

Ron Tindall — left-arm Marsden pace bowler in action against Meltham last week. Picture by JULIAN HUGHES.

MARSDEN: A Chaburn, J Thewlis, A Hill, N Clee, I Braithwaite, C Lees (capt, wicketkeeper), H Gardner, R Cumberbatch, S Kewley, G Holroyd, R Tindall, Twelfth man; C Butterworth.

HOW THEY GOT THERE

First round: Linthwaite (A) 203—6, 260 all out.

Second round: Broad Oak (H) 175—8, 169—9.

Third round: Golcar (H) 101—1, 99 all out.

Semi-final: Huddersfield (H) 203 all out, 172 all out.

Sun would add final sparkle!

DIAMOND Jubilee Sykes Cup finalists Marsden and Holmfirth aim to turn tomorrow's encounter into a sparkling occasion.

Only sunshine should be needed to bring the crowds flocking to join in the celebration of the Huddersfield League's prestigious knockout.

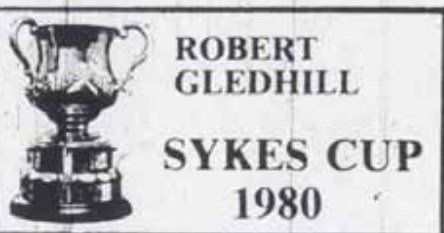
Marsden seem set to dominate as Marsden aim to secure a winning home on their first final appearance and Holmfirth had to equal Huddersfield and Elland's record of eight wins each.

The suggestions are there to make it a most-enthralling match. Even the weather would be suited by the inclusion of "top off" county cricket since we are accustomed as cricket clubs aimed any of the teams they released earlier this week.

We have decided to stick with the local lads," said Holmfirth secretary Dennis Marshall, discussing rumours that Lancashire's David Hughes would be brought in for the match.

And Marsden secretary David Ackroyd also dismissed speculation that his club would attempt to include Derbyshire's John Walters.

He was not even considered. We are a village club and we have beloved the lads who have got us



so far. We don't see the point in getting our players for one match," he said.

Holmfirth won a last tick of Sykes Cup and League Championships double between 1975 and 1977, so only one player in their previous match helped them to that remarkable feat — and he lost against them!

It was a 14-year-old Gardner — not having his most successful season following a contract eye operation — was out for a duck in the 1976 final, but hammered 28 off the Elland attack the following year.

Gardner is one of three Marsden players to have played in the final before. The other two are Ron Tindall, who helped Almondbury beat Paddock in 1962, and Jim Thewlis, who played for Lascelles Hall in their three-wicket win against Kirkburton in the first Sunday final in 1966.

The only Holmfirth player to have reached the final before is wicket-

keeper Stuart Jakeman, whose brother Bruce was a member of Holley's losing final side last season.

Stuart was a losing member of Holmfirth's 1967 side against Paddock, then he helped them retain the cup in 1968 before returning to Holmfirth to pick up a winners' medal against Kirkburton in 1969.

Jakeman was cautious about his chances of collecting another winners' medal (marrow and both skippers maintain a healthy respect for the opposition).

Holmfirth have won both league meetings this season, but the matches were closely fought and high-scoring.

Their latest encounter at Hemphol produced over 400 runs, with Marsden falling just 31 runs short of Holmfirth's 218—4.

"We hope it won't be as close this time. It will be a good game of cricket, but I believe a final is more of a day for the individual," said Holmfirth skipper Mark Johnson.

Meanwhile, Marsden skipper Chris Lees said: "Matches between the sides have always been close but we shall be aiming to bring the cup back to Marsden. From what I have heard, the village will be empty to-

day. Holmfirth's hopes of regaining the cup is obviously the departure of former Derbyshire batsman Ashley Harvey-Walker to South Africa to resume a coaching post in Johannesburg.

Harvey-Walker guaranteed Holmfirth's place in the final with an unruffled unbeaten 64 against Honley after Johnson had sent them crashing to 93 all out with six for 30.

