

## GAA Oral History Project

## Interview Report Form

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Jimmy Smyth
<b>Date of Interview</b>	30/12/2011
<b>Location</b>	N/A
<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	Harry Hoy
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1936 <b>Home County:</b> Armagh
<b>Education</b> (Optional)	<b>Primary:</b> St. Peter's Primary School, Lurgan <b>Secondary:</b> St. Colman's College, Newry <b>Third Level:</b> St. Mary's T.C. Belfast
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 1 Brother, 3 Sisters
<b>Club(s)</b>	Clan na Gael, Clann Eireann [Armagh]
<b>Occupation</b>	Retired Headmaster
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	N/A
<b>Religion</b>	Roman Catholic
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	N/A
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	Lurgan Golf Club

<b>Date of Report</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> August 2012
<b>Period Covered</b>	1960-2011
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Armagh, Down, Derry, Kerry, Cavan, Mayo, Longford
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Ground, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Administration, Education, Role of Teachers, Role of Club in the Community, Rivalries, All-Ireland, Club History, Earliest Memories, Childhood, Impact on Life, The Troubles, Ban on Foreign Games and Dances
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>Harry Haughey discusses his involvement in the GAA from playing as a schoolboy through to playing for his county. This is followed by a move into training and management. He also discusses the GAA in Armagh during WWII and in the years that followed including through the Troubles. He talks of the role played by the Club in his life and the lives of all those involved</p> <p>00:38 Discusses his early involvement in school football at Saint Colman's in Newry.</p> <p>00:55 Talks of the school winning 1949 MacRory Cup with Seán Blaney and Liam McCorry in the team when he was in first year.</p> <p>01:10 Talks about playing in a 1952 MacRory Cup match against Saint Patrick's of Armagh.</p> <p>02:02 Talks of the school team mentioning Lurgan players, Seán Blaney, Liam McCorry, Tom McPartlin, Pat McConville of Wolfstones, Kevin Mussen and PJ McElroy.</p> <p>02:35 Speaks of being beaten in the MacRory Cup semi-final by Saint Patrick's of Armagh in his last year when it was played in the Meadow in the College.</p> <p>03:25 Discusses the many losses along with the MacRory Cup around that year (1952) and his role in their loss, including Rannafast Cup Final, Minor Championship Final and the County Final the following year.</p> <p>03:58 Talks of playing football as child during the Second World War, before Davitt Park and the New Field, in Deany's Meadow opposite Celtic Park in Francis Street.</p> <p>04:23 Talks of the GAA's vibrancy in Lurgan after the war.</p> <p>04:41 Discusses Alf Murray and others building up the GAA.</p>

