

## Interview Report Form

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Eddie Nangle
<b>Date of Interview</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2011
<b>Location</b>	Interviewer's Home
<b>Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)</b>	Eddie Nangle
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1946 <b>Home County:</b> Wexford
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> CBS, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford <b>Secondary:</b> CBS, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford <b>Third Level:</b> UCD
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> One sister, one brother <b>Current Family if Different:</b> Two daughters, one son
<b>Club(s)</b>	Rapparees – Starlights GAA Club, [Wexford]
<b>Occupation</b>	Retired Secondary Teacher
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Oil Company Representative [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
<b>Religion</b>	N/A
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	N/A
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	N/A

**REFERENCE NO. WX/1/60**

<b>Date of Report</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2011
<b>Period Covered</b>	1954 – 2011
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Wexford
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Administration, Celebrations, 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, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Irish History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Challenges, Sacrifices, Alcohol, Relationship with the Association, Professionalism, Food and Drink, Socialising, Purchase of Grounds, Relationships, Economy/ Economics
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>00:00:10 Born in Enniscorthy in 1946, one of three children. Father worked in the ‘oil business, mother was a housewife.</p> <p>00:00:55 Mentions that, apart from ten years spent away all his life has been spent in Enniscorthy.</p> <p>00:01:06 Says that he is now a returned teacher.</p> <p>00:01:13 Earliest memories: recalls the disappointment of Wexford’s loss to Cork in 1954 and attributes it to an injury to Nick O’Donnell; recalls also Bobby Rackard’s ‘classic’ defensive role on that occasion.</p> <p>00:02:20 Family background: discusses father’s involvement – mostly administrative - with St. Aidan’s in Ferns and his brothers’ involvement in involvement in hurling; mentions that mother, from Cavan, had two brothers who played football.</p> <p>00:03:43 Discusses his own children’s GAA involvement – notes support of two girls for GAA and his son’s involvement at underage in Wexford and subsequent involvement overseas.</p> <p>00:04:43 Wife’s family GAA involvement. Mentions that her sisters played with Rathnure and 3 won All-Ireland senior camogie titles; 3 of 4 brothers played hurling with Rathnure as did her Uncles.</p> <p>00:05:17 Recalls playing in the local fields with local boys. Included among them were future TD, John Browne, and boys who later emigrated.</p> <p>00:06:20 Contrasts the informal hurling experience of his youth with the organisation of games, under parental supervision, for the present generation.</p>

	<p>00:06:45 Discusses hurling in school in the 1950s and the popularity of the game during Wexford's glorious era. Talks about class leagues, street leagues and leagues between CBS schools in the towns. Refers to school rivalries, the interest they attracted and recalls travelling to one game on 'chartered train.'</p> <p>00:08:58 Tells story of a railway trip – one of the last on the line – from Enniscorthy to New Ross to see a game c. 1957</p> <p>00:10:05 Mentions Br. Cripps becoming Principal of secondary school and his influence on the organisation of hurling. Refers to the success enjoyed by the school in subsequent Leinster competitions.</p> <p>00:11:36 Mentions travelling to matches by car. Tells story of first visit to Croke Park for Oireachtas in late 1954 and the adventurous journey home in a gale.</p> <p>00:13:27 Tells story about Wexford's All-Ireland final appearance in 1955 and his father getting his brother and sister seated along sideline.</p> <p>00:14:17 Talks about the return of the Wexford team to Enniscorthy and refers to the crowds in Market Square and to bonfire on Irish Street.</p> <p>00:15:19 Talks about 1956 All-Ireland final and the length of the journey to Dublin. Mentions 'special mass' in morning and taking a pre-cooked dinner to Dublin. Mentions eating 'bacon and cabbage' on side of road and the reaction it caused.</p> <p>00:16:58 Mentions not having tickets, queuing to enter Croke Park and father sitting children on a barrier inside the ground. Recalls famous save by Art Foley at the end of the game and Ring's response.</p> <p>00:19:10 Recalls a song in praise of Nicky Rackard: recites opening lines and chorus, then sings some verses.</p> <p>00:20:42 Sings 'Cuchulainns Son', Tom Williams song about Nicky Rackard.</p> <p>00:24:07 Talks about 'Cuchulainns Son', its popularisation by Martin Codd and its use at funerals of Rathnure GAA people.</p> <p>00:25:10 Travel and transport: tells of hearing stories from father of cycling to games in 1930s and 40s.</p> <p>00:26:07 Talks about attending games in London, New York, Toronto and Sydney.</p> <p>00:26:50 Reflects on pride in Croke Park, attending the opening of Special Olympics and the reaction of people around him.</p>
--	---

