

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Arlene Crampsie
Date of Interview	4 th Feb 2009
Location	Brandon Hotel, Tralee, Co. Kerry
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Eugene Deane
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1928 Home County: Kerry
Education	Primary: Camp NS
Family	Siblings: 3 brothers, no sisters
Club(s)	Camp; Annascaul-Camp
Occupation	Renovator; Builder, Roofer, Repairer
Parents' Occupation	Farmer; Steward in Roads Division, Kerry County Council [Father]
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	Republican

REFERENCE NO. KY/1/6

Date of Report	7 th Dec 2009
Period Covered	1920s – 2009
Counties/Countries Covered	Kerry, Dublin
Key Themes Covered	<p>Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Travel, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Officials, Administration, All-Ireland, Celebrations, Commiserations, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Material Culture, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of Women, Media, Emigration, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, Identity, Rivalries, Irish Language, Culture, Scór, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Irish History, Impact on Life, Challenges, Alcohol, Politics, The Ban on Foreign Games and Dances, Opening of Croke Park, Relationship with the Association, Professionalism, Retirement</p>
Interview Summary	<p>Eugene was born and reared in Camp where he still lives today. Eugene was hugely involved in the GAA in his younger days as a player and administrator. He was part of the Camp team which won three league championships in a row from 1949 onwards. He was secretary of the club and a delegate to the divisional board from 1949 to 1953 and served time as club chairman and vice-chairman of the West Kerry Divisional Board. He also helped out with the local camogie teams. Eugene left the GAA after his club instructed him, as delegate, to vote in favour of the lifting of the ban on foreign games. Eugene talks about the grounds, facilities and styles of play when he was young and the changes that have occurred. He is also excellent on the changing types of transport and remembers taking the Ghost Train to the All-Ireland final. Eugene recalls listening to matches on the radio and the introduction of TV coverage of games. He also recites two poems about the GAA in Kerry.</p> <p>0.00 Introduction</p> <p>0.20 Eugene was born and reared in Camp. ‘Anyone going to Camp School around my time would I could say nearly have to get involved with the GAA, because our teacher was a footballer himself in his young days, he played for the Kerry juniors, which was a big thing that time ... it was a great honour to play junior for your county.’</p> <p>1.00 The Parish Priest Canon Thomas Leighan was also</p>

