

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

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| Name of Interviewer | Arlene Crampsie |
| Date of Interview | 5 th Jan 2011 |
| Location | Victoria House, Rasharkin, Co. Antrim |
| Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname) | James McLean |
| <u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u> | |
| Gender | Male |
| Born | Year Born: 1953 Home County: Antrim |
| Education | Primary: St. Joseph's, Dunloy, Co. Antrim Secondary: Dalriada, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim Third Level: Belfast I.T. |
| Family | Siblings: 2 brothers & 1 sister Current Family if Different: Married with 3 sons and 2 daughters |
| Club(s) | Dunloy Cuchullaíns |
| Occupation | Quantity Surveyor |
| Parents' Occupation | N/A |
| Religion | Roman Catholic |
| Political Affiliation / Membership | N/A |
| Other Club/Society Membership(s) | N/A |

REFERENCE NO. AN/1/6

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| Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname) | Willie Richmond |
| <u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u> | |
| Gender | Male |
| Born | Year Born: 1943 Home County: Antrim |
| Education | Primary: Cloughmills, Co. Antrim |
| Family | Siblings: 4 brothers & 6 sisters Current Family if Different: Married to Lily with 4 sons and 2 daughters |
| Club(s) | Dunloy Cuchullains; Loughgiel |
| Occupation | Retired |
| Parents' Occupation | N/A |
| Religion | Roman Catholic |
| Political Affiliation / Membership | None |
| Other Club/Society Membership(s) | N/A |

REFERENCE NO. AN/1/6

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| Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname) | Jim McClements |
| <u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u> | |
| Gender | Male |
| Born | Year Born: 1926 Home County: Antrim |
| Education | Primary: St. Joseph's, Dunloy, Co. Antrim Secondary: Ballymoney Technical College, Co. Antrim |
| Family | Siblings: 2 brothers & 3 sisters Current Family if Different: Married to Rosemary with 3 sons and 2 daughters |
| Club(s) | Dunloy Cuchullains [Antrim]; St. Mary's, Newcastle [Down]; Dundrum GFC [Down]; Liatroim Fontenoys [Down]; Clongeen [Wexford] |
| Occupation | Law Clerk; Bus Driver; Insurance Official; Grocers Shop, Belfast; Publican, Clongeen |
| Parents' Occupation | Farm Labourer [Father]; Dressmaker [Mother] |
| Religion | Roman Catholic |
| Political Affiliation / Membership | SDLP Councillor |
| Other Club/Society Membership(s) | N/A |

REFERENCE NO. AN/1/6

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| Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname) | James Gaston |
| <u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u> | |
| Gender | Male |
| Born | Year Born: 1953 Home County: Antrim |
| Education | Primary: St. Bríd, Cloughmills, Co. Antrim Secondary: St. Patrick's, Ballymena, Co. Antrim |
| Family | N/A |
| Club(s) | Dunloy Cuchullaíns |
| Occupation | N/A |
| Parents' Occupation | Blacksmith [Father] |
| Religion | Roman Catholic |
| Political Affiliation / Membership | Sinn Féin |
| Other Club/Society Membership(s) | N/A |

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| Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname) | Tony McClements |
| <u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u> | |
| Gender | Male |
| Born | Year Born: 1954 Home County: Antrim |
| Education | Primary: St. Mary's, Newcastle, Co. Down; St. Kevin's, Belfast, Co. Antrim Secondary: St. Mary's, Belfast, Co. Antrim; St. MacNissis, Garron Tower, Co. Antrim Third Level: Queen's University Belfast |
| Family | N/A |
| Club(s) | Dunloy Cuchullain's [Antrim]; All Saints GAC, Ballymena [Antrim]; Clongeen [Wexford]; Burt [Donegal]; St. John's, Belfast [Antrim] |
| Occupation | Chartered Accountant |
| Parents' Occupation | Milkman [Father]; Teacher [Mother] |
| Religion | Roman Catholic |
| Political Affiliation / Membership | None |
| Other Club/Society Membership(s) | Portstewart Tai Chi |

