

THE CRICKET

History of Calderdale & Kirklees

ARMITAGE BRIDGE CC

ON-FIELD & OFF-FIELD EVENTS

Cricket first played at Armitage Bridge.

Club founded.

DATE

EVENTS IN ARMITAGE BRIDGE & THE WORLD

1835	Armitage Bridge C of E School is founded. Boers' Great Trek.
1836	Texas becomes independent.
1837	Steel plough invented.
1838	Anglo-Afghan War.
1839	Opium War.
1840	Texas allies with Mexican rebels.
1841	Russia's presence in California ends.
1842	Plug Rioters visit Armitage Bridge Mills. Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra formed.
1843	Oregon Trail opens.
1844	First telegraph used.
1845	Texas annexed.
1846	First Anglo-Sikh War.
1847	Bronte writes Wuthering Heights.
1848	Floods ravage village. St. Paul's Church constructed. Revolution across Europe.
1849	Gold discovered in California.
1850	Telegraph cable laid under Channel.
1851	Great Exhibition at Crystal Palace.
1852	Bilberry Reservoir (above Holmfirth) bursts its banks

Several Armitage Bridge men leave the 'North Gate House Club' to re-form the Armitage Bridge Cricket Club. They played by kind permission of Mr Thomas Brooke (afterwards Sir Thomas Brooke) in Armitage House Park.

flooding much of Holme Valley and extending as far as Armitage Bridge. Bodies of two children are found at Armitage Bridge and St. Paul's Church and other property is badly damaged. Cable laid under English Channel.

- 1853** America purchases Mexico.
- 1854** Crimean war begins.
- 1855** Livingstone discovers Victoria Falls.
- 1856** Hughes' Tom Brown's Schooldays.
- 1857** London postal districts introduced.
- 1858** First Atlantic cable laid.
- 1859** Funeral of Thomas Brooke takes place. *Darwin's Origin of the Species.*
- 1860** 2nd Maori War begins.
- 1861** Pasteur introduces Pasteurization.
- 1862** Composers push Russian music.
- 1863** Battle of Gettysburg.
- 1864** Birth of Red Cross.
- 1865** Lewis Carol's *Alice in Wonderland.*
- 1866** Strauss's *Blue Danube Waltz.*
- 1867** Second Reform Bill passed.
- 1868** *The National Gazetteer of Great Britain and Ireland* describes Armitage Bridge as 'a chapelry in the parish of Almondbury, and wapentake of Agbrigg, in the West Riding of the county of York, not far from Huddersfield.'
Meiji Restoration in Japan.
- 1869** Suez Canal opened.
- 1870** Death of Charles Dickens.
- 1871** Chicago Fire kills 300 people.

'Armitage Bridge House Park Club' folds. Club moves to present-day location on completion of phase 1 of construction. New field is 'given to Club by Messrs. John Brooke & Sons'. Pavilion (today's changing rooms) erected.

'North Gate House Club' (Honley Church C.C.) cease playing at Armitage Bridge.
Honley Church C.C. renamed Honley C.C.. Mr. William Brooke first president.

Scoring box and tearoom erected. Extension built by members and friends in evenings, the Club buying bricks and other essentials while members do labouring. **First Lumb Cup winners.**

Committee consider field, already extended (1879), too small.

- 1872** Second Carlist War in Spain.
1873 Verne's *Around the World...*
1874 Dyer by the name of John Hobson Shaw, who worked at Armitage Bridge Mills, is run over and killed by the mill's fire engine on its way to a fire at Field Mills on Canker Lane. Japan invades Taiwan.
1875 Civil Rights Act passed in America.
1876 Bell invents telephone.
1877 Edison invents phonograph.
1878 Berlin Congress.
1879 Edison invents electric light bulb.
1880 Mosquito found to carry malaria.
1881 Cambridge Tripos open to women.
1882 Married Women's Property Act.
1883 French painter Manet dies.
1884 Greenwich made meridian of world.
1885 First electric tramcar in Blackpool.
1886 Hardy's *The Mayor of Casterbridge*.
1887 Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee.
1888 First box camera.
1889 Eiffel Tower built.

