

DEWSBURY AND DISTRICT SHIELD COMPETITION.

Matches in the third round were played on Saturday. There were three good games, but Upper Hopton ran away with Birstall Congregationalists, whom they defeated by 174 to 37. For the winners G. Mann batted splendidly knocking up 70 in good style. There was a stiff struggle between the Wesleyans of Savile Town and Dewsbury Centenary, and in the end the former proved victorious by 66 runs to 50. The shield-holders—Mirfield Parish Church—nearly had their calculations upset by Batley Carr United, whom they only succeeded in beating by seven runs. Livingstone Mills won in a canter, their opponents being South Ossett Church Institute, whom they disposed of for 81, and then secured the necessary runs with three wickets to spare.

Livingstone Mills comfortably cleared the fourth obstacle. Their opponents were South Ossett Church Institute, and the game was played at Upper Batley. South Ossett batted first, but could not get on friendly terms with the bowling, only three of their batsmen reaching double figures. These were G. Gawthorpe (26), B. Wrigley (13), and T. Armitage (11). The most effective bowler was White, who took four wickets for 14. The "millhands" started disastrously, Newcome being out for a "blub." H. Jackson (35) and T. W. Child (12) then got together, and put their side in a sound position. None of the succeeding batsmen did anything exceptional, but the efforts of the two named had their effect, and with seven wickets down Livingstone Mills topped their opponents' score.

Upper Hopton, on their own ground, defeated Birstall Congregational. The latter had only ten men, but whether the missing one made all the difference between victory and defeat is another question. There were two alterations in the Hopton team which defeated Hanging Heaton Second the week before, J. and R. Smith being included in place of J. Nunn and W. Castle. The younger Smith fully justified his inclusion, for he made 23 with the bat, and took two wickets at a cost of four runs each. Hopton batted first, and quickly settled down to sound cricket. The best partners of the afternoon were

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THE FINAL TIE.

On Saturday an attempt was made to play off the final tie in the Dewsbury and District Shield Competition, but unfavourable weather spoilt the event. The clubs concerned are Savile Town Wesleyans and Upper Hopton, and they met on the ground of the Mirfield C.C. Upper Hopton went in to bat between the showers and compiled a total of 78 for five wickets. Play was then abandoned and will be again resumed this (Saturday) afternoon. So far Upper Hopton's position seems very favourable, but a good deal, of course, depends upon what use they make of the five wickets they have still in hand. They lost their first two men on Saturday—L. Wrathmell and E. Dransfield—for nine. Then J. Smith and H. Senior commenced to make things lively, scoring 24 and 37 respectively. But for poor fielding, Smith should have been out before reaching double figures. Wrathmell is an old county man. He was caught by Bland off one of Blakeley's deliveries when he had scored three. Smith was out leg before wicket to E. Blainires, and H. Senior was bowled by Holmes. E. Dransfield drew a blank; he was bowled by Blakeley. W. Harrop, after scoring a single, was caught and bowled by Holmes. Savile Town are playing F. Bottomley, the veteran Savile player, who bowled fifteen overs but failed to capture a wicket. The not-outs are G. Mann (5) and J. Redburn.

TO SHEVE FISH APPREISINGLY.

CRICKET.

DEWSBURY AND DISTRICT SHIELD COMPETITION.

UPPER HOPTON SUCCESSFUL.

So far as local cricket was concerned the season practically closed on Saturday with the defeat of Savile Town Wesleyans by Upper Hopton in the final tie of the Dewsbury and District Cricket Shield Competition. The game was played on the Mirfield ground, and was followed with keen interest by a large number of spectators. Both sides brought a number of supporters, amongst whom excitement ran very high. The onlookers from Hopton became particularly enthusiastic towards the close, when they saw that Savile were faring badly. Upper Hopton batted first, and scored 106, while Savile Town Wesleyans were all out for 71. No one will begrudge Upper Hopton their victory. It was undoubtedly deserved, and reflects all the more to their credit when one remembers that they are an entirely new club. At this time last year they were non-existent, and it was only by hard work and sacrifice of leisure that they were able to provide themselves with a proper playing field and other necessary accommodation before the commencement of the season. For a new club to beat all comers in the first season is something to be proud of.

