

## SCHOLES CC

The Early Years

# OPENING UP

## ORIGINS I

In the 1860s and 1870s cricket was extremely popular in Scholes.



David Wilding tells us that a cricket team attached to the local Victoria Institute was founded in 1869. The Institute was akin to a local community centre and in many ways the centre of village life.

But the cricket team that eventually came to be known as Scholes C.C. was formed as Scholes Albert Mills C.C. around 1870.

The Albert Mill Company was formed in 1860 as a friendly society and company mill. This is one of the earliest photos of the Albert Mills side.



Back row: Harvey Drake, Unknown, Giles Holmes, Unknown, Vernon Squire, Fred Yates, Luke Asquith, Unknown, ?.Squire  
Middle row: Norman Squire, Ripath Hargreaves, James Sharp, Unknown, Wilfred Petty  
Front row: Norman Holmes, Willie Wild  
(Photo: David Wilding)

According to local historian David Wilding, the team above was named the Albert Mill Co., but was mainly made up of Firth Holdsworth's employees.

Firth Holdsworth's specialised in weaving and worsted spinning – and their mill can be seen in the background of the photograph above.

There is every probability that this team was a forerunner of Scholes Cricket Club.



Thereafter, we discover many references to the Albert Mills side.

In 1876 a fixture against Staincliffe Britannia.

SCHOLES ALBERT MILLS v. STAINCLIFFE BRITANNIA  
(Second Elevens).—Played at Staincliffe, on Saturday  
last, and resulted in a victory for the home club with  
four wickets to fall. Score :—

SCHOLES—Robertshaw 0, Asquith 2, Eastwood 1,  
Butterfield 6, Gomersall 2, Hargreaves 1, Squire 0, H.  
Butterfield 0, F. Squire 1, Hanson (not out) 1, Raistrick  
2, extras 14; total 30.

STAINCLIFFE—Exley 1, Smith (not out) 9, Haalam 21,  
Pickering 0, T. Robinson 4, B. Clarkson 1, Exley (not  
out) 4, Wormald 8, extras 3; total 51.

In 1882 Scholes Albert Mills were drawn against  
Roberttown All Saints in the first round of the inaugural  
Heavy Woollen Cup – staged in 1883.

Staincliffe	v. Dewsbury Moor Utd
Bruntcliffe	v. Gildersome
Upper Batley	v. Heckmondwike
Hunsworth Mills	v. Adwalton Queen Elizabeth
Thornhill	v. West End Cleckheaton
Dewsbury Utd Clerks	v. Healey Lily of the Village
Birstall Young England	v. Ossett
Morley Nelson	v. Spen Victoria
Roberttown All Saints	v. Scholes Albert Mills
Dewsbury & Savile	a bye

Then, in 1886 the Scholes club merited an entry in the  
*Athletic News Cricket Supplement and Club Directory*.

ALBERT MILLS, YORKS.  
Scholes Albert Mills: Fred. Squire, Scholes, near Leeds.  
Sedgley: Benjamin Attwood, 12, Woodcote, Dudley.

