SOCIAL HISTORY OF WIGAN CRICKET CLUB

1848 - 2023

….. with a little bit of Cricket!!!



Victorian Cricket in South Lancashire was founded on:

3 C's
Cotton, Coal & Christianity
or
3 M's
Mines, Mills & Methodism

+

Not a Club for pitmen and cotton workers !!

A Club for the "trade" of the Town
- Professionals
- Business Owners
- Civic members

FIRST MEETING OF WIGAN CRICKET CLUB

The idea of a cricket club for Wigan came from a conversation between John Mayhew, newly arrived in the town as the solicitor for the Earl of Balcarres and William Marsden, a gents outfitter and draper in Marsden Place.

The club was established on 21st August 1848 at a meeting presided over by William.

A very complete set of rules were established, two days later at another meeting the rules were completed, so that no time was lost.

The Hon Colin Lindsay, uncle of the Earl of Crawford, became the president: Mr John Mayhew the first vice president: Mr Frederick Price (Coroner for Manchester), treasurer: Mr Charles William Lightoller, secretary: Henry Lees, Thomas Heald, James Burrows, and Henry Lamb, the committee.

The next question was finding a ground, Rector, Rev. H.J. Gunning refused the use of the Mesnes.

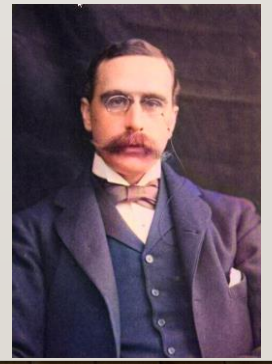
A ground was found, courtesy of the Dicconson family of Wrightington Hall, and wickets were pitched on Brick Kiln Field.

Rent £25 per year

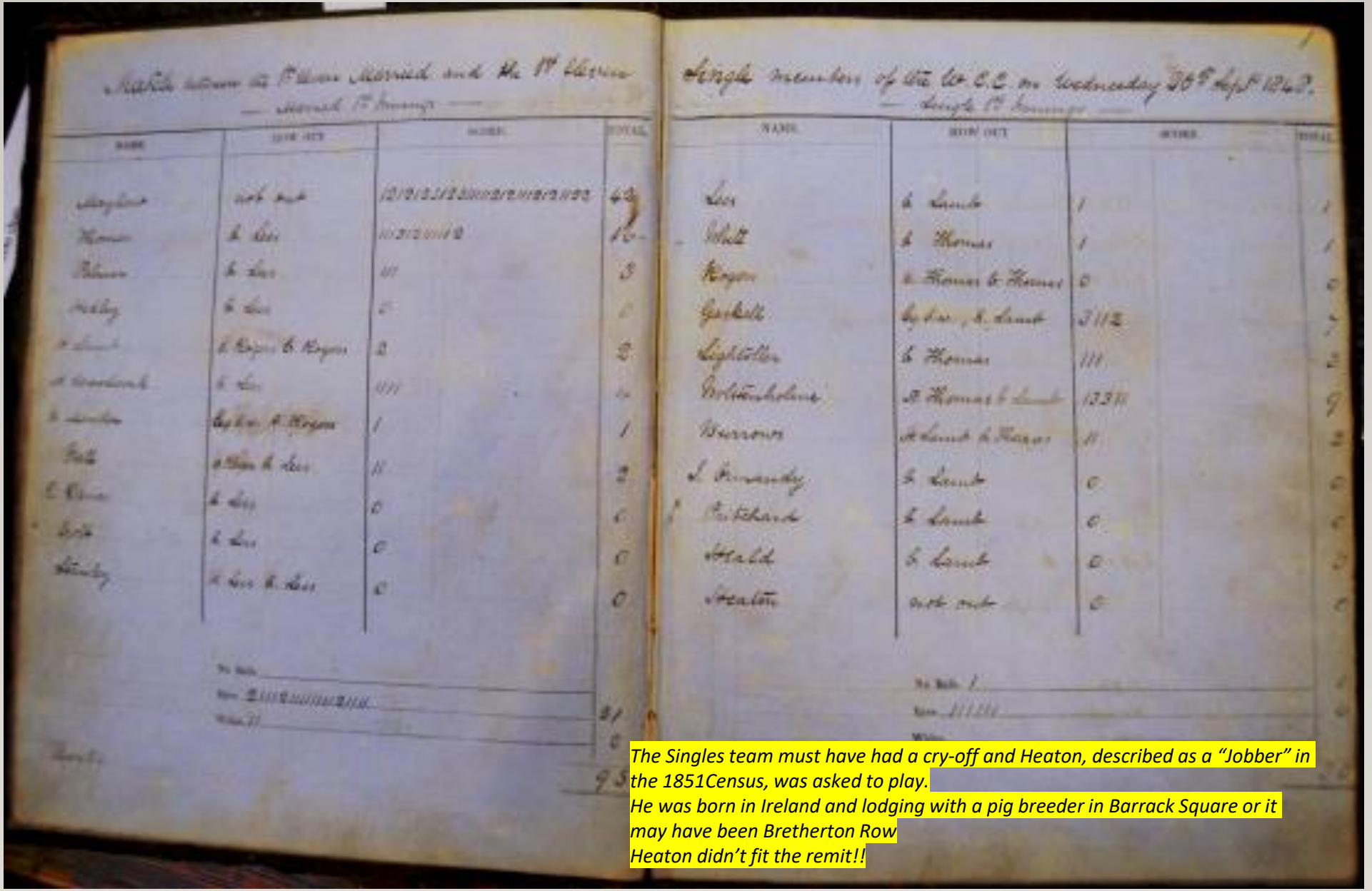


W.G.Grace
was born on
18th July

1848



Hon. Colin Lindsay
was completing the renovation of the
Wigan Parish Church.



The Singles team must have had a cry-off and Heaton, described as a "Jobber" in the 1851Census, was asked to play.
He was born in Ireland and lodging with a pig breeder in Barrack Square or it may have been Bretherton Row
Heaton didn't fit the remit!!