	<p>00:27:47 Involvement with Raparees-Starlights: talks about origins of club in an amalgamation of four clubs, joining committee in early 1970s when Raparees-Starlights were building new clubhouse; subsequent involvement.</p> <p>00:29:03 Discusses the difficulty of sustaining Raparees-Starlights as a serious dual code club. Refers to senior hurling successes in 1970s and senior football successes in early 2000s.</p> <p>00:30:12 Becoming involved as Bord na nOg PRO in club and then adult club PRO. Talks about enjoyment of role and what it involved – radio, newspapers, club newsletters.</p> <p>00:32:25 Discusses range of activities organised by, or held within, club and business of running a bar. Refers to importance of club as a ‘social centre’ and to use of club by local occasions.</p> <p>00:34:50 Discusses the development of club facilities – clubhouse, function room, dressing-rooms, re-seeding pitches, floodlighting etc. Talks about further planned developments.</p> <p>00:36:30 Talks about impact of emigration and migration on the club – players losing contact with club.</p> <p>00:37:49 Discusses the changing role of women within the club – increased involvement in administration.</p> <p>00:38:40 Talks about the relationship with other sports in Enniscorthy; proximity to rugby club, co-operation between them; crossover of players with soccer.</p> <p>00:40:08 Travelling to games: recalls ‘truckloads’ transporting supporters to games in the 1950s. Describes the preparation of the trucks for taking supporters; stops along the route to Dublin;</p> <p>00:42:49 Discusses club sponsorship – refers to connections between local sponsors and club.</p> <p>00:43:23 Reflects on volunteerism and parish-focus and their importance to the GAA. Comments also what members get from the GAA in terms of identity etc.</p> <p>00:44:45 Presents reasons why professionalism in the GAA wouldn’t work.</p> <p>00:45:12 Reflects on the role of clergy within life of club and comments on their gradual retreat within the club.</p> <p>00:46:11 Reflects on Wexford’s hurling rivalries with discusses Wexford and Offaly; Also considers recent rise of</p>
--	---

	<p>Wexford football and the successes enjoyed.</p> <p>00:48:23 Discusses the importance of the GAA to Wexford identity. Touches on milestones in county history, general and sporting.</p> <p>00:49:53 Talks about grounds he has visited and recalls frequency of visits to Croke Park in previous years.</p> <p>00:50:33 Discusses the growing 'colour' at Croke Park matches – jerseys, hats, flags, painted cars etc.</p> <p>00:52:17 Discusses travel to matches – talks about cars and motorbikes and mentions a bicycle for five men which was used in Enniscorthy from the 1930s. Tells stories of men travelling to Dublin for game and stopping in Bray.</p> <p>00:54:34 Reflects on atmosphere at Gaelic games and identification of supporters with players and team. Talks about some of the local players who played for Wexford teams and their links with Enniscorthy.</p> <p>00:57:20 Mentions some of the most 'feared' opponents that Wexford teams faced – Eddie Keher, DJ Carey, Henry Shefflin, Sean Clohessy and Dick Rockett. Talks about the difficulty that Kilkenny teams presented to Wexford teams.</p> <p>00:58:11 Reflects on the highlights of his time supporting Wexford.</p> <p>00:58:33 Discusses the changing nature of media coverage of the GAA; refers to Michael O'Hehir; competition in coverage of other sports; RTE's role and that of its principal characters, Michael O'Hehir and Michael O'Muircheartaigh; criticism of RTE sensationalism; contrast in coverage with that of soccer and rugby.</p> <p>01:01:49 Comments on identification of Wexford with GAA as opposed to other sports.</p> <p>01:02:02 Discusses other GAA roles held: county underage disciplinary committee and Wexford hearings committee. Talks about what the role involves and what he gets from it.</p> <p>01:04:10 Considers the impact of technology on the way the GAA does business – tells story by way of example and reflects on the benefits and pressures that technology brings.</p> <p>01:06:14 Talks about his work as a teacher and how it overlapped with his GAA interests. Talks about history of Gaelic games in school, the different sporting outlook of staff and the problems associated with securing 'coverage' for teams. Talks about handball, golf, table tennis, basketball and other sporting interests of pupils.</p>
--	---

**REFERENCE NO. WX/1/60**

	<p>01:09:10 Comments on the competition from other sports and the success of GAA teams in the school and some of the players and management associated with those teams</p> <p>01:11:26 Talks about school players who played for county – refers to six past-pupils being on 1996 All-Ireland winning panel and their visit to the school in wake of that game.</p> <p>01:13:02 Discusses changing profile of handball in the school, and the success of local club and past pupils.</p> <p>01:14:50 Reflects on ‘commitment’ required to become involved in school teams and satisfaction of seeing past-pupils line out with county.</p> <p>01:16:02 Discusses highlights of GAA experience: reflects on 1996 and two All-Ireland school titles.</p> <p>01:16:40 Reflects on bad memories: recalls DJ Carey against Wexford in 1990 Leinster hurling final.</p> <p>01:18: 08 Recalls drama, excitement and quality of 1993 Leinster final between Wexford and Kilkenny. Tells story about watching game on Hill 16.</p> <p>01:19:43 Recalls glamour of Wexford team of 1950s – comments on the physical stature of men, style of hurling and impact on public imagination.</p> <p>01:20:52 Discusses greatest teams ever - Kerry team of the 1970s and 80s and the Kilkenny hurlers of the 2000s.</p> <p>01:21:50 Comments on all-time GAA heroes – Nicky Rackard, Jack O’Shea, DJ Carey, Pat Henderson.</p> <p>01:22:57 Reflects on the importance of the GAA to his life.</p> <p>01:23:37 Discusses his involvement with, and experience of, the GAA oral history project. Remarks on the value of the oral history project.</p>
<p><b>Involvement in GAA</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Player <input type="checkbox"/> Manager <input 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): _____</p>
<p><b>Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)</b></p>	<p>None</p>
<p><b>Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)</b></p>	<p>Club Committee Member; Club PRO 1992 - 1998  Co. Under-age Disciplinary Comm 1987-2005  Sec. Co. Hearings Comm 2005-2011.</p>

**REFERENCE NO. WX/1/60**

<b>Format</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
<b>Duration</b>	Length of Interview:      01:24:55
<b>Language</b>	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:      Eddie Nangle

Date:      31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2011