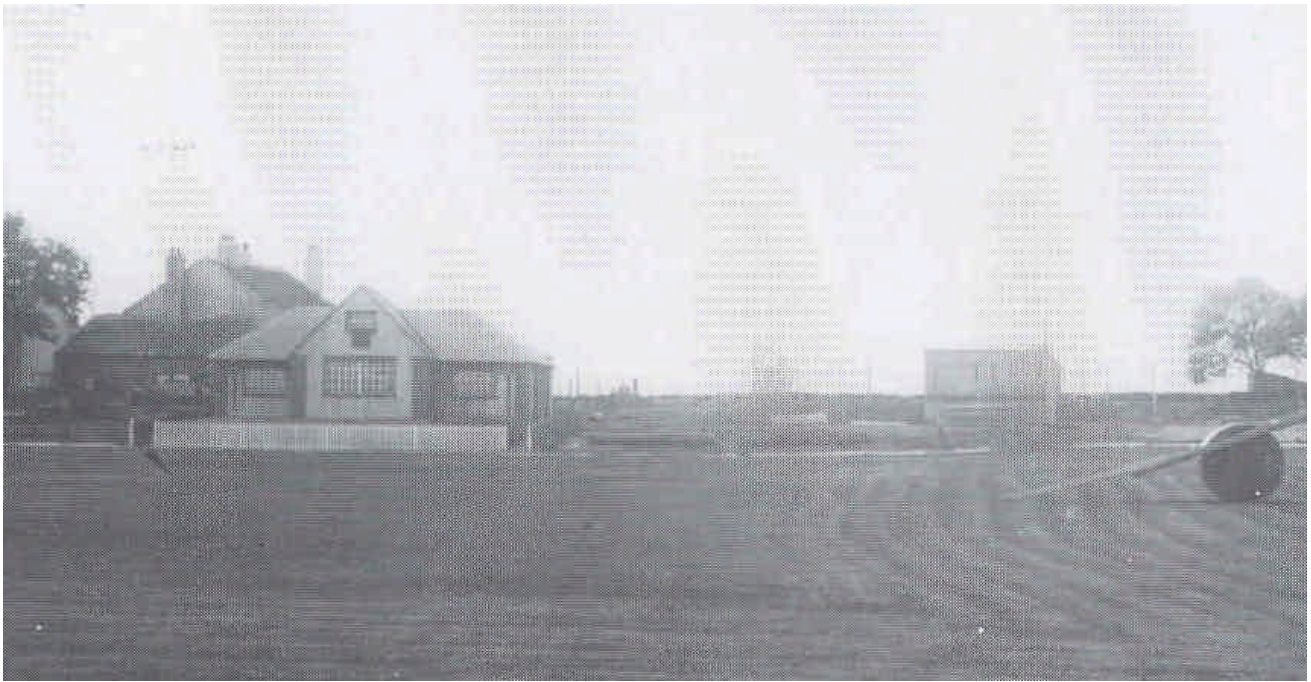
# HARD LABOUR

## ORIGINS II

It is probable that Scholes Albert Mills C.C. played all their home games at New Popplewell Lane, on a patch of land that was once a quarry.

The land came into being as a cricket ground when between 20 and 30 workers filled and levelled the ground using nothing but picks, shovels and wheelbarrows.





**New Popplewell Lane in the early days** (Photo: D. Wilding)



**New Popplewell Lane today**

# LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN

## 1894 – SPEN & CALDER VALLEY LEAGUE

In 1894 Scholes joined the Spen and Calder Valley League – one of the many localised cricket competitions that were in existence in this era.



SPEN VALLEY LEAGUE.	
ROBERTTOWN v. STAINCLIFFE.	
At Roberttown.	STAINCLIFFE.
T. Muffin, c Giddy b Pickering	C. Oddy, b Walker
J. Knight, b Pickering	A. Jagger, c Maitan b Walker
A. Scott, c Pickering	F. Scott, b Muffin
J. Selman, c Maitan b Scott	G. Harrison, b Walker
F. Walker, c Berry b Scott	T. Pickering, b Hall
R. Wood, b Scott	C. H. Pickering, c Sykes b Hall
A. Hirst, c Jagger b Scott	S. Berry, b Hall
E. Hall, b Scott	F. Haslam, b Hall
W. F. Durrant, b Halsey	M. Halsey, b Hall
J. Maitan, not out	C. Norton, not out
A. Sykes, b Oddy	J. Wormack, b Hall
Extras	Extras
Total	Total
20	52
SPEN VICTORIA v. MIRFIELD.	
At Mirfield. Spen Victoria declared.	MIRFIELD.
SPEN.	MIRFIELD.
Feel, b Walker	Smith, b Hirst
Outram, c Steele b Hogben	Shaw, b Steel
H. Steel, c English b Feal	Chadwick, c Outram b Feal
Steele, b English	Dick, b Feal
Senior, c Shaw b Mickelwhite	Mickelwhite, run out
Maitan, b Walker	Senior, lbw b Steel
Thomson, c Mickelwhite b Walker	Walker, lbw b Thornber
Signorion, not out	J. Steele, b Hirst
Hardwick, b Mickelwhite	English, b Hirst
A. N. Feal, c Shaw b Mickelwhite	Foley, c Crossland b Feal
Chadwick, b Walker	A. Steel, not out
A. Steel, not out	Extras
Extras	Extras
Total	Total
100	11

## CLECKHEATON v. SCHOLLS.

At Cleckheaton.

SCHOLLS.