ORIGINAL SCORECARD (1ST INNINGS)

THE FIRST RECORDED GAME IN WIGAN – AUGUST 1843

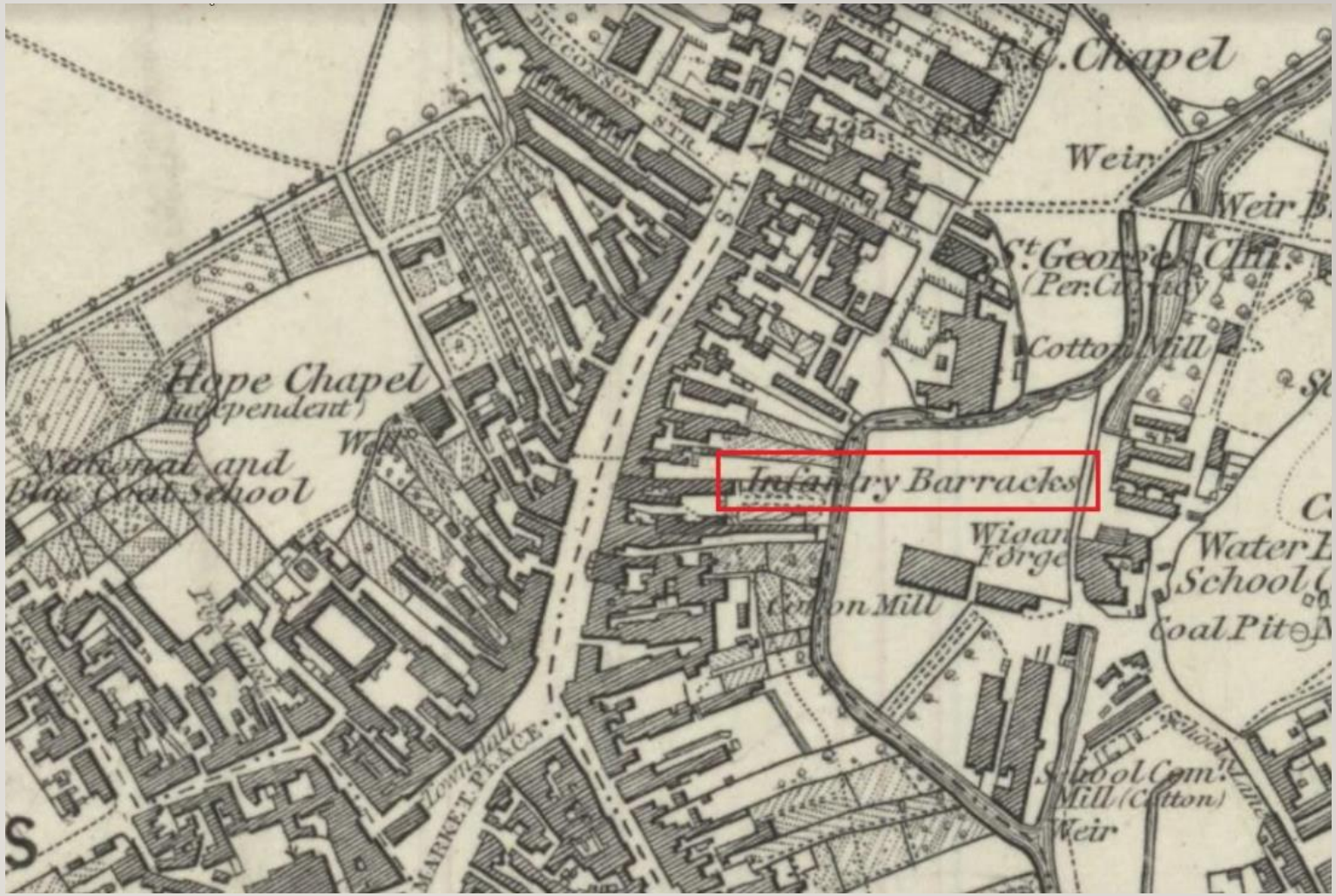


Grand Cricket Match at Wiqan.—On Tuesday last,
the two companies of the 6th Regiment of Foot, stationed at Wigan,
repaired to Amberswood Common, where they played a match at cricket
backed by their officers, for £20 a-side.
The match afforded considerable amusement to crowds of people
from the surrounding neighbourhood, who assembled to witness the sport.
Booths were erected, and refreshments supplied on the spot;
and a number of the parties afterwards partook of dinner at the
Plume of Feathers Inn, Wigan.

Amberswood Common was the scene of many Miners demonstrations and marches

Troops were deployed in northern towns like Wigan in support of the civil authorities during the period of industrial unrest.
The Wigan barracks were in Standishgate, which were eventually demolished to make way for Crompton St
In 1841 Census, 157 soldiers occupying the barracks.
Graham Taylor





WIGAN CRICKET CLUB.—On Wednesday, at noon, the members of this flourishing club assembled at their ground, for the purpose of playing their first match—the married against the single members. Much speculation had been afloat as to the result of the game, although the married gentlemen, from length of practice, were the favourites; the event proved the truth of the conviction. The wickets were pitched at 12 o'clock, and in the course of the afternoon the field was visited by a large number of persons, amongst whom were the Hon. Colin Lindsay, Mr. R. A. Thicknesse, M.P., &c., and a considerable number of ladies. The contest continued with spirit until about five o'clock, and at its close the members adjourned to a dinner at the Royal Hotel. We have been favoured with a statement of the game, which we subjoin:—

MARRIED SCORE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Mayhew not out	42	b Lees	5
Thomas b Lees	16	not out	43
Palmer b Lees	3	c Rogers b Rogers	1
Hedley b Lees	0	b Rogers	1
H. Lamb c Rogers b Rogers	2	b Lees	2
H. Woodcock b Lees	4	b Rogers	1
W. Marsden leg b w b Rogers	1	st Wolstenholme b Rogers	6
Wall c Rogers b Lees	2	b Rogers	4
D. Davies b Lees	0	leg b w b Lees	3
Croft b Lees	0	st Wolstenholme b Rogers	0
Stanley c Lees b Lees	0	b Rogers	2
Byes	21	Byes	1
Wides	2	Wides	3
	93		72

SINGLE SCORE.

