

# RIDBA Golden Jubilee

In the last issue of Countryside Buildings I asked members to start digging out there old photos of the FBA in the early days. John Messer has come up trumps and provided the following. The first photo is of the first Spring Conference in 1957, how different it looks to day's conferences.

Thank you John for a great article, we should be able to put on a great display at the jubilee. Arrangements are already in hand for a Speaker of national importance, to speak at the dinner but we will await until nearer the time before we advise who he is.



## THAT WAS THE YEAR THAT WAS.

(a light hearted review of the Farm Buildings Association Journals 1957-1991)

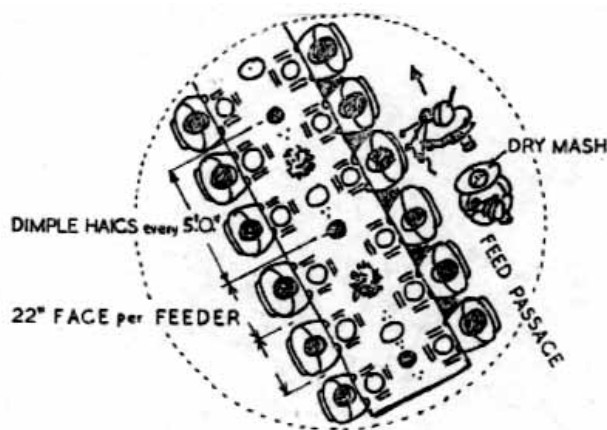
These were the Faces that launched the FBA.

It was the foresight, enthusiasm, and hard work of a group of enthusiasts that created the Farm Buildings Association, Here some of the Founding fathers are shown at the first Spring Conference at Perth in 1957.



L-R David Soutar, North of Scotland College, Lord Mackie, Scottish Farmer, Bob Fosyth, West of Scotland College, Wilfred Cave, Farmer from England  
Their seriousness and determination to succeed with current farm building design and camaraderie

The sketch plan shows the layout of the feeding area at that Conference dinner  
As the Association grew in strength and influence it organised farm visits at an annual Spring Conferences and these became one of the highlights of the year



Here we see" ad lib self- feeding".



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These Meetings became a forum of discussion, or some would say argument, about the finer points of farm building design discussion, as here outside a building at a Spring Conference



"I will explain it to you". Gilmore Payne to Bill Gerrie whilst Eddie Mander, in the background, wisely keeps quiet.

and inside the buildings



Second left Nigel Harvey ARC HQ. then David Sainsbury Cambridge School of Vet. Medicine, in front Irlam Dodd Head of ADAS Land Service.

Members were and are an inquisitive lot and when on a farm disappear into the darkest yet most revealing comers of the farmstead to the consternation of the organising National Secretary and his lagging timetable

Fig 6

The well known sight of Bill Marshal whistling up his dispersed flock.



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Often there were four or more farm visits every day, almost more tiring than a working day. but one was allowed to relax with the song and dance in the evening, provided one kept ones slightest talent under a bushel

Maurice Barnes holding forth accompanied by his wife on the piano whilst Sir Pat wonders what ever can come next



Nor was the optional (?) free day a day of rest



As always the Association reaches the heights.

There followed the Over- Seas Visits

The tour group in France in 1971



The Summer offered some relief from this hectic round of activity, except for the members of the Construction Group

Laying a concrete road at an Agricultural Show.



A well attended practical demonstration organised by Maurice Barnes, a Council Member, Cement and Concrete Association.

Summer passes into Winter and so onto the one day Winter Conferences. Here Speakers and Committee pose for a photograph in 1982



L-R ? J.Winship, R.Bennet, ? J.Addison, A.Tritton, ? R.Hollins, Bill Marshal and here is another from 1985



L-R standing C. Maunder, J. Loynes, J. Addison, R. Hughes, J. Messer, B. Armstrong, M. Kelly. Seated ? Sir Pat, R.Loosemoree. J. Winship, G. Heyworth, E, Martin

Many members contributed to the success of the FBA especially David Soutar



Testimonial presented to David Soutar by Peter Girdleston, as Travers Legg, Editor Farmers Weekly looks on, as does Seaton Baxter on right.

Including the two longest serving National Secretaries, Bill Marshall MBE, shown here at the Palace with his family, and



Sir Patrick Ashley Cooper



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The Members of the Association had (and have) lightning quick original minds and are used to instant action. Fortunately for much of the time it had two Ladies to keep them all in order



Dick Bennet making a presentation to Christina Smith,



and Ian Everitt third from right, ("hold on the rest are in the buildings"), Wessex Branch.

A word of warning. Life in the world of farm buildings is not an easy one. Mike Kelly in 1978 and today.



and Clive Mander doing the honours to Gena Kersay on their departure to better things-if that were possible. Nor should the hard working Branch Secretaries be forgotten David Marston (" I think they have all turned up"), Yorkshire Branch