	<p>interested in football, he was president of the Kerry County Board for years.</p> <p>1.20 When Camp School was built first the pupils would play up and down the road at the break times. Canon Leighan got in touch with CIE, the Dingle train was running alongside and he got a bit of ground from them for a playground and the master would make sure they all played football.</p> <p>1.55 They'd play mixed matched at school, if all the strong fellas were on one team the master would even out the teams.</p> <p>2.20 Camp had several Kerry footballers in the old days. They were idols to us. Tim O'Donnell (Eugene never saw him play) was the first to bring a senior All-Ireland medal to camp. Other players that brought medals to camp were Charlie Sullivan, Sean Murphy, Seamus Murphy, Dennis Shea, Tommy Doyle. They were playing football and we wanted to do the same.</p> <p>3.10 The big honour at that time was to get on the Camp Team and to win a parish league medal. Eugene won those and got on the senior team.</p> <p>3.30 They won one league, the league was the big one. 'We won three in a row before we got stopped.'</p> <p>3.55 Watching the older camp teams at the field is his earliest memory. In those days very few clubs owned their own fields, most of them rented out their fields from farmers.</p> <p>4.20 'You'd see the older players that were playing that time. They'd have to go away somewhere and get four goal posts ... they'd have to get four goal posts and they'd come along and a couple of them they'd all help in, dig a couple of holes for to stand the posts, they'd go to some farmers then for what was known as a load rope, that would be a rope for tying hay and put that across for the bar you see, under that then were the goal, over it was the point. But am umpires then there was no such thing as having a green flag and a white flag that time, one fella might wave his cap for the goal and the other his handkerchief for the point.'</p> <p>5.15 As time went on the clubs bought grounds of their own and have built facilities of their own. Camp bought their field in the late 1960s, they have showers and dressing rooms now and everything.</p> <p>6.05 The field is used for other games as well.</p>
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	<p>6.20 When Eugene was secretary it was his responsibility to make sure there were goal posts etc. Now they have great comfort. 'The GAA has come on leaps and bounds'.</p> <p>6.55 They got the posts from a local wood. The owner was a footballer himself in the past and he didn't mind them taking the posts. 'Oh go away and get them, he would say there was no doubt about it.' The wood was ideal in the middle of the parish and near the field, but the funny thing was that it was always on the day of the match the posts were got.</p> <p>7.40 In those days, the posts weren't too heavy, but they had to be 10 or 15 feet high.</p> <p>8.00 It was the accepted thing. They'd play in Castlegregory, Cloghan, Brandon, Baile Dubh, it was the same story, they all had the loose posts and the rope for the bar.</p> <p>8.15 The field would depend on the farmers. It was mainly milk farming at that time and a lot of farmers were lazy to give the field because they were keeping the grass for the cows. It was nearly a different field every year. There was one great farmer, Dan Scanlan he gave them a good few fields, very often. He had a brother in law that was a Kerry footballer so maybe that helped.</p> <p>9.25 His father was a great follower of the Camp team and Eugene travelled with him in a pony and trap with a local shoemaker to matches. He always picked up the shoemaker. His first cousin played and won medals with Camp.</p> <p>10.10 'From we got a small bit richer then we got the bicycle, which was like nearly heaven and earth to us. You could just go anywhere then you weren't depending on anybody to get you there. We often walked to Castlegregory which was six miles from Camp and play a match after coming back, and you'd have a great chance of getting a drive home.'</p> <p>10.40 Things have changed and changed for the better. The games are more streamlined like from top to bottom.</p> <p>11.05 He cycled often to Tralee and Dingle (21 miles).</p> <p>11.25 'I went to the All-Ireland too on the ghost train.'</p> <p>11.40 'That time it was called the ghost train, it would leave Tralee at 12 o'clock, there'd be a big loud whistle at 12 o'clock and t'would be all aboard.'</p> <p>11.55 He wanted to go the year before when he was nineteen or twenty or twenty one (he's not sure), but his parents</p>
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wouldn't let him. They thought he'd get lost and never come back.

12.20 He set off on his bicycle about half ten and parked the bicycle at the railway station. 'That time at the station there was a place that you could park the bicycle you see. You'd get a little ticket and the bike was quite safe then.'

12.40 He knew nobody on the train and it was a lively train. 'They brought in crates of beer and all this class of thing', everybody was happy out. It was merrier they were getting.

13.25 They all fell asleep getting close to Dublin. The train stopped at Kingsbridge that time. Eugene just followed the crowd and went to Mass. There was a hold up after Mass 'the next thing I tried to go anyway and Christ my leg was held I couldn't stir ... I looked around anyway and I knew this fella from Ballyduff ... he says to me - I was glad to see him ... I was only following the crowd ... - 'who's with you', 'I'm all alone I said', 'I'm with you he said come along now with me' says he, he worked in Dublin for awhile you see and he had an idea of the place.'

14.45 Tadgh (O'Donnell) took him up to Flaherty's house to get the dinner. They got a mighty welcome and got the dinner or breakfast there and they told them to come back after the match to have a cup of tea before the journey back home. There was no grub to be got on the train on the way home.

15.40 Mayo beat Kerry that day, Eugene was disappointed. They went down the railway track from Croke Park and they got into a bus and landed back to Flaherty's. They got a bus back to Kingsbridge and the two went home together on the train.

16.28 'He had a bicycle like myself and the two of us sat up on our bicycles in Tralee and headed West, as I'd say. I finished up in Camp then that was ten miles out, that was hardly half the journey for him. But, I don't know would I ever come back only for meeting him.'

