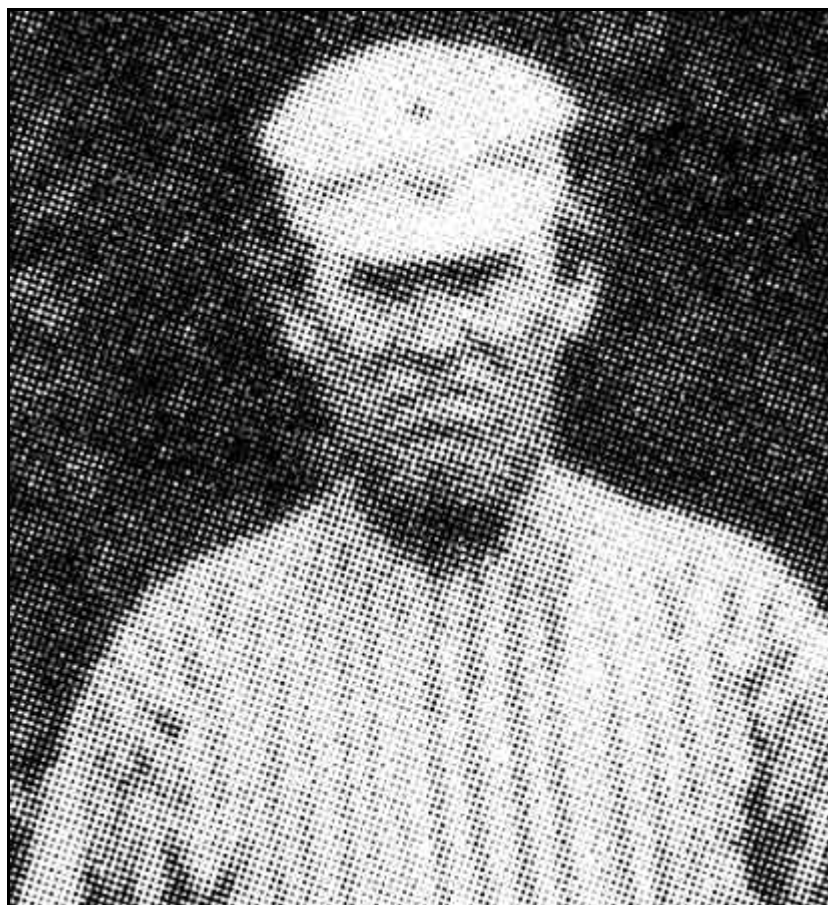


LASCELLES HALL CC

LASCELLES HALL LEGENDS

JOHN THEWLIS



John Thewlis (1828-1899) was a member of 'the most remarkable brotherhood of cricketers Yorkshire has ever known'.

The Thewlis family produced so many talented cricketers that in a match against Chickenley in 1866 the Lascelles Hall team consisted of 11 Thewlises. The umpire, the gatekeepers and the scorer were Thewlises too! Members of the family continued to play for the Hall.

The greatest of the clan was John Thewlis. After many feats for Lascelles Hall he moved into first-class cricket at the late age of 32, playing for an All England XI against Southampton.



But in his first innings he was out first ball. He told the bowler that ‘tha’ll noan bahl me aht t’first ball agen, tha can bet’. Next time at the crease he scored 41, a big score in the 1860s. Soon, Thewlis was starring for Yorkshire and in 1868 he notched a score of 104, the first official century scored for the county side. And he hit W.G.Grace for six!

When his career ended John Thewlis moved to Manchester and slid into poverty. He was discovered by a leading cricket journalist, whose report resulted in the old cricketer being granted a modest pension by Yorkshire CCC. But he died not long after he had made a nostalgic trip back to Lascelles Hall.

EPHRAIM LOCKWOOD

Ephraim Lockwood (1845-1921) was a nephew of the famous John Thewlis and made his Yorkshire debut in a batting partnership with his uncle at the Oval which put on 176 runs.



