



### **Manager and staff Granagh Creamery circa 1930s**

The Community Centre Granagh hosted the first showing of, A History of Granagh Creamery, compiled and presented by, **Jim and Liam Houlihan** on Thursday January 9th 2016

The large gathering from Granagh and surrounding areas was honoured by the presence of, Dom Mark, Patrick Hederman, Abbot of Glenstal and his brother Mr. Ted Hederman.

Their grandfather Mr. Daniel Hederman who farmed at, Ballinleena was first Chairman of, Granagh Co-operative Dairy Society Ltd a position in which he gave of his time for up to thirty years.

Granagh C.D.S. was registered on December 4th 1890 making it the sixth Co-op to be registered in Ireland. It went into manufacturing in the first half of 1891. It was most interesting to learn what it was like for the people involved in dairying in Ireland during those early years. The Creamery was built on a site donated by the Bennett family, Graigacurra and Mr. John Bennett succeeded Mr. Hederman as Chairman and continued in that role for up to twenty years. Mr. Bennett, a staunch nationalist had also been a member of Limerick County Council.

Mr. Richard Chawke, a native of Ballyhahill in west Limerick, was Manager of Granagh Creamery from 1893 until his retirement in 1947. He was a very popular man and in common with Mr. Bennett and Mr. Hedderman was known to be a kind and charitable man. It was news for many of those in attendance that in its day, Granagh Butter was, best in the country, winning prizes everywhere from, Limerick to Tipperary, Cork, Dublin Belfast and London. The people who guided the destinies of the Co-op saw it through many periods of challenge and change, supported by top class staff and loyal suppliers.

Of course, there would have been a certain nostalgia for some. Mr. Michael Daffy, who was Manager at the time of amalgamation with, Mitchelstown Creameries in 1972 was present.

The occasion ended with an address by Mr. James Lynch, Chairman, Dairygold Co-op. Society Ltd.

### **Daniel Hedderman**

