

Mo Shín - Seán Althair

My great-grandfather's name was Jack McCarthy. He was born in Kerry in 1900. He was brought up on a farm near Banna Strand. He was always known as Banna Jack. When he finished school he went to study as a priest. After a few years, he left college and decided to get married. He met my great-grandmother Sheila and they went to live in England.

He had a great eye for greyhounds. He made his living from the track. When they had enough money they bought a farm in County Dublin. That is where my grandfather was born. He had one brother and one sister. They went to school in Dublin but Jack always wanted to move back to Kerry. He couldn't go back to his own farm because he wasn't the oldest boy, so they moved to Cork instead to be closer.

Jack played hurling as there was a great tradition of hurling in the part of Kerry he came from. When he had time he took my grandfather to Croke Park.

Ar deireadh bhog pé ar ais go Carrá agus cheannaigh sé teach i sráid Lhcúil in aice leis an áit in ar rugadh é. Tá mo Dhaid in a chónaí ann fós.

Micheál Ó Conráil