

# Paddy Hynes

Male

0:00:00 – 0:01:40

TOWNLAND OF CRUGHVILLE –

Paddy says they learned at school that Crughville's meaning is the green high field/green pasture; no houses there generations ago; Irish name in the Demano was 'Croagh Maol' – bare hill.

0:01:40 – 0:02:52

ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH/CILLÁN & HOLY WELL –

Paddy talks about Termon, St. Cronan's church & cillán, a burial ground for unbaptised children & the holy well – cure for eyes; he tells a story of Mrs McMahon who was blind & asking them as children to guide her to the well; they often 'bold boys' & got punished with the leather strap.

0:02:52 – 0:08:24

HYNES ANCESTRY/ LAND/HOUSE –

Hynes clan were 'blow-ins' – originally came from Galway & previously from Northern Ireland;

Paddy's grandfather & his brother owned lots of land in New Quay; Paddy's grandfather Patsy Hynes came to Crughville; the house was a long low house roofed with bangor slates & later raised to a two-storey house but now in ruins; (most Carron houses thatched then); Paddy recites a few lines from an Irish poem learned at school about the Hynes' clan; the Hynes were said to have 'blue blood in their veins'; Paddy's brother Micho bought the former teacher's residence next to the church in Carron & lived there with his 2 uncles.

Paddy's maternal ancestry – Marrinans:

Paddy's mother was Marrinan from Derrymore; her father & uncle came to the Carron/Kilnaboy area (Cloncoose & Teescagh respectively) & owned much lands; they evicted the herdsmen; Paddy tells story of the rafters in the Cloncoose house spliced with iron by the herdsman; Paddy heard his father say that the grandfather came to Carron church with police protection; he was often fired upon with guns in his home; Paddy says he was a tough daring man to live alone in the isolated location in Cloncoose; he talks about his mother's brothers & relations; his mother lived with her relations & attended school in Ennistymon.

0:08:24 – 0:16:23

#### MATCH-MAKING & PADDY'S GRANDFATHER'S MARRIAGE –

Paddy says men had to be around 40 thinking of getting married & matches were often made in rural areas then; Paddy tells the story about Michael O'Loughlin, a neighbour, friend & workmate who went to Kilmaley to make a match for his grandfather with a Hogan girl who had a £100 going with her; O'Loughlin made a match with her but the men didn't fall out over it & Patsy Hynes made his own match with Catherine Fahy, Doorus, Kinvara; Paddy says they married within a week of one another but that O'Loughlin may have beaten him to the woman but Hynes beat him to the baptismal font!

0:16:23 – 0:17:20

#### PADDY'S MARRIAGE & THE MARRINAN CONNECTIONS –

Paddy's wife is Catherine Marrinan; he tells the story of the priest's comments about the Marrinan connection & their intended wedding; Catherine's & Paddy's parents were both Marrinans & Hynes; Paddy's cousin John Joe was the first man Geraldine recorded for Cuimhneamh an Chláir in October 2009 (he passed away in July 2012 at age 104).

0:17:20 – 0:21:36

#### FAMILY –

Paddy's father died from cancer & his mother died at the young age of 54 in 1955; they were neighbours - from the home place in Carron & she a Marrinan from Ennistymon; their marriage was not a match; he says matches had died out then in some areas; 7 siblings - 2 brothers & 4 sisters who went to boarding school to the convent in Kinvara; he recalls cycling there on Sundays (22 miles) & bringing 3 loaves of bread & laundry to them - they were 'starved'; all 4 sisters became nuns (two in Mayo, one in Longford & one in America); he had two aunts (nuns) - one in Rangoon, India & one in England; his brother Micho (5 years younger) farmed the second farm in Deelin (between Carron & Belharbour) - his nephew now farms there; his brother Tommy (10 years younger) became a Pallatine priest (attended the seminary in Thurles); Paddy has 3 sisters alive at time of recording.

0:21:36 - 0:26:36

NICKNAMES/LAND OWNERSHIP IN CARRON, LANDLORDS/ RENT & GALE DAY  
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Paddy mentions agro over land & some derogatory nicknames such as 'wall-knocker' and 'sledger'; vast areas of land was owned by 'outsiders' such as Brutons from Co. Meath & O'Deas from Tuam; Blood was the landlord for Termon, Crughville & Rannagh areas; he tells story of the rent owned by his father on gale day & how an undertaker in Ennis gave him the few pounds to pay the agent; consequently Paddy's father used his services for his wife's funeral.

