

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

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| Name of Interviewer | Katie Moffitt |
| Date of Interview | 1 st March 2012 |
| Location | Joe's home, near Mullinavat, Co. Kilkenny |
| Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname) | Joe Walsh |
| <u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u> | |
| Gender | Male |
| Born | Year Born: 1965 Home County: Kilkenny |
| Education | Primary: Mullinavat NS, Co. Kilkenny Secondary: De la Salle College, Waterford. Third Level: UCD |
| Family | Siblings: 1 brother & 1 sister |
| Club(s) | Mullinavat GAA [Kilkenny] |
| Occupation | Veterinary Surgeon |
| Parents' Occupation | Primary School Teacher [Mother]; Farmer [Father] |
| Religion | Roman Catholic |
| Political Affiliation / Membership | N/A |
| Other Club/Society Membership(s) | N/A |

REFERENCE NO. KK/1/13

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| Date of Report | 25 th Aug 2012 |
| Period Covered | 1965 – 2010 |
| Counties/Countries Covered | Kilkenny |
| Key Themes Covered | Travel, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Coaching, Administration, Celebrations, Education, Media, Emigration, Role of Teachers, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, Identity, Rivalries, Irish Language, Culture, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Challenges, Sacrifices, Professionalism, Retirement, Socialising, Relationships |
| Interview Summary | <p>Joe talks about playing handball and hurling in Kilkenny. He represented his county and recalls big days out in Croke Park, winning titles and playing alongside legends of the game. He later went on to manage various club sides. Joe talks about changes he has seen in the GAA throughout the years, speculates on challenges facing the Association and offers his opinions on what can be done to improve the GAA.</p> <p>00:05 Playing handball and hurling as a child.</p> <p>00:15 Reason for interest in the GAA.</p> <p>00:40 Playing for Mullinavat.</p> <p>01:05 Best GAA memory - playing in the Leinster hurling semi-final against Offaly in 1993.</p> <p>01:35 Impact of GAA on sense of identity.</p> <p>02:00 Changes he has seen in the GAA.</p> <p>02:20 What the GAA means to him.</p> <p>02:45 Grandfather Joe Delahunt on a Kilkenny three-in-a-row team in the early 1900s.</p> <p>03:25 Role of GAA at school. Teacher's interest in Irish language and culture.</p> <p>03:55 Role of women in the GAA and how that has changed. Improvements that need to be made. Lack of women in administration.</p> |

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| | <p>04:40 Challenges facing the GAA.</p> <p>05:00 Problems related to amount of equipment needed to play hurling.</p> <p>05:30 Prospect of GAA players leaving the country to find work.</p> <p>05:45 What it was like to play in Croke Park.</p> <p>06:40 His uncle advising him before a game against Galway in the early 1980s. Being nervous having taken Eddie O'Connor's place on the team. Wanting to do well.</p> <p>08:15 Being a selector and managing club teams.</p> <p>08:40 Importance of enjoying games as a player, especially in relation to young kids.</p> <p>09:40 Biggest disappointment - missing a goal in the last minute to win an All-Ireland.</p> <p>10:00 Joy he got from winning a handball All-Ireland.</p> <p>10:25 Friendships he has made through the GAA.</p> <p>11:10 Toughest match he ever played - a county semi-final against Mooncoin.</p> <p>11:45 Injuries he suffered.</p> <p>12:20 What it was like to play for Kilkenny alongside players like DJ Carey, John Power, Pat O'Neill and Willie O'Connor.</p> <p>12:55 Looking up to Joe Hennessy of James Stephens, Eddie Keher, Jimmy Barry Murphy, Mossy Murphy who played with Kilkenny in 1971.</p> <p>13:20 Favourite sport.</p> <p>14:00 Importance of playing handball.</p> <p>14:20 Experience of winning All-Irelands.</p> <p>14:40 Club winning a 'Team of the week' award.</p> <p>14:55 Buses going to All-Irelands.</p> |
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| | <p>15:10 Difference between playing for his county and playing for his club.</p> <p>15:45 Difference between handball and hurling.</p> <p>16:30 Positive aspects of the GAA.</p> <p>16:45 GAA involvement helping him in his professional life.</p> <p>17:15 Attitude towards GAA players going on strike.</p> <p>18:00 Volunteers in the GAA.</p> |
| Involvement in GAA | <p><input 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 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> |
| Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played) | 2 All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championships; 1 All-Ireland Junior Hurling Championship; 4 Juvenile handball All-Irelands; 2 Intermediate handball All-Irelands (2009) |
| Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for) | N/A |
| Format | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual |
| Duration | Length of Interview: 00:19:04 |
| Language | 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: _____Katie Moffitt_____

Date: _____01/03/2010_____