Lees b Lamb	1	b Thomas	14
White b Thomas	1	not out	4
Rogers c Thomas b Thomas	0	b Thomas	0
Gaskell leg b w b Lamb	7	b Lamb	1
Lightoller b Thomas	3	b Lamb	0
Wolstenholme st Thomas	9	b Thomas	2
Burrows st Lamb b Thomas	2	b Thomas	2
J. Ormandy b Lamb	0	b Thomas	0
Pritchard b Lamb	0	b Thomas	2
Heald b Lamb	0	b Lamb	1
Heaton not out	0	leg b w b Thomas	2
No balls	1		
Byes	6	Byes	5
	30		33

Wickets pitched at noon and play continued until 5pm, with an interval for refreshments.
Visited by Hon. Colin Lindsay, Ralph Thicknesse M.P, and a considerable number of ladies.
Married team won the match
After the game, members adjourned to a dinner at the Royal Hotel, Standishgate.

REPORT OF THE FIRST GAME - MANCHESTER COURIER

1852 - Unpaid Bill from 1848

WHITESIDE *v.* LIGHTHOLDER.—The plaintiff is the poprietor of the Royal Hotel, and he brought an action against the defendant for £6 6s., the cost of a dinner and w
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The action was brought against George Lightoller by Mr. Whiteside, proprietor of the Royal Hotel for the non payment of the dinner following the first game of the Cricket Club in which he played. George contended he had paid his share of the meal which the total cost amounted to 6 guineas, a similar amount to refreshments provided on the field.
His Honour requested to see Mr. Whiteside's book's. Before he returned the club coughed up the monies owed!
Almost 4 years to pay the bill!

6th March 1852 - Preston Chronicle



George Lightoller – the defendant

Refreshments approx. £13 for the day - £1,500 today

No proper Wigan newspapers in 1852

1851 England, Wales & Scotland Census Transcription

Yarrow House, Chorley, Lancashire, England

Household Members

George Lightoller - Cotton Spinner
Lightoller Mill at Yarrow Bridge

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Sex	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birth place
George	**Lightoller**	**Head**	**Married**	**Male**	**29**	**1822**	**Cotton Spinner**	**Chorley, Lancashire, England**
Elizabeth	Lightoller	Wife	Married	Female	30	1821	Wife	Liverpool, Lancashire, England
Ann Mary	Lightoller	Daughter	Unmarried	Female	3	1848	At Home	Chorley, Lancashire, England
Charles Wood	Lightoller	Son	-	Male	1	1850	-	Chorley, Lancashire, England
Isabella	Markin	Sister In Law	Unmarried	Female	24	1827	-	Liverpool, Lancashire, England
Sarah	Corlass	Servant	Unmarried	Female	21	1830	House Servant	Orrell, Lancashire, England
Betsy	Hargreave	Servant	Unmarried	Female	15	1836	House Servant	Adlington, Lancashire, England



MR. CHARLES LIGHTOLLER,
Second Officer of the "Titanic," who had a miraculous escape, and gave important evidence to the Senatorial Committee in New York.

One of George's descendants, was Charles Herbert Lightoller.

The Early Years of Charles Herbert Lightoller

Charles Herbert Lightoller was born on March 30, 1874. The Lightoller name was well-known one in the district.

Life for young Charles Herbert was not that great, he lost his mother shortly after he was born, and shortly after that his father Fred disappeared and headed off to New Zealand. Without much of a family life, poor Charles decided that his life would be on the sea.

George would gain notoriety by being the senior surviving officer of the Titanic

Following the Titanic Sinking Charles gave important evidence to the Senatorial Committee in New York

Dispensary Balls

Wigan Cricket Club were great supporters of the Wigan Dispensary and organised several Dispensary Balls .

The Dispensary was established in 1798. Its aim was to provide some charitable medical assistance to the very poor of the town. It was financed by donations, church collections, bequests and annual subscriptions.

From 1801 it had a building in King Street. In 1873 it amalgamated with Wigan Infirmary, which opened in that year.



The old Dispensary - King Street



Part of the fence is still there!

The Wigan CC 2nd Dispensary Ball was quite an occasion.



2nd Wigan Dispensary Ball – January 1850 – (Preston Chronicle 19th Jan 1850.)

The ball, which was patronised by the noblemen and gentry of [illegible]ding neighbourhood, organised by gentlemen of the Wigan Cricket Club, took place at [illegible]he Royal Hotel, on Tuesday evening last.

The room had been considerably en[illegible]mittee, at an expense of about £100, by which the inconvenient [illegible]n inside passage through the hotel to the room had be[illegible]

The splendid a[illegible] was adorned in the first style of elegance, together with the confectionery a[illegible]ayed in the refreshment room, surpassed anything that has been witnessed in Wigan on a sim[illegible]on.

In front of the hotel a screen was erected, which was guarded by the police under the superintendence of the chief constable, at which parties could alight without any material annoyance from the public.

The attendance was numerous, amongst whom were:

Lord and Lady Lindsay, Hon. Colonel Lindsay, M.P., the Hon. Colin Lindsay, and a large number of visitors at Haigh Hall; Lord Muncaster, R. T. Parker, Esq., and lady, Sir. and Miss Master, A.K. Boulton, Esq., R. Boulton, Esq., Miss Boulton; R. A. Thicknesse, Esq., M.P., and family, W. G. Walmsley, Esq., and Lady, Frederick Gerard, Esq., and lady, Joseph Acton, Esq, John Woodcock, Esq., and family, H. Woods, Esq., and a numerous company, Reece Bevan, Esq., W. Banks, Esq. - **a veritable "who's who" of Victorian Wigan.**

The proceeds of the ball, after paying all expenses, will, it is said, benefit the funds of the Dispensary to the amount of £100. £11k in today's money.

