

## GAA Oral History Project

## Interview Report Form

<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Regina Fitzpatrick
<b>Date of Interview</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2010
<b>Location</b>	Paddy and Joan's home, near New Ross, Co. Wexford
<b>Name of Interviewee</b> (Maiden name / Nickname)	Paddy Kehoe
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Male
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1922 <b>Home County:</b> Wexford
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Gussarane NS, Co. Wexford
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 13 in total <b>Current Family if Different:</b> Wife (Joan) & 3 children
<b>Club(s)</b>	Gusserane GAA [Wexford]; Faughs GAA [Dublin]; Banba GAA [Dublin]; 25 <sup>th</sup> Battalion team of the Irish Army [National]
<b>Occupation</b>	Member of the Irish Army / Salesman
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Railway Worker [Father]
<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>Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)</b>	Joan Kehoe [Née Murphy]
<b><u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u></b>	
<b>Gender</b>	Female
<b>Born</b>	<b>Year Born:</b> 1932 <b>Home County:</b> Wexford
<b>Education</b>	<b>Primary:</b> Convent of Mercy, New Ross, Co. Wexford <b>Secondary:</b> New Ross Technical School
<b>Family</b>	<b>Siblings:</b> 1 brother & 1 sister <b>Current Family if Different:</b> Husband (Paddy) & 3 children
<b>Club(s)</b>	N/A
<b>Occupation</b>	Drapery Assistant
<b>Parents' Occupation</b>	Mechanic [Father]; Teacher [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>	22 <sup>nd</sup> August 2012
<b>Period Covered</b>	1920s - 2010
<b>Counties/Countries Covered</b>	Wexford, Dublin, Tipperary, Laois, Kilkenny, Cork, Mayo, Kerry, Americas, USA
<b>Key Themes Covered</b>	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Refereeing, Celebrations, Material Culture, Emigration, Involvement in GAA Abroad, Role of Women, GAA Abroad, Identity, Irish Language, Culture, Scór, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Irish History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Challenges, Sacrifices, Outsiders' Perspectives, Alcohol, Ban on Foreign Games and Dances, Opening of Croke Park, Relationship with the Association, Retirement, Food and Drink, Socialising, Relationships
<b>Interview Summary</b>	<p>Paddy and Joan Kehoe discuss Paddy's inter-county football and hurling career for Wexford in the 1950s. Paddy recalls his family involvement in Gaelic games and his minor hurling and football career before he joined the army in The Curragh in the 1940s. He describes playing hurling, football, and rugby in the army and recalls cycling 35 miles each way to a match in Portlaoise. Paddy also discusses his inter-county career in the 50s, hurling alongside the Rackards in Wexford. He describes his various successes and mentions various notable players of the 50s. He and Joan also reflect on the excitement of that era, when Wexford dominated hurling nationally, and he mentions travelling to America with the county team in the 50s to play Cork in New York's Polo Grounds. Furthermore, Paddy presents his views on the opening of Croke Park and the lifting of the ban on foreign games. In addition, Joan compares the treatment of the partners of inter-county players in the GAA today with the lack of respect shown to wives of players during Paddy's career. Finally, she ponders the impact of Paddy's dedication to his career on their marriage and family life.</p> <p>00:27 Paddy describes his upbringing in Gusserane. Rural area. His parents from same place. His brother Mick playing for Wexford team in 1940s. 13 children in the family. His father working on the railway.</p> <p>01:57 Recalls playing football and hurling at home. Attending national school in Gusserane. Playing in park and behind house.</p>