Harvey-Walker's place was expected to be occupied by Holmfirth local Max Taylor, but he is on holiday and second-team captain and opener Terry Armitage steps in instead.

But in Mike Smith, Holmfirth have the local success of the season. The six-foot tall 18-year-old left-handed opener has taken some regard of the reputations of the league's leading bowlers this season and is bidding to become the first batsman to score 1,000 runs in a season since Allan Greaves six years ago.

He has scored 722 runs this term, including a century against Linthwaite. He mastered the Marsden attack on the opening day of the season, scoring 55, but fell for a duck at Hemphol.

Only Honley skipper Brian Lymbery has scored more runs than Smith with 779 before today.

Australian Chris Smailes and New Zealander Barry Cooper have also found English conditions to their liking. Stylish Smailes has hit the

highest individual score of the season with an unbeaten 138 and has scored 573 runs so far. Forcival Cooper, who, like Smailes, is 21, has hit almost 350.

Skipper Johnson also likes to keep the score moving and has 349 runs to his credit while 194-year-old Graham Higgins gives stability to the middle-order.

Pace bowler John England, recently returned from studies at college, also showed he is capable of a late flurry with 28, including two sixes, against Linthwaite last week.

England's return will help bolster the Holmfirth attack, which now relies heavily on seamers Johnson and the unflinching Derryck Brookes now that Harvey-Walker's off-cutters are no longer there.

Smailes proved an able deputy for Johnson last week, with three for 24 from 42 overs, and it will also be interesting to see which style Higgins adopts.

He switched from off-spin to medium-pace when Harvey-Walker joined the side but, on the spacious Fartown field, he might be tempted to revert back to the former.

Swing bowler Cooper may also be called upon as Holmfirth attempt to put the brakes on their free-scoring opponents.

Marsden could well become the first side to score more than 200 runs in the final since the 45-overs rule came into operation in 1960 — Holmfirth reached 200—5 in 1975 — although anyone who was at Meltham last week wouldn't think so.

The side that had topped 200 runs five times this season were shot out for 98 to reach to



Derryck Brookes — 47 victims for Holmfirth this season.

HOLMFIRTH: M Smith, C Smailes, B Cooper, M Johnson (capt), G Higgins, T Armitage, S Jakeman (wicketkeeper), J England, D Brookes, R Whiteley, A Dearnley.

HOW THEY GOT THERE

First round: Lascelles Hall (A) 137—2, 135 all out.

Second round: Meltham (H) 156—9, 73 all out.

Third round: Armitage Bridge (H) 176—7, 132 all out.

Semi-final: Honley (H) 94—3, 93 all out.

One Holmfirth-based player the Holme Valley club won't want to succeed is six-hit competition leader Norman Clee, whose powerful on-side hitting has seen him amass over 400 runs and who, with the protection

Braithwaite and left-armed Tindall will be expected to share most of the work-load with the ball. Although Hill may chip in with a few off-breaks and swing bowler Clee will also probably be called upon to contain

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Old Boys leap to top

BIRKBY Old Boys defeated Taxes and replaced them at the top of Section "A" while Augustinians maintained their winning run to jump into third place.

Sound middle-order batting enabled Birkby to reach 124—9 in their 45 overs with Stuart Holt (23) and Bob Johnson (20) being top scorers. Mike Nicholas bowled well to take five for 39.

Once again Dave Berry led Taxes' reply. He followed by his four catches in the Birkby innings with 39 out of 44 as Taxes folded. Karl Ward was Birkby's most successful bowler with four for 41, though Jimmy Tolan also bowled economically.

Augustinians recorded their fifth consecutive win — this time a three-wicket victory over Polytechnic.

Opening bowler Harold Ainley rocked Polytechnic was seven for 21, including a hit trick. Denis Taiter claimed the other three for only 8 as the college side slumped to 54 all out. Ernest Womersley

Association

(17) sharing an

partnership of 74. Police were also restricted to three points from their match with Rastrick New Road and are now fourth — eight points behind the leaders.

