Sal Turner. Talks about the people that played on

the team. Playing on Sweeny's Island.

- 06:10 Describes the type of clothes they wore playing. Recalls a story about Kathleen O'Duffy, the wife of Sean O'Duffy. Discusses the development of the club's pitch.
- 10:55 Describes how William Nolan dressed as a woman to play in a camogie match. Recalls dressing a local boy JJ Flood in the camogie gear. Talks about men playing in camogie matches.
- 12:25 Recalls the type of training they did.
- 13:10 (Agnus) Describes how camogie was their main activity.
- 13:30 (Both) They talk about the support camogie received in Wicklow.
- 14:00 Discuss the success of Annacurra. Kathleen talks about being treasurer of the club and fundraiser.
- 15:20 (Kathleen) Talks about fundraising for the club and holding Céilís. Describes what Céilís were like and holding waltzing competitions. Talks about the 'hucklebuck' dance during the 1960s. Discusses the club's relationship with the Tullow club.
- 20:31 Discusses playing with the Wicklow team. Talks about the different clubs in the county.
- 22:45 Talks about the efforts to keep the club going over the years. Describes the strength of the team in the 1980s.
- 25:22 (Agnes) Describes the location of the club and the parish and how they have struggled for players at times.
- 27:00 (Both) They talk about the people involved in the running of the club.
- 29:00 They discuss going to Féile competitions. Kathleen recalls bringing her children.
- 30:55 (Kathleen) Talks about the club in the 1990s. Describes what the club is like today.
- 32:59 Discusses her involvement on the county board. Talks about the different players who played with the club and those involved in camogie in Wicklow.
- 35:52 Talks about working with the camogie association, Cumann Camógaíochta. Gives her opinion on the current

	underage setup. Discusses setting up a cup.
	38:23 Describes the development of camogie over the years. Talks about being manager of the county team in 2009 and winning division five. Recalls being awarded by the GAA for her work in camogie.
Involvement in GAA	Kathleen:
GAA	✓ Supporter ✓ Player ✓ Manager ✓ Coach □ Steward
	✓ Chairperson ✓ Committee Member □ Grounds-person
	□ Caterer □ Jersey Washer □ Referee □ None
	□ Other (please specify):
	Agnes:
	✓ Supporter □ Player □ Manager □ Coach □ Steward
	□ Chairperson ✓ Committee Member □ Grounds-person
	□ Caterer □ Jersey Washer □ Referee □ None
	□ Other (please specify):
Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)	Kathleen: Played camogie from 1957 – 2009 with Annacurra; played 1959 – 1980s with Wicklow.
	1957: Founded Annacurra Camogie Club and played with them. Won Wicklow Senior Camogie Championship (1958, 61, 62, 63, 73)
	Played Camogie for Wicklow and won Leinster Senior Camogie Championship (1964); Won Camogie National League (1970s).
	Agnes: N/A
Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)	Kathleen: Has served as Treasurer, Vice-Chairperson nad Chairperson of Wicklow Camogie Board and been a member of the board from 1960s – current.
	Agnes: Secretary of Annacurra Camogie Club (1978 – 90); Registrar of Wicklow Camogie County Board.

Format	✓ Audio □ Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview:
Language	English

To be filled in by Interviewer:

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Signed: Regina Fitzpatrick

Date: 17th July 2012