

## GAA Oral History Project

## Interview Report Form

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Arlene Crampsie
<b>Date of Interview</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2010
<b>Location</b>	Arás Mhichíl Chiosóg, Clarecastle, Co. Clare
<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	Tomás De Búrca
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1943 <b>Home County:</b> Clare
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Willbrook NS, Co. Clare <b>Secondary:</b> St. Flannan's College, Co. Clare <b>Third Level:</b> St. Pat's, Drumcondra, Dublin
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 2 brothers & 1 sister <b>Current Family if Different:</b> Married with 2 daughters
<b>Club(s)</b>	Corofin
<b>Occupation</b>	Teacher
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Farmer [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
<b>Religion</b>	Roman Catholic
<b>Political Affiliation / Membership</b>	N/A
<b>Other Club/Society Membership(s)</b>	Macra na Feirme, Muintir na Tire, Lahinch Golf Club, Group Water Scheme, Retired Teachers Association

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<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	Kyran Kennedy
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1943 <b>Home County:</b> Clare
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Ennis CBS <b>Secondary:</b> Ennis CBS <b>Third Level:</b> St. Pat's, Drumcondra, Dublin
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 1 brother <b>Current Family if Different:</b> Married with 2 sons and 2 daughter
<b>Club(s)</b>	Éire Óg
<b>Occupation</b>	Teacher
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Civil Servant [Father]; Housewife [Mother]
<b>Religion</b>	Roman Catholic
<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>	13 <sup>th</sup> July 2012
<b>Period Covered</b>	Late 1940s – 2010
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Clare, Dublin, Great Britain, England, Kilkenny, Cork, Europe, Spain
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Administration, Fundraising, Education, Role of Clergy, Role of Teachers, Role of Women, Role of Club in the Community, Volunteers, Irish Language, Culture, Scór, All-Ireland, Club History, Earliest Memories, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Ban on Foreign Games and Dances, Relationship with the Association, Purchase of Grounds, Relationships
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>Tom and Kyran discuss their involvement in the GAA in Co. Clare and at national level. Kyran tells of his playing career with the now defunct Ennis Rovers and later with Éire Óg. He talks about his administrative career with the club and with the County Board. He discusses his experiences under different chairmen and stresses the importance of Brendan Vaughan in encouraging clubs in Clare to purchase and develop their own grounds and facilities. Tom downplays his own playing career, stating that his relationship with the GAA was spent mainly as a supporter until he became Oifigeach Gaeilge. He talks about the role of language and culture in the GAA and also the ethos of volunteerism in the country in general. He also refers to his involvement in the Corofin and Inagh clubs. Both men remember their time in school and in St Patrick's College, Drumcondra, where they both studied. They discuss the relationship between hurling and football in Co. Clare, the ban on foreign games and the increase in popularity of camogie and ladies' football.</p> <p>00:00 Introduction</p> <p>00:32 Kyran remembers seeing an incident at a hurling match in the local field in Newmarket-on-Fergus when he was a child.</p> <p>01:25 Tom recalls attending a Munster Hurling Championship match between Clare and Cork in Limerick in 1953. Gives account of events that happened during this game. Mentions travelling by train. Mentions Christy Ring, Mickey Leahy, Mick Hayes (St Josephs), Mick Hayes (Newmarket), Liam Dowling, Brian Lohan, Dan McInerney, Jimmy Smyth, Jackie Green, Packie Green, Michael Considine, Donal O'Grady, Jazzer Meaney, Mac Nugent.</p>

