## **GAA Oral History Project**

# **Interview Report Form**

Name of Interviewer	Arlene Crampsie
Date of Interview	16 <sup>th</sup> March 2011
Location	Rosanna and Jimmy's home, near Castledermot, Co. Kildare
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Rosanna Curran
	Biographical Summary of Interviewee
Gender	Female
Born	Year Born: 1951
	Home County: Kildare
Education	Primary: Castledermot NS, Co. Kildare
Family	Siblings: 3 sisters & 1 brother
	Current Family if Different: Married to Jimmy with 2 daughters and 1 son
Club(s)	Castledermot
Occupation	Housewife
Parents' Occupation	N/A
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Jimmy Curran
	Biographical Summary of Interviewee
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1948
	Home County: Kildare
Education	Primary: Kilkea NS, Co. Kildare
	Secondary: Castledermot, Co. Kildare
Family	Siblings: 2 brothers & 4 sisters
	Current Family if Different: Married to Rosanna with 2 daughters and 1 son
Club(s)	Castledermot; St. Dermot's Hurling Club
Occupation	Carpenter
Parents' Occupation	N/A
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Mick Byrne
	Biographical Summary of Interviewee
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1938
	Home County: Kildare
Education	Primary: Castledermot NS, Co. Kildare
Family	Siblings: 3 sisters
	Current Family if Different:
Club(s)	Castledermot [Kildare]; Castedermot FC [Kildare]; St. Dermot's Huring Club [Kildare]; Young Ireland's Hurling Club [London]; St Anne's Football Club [London]
Occupation	Storeman in Hardware Store
Parents' Occupation	Builder, Labourer, Worker [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Drama Group, Boxing Club

Date of Report	8 <sup>th</sup> August 2012
Period Covered	1889 – 2011
Counties/Countries Covered	Kildare, Carlow, Dublin, Great Britain, England
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, Scór, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Irish History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Challenges, Sacrifices, Outsider's Perspectives, Alcohol, Relationship with the Association, Professionalism, Food and Drink, Socialising, Purchase of Grounds, Relationships, Economy / Economics
Interview Summary	Members of Castledermot GAA talk about their involvement in the club over the years. They discuss their early memories of the GAA and how they became involved with the Castledermot club. Michael describes the type of facilities for GAA in the past and the group talks about how these have improved over the years. They talk about the prominence of hurling in the area in the early years and James talk about playing with the Kildare team. They discuss the development of the club and how it has changed. Rosanna talks about playing camogie with her school in Athy and getting involved in administration. The group discuss a variety of topics and issues within the GAA such as illegal players, ground improvements and the ban on foreign games. They describe the various fundraisers they have held and the main issues they have faced at an administrative level. They highlight the role of the club in the community and talk about what the Association has meant to them during their lifetimes.
	00:00 Introduction
	00:50 (James) Talks about his earliest GAA memories. Playing hurling with St. Dermot's. Describes how the football club and hurling club in Castledermot were separate. Winning a senior hurling championship in 1989 and 1991.
	03:58 (Rosanna) Discusses her early involvement in the GAA, getting involved with juvenile committees. Recalls her first match. Talks about her father's interest in hurling and

how he was from Galway.

06:05 Talks about his early GAA memories. Playing in juvenile tournaments set up by Father Brady. Winning in 1963. Discusses his father's and uncle's involvement in the club.

08:50 (James) Discusses his family's involvement in the GAA. Playing for Kilkea when he was young. Mentions Brian Bolger, Christy Whelan and Jack Hickey. Talks about playing hurling with Castledermot and the work of Pat 'The Barber' Byrne. Talks about winning a junior All-Ireland hurling title against Warwickshire in 1966 and the players from Castledermot who played for the county.

13:00 (Rosanna) Talks about going to club matches when she was growing up. Playing camogie with the school and with Athy. Describes the uniforms they played in.

14:30 (Michael) Describes the type of facilities available for GAA when he was playing. Getting train carriages for dressing rooms.

17:07 (James) Talks about the footballs they played with.

18:00 (Michael) Recalls playing with cow's bladder footballs. Discusses where they bought their hurls, mostly from Laois and Kilkenny.

20:20 (All) They talk about the history of the club and the GAA in the area.

21:03 They discuss the history of hurling in the club.

23:30 (Michael) Talks about the impact of emigration and migration on the club.

24:00 (All) They discuss the impact of emigration on the club today. Talk about the Celtic Tiger.

25:53 (James) Talks about his best memories from the GAA. Winning the senior hurling championship in 1988.

26:20 Discusses his biggest disappointments in the GAA. Mentions the Leinster football final in 2010 between Louth and Meath.

27:14 Talks about the role of the GAA in his life.

27:28 \*\*\* James leaves the interview \*\*\*

27:30 (Michael) Describes how they travelled to matches in the past. Cycling to underage games and going in Ned

Hennessy's taxi. Talks about cycling on a tandem bike to county matches in Portlaoise and Tullamore. Getting the train to Croke Park.

29:54 Talks about going to Railway Cup finals in Croke Park. Recalls his first visit to Croke Park in the 1950s. Describes what they did in Dublin. Going to the Phoenix Restaurant. Talks about the gear people wore to support the county.