0:26:36 - 0:51:40

SCHOOL DAYS -

Paddy says his schooldays were hard & not happy days; he disagreed with his elderly neighbour that 'school days were happiest days of one's life'; he recalls corporal punishment; says the teacher was a brute who maimed 3 pupils; he tells the story of the girl whose hair was pulled leaving a grey streak; pupils who could afford to go to college were encouraged in 7th & 8th classes; teachers

then were paid according to results; he recalls the derogatory comment made to him - ‘‘A Mhichin Hynes! you’ll be shovelling muck’’; Paddy would have liked not to stay at home after leaving school; teacher’s comments to Paddy if he was late for school after chasing the goats in the morning before school (see more in farming section); he went to nearby national school in Carron; it was a one-roomed school with two teachers; large maps partitioned the room; he left school around 1944 at age 16; his early schooling was ‘‘all through Irish’’ until the successive teacher, Killoran from Sligo taught through English; Paddy recites facts learned through Irish; he credits Diffley, a neighbour, a butcher from Kilfenora who educated him & his siblings; he mentions Diffley’s wife was McCormack from Kilfenora & in Cumann na mBan (she got a divide of land through her connections in politics); Paddy says he hated school & compares his young grandchild’s experience today to his own; he recalls his father passing on the pipe to others in the house after each man had a ‘‘egall’’ of it; his sisters & brother Tommy did the Leaving Cert; they didn’t bring firewood to school - each family paid 2 shillings weekly for coal; he says it was the only building burning coal then; he & his siblings walked to school -which was only a few 100 yards away.

Sports & games at school: he recalls challenge games in football played between neighbouring schools; boys played rounders; boys & girls had separate playgrounds.

The school Paddy attended was built in 1848, it was used as a community centre once the newer school was built & is presently used by the Burren Life project; Michael Cusack, founder of the G.A.A. was a monitor in the Carron school; Paddy’s daughter & grandchild attended the newer & present school.

Paddy recalls their J.A.M. Miss O’Sullivan who was from Kerry; Carron choir won (2 years in succession) the annual choir plain chant competition held in the diocese of Kilfenora; he tells the story of when the inspector asked Paddy to do a recitation instead after she asked Paddy not to sing as his voice was changing; Paddy obliged & the inspector gave him a long poem/recitation by An Craoibhinn Aoibhinn (Douglas Hyde) to learn off for his next visit - Paddy recites ‘‘Seamus

O'Brien which he learned 75 years ago; he refers to the changes in school & discipline; he recalls summer holidays were 5-6 weeks long.

0:51:40 - 0:21:54

#### FARMING RELATED STORIES -

Paddy tells a story about a father's initial unwillingness to exchange his bull for his son's match.

He then tells a story about poitín making & men buying/selling geese's dung!

1:33:54 - 1:33:54

#### CLOTHES -

Paddy's mother made their clothes with a foot sewing machine; she made the dresses for his 4 sisters in the photograph in Cassidy's pub in Carron & his First Holy Communion suit; he recalls holding & balling the yarn; she knitted & darned though her sight was failing in later years; they wore short pants to school; a woman teacher in the summer made clothes; he recalls his father bought a suit for £1 & a hat for 1 shilling after selling cattle at the fair in Ennistymon.

1:35:47 - 1:39:56

#### SHOPS/PUBS & BARRACKS IN CARRON -

Paddy names the 4 shops & their goods of past years in existence up to 1960s - Collions, Diffeys, Kerins & Jones; no shop in Carron now; he recalls some shops, which sold paraffin oil, canvassing against electricity in 1961; the present Cassidys pub was originally the RIC barracks (burned down during the Troubles) & then a Garda station; the old pub was at Jones; he refers to photos displayed in Cassidys of the thatched pub & coach house & also of school group including his 4 sisters.

1:39:56 - 1:44:44

#### BOTHAR NA MIAS/KILMACDUAGH/POULAPHOUCA FAMINE

## ROAD/CORCOMROE ABBEY & MEGGAGH FORT -

Paddy tells the story/legend of how the horsemen from Dunguaire chased the dishes of food to Duagh's cave & the founding of Kilmacduagh near Gort; he recalls the building of Poulaphouca Famine road; Hynes family have 2 burial plots in Corcomroe; he tells about the possible consequence of removal of stones from Meggagh Fort.

1:44:44 -1:47:57

## TRANSPORT -

Paddy recalls the first car he saw in Carron in the late 1930s belonging to two sisters (in their late teens); a former army man taught them how to drive; his family had one bike; recalls patching the tyres; he recalls his first bike bought for £8 in late 1930s/early 1940s; repeats about cycling to his sisters' boarding school in Kinvara on Sundays with food for them; his father or uncle drove the side-car; he recalls his parents going to Ennis Show & the horse getting frightened by a low-flying aeroplanes which were practising overhead.

1:47:57 -1:50:52

## HORSE RACES, SPORTS DAYS & GAA -

Paddy tells a story about the famous horse-races held in Carron; the priest banned them because of rows; Sports Days replaced the races; athletics, cycling races & other events held at the Sports Days; the local sport is football; the local pitch is called Gleann Ciosog - named after Michael Cusack, founder of the GAA in 1884.

1:50:52 - 1:57:21

## CULTURE, MUSIC, DANCING & SOCIAL ENTERTAINMENT IN PADDY'S EARLY YEARS -

Paddy recalls the dancing master in the various townlands in Carron; he stayed in houses during the winter months & taught step-dancing and played the violin &

tin-whistle; Paddy's 2 uncles played concertinas & fiddle; his mother & siblings danced a full set in the house; he tells how his uncle often "kicked them with his straight leg" during a set; they danced Caledonian & Plain sets, waltzes, Siege of Ennis & Walls of Limerick; it was compulsory in his house when he was a teenager; he recalls how his uncles locked their instruments by the hob; Paddy's grandfather Patsy Hynes played the fiddle at house dances; Patsy played tunes at the bedside of friend & musician Pat Clancy before he died.

