

## BRIGHOUSE CC

# DOWN YOUR WAY

## 3 KEY FACTS ABOUT BRIGHOUSE

Historian Norman Ellis states that for a town of its size, Brighouse not only boasts an above-average number of pubs, but has gained a reputation for drunkenness!

Brighouse's most famous resident was Rev. William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army, who lived in the town between 1857 and 1858.



Early in the nineteenth century, the town was famed for its Henpecked Husbands Club (no explanation necessary) and its 79-year-old mayor, Robert Thornton.

## **Almost 200 years old!**

### **KEY DATES IN THE EARLY CRICKET HISTORY OF CALDERDALE**

June 1834: Halifax Clarence play Bradford on Skircoat Moor.

1836: Halifax Alliance take on Huddersfield Britannia.

Monday 20 August 1838: Todmorden CC stages its first recorded match.

1860s: Inter-town matches staged involving Halifax, Elland and Brighouse. Smaller teams emerge, too.



1870: 'Cricket Battery' (an early 'bowling machine) invented by Mr Swaine, a Halifax cricket pro.

1877: Halifax's Thrum Hall ground leveled.

1887: Founding of the Halifax Parish Cup

July 1888: First county match at Thrum Hall - Yorkshire v Gloucestershire (and WG. Grace).

1897: Joe Nicholl opens the first 'sports shop' in Halifax on Cheapside.

10 June 1897: Yorkshire visit Thrum Hall for last time.

# Churches, schools and Merry Boys!

## SOME OTHER BRIGHOUSE CRICKET CLUBS

**Bethel CC:** Team from Bethel New Connexion Church with a field in Smithy Carr Lane, Thornhill Briggs c. 1900.

**Brighouse Adult School CC:** Played in the Nonconformist League, 1923-8.

**Brighouse Clarence CC:** c.1843

**Brighouse Zingari CC**

**Clifton CC**



April 1930

**Clifton Britannia CC:** Long-established club, born around 1870. They had been in the Brighouse Cricket League

throughout its existence, 1895-1902, and later appeared in the Parish League and Council League.

**Hove Edge CC:** Team that emerged in the 1890s. Their field at Hove Edge was taken over by Park Church when they became defunct.

## Hove Edge Merry Boys c.1866

## Lane Head Church CC



## Old Lane CC

**Park CC:** Church team from Brighouse's Park Church, who played at Hove Edge c.1911. Joined the Huddersfield Cricket Association for 1912.

**NB. Between 1895 and 1902 a Brighouse Cricket League was in existence.**

(With thanks to Andrew Hardcastle for much of this research)