Squires, b Brookham .....	1
Manson, c Walker b .....	0
Dransfield .....	0
Jowitt, b Dransfield .....	4
Gellipton, b Dransfield ...	1
Drake, b Bryan .....	21
Parkinson, b Blakelock ...	5
Butterfield, b Dransfield	39
Womersley, not out .....	21
Briggs, b Dransfield .....	4
Priestley, b Dransfield ...	0
Bentley, b Dransfield .....	0
Extras .....	10
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>106</b>

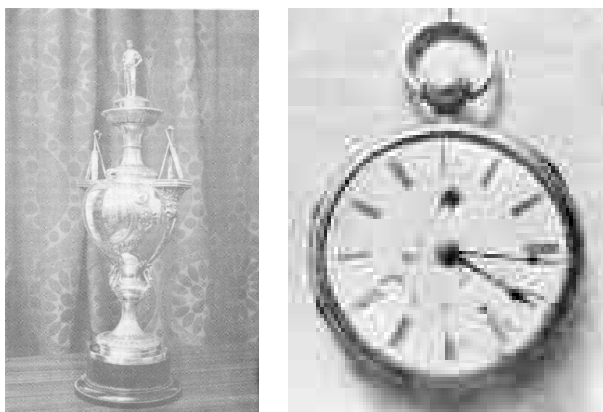
CLECKHEATON.

Hodgson, c Parkinson b .....	4
Jowitt .....	14
Heldsworth, b Jowitt.....	14
Blakelock, c Drake b .....	0
Priestley .....	0
Barker, run out.....	7
Dransfield, c Squires b .....	5
Priestley .....	5
Walker, c Briggs b Jowitt .....	1
Bryan, b Priestley .....	0
Biddle, b Jowitt .....	0
Scath, c Drake b Briggs .....	5
Brookham, b Jowitt.....	2
Collinson, not out .....	2
Extras .....	4
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>44</b>

# CUP CONTROVERSY

1897 – HEAVY WOOLLEN SAGA

In Scholes' third round Heavy Woollen Cup tie against Heckmondwike in 1897, there was amazing controversy surrounding the climax to the game.



Scholes defeated Heckmondwike. However, the losers protested because the Scholes players had left the field of play before the final batsman had had chance to appear.

The result stood, as the umpires agreed that at least two minutes had passed. Heckmondwike still needed 17 runs to win!

# SEVENTH HEAVEN?

## 1906 – SPEN VALLEY & DISTRICT LEAGUE

In 1906 the Club was a founder member of another local competition - the Spen Valley & District League. They finished the season in 7th place.

U. F. WOODHEAD, Secretary.

### SPEN VALLEY AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

FINAL RESULTS.

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Liversedge	10	10	0	0	20
Rastrick	10	9	1	0	18
East Bierley	10	7	3	0	14
Heckmondwike	10	5	5	0	10
General	10	5	5	0	10
Mirfield	10	6	4	0	12
Scholes	10	5	5	0	10
Hartshead Moor	10	4	6	0	8
Staincliffe	10	3	7	0	6
CHICKENLEY	10	2	8	0	4

F. D. SCOTT, Hon. Sec.

# CAN YOU HELP US?

## UNDATED TEAM PHOTOGRAPH



**Can you put a date to this Scholes team photo?** (Photo: David Wilding)

# GONE SHOPPING!

## 1914 – GROUND PURCHASE

Scholes Cricket Club have only ever played at New Popplewell Lane. From three-quarters of the way through the nineteenth century up until 1914, they did so as tenants.



But in 1914 they were able to purchase the ground from Low Moor Co. Ltd by means of donations from villagers and local business people.

# COUNTY COMPETITION

1916 – YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

Scholes Cricket Club displayed its ambition and aspirations when, in 1916 - as war raged across the globe - it was accepted as a member of the prestigious county-wide cricket competition, the Yorkshire Council.

