

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Arlene Crampsie
Date of Interview	14 th April 2010
Location	Cookstown Father Rocks Clubhouse, Cookstown, Co. Tyrone
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Adrian Gilmore
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1959 Home County: Tyrone
Education	Primary: St Mary's PS (now Holy Trinity) Secondary: St Patrick's Secondary School (now Holy Trinity)
Family	Siblings: 2 sisters Current Family if Different: Married to Rita with 1 son and 1 daughter
Club(s)	Cookstown Father Rocks
Occupation	Civil Servant
Parents' Occupation	Carpenter [Father]; Dainty Fit Garment Factory Worker [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	None
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Golf Clubs

REFERENCE NO. TY/1/13

Date of Report	15 th June 2012
Period Covered	1889 – 2010
Counties/Countries Covered	Tyrone
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Officials, Administration, Celebrations, Commiserations, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Media, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, 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, Politics, Northern Ireland, The Troubles, Ban on Security Forces, Relationship with the Association, Professionalism, Socialising, Purchase of Grounds, Relationships, Economy/ Economics
Interview Summary	<p>Adrian talks about his involvement with the Fr Rock's GAA club in Cookstown. Having played in his younger days he got involved in the administrative side of things, and although he left the club for a time after a fall-out, he returned again to occupy roles such as chairman and vice-chairman. Adrian talks about the work done to keep the club afloat and to try and develop their facilities. Much of that work was undone when the club facilities were burned down in 2008 in a sectarian attack. Adrian recalls that period and how the club regained its strength and went on to claim an All-Ireland Intermediate title. He was also able to enjoy a decade of unprecedented success for the Tyrone footballers, with the seniors picking up three All-Ireland football titles and his son on an All-Ireland minor winning team in 2004. Tragedy struck in Tyrone when their 2003 All-Ireland winning captain Cormac McAnallen died suddenly in 2004, a loss that touched people right across the county and beyond. Adrian reflects on this time and the sadness that was felt in the community. He also talks about the ups and downs in his own life and the positive impact the GAA has had on him over the years.</p> <p>00:00 Introduction</p> <p>00:25 Earliest GAA memory - father originally from Portaferry in Down, then setting up a hurling club in Cookstown. Watching them hurling in 1955/1956.</p> <p>01:25 Father's background and GAA involvement. Paddy O'Neill from Waterford starting the club with him.</p>

