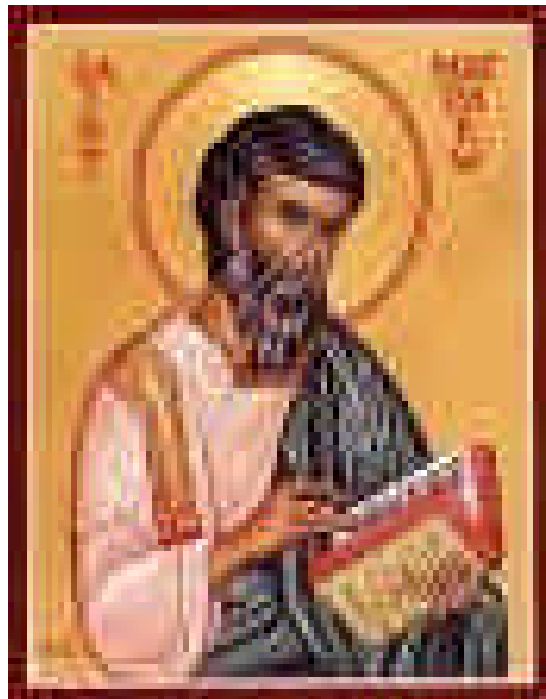


## NORTHOWRAM FIELDS CC

The Early Years

# ST. MATTHEW'S (CRICKETING) GOSPEL

1907 – FORMATION OF CLUB



St. Matthew

Northowram Fields C.C. were formed originally as Northowram St. Matthew's C.C. in 1907 and linked to the local parish church.

St. Matthew's is a Gothic church designed by J. F. Walsh, and built in September 1910.

A year later, S.L. Watkinson gave £3,000 for the tower, the bells, and a clock, and the church was consecrated in 1912.



**St. Matthew's (photo: Colin Hinson)**

At first, Northowram St. Matthew's (occasionally referred to as Northowram Parish Church C.C.) played at Shibden Park.



**Shibden Park today**

They then moved to a farmer's field at Only House Farm around 1912, then a field just above the Stocks Arms, which is now a housing estate.

Northowram St. Matthew's originally played in the Halifax & District Church (Sunday School) League. However, by 1914 they were playing in the Halifax District League.

It is also interesting to note that St. John's Church in Coley, which is almost a part of Northowram, also had a team in the Church League, and had a field immediately to the north side of the church.



**St. John's, Coley**

The Heywood Church cricket field was also adjacent to the south side of Heywood Church and is now part of the Windmill housing estate.

# BACK TO NORMALITY

## 1919 – AMATEUR LEAGUE

As the country attempted to get back to normal after the Great War, organised cricket was also revived.

In 1919 – the year the Treaty of Versailles was signed, putting an end to the War – it seems that Northowram Parish Church C.C. became members of the Halifax & District Amateur League.



# NEW HQ!

1920 – WESTERCROFT LANE



In 1920 St. Matthew's moved to the ground that is still their home in the twenty-first century: Westercroft Lane.

To help pay for the move, the Club staged a special dance.



**CRICKET CLUB DANCE AT NORTHOWRAM.**—Under the auspices of Northowram Parish Church Cricket Club, a successful dance was held in the schoolroom on Saturday, at which a large number assembled. At intervals the lights were turned low and limelight was thrown in various parts of the room with pleasing effect. The proceeds are to partly defray the initial cost of the laying of the crease at their new cricket ground in Westcroft-lane. The work has been done by Messrs. Conway, Halifax.