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| Date of Report | 17 th July 2012 |
| Period Covered | 1800s – 2011 |
| Counties/Countries Covered | Antrim, Down, Donegal, Wexford, Dublin, Tipperary, Kildare |
| Key Themes Covered | Travel, Supporting, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Training, Managing, Coaching, Refereeing, Officials, Administration, Celebrations, Commiserations, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Material Culture, Education, Religion, Media, Emigration, Role of the Club in the Community, Identity, Rivalries, Irish Language, Culture, Scór, All-Ireland, Club History, County History, Irish History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Impact on Life, Career, Challenges, Sacrifices, Outsider's Perspectives, Violence, Politics, Northern Ireland, The Troubles, Relationship with the Association, Food and Drink, Socialising, Purchase of Grounds, Relationships, Economy / Economics |
| Interview Summary | <p>Members of Dunloy Cuchullain's talk about their involvement in the GAA. Jim talks about the history of the club and of hurling in the area. They talk about their early involvement in the GAA and how they became involved with Dunloy. Jim talks about moving to Wexford about bringing clubs from the south to Dunloy to play matches. They talk about the development of the club over the years, how it has fared in competitions and the development of the club's grounds. They talk about the issue of the Troubles and how it impacted the club and their lives. Willie describes how many people in the North associated the GAA with the IRA and the problems this led to. They discuss their involvement in the Antrim hurling team and towards the end of the interview, they highlight the important role the GAA has played in their lives and the role of the Association in the community.</p> <p>00:00 Introduction</p> <p>01:35 (Jim) Talks about his earliest GAA memories. Walking along the railway line to Dunloy's pitch in Whitehill Park. Using sticks for hurls. Mentions Paddy McCamphill.</p> <p>03:37 Discusses his family's involvement in the GAA. His father was a Loughgiel man. Stories his father told him including going on charabanc to matches. Mentions his uncle Jimmy Dillon.</p> <p>05:23 Talks about the club's formation in 1908. Founded as a football club and then changed to hurling. Talks about the winning football teams of the early years. Talk about the early</p> |

