

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	Arlene Crampsie
Date of Interview	16 th Dec 2010
Location	Parish Hall, O'Gonnelloe, Co. Clare
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Dominick Stuart
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1937 Home County: Clare
Education	Primary: Ballyloughnane NS Secondary: St. Flannan's, Co. Clare Third Level: UCD
Family	Siblings: 1 brother Current Family if Different: Married with 2 sons
Club(s)	O'Gonnelloe
Occupation	Engineer
Parents' Occupation	Farmers
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Parish Council, Parish Hall Committee

REFERENCE NO. CE/1/13

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Michael McNamara
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1947 Home County: Clare
Education	Primary: Ballybran NS, Co. Clare Secondary: Scariff Vocational College, Co. Clare Third Level: Coláiste Charman, Gorey, Co. Wexford
Family	Siblings: 2 brothers & 2 sisters Current Family if Different: Married with 4 daughters & 3 sons
Club(s)	O'Gonnelloe
Occupation	Teacher
Parents' Occupation	Farmers
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Parish Hall Committee, Parish Council, Portumna Golf Club

REFERENCE NO. CE/1/13

Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Michael Bugler
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Male
Born	Year Born: 1950 Home County: Clare
Education	Primary: Ballybran NS, Co. Clare Secondary: Scariff Vocational College, Co. Clare
Family	Siblings: 3 brothers & 2 sisters Current Family if Different: Married with 2 sons
Club(s)	O'Gonnelloe
Occupation	Farmer
Parents' Occupation	Publicans
Religion	Roman Catholic
Political Affiliation / Membership	Sinn Féin
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	Rugby with Ballina Killaloe RFC

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Date of Report	17 th July 2012
Period Covered	1888 – 2010
Counties/Countries Covered	Clare, Dublin, Americas, USA, Cork, Kilkenny, Tipperary
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Training, Coaching, Administration, Emigration, Involvement in GAA Abroad, Role of Women, Role of Teachers, Role of the Club in the Community, GAA Abroad, Identity, Scór, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Irish History, Earliest Memories, Career, Alcohol, Politics, Ban on Foreign Games and Dances, Opening of Croke Park, Socialising, Purchase of Grounds
Interview Summary	<p>Dominick and Michael Mc begin by giving an overview of the tradition of Gaelic games in the area and their memories of watching hurling matches in their youth. When Michael B arrives, he recalls some of the more colourful characters who were involved in the club. The three men then discuss the pitches they used to train and play on. They all stress the importance of the club to the parish, each of them mentioning the championship win of 1960. Dominick talks about his time in St. Flannan’s College and in New York and the influence of Gaelic games in both places. He and Michael Mc then recall the Clare All-Ireland victories in the 1990s and give an overview of the inter-county hurling structure. They stress the pressure on county players and managers and highlight the conflict between the clubs and the county.</p> <p>00:00 Introduction</p> <p>00:40 Dominick remembers listening to his parents talking about hurling and football. Mentions Michael O’Hehir.</p> <p>01:58 Dominick tells of the hurleys he used to use. Recalls playing while he was in school.</p> <p>03:40 Dominick talks about his time in Dublin as a child. Tells of returning to O’Gonnelloe and his memories of the team there in the mid-1940s. Mentions the 1947 All-Ireland Final in the Polo Grounds.</p> <p>05:45 Dominick remembers how disputes were settled in the 1940s.</p> <p>06:44 Dominick refers to success in the club in the 1960s. Describes the role of the club in the area. Refers to fundraising and the Ban. Mentions travelling by horse and</p>

