

# Unbeaten century is marked on the Moor

## Cartworth planning stylish celebration

CENTENARY celebrations are in full swing at Cartworth Moor this summer.

As secretary of the isolated Section "C" club Peter Holling remarks:

"It's a miracle that we have survived."

Centenary ties and sweaters will soon be out to mark their notable achievement and there's also a dinner planned at Durker Roods, Meltham, on Friday, September 18.

Yorkshire batsman Kevin Sharp and county committee member Philip Ackroyd will be the speakers—an invitation has also gone out to first-class umpire Barrie Leadbeater—and Mr Holling still has 40 of the 100 £10 tickets left for anyone who wants to join in their celebrations.

Cartworth Moor lost many of their records when fire destroyed their headquarters at the Rising Sun, whose former landlord, Benny Parker, was club president. They are now based at the Farmers Arms, Burnlee, where landlord David Sutton has been equally supportive as president.

Mr Holling has established that they are in their centenary season through a cutting from the April 21, 1888, edition of the Holmfirth Express.

And he says: "We also understand that we own the ground, although no-one knows where the deeds are. Some of our older members have informed us that they believe

**Cartworth Moor are 100 not out this season, so cricket writer ROBERT GLEDHILL takes a look at the Section "C" Huddersfield Central League club perched on the hills above Holmfirth**

the ground was given to us some years ago."

Regarding the club, the newspaper cutting states:

"This newly formed club was worked with such success last season that it warrants the committee in turning out a card of fixtures for the ensuing season.

"Last year the team were under the disadvantage of not having a laid ground but this is now overcome. This season, those clubs journeying to the heights of Cartworth Moor will find a very suitable field in every respect.

### Scattered

"Considering the scattered population in this district, it is remarkable that two teams can be gathered together; but such is the case.

"Owing to various circumstances, the clubs have wisely refrained from arranging for a large number of matches but, for another season, the committee hope to be prepared for a match every Saturday."

In their second season, Cartworth Moor met Holmbridge, Wooldale Free Church and Hepworth on home and away basis. They'd been known as Cartworth Moor United in the previous season and Mr Holling says:

### HONOURS LIST

1935, Tinker Cup winners; 1939, Holden Cup; 1959, Tinker Cup; 1969, Section "D" champions; 1974, Tinker Cup and Section "C"; 1981, Section "E"

"It is interesting to know that local cricket was very popular. 'Football' was mainly still a form of rugby football in many areas with points awarded for goals, tries and minor points, whatever they were."

Cartworth Moor have taken pride in their ground ever since those early days and the work done in recent years by Geoff Boyes has ensured a fine square, despite there being no running water at the club.

"Mind you, we get a lot of rain up there and we don't often need to water it," said Mr Holling.

When they do, the water has to be carried from neighbouring farms, including that of former president Jack Moorhouse, whom everyone at the club wishes a speedy recovery from his illness.

One of the disappointing aspects of recent years has been the disbanding of the juniors due to lack of players.

"We are hoping to have another go but the youngsters in the area seem to be going to the clubs in the valley below."

Peter Beever is the only current player born in Cartworth Moor but after having struggled to raise two sides in recent years they now have more players than for a long time, says the secretary.

Alan Hollingworth has joined from Holmfirth, along with slow left-armer David Battye, who is back in action after a serious lengthy illness, and former Meltham

batsman Doug Shaw has returned to the club he started with. Sprightly 60-year-old Doug Thorpe has moved up from Holmbridge.

He's not the oldest player at the club, however. That honour belongs to 63-year-old Willie Hinchliffe, who opened for the seconds last summer and is still available when required.

Cartworth Moor are joined in their centenary celebrations by Horbury Bridge, who are hoping to join the league next summer. The sides met on Sunday and a return match is planned at Cartworth Moor for sometime in August.

### Remarkable

Possibly the most remarkable match in the club's history was in August, 1887. A team of married men scored 62 after the single lads of the area had been dismissed for 43.

Cartworth Moor were hopeful of capturing the Section "C" title this summer but they have already suffered two defeats.

"It's been disappointing because, on paper, we have a reasonable team for the section we are in," said Mr Holling, who still plays in the seconds, although he has also joined the umpires list in the Huddersfield League.

No doubt Stuart Clayton's side will be making a determined effort to produce a winning spell and crown their centenary celebrations in style.

They've already attracted sponsorship for the season, including a £100 donation from Hepworth Clay Products, an autographed bat from Yorkshire for a raffle and an old net from Headingley for practice, as well as being given a mobile hut, which has been converted into a new tea room.