	<p>07:27 Kyran talks about his attitude towards hurling. Recalls his playing in primary school, in Ennis CBS and with his club. Recalls his playing career. Mentions Ennis Rovers GAA, Éire Óg GAA.</p> <p>09:09 Kyran tells of a particular Éire Óg meeting he attended. Mentions becoming secretary. Describes the way in which he became involved in Clare County Board. Refers to Dr Harry Bugler.</p> <p>11:50 Kyran remembers the way the County Board was run. Refers to his responsibilities as secretary. Mentions Brendan Vaughan and Tull Considine.</p> <p>14:00 Kyran talks about his retirement. Tells of Éire Óg buying land and the way in which he helped. Highlights the difference between Croke Park and the Clare County Board. Mentions Jackie Brown, Seán Ó Síocháin and Dr Donal Keenan. Mentions Cusack Park.</p> <p>18:15 Tom recalls his involvement in the GAA. Tells of his time in St. Flannan's College. Mentions Len Gaynor. Mentions the Harty Cup. Mentions becoming a teacher.</p> <p>20:10 Tom remembers bringing young players to matches. Mentions travelling by car. Recalls his involvement in Corofin GAA. Mentions Jim Harmon. Tells of running fundraising activities.</p> <p>22:11 Tom talks about helping out one of his past pupils, PJ, who became involved with the Clare County Board. Tells of his roles with Bord na nÓg and later with the County Board. Mentions Fr McNamara, Michael O'Neill.</p> <p>24:35 Both men remember playing hurling when they were younger. Tom describes the hurleys and sliotars.</p> <p>25:38 Kyran recalls asking Mick Hayes and Dermot Halpin for advice before buying land for Éire Óg. Mentions St. Joseph's Doorra Barefield.</p> <p>28:42 Kyran remembers encouraging Feakle GAA to develop their field. Tells of attending the official opening. Refers to the importance of passion. Mentions Martin Moroney (of Shannon Airport Authority), Jackie Brown, Seamus Durack, Ger Loughnane and Joe McDonagh.</p> <p>33:35 Tom talks about the changing attitudes to volunteerism. Mentions Macra na Feirme, Muintir na Tíre, Rural Water Schemes.</p>
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	<p>36:04 Both men talk about the fields in Clare. Kyran talks about Cusack Park. Mentions Brendan Vaughan, Michael Eustace. Tells of a man called Michael and his attitude towards finding a field in his parish. Mention Cusack Park, Newmarket, Tulla, Kilkishen, Kilrush, Miltown Malbay</p> <p>41:10 Both men highlight the length of time people stay in office. They also talk about volunteerism. Mention Tom Downes.</p> <p>43:35 Kyran remembers hurling during his schooldays. Refers to his attitude towards football. Mentions rugby.</p> <p>45:14 Tom recalls his time in national school. Mentions Des Cahill's father. Refers to emigration. Describes the relationship between hurling and football in the area. Tells of Corofin GAA's recent record. Mentions London GAA. Mentions Seamus Clancy.</p> <p>47:48 Tom remembers becoming a teacher in Inagh and tells of how Fr Kevin Hogan developed an all-weather pitch. Refers to past pupils and other people in the parish.</p> <p>49:38 Kyran talks about how much he learned during his time in administration. Refers to travelling around Europe. Refers to the characters involved in the GAA and the importance of people. Mentions Michael Cusack.</p> <p>53:23 Kyran talks about the role of the GAA in Ennis CBS. Tells of his how hurling affected his teaching career. Refer to a Christian Brother playing under a false name. Mentions Joe Madigan, Mick Hayes, Bobby Burke, Fr Michael Considine.</p> <p>56:14 Tom talks about Canon Tom Maxwell, former president of St. Flannan's in the 1950s. Remembers the importance of hurling in the school.</p> <p>58:28 Both men remember people associated with St Flannans. They go on to talk about connections between various personalities in the association. Mentions Bishop Willie Walsh, Fr Seamus Gardiner (PRO Munster Council), Jim Ryan (Séamus Ó Riain), Shane Ryan, Seán Ó Síocháin.</p> <p>59:40 Kyran talks about GAA presidents he has known. Tells of a memory of his relating to Séamus Ó Riain. Mentions Con Murphy, Peter Quinn, Donal Keenan and Pat Fanning.</p> <p>1:01:07 Both men discusses St. Patrick's College in Drumcondra (St Pats). Tells of Erin's Hope, the club there. Talks about the players and the standard of football there. Mention Roddy O'Donnell, Declan Lovett, Vincent Cronin, PJ</p>
