

PIG CLUBS

During the WW2 people were encouraged to supplement meagre food rations by keeping pigs.

Pig Clubs were groups of between four and 25 individuals who came together to raise pigs. They saved household food waste for the pigs, cleaned the sties, and shared the meat produced. Half of the pigs raised would also be handed over to the Ministry of Food.

SICK AND DIVIDING CLUBS

People used to pay in a certain amount each week to the Club Secretary (Sheila Wilson's Grandad was one). If they were off work sick, they would receive a weekly payment from the Club, possibly about 10 shillings. Just before Christmas, any remaining money would be "divvied" up and split between the members.

RAT AND SPARROW CLUBS

In March 1917 it was proposed at the Annual Parish Meeting that a Rat and Sparrow Club should be formed. Presumably rats were regarded as vermin, and sparrows damaged crops. It has been suggested that villagers enjoyed a sparrow pie! All farmers should be asked to pay a halfpenny per acre, and smallholders should be asked to contribute 3 pence each.

Price paid for old rats to be 2 pence each, young rats 1 penny each. Sparrows 6 pence per dozen, nestlings 30 pence per dozen, eggs 20 pence per dozen.

Prizes of 3 shillings, 2 shillings, and 1 shilling offered to the person destroying the largest number of sparrows.