New Road were restricted to 95—6 in the 45 overs with Colin Lees hitting a bright 37. Police's reply was led by Gary Haigh (28 not out) but Allan Robinson with a hard-hitting 49.

In Section "B" Rastrick New Road picked up three points from their game with Salendine Nook. Nook batted stubbornly to reach 86—6 with Tariq Aziz topping the scoring with 25 not out. The New Road reply was dominated by David Garner (39 not out) but they required 42 overs to get the necessary runs.

Taxes cut New Road's lead at the top by one point after gaining maximum points against Augustinians. Paul Smith (3—20) and Mike Thorpe (5—22) dismissed the school side for 77 in the

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but hammered 78 off the Elland attack the following year.

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keeper respect for the opposition.

Holmfirth have won both league meetings this season but the matches were closely fought and high-scoring.

Their latest encounter at Hemphol produced over 400 runs with Marsden falling just 11 runs short of Holmfirth's 218—4.

"We hope it won't be as close this time. It will be a good game of cricket but I believe a final is more of a day for the individual," said Holmfirth skipper Mark Johnson.

Meanwhile, Marsden skipper Chris Lees said: "Matches between the sides have always been close but we shall be aiming to bring the cup back to Marsden. From what I have heard, the village will be empty tomorrow. Reaching the final has been a really big thing up there."

There have been injuries in both camps. Len Braithwaite, damaged a right thigh muscle in the second round and is only now approaching full fitness, and his Marsden teammate Gardner was forced to miss last week's match with a shoulder strain. He will have a late fitness test but seems set to play.

Powerfully built 21-year-old Holmfirth skipper Johnson also strained his side while bowling for Derbyshire seconds recently and rested himself from the attack against Linthwaite last week.

Johnson, who only recently replaced John Bowden as skipper after he had retired through business pressure, is also confident of being fit for tomorrow.

But the biggest blow to

man to score 1,000 runs in a season since Allan Greaves six years ago.

He has scored 722 runs this term, including a century against Linthwaite. He mastered the Marsden attack on the opening day of the season, scoring 55, but fell for a duck at Hemphol.

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Marsden could well become the first side to score more than 200 runs in the final since the 45-over rule came into operation in 1960 — Holmfirth reached 200—5 in 1975 — although anyone who was at Meltham last week wouldn't think so.

The side that had topped 200 runs five times this season were shot out for 99 in reply to the home side's 112. It was a rare failure by the batsmen, and skipper Lees hopes they have got it out of their system.

Nine of them have the ability to score match-winning innings and none more so than out-of-favour Derbyshire batsman Alan Hill.

He has looked a class above the rest and runs have freely flowed from him. He has been unbeaten four times in 13 innings and is averaging almost 70.

Opener Andrew Chaburn was in commanding form against Huddersfield in the semi-final and raced to 47 after having hit an equally impressive 64 against Broad Oak in the previous round. Jim Thewlis has been struggling recently but he, like so many others in the team, is liable to find form at the right time.

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One Holmfirth-based player the Holme Valley club won't want to succeed is six-hit competition leader Norman Clee, whose powerful on-side hitting has seen him amass over 400 runs and who, with the protection of his helmet, has snapped up some fine catches at silly mid-on.

Following him will be all-rounder Braithwaite, with 284 runs to his credit, and Roy Cumberbatch, who demonstrated his scoring power with an unbeaten century against Holmfirth on the opening day.

Supplementing the batting strength will be Lees and the no-nonsense Stuart Kewley. League pacesman Braithwaite and left-arm Tindall will be expected to share most of the work-load with the ball although Hill may chip in with a few off-breaks and swing bowler Clee will also probably be called upon to contain the opponents.

There is no doubt, too, that Marsden followers would appreciate a chance to be given to 17-year-old Graham Holroyd, whose fine fielding probably gave him the edge over Twelfth man Craig Butterworth.

Wherever the result, an entertaining and enthralling match looks in store for the followers from the Colne and Holme Valleys.