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	<p>Kelly, John Nolan, Clement Coughlan (Fianna Fáil, politician), Larry O’Dea and Michael Kelly. Mention soccer.</p> <p>1:04:08 Tom remembers two Kerry hurlers from his time in St. Flannan’s and St. Pat’s: Brendan Hennessy and Declan Lovett. Mentions Paddy Bates.</p> <p>1:06:11 Tom recalls supporting the teams in St Pats. Kyran remembers playing hurling there. They mention Parnell Park, Croabh Chiaráin. Refer to the diversity in the college. Kyran remembers going to see the Harty Cup Final between St. Flannan’s and Ennis CBS with Tom and other students in St Pats. Mentions Flan Garvey</p> <p>1:08:30 Kyran gives a brief history of the GAA in Ennis. Refers to the challenges in amalgamating clubs. Mentions Éire Óg, Ennis Rovers, St Johns, Ennis Faughs, the Dalcassian’s.</p> <p>1:09:55 Kyran talks about the early days of Éire Óg and why they were set up. Mentions Paddy Duggan, Simon O’Donnell, Hugh O’Donnell. Mentions Dalcassians.</p> <p>1:11:20 Kyran describes the driving force behind his club and his love for hurling. Refers to the relationship between Éire Óg and the Dalcassians. Mentions Jackie Brown, Jack Heaslip. Mentions darts. Mentions Scór.</p> <p>1:14:05 Kyran refers to amalgamation of the clubs in Ennis in the 1960s. Talks about how people see them now. Mentions The Banner GAA. Mentions Ger Arkins.</p> <p>1:16:03 Tom tells of notable Corofin victories during his lifetime. Talks about Gerry Quinn.</p> <p>1:18:27 Tom recalls Fr Michael Crowe’s involvement in procuring a field for Corofin parish from the Land Commission. Refers to subsequent controversy when soccer arrived in the parish.</p> <p>1:21:28 Tom remembers the club buying and developing a field of their own. Tells of local camogie success. Mentions Jim Harmon, Donal Clancy, Seamus Clancy.</p> <p>1:24:40 Kyran talks about camogie and ladies’ football in Éire Óg and in Clare in general. Tom mentions The Banner GAA.</p> <p>1:25:15 Tom tells of his involvement with the GAA in Inagh. Gives a brief background of the club Inagh Kilnamona GAA. Talks about football in Corofin.</p> <p>1:27:49 Both men talk about the background of camogie and</p>
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	<p>ladies' football in their clubs and in the county. Mention Margaret O'Toole.</p> <p>1:28:30 Kyran talks about the population increase in Ennis since his youth and the relationship between football and hurling in the area. Tells of scheduling conflicts for the field. Mentions Ennis Faughs. Mentions Fianna Fáil.</p> <p>1:31:05 Kyran refers to a deal Éire Óg did with St. Flannan's College to use their facilities.</p> <p>1:31:40 Kyran tells a story about Mick O'Shea from Sixmilebridge who faced a ban for playing soccer. Talks about soccer being played in Ennis in the 1960s. Mentions Mickey Gorman and the Lifford Club.</p> <p>1:33:30 Both men talk about the vigilance committee and the Ban. Mentions soccer, rugby and cricket. Mention Sean Connolly, Simon O'Donnell, Tom McGarry, Simon Moroney. Mention handball.</p> <p>1:36:25 Kyran talks about the state of Cusack Park before development. Describes the involvement of Brendan Vaughan in the development. Mentions the Agricultural Institute in Dublin. Mentions Brian O'Reilly and Michael Eustace.</p> <p>1:40:25 Tom remembers the Under 14 B Final in 1995 between Inagh and Tulla and the issue with the sideline. Mentions Tony Carroll, Martin Flanagan, Ger Loughnane.</p> <p>1:42:05 Kyran talks about the difference between playing on a narrow pitch and playing on a wide pitch. Describes how to put up goalposts.</p> <p>1:43:45 Kyran recalls a meeting he was at in Norwich City Football Ground (Carrow Road). Mentions soccer. Mentions Delia Smith.</p> <p>1:44:35 Kyran talks about the importance of a parish having its own field.</p> <p>1:45:45 Tom discusses the role of language and culture in the GAA. Refers to Scór. Mentions Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. Mentions the Clare Champion.</p> <p>1:49:00 Tom tells of attending the Cultural Committee meetings in the Munster Council. Discusses changes he would like to see made regarding the use of Irish (Gaeilge). Identifies the priorities of modern GAA clubs. Mentions handball.</p>