33:12 (Rosanna) Recalls how they travelled to camogie matches in school. Mentions Fr. Kitt. Describes the type of training they did. Mentions Mary Purcell. Taking juvenile teams to Kildare matches.

36:10 (Michael) Talks about the 'Cavalry Field' that they used to play on.

37:00 (Both) They discuss the development of the club's grounds.

37:49 (Michael) Describes the old hurling ball. Talks about the history of hurling in the town.

39:40 Talks about the club meetings in the early days. Holding meetings in the court house.

41:30 (Rosanna) Discusses the facilities of the club today. Describes the developments in the club over the years.

42:45 (Both) They highlight the need for more space for the club.

45:21 They talk about the type of fundraisers they organised for the club. Running dances in the local cinema. Recalls a night being sponsored Gold Flake cigarettes. Talks about players drinking alcohol at half time during matches.

50:05 They talk about how Gaelic games have changed over the years.

51:53 (Rosanna) Recalls holding a fashion show for the club.

54:23 Talks about the role of the club in the community.

55:40 They talk about the different sports in the town. Talk about soccer during the ban on foreign games. Discuss the relationship between the soccer club and the GAA.

59:00 They discuss the decline of hurling in the area.

01:01:05 They talk about the role of teachers in the GAA in the area. Mentions Micheál Martin.

01:02:58 Discuss the role of the clergy in the GAA.

01:04:20 (Michael) Describes the celebrations the club hold if they win a competition.

01:05:30 \*\*\* James re-joins the interview \*\*\*

01:05:31 (All) They talk about bonfires being lit in the village.

01:06:09 (James) Discusses the 1988 championship win.

01:07:24 (All) They talk about the involvement of different religious communities in the club.

01:09:18 They describe how Castledermot is on the Carlow border and players sometimes came illegally from Carlow to play with the club. Mentions Mick Wall. Michael recalls a story about playing illegally.

01:14:08 They talk about the club's relationship with the county board. Describe the workload involved in running a club. Rosanna highlights the appointment of a full time secretary for the Kildare county board.

01:16:25 (Rosanna) Discusses the role of women in the club. Talks about getting involved on the club's committee. Discusses the involvement of women on the county board. Notes her involvement on the county board.

01:20:10 (Michael) Talks about living in London and playing football with St Anne's and hurling with Young Irelands. Playing in New Eltham and Birmingham.

01:23:30 (James) Discusses playing hurling for Kildare and the success they had. Talks about club players who were on Kildare teams. Training in the Curragh. Talks about the issue of dual players.

01:28:34 (Rosanna) Talks about getting involved in the GAA.

01:30:50 (All) They describe how the club has no involvement in the Scór competition.

01:31:33 They talk about the relationship between the club and the camogie team.

01:32:30 (Michael) Recalls his best memories from his time in the GAA.

01:33:59 (Rosanna) Talks about the friendships she has made through her work with the GAA.

01:35:00 (Michael) Discusses his biggest disappointments

	from his time in the GAA. Talks about the 2010 Leinster final between Louth and Meath.
	01:35:58 (Rosanna) Talks about her biggest disappointments in the GAA.
	01:36:37 (Michael) Describes the role of the GAA in his life.
	01:37:17 (Rosanna) Talks about what the GAA has meant to her over the years.
	01:38:23 (Michael) Discusses the enjoyment he has got from being involved in the GAA.
	01:39:09 (James) Talks about the friends he has made through his involvement in the GAA.
Involvement in	Rosanna:
GAA	✓ Supporter ✓ Player □ Manager ✓ Coach □ Steward
	☐ Chairperson ✓ Committee Member ☐ Grounds-person
	✓ Caterer ✓ Jersey Washer ✓ Referee □ None
	☐ Other (please specify):
	Jimmy:
	✓ Supporter ✓ Player ✓ Manager ✓ Coach ✓ Steward
	✓ Chairperson ✓ Committee Member ✓ Grounds-person
	□ Caterer □ Jersey Washer ✔ Referee □ None
	☐ Other (please specify):
	Mick:
	✓ Supporter ✓ Player □ Manager □ Coach ✓ Steward
	☐ Chairperson ✓ Committee Member ✓ Grounds-person
	☐ Caterer ✓ Jersey Washer ✓ Referee ☐ None
	☐ Other (please specify):
Record as a Player	Rosanna:
(Titles won; Length of time played)	Won 4/5 school's camogie titles and a vocational school.
	Jimmy:

Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)	Played from 1960s – 2004. At club level won a junior in 1963, and 2 seniors in 1988 and 1989. At county level won a junior All-Ireland in 1966, Intermediate in 1969 and 3 Senior B's in 1974.  Mick: Played from the age of 13 to 35/36. Won 2 junior hurling titles with St. Dermot's, junior and intermediate football titles with Castledermot, a junior hurling and junior football title in England.  Rosanna: Has been involved in administration since 1966.  Club: Juvenile Secretary, PRO (3 years), Secretary (7 years), Delegate to South Board  South Board: Treasurer, Chairman  Jimmy: Has been involved in administrations since 1964.  Club: Chairman of amalgamation committee, Delegate to Bord na nÓg, Delegate to County Board, Delegate to Hurling Board.  Mick: Has been involved in administration since 1962.  Club: Secretary, Treasurer, Delegate to County Board and Vice-President.
Format	✓ Audio □ Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 01:40:09
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:	08/08/12