16.55 He got back home about one or two in the night.

17.20 He went on the ghost train two or three times after that, but he was a bit craftier after that.

17.40 Playing matches has changed. One big change is that the goalie's job used to be placing the ball for the full back to kick it out; everyone had to be outside the 21yards for the kick out; that time then if the ball went out wide it would be thrown

	<p>in (it's a free now).</p> <p>19.05 The pass – first the pass was you had to throw it off the palm of the hand, then you had to fist it off and now they throw it.</p> <p>19.25 A back could hold the forward and not let him run after the ball.</p> <p>20.00 In the old days Eugene thinks it was a man's game – they hit and hit hard, but it was clean football.</p> <p>20.35 In the district league it was very rare for a sub to come on. Eugene only recalls it happening once in his career and there were no first aid people on hand.</p> <p>21.10 He remembers a games being postponed when a player's father died. He thinks that this wouldn't be done today.</p> <p>21.40 There was no trouble about the square. The forwards stayed outside. The field was marked with lime, by hand.</p> <p>22.20 'We used train every evening'. They trained for the whole summer, it was the only pastime they had, there was no such thing as going to the pubs.</p> <p>23.18 'The ball was always left in a handy house you know near the field. They'd always keep the ball, the people were very supportive that time. But of course they have an overdose of football got now.'</p> <p>23.45 They trained every whole evening, they'd be taking points. The young lads would kick the ball back out to them again.</p> <p>24.15 There was fierce rivalry between Camp and Maharees. It was them that they met in the three finals that they won. They were their biggest rivals, but there was still a great friendship.</p> <p>24.55 They had a celebration to mark the 50th anniversary of their win and the Mary's came up to it.</p> <p>25.10 Blennerville seemed to have a very good team. They had to organise and have someone there to make sure that there was money.</p> <p>25.45 They went out with a White Horse to collect money for the green and red jerseys.</p> <p>26.15 They ran dances in the Hall in Camp – it was supposed</p>
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	<p>to be a céilí, but there were only a few sets. They also held concerts and they went out during Lent with a play that they took around the area to gather money. There were no dances during Lent.</p> <p>27.25 The team that had a home game got every penny of the gate money. The only time the money was split up was for the final. It was third to each team and the other third to the district board for the medals and the cup. 'We won one cup outright you know, if you won it two years in a row you had it, by jaysus the next cup that came in they said it should be won three years in a row.'</p> <p>28.10 They paid sixpence to get in, but it finished up at a shilling before Eugene finished up.</p> <p>28.55 They only had one competition, that was the district league and that was the one to win. He thinks there is too much competition today. In the district league the two teams with the top points played off for the final. If the second and third team were even they'd play off and they called it a semi-final, but you wouldn't have a semi-final every year.</p> <p>29.55 Eugene was very young when he started being the club secretary, it was simple enough, but being a delegate to the district board was a different matter you had to fight for your rights there. Eugene was delighted to have the honour of doing it.</p> <p>30.35 Camp reached the final of the district league and the match was a draw. Mary's won the final on the replay. The money of the two gates went missing. One of the Mary's said that if there wasn't changes they wouldn't play Camp anymore.</p> <p>31.20 There was 'a new lineout' after that and that was how he became secretary. He knew he was a 'green recruit' and he was happy to do it. It helped him when he wrote the book later, because he had records of lots of things. 'I had a habit of writing down everything and keeping or holding on to them. The way it was with me anything I got a hold of, it was damned hard to take it off of me.'</p> <p>32.10 At the same meeting they needed two delegates of the district board. They needed one name to give to the district board secretary. His name was put forward again. They asked him would he be able to go to the matches and meetings and he said he would. The second delegate didn't need to be named.</p>
