

The Golcar Sing

The Golcar Sing was held every year at the Golcar Cricket Ground to raise funds for the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.

Proceedings were organised by the Lodges in the public houses and usually held on a Sunday in June between 2 and 5pm. Until the 1960s Sunday was largely a day for family and worship, so there were few counter-attractions.

The church choirs of the district amalgamated and the singing was led by the Scape Brass Band from a stand placed in the centre of the field and a collection was taken.

The event attracted huge attendances and usually raised substantial sums for the hospital.

Ironically, at Golcar and elsewhere, these concerts of sacred music revealed the possibilities for Sunday entertainment and contributed to the erosion of Sundays as a day of worship. The Golcar committee voted in favour of Sunday cricket in 1961, around the time that the Golcar Sing came to an end as a wonderful local tradition.

Happily, the local 'Sing' tradition lives on half a mile away in Longwood, where the strains of '*Jerusalem*' and other anthems can be heard annually on a Sunday in September.