

Hartshead Moor In Heavy Woollen Cup Final



Left to right (front row): C. Hodgson, K. E. Curran, W. Booth (capt.), R. Hirst, R. C. Whiteley. Back row: R. Walker, N. Mounsey, F. Squire, D. Hirst, D. Layton, B. Bellwood.

Hartshead Moor hopes of taking the Heavy Woollen Cup to the Moor top ground for the first time in the history of the club were dashed by Thornhill in the final at Heckmondwike on Saturday. Thornhill, who won the cup when the final was last staged at the Cemetery Road ground in 1942, reached the suspension total of 150 for the loss of three wickets and dismissed Hartshead Moor without having to bat again, although a plucky last wicket stand which put on 53 runs after they had lost nine wickets for 54, took the Hartshead Moor total to within three of the victors score.

The disappointing weather—because of the rain in the morning the start was delayed for 70 minutes—seriously affected the attendance which, according to officials at Heckmondwike, was just under a thousand. Gate receipts were £24.

The wicket, although sodden by rain could not be blamed for the Moor's display, for whereas their attack toiled in vain, Calvert and Pearson, Thornhill's "terrible twins" exploited its limited use to the full and they received good dividends.

Hartshead Moor's first sad blow was the news that they had lost the toss and Thornhill had decided to bat. There was a round of applause from the several hundred spectators as Cooper and Meetham walked out to open against the medium paced attack of Squire and Holmes. The fourth ball of the game from Holmes found the edge of Cooper's bat but this difficult chance to Walker in the slips was missed. Squire, bowling from the town end, opened with two maiden overs and got a considerable amount of lift out of the wicket so that both batsmen were content to play a straight bat to him and runs came slowly. Off the first seven overs they scored only four runs.

One man who welcomed the delay in the start of the final was Arthur Pearson, the Thornhill bowler. Shortly before he left home for the match he learned that his wife had presented him with a son so he took the opportunity to visit his wife and son in a nursing home at Wakefield.

Hartshead Moor tried their first bowling change at 14. Squire was relieved by Raymond Hirst. Holmes, who continued from the tennis court end, was keeping the batsmen quiet with steady, good length bowling and it was not until 22 that Meetham nicked a ball from R. Hirst into the slips to crop just short of Holmes' outstretched hands. A second change in attack followed. Walker took over from Holmes at 24 and neither batsmen looked very safe against his off spinners. Cooper in particular was very unsettled and was repeatedly edging the ball instead of hitting it with the face of the bat, but both remained at the wicket, even after a fifth Hartshead Moor bowling change.

Bob Curran was unlucky not to have had Cooper out when he skied a ball on the leg side which Donald Hirst could not quite reach. Thornhill reached the half century in 51 minutes. Meetham completed a chanceless 50 with a three off Holmes when he had been at the wicket for 80 minutes. Soon after he hit a glorious six off Holmes, who was now tiring.

SEVEN BOWLERS

The pair had put on over 100 for the first wicket and Booth had tried seven bowlers without success. He then brought

Curran back into the attack and to the delight of the Moor supporters he dismissed Meetham. Meetham had given a difficult chance to Donald Hirst which had not been accepted, but he completely missed the next ball and gave an easy stumping chance to Hodgson. His 76 included 11 fours and a six.

With only another run added, the wicket-keeper took a brilliant catch to dismiss Higson off R. Hirst's bowling.

Cooper, however, was still at the wicket and completed 50 after two hours play. At 145 for two, Thornhill looked as if they would reach the suspension total without further loss, but once again Curran brought Hartshead Moor another successful bowling Cooper (63) with a perfect "googly". Pearson then came to the wicket and cracked a four to send up the 150.

A remarkable feature of the innings was that of the 150 runs scored, Hodgson had conceded only one bye.

Hartshead Moor opened with Donald Hirst and Bernard Bellwood, an 18 year old left hander, who had come into the side in place of Layton as it was feared the same might not be decided on the Saturday and Layton was due to go on holiday after the match. Hirst soon got off the mark but Bellwood did not look very safe. An early appeal by Calvert for

Among the spectators was Mr. J. E. Tolson, ex-Dewsbury school master and veteran cricket enthusiast who has seen part at least of every Heavy Woollen Cup final that has been played.

low against Hirst was disallowed by umpire Barstow. Hirst began to look for runs and his impetuosity gave the Moor supporters some anxious moments. He paid the penalty when he popped a dolly catch to Arran off Pearson. Mounsey, the new batsman, was given out low to it had he appeared to have touched and then Calvert Hatched Bellwood's off stump to make the score 14 for three. Booth came to the wicket and played a fine captain's innings.

With 22 on the board, Thornhill made their first bowling change. Senior, the captain, put himself on in place of Calvert and his first ball, a wild one down the leg side, Walker only half hit it and Senior (3) took a grand catch on the boundary edge.