	<p>03:03 Describes playing minor football and hurling with county team from 1938 to 1940. Recalls playing Dublin in minor hurling. Mentions Seán Óg Ó Ceallacháin. Mostly football in Gusserane. Arrival of hurling in 50s, when Wexford gained prominence in the sport. Mentions the Rackards.</p> <p>04:43 Reflects on playing with Gusserane. Joining army after bombing of Campile during World War II, 3 women killed. Paddy playing football and hurling in army. In The Curragh. Mentions playing with other inter-county players in the army: John Joe O'Reilly, Benny Lynch, Mick Jones, Danny Douglas.</p> <p>07:10 Describes his routine in the army. Mostly playing Gaelic games. Weekly wages. His enjoyment of it. Mentions Stephen Roche, treasurer of county board, sending him money to travel to Portlaoise to play junior game. Cycling 35 miles to match. Mentions Ger Kavanagh. Playing hurling and football intercounty matches on same day, and cycling both ways.</p> <p>10:37 Discusses the army team in the 40s, the 25<sup>th</sup> Battalion. Winning All-Army title in Croke Park. Beating Offaly in Leinster Championship in 1945. Replay in Portlaoise. Tough match. Joan mentions Austin Flynn.</p> <p>13:47 Describes his approach to hurling and football. No managers. Mentions Jim Murphy's approach to medical assistance. Using same towel for injured players and greyhounds.</p> <p>16:27 Reflects on playing senior hurling and football for Wexford at the same time. Intensity of playing. Training in Wexford Park or Bellefield, Enniscorthy. Working in Wexford in 50s. Cycling to Wexford from The Curragh in the 40s to play matches.</p> <p>18:09 Mentions individuals involved in Wexford GAA in the 40s and 50s: Sean Brown. Winning national league in 1956.</p> <p>19:56 Discusses Wexford team of the 50s. Not beaten by Kilkenny from 1950 to 1956. Reviving hurling in Wexford. Mentions Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh. Excitement of hurling then, great support. Oireachtas team. Playing against Clare and Galway. Frequency of Croke Park matches, Wexford people travelling by train to matches in Dublin.</p> <p>22:32 Describes routine of travelling to matches. Collected by hackney car at 6 in the morning. Going to 8 o'clock mass in New Ross, breakfast afterwards. 4 hours to reach Dublin, slow driving. Tea and sandwiches in Barry's Hotel before match, meal there after match.</p>
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	<p>25:00 Discusses facilities in Croke Park at the time. Comparison with today. Scarcity of seats, hangers. Paddy's lack of nerves, other players' nerves.</p> <p>26:30 Recalls travelling to New York after winning the national league in 1956. Playing Cork in the Polo Grounds. Getting spending money from the county board, generosity of people living in New York. Meeting people who had emigrated: Pearse Walsh. Travelling to Niagara Falls, sightseeing around Statue of Liberty. Banquet.</p> <p>30:23 Describes excitement of being on aeroplane. Stopping in Newfoundland en route to New York. Playing cards on flight. Mentions Nick O'Donnell. Mentions visiting Bill Miler. Socialising. Mentions Christy Ring.</p> <p>33:20 Recalls homecomings in Wexford after All-Irelands. Travelling by lorry, stopping in Gorey, Enniscorthy before Wexford. Recounts story of being carried aloft to bonfire. Gifts of furniture, clock. Staying in Talbot Hotel with Nickey Rackard, free drink, breakfast in bed for a week.</p> <p>38:00 Joan laments the GAA's shoddy treatment of women in that era. Wives not invited to functions. Excluded from All-Ireland celebrations. Married in 1954, Paddy returning from London honeymoon early to play match.</p> <p>40:19 Recalls getting to know wives of players. Annual get-together to play golf with inter-county players and wives. Comparison with today, WAGs included.</p> <p>41:18 Paddy considers how hurling has changed.</p> <p>42:11 Describes his enjoyment of marking Cork hurler Matt Fouhy. Also Tipperary's Jimmy Langton, Cork's Christy Ring. Mentions Kerry footballer Mick O'Connell.</p> <p>43:22 Reflects on travelling to watch All-Ireland Football Finals with Tom Larkin and Peter Auster for 50 years. Working in Dublin, hurling with Faughs GAA Club. Lots of Tipperary, Kilkenny, and Wexford players. Mentions Tommy Moore. Moore approaching Paddy to play with Faughs. Dublin matches played Sunday mornings then. Recalls playing St. Vincent's on a snowy day in Parnell Park. Mentions Jim Prior. Mentions Tony Herbert of Faughs, his brother Sean Herbert. Also Harry Gray.</p> <p>46:50 In Dublin from late 40s to early 50s. Working in Tommy Moore's pub. Drinking a lot, putting on weight, deciding to return to Wexford. Recalls playing against Dublin in the Oireachtas, comments about his weight loss. Mentions</p>