	<p>Saint Paul's school, the New Field, where the Belgian soldiers used to play during the War.</p> <p>05:15 Speaks of the rivalry between Clan na Gael and Saint Peter's and the crowds that attended the games.</p> <p>05:23 Recalls Alf Murray, Joe Haughey and Larry McGee playing for Clann Eireann on the New Field and "hurling" the ball in from the crook of their arms rather than taking the sideline.</p> <p>05:45 Talks of the American and Belgian soldiers in Francis Street being stopped from playing soccer on the New Field by a well known member of Clan na Gael.</p> <p>06:22 Talks of the construction of Davitt Park and fitting studs, from Hugh McAleese's, to a pair of boots to play with Clan Óg schoolboy team.</p> <p>06:49 Speaks of getting his first new pair of football boots from McGarry for the 1953 Ulster Final.</p> <p>07:00 Recalls taking a free kick for McGarry in 1953 from fifty yards with the promise of a Cusack Stand ticket to the All-Ireland Football Final for scoring.</p> <p>07:33 Tells of Frank McKeogh's disappointment at this, since he had scored all the other points in the game.</p> <p>07:47 Talks of the 1953 Armagh Senior team training in Maghera when Harry was playing for the Minor team training under Alf Murray.</p> <p>08:11 Speaks of the Minor team travelling by bus, ferry and taxi to training.</p> <p>08:58 Tells of their defeat that year to Mayo in Longford as well as the Senior Armagh team's defeat to Kerry in the final.</p> <p>09:15 Talks of playing centre half for the Armagh Minor team in Croke Park the following year after winning the Ulster Championship, defeating Down in Clones and meeting Kerry in the final. Mentions marking Johnny Culloty, a footballer and basketball player who went on to become a goalkeeper after an injury on the Kerry Senior team. Also mentions Tom Long, midfield, Bat Carvey and Mick O'Dwyer and Brendan Kennelly.</p> <p>10:33 Tells of captaining the Armagh Junior team in 1955 when they beat Cavan in the Ulster Semi Final in the Athletic Grounds. A replay in Ballybay was arranged due to a problem</p>
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	<p>with one of the Armagh team.</p> <p>11:12 Talks of travelling in Michael Ernst's taxi with Michael Casey, Johnny McConville and others. He speaks of being given two tablets by Johnny who got them from Donnie McKavanagh's. Harry was still going the next morning.</p> <p>12:34 Talks of playing in the Antrim leagues in the Winter in the training college and with Clan na Gael with Gerry McStay, Brian Seeley, Jim B, John Green, Podge Cullen.</p> <p>13:35 Discusses the Senior Football Championship semi-final in Davitt Park beating the Armagh Harps team with Jack Bratton, Johnny Hanratty, Joe Cunningham, Pat Campbell and then lost to Clann Éireann in the County Final.</p> <p>14:28 Speaks of the lack of publicity and media coverage.</p> <p>14:50 Talks about the song written after Saint Peter's beat Clan na Gael in the Green Cross Cup in the late 1940's. This was also the time of the Glór Lurgan. And he recites this poem from when Clan na Gael won the Cup in 1949.</p> <p>15:19 Discusses the headlines in the newspapers after different Clan na Gael and Saint Peter's wins.</p> <p>15:55 Talks of a number of players leaving Clan na Gael to play soccer after which he left Clan na Gael to play football with Clann Éireann, with whom he also played basketball. He also mentions winning a Championship medal with Clann Éireann. Mentions 1947 Education Act and the building of secondary schools across Northern Ireland.</p> <p>17:12 Speaks of teaching P.E., firstly in Saint Thomas' Secondary School, Whiterock Road, Belfast. With students coming in from Saint John's, Saint Gaul's, O' Donovan Rossa and Éire Óg. Including the Gallagher's from Saint John's whose grandfather was the caretaker of Corrigan Park.</p> <p>18:01 He talks of the principal, Michael McClaverty and Seamus Heaney teaching in the school.</p> <p>18:17 Discusses his move to Saint Paul's new Secondary School in 1962 and the facilities.</p> <p>19:08 Speaks of playing football in the New Park with the class of 47, that he had in primary school, using the football from the Ulster Final autographed by the Armagh Minor team in 1954.</p> <p>19:48 Recalls that four of those students, Kavanagh, Traynor, and Seamus McGill ended up with him in the All-Ireland</p>