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	<p>33.00 It was all men that time. There were no girls. 'It was no harm to the women coming into it.' He thinks a lot of the women are very genuine and good at organising. He went to functions and there were no women at them.</p> <p>33.45 Women are there probably the last ten or fifteen years, twenty would be the longest. They're very much now. The Kerry PRO today is a girl.</p> <p>34.25 As secretary he was there when the teams were being picked. It was his job to fill out the list of players, anyone outside of that list couldn't play – they would be illegal. He had to fill out the names in Irish too.</p> <p>35.15 It was the secretary's job to get someone to go to the district board with them. They had to see if the fixtures suited the club 'it was all tactics'.</p> <p>35.40 At the end of the year he had to write up the annual report. The secretary would then be a delegate to the county convention too. Eugene enjoyed it.</p> <p>36.15 It was the secretary's job to make sure that there was money to run the club, it was the secretary that got the bills. They had a good treasurer though and he was great.</p> <p>36.50 When you were looking for a field to play the game, he'd often have to put his hand in his pocket to pay for the field there and then, he would get it back, but he had to have it with him. It could have been a pound.</p> <p>37.30 The bulk of the work on the district board were games of tactics. In 1949 Camp reached the final of the district league. The referee forgot to note down a point and the game was a draw, they then lost the replay. The following year they had two players who were in Dublin and they wanted the match on the Sunday. The meetings were held on a Monday or Tuesday night. Another delegate said the All-Ireland Hurling Final was on. Eugene told them that this was a football area and there would be know interest in the hurling. There was a discussion about the field, but James Fox asked Eugene if the Camp team would play the match on the field on the Sunday. He said yes. Eugene never found out why he wanted it postponed, but they won the title.</p> <p>40.40 The first celebrations would be to drop into the usual pubs that they'd go to in Castlegregory. The Camp crowd had certain pubs that they'd go into. 'You'd put the cup up on the counter and the barman or woman as the case may be she'd be the first to fill the cup and you were alright then. I filled the</p>
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	<p>cup myself that year. I put a bottle of whiskey into the cup and one fella said to me, how well says he you had the money to buy that.' Eugene had got a job with the county council and he wasn't smoking or drinking.</p> <p>41.50 The first year the cup came home on a pony and car. There were ten of them in the car and one fella sitting in the middle with the cup. The people were great that time, a lot of them filled the cup, but then it wasn't that big. Eugene still has the cup at home.</p> <p>42.20 They'd have a victory dance then to give out the medals and the local curate in Castlegregory, Fr Curtain would present the medals. They had a big crowd and they'd make a bit of money after that. They won three years in a row and they had a dance every year.</p> <p>43.05 Today they're celebrating for months. The teams that win the county championship go round to all the places. Eugene thinks the celebrations have gone a bit too far.</p> <p>43.30 The year Maharees beat them, they invited them down. It was a cold November night, they went down on their bicycles. It was about nine miles and they stayed in the pub until 3am, celebrating their first ever win.</p> <p>44.35 Eugene went to Cloghan with a man called McIntyre who was going to referee. It was his first match and himself and Eugene had to make a quick exit after it.</p> <p>45.15 There was very little said to the referee in those days. There was more fouling allowed at that time. They were quiet games now looking back.</p> <p>45.45 Fr Curtain was the chairman of the district board and he used to referee a lot of matches – they wouldn't say too much to the priest.</p> <p>46.10 The game wasn't as technical then. It's the only game that Eugene was ever interested in. He would watch the hurling if there was nothing else. The referees were respected to a certain extent.</p> <p>47.05 A lot of the curates played a role, more so than the parish priests. 'You had two priests in every parish you've only one today like. But, they were always involved and of course like I said I will repeat there was a good bit of respect for their collar that time and they were able to control meetings too.'</p> <p>47.40 They often went to the presbytery to Fr Curtain about</p>
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	<p>this or that and they were always welcome. They haven't the time now anyway. There's one priest in Camp now and he has three churches.</p> <p>48.15 Fr Beasley was a good man for Dingle. Some of the priests were able to give it out. They take no notice of them today.</p> <p>49.00 The teachers played a big role. The bulk of them played football when they were in college and they were good players. Just before Eugene was made a delegate to the district board the secretary was a teacher. The county secretary and county treasurer were both teachers.</p> <p>50.15 He thinks there was more of it played in the colleges than now. Now there's soccer and rugby played too.