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	<p>1:51:27 Kyran speculates that some clubs might not be interested in their heritage. Tom highlights a possible conflict between Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann and the GAA.</p> <p>1:52:55 Kyran tells a story about his granddaughter in Ennis CBS. Mentions Ciarán Ó Frighil. Mentions Sixmilebridge. Refers to the relationship between hurling and football.</p> <p>1:53:40 Kyran tells a story about a football match between Clare and Kilkenny. Mentions Seamus Gardiner and Nickey Brennan.</p> <p>1:55:05 Kyran remembers a Football Board meeting in West Clare. Describes tension in Sixmilebridge over football and hurling fixtures. Mentions Jimmy Corry.</p> <p>1:56:15 Tom talks about player burnout and the pressure on young players. Refers to soccer in England. Mentions the Fitzgibbon Cup and the Sigerson Cup.</p> <p>1:58:53 Kyran tells of his admiration for Jimmy Smyth and the GAA presidents. Mentions Peter Quinn, Seán Kelly, Pat Fanning, Mick O'Connell, Mick O'Dwyer.</p> <p>2:01:02 Both men recall the All-Ireland Hurling Final in 1995. Kyran remembers contacting a colleague who was on holidays in Cyprus on holidays after the match. They mention Jamesie, Eamonn Taaffe, Sean McMahon and Anthony Daly.</p> <p>2:02:28 Tom talks about the Munster Hurling Final 1995, the Munster Football Final 1992. Mentions Donegal.</p> <p>2:04:00 Tom mentions being in Ruislip. Kyran remembers going to see Dunloy hurling in Antrim. He also recalls hearing Irish music in Bloomington, Indiana and on the Staten Island Ferry in New York.</p> <p>2:07:52 Tom tells of seeing a man in a Clare jersey in Glasgow.</p> <p>2:08:29 Tom explains his disappointment with the Munster Final in 1955. Mentions Cork, Tipperary and Limerick.</p> <p>2:09:00 Kyran talks about the Clare teams of the late 1970s, while he was secretary of the County Board. Mentions Seamus Durack, Ger Loughnane and the Lohans. Mentions Cork.</p> <p>2:09:56 Tom describes what the GAA has meant to him throughout his life. Recalls listening to listening to Mícheál O'Hehir and Mícheál Ó Muirecheartaigh. Remembers the</p>
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	<p>Oireachtas Final 1954 being broadcast in Irish (as Gaeilge).</p> <p>2:11:37 Kyran discusses the passion he has and others have for the GAA. Describes how he keeps up to date with Gaelic games while he's abroad. Mentions Spain. Refers to his regret at becoming secretary when he did.</p>
<p><b>Involvement in GAA</b></p>	<p><b>Tomás</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input type="checkbox"/> Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Coach <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input 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>Kyran:</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coach <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input checked="" 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><b>Tom:</b> Not provided</p> <p><b>Kyran:</b> Played from the age of 15 to 22. Won Minor and Under 21 titles with the club and Junior tournaments.</p>
<p><b>Record as an Administrator</b> (Positions held; how long for)</p>	<p><b>Tom:</b> Has been PRO of Bord na nÓg, Treasurer and Irish Cultural Officer with the County Board.</p> <p><b>Kyran:</b> Got involved in administration from the 1970s.</p> <p>Club: Secretary (1970 and 1980)</p> <p>County: Secretary (1973 – 1979), Youth Officer, Delegate to Munster council and surrogate Delegate to central council.</p> <p>Was involved in 3 or 4 committees in Croke Park.</p>

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<b>Format</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
<b>Duration</b>	Length of Interview: 02:15:23
<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: \_\_\_\_\_Arlene Crampsie\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_13/07/12\_\_\_\_\_