Dancing commenced at nine o'clock, and was kept up with great spirit until five o'clock on Wednesday morning.

.....like something from a Jane Austen novel.....

Wigan's first all-nighter? – forerunner of Northern Soul at the Wigan Casino!

GROUNDS

The circumstances that determined the grounds played on by the Cricket Club, it's worth taking a look at the various Acts of Parliament concerning the Wigan Rectory Glebe.

WIGAN RECTORY GLEBE ACT 1837 & 1871

1837 Act - Rector – Sir Henry John Gunning

- Obtained an Act of Parliament enabling the rector of Wigan to grant mining leases for working the coal under the glebe –" church land".
- However, he was unsuccessful in the enclosure of the glebe lands, including the Mesnes Well, and restricting public access across ancient paths, etc.

*** In 1860 with the consent of the Earl of Bradford he sold the manorial rights to the mayor and corporation.

1871 Act – Rector - Hon. George Thomas Orlando Bridgeman

- Basically, gained approval to sell the glebe lands.



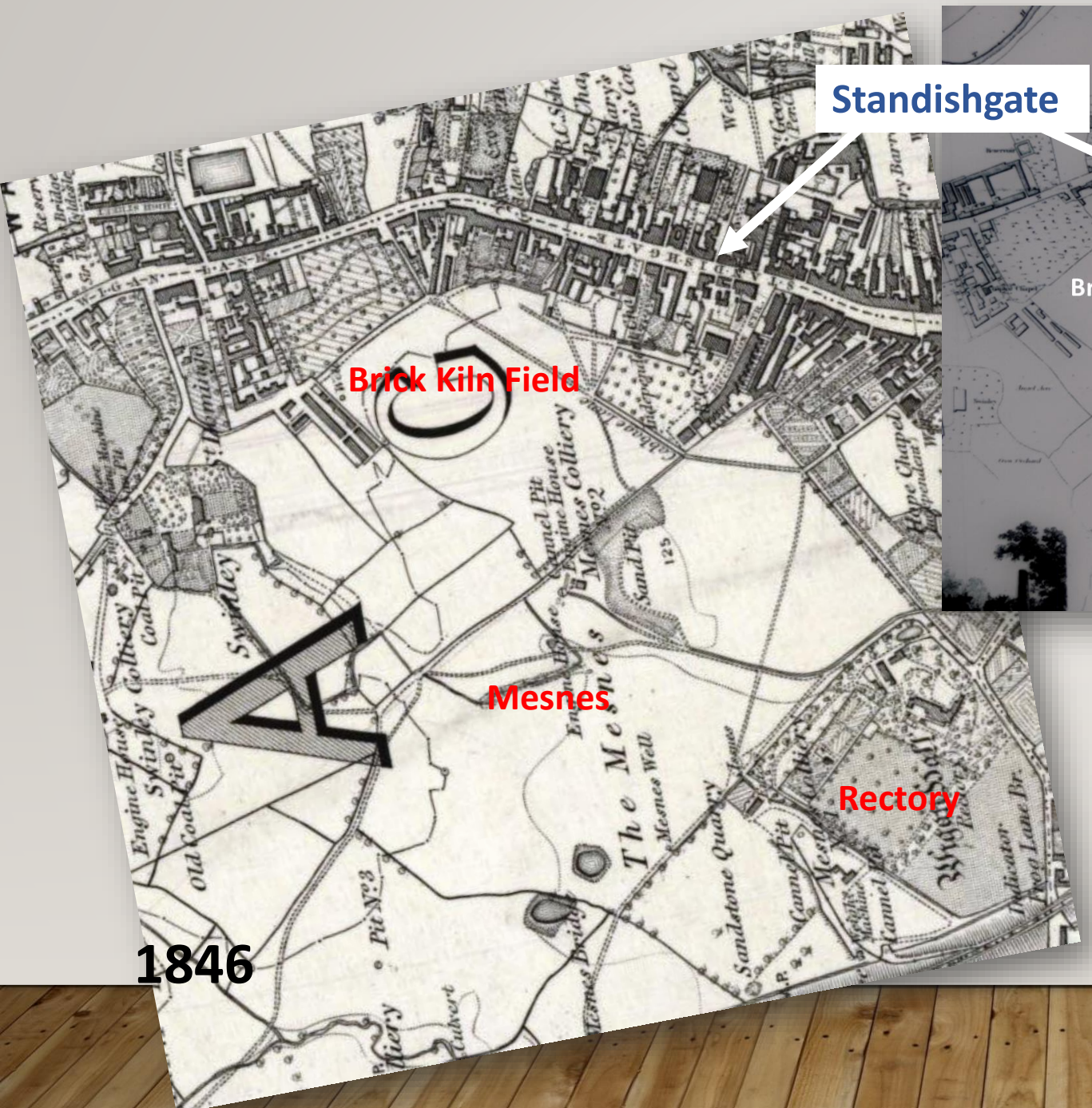
*** Not part of any Glebe Act but nevertheless an important event

BRICK KILN FIELD

1848-1853

1827 MAP




Brick Kiln Field
Mesnes
Rectory
1846


Standishgate
Brick Kiln Field
Mesnes
Rectory
1827

1846 Map - Mine Workings on the Mesnes & Brick Kiln Field



Large change of the use of the land since the 1831 map.

Extensive mine workings

Unable to identify the exact location of the cricket field. In use for 5 years.