Stuart Jakeman — fourth final appearance



Alan Hill — classy

SKELMANTHORPE hopes of achieving a league and cup double were shattered over the weekend.

They relinquished their hold on the Allsop Cup on Sunday, losing to Higham by four wickets in the final after being knocked off the top of Section "A" on the previous day.

Cawthorne beat them

A weekend to forget for Skelmanthorpe

Thurstonland's six-wicket victory over Cumberworth kept them at the

Central

maintained the 8-point gap between themselves and Birchcliffe with a three-wicket victory at Skelmanthorpe. In the home club's 120, S B Greaves was the only batsman to show any enterprise against the visiting attack. A Crawshaw (4—39) was the pick of the attack. S Mallins (39) and J Kirkby, A Dean and M Jagger, who all scored 22, gave the visitors victory.

Third-placed Thurstonland lost their first four

Sport on Saturday



Prediction comes true for Johnson

INDIVIDUAL rather than team performances win cup finals.

So predicted Holmfirth skipper Mark Johnson before yesterday's Huddersfield Cricket League Sykes Cup final at Farwick.

And he proved himself correct with a tremendous display of fast run-making, keen fielding and tight bowling to steer his side to a justly-earned eighth final triumph, away, with Huddersfield and Ethand.

Marsden, making their debut in the Hills Surplus sponsored competition, had no-one to match the hole 21-year-old who took over the Vicar Maff

series of the match trophy. There were periods, however, when the Hampden men gave their big following by the estimated 2,000 crowd, who paid 100c, plenty in great places, but eventually their legs did and they were left at 101-4 in need of 733 all out.

The match was not as sparkling as had been anticipated and the chief controlling factor must have been the slow over rate — it took each side exactly over three hours to complete their 45 overs.

Australian Chris Tomlin gave Holmfirth a fine start after Johnson had won the toss by clipping batsman Ron Tindall for his first second run.

Tomlin bore his way on 17 runs some slow, some faster. Tindall took no wickets, fending the pace in the eighth over to his last wicket by wicket-keeper a captain Chris Tomlin.

Extraordinary opener Mike Smith and batsman Graham Hignley found themselves going in a rut in some unconvincing fielding. From 17-year-old Graham Hignley in particular, helped partner Len Braithwaite and Holmfirth skipper Lawrence Cole, who set Chris Tindall in the eighth over and in the 10th over to them down.

Smith, who has had such a successful season, looked one of them and was convincingly beaten by Cole's deliveries, which drilled away. His however, finally went in in the 10th over and he showed Cole square the wicket to the hands of Jim Theobald to make Holmfirth 48-2.

Holmfirth win gives them a share of record

ROBERT GLEDHILL reports on the 1980 Sykes Cup final.

New Zealander Steve Cooper survived an early scare when he edged Braithwaite just short of the diving Len, before he began to pull his side round.

He was particularly severe on Braithwaite's short-pitched deliveries and bowled his side to 62-2 in 30 overs when Tindall, whose last 10 overs and 14 runs, returned.



Mark Johnson—man-of-the-match.

The left-hander proved less accurate in his second spell from the opposite end and was also troubled with his run up. He was struck again, after Cole had ended Higgins's 45-minute resistance in the 34th over with Stuart Kewley diving forward to hold a fine catch at square leg.

Tindall began the 35th over with a no-ball and Cooper then smacked him through extra cover to reach his half-century and struck his next delivery in the boundary. Andrew Chubburn flung himself from cover at the bats but could not hold it and, after another no-ball, Tindall gamely, he managed to bowing Cooper to make Holmfirth 139-4.

Acceleration was still needed, however, and Johnson made his intentions clear by striking a magnificent straight six off Tindall to bring the 150 up in the 19th over.

He rode his luck after being caught behind off a no-ball and, after Cole had taken the wicket of Stuart Jackson, and Terry Armstrong in the 43rd, housed Tindall for six again. John England then fell to a similar attempted pull stroke and when the last over began runs were 181-1.