**YORKSHIRE COUNCIL.**

**SPEN VICTORIA v. OSSETT.—At Spen.**

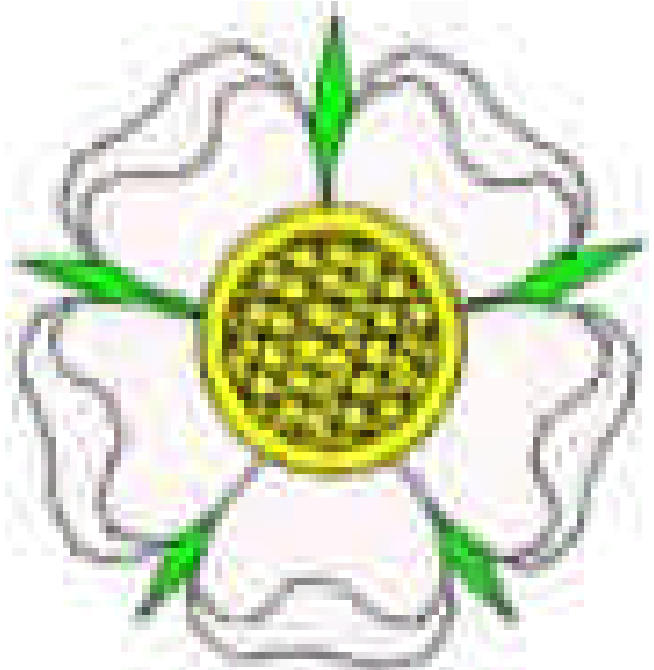
Spen Victoria.—P. Holmes, b Hutchinson, 45; J. Hartley, retired hurt, 7; A. E. Barker, lbw, b Hutchinson, 0; T. Halmshaw, c Giggel, b Hutchinson, 16; G. Myers, b Hutchinson, 9; W. Barber, b Hutchinson, 1; A. Dalby, c Craven, b Hutchinson, 1; A. Wright, b Hutchinson, 0; J. W. Clayton, not out, 9; J. Oldroyd, b Hutchinson, 0; C. Walker, b Hutchinson, 2; extras, 5. Total, 86.

Ossett.—H. Giggel, c Barber, b Dalby, 48; F. Armitage, c Wright, b Barber, 2; H. Craven, b Barber, 11; J. F. Radley, b Dalby, 1; A. F. Glover, not out, 10; M. Hutchinson, not out, 14; extras, 1. Total (for 4 wks.), 87.

**SCHOLES v. THORNHILL.—At Scholes.**

Scholes.—L. Asquith, c sub., b Waterhouse, 23; N. Holmes, c sub., b Page, 66; F. Shackleton, b Waterhouse, 6; W. Petty, b Waterhouse, 8; E. Harwood, b Waterhouse, 8; W. Ellison, lbw, b Waterhouse, 5; R. Yates, c sub., b Senior, 0; P. Firth, b Senior, 0; W. Sharp, b Page, 11; G. Lee, not out, 6; W. Wild, b Waterhouse, 0; extras, 10. Total, 146.

Thornhill.—D. Waterhouse, b Lee, 15; K. Oldroyd, c Holmes, b Wild, 16; R. Lee, c Sharp, b Lee, 4; H. T. Page, c Harwood, b Firth, 6; H. Cowgill, b Firth, 6; W. Senior, c Harwood, b Lee, 2; H. Parkinson, not out, 1; H. Brown, b Firth, 0; extras, 5. Total (for 7 wks.), 58.



On 26 August, after only their third victory of the season, Scholes occupied 5<sup>th</sup> place in Section 'E'. In this league they would face local heavyweights such as Heckmondwike C.C..

**RESULTS UP TO DATE  
SECTIONS B AND C.**

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Leeds .. .. .	15	7	2	6	76
Ossett .. .. .	14	6	1	7	66
Cleckheaton .. .. .	13	6	0	7	65
Ratley .. .. .	13	6	3	5	54
Barnsley .. .. .	8	4	2	2	43
South Kirkby .. .. .	4	3	1	0	32
Hirstall .. .. .	13	2	0	3	22
Spennings Victoria .. .. .	12	2	1	7	22
Wakefield .. .. .	17	2	9	6	22
Heckmondwike .. .. .	14	1	4	9	21

**SECTION E.**

Staincliffe .. .. .	12	7	7	4	75
Marlhead Moor .. .. .	12	6	5	2	55
Liversedge .. .. .	11	5	2	4	53
Goosay .. .. .	11	3	5	3	33
Scholes .. .. .	11	3	5	5	32
Thornhill .. .. .	11	2	6	3	21
Hanging Heston .. .. .	10	1	4	5	21

# CASTING ITS SPELL

1916 – SPORT IN THE VILLAGE

According to David Wilding, there is evidence to suggest that knur and spell - an early form of golf - was played in the village in this period:

***behind the Rising Sun...In May 1916 Dan Smith, landlord of the Rising Sun, was granted permission, by the Bradford Justices, to sell intoxicating liquour provided he undertook not to have any rabbit coursing or Knur and Spell matches.***



***He must have found this difficult as he was well known as an expert at rabbit coursing, and a referee for knur and spell. In addition locals engaged in illegal cock fighting, arrow throwing, pigeon shooting, dog racing, and 'pitch and toss'. Nearly all these sports being occasions for heavy betting.***



**(Photos: David Wilding)**

# FRIEND INDEED

1919/22 – GROUND DEVELOPMENTS

In 1919 the fields in the village that were used for sport, and two adjoining fields, were put up for sale.