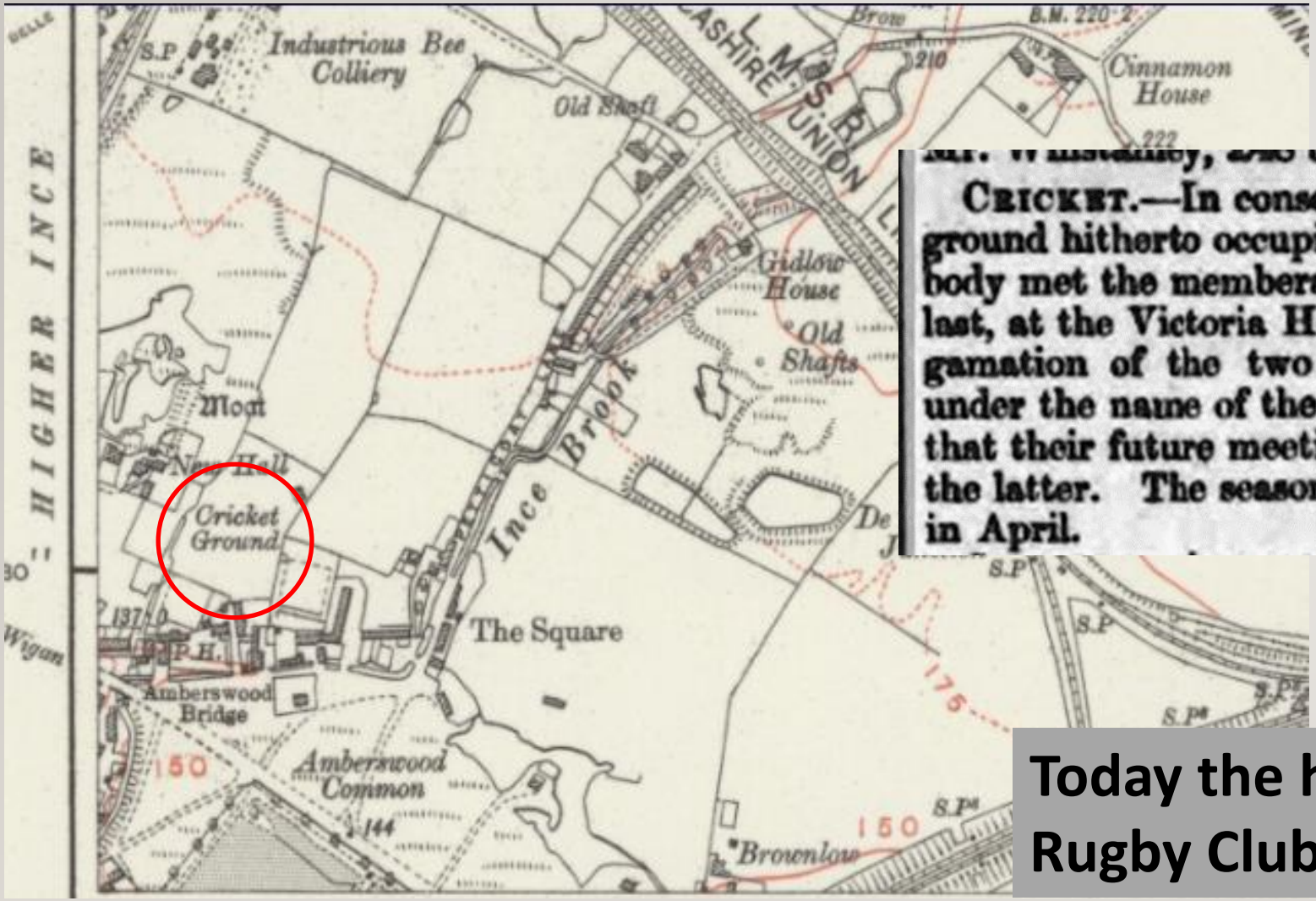
The ground was partially destroyed in 1853, probably mining related, and another ground was required.

Where next?

INCE

1854-1860

WIGAN & INCE CRICKET CLUB



CRICKET.—In consequence of the partial destruction of the ground hitherto occupied by the Wigan Cricket Club, that body met the members of the Ince Club on Monday evening last, at the Victoria Hotel, and it was arranged that an amalgamation of the two societies should forthwith take place, under the name of the "Wigan and Ince Cricket Club;" and that their future meetings should be held upon the ground of the latter. The season is to commence on the first Saturday in April.

Today the home of Rose Bridge Rugby Club

Members Book

SEASON, 1879.

INCE CRICKET CLUB.

ESTABLISHED 1875.

PRESIDENT:—ISRAEL KNOWLES, ESQ.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

REV. T. F. FERGIE, B.D. | A. KNOWLES, ESQ.
T. H. PEARSON, ESQ. | T. MILLIGAN, ESQ.
F. CRIPPIN, ESQ. | C. H. SMITH, ESQ.

PATRONS:

T. KNOWLES, ESQ., M.P. | JNO. PEARSON, ESQ., J.P.
W. CROMPTON, „ J.P. | G. GILROY, ESQ., J.P.
R. WALMESLEY, „

CAPTAIN AND TREASURER: MR. J. T. CRANK.

SECRETARY: T. WILDING.

COMMITTEE:

MR. JNO. KNOWLES | MR. J. T. KNOWLES
„ T. KNOWLES | „ T. YARWOOD
„ JNO. MASON | „ T. CASWELL
„ J. MATHER | „ A. G. GREENWOOD

MR. J. KELLY.

LIST OF MATCHES.