Johnson made a tremendous effort to take them past 200 and to secure his own half-century, hitting a four and two, seven, off Tindall before pulling him over the safe hands of Hubbard on the square by boundary to be out for a 45-minute 42.

Tindall then bowled Brooks but secured his last 100 runs with a wicket, from which Andy Dearling scampered two before being bowled off the last delivery.

Tindall finished with 48 wickets and for 84 in 14 overs, while Cole had an economical spell with 15 runs and 15 overs.

Johnson, immediately on a defensive field for Marsden and, while it may have been unattractive to watch, it certainly proved effective. For Holmfirth batsman Harold Gardner and Andrew Chubburn gave Marsden an identical start in their opponents with 51 off the first 10 overs before Gardner was caught behind, finishing at a rising delivery from Johnson.

Johnson struck again in the 14th over to make Marsden 77-2 when he cut one back to Chubburn to remove his batsman.

Dorothy's Alan Hill looked in no trouble, however, and found a useful partner in Roy Cumberbatch, who was unusually restrained.

They patiently pushed the score along to 56 in 20 overs before they began to open out, adding 24 in three overs.

This brought Higgins and Smalles into the attack and their gentle medium pacers soon brought trouble. Cumberbatch hit a long bop from Higgins almost down Smith's throat at mid-wicket and was out for 18 and worse was to follow for Marsden when Hill missed a full pitched delivery from Smalles in the 30th over to be bowled for a stylish 40.

Marsden needed 80 off the last 15 overs and were still in with a fine chance with Cole and Kewley at the crease.

Kewley, who had wasted 25 years as a Marsden player for a final appearance, twisted a knee, however, and, after calling for a runner, top edged Higgins for batsman in run backwards ten yards to hold a well-judged catch.

Powerful leg side cricketer Cole fell in the next over and Johnson resumed, at the stand end this time, to bowl the potentially dangerous Braithwaite for 1 to make Marsden 125-7.

Lee and Theobald attempted to relieve the situation, but, with seven men ringing the boundary, found runs hard to come by.

Poor light did not help here, either, and Lee was run out in the 43rd over after being sent back by his partner. Theobald was dropped next ball to batsman but it did not matter in the end with Johnson conceding only three off the last over when Marsden needed in 10.

MATCHING	
Score - Holmfirth 226	226
Marsden 125	125
Wickets - Holmfirth 14	14
Marsden 7	7
Extras - Holmfirth 17	17
Marsden 10	10
Overseas - Holmfirth 1	1
Marsden 0	0
Umpires - Mr J. W. England, Mr S. J. Smith	
Referee - Mr J. W. England	
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TEAM RECORDS	
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A collection for the Huddersfield Hospitals Broadcasts Association raised £86.50.



