

GAA Oral History Project

Interview Report Form

Name of Interviewer	N/A
Date of Interview	7 th Feb 2011
Location	N/A
Name of Interviewee (Maiden name / Nickname)	Maura McNally & Anne Hughes
<u>Biographical Summary of Interviewee</u>	
Gender	Female
Born	Year Born: N/A Home County: Armagh
Education	N/A
Family	N/A
Club(s)	Derrymichaels GAA [Armagh] Derrynoose GAA [Armagh]
Occupation	N/A
Parents' Occupation	N/A
Religion	N/A
Political Affiliation / Membership	N/A
Other Club/Society Membership(s)	N/A

REFERENCE NO. AR/1/43

Date of Report	23 rd July 2012
Period Covered	1980s- 2000s
Counties/Countries Covered	Armagh, Monaghan, Tyrone, Cavan
Key Themes Covered	Travel, Grounds, Facilities, Playing, Managing, Fundraising, Sponsorship, Education, Media, Emigration, Role of Women, Role of the Club in the Community, Volunteers, GAA Abroad, Club History, County History, Earliest Memories, Family Involvement, Childhood, Challenges, Northern Ireland, Relationships, Economy / Economics
Interview Summary	<p>Maura McNally and Anne Hughes are founder members of Ladies Gaelic football in Derrynoose, Co. Armagh. The two women discuss their family and sporting backgrounds, as well as the informal origins of the ladies football game in Derrynoose and Armagh. Informal competition was replaced by formal organisation in the early 1990s when the Derrymichael club – an amalgamated entity – emerged. The early success of this club is recounted as is the decision to split it in two, a move which saw the creation of a separate Ladies gaelic football club for Derrynoose. The general progress of Ladies Gaelic football is discussed, including the contribution of televised games and the playing of major matches in Croke Park. In addition, the interviewees reflect on the benefits of participation for women and the challenges presented by unemployment and emigration. The interview concludes with McNally and Hughes reflected on the place of Ladies Gaelic football within the Derrynoose GAA community and the co-operation that exists between the different codes catered for by the club.</p> <p>The featured sports in this interview are Ladies Gaelic football and soccer.</p> <p>00:00:01 Maura McNally and Anne Hughes are introduced as founding members of Ladies football in Derrynoose.</p> <p>00:00:09 (Maura) Talks about growing up in Newtownhamilton in a family that was ‘heavily involved’ in the GAA.</p> <p>00:00:20 (Maura) Mentions that girls had no games available to them but that father was one founders of the reformed Newtown club in 1974.</p> <p>00:00:50 (Maura) Leaving Newtown for Derrynoose on her marriage in 1982 and becoming involved with GAA through</p>

	<p>her own children.</p> <p>00:01:07 (Maura) Recalls absence of Gaelic games for girls when growing up and her involvement in other sports through youth clubs. Mentions unstructured Gaelic games for ladies in the Armagh of the late 1970s and its subsequent demise.</p> <p>00:01:40 (Anne) Talks about absence of involvement in GAA until marriage and becoming involved in the GAA. Mentions her involvement with a soccer team through work.</p> <p>00:02:10 (Maura) Background to founding of Derrynoose Ladies Gaelic football team: Refers to playing soccer, to interest in Gaelic football to starting to play unofficial friendly games against teams in Armagh, Monaghan and Tyrone in the late 1980s, early 1990s.</p> <p>00:03:00 (Maura) Mentions getting 'plenty of football', playing at opening fields and sports days. Spotting the potential of the game and making contact with the Ladies Gaelic football association.</p> <p>00:03:25 (Maura) Talks about visit to Armagh from a Leinster Council member and the affiliation of Armagh, the first county from the north, to the Ladies Association.</p> <p>00:03:57 (Maura) Says that Derrynoose actually played as an amalgamated senior team, Derrymichaels.</p> <p>00:04:30 (Maura) Discusses early days of Ladies football in the Armagh in the early 1990s. Mentions early success, including winning senior championship and league in 1992.</p> <p>00:05:20 (Maura) Talks about growth in game and the decision to create two clubs from Derrymichael, leading to the creation of Derrynoose in 1995.</p> <p>00:05:45 (Maura) Discusses the playing fortunes of the newly emergent of Derrynoose Ladies club.</p> <p>00:06:00 (Maura) Discusses the changing role of women in GAA clubs.</p> <p>00:07:06 (Maura) Discusses developments of Ladies football. Makes reference to her daughter's involvement with a club in Sydney, Australia. Describes also the benefits of participation to girls and the social life around the sport.</p> <p>00:08:20 (Anne & Maura) Talks about media coverage of the Ladies game, including the role of TG 4 and the importance of playing games in Croke Park.</p>
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	<p>00:09:00 (Anne) Talks about unemployment, emigration and the challenges facing Ladies gaelic football.</p> <p>00:09:40 (Maura) Talks about playing, managing underage teams and helping found Ladies gaelic football county board in Armagh.</p> <p>00:10:40 (Maura) Difficulties in building club in its early years.</p> <p>00:10:55 (Anne) Mentions squeezing 6 into her car to go to game and lack of money in club.</p> <p>00:11:18 (Maura) Refers to getting busses, increased sponsorship and better organisation over time.</p> <p>00:11:30 (Maura) Discusses initial lack of interest among underage girls and emergence of first group of girls at a schools tournament in Cavan.</p> <p>00:12:32 (Maura) Refers to three girls from the Derrynoose club who progressed to represent Armagh.</p> <p>00:13:00 (Anne) Reflects on voluntary support for club and the difficulty in maintaining numbers.</p> <p>00:13:55 (Maura) Comments on the support received from other sections of the club in relation to field space and fixtures etc.</p>
<p>Involvement in GAA</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 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>Record as a Player (Titles won; Length of time played)</p>	<p>Winner of senior championship and league in 1992 (Maura)</p>
<p>Record as an Administrator (Positions held; how long for)</p>	<p>Manager of underage teams and a founder of Ladies Gaelic football county board in Armagh (Maura)</p>

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Format	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Audio-Visual
Duration	Length of Interview: 00:14:58
Language	English

To be filled in by Interviewer:

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Signed: _____

Date: _____