	<p>02:10 Fr John Hughes and Master Harvey from the local school trying to revive hurling in the town in the 1980s.</p> <p>03:00 Father had little interest in football.</p> <p>03:30 Grandfather the first man to lift the O'Neill Cup in Tyrone, in 1916. Commemoration in 1998 in Omagh.</p> <p>05:00 Cookstown is the oldest club in Tyrone.</p> <p>05:30 What he knows about the history of Cookstown GAA, which was started by Fr John Rock and others in 1889.</p> <p>06:35 Club representing Tyrone.</p> <p>07:10 Club was named the Brian Ógs and then the Eoin Roe O'Neills in the 1890s. Merging with a Geraldines club to form the Fr Rock's team in Cookstown.</p> <p>08:35 Administrative involvement with the club. Mark O'Neill as chairman.</p> <p>09:20 Club pitch. McMahons bought the land in the 1940s. More property purchased and developed in the 1960s.</p> <p>11:40 Redeveloping the facilities and raising money for that. Tyrone player Owen Mulligan helping out. Former Tyrone player Barney Eastwood buying Mulligan's boots.</p> <p>13:35 Running a weekly lottery.</p> <p>14:10 His playing days. Prominence of GAA at the time.</p> <p>15:30 Getting involved in other things in his late teens.</p> <p>15:50 Getting involved in administration in his mid-twenties and reasons for that.</p> <p>16:35 New policy coming into the GAA about transfers. Leaving the club.</p> <p>18:15 Returning to the club and roles he occupied.</p> <p>18:35 Son getting involved in 2004. Wife and daughter also involved.</p> <p>20:00 Sectarian attack on the club and reviving the club.</p>
--	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	<p>21:15 His commitment to the club.</p> <p>21:50 Importance of clubs to the GAA.</p> <p>22:05 Mark O'Neill's involvement with the club. Argument at an AGM after something Mark said.</p> <p>23:30 Putting underage structures in place.</p> <p>24:10 Vetting people who are involved with the club.</p> <p>25:10 Winning titles at youth level.</p> <p>25:30 Paul McGurk winning medals at the end of his career.</p> <p>26:00 Tyrone star Owen Mulligan at the club.</p> <p>26:25 Club members on Tyrone All-Ireland winning teams.</p> <p>27:20 Success at senior level.</p> <p>27:50 Success in 2009. Speaking to Chris Lawn in 2008 about becoming manager of the club. Chris with Moortown at the time. Why they wanted him.</p> <p>29:10 Success under Chris. Losing a game to Greencastle and being spurred on by the loss.</p> <p>30:55 Transformation of the club under Chris. Winning an All-Ireland in 2010. Barry Hughes winning a crucial penalty.</p> <p>32:15 How it felt to win an All-Ireland in Croke Park.</p> <p>34:45 Going to games with Adrian Scullion. Frequent trips to Dublin to watch Tyrone in action.</p> <p>35:55 Asking people like Joe McCabe about certain players.</p> <p>36:15 Meeting Matt Fitzpatrick of The Irish News at games.</p> <p>36:55 Under-16s playing a county final in Omagh in 2009. Trouble erupting and the CCC conducting an investigation. How he feels about that.</p> <p>39:50 Warning the CCC about the possibility of repercussions.</p>
--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	<p>40:25 Having a heart attack and making a statement to Damien Harvey in hospital about the incident.</p> <p>42:15 Relationship with former county chairman Pat Darcy.</p> <p>42:55 Ciaran McLaughlin as chairman of the county board.</p> <p>43:10 Work of Damien Harvey as Tyrone PRO and chairman of their club.</p> <p>43:50 Involvement of people from the other side of the community. Role of summer camps in that.</p> <p>44:40 Local businesses supporting the club.</p> <p>45:50 Working on the plans for facilities. Stressing the need for the right sized dressing-rooms.</p> <p>47:00 Former Tyrone star Peter Canavan's contribution to the GAA. Owen Mulligan helping out.</p> <p>48:15 Work of Declan O'Neill as a trainer.</p> <p>48:50 Paddy Hunter from a radio station ringing him.</p> <p>49:20 Club being supportive in times of tragedy. Guard of honour when his father had died.</p> <p>50:25 Death of former Tyrone captain Cormac McAnallen.</p> <p>52:35 Celebrations when they won the All-Ireland.</p> <p>53:30 Sectarian attack on the club and political situation in Cookstown.</p> <p>54:35 When he first heard about the attack on club facilities. Fire brigade. Media and politicians present.</p> <p>55:30 Getting a call from Trevor Wilson, a Unionist. Conversation they had.</p> <p>56:35 Orange Volunteer Force claiming responsibility for the attack.</p> <p>58:35 Other attacks the same weekend.</p> <p>58:45 New facilities being built.</p>
--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	<p>59:35 Non-political ethos of the club.</p> <p>01:00:15 Argument taking place at a meeting over a vote on removal of rules – ban on members of the security forces.</p> <p>01:02:25 Non-political nature of clubs in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>01:03:40 Irish culture and language. Mark O'Neill speaking in Irish at a function.</p> <p>01:04:30 Scór in the club. Donal Magee of Killyclogher involved in that. Planning to promote Irish culture in 2008.</p> <p>01:07:20 Making their club facilities available to the whole community. Various associations using club facilities.</p> <p>01:09:05 Challenges of running an urban club compared to a rural one.</p> <p>01:10:05 Membership increasing in wake of Tyrone's 2003 All-Ireland win.</p> <p>01:10:20 Getting a phone call and being told by county board chairman Liam Nelis that the victorious Tyrone team were calling to the club for a visit. Informing the PSNI. Preparing for the team's arrival. Crowds welcoming the team.</p> <p>01:14:40 Talking to people involved in other sports about the GAA. Pride in GAA's amateur status.</p> <p>01:15:20 Meeting with Tyrone manager Mickey Harte when he first took over and discussions that took place.</p> <p>01:16:10 Club suffering so that Tyrone could achieve success. Being relegated.</p> <p>01:16:50 Park named after Paddy Cullen, former chairman of the club. Paddy Cullen's GAA career. Park had been called Phelim Brady Park but was rededicated to Paddy Cullen.</p> <p>01:18:50 Paddy Cullen's contribution to the GAA.</p> <p>01:20:50 Role of women in the club. Marie Ross first woman chairman.</p> <p>01:21:20 Being at loggerheads with the women on occasion.</p> <p>01:22:15 Women not being affiliated with the GAA and</p>
--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

REFERENCE NO. TY/1/13

	<p>problems because of that.</p> <p>01:23:50 Issues over use of pitch for training.</p> <p>01:24:20 Arguments over finances.</p> <p>01:25:20 Women wanting t-shirts because men's teams got them.</p> <p>01:27:10 Membership money not covering affiliation fees and having to take action.</p> <p>01:28:00 Voicing his opinion that certain girls are playing at too young an age.</p> <p>01:28:30 Women's committee.</p> <p>01:28:55 Wanting women's side of club to contribute financially.</p> <p>01:33:05 New chairman communicating with the ladies. Speaking up at meetings.</p> <p>01:33:20 Clare McGarrity and him discussing his stance on the women's branch of the club.</p> <p>01:35:00 Problems about women's branch approaching outside sponsors for money. Insurance charges for women higher than for men. Women's successes on the field.</p> <p>01:37:00 Best GAA memory - club success at senior level. What it meant to club members.</p> <p>01:39:30 Being confident of beating their opponents, Kerry side Spa.</p> <p>01:40:30 His son winning an All-Ireland in 2004 with Tyrone minors.</p> <p>01:41:30 Tyrone winning the All-Ireland in 2005.</p> <p>01:42:55 Sadness of Cormac McAnallen's funeral.</p> <p>01:44:45 What the GAA has meant to him.</p>
<p>Involvement in GAA</p>	<p>✓ Supporter ✓ Player ✓ Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Coach ✓ Steward</p>

REFERENCE NO. TY/1/13

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____
Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)	Played for 8/9 years from U-14 age group up.
Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)	Adrian got involved in administration from 1982 – 1986 and has been involved again from 2000 to the date of interview. He was club chairman from 2002 – 2009; Vice Chairman 2010 -; and has been on the County Youth Committee.
Format	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 01:46:51
Language	English

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: _____ 15/06/12 _____