

Landrake Young Farmers' Club - Extracts form the Minute Book 1937 - 1946

A Public Meeting was held at the Geffery Memorial Hall, Landrake, on Monday 13th September, to consider the formation of a Young Farmers' Club. The Hon. Sir Montague Elliot was in the chair.

The Meeting was addressed by E.Menhinick, Esq. C.A., J.P., and Alex. Gregg, the County Agricultural Organiser.

It was unanimously resolved that a Young Farmers' Club be formed for Landrake and District and that the following constitute the Advisory Committee with power to add to their numbers.

Mr. Brewer	Mr. Foster
Mr. Betty	Mr. Henwood
Mr. Creber	Mr. Maddever
Mr. Congdon	Mr. Menhinick
Mr. Dingle	Mr. Penwill
Mr. Down	Mr. Tamblyn
Mr. Day (County Agricultural Staff)	Mr. Wickett

Resolved : That Sir Montague Elliot be Chairman of the Advisory Committee with Mr. E. Menhinick Hon. Secretary of the Advisory Committee.

The following intimated their intention to join the club:

Francis Congdon Barton, Landrake
Harold Congdon
William Henwood, Markwell, Landrake
Charles Henwood
Daisy Henwood
Barbara Henwood
Percy Dingle, Tredinnick, St.Erney
Courtney Dingle
Jack Dingle
Antony Hawke, Springbank, Landrake
Norman Brewer, Pound, Landrake
Jim Pote, Talvans, Landrake
Jack Pote
Jack Barrett, Woodcock's Eye, St.Ive
Jack Perkin, Bealbury, St.Mellion
Jack Walkden, Lowertown, Landrake

October 1937 : Subscriptions to the Landrake Young farmers' Club be:
Members under fifteen years of age 2/6d
Members over fifteen years of age 3/0d

Milk prices : Raw milk be 1/- a gallon with skim or separated milk cost 1d and scold 2d per gallon.

At this Meeting it was resolved that the club would purchase 16 pigs and 2 calves.

December 1937 : The Chairman, Mr F Congdon and Secretary, Miss B Henwood were elected to become representatives on the County Executive Committee.

February 1938 : Mr P B Govett, Sanitary Inspector, gave an interesting talk on the different methods of supplying water to country cottages, farms, private residences, villages and towns. He explained the huge water scheme which was intended to supply S E Cornwall.

April 1938 : The Secretary informed the meeting that when making out the Balance Sheet concerning the Club's Annual Ball, the matter of a shilling for the hire of the china had been overlooked. Members then subscribed 1d each. (nb. The profit for the Annual Ball was £7)

In February 1939, the Second Annual Ball was held in the hall with over 250 people attending. It was a great success both socially and financially. A profit of £11-19s-0d was made with the £11 being banked and the 19/- retained to meet immediate expenses.

In April 1939 the Secretary read out a letter from the County Secretary requesting sponsoring German refugees. Notices were displayed around the shop windows in Landrake but there were no replies.

October 1939 saw an interesting debate take place. The subject was, "There is no encouragement for farmers' sons and farm labourers to stay on the land."

In December 1939, the Club gave a donation to the Red Cross Society which included £3 for Landrake's lads in the war.

During the War much of the club's profits from the Annual Ball and talks were given to the Local Red Cross.

With good attendances to the meetings in the early 1940's, it was felt that the Vestry was too small so it was decided to move to the Liberal Clubroom for future meetings.

An 'Agricultural Bee' competition was held in the hall at Landrake against a team from Liskeard in December 1943, which Liskeard won by 112 to 97 points. 19/6d was left after expenses had been paid. £1 was given to Mrs Rogers for her Service Men's Fund and 'for her kindness in lending her radiogram for dancing'. This competition couldn't be held at Liskeard owing to the Military Control of Liskeard Public Hall.

In August 1944, a Meeting was held for the purpose of arranging a Demonstration. The previous year saw one at The Barton Farm, but Mr Congdon felt unable to hold it there again because the most suitable field had been seeded. Mr Stephens then offered Lanjore (St Germans) and Mr Maddever offered Poldrissick. After some controversy, during which time members did not seem to know their own minds, it was decided that the Demonstration should be held at Poldrissick, because Lanjore was out of the district and would be too far for St Mellion members to bring tractors to enter in YFC classes. However, the Milking Competitions would take place at the Barton because there were no cows at Poldrissick.

Agricultural Demonstration held at Poldrissick Farm - Unfortunately, the weather on this day was so bad that the Demonstration was a complete failure. Although all entries for the tractor ploughing classes turned up only five were able to complete their pieces owing to the condition of the ground. The horse ploughing competitors were able to start in the afternoon and made quite a good show considering all the difficulties. The official tent was blown away, together with the tickets! Owing to the few spectators who turned up the money side was very short and a debt of £25 was incurred. But a dance in the evening was successful and £5 was made.

After the War, the club continued to grow with many talks being given. In October 1946 a Mr Beckley from Elbridge Experimental Station gave an interesting talk on Manure and Manuring. -The use of lime, nitrogen, sulphate of ammonia, nitrates, phosphates and potash. Then the annual outing in a 25 seater coach was arranged to visit two manure manufacturers in Plymouth - Moors Lime Quarry at Oreston and the Sulphur Fertilisers Ltd at Stonehouse.