

## GAA Oral History Project Interview Report Form

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Eddie Nangle
<b>Date of Interview</b>	30 Dec 2011
<b>Location</b>	Interviewee's home near Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford
<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	John Hendrick
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1954 <b>Home County:</b> Wexford
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> CBS, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford <b>Secondary:</b> CBS, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 5 brothers & 3 sisters <b>Current Family if Different:</b> 2 sons & 2 daughters
<b>Club(s)</b>	Shamrocks GAA Club, Enniscorthy [Wexford]
<b>Occupation</b>	Self-employed Bread Delivery Man
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Butcher [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
<b>Religion</b>	N/A
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	N/A
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	N/A

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<b>Date of Report</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> July 2012
<b>Period Covered</b>	1965 – 2011
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Wexford
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Coaching, Administration, Fundraising, Education, Emigration, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, Rivalries, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Irish History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Challenges, Alcohol, Socialising, Relationships, Economy/ Economics
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>John Hendrick, chairman of Shamrocks GAA club in Wexford, discusses how he came to become involved with the GAA at a relatively late stage of life. Explaining the background to the reformation of the Shamrocks club in the 1970s, charts some of the successes subsequently enjoyed by the club, including the development of an underage set-up and later, in 1996, the winning of the Intermediate championship. Hendrick also addresses issues such as the role of women within the club, links with the local primary school, relations with the neighbouring Raparees Starlights club, the challenges of retaining the interest of young players, plans to upgrade facilities and fundraising. In addition, he points up the highlights of GAA experiences and looks to the future of the club and his place within it.</p> <p>00:00:06 Interviewee is introduced as a former chairman of the Shamrocks club in Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.</p> <p>00:00:38 John Hendrick provides information on his place and date of birth. Notes that he is one of nine children, six boys and three girls.</p> <p>00:01:30 Discussion of the geography of Enniscorthy.</p> <p>00:02:00 Mentions that he lives in Kilcotty, outside Enniscorthy, and in the parish of Oilgate.</p> <p>00:02:15 Reflects on his early involvement with Gaelic games relative - playing hurling in the Millfield and on the street with 'broken hurls'. Mentions hurling in the CBS and lack of interest in the GAA on leaving school.</p> <p>00:03:04 Discusses the beginning of his involvement with the GAA – refers to efforts to start a club in St. Senan's parish, which was expanding with the building of new houses.</p> <p>00:03:54 Refers to the earlier history of Shamrock, a club</p>

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	<p>which had disbanded in 1970-71, and to reformation of club in 1981.</p> <p>00:04:20 Talks about desire to make a contribution to parish and to having a young son.</p> <p>00:04:58 Discusses initial involvement in administration and playing junior hurling and football.</p> <p>00:05:55 The emergence of an underage set-up in the club and the placement of teams in the higher grades.</p> <p>00:06:55 Discusses his family background in the GAA: mentions that his father played with the Starlights as did a second cousin, Dermot Revlon. Tells a story about cousin and his football reputation.</p> <p>00:09:30 Comments on the absence of GAA in his early life – non-attendance at games and lack of interest.</p> <p>00:10:30 Comments on the nature of his own children (2 boys and 2 girls) involvement with the GAA. Mentions that two boys had previously played with the club.</p> <p>00:11:25 Discusses the Shamrocks base on the Shannonside (east) side of the river in Enniscorthy, the record of Shamrocks teams in the 1960s and the role of families within the club.</p> <p>00:12:35 Remarks on the dual nature of the Shamrocks club and the pre-eminence of hurling.</p> <p>00:13:05 Talks about underage camogie in the club and the problems of developing game at adult level. Talks also about emergence of Ladies football at adult and underage level.</p> <p>00:14:22 Discusses his involvement as manager/selector with underage teams, the highlight being the winning of the minor football championship in 1994. Mentions the quality of the players and their dedication.</p> <p>00:16:05 Discusses the progression of his involvement in club.</p> <p>00:17:00 The place of the club within the community. Mentions the local goodwill and the fact that many of the players are also involved with the neighbouring soccer club.</p> <p>00:17:30 Challenges of keeping the club going. Refers to the modest facilities – dressing-rooms and a meeting room – and the absence of debt.</p>
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	<p>00:18:20 Refers to club bordering the St. Senan's primary school, relations between the two and the flow of players that has resulted.</p> <p>00:19:10 Mentions the location of the club on the site of Vinegar Hill and the use of this historical association in team speeches.</p> <p>00:19:45 Discusses the difficulty in encouraging participation, particularly with underage teams. Talks about the burden administrative load, the vetting of underage mentors, the impact of modern technology on the conduct of club business.</p> <p>00:21:40 Comments on local rivalry with Raparees Starlights and movement of players between the two. Comments on the development of relations between the clubs.</p> <p>00:22:50 Remarks on rivalries in the wider county</p> <p>00:24:08 Comments on emigration and contrasts the unaffected situation in Shamrocks with other clubs in the county.</p> <p>00:24:30 Discusses the role of women in the club. Comments on their absence in the early days of the club and their growing participation in administrative roles.</p> <p>00:26:15 Discusses the roles he has held within the club and the benefits he has derived from his membership of the club. Refers also to the pressures of being chairman and managing relations within a club.</p> <p>00:28:30 Comments on plans to improve grounds to meet health and safety requirements, and on the merit of maintaining a small, manageable debt in a club to avoid 'slackening' off.</p> <p>00:29:55 Discusses fundraising initiatives, including a weekly lotto, model county draw, quizzes and more.</p> <p>00:31:19 Mentions the need to organise functions in hotels or pubs. Refers to the pressure to make an adult event 'drink related' in order to draw a crowd.</p> <p>00:32:20 Balancing club and family commitments...impact on family life.</p> <p>00:33:05 Talks about some of the higher profile players produced by the club.</p>
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	<p>00:34:05 Talks about the limited facilities available for training teams.</p> <p>00:34:15 Mentions the various mentoring roles held at underage and adult level.</p> <p>00:36:10 Remarks on the dedication of players within club and comments on the challenges of maintaining players beyond minor – refers to competition from other sports and other social distractions.</p> <p>00:38:10 Highlight of GAA involvement: 1996 when club won Intermediate championship and Wexford won All-Ireland hurling title. Discusses the qualities of the Wexford players and the impact on county.</p> <p>00:39:34 Discusses backdrop to winning of 1996 Intermediate championship, the influence of the team trainer and the story of the final.</p> <p>00:43:00 Remarks on being ‘a bad loser’ and the impact of defeats on him. Talks also about the difficulty of young players in dealing with defeat.</p> <p>00:44:46 Comments on the qualities of the 1996 Intermediate winning team and some of the players who were on the team, including Declan Ruth. Talks about Ruth’s contribution to the Shamrocks club and his subsequent transfer to Raparees.</p> <p>00:47:27 Reflects on the reluctance of some young players in the club to join county panels.</p> <p>00:48:45 Memories of Wexford’s All-Ireland winning year in 1996 and admiration for George O’Connor.</p> <p>00:50:08 Anticipates his future involvement in the club and the need to encourage a new generation to take up roles. Refers to reluctance of some members to become involved.</p>
<p><b>Involvement in GAA</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" 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): _____</p>
<p><b>Record as a Player</b> (Titles won; Length of time played)</p>	<p>Junior A Football (1987)</p>
<p><b>Record as an Administrator</b> (Positions held; how)</p>	<p>Chairman Shamrocks GAA Club Committee Member, Shamrocks GAA Club</p>

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<b>Format</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
<b>Duration</b>	Length of Interview: 00:53:37
<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:              30<sup>th</sup> Dec 2011