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	<p>working for Paul Murphy of Enniscorthy. Cycling to work.</p> <p>51:39 Describes working with football team, selling fizzy drinks. Mentions Cavan footballer Peter Donohue. Playing hurling and football with Banba and Faughs. Mentions Billy Rackard. Recalls speaking Irish after drinking alcohol.</p> <p>54:16 They discuss how they met. In New Ross, going to dances, cinema. Popularity of Wexford hurlers at the time. Joan's interest in singing and dancing.</p> <p>55:36 Joan discusses the sacrifices she made for Paddy's playing career. Going to watch him play. Recounts story of joke by Micheal Ó Muircheartaigh about player called Rabbitte chasing a player called Fox.</p> <p>57:58 Discussion of the impact of Paddy's GAA involvement on their lives. Joan describes being a GAA widow: Paddy playing matches, refereeing matches, later playing golf. Joan minding children alone. Mentions going to Murphy Flood's after Nickey Rackard's funeral. Bad treatment of women in the GAA.</p> <p>01:01:14 Paddy reflects on the fame accompanying his playing days. Preferential treatment for getting orders from farmers.</p> <p>01:01:50 Paddy compares football played today with that of his playing days. Similar style. More attention played to injuries today. His opposition to stretching. More exercise in daily life in his day.</p> <p>01:03:45 Reflects on his happiest GAA memories. Winning Leinster football final. Mentions Mayo's Padraig Carney. Mentions Fr. McCabe.</p> <p>01:05:47 Mentions Mayo's Eamon Mongey.</p> <p>01:06:02 Describes his pride in his hurling achievements. Discusses his rugby playing career. Opportunity to play for Ireland. Playing for the army against Clontarf in Lansdowne Road., being asked to play for Ireland. Choosing not to because of the ban on foreign games. Rugby team in army. Spending 3 weeks in the Imperial Hotel in Cork. Also playing basketball.</p> <p>01:08:15 Reflects on his opposition to the ban. Seeing men hiding under caps at soccer matches. Mentions Wilkie Thorpe who lost his All-Ireland medal due to the ban.</p> <p>01:09:35 His happiness with the opening of Croke Park.</p>
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	<p>Following soccer and Gaelic games.</p> <p>01:10:23 Paddy reflects on the significance of the GAA in his life. Benefits to his job. Working in Roadstone, travelling around Wexford and Kilkenny.</p> <p>01:12:05 Missing Gaelic games after he stopped playing. Taking up golf.</p> <p>01:12:43 Their son's interest in golf. Their children not playing football or hurling. They mention the children of Billy, Bobby, and Nickey Rackard not playing hurling. Mentions players from 1950s hurling team who are still alive: Art Foley, Ned Wheeler, Tim Flood. They mention the late Tom Doyle of the football team.</p>
<p><b>Involvement in GAA</b></p>	<p><b>Paddy:</b></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 type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input 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>Joan:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Player <input type="checkbox"/> Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Coach <input type="checkbox"/> Steward</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input 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><b>Paddy:</b> Played minor, senior and junior hurling and football for Wexford; played on All-Army team (25<sup>th</sup> Batt), 1942 -43; Won 1945 Leinster Senior Football Championship with Wexford; 1955 &amp; 56 Leinster Senior Hurling Championship with Wexford; Won 1955 &amp; 56 All-Ireland Hurling Championship with Wexford and won National League Hurling with Wexford in 1956; Won Oireachtas medals in the 1950s.</p> <p><b>Joan:</b> N/A</p>
<p><b>Record as an Administrator</b></p>	<p><b>Paddy:</b> N/A</p>

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(Positions held; how long for)	<b>Joan:</b> N/A
<b>Format</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
<b>Duration</b>	Length of Interview: 01:14:46
<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:      Regina Fitzpatrick

Date:      22<sup>nd</sup> August 2012