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| | <p>characters. Mentions Andy Dooley, Paddy McCamphill, Bob Black and Dan Boyle.</p> <p>07:36 Talks about Dan Boyle and Andy Dooley. Mentions Hugh Drain, Dan McKendry, Tim McQuillan, Charlie and Jamsie Kearns.</p> <p>09:56 Explains why hurling took over from football in the club. The problem with finding hurls. Mentions Bob Black and Charlie Molloy.</p> <p>11:15 The role of a teacher from Tipperary in promoting hurling in Dunloy. Hurling became prominent in the 1940s.</p> <p>12:00 (Willie) Talks about his earliest GAA memories. Listening to Michael O’Hehir commentating on an All-Ireland final between Cork and Wexford on a wet battery radio with his father in the 1950s. Mentions Nicky Rackard, Christy Ring.</p> <p>13:35 Discusses playing hurling first with Loughgiel. His family’s involvement in the GAA. Recalls his father used to run buses to All-Ireland finals. Mentions PJ McCamphill.</p> <p>15:26 Mentions reaction to hurling club being formed in Cloughmills. Tells a story about a priest’s grave and the local hurling club. His father giving a field. Goal posts being cut down and a fire. Mentions Father Leonard.</p> <p>22:26 Talks about playing hurling for Antrim. Playing against Kildare in a junior match in Naas. Mentions Neill Patterson, Gerry Campbell.</p> <p>25:05 (Jim) Discusses playing hurling for Antrim and how they fared during his time. Moving to Down and starting a team in Newcastle before playing for Down. A fight against Antrim. The police calling to his home. Mentions Christy Ring, Robbie Elliot, Seamus Gallagher.</p> <p>29:10 Moving to Wexford and getting involved in the GAA. Moving back to Belfast and then to Dunloy. The role of the GAA in his life.</p> <p>30:15 (All) They talk about flying to a match in Cork in 1969 from Nutts Corner. Mentions Neill Patterson, Brendan McGarry, Paddy McShane and Cork’s Frank Murphy.</p> <p>35:05 (James) Talks about his earliest GAA memories. Going to a camogie final in 1957. Discusses his family’s involvement in the GAA. The people he played hurling with when he was young. Dunloy being a dual club.</p> |
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| | <p>37:16 Recalls losing a county final in 1963 against Loughgiel Shamrocks. Beating them in 1976. Mentions Brendan Richmond, John Robb, Aidan McCamphill. Talks about a Féile team and their success.</p> <p>39:42 (Jim) Discusses bringing teams like Thurles Sarsfields, Rathnure St. Anne's and Oliver Plunketts up from the south to play Dunloy. Buying a pub in Wexford. Describes how they travelled. Mostly by bus and cars. Buying a bus for the club. The club's facilities.</p> <p>44:00 Talks about travelling to matches in Dublin by train. The role of the GAA in his life.</p> <p>45:14 (Jimmy) Discusses his earliest GAA memories. Starting playing with Dunloy. Winning the minor championship against the O'Donovan Rossa club. Missing a championship because he was on holiday. Talks about the development of Dunloy and his involvement in Antrim minors.</p> <p>50:10 Talks about starting to play for Dunloy minors and the work of Pat Conlon, Jim McClements and Johnny McElhatton.</p> <p>50:42 Discusses the role of the Scór competition in the club.</p> <p>52:00 (Jim) Talks about being in a novelty act for Scór. Describes the north Antrim brogue.</p> <p>54:30 (All) They talk about a newsletter Jim used to produce.</p> <p>55:30 (Jim) Recalls a story about going to an All-Ireland final and the accommodation they stayed in.</p> <p>57:00 (Jimmy) Describes the accommodation. Mentions Martin Coughlan.</p> <p>58:35 (All) They talk about the club's songs.</p> <p>59:33 (Tony) Talks about his earliest GAA memories. Travelling in a Morris Minor to a match. Recalls being chased off Casement Park. Moving to Dunloy and going to school. Mentions Ed McCormick.</p> <p>01:02:20 Discusses the teams he coached. Coaching Ballymena and Burt in Donegal. Talks about flying to Clare with the Antrim under-19 team. Mentions Davy Fitzgerald.</p> <p>01:04:00 (James) Notes how Dunloy were involved in the naming of Casement Park.</p> <p>01:04:20 (Tony) Recalls being in a Scór play.</p> <p>01:04:40 (Jim) Talks about his involvement in the GAA in</p> |
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| | <p>Down and how this compared to Antrim. Founding a club in Newcastle. The connection to the Bryansford club. Discusses his involvement in Clongeen in Wexford.</p> <p>01:08:22 (Willie) Discusses the people involved in the club and its leaders. The work done by Jim.</p> <p>01:09:55 (James) Talks about the development of the club's pitch and facilities.</p> <p>01:11:39 (Jim) Talks about buying a pitch and the former treasurer Barney. Where the pitch used to be.</p> <p>01:15:14 (James and Willie) Discuss the club's new development. The work done by Willie and Danny Quinn. Travelling to Cork to see a hurling alley. Mentions Justin McCarthy and Glen Rovers.</p> <p>01:20:12 (All) They describe their desire to win a championship and beat Loughgiel. Tony recalls a story about Jim.</p> <p>01:22:32 (Jim) Recalls a trip to Waterford with the Antrim hurlers. Tells a story about the mayor of Waterford. Mentions Seamus Clarke.</p> <p>01:24:20 Talks about soccer in Dunloy in the past. Popular in the Ballymoney and Finvoy areas.</p> <p>01:25:20 (All) They talk about hurling played in the area before the club was formed. Shinty in the county.</p> <p>01:26:25 They discuss a shinty tournament in Scotland in Portree.</p> <p>01:27:37 They talk about the type of fundraising the club has done. Discuss the chieftain competition. Holding festivals and a 'who wants to be a thousandaire' competition.</p> <p>01:33:10 (Jim) Discusses raising money in the past. Tells a story about a man who gave them money despite being out of work.</p> <p>01:35:30 (All) They talk about the role of the GAA in the community and the volunteer effort. Describes the 'wee field', the 'big field' and 'Fahy's field'. The setting of the pitch – the church, school and pitch.</p> <p>01:37:40 (Jimmy) Discusses the impact of the Troubles on the club. How the area is nationalist. The role of the GAA in keeping the youth out of trouble. Anti-social problems in</p> |
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| | <p>modern times. Mentions Alex Boyle, Sean Brown.</p> <p>01:40:00 (Jim) Talks about how the GAA kept young people out of trouble.</p> <p>01:40:25 (Willie) Recalls an incident near the pitch and John Boyle being shot. The impact of the Troubles on the GAA.</p> <p>01:43:00 (Tony) Talks about being moved in 1969 on a bus after Bombay street was bombed. Being brought to Gormanstown. Mentions Frank McGowan, Pat 'Red' Collier, Patsy Kearns.</p> <p>01:45:00 (Willie and Jim) Recalls being searched by the British Army in Newry.</p> <p>01:45:44 (Jim and Tony) Talks about being at a camogie match during riots on Falls Road.</p> <p>01:47:10 (Willie) Recalls the reaction of Protestants he worked with when his picture appeared in the Constitution paper playing for Antrim. Being given a death threat. The thought that the GAA were linked with the IRA.</p> <p>01:52:42 (Tony and Jim) Recalls how Jim was moved to Newcastle by Ulster bus from Ballyclare when his picture appeared in the paper with Antrim hurling.</p> <p>01:53:25 (Jimmy) Describes how the Troubles affected all communities in the north. Perceptions by the DUP about the GAA and the IRA.</p> <p>01:55:10 (All) Talk about keeping politics out of GAA.</p> <p>01:56:33 (James) Talks about his best and worst memories in the GAA. His pride of being a member of Dunloy and how he hates being beaten by Loughgiel. What the GAA means to him.</p> <p>01:57:41 (Willie) Describes the club's first championship win as his best memory. Talks about his disappointments. The celebrations after the championship win. The role of the GAA in his life.</p> <p>01:59:38 (Jim) Discusses the role of the GAA in his life. Being a selector for the club. Talks about his disappointment and the joy of the championship win. How the GAA kept him out of trouble.</p> <p>02:01:57 (Jimmy) Talks about the GAA in his life. Winning a championship medal in 1971 as a minor. Winning the senior championship in 1990. Winning an Under 21 championship</p> |
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| | <p>as a selector. The GAA keeping him out of trouble. Describes his saddest memory, the death of a club member, Frank McMullan.</p> <p>02:03:00 (Tony) Talks about his best GAA memories. Recalls the All-Ireland final between Dunloy and Birr. Talks about the Down football team. Mentions Kevin Mussen. Describes the role of the GAA in his life, talks about his son being captain of the Dunloy team.</p> |
| <p>Involvement in GAA</p> | <p>James McL: <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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> <p>Willie: <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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person <input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> <p>Jim: <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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person <input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> <p>James G: <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 <input type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jersey Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Referee <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> <p>Tony:</p> |