</p> <p>50.45 The Irish language had very little part in the club. Eugene would put a few words together for the AGM and the affiliation lists had to be filled in, in Irish one for the district and one for the county board.</p> <p>51.20 The only place where the whole thing is Irish is An Gaeltacht club. 'Even out in the field there it's all Irish they talk, the rest of the clubs hardly know what they're talking about at all, they talk it so fast you see.'</p> <p>51.45 When he left Camp school he would speak Irish with anybody, but you forget it. The Master warned them about it. Eugene talks about Irish in school and a competition he used to enter. You could win £2. At the start of the 40s that was a lot of money. He and his three brothers got £8 one year.</p> <p>53.05 The club has been involved in Scór alright, but it's hard to keep it going.</p> <p>53.50 Eugene wouldn't like the pub and the GAA to have too strong a relationship. People didn't have the money in his time, there was very little employment. Eugene doesn't like the idea of celebrating for months going round from pub to pub, like the Kerry team. He wouldn't mind a night or two. He didn't drink properly at all.</p> <p>55.30 One of Eugene's brothers played on the team that won the three titles with Eugene. They were all good followers of the game.</p> <p>55.55 'All they wanted that time to follow the game was if you had a bicycle, you were right, that was the main transport.'</p> <p>56.20 Some of them would fit five or six into a pony and car.</p>
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	<p>Eugene and his family would go on the trap. 'That trap often took the jerseys, my father he'd take the jerseys then I used try to hold onto the jerseys, keep them together, do you know because they can go astray very easily, but he'd always have the jerseys and the football.'</p> <p>57.00 From 1949 – 1953 Eugene was secretary of the club and delegate to the board. After 1953 Camp amalgamated with Annascaul. At the time the team was not there. The most they could field was seven or eight, the rest would have to be school boys. 'It was all emigration'. 'It was a bad job it happened, because you kinda lost your identity over it.'</p> <p>58.10 There wasn't really any bad feeling or rivalry because both teams were short and they had to bring people in. They needed to have fifteen on the field to finish the match.</p> <p>59.00 Eugene was the chairman of the whole set up after awhile. He believes you get burnt out after awhile. He stayed for another three or four years.</p> <p>59.30 His role as chairman was to control meetings and he was still delegate to the district board. There was less work and less pressure than being secretary.</p> <p>1.00.15 Eugene was the Vice-Chairman of the West Kerry Board before he finished up.</p> <p>1.00.25 The amalgamated club was named Annascaul, which was the church parish, or sometimes Annascaul-Camp.</p> <p>1.01.05 Kerry vs Cavan in 1937 was the first match Eugene heard on the radio. His uncles house was packed, there was a lot of people talking and they were shushing people. There would only have been five or six radios in the parish. Eugene imagines that every house with a radio would be packed and noisy like his uncles. He can't remember the first game he watched on the TV.</p> <p>1.02.30 'The more you advertise, as the man says, the more you advertise your product the better.'</p> <p>1.02.50 He thinks the first game he saw on TV might have been Galway vs Kerry in 1963. Galway won it anyway. 'The reception was poor that time and everything, but still it was ideal for us, for at least we saw what was going on. There's one thing about the radio, you hardly know what's going on, you see, you know who's winning and I liked that alright, but after that when you can't see you're kind of ... down to a certain extent.'</p>
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	<p>1.03.40 Role of the GAA Club in the community: They passed the evening for people kicking a football. They weren't going into the pubs. In Camp they organised plays and dances and things like that. The GAA was considered a very good pastime. 'The odd Sunday you'd have a collection do you know at the church gate and all that.'</p> <p>1.04.45 It was the main sporting organisation in Camp parish. The man who owned the hall had his own Sunday night dances, so did some of the political parties. The GAA club held concerts and things like that.</p> <p>1.06.00 One of the best pastimes was training. They didn't have the money to go to the pub, and no girls were ever seen in the pub anyway. 'The GAA was the lifesaver.'</p> <p>1.06.40 There was a Camp Camogie team that time, the Ladies Football only came in later on, probably the 60s.</p> <p>1.07.15 Sometimes there would have been a camogie match before the football. 'Oh yes, they did, of course they were going to see the girls anyway for a start, for they were a small little bit more naked at the time, it all helped you know.' Eugene was involved in helping the camogie club. He'd collect money on the door if they were holding a dance.