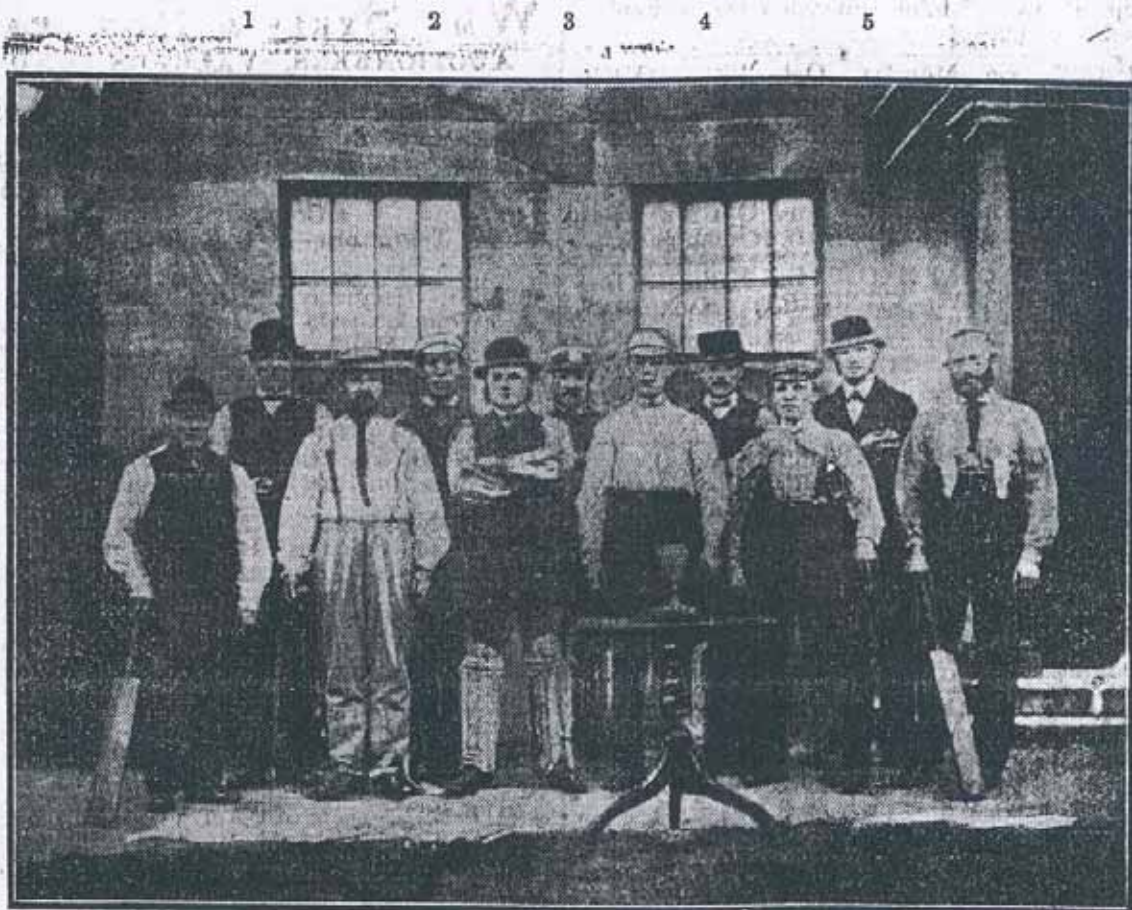


# The Holmfirth 1867 Cup Team.



- |                       |                        |                             |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1—Firth Beardsell.    | 5—George Henry Mellor. | 9—Wilson Hinchliffe (capt). |
| 2—William Biltcliffe. | 6—Joseph Beaumont.     | 10—Noah Beaver.             |
| 3—James S. Thewlis.   | 7—Henry Hardy.         | 11—James Roberts.           |
| 4—Herbert Booth.      | 8—Alfred Cuttell.      |                             |

Through the kindness of Mr. Alfred Cuttell, we are enabled to give a reproduction of the above photograph (taken by Mr. James Bamforth) of the winners of the first cup won by Holmfirth in 1867. The photograph was taken in front of Eldon House, then the headquarters of the Working Men's Club. It is interesting to note that only three of the above eleven now survive: Messrs. Alfred Cuttell, Noah Beaver, and Wilson Hinchliffe. A third player in the cup ties was Mr. Joshua Barrowclough, of Cross Roads, who was, however, unable to take part in the final, and his place was then taken by Mr. Joseph Beaumont, of Hollowgate.

The cup shown on the table in front of the team was subscribed for by publicans in the Silkstone district, and the competing clubs paid an entrance fee of 5s. each. Holmfirth played three matches, the toughest round being their first match on Silkstone Feast Monday, when Holmfirth beat the strong Barnsley eleven. It was in that match that Mr. Cuttell, a champion wicket keeper, was badly hit by a fast ball which left the seam mark on the Holmfirth stumper's forehead. Holmfirth won all their three matches and won the cup out and out. We believe the second and third matches were against Strafford Main and Stainborough. The winners came to Brockholes by

train and were met at Thongs Bridge by the Holmfirth Temperance Brass Band. The team was escorted to the White Hart, where the victory was celebrated and the cup was replenished time after time. The heroes of the day were Messrs. Henry Hardy, Geo. H. Mellor, and F. Beardsell. Mr. W. Hinchliffe did not wait long enough to take possession of the cup but went to his home at Hill. He left word with Mr. Barrowclough (who lived at Holt) to take up the cup in the evening and deliver it into his possession. Two other players had designs on the cup and were forcibly taking it from Mr. Barrowclough when the latter declared he would throw it into the river before give up possession. Pressure was still applied, and Mr. Barrowclough aimed the cup to the river, but it struck the Owd Gen. The cup cost 14/- to repair, and was afterwards given to the Holmfirth Working Men's Club, then at Eldon House, and when the Club was removed to the Town Hall later on the Cup was sold by auction with the effects of the Working Men's Club. It was ultimately purchased by Mr. Jas. Roberts and the last heard of it was that it was in Mr. Joseph Beaumont's possession.

We hope in a later issue to publish further reminiscences of the old days of the Holmfirth Cricket Club.