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| | <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> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds-person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input checked="" 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>James McL: Won a Minor championship, Feis Cup, Leagues, 3 Under 21's, 2 All-Ireland B championships.</p> <p>Willie: Won 3 Minor hurling championships, 3 Division 2 league medals, 1 All-Ireland intermediate.</p> <p>Jim: Played for 32 years. Won 3 football medals with Newcastle, a hurling title with Liatroim Fontenoys, 2 junior football titles with Dunloy, 1 junior medal with Clongeen.</p> <p>James G: Won a Minor, Under 21 and Junior Championship</p> <p>Tony: Won a minor hurling title in 1971 and an intermediate football senior championship.</p> |
| <p>Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)</p> | <p>James McL: Has been club Secretary, Chairman of North Antrim, Secretary Antrim hurling board, Ulster Hurling Committee (7 years) and Féile Committee.</p> <p>Willie: Chairman for 7 years</p> <p>Jim: Has been involved in administration since the 1940s.</p> <p>Club: Secretary, Dunloy; Chairman of Newcastle (4/5 years); Secretary Clongeen (1 year); Vice-President of Club</p> <p>County: Chairman of North Antrim Board; Chairman of Antrim Hurling; Chairman of East Down; Vice-chairman of Down Hurling Board</p> <p>James G: Club Culture Officer</p> <p>Tony:</p> |

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| | Chairman of the Finance Committee. |
| Format | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual |
| Duration | Length of Interview: 02:05:24 |
| Language | 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: _____17/07/12_____