April 12	Opening Game	At Ince.
„ 26	Ince (2nd Eleven) v. Wigan Athenæum (2nd Eleven	„ Ince.
May 3	Ince v. Wigan (2nd Eleven)	„ Wigan.
„ 10	Ince (2nd Eleven) v. Bolton Congregational (2nd Eleven)	„ Ince.
„ 17	Ince v. Upholland	„ Ince.
„ 24	Ince v. Warrington (2nd Eleven)	„ Warrington.
„ 31	Ince v. Chester College	„ Wigan Ground
June 7	Ince (2nd Eleven) v. Upholand (2nd Eleven)	At Upholland
„ 21	Wigan Athletic Festival.	
„ 28	Ince v. Wigan (2nd Eleven)	„ Wigan.
July 5	Ince v. Warrington (2nd Eleven)	„ Ince.
„ 12	Ince 1st Eleven v. Next Sixteen	„ Ince.
„ 19	Ince (2nd Eleven) v. Bolton Congregational (2nd Eleven)	„ Bolton.
„ 26	Ince (2nd Eleven) v. St. Patrick's (Wigan)	„ Ince.
Aug. 2	Ince v. Upholland	„ Upholland
„ 9	Ince (2nd Eleven) v. Upholland (2nd Eleven)	„ Ince.
„ 16	Ince v. An Eleven of Newton	„ Newton.
„ 30	Ince (2nd Eleven) v. Wigan Athenæum (2nd Eleven)	„ Wigan.
Sep. 6	Ince v. Chester College	„ Chester.
„ 13	Ince (2nd Eleven) v. Haigh Schools	„ Haigh.
„ 20	Ince (2nd Eleven) v. St. Patrick's (Wigan)	„ Wigan.
	27—Closing Game.	

John Thomas Crank – Capt. & Treas.
Occupation – Pearson & Knowles Colliery Book keeper
….. keep it in the P&K family!!

July 26th & Sept 20th Ince CC played St. Patrick's CC a rivalry that continues today, but on the rugby field.

MESNES

1860-1873

MESNES GROUND

- The club changed back to Wigan CC on acquiring use of the Mesnes.
- Ground opened on May 26th 1860
- Nominal rent – A shilling per annum
- Tender accepted £26 to lay out the ground.
- Amalgamation of Wigan & Pemberton Cricket Club



Wigan Cricket Ground.

NOTICE.—Persons desirous of CONTRACTING for LAYING the WIGAN CRICKET GROUND (60 yards square), as now staked out in the Mesnes, are requested to see the Secretary, and to send in sealed tenders to him for the same, before Five o'clock on SATURDAY next.

HENRY ACKERLEY, Hon. Sec.

Evidence to suggest that a couple of games may have been played at Pemberton

- Rector - Henry John Gunning

What changed the Rector's mind from his refusal in 1848 to allow the use of the Mesnes in 1860.

** Sold the manorial rights to the mayor and corporation of Wigan at this time?

He had an income of over £2,000 per annum.



In 1867 & 1868 - A Wigan XXII played an All England XI on the Mesnes

Conveniently a sketch was provided indicating the players and buildings in the photograph





Possibly the earliest outdoor photograph taken in Wigan. (28th June 1862)



2) John Lowe - Governor of the Wigan Workhouse

5) Thomas Ashton - Surveyor

6) Edward Scott - Solicitor and brother of Sir John Scott

7) Lever R Rowbottom - Borough Coroner, founding member of the Lancashire Rifle Volunteers (LRV) with rank of Major.

9) Thomas Wall - Editor, son of the founder, of the Wigan Observer.

10) Thomas Fairhurst - owner of the Warrington Lane Brewery, also built Kilhey Court, Worthington.

11) Thomas Lowe - Brother of John.

12) Charles Barker – Provision Merchant

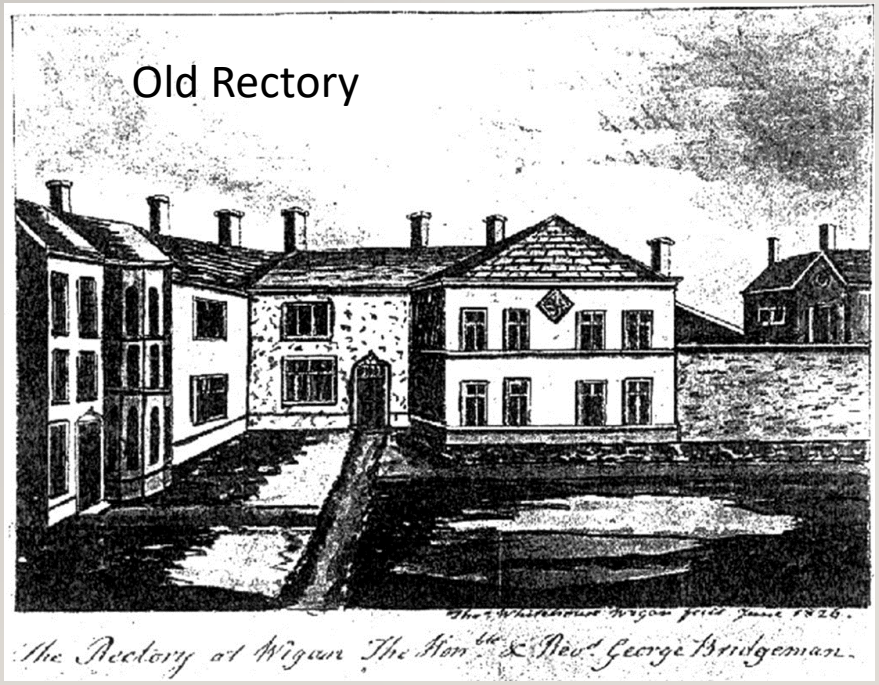
13) William Byrom - Porter & Wine merchant.