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	<p>Football Minor Semi-final in 1968.</p> <p>20:21 Talks of the Secondary school using Davitt Park and McGarry and winning the Down League, as there were no other secondary schools in Armagh. They won this league a number of times.</p> <p>20:40 Recalls the teachers driving down to Newcastle to bring the boys to a final.</p> <p>20:53 Discusses winning an Ulster Championship against Saint Thomas' after convincing them to travel to his grounds to play. Paddy Casey was not pleased with Harry's astuteness as Noel O'Hagan called it. Also mentioned is Don Blaney (Captain) and Sean McKeown.</p> <p>21:34 Talks of meeting Paddy Casey while playing handball for Armagh with Joe McLindon against Tyrone in the Ulster semi-final when he was playing with Patsy Begley, Philomena's brother.</p> <p>22:00 Talks of being Captain of the Minors and Juniors. Also discusses 1961 final against Down.</p> <p>23:14 Speaks of the difference in facilities available to Armagh and Down prior to the 1961 game. When Armagh had one football to practice with and Down had all they needed and trained under Maurice Hayes, Donnie Flynn and Barney Carr on the sands in Newcastle and the gym in Castlewellan and when Armagh went to train in Kileavy they could not as a Junior match was in play.</p> <p>23:40 Tells of being asked to train the Armagh Senior team and being told on arrival that they could not train because a Davitt Cup match was being played.</p> <p>24:06 Recalls the rivalry between Armagh and Down pupils and some of the ex pupils of Saint Colman's College playing for Down.</p> <p>24:37 Discusses the Down team visiting Saint Colman's College on the morning of the All-Ireland Final and of them going to mass in the College Chapel and then left for Dublin.</p> <p>25:22 Talks about Teddy Martin of Clan na Gael attributing their success in the 1970's to the work done by Harry Haughey in Saint Paul's. Players mentioned include, Martin Kavanagh, Colm McKinstrie, Danny Traynor and all the O'Hagans.</p> <p>26:04 Talks of Noel O'Hagan's view that he got his</p>
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	<p>astuteness from Harry Haughey.</p> <p>26:22 Discusses the 1968 Armagh Minor Football team and their success in the Ulster Championship in Casement Park. Mentions Martin Kavanagh (Captain), Frank Towman, Kevin Stevenson, Ciaran Lewis (in goals) Joe Scullion (full-back). Also mentions that Jimmy Smyth would have been there but unfortunately was fourteen days too old to play.</p> <p>27:00 Discusses telling Donnie Scullion, Martin Kavanagh, Joe Scullion and Jimmy Smyth. Mentions Jim Burns, ex Saint Paul's, who captained the 1967 Armagh Minor Football team and tells of his disappointment at the semi-final loss against Sligo. Other player mentioned include, Aidan Richardson and Marty Oliver and Peter Loughran who had refused to take a penalty.</p> <p>28:14 Speaks of the changes in GAA over the years around 1970, the time when Gerry O'Neill took over and the Armagh Senior team was beaten in the semi-final by Derry and Down went on to win the Ulster Senior Football Championship.</p> <p>28:40 Discusses how County football took a back seat to Club football at that time. Also, the Troubles had a huge effect as shown by the fact that the Armagh team that won the National League in 1976 were trained in two locations. Collective training. The North Armagh players by Jimmy Smyth in Clann Éireann and the South Armagh players by Gerry O'Neill in Carrickcruppen.</p> <p>29:42 Talks of Lurgan and the GAA in the years after WWII which saw a surge in GAA popularity.</p> <p>30:02 Discusses the crowds in Davitt Park for a Davitt Cup match between Clan na Gael and Saint Peter's during Gaelic Week.</p> <p>30:35 Talks of the present state of Davitt Park and how work is now taking place to improve it under Jim O'Hagan.</p> <p>31:01 Discusses the 1950's and days out with Clan na Gael on 12<sup>th</sup> July.</p> <p>31:43 Talks of playing two matches on Sunday, John Hanratty is mentioned.</p> <p>32:10 Speaks of what the GAA means to him, everything. At 75 years of age he still thinks back with pleasure on those days.</p> <p>33:10 Talks of the pride of looking at young players walking</p>
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	<p>out on to Croke Park. Mentions Keith Duggan and the joy of seeing a smile on a child's face.</p> <p>33:50 Recalls spending more than he received in expenses on travelling to games by car. Mentions Jimmy Smyth in 1977 captaining Armagh and arriving to training in a Lada.</p>
<b>Involvement in GAA</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coach <input type="checkbox"/> Steward <input type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person <input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____
<b>Record as a Player</b> (Titles won; Length of time played)	Corn-na-nÓg, 2 Ulster Minors, Lagan Cup, Armagh Senior Championship
<b>Record as an Administrator</b> (Positions held; how long for)	Manager of Armagh Minor Team. Ulster Champions 1969
<b>Format</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
<b>Duration</b>	Length of Interview: 00:34:26
<b>Language</b>	English

**To be filled in by Interviewer:**

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_