Two adjoining fields are levelled into one large field. Much trenching and levelling continues until large field as we know it today is completed. Field stands as a 'memorial to all those past workers whose self-sacrifice were such that too much praise cannot be given to such and to them the Club owes them a deep debt of gratitude'. Free labour provided by Messrs. John Brooke & Sons and willingness of local people.

First Schools Athletics Sports held. They competed for the 'Marshall Challenge Shield' - until 1893.

Armitage Bridge are accepted into Huddersfield & District League. Last season in the Association League.

Club construct bowling green situated between mid-wicket boundary and the river when viewed from Dean Brook end. Bowling green completed in May. Club is named 'Armitage Bridge Cricket and Bowling Club'. Whole cost of green is defrayed by subs from members/friends.

Bowling Pavilion erected at cost of £50, and Bazaar is held in National School on Friday and Saturday 15/16 November to raise money to pay for debt outstanding in respect of new pavilion, new seats and to replace sightsceens. £150 is target to raise and it would seem this target was not achieved as some 12 years later a similar bazaar was held to raise £120 to pay off debt accumulating from 1895 bazaar. This time £110-10-6d is raised (£9-9-6d short of the target).

- 1890** London's first electric Underground.
- 1891** Severe outbreak of influenza in village. Pope Leo XIII condemns socialism.
- 1892** Serious outbreak of diphtheria in the area. Electric oven invented.
- 1893** Invention of the Aspirin.
- 1894** Dreyfus Affair begins in France.
- 1895** Invention of the X-Ray.

- 1896** First modern Olympic Games held.
- 1897** Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.
- 1898** Birth of Bertolt Brecht.

Club leaves Huddersfield & District League.

Club arranges fixtures with other clubs.

Club accepted into Alliance League.

Alliance champions.

Alliance champions.

Alliance champions. Promoted to Huddersfield & District League.

Club finish season at bottom of table and relegated to Alliance League.

Bazaar is held in the National School.

Tennis Section in existence. Eventually known as Armitage Bridge Tennis Club.

1st year in Huddersfield Central League.

Central League champions. Lewis Dawson wins League catching award.

Joe Robinson wins Central League bowling award.

1899

Thomas Brooke is made a Baronet. First Hague Peace Conference.

1900

Zeppelin invents the airship.

1901

Birth of Marlene Dietrich.

1902

Marie Curie discovers radioactivity.

1903

Henry Ford sets up motor company.

1904

Britain and France sign Entente.

1905

Revolution breaks out in Russia.

1906

First radio programme broadcast.

1907

First Daily Comic Strip.

1908

Cubism founded in Paris.

1909

Synthetic plastic invented - Bakelite.

1910

Halley's comet reappears.

1911

June 22: to celebrate the Coronation of King George V, the people of Armitage Bridge together with the people of Berry Brow spend the evening playing games and sports at Armitage Bridge House Park courtesy of Lady Brooke (the owner). Amundsen reaches South Pole.

1912

Titanic sinks. Scott's last expedition.

1913

Suffragette demonstrations.

1914

Start of First World War.

1915

Einstein's *Theory of Relativity*.

1916

Battle of Verdun. Easter Rising.

1917

Russian Revolution.

1918

World-wide flu epidemic.

Club leaves Central League.
First year in Hudds & District League.
Club decide to run Watch Competition. Watch sealed on 22 August and opened on 27 August. Sum of £7 allowed for purchase of watch but amount raised from 60 ticket books is not recorded.

Bowl out Honley for 23 runs.

Talent money deducted from subs and in some cases 'confiscated'. A.W. Shaw joins from Slaithwaite as professional.

A. Jillot (member) goes to China

AGM decides to purchase 'Tea Tent' at cost of £27-15-0. Harry Booth dies.

Gas lighting installed. 2nd XI bowl Honley out for 18.

Tea Tent painted. Huddersfield Hockey Club leave ground.

New wooden tea room erected.

Toilet/urinal installed beneath scoreboard.

Water laid on. Sub-committee formed to raise funds for refurbishment of changing rooms. Set up a 'renovation and alteration account' with Berry Brow Co-op. Subscription list opened and headed by a donation from Lord Hawke. Pavilion

1919 Treaty of Versailles.
1920 First roadside petrol station in UK.
1921 First birth control clinic.

1922 Mussolini's March on Rome.
1923 First Wembley FA Cup final.
1924 Hitler's *Mein Kampf*. Death of Lenin.
1925 Charleston dance becomes fashion.
1926 General Strike. Adoption legalised.
1928 Lindbergh's solo flight over the Atlantic.
1928 Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley's Lover*.
1929 Wall Street Crash.
1930 Planet Pluto discovered.