Buildings – Lansdowne Terrace, Scarisbrick St. Baptist Chapel “still there!” and Swinley Hall, adjacent to St.Michael’s Church now“demolished”

Cricket on the Mesnes would come to an end as result of the 1871 Rectory Act

1871 Act - Rector G.T.O. Bridgeman

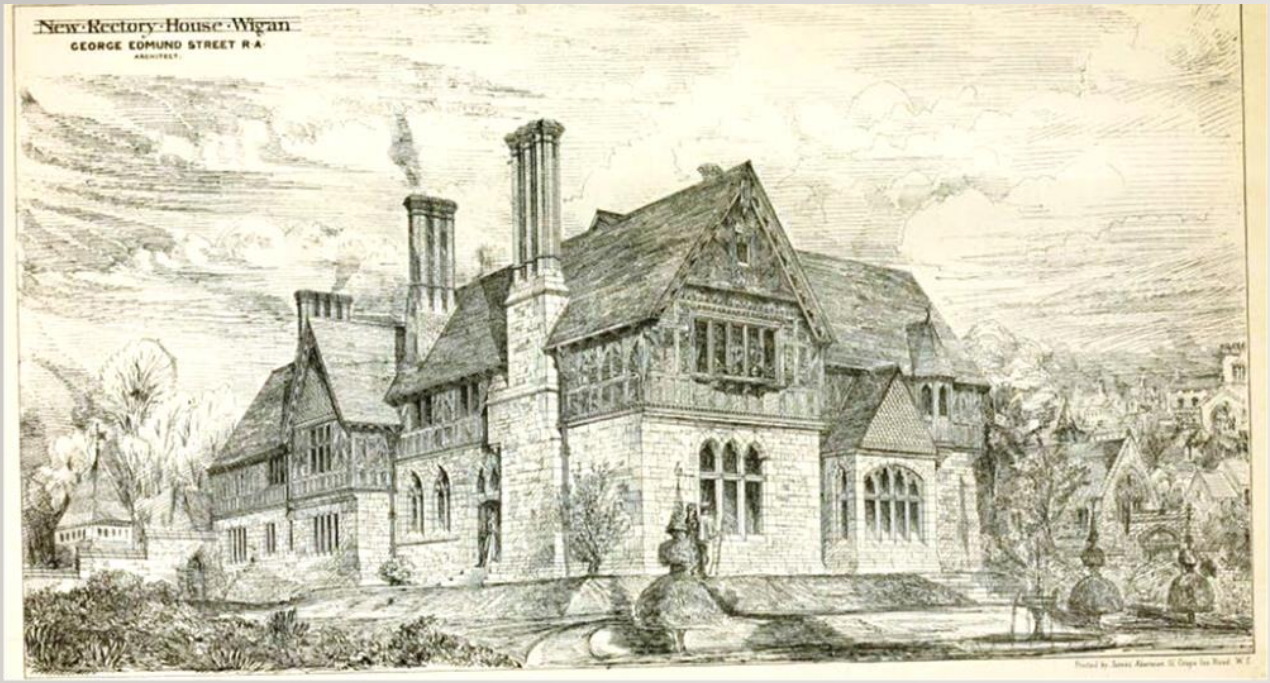
Sell glebe land to rebuild the Rectory (Hall) “much shaken by mining”
16 acres of Mesnes land purchased by Nathaniel Eckersley for a Park and Grammar School for £2k,
the additional land required for the park was purchased from John Fowden Hodges.
Further Council enhancements included Market Square and Market Hall
The construction of Mesnes Park Terrace would cut across the cricket ground.



Thomas Whitehouse -1826



Proposals for “cricket club in the park” similar to Birkenhead Park and Sefton Park, etc was unsuccessful.
Appealed successfully at a Council meeting “can we have our sods back!”



The New Hall

Court of Chancery sanctioned the expenditure £9,249 8s 2d for the new rectory, £1,275 8s 8d for the entrance gate and lodge and a fence to enclose the grounds against the two new streets, New Market Street and Parsons Walk.

The old hall was taken down and a new building, after the designs of George Edmund Street was built and completed in 1875, at an expense considerably exceeding the original sum, the extra money paid by the Rector Bridgeman.

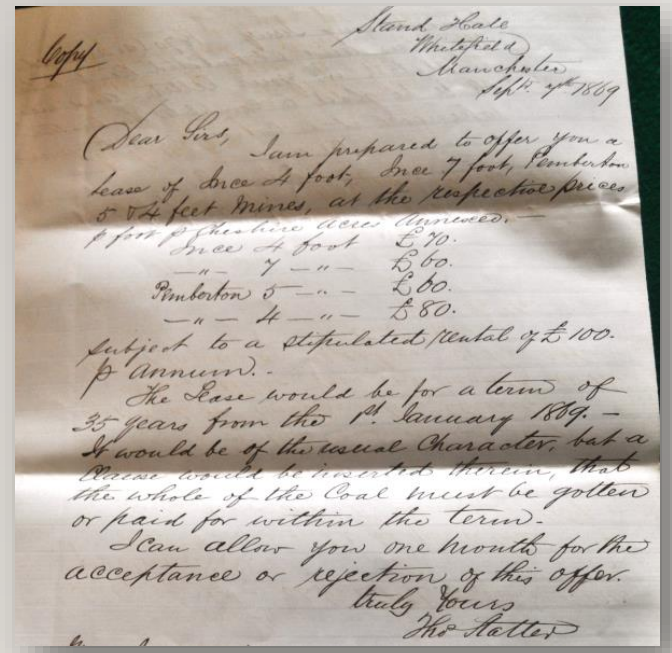
The search for another ground ……

FROG LANE ENCLOSURE

1874-1897 (Prescott Street)

LAMB & MOORE (NEWTOWN & MEADOWS COLLIERIES)

Jan 1870 - Lamb & Moore secured a lease to mine for coal on land in the Frog Lane area.
The land belonged to the Earl of Derby.
The Lamb family had an association with the cricket club, one of the family played in the first game on Brick Kiln Field.
In 1874, arrangements were made between the club and Jonathan Lamb, proprietor, to accommodate cricket on the land not required by the company.
This would continue until 1888.