</p> <p>1.08.00 Some of the camogie players would go to the functions, but the camogie club didn't organise many functions except the dance.</p> <p>1.08.15 'If any year we were lucky to get a big field you'd have the camogie women in one end of the field and the footballers in the other end you see. The goal was the centre, there'd be backs and forwards.'</p> <p>1.08.45 It was Fr Curtain that got the camogie going. Fr O'Driscoll in Dingle was great too for pushing on the camogie.</p> <p>1.09.20 Biggest changes: They've gone semi-professional now. When Eugene was a delegate you travelled wherever you were going at your own expense.</p> <p>1.10.00 In 1949 when they reached the final they didn't have enough jerseys. They arranged that Lispole would give them jerseys for the match. 'The two footballers that were playing the following day they cycled from Camp to Lispole which would be about fifteen or sixteen miles and brought home the jerseys on their bicycle and played for Camp the following day with them.' You'd get nobody to do that today.</p> <p>1.11.00 The people they tried to bring back from college to</p>
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	<p>matches, the club had to pay for them, because their parents were struggling to keep them in college as it was.</p> <p>1.11.27 Eugene doesn't like people swapping jerseys after the games.</p> <p>1.11.50 The Kerry County Board was often in the red when Eugene was a delegate, they were depending on matches to make money. Now there is sponsorship and lottos, Eugene is concerned that this might cause trouble in the future. He doesn't think though that players should be out of pocket.</p> <p>1.13.00 They have better facilities now. They used to tog out beside the ditch and they'd be lucky if their bit of money was still in their pockets when they came back.</p> <p>1.13.25 He travelled to matches on the back of tractors and trailers. They used to have a fella who was a player himself and he'd take them in the tractor. Going to Cloghan was a long journey. 'We'd have to let the tractor then about half a mile outside the village, because you'd be breaking the law do you see, and we'd have to walk in then, the guards knew bloody well where we came from, but to give them their due, they usen't bother.'</p> <p>1.14.05 It's motor cars now and buses. They're big changes.</p> <p>1.14.15 The goal posts are all there for them now.</p> <p>1.14.35 Eugene believes sponsorship has been there this last twenty or thirty years. It was against the rules for a long time. It would be in the 80s he thinks. Pat Spillane and that crowd were sponsored by some washing machine crowd. Eugene is not against sponsorship.</p> <p>1.16.05 'I was 100% against it. I was totally against opening up Croke Park.' Eugene has read about the sacrifices made in the old days by the fellas who had to put their pride aside to play football – half of them republicans, half them pro-government. They weren't talking to one another, but they went to play the game for the sake of the game. Eugene talks about fellas like Joe Barratt and John Joe Sheehy who were on the run and went into play with the free-staters. Eugene is proud about the fact that he opposed it.</p> <p>1.17.55 John Joe Sheehy was on the run and Kerry wanted him for an All-Ireland, he was captain of the Free State Army. They went to congress and got a free passage for him and he played the match. Eugene describes the opening Croke Park as 'the surrender of the century.'</p>
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	<p>1.19.00 Biggest challenges as an administrator: The tactics. If you were a delegate you wanted to play matches on the day that suited your club and defend players who were about to be suspended.</p> <p>1.19.35 Being a chairman can be a lot tougher as you have to control it and the chairman has a lot of power if he uses it. He can suspend people and you'd have to go to the county board to get back in.</p> <p>1.20.05 Somethings could be tricky enough, particularly illegal players and picking referees.</p> <p>1.21.00 Illegal players would be players who were playing for other clubs. If you went to see a rugby or soccer match you could get four weeks suspension and the delegates would be trying to say that you weren't there at all. Some clubs took them far away to play and they got a few pounds for it. They denied it, because if they admitted it they were gone.</p> <p>1.22.25 At a meeting in Castlegregory the Castle delegate said if those things weren't happening they wouldn't have to go to meetings at all.</p> <p>1.23.00 Eugene was delighted to be club secretary. He felt it was a great honour. The first big thrill he got out of the GAA was when he won his first medal.</p> <p>1.23.50 Sean Murphy was always asking Eugene to write a history of Camp football. He heard Eugene talking at the 50th jubilee for 1949 about things that nobody else knew anything about. Eugene had never got passed the national school.</p> <p>1.24.55 Eugene was gathering information from Tom Batt Connor who was one of the 1928 Camp team. His daughter Bridget used to encourage him to talk to him. Eugene would write down everything he told him and he gave him a lot of information. Padraig Kennelly gave him a lot of information as well – he's the editor of Kerry's Eye.</p> <p>1.26.30 He made one mistake – he didn't go to the library in time. He should have gone to the library and took the stuff back to Tom Batt Connor and he would have remembered even more.</p> <p>1.27.40 They launched the book in O'Dwyer's supermarket in Camp. There was a huge crowd, some of them standing out in the yard. 'I was a very proud man that night.'</p> <p>1.28.50 Disappointments: 'After the amalgamation there, when it was Annascaul-Camp like, at the annual general</p>