1931 Empire State Building built.
1932 British Union of Fascists founded.
1933 Hitler becomes German Chancellor.

1934 Mao Tse-tung's 'Long March'.
1935 Pedestrian crossings introduced.

1936 Edward VIII abdicates.
1937 Billy Butlin opens his holiday camp.

(or 'Cricket Tent', as it was known in those days) refurbished after 61 years' use. An inscribed plaque displayed in vestibule, which has remained to present day. Gas laid to 'Tea Tent'. Club buys new wooden building. Larger section, with garage door, to be groundsman's shed, while at other end section used for selling soft drinks and as gatekeeper's kiosk. Special General Meeting held at Co-op Hall to discuss Centenary Celebrations. Lack of support delays things and no treasurer elected. Resolution reads: 'Expenses to be paid to players who can ill afford such themselves'.

George Fletcher of Linthwaite appointed coach for a fee of 7/6d per evening.

Club is all-amateur.

Friendlies played against Monk Bretton from Yorkshire Council and Ashbourne CC on Sunday in farmer's field.

On five occasions the opposition total over 200 – impressive when innings were limited to 2 hours 20 minutes.

Worst season of the 1950s - team finishing bottom after five players left to join other clubs. Peter Thorpe scores undefeated century (105) in his season's total of 311 and wins new bat.

1938 Paid holidays start. Biro invented.

1939 Beginning of Second World War.

1940 National Government formed.

1941 Germany invade USSR.

1942 British victorious at El Alamein.

1943 Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

1944 D-Day. Paris liberated.

1945 Auschwitz liberated.

1946 Iron Curtain descends on Europe.

1947 Truman Doctrine unveiled.

1948 State of Israel founded.

1949 NATO established.

1950 Petrol rationing ends in Britain.

1951 Festival of Britain opens.

1952 Elizabeth II crowned. Pill invented.

Club total 11 v Lascelles Hall.

Club acquires an 'Aveling Barfad' 15 cwt road roller (1936).
Share Greenwood Trophy with Shepley.
Under-17 side Walker Cup runners-up.
Greenwood Trophy runners-up to Elland.

Under-13 5-a-side tournament is inaugurated in memory of Philip Sheard who was killed in a car accident.

Club win Section 'B' Championship and thus promotion to top division of League for only second time in its history. Under-17 side are Section 'A' Thornton Cup champions and Walker Cup finalists.

Gas mantles fitted during general redecoration. In his review of the 1968 season, the League Secretary referred to the Club's promotion success and expressed the hope 'that they can break the sequence which has occurred for five years during which the two promoted clubs have been demoted the following year'. Happily his hopes were fulfilled. Playing positive and spirited

- 1953 Everest conquered.
- 1954 Dylan Thomas's *Under Milk Wood*.
- 1955 Commercial TV starts in Britain.
- 1956 Elvis releases *All Shook Up*.
- 1957 Queen's first Christmas broadcast.
- 1958 Munich air disaster. Beatles formed.
- 1959 Postcodes introduced in Britain.
- 1960 Sputnik 'dogs' go into space.
- 1961 First oral contraceptive.
- 1962 Beatles release *Love Me Do*.
- 1963 Kennedy assassinated.
- 1964 Armitage Bridge hit by tornado. *Sun* founded. First *Top of the Pops*.
- 1965 River Holme bursts its banks again, washing away footbridge near the Parish Church. First US raids against Vietnam.
- 1966 England win World Cup.
- 1967 First heart transplant. Six Day War.
- 1968 BST introduced. Riots in Paris.
- 1969 First men land on moon.

cricket, the team manage to finish 5th in 1969 Section 'A' table. Charley Moore scores 658 runs (average 38.71) which was, at the time, the highest individual aggregate recorded for Club since 1945.