New Zealander

The Turn

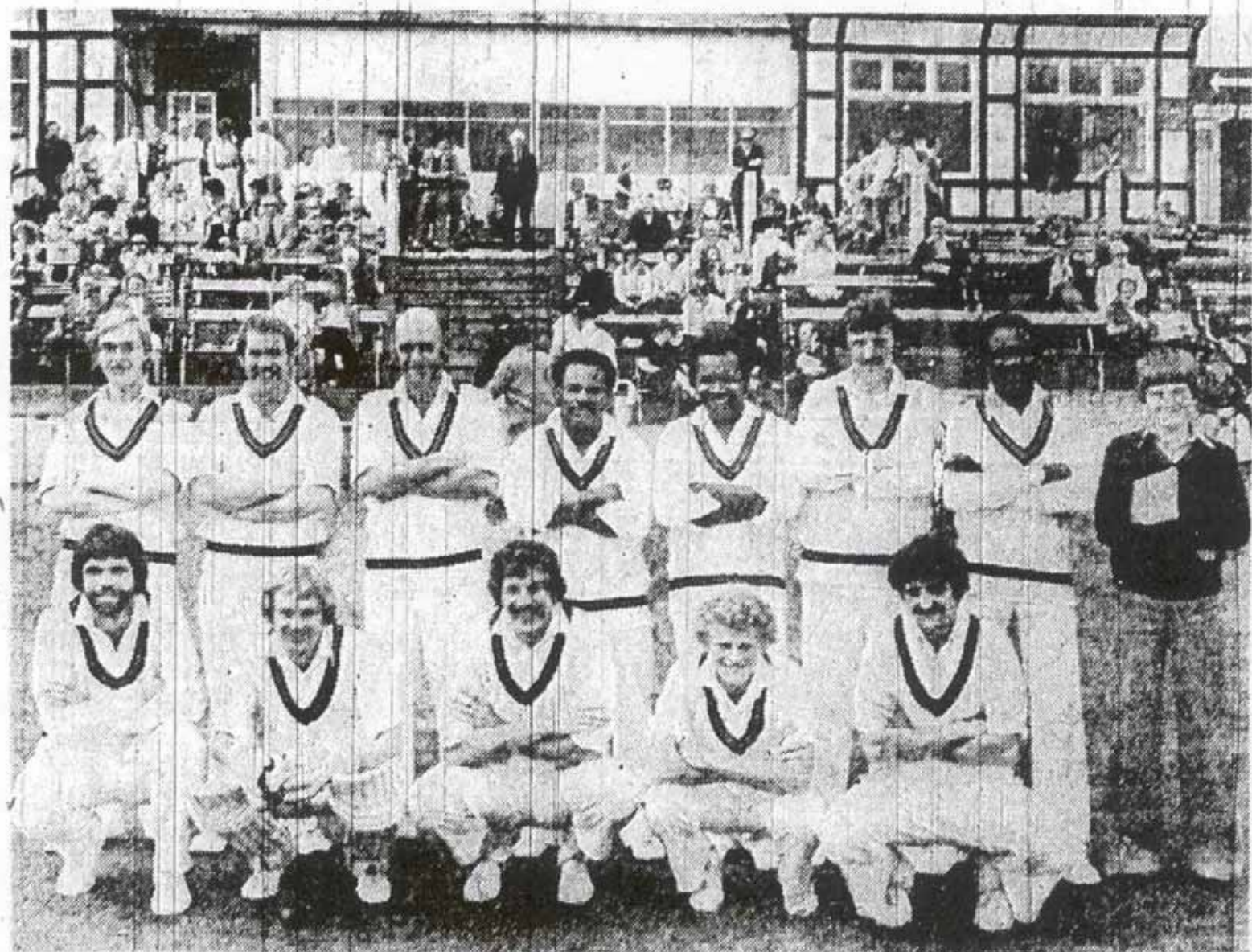
BRIAN TURNER giving himself into that elite band of bowlers who have taken 1,000 wicket in Huddersfield League and Sykes Cup cricket on Saturday.

But the Golden in danger, who began to home match against Thongbridge on the 9th, had to wait until the 15th test before he claimed that 1,000th wicket by bowling John Moore.

In fact, Turner has been growing moment on the Back Page took only three for 33 in his 100th wicket, thanks to a fine 87 from captain and opener John Cooper, who presented them with a tankard after the match to mark the memorable occasion. **Robert Gledhill.**

Liverway had a far less happy day. They crashed in 19 all out against fellow Section

Section



If there had been any prizes for smartness at last week's Sykes Cup final then losers Marsden, with their new club jumpers, would have won hands down. Pictured (from left to right) are: Back row — A Chatburn, J Thewlis, S Kewley, H Gardner, R Cumberbatch, A Hill, L Braithwaite, John Armitage (scorer). Front row — N Clee, C Lees (capt/wicketkeeper), R Tindall, G Holroyd, C Butterworth (twelfth man).



A. Chatburn, J. Thewlis, S. Kewley, H. Gardner, P. Cumberbatch, A. Hill, L. Braithwaite, J. Armitage,

N. Clee, C. Lee (Capt), R. Tindall, G. Holroyd, C. Butterworth.