Dancehalls in locality: Paddy recalls cycling to dancehalls in Lisdoonvarna, Corofin & Labane & the demise of ceili dancing as modern dancing (waltzes & foxtrots) & showbands became popular.

Platform/Crossroads dancing: Paddy recalls platform/crossroads dancing held locally though he was very young at the time; names some dancers & musicians; he was only 4 years of age in 1932 when bonfires blazed at a platform dance outside Jones's to mark de Valera's election.

1:57:21 – 2:01:00

#### HISTORY/POLITICS/BLACK & TANS AND RATIONING –

Paddy remembers his Marrinan grandfather being in jail in Limerick though unsure why; Paddy heard older people talking about the Black & Tans, road blockades & the failed Sheshymore ambush in Carron between local "bush-strikers"/fowlers & landlord McNamara; Paddy has a copy of the poem which local man Peter O'Loughlin (grandfather of Comhaltas man) wrote about the ambush; Paddy says his family weren't much affected by the rationing as they were fairly self-sufficient – they grew their own wheat for flour, were reared on goats' milk & had own crops.

2:01:00 – 2:04:58

#### ELECTRIFICATION & FACILITIES –

Paddy recalls electrification in the late 1950s; he lists the facilities people have now compared to the 1950s; they washed in a large galvanise tub in front of the fire on Saturday nights & had a dry toilet.



Health & Maternity: Paddy & his siblings were born at home with the help of mid-wives/nurses; he tells a story about his father's comments when another daughter was born (typical of perceptions then).

2:04:58 – 2:18:24

CHURCH TOPICS, MISSIONS, SACRAMENTS, SEASONAL CUSTOMS –

Paddy talks about Carron church 150 year celebrations; diocese of Kilfenora; Carron, Noughaval & New Quay; recalls some history of the church; Paddy served Mass; recites a few lines of the confiteor in Latin; recalls the rosary being said nightly at home & tells a story about their neighbour on cuairt; he tells some stories of the missions, sermons & confessions; fasting was strictly observed at Lent; marriages disallowed except on St. Patrick's Day; he describes the subscriptions/dues read out from the altar; each family had own pew; describes an argument over pews on Palm Sunday; recalls Chalk Sunday; they did the rounds at St. Brigid's Well in Liscannor on Garland Sunday; he heard a custom about taking an ear of corn from the crib was considered good luck; he tells a story about a local romance finishing when the man broke his contract to do the Nine Fridays; he tells story of his uncle Tom Hynes being sacked as foreman in Ennis when the Bishop had to let himself into the shop.

2:18:24 – 2:20:50

INVOLVEMENT WITH LOCAL ORGANISATIONS & PARTICIPATION IN CULTURAL EVENTS IN PAST YEARS –

Drama: Paddy recalls the setting up of the Carron Players by McMahon, local teacher & raising £600 for the teacher's residence by putting on plays in North Clare & South Galway.

LDF/LSF: Paddy was a member of the local branch when he was younger & took part in processions, parades, guards of honour; he mentions pairs kept nightly watch over the rifles in the barracks.

2:20:50 – 2:38:32



## CULTURE/ MUSIC/DANCING & SOCIAL ENTERTAINMENT IN PADDY'S LATER YEARS/

### RECORDINGS/SONGS/STORIES/RECITATIONS & PERFORMANCES -

Stories: Paddy tells a story about his friend Johnny Lee, Corofin borrowing his wheelbarrow when working for Pat Linnane & building Carron school; Paddy jokes that his wheelbarrow was used in building many schools in North Clare!

Paddy recalls visiting Brud Petty, a storyteller (now deceased) in Doolin many years ago, spending many hours there but only getting one long story!

Sources: Paddy credits Kieran Moylan, Kinvara with 'getting him off the mark' performing in Dunguaire Castles; Moylan said there are 3 stages in learning a poem or recitation & encouraged Paddy to start at the last verse

Paddy regularly participates in Kerry & Clare local radio recordings; he enjoys music & singing sessions, tells stories & gives recitations in local venues; he participates in the Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Éireann summer seisiúns & travels on trips nationally & in England. He knows many songs in English and also some in Irish songs which he learned at school. He recalls how he met Robbie McMahon, Spancilhill many years ago & jokes about the Hynes families! He says he has a 'ceochan' (a frog) in his throat. He previously referred to Micheal O'Loughlin, a Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Éireann President who was a Carron native and his neighbour (his father Peter composed the Sheshymore Ambush poem).

He recites a tribute he wrote some years ago to his good friend Chris Droney, musician from Belharbour.

He recites a poem about his beloved Corofin - 'The Real Corofin' written by Frank Cormican in 2008 (a native of Roscommon, lived in Dublin, spent much time in Clare and passed away in 2010).