# 7TH PLACE!

1921 – HALIFAX CRICKET LEAGUE

**THE HALIFAX DAILY**

**Sport and Pastime.**

**HALIFAX PARISH CRICKET LEAGUE**  
League table up to May 21:—

First Teams.					
	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Elland A	8	4	1	1	9
Greetland	5	3	0	2	8
Norwood Green	5	4	1	0	8
Mytholmroyd	5	3	2	0	6
Norland	5	2	2	1	5
Baptists	5	2	2	1	5
Northowram	8	2	3	1	5
Triangle	6	2	4	0	4
Stainland	5	1	4	1	3
St. Peter's	5	0	4	1	1

Second Teams.					
	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Greetland	4	4	0	0	8
Stainland	5	4	1	0	8
Norwood Green	3	3	0	0	6
Mytholmroyd	4	3	1	0	8
St. Peter's	5	2	3	0	4
Baptists	4	1	2	1	3
Northowram	5	1	3	1	3
Norland	5	1	4	0	2
Triangle	5	0	5	0	0

Saturday's Results.—First Teams: Triangle 88, Stainland 82; Northowram 74, Norland 51; Baptists 19, Norwood Green 21 for 3; Elland A 247 for 8 (dec.). Greetland 194 for 7, Mytholmroyd 167, St. Peter's 129. Second Teams: Triangle 63, Stainland 64 for 8; Norland 52, Northowram 59 for 1, Mytholmroyd 61, St. Peter's 56.

Matches and Officials for Saturday.—First teams: Northowram v. Greetland; umpires, Elland A and Mytholmroyd. Second Teams: Greetland v. Northowram; Baptists and Mytholmroyd. Norwood Green v. Baptists; St. Peter's and

(The St. Matthew's/Parish Church side is referred to simply as Northowram)

# BUSY DAY

1927 – HALIFAX & DISTRICT AMATEUR LEAGUE

Each Side Bats for 150 mins. Bowlers  
Left 100 and 50 for seven. Scorers  
Score 100 and 100.

**HALIFAX AND DISTRICT AMATEUR LEAGUE.**

**MATCHES FOR SATURDAY.**

**First Division—First Teams.**  
Smith, Bulmer's v. Mackintosh's.—Providence and Elland.  
Northowram v. Norland.—Rishworth and Heywood.  
Hillingworth v. Barkisland.—St. Michael's and St. Paul's.  
Baptists v. Sunnes.—Luddenden and Railway.  
St. Anne's v. Skipton.—Webster's and Dunsop's.

**First Division—Second Teams.**  
Mackintosh's v. Smith, Bulmer's.—H.B.C.I. and Elland.  
Northowram v. Northowram.—Rishworth and Heywood.  
Barkisland v. Hillingworth.—St. Michael's and St. Paul's.  
Sunnes W. v. Baptists.—Luddenden and Ripponden.  
Skipton v. St. Anne's.—Webster's and Dunsop's.

**Second Division—First Teams.**  
St. Michael's v. Heywood.—Northowram and St. Anne's.  
Providence v. Luddenden.—Sunnes and Barkisland.  
Elland W. v. Rishworth.—Norland and Baptists.  
Webster's v. St. Paul's.—Smith, Bulmer's and Mackintosh's.  
Railway v. Dunsop's.—Hillingworth and Skipton.

**Second Division—Second Teams.**  
Heywood v. St. Michael's.—Northowram and St. Anne's.  
Luddenden v. H.B.C.I.—Sunnes and Barkisland.  
Rishworth v. Elland.—Norland and Baptists.  
St. Paul's v. Webster's.—Smith, Bulmer's and Mackintosh's.  
Dunsop's v. Ripponden.—Hillingworth and Skipton.

**Third Division—"A" Section.**  
Northowram U.M. v. Northowram.—Whitaker's and St. John's.  
Ripponden v. Bethel.—Calvert's and Electricity W.  
Trinity W. v. Grighouse P.—Y.M.C.A. and Westfield.  
H.B.C.I. v. Scott Bros.—Collinson's and D's Nest.