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	<p>meeting they did a motion came up instructing the delegates at the county convention to vote you see to abolish the ban ... the motion got passed anyway by I think it was one or two delegates instructing the delegates to vote to abolish the ban. I got up and walked out and stayed out, that's how I finished, it was a bad finish after a long career ... I'd commit suicide before I'd go to that convention and do what I was supposed to do, there was no way I'd do it, I'd be too proud a man to do it, I would not do it.'</p> <p>1.30.20 Hero: Eugene didn't see them playing, but he thinks John Joe Sheehy and Con Breslin. One was a free stater and one was a republican. Sean Murphy was a hero too. There was one All-Ireland it was called Sean Murphy's All-Ireland in some of the papers. Dinny Shea was another man, he came from nowhere in 1955 and the next thing he was playing mid-field for Kerry. Maybe Austin Stack too, but he didn't see him playing either.</p> <p>1.32.05 Also in Dingle, Paddy Bán Brosnan. He was a tough man. He walked half-way home from a Munster Final. Cork beat them by nine or ten points and he was so fed up he started to walk home.</p> <p>1.33.05 The best chairman they had was Frank Sheehy from Listowel – he was a tough chairman, but an honest chairman.</p> <p>1.33.35 Eugene was proud and honoured to have been involved. It filled up a lot of time. He might have gone away on the booze if it wasn't for it.</p> <p>1.34.30 There were no songs about Camp, they had no poet out there that was the trouble.</p> <p>1.35.00 Eugene recites a few Kerry songs:</p> <p>'Up Kerry was our watchword, and Up Kerry was our tune, when we took the train to Dublin on the 29th of June.</p> <p>Our football team were noble, and men in white they proved as they beat the pride of Leinster on that day at Jones' Road. [that's Croke Park]</p> <p>Dick Fitzgerald our great captain, he put them in a line and when the ball came rolling he met it every time.</p> <p>The Skinner from Killarney he walked the men of Louth he's a credit to his old fair town, he's the beauty of the South.</p> <p>We had Healy and Conneally, Jack McCarthy, Rice and Breen, braver chaps were seldom to be seen.</p>
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	<p>We had Murphy, Doyle and Clifford, like men the line they towed, were the blood and bone of Kerry on that day at Jones' Road.</p> <p>No little doubt for us all due boasting, your county's down and out and I shall end my little rhyme by saying up the Kingdom every time.'</p> <p>1.36.10 'The full forward for Kerry strolled onto the field, green and gold were his colours to no back would he yield.</p> <p>To play for the Kingdom and bring home the crown, then three cheers for our forward young Burke from Milltown.</p> <p>Unassuming and easy he plays the game fair, as his hands shoot aloft for a ball in the air.</p> <p>And Teddy he'd watched him as he sends the free down to be caught by our forward young Burke from Milltown.</p> <p>The ball now he has it, and tries to break free to place Jackie Lyon agus Fren Kennedy.</p> <p>But again he's surrounded, he's fouled and brought down 'tis a free for the Kingdom through Burke of Milltown.</p> <p>That goal was a dandie, like a shot it went in, and we've done our defending, our team shares the crown.</p> <p>So it's hurrah for the Kingdom and the boy from Milltown.'</p>
<p>Involvement in GAA</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input type="checkbox"/> Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Coach <input type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" 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): Delegate to Boards _____</p>
<p>Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)</p>	<p>Played from 1949 – 1953, but nine years in total. Won 3 district leagues.</p>
<p>Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)</p>	<p>Club secretary (1949 – 1953); Chairman for 2 years; Delegate to District Board; Vice-chairman of West Kerry Board; Delegate to County Convention for 7/8 years.</p>

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Format	✓ Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 1hr 37min 43sec
Language	English

To be filled in by Interviewer:

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Signed: ___Arlene Crampsie_____

Date: ___7/12/09_____