Booth and Curran partially pulled the game round, but at 45 Booth was "yorked" by Calvert. Raymond Hirst began to look for runs and at once and put Cooper straight over the pavilion. The ball broke a window of one of the houses adjoining the ground. Curran and Hirst took several quick singles, but a short pitched ball by Calvert touched Curran's glove to give an easy catch to Pearson. Three balls later Holmes was also on his way back to the pavilion, another victim of Calvert and it was now generally acknowledged that the Moor's batting strength had gone.

Whiteley was caught behind the wicket for one and when Hirst was caught on the boundary by Meetham it looked all over. At that stage Calvert had taken six for 33. But then came an amazing transformation. Squire and Hodgson, the last pair, hit everything near them and put on 53 before Hodgson was caught on the boundary by Meetham. Squire hit a towering six off Pearson in his 32 and Hodgson claimed three boundaries in his 25.

Calvert's final figures were six for 72.

PRESENTATION CEREMONY

Mr. A. Blearly president of the Cup Committee, who presided at the presentation ceremony on the steps of the Pavilion, said that although at 11 o'clock that morning play had looked impossible they had managed to stage the final and he thanked the Heckmondwike club for loaning them the ground. It was a pity there had not been a better gate. Receipts he announced totalled £24.

Introducing the Mayor of Dewsbury (Mr. R. S. Roberts) to present the trophy he recalled that Mr. Roberts was a member of the Heavy Woollen Cup committee and a representative of the Hanging Heston club.

The Mayor congratulated the Heckmondwike Club on staging the final and said he was sure they all agreed they had seen some good cricket, especially in the last hours when there had been "fireworks".

Referring to the many young boys gazing anxiously at the cup who said the Mayor were probably wondering whether some day they might get into a first team and have the pleasure of winning the trophy, he made a special appeal for clubs to encourage young players. They needed as much encouragement as possible, not only to make them good cricketers but also to make them good citizens, he said. After congratulating both teams on their performance, the Mayor presented the Cup to the Thornhill captain, Mr. K. Senior.

In a brief speech Mr. Senior agreed with the Mayor that youth needed encouragement. Ten years ago, he said, when Thornhill last won the cup, he was one of those little boys and he had never dreamed that one day he might receive the cup. It would do them the world of good now they had won, for they might get more supporters.

He expressed his congratulations to the Moor captain and his team for a sporting game.

Mr. W. Booth, the Hartshead Moor captain, offered his team's congratulations on Thornhill's success.

Thanks to the Mayor for presenting the trophy were expressed by Mr. E. Wilcock (Thornhill) and Mr. J. Stead (Hartshead Moor).

FULL DETAILS

THORNHILL			
K. Cooper b Curran	76		
G. W. Meetham b Hodgson & Curran	70		
A. Higson & Hodgson b R. Hirst	9		
J. Senior not out	6		
A. Pearson not out	4		
Extras	1		
Total (incl 3 wks susp)	150		
HARTSHEAD MOOR			
D. Hirst & Senior b Pearson	16		
B. Bellwood b Calvert	7		
N. Mounsey lb b Calvert	4		
R. Walker & J. Senior b K. Senior	3		
W. Booth b Calvert	2		
R. F. Curran & Pearson b Calvert	13		
R. Hirst & Meetham b Pearson	25		
R. Holmes & Tamsie b Calvert	8		
R. C. Whiteley & Hodgson b Calvert	1		
F. Squire not out	32		
C. Hodgson & Meetham b Pearson	29		
Extras	2		
Total	147		
BOWLING			
HARTSHEAD MOOR			
R. Holmes	12	0	11
F. Squire	3	19	0
R. Hirst	7	29	1
R. Walker	7	5	0
B. Curran	2	36	2
R. C. Whiteley	2	15	0
D. Hirst	2	1	6
THORNHILL			
A. Calvert	21	5	72
A. Pearson	21	5	56
K. Senior	3	0	6
S. Cooper	3	2	11

D
L
A
a lo
sedg
Wes
Noel
of 8
plea
a di
orde
N
head
spe
at t
saw
ure
As
die
it a
P
mat
tqa
him
mac
lato
Lae
wer
wh
poo
F
sue
cur
affe
his
curr
trur
Cae
hav
bee
at
trur
Dro
we
on
rope

At
I No
Val
It s
We
Val
lev
time
ter
loc
elect
Spur
heav
ter
It
start
was
un
It al
lit u
swar
un t
elect
ter
I know
puck
Ye
once
cups
l've
oppe
play
un t
I've
moor
ber
ger
wor
glee
nin
be a
gow
break
stee
Ah
thro
nuts
asce
yer
by a
away
T st
chap
rains
show
abab
alt.