	<p>cart, cycling and walking.</p> <p>09:30 Dominick remembers stories from various games when he was younger. Refers to the facilities. Mentions Ogonneloe and Bodyke.</p> <p>11:40 Dominick recalls a time when there were two teams in the parish in the 1940s. Mentions O’Gonnelloe and O’Gonnelloe Rovers.</p> <p>12:55 Michael Mc recalls going to games when he was a boy. Refers to the incident mentioned by Dominick involving Bodyke. Mentions Mickey Wylie, Mickey Riordan, Tommy Gavin.</p> <p>15:20 Michael Mc remembers playing for the juvenile team. Recalls travelling to the tournaments in vans. Mentions Mick Costello, Jimmy Vaughan, Dan Stuart, Sonny Bugler.</p> <p>16:22 Michael Mc explains why he thinks the club was so central to the parish.</p> <p>17:05 Michael Mc tells of a game he played against Éire Óg in Tulla. Mentions Paddy Kirby.</p> <p>18:18 Michael Mc remembers some of the characters that played for the club. Describes the facilities.</p> <p>19:17 Michael Mc talks about the coaching and training during his early playing days. Mentions Gordon Wood, Harry Bran and Mike Mooney. Mentions rugby.</p> <p>20:44 Michael Mc recalls the club buying and developing a pitch. Refers to success in the 1970s and 1980s. Describes the demographics of the parish. Mentions Dan Sheridan. Mentions the Synod of Ráth Breasail in 1111.</p> <p>***Michael Bugler joins Interview***</p> <p>22:50 Michael B remembers people travelling to games in vans. Explains why he thinks rows were more common at matches when he was young. Michael John Sexton, The Sailor O’Dea, Babby Brian.</p> <p>25:00 Michael B talks about The Farmer Ryan. Mentions Liam Doyle, John Lahy and Little Mick.</p> <p>26:00 The three men describe the fields they used to train and play in and how this affected their style of play. Mentions Tulla, Clooney, Kilkishen and Éire Óg. Mentions St. Flannan’s College. Mention Kiely’s Field.</p>
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	<p>29:03 They remember where they used to get hurleys. Mention Michael Courtney, Mick Vaughan, Annie and Charlie Clune, James Courtney and Jimmy Farrell.</p> <p>31:40 The three men elaborate on the dynamic in the parish when there were two teams in the parish.</p> <p>32:25 Michael Mc gives a brief overview of the history of the club and of the tradition of hurling in the area. Discuss landlords having their own team. Mentions Mick Gibbons.</p> <p>34:55 Michael B and Michael Mc tell of a dispute between O’Gonnelloe and Ahane, Co. Limerick in 1888. Mentions Mick Sexton’s father.</p> <p>38:00 They talk about John Fitzgibbon and the Invasion Tour.</p> <p>38:57 Michael Mc discusses the role of the schools in Gaelic games in the area over the years. Mentions Damien Heaney and Dilla Malone.</p> <p>40:15 Dominick remembers playing in Michael O’Driscoll’s field.</p> <p>40:55 Michael Mc and Dominick tell of a divide in the parish. Explain how the GAA affected that divide. Mention Ballybrone.</p> <p>43:13 Dominick recalls his time in St. Flannan’s College in the 1950s. Refers to the tactics and the coaching and the diversity of the students. Mentions the Dr. Harty Cup. Mentions Thurles CBS, North Monastery CBS, St Colman’s College, Fermoy and St. Finbarr’s College. Mentions Canon Maxwell, Fr Madden, Fr Shalloe.</p> <p>46:27 Michael Mc tell of how schools like St. Flannan’s and St. Colman’s poached players from other schools.</p> <p>47:19 Dominick remembers the importance of hurling to the students when he was in St. Flannan’s.</p> <p>48:30 Dominick recites a song the St. Flannan’s supporters used to sing at matches.</p> <p>49:00 Dominick tells a story about Seamus King and Canon Maxwell. Mentions the Dean Ryan Cup.</p> <p>50:46 They talk about club songs. Michael Mc recites a poem entitled ‘The Hurlers of O’Gonnelloe’. Mentions Dan Ryan.</p> <p>54:58 Michael Mc and Dominick discuss the affect of the Troubles in the 1920s on O’Gonnelloe.</p>
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	<p>55:58 The group tells of underage amalgamations with other clubs – Bodyke, Killaloe and Tulla over the years. Mentions Emmett ‘Feather’ Hinchy.</p> <p>58:08 Dominick discusses his time in New York in the 1960s. Talks about the GAA there since then. Highlights the influence of Paddy Markham and John Kerry O’Donnell. Mentions Gaelic Park. Refers to emigration. Mentions Manhattan College.</p> <p>01:02:43 Dominick explains why he thinks interest in the GAA is shrinking in New York. Tells of differing opinions regarding John Kerry O’Donnell. Mentions Chicago.</p> <p>01:04:20 Dominick gives an overview of his playing career.</p> <p>01:04:56 Michael Mc talks about the importance of O’Gonnelloe winning the Championship in 1960.</p> <p>01:05:38 Michael Mc discusses the purchase of the club’s pitch, its opening in 1986 and subsequent development. Refers to fundraising. Mentions Noel, Sean Gibbons, Dan, Matt Sheedy and Sean Sheedy.</p> <p>01:07:12 Michael Mc refers to the relationship between the new school and the club.</p> <p>01:07:48 Dominick talks about his family’s involvement with O’Gonnelloe and the GAA since 1888. Mentions Dr Joe Stuart and Dominick Stuart (his grandfather). Mentions Gerry O’Brien.</p> <p>01:08:48 Dominick discusses Dr Joe Stuart’s involvement with the GAA. Outlines the different positions he held. Refers to his wife, Josie Kelly. Mentions UCD. Mentions the Fitzgibbon Cup and the Ashbourne Cup. Mentions Croom Young Irelands and O’Gonnelloe.</p> <p>01:12:08 The group recalls club members’ success at county level with Clare and Dublin. Mentions Dominick’s uncle Charlie, David Forde and Tom Costello.</p> <p>01:14:18 The three men remember the championship campaign in 1960. Mention playing Ballyea in Tulla. Mention Jimmy Balfe, Tommy Gavin, Tom Cunningham, Dan Fitzgerald, Tom Gaynor, Noel Gaynor.</p> <p>01:16:35 Michael Mc and Dominick tells stories referring to the drinking culture in those days. Mention Sonny Brien and Jimmy Balfe.</p> <p>01:18:05 Michael Mc and Michael B talks about player playing</p>
