

THONGS BRIDGE "PRO." SHINES AGAIN

IN the Sykes Cup competition, last Saturday, Elland beat Hall Bower by a dozen runs; Laithwaite vanquished Rastrick by the narrow margin of two runs; Broad Oak gained an easy victory over Almondbury; and Kirk-

Figuring in the only Huddersfield and District League match of the day, Thongs Bridge gained an overwhelming victory against Shepley at Thongs Bridge. The foundation for the home side's success was well and truly laid by Tom Hirst and Douglas Heywood, the team's opening pair, who put up their third century partnership. The aggregate was 101 when Heywood, with 36 to his name, was run out. Hirst, the Thongs Bridge "pro.," played brilliantly. He was not out 128 when his team declared at 215 for three wickets; then he went on to capture three wickets for nine runs and to take four catches. Shepley were all out for 73, Bray taking five wickets for 13.

THONGS BRIDGE MAY BE BARRED

CAN'T BE CHAMPIONS AND WIN TROPHY

IF Thongs Bridge Crickēt Club realise their hop. of winning the championship of Section "B" of Huddersfield and District League, they will be debarred from winning the Hopkinson Trophy.

The trophy is awarded on the results of the last six matches among teams in both divisions and a separate table is kept for those matches.

A clause in the rules governing the competition states: "If two or more clubs tie for the first place, the trophy shall be awarded to the club having the best average of runs per wicket, for and against, during those six matches; provided that the winners of the League championship **IN EITHER SECTION** shall not be entitled also to hold the Hopkinson Trophy, which shall be awarded to the runners-up in the event of the League champions being the actual winners."

THONGS BRIDGE THE CHAMPIONS OF SECTION "B" OF LEAGUE

THONGS BRIDGE have won the championship of Section "B" of the Huddersfield and District League, thus gaining the Hinchliffe Cup and securing promotion to Section "A."

Last Saturday Thongs Bridge should have entertained Marsden, but the game was not begun. Dalton, the runners up, made a final effort to seize the championship, and managed to dismiss Bradley Mills for 75, but play was then suspended, so they had to surrender their ambition. They have, however, made certain of promotion.

Thongs Bridge's performance is undoubtedly a fine war-time achievement, all the more notable when one realises the exceptionally large quota of members the club has in the Forces. It would be difficult for any professional to serve his club better than Tom Hirst has served Thongs Bridge in the season now ended. Besides excelling with bat and ball, he has shown an excellent team spirit. Albert Bray, the captain, has given him fine support, and so also has Douglas Heywood. In cricket it's the team, rather than individuals, that counts, but the remaining players will fully agree that these three have merited special mention.

Thongs Bridge fully deserve their promotion. In fact, they ought to have been promoted five years ago. After being relegated, together with Shepley, at the end of 1937, they gained the championship of Section "B" in 1939, and under normal conditions they would have been promoted, but the League committee decided that, because of the outbreak of war, there should be no promotion or relegation that season. It will be recalled that after the declaration of war all play was suspended for the rest of the season, and clubs were left with two or three matches unplayed, but Thongs Bridge, with a three points lead, were officially regarded as champions.

Not only have Thongs Bridge first eleven become champions but the second team have also won championship honours, heading the League table by a margin of three points over Slaithwaite. Blending experience and youth, the second eleven has functioned well as a team, the players pulling well together and depending less upon outstanding individual performances than upon their common efforts.

HUDDERSFIELD AND DISTRICT CRICKET LEAGUE

FINAL TABLE

First Elevens—Section "A."

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Golcar	18	9	5	4	31
Holmfirth	18	8	5	5	29
Broad Oak	18	8	6	4	28
Elland	18	8	6	4	28
Lascelles Hall	18	8	6	4	28
Meltham	18	8	7	3	27
Rastrick	18	8	7	3	27
Paddock	18	7	7	4	25
Linthwaite	18	6	8	4	22
Hall Bower	18	6	9	3	21
Honley	18	5	10	3	18
Huddersfield	18	5	10	3	18

Section "B."

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Thongs Bridge	18	13	3	2	41
Dalton	18	12	3	3	39
Lockwood	18	9	5	4	32
Almondbury	18	9	5	4	31
Armitage Bridge	18	8	6	4	28
Slaithwaite	18	7	6	5	26
Bradley Mills	18	6	7	5	23
Kirkburton	18	5	7	6	22
Marsden	18	6	9	3	21
Primrose Hill	18	5	9	4	19
Shepley	18	4	11	3	15
Kirkheaton	18	1	14	3	6

Second Elevens—Section "A."

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Elland	18	14	1	3	45
Huddersfield	18	12	3	3	39
Paddock	18	11	5	2	35
Broad Oak	18	8	7	3	28
Golcar	18	8	7	3	28
Hall Bower	18	8	7	3	27
Meltham	18	7	9	2	23
Lascelles Hall	18	6	9	3	21
Holmfirth	18	5	8	5	20
Linthwaite	18	5	11	2	17
Rastrick	18	4	12	2	14
Honley	18	3	12	3	12

* Two points for a tie.

Section "B."

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Thongs Bridge	18	13	3	2	41
Slaithwaite	18	12	4	2	38
Shepley	18	11	5	2	35

HIRST'S FINE RECORD FOR THONGS BRIDGE C.C.

HEADS BOTH BATTING AND BOWLING
IN FIRST ELEVEN AVERAGES

TOM HIRST, the Thongs Bridge Cricket Club professional, has had an exceptionally successful season with the club, as is shown by the averages, just issued for publication.

His all-round performance may prove to have excelled that of any other player in the League, for he scored a total of 699 runs, giving him an average of 63.54 runs an innings; his highest score was 128 not out; he gained 63 wickets at an average cost of 7.11 runs per wicket; and he took twelve catches.

As already announced Hirst has been re-engaged by Thongs Bridge as professional for next season.

Thongsbridge Cricket Club

Cups and Shield Celebration Dinner

The President (Mr. A. Lancaster)

requests the pleasure of

Mr. V. Wimpenny

company at the Albert Hotel on

Saturday, Sept. 30th, at 6-0 p.m. 1944

*Acceptances to Mr. J. Ritchie, 59, Elm Avenue, Woodlands,
Thongsbridge, not later than Monday, Sept 25th.*

Team Photos



1944 1st XI Section 'B' Champions