The game was started a fortnight ago in very wet weather. Hopton went in to bat, and before play was abandoned had compiled 78 runs for the loss of five wickets. On Saturday the conditions were more favourable, and some interesting cricket was witnessed. The not outs, Mann and Redfearn, faced the bowling of Bottomley and Blakeley, but were soon separated, the latter being caught by E. Blamires in the slips off Bottomley's first ball. Three more wickets fell before any appreciable difference had been made in the score. Vickers joined Mann, but he was also caught by E. Blamires after having scored 5. Mann was accounted for in like fashion before he had improved his score, which amounted to 9. Upper Hopton's total was now 83, and P. Smith and J. Nunn came together. It was some time before either of them scored. The first run was the result of an overthrow, Smith having a narrow escape of being run out. Afterwards he sent a hot ratch to W. Blamires at square leg. The fielder made a good attempt to get it, but failed. When the score was 85 Nunn was bowled by Blakeley, leaving only one wicket to fall. The last man was Whitehead, who improved matters considerably, greatly to the delight of the Hopton supporters. He hit two fours and a single in one over, and it was thought advisable to change the bowling. E. Blamires went on in place of Blakeley, and off his third ball Smith was given out leg before wicket. The innings closed for 106, Whitehead scoring 14 not out. O. Blakeley took five wickets for 33 runs, E. Blamires two for 15, Holmes two for 4, and Bottomley one for 35.

Savile Town's display with the bat was disappointing, and but for F. Bottomley's contribution of 35 their score would have been extremely poor. Bottomley and E. Blamires were the first to bat, J. Redfearn and R. Smith taking the bowling. The start was a disastrous one. Three had been scored when Blamires was caught behind the wicket by Whitehead, and J. Holmes was bowled the first ball by Smith. Dewa only stayed until 12 had been recorded, when he was caught by Nunn at mid-on. C. S. Blamires filled the breach, and then for a fair length of time matters ran more smoothly for the Wesleyans. Meanwhile Bottomley had two narrow escapes. When he had only scored 7 he sent a high catch to Smith, who, however, was not equal to the occasion. At 33 Redfearn made way for Vickers, and S. Mann took Smith's place. In Vickers' first over Bottomley gave him a very swift return, but it was too "hot" to hold. Bottomley punished Mann to the extent of two 4's and a single in his first over, but subsequently the bowler had the satisfaction of seeing him caught at mid-on by Wrathmell.

Upper Hopton thus managed to rid themselves of their most dangerous opponent, and the rest was comparatively easy. The total was now 48: nine runs later Blamires had his stumps disturbed by Vickers, and O. Blakeley and Schofield were left to face the music. Redfearn took another turn with the leather, going on in place of Mann. He got Blakeley off the fourth ball in his first over. Vickers took two wickets in one over—W. Swithenbank and A. Smithson—which made eight for 64. Schofield and Bland could do nothing, and the innings closed for 71. Redfearn and Vickers each took four wickets at a cost of 22 and 19 runs respectively. Smith had one for

The scores were as follow:—

Upper Hopton	
J. Smith, lbw b E. Blamires	24
L. Wrathmell, c Blaud b Blakeley	3
E. Dransfield, b Blakeley	0
H. Senior, b Holmes	37
G. Mann, c E. Blamires b Birkeley	9
W. Harrop, c and b Holmes	1
J. Redfearn, c E. Blamires b Bottomley	0
B. Vickers, c E. Blamires b Blakeley	5
P. Smith, lbw b E. Blamires	3
J. Nunn, b Blakeley	2
W. T. Whitehead, not out	14
Extras	8

Savile Town Westeryns	
F. Bottomley, c Wrathmell b Mann	39
E. Blamires, c Whitehead b Redfearn	2
J. Holmes, b Smith	0
W. Dewa, c Nunn b Redfearn	3
C. S. Blamires, b Vickers	12
O. Blakeley, c and b Redfearn	10
W. Schofield, lbw b Vickers	3
W. Swithambell, c J. Smith b Vickers	0
A. Smithson, c J. Smith b Vickers	0
E. Blaud, b Redfearn	0
W. Blamires, not out	4
Extras	2

Total 71



1905 Winning Team:

Jack Peace (Umpire), Arthur Hodgson (Scorer), Sam Vickers, Walter Harrop, George Mann, Willie Whitehead, Jim Redfearn (Umpire), Joe Nunns, Edward Dransfield, Harry Senior, Lewis Wrathmell (Capt), John Smith, Reggie Smith, Ervine Dransfield