**Third Division—"B" Section.**  
Whitaker's v. Electricity W.—Scott's and H.B.C.I.

**LEAGUE TABLES.**

**First Division—First Teams.**

Team	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts
Smith, Bulmer's	18	10	7	1	22
Barkisland	18	8	8	2	18
Mackintosh's	18	6	8	4	14
Sunnes W.	18	6	8	4	14
Baptists	18	5	8	5	10
Hillingworth W.	18	5	8	5	10
Norland	18	5	7	6	10
Northowram	18	4	8	6	8
Skipton	18	4	8	6	8
St. Anne's	18	3	11	4	7

**First Division—Second Teams.**

Team	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts
Skipton	18	10	4	4	22
Mackintosh's	18	10	4	4	22
Baptists	18	10	4	4	22
Smith, Bulmer's	18	8	6	4	18
Barkisland	18	7	7	4	16
St. Anne's	18	7	7	4	16
Northowram	18	6	7	5	14
Hillingworth W.	18	5	8	5	10
Norland	18	4	10	4	8
Sunnes W.	18	3	11	4	7

**Second Division—First Teams.**

Team	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts
Heywood	18	10	4	4	22
Dunsop's	18	8	6	4	18
St. Paul's	18	7	7	4	16
Rishworth	18	6	8	4	14
Webster's	18	5	8	5	10
Luddenden	18	4	10	4	8
St. Michael's	18	3	11	4	7
Providence	18	2	12	4	4
Railway	18	1	13	4	2
Elland W.	18	1	13	4	2

(The St. Matthew's/Parish Church side is referred to simply as Northowram)

# BRADSHAW AT HOME!

1937 – HALIFAX & DISTRICT AMATEUR LEAGUE

Northowram P.C. v. Bradshaw.	
(Halifax and District Amateur League —First Division—Second Teams.)	
BRADSHAW.	
G. Bentley c Slack b Rispin .....	1
J. Butterfield c Tetlow b Bennett ..	15
T. Pollard b Rispin .....	2
H. Cole b Rispin .....	2
E. Wilman c Milner b Rispin .....	4
P. T. Lees c Tetlow b Bennett .....	0
W. Birdsall lbw b Rispin .....	1
W. Sharp c Hammond b Milner .....	5
R. Farr b Bennett .....	2
A. Hopkinson c Jocylne b Rispin ..	1
H. Hartley not out .....	0
Extras ..	3
Total .....	38
E. Rispin 6 for 12.	
NORTHOWRAM P.C.	
J. Newton run out .....	10
F. Jocylne b Hopkinson .....	1
N. Barnett b Wilman .....	1
C. Slack c Bentley b Hopkinson ..	0
E. Rispin lbw b Wilman .....	8
E. Tetlow c and b Wilman .....	0
T. M. Birch not out .....	12
E. Hammond b Hopkinson .....	0
H. Milner b Wilman .....	0
J. Heald b Hopkinson .....	0
A. Fountain b Cole .....	6
Total .....	35
Bradshaw won by 3 runs.	

RISHWORTH v. NORTHOWRAM METHODISTS.	
(Halifax and District Amateur League —Second Division—First Teams.)	
NORTHOWRAM.	
L. Wade b Greenwood .....	4
R. Ridsdale lbw b Hampshire .....	4
K. Moxon b Morton .....	19
L. Walton b Greenwood .....	8
W. Howden c Greenwood b Lumb ..	12
A. Greenwood b Greenwood .....	0
W. Haigh b Hampshire .....	8
E. Higham b Lumb .....	0
L. Ridsdale not out .....	22
J. Birchenough b Greenwood .....	12
J. Ambler c Schofield b Greenw'd ..	2
Extras .....	9
Total .....	95
Greenwood, 8vs for 25.	

Northowram Methodists (later to be known as Hedge Top) played in the same league



The Bradshaw C.C. crest

# END OF AN ERA

1939/45 - CLUB FOLDS

Many cricket clubs were affected, fatally, by the coming of the Second World War.



Some disappeared, never to be seen again; others disbanded, temporarily, only to come again in a different shape and form in the immediate post-war years.



St. Matthews C.C. (as was) appear to be a case in point – and seem to fall into the second category.