Ephraim had come to the crease eccentrically dressed and had been mocked by the crowd. But by the end of the day he had become a star. Ephraim became one of the most admired batsmen of his day, compiling a stunning double century against Kent in 1883.

His mastery of the cut shot was especially admired. He was a typically cussed Yorkshireman. He refused to tour Australia but did travel to America with a touring England team in 1879. When the players visited Niagara Falls Lockwood took one look and said 'Give me Lascelles Hall any day'.

WILLIAM ‘BILLY’ BATES



William ‘Billy’ Bates (1855-1900) might well have been the most brilliant player produced by the ‘Yorkshire nursery’ at Lascelles Hall.

When he was a boy he showed so much talent that his pals never wanted to play with him in case they didn't get a knock. He was widely regarded as the best batsman of his day – and he was a brilliant bowler too, taking the first-ever hat-trick by an England bowler against Australia, at Melbourne in 1882. He had begun to play as a professional while still at Lascelles Hall and made his Yorkshire debut in 1876. He would score nine centuries and four times he topped 1,000 runs in a season.



He was also a great success on the Test stage. But it was on the 1886-87 tour of Australia that Bates's first-class career came to a tragic end. He was struck in the eye by a ball during net practice. His sight was badly damaged, ending his first-class career.

He was so demoralised that he attempted suicide on the voyage home. He survived, however, and continued to play cricket, appearing for Lascelles Hall in the 1891 Heavy Woollen Cup triumph. Bates was also known for his stylish, dapper appearance.

ALLEN HILL



Allen Hill was born in 1842 and played for Kirkheaton before joining Lascelles Hall. His first professional engagement was with Dewsbury, being paid half a crown for a Saturday match. A former weaver, he also had posts at Mirfield and Stonyhurst College.

He made his debut for Yorkshire in 1871 and returned such impressive bowling figures that he was presented with a silver cup. Hill had a 12-season career for Yorkshire, until he eventually broke his collar bone playing for an England team.

He registered many dazzling bowling feats including a hat-trick at Lord's. There was an added inducement because in Hill's day the players on a side gave the bowler a shilling each when he had taken three wickets in three balls. Hill's international career included a tour of Australia in 1876/7.

MATTHEW WOOD



Matthew Wood is the latest in a long line of former Lascelles Hall players who have gone on to play for Yorkshire.

Born in 1977 he made his debut for the county side in 1997 and in his first-class career he has scored more than 6,000 runs, with his average being in the mid-30s. His highest score so far is 207 and he has notched up 23 first-class half- centuries and 15 first-class tons.

THE PAMMENTS



Many families have given devoted service to Lascelles Hall CC. One of the best examples is the Pamment family.

It was just before the Second World War that Willie Pamment moved to Lascelles Hall from Hopton and became steward of the Cricket Club. His three sons - Geoffrey, David and Michael – all played for the club. Michael is seen above (third from left, back row) as skipper of the team in 1982.

Several members of the next generation have also starred for the Hall. Michael's son James was widely regarded as being Yorkshire material but his career took him to New Zealand, where he played for Auckland. Michael Pamment has held several administrative offices for the Club and there has also been a full set of Pamment tea ladies. 'We're just caretakers, looking after the Club for the next generation,' says Michael.

ALEC LODGE



Alec Lodge joined Lascelles Hall in 1935, playing with the team and winning many honours until his retirement in 1958. In 1946 he was the sole wicket-taker when the Hall played Yorkshire.

Alec then became a long-serving Huddersfield League administrator – and president from 1968 to 1978. He was also a historian of Huddersfield cricket and much of the material in this exhibition is drawn from his work.

When Alec died at 82 in June 1998 a service of thanksgiving for his life was held at Huddersfield Parish Church. One of the speakers who paid tribute was Sir Lawrence Byford, the president of Yorkshire CCC.