It was decided that the local community would purchase the land in order to use it for cricket and other games.



(Photo: David Wilding)

A former playing member, Thompson Jowett, was generous enough to donate £550 towards the total cost of the land (£1,050).

# SPORT FOR ALL

1921/2 – TENNIS & FOOTBALL

In 1921 two tennis courts were erected adjacent to the cricket field. The year after a football pitch was created – thereafter used by Scholes Old Boys A.F.C..



**The tennis courts today**



**The design of one of the windows in the clubhouse today reflects the influence of football at New Popplewell Lane**

In 1922, a pavilion was built at an estimated cost of £850. Viscount Cowdray presented the trustees with a cheque for £3,400, which enabled the work to be started.



**Weetman Dickinson Pearson,**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Cowdray** (Photo: D. Wilding)

# TOP OF THE TREE

## 1938 – TITLE SUCCESS

1937 witnessed the formation of the Central Yorkshire Cricket League. The following season, 1938, ten clubs took part in the new competition, leaving only six in the rival Heavy Woollen League...including Scholes.



These mass 'defections' proved to be a blessing in disguise, as Scholes came out on top, with fewer clubs to contend with. Here is the final table of the 1938 season.

HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT LEAGUE					
FINAL TABLE.—FIRST ELEVENS.					
	P	W	L	D	PLA
Scholes	10	7	1	2	23
Hartshead Moor	10	5	0	5	20
Thornhill	10	4	3	3	15
Hanging Heaton	10	3	4	3	12
Gomersal	10	1	6	3	6
Drighlington	10	1	7	2	5
SECOND ELEVENS.					
Hanging Heaton	10	5	2	3	18
Hartshead Moor	10	4	0	6	18
Gomersal	10	3	4	3	12
Scholes	10	3	4	3	12
Thornhill	10	3	4	3	12
Drighlington	10	1	5	4	7



**Scholes 1<sup>st</sup> XI 1938**

# DOWNPOUR DRAMA

1939 – BATLEY ENCOUNTER

In 1939 Scholes played Batley in a Heavy Woollen Cup semi-final tie.



Frustratingly, the playing area was partially flooded by rain with Scholes needing only 16 runs still to win. The Batley captain, J.S. Barritt, did not wish to return on another evening, instead opting to put on a raincoat and continue the match!

Scholes were eventually defeated by Cleckheaton in the final.

## CLECKHEATON WIN H.W.D. CUP.

### SCHOLES' WEAK BATTING.

For the first time in their long career Cleckheaton won the Heavy Woollen District Challenge Cup last Saturday by defeating Scholes, who were making their first appearance in the final, on the Hartshead Moor ground. In many respects, it was not a very thrilling game, although it was interesting to a moderate crowd, and for the first time for a number of weeks the weather was really suitable for the summer game.

Cleckheaton		Scholes	
H. Barracough	b	P. Lee	b Hirst
Walker	2	P. Hargreaves	c Burnhill
F. Preston	b Walker	b Deadman	9
A. Walker	b Sykes	M. Asquith	b Deadman
E. Homes	b Robinson		10
b Sykes	0	P. Robinson	b Hirst
A. Weatherall	b	H. Robinson	c Lightowler
Walker	1	b Hirst	0
J. Lintowier	run out	B. Sykes	c Homes
A. Swaine	b Sykes	b Deadman	4
J. Hirst	lbw b Walker	J. W. Clough	c Barracough
J. Burnhill	c Lee	b Hirst	0
Walker	0	G. Park	c Barracough
C. Garthwaite	run out	b Hirst	2
G. Deadman	not out	G. Haxter	c Barracough
	9	b Hirst	0
		H. Smedley	not out
		G. W. Burnett	c Swaine
		b Deadman	0
		Extra	1
Extras	7		
Total	41	Total	45

# IF YOU CAN'T BEAT 'EM...

1944 – CENTRAL YORKSHIRE LEAGUE

...Join 'Em! And that is exactly what Scholes did.



In 1944 the Club joined the Central Yorkshire Cricket League, six years after it was formed in 1938. This was the year in which Drighlington, Gomersal, Hartshead Moor, and Thornhill from the Heavy Woollen League, as well as Chickenley, Hanging Heaton, and Gildersome from the Leeds Central League, also signed up to the new competition.

# NAME THE DECADE!

UNDATED TEAM PHOTOS – CAN YOU HELP US?