Reported at a committee meeting that Club was in a perilous situation financially and that possible bankruptcy was on horizon. However, new treasurer appointed along with new volunteers manage to move Club in right direction. Players asked to pay contributions for the professional's fees. No electricity supply, only gas and water. Heavy and light rollers frequently ended up in river courtesy of local vandals. Gutters and fall pipes fixed to Clubhouse. New Ransomes Auto Certes greens cutter purchased second hand for £100 and annual budget for maintenance of pitch set at £50. Fundraising began to ensure sufficient to pay for completion of clubhouse. Electricity supply cable laid to Club after nearly 100 years. In May the committee held its last meeting at Berry Brow Liberal Club and were able to move to the new clubhouse for rest of season. Club was fortunate clubhouse could be formally opened by Sir Leonard Hutton on Sunday 2 September 1973. He had been asked to come by Humphrey Brooke, an uncle of the new President, Mark Brooke. Crowd of over 500 turned up to watch the Maestro, then aged 57, return to the crease, 18 years after he had last played for Yorkshire. Unfortunately, there was no fairy tale comeback. He was bowled fifth ball by Stuart Armitage for 0, the ball clipping the leg bail as Sir Len played back. Afterwards he said: 'I started with a duck and finished with a duck'. It was

- 1970** Heath becomes PM.
- 1971** Decimalisation of coinage.

- 1972** Britain begins direct rule in NI.

- 1973** Britain enters EEC. VAT introduced.

the last cricket match he ever played.

Electric lighting and hot water installed in changing rooms. Large floodlight is fixed to top of telegraph pole so members could see when exiting clubhouse. Shutters constructed by members. New kitchen equipment fitted during winter.

2nd XI win Schweppes Cup and finish Section 'B' championship runners-up.

Vandals burn down old tea room during Easter holidays.

Field is 100 years old. 1st XI win Hopkinson Trophy.

Club win Radio Leeds Cricket Quiz (14th February 1978). The team of Andrew Sugden, Leslie Duncalf, Philip Booth and David Bailey beat Farsley in the final at Pudsey St. Lawrence, after six rounds against teams from all major Yorkshire leagues. Unfortunately, the quiz was not repeated the following year and so the Club may still be Yorkshire Champions!

1st XI are Sykes Cup semi- finalists. 2nd XI are Paddock Shield semi-finalists.

Clubhouse surrounds are tidied up and a retaining wall was built at the front and a flagged area laid to form a viewing area.

2nd XI win Paddock Shield.

U-13s winners of 'Sports Gear Club'.

2nd XI win Section 'B' champions. Club wins Greenwood Trophy.

1974 Nixon resigns over Watergate.

1975 First North Sea oil. Equal Pay Act.

1976 Drought Act during hot summer.

1977 Queen's Silver Jubilee. Elvis dies.

1978 World's first 'test tube' baby.

1979 Thatcher becomes PM.

1980 Lennon assassinated.

1981 *Huddersfield Examiner* says: 'It is easy to see why the village [of Armitage Bridge] lays claim to being unique...The contrast from a busy road to a leafy village scene is as sudden as it is pronounced.' SDP launch.

Charles and Di wed.

1982 Argentina invades Falklands.

1983 Start of breakfast TV. Seat belt law.

1984 IRA bomb at Tory conference.

U-13s are winners of 'Sports Gear Club'.
2nd XI win Section 'B' & Paddock Shield.
2nd XI are Section 'B' championship runners-up.

1985 Al Fayed buys Harrods. Live Aid.
1986 GLC abolished. Chernobyl accident.
1987 February: Parish Church set on fire and completely burned out only a short while after a £20,000 renovation scheme is carried out. Zeebrugge disaster.

1988 Lockerbie disaster.
1989 Berlin Wall torn down.
1990 Poll Tax riots. Thatcher resigns.
1991 Robert Maxwell drowns at sea.
1992 Coal industry privatised.
1993 Maastricht Treaty.
1994 Channel Tunnel open.
1995 Nick Leeson brings down Barings.
1996 BSE beef scare in UK.
1997 Princess Diana killed in car crash.
1998 Good Friday peace agreement.
1999 World population hits 6 billion.
2000 Hatfield train disaster. Dome opens.
2001 9/11 terrorist attack. Foot & Mouth.
2002 UK snubs Euro. Queen Mother dies.
2003 England win Rugby World Cup.
2004 EU enlarged to 25 states.
2005 Tsunami hits Asia.

CRICKET HERITAGE EXHIBITIONS