

Not allowed
nowadays!

1945 -- THE FIRST YEAR of the CHIPPING YOUNG FARMERS CLUB

A few Young Farmers Clubs had been formed in other areas in the 1930's, and the Chipping Show had a Calf Club from 1935 to 1939, but the present Chipping Young Farmers Club was formed in early February, 1945. The minutes of the earliest meetings have either been lost or were not taken, but it is known that Harry Sandham and John Bell were amongst those proposing a Y.F.C.

The first Minute Book starts with the first Annual General Meeting, held in the Odd Fellows' Hall on 11th October 1945, when 30 members were present and there was a useful balance of £37 - 10s - 4d.

John Bell was elected Chairman
and J. Ross, Vice-chairman;
Treasurer, Norah Metcalf;
Secretary, Harry Hayhurst;
Press Correspondent, Lillian Bell;
Librarian, Betty Charnley.

Mr Sandham proposed and Mr Critchley seconded, that Mr Timothy Procter be asked to be Club President for a second year.

John Bell proposed and Bob Pearson seconded, that as our club had only been formed eight months ago with a 2/6 subscription [12½ new pence], the subscription for the coming year should be only 1/- [5 new pence].

It was unanimously agreed to hold an Old Time Dance on 24th October, admission 2/-; and to organise a Bazaar in aid of the Memorial Hall Fund on 15th December.

The indoor "winter" meetings were held fortnightly, the first, on 25th October being a talk on "Horses versus Tractors" by Jim Rhodes, followed by a debate on the subject. It was soon agreed to hold meetings in Brabin's Old School and this continued for some years, possibly because the charge was less. But there were disadvantages; upstairs the Young Men's Club often made quite a noise, and the downstairs room, which was used for school dinners, had a family of friendly and well-fed mice. During one talk on a fairly serious subject there were giggles from the audience, who could see what the speaker at the table could not see -- a mouse running over his shoes.

The first birthday party was on 12th February 1946, with Parkers Dance Band in the Odd Fellows' Hall. Each member to have a ticket for a friend. Four tickets to be sent to each of the following Clubs -- Pilling, Great Eccleston, Woodplumpton, Longridge, Bowland Forest, Dunsop Bridge, Goosnargh, Dolphinholme and Bilsborrow. This number of people plus helpers needed a lot of food, and the girl members and the mothers worked willingly. There was an appeal for B.U's, (bread units?) and Points -- these were scarce, and would allow the purchase of such luxuries as SPAM (tinned chopped ham) and SNOEK (a mysterious tinned fish).



A girl of 14 and a boy of 12 cultivate a stubble field.

From The Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture
December 1942

"TIME TO TAKE THE REINS"

Tha's got to be a farmer, son,
Tha knows it's i' thi' blood;
Takin' care o' sheep an' lambs,
An' cows as chew their cud.

Tha's bin i' the Young Farmers,
Tha's pulled at tug o' war,
Tha's learned o' liggin' hedges,
An't' thorns as make it sore.

Tha's tried thi hand at drainin'
Well hidden underground;
An' tha can tell tha's bin taught well,
For't drains tha's allus found.

Tha knows about thi livestock,
An' how to grow thi keep;
Tha's fair at dry stone wallin'
An' tha's good at clippin' sheep.

Tha loves to put up fences,
An' allus keeps 'em straight;
For if a job's worth doin', son,
Mek sure tha does it reight.

Tha knows just when to 'arvest,
An' knows just when to not;
Tha knows about thi neighbour,
An' everythin' he's got.

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