

## **Community Links**

Golcar Cricket Club has been consistent and generous in supporting both individuals and institutions in the community throughout its history, particularly in allowing use of the ground.

Elsewhere in this exhibition you will find information about the annual Golcar Sing which raised funds for the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, and about contributions made during wartime.

Institutions which have used the club include the Colne Valley Hunt in the 1920s and 30s. In return for an annual subscription, the club was used as a base for one of the hunts. In 1935 and 36 the athletes from Salendine Nook Harriers trained on the field.

The club placed itself at the very heart of the community by hosting events such as a carnival which raised funds for the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary in 1928. The second eleven's match against Linthwaite was postponed to facilitate this.

Golcar's Annual Gala Day was also staged at the ground in the 1920s. In 1926 this event included a curious exhibition by the Golcar Fur and Feather Society. The 1928 Gala was postponed 'owing to the illness of Councillor JW Gledhill, whom it was thought would not be able to withstand the noise of the band'. The event was eventually abandoned for that year and Mr Gledhill, a former vice-president of the cricket club, died the following February.

Individuals who have used the field include Frank Cook of Slaithwaite and Smith Wood of Scapegoat Hill who staged a 100 yard race for a £50 stake in 1926. On this occasion the club took one third of the Gate and supplied the referee, Mr E Garside the club chairman. In June 1937 Mr Gillespie of Slaithwaite staged a boxing match on the ground. By contrast, in September 1927, Morris Livesey used the field for a religious festival.

The cricket club has been pro-active in assisting its members. When old member Mr J Woodhead died in 1927 a wreath was 'placed on his grave in accordance with the usual custom'. In 1927 Golcar agreed to sell 25 tickets in support of a member of Paddock Cricket Club who had been ill for three years. It is heart-warming to find that clubs looked after their own in these days before the

protection of the welfare state. Golcar forwarded 12/6 in advance to Paddock Cricket Club.

Not all the cricket matches at Golcar featured Golcar teams. From the 1920s to the 1960s workshop competitions were held for the businesses of the district. In the 1930s Huddersfield Ladies and a team called Huddersfield Wednesday used the ground. The club has also encouraged use by most of the local schools at various times and in the 1930s negotiated with schools to allow named pupils practice during the day in the summer holidays.