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	<p>illegally. Mention Tulla and Newmarket.</p> <p>01:19:15 Michael Mc remembers the type of hurleys he used to use.</p> <p>***Michael Bugler leaves interview***</p> <p>01:19:55 Michael Mc recalls the celebrations when the club won. Also describes the official opening of the club's pitch. Mentions Robert Frost, Dr Joe's son, Dr Joe's wife, Brian Cody and Eddie Keher. Mentions Clare and Kilkenny.</p> <p>01:22:32 Michael Mc talks about the impact Clare winning the All-Ireland Hurling Final in 1995 had on the county. Mentions his brother Dan.</p> <p>01:24:32 Michael Mc remembers the cup being brought around the area.</p> <p>01:25:20 Michael Mc talks about the tradition of football in the area. Mentions Killaloe.</p> <p>01:25:58 Dominick explains why he thinks Clare is divided between hurling and football. Michael Mc describes the availability of ash in Clare.</p> <p>01:27:50 Michael Mc talks about the sports that are popular in the area. Mentions hurling, golf and camogie.</p> <p>01:28:30 Michael Mc tells of the tradition of handball in the area. Mentions ladies' football.</p> <p>01:29:29 Michael Mc describes the role of women in O'Gonnelloe nowadays and how this has changed over the years.</p> <p>01:30:34 Dominick remembers his impression of the GAA after coming back from the USA. Refers to the expense of running a club, the style of play of hurling and the number of competitions.</p> <p>01:33:08 Michael Mc talks about the pressure on young players due to the number of games they play. Also refers to conflict between club and county. Tells of an incident when he was involved in management with the club.</p> <p>01:36:05 Both men examine the pressure on county players and managers.</p> <p>01:39:15 They both talk about the Ban on Foreign Games. Mention rugby. Mentions the Black and Tans.</p>
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	<p>01:41:17 Michael Mc tells of the club's successes in Scór.</p> <p>01:42:28 Dominick tells of his hopes and worries for the future of the club. Refers to getting enough numbers to play. Michael Mc gives an overview of the club in its current state.</p> <p>01:44:49 Both men describe the highlights of their GAA careers. Michael Mc talks about his playing days.</p> <p>01:46:02 Michael Mc explains why Seanie McMahon is his GAA hero. Dominick refers to Dan McInerney and Jimmy Smyth as his heroes.</p> <p>01:47:08 Michael Mc recalls playing with Jimmy Smyth in the late 1970s.</p> <p>01:47:46 They talk about other games being played in Croke Park.</p> <p>01:49:03 Michael Mc discusses the identity the GAA can give a person or a parish.</p> <p>01:50:15 Dominick criticises the balance of power in Hurling Championships. Mentions Kilkenny, Cork, Tipperary, Waterford, Clare, Limerick and Galway.</p> <p>01:52:35 Dominick tells of playing in New York and going to Ballinascreen, Co. Derry to see a match. Mentions Mick Higgins.</p> <p>01:53:33 Michael Mc gives a brief overview of his GAA career and explains what it has meant to him. Highlights the sense of identity it has given him. Refers to winning an All-Ireland with the Clare teachers. Mentions Harry Ryan.</p> <p>01:55:08 Dominick stresses the importance of the GAA in his life.</p>
<p>Involvement in GAA</p>	<p>Dominick:</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 checked="" 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>Michael McN:</p> <p><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>

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	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> <p>Michael 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>Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)</p>	<p>Dominick: Played for 10 years.</p> <p>Michael McN: Played from the age of 10 to 42. Won juvenile Junior B (1984); 2 Leagues; Junior A (1988); 3 Munster Titles with Clare Teachers Inter-firms and an All-Ireland with them in 1983.</p> <p>Michael B: N/A</p>
<p>Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)</p>	<p>Dominick: Chairman of Club 2010</p> <p>Michael McN: Got involved in administration in 1965 / 1966. Has been club treasurer, chairman, secretary, chairman of development committee and delegate to the county board.</p> <p>Michael B: N/A</p>
<p>Format</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual</p>
<p>Duration</p>	<p>Length of Interview: 01:56:11</p>
<p>Language</p>	<p>English</p>

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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: _____17/07/12_____