Stand Hale
Whitefield
Manchester
Sept. 7th 1869

Dear Sirs, I am prepared to offer you a lease of Ince 4 foot, Ince 7 foot, Pemberton 5 & 4 feet Mines, at the respective prices per foot per Cheshire acre annexed.—

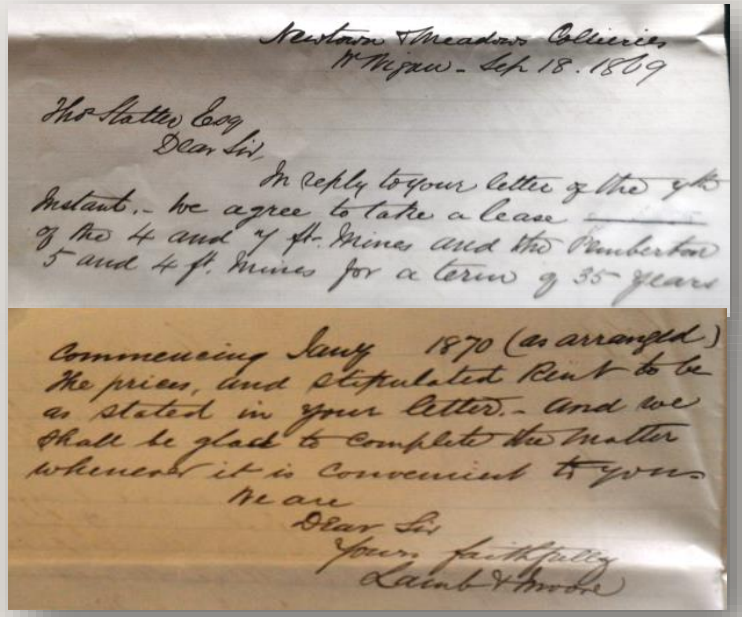
Ince 4 foot £70.
" 7 " £60.
Pemberton 5 " £60.
" 4 " £80.

subject to a stipulated Rental of £100. p Annum.—

The Lease would be for a term of 35 years from the 1st January 1869.— It would be of the usual Character, but a Clause would be inserted therein, that the whole of the Coal must be gotten or paid for within the term.

I can allow you one months for the acceptance or rejection of this offer.

truly Yours
Tho Statter



Newtown & Meadows Collieries
Wigan - Sept 18. 1869

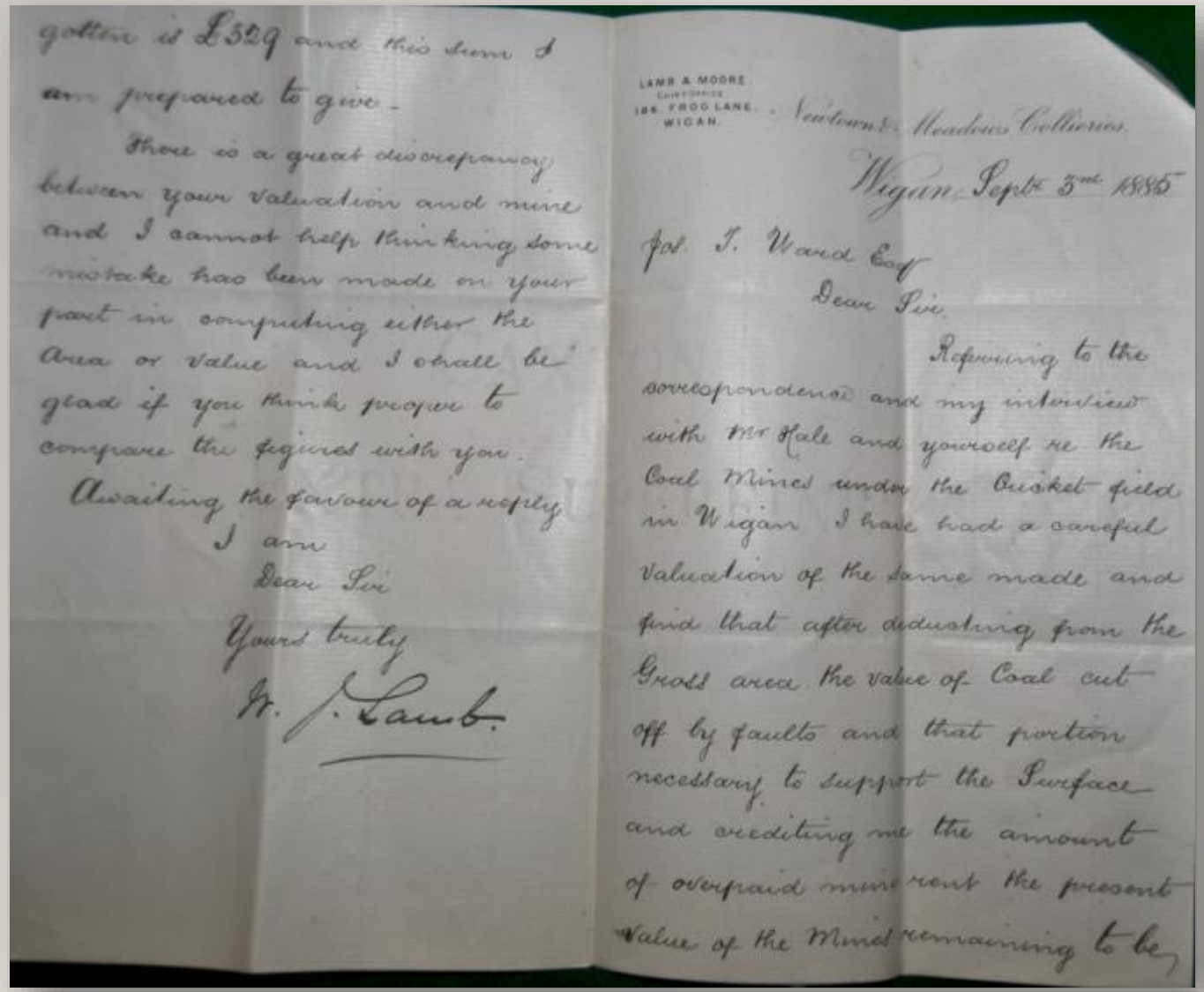
Tho Statter Esq
Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 7th Instant.- we agree to take a lease of the 4 and 7 ft. Mines and the Pemberton 5 and 4 ft. Mines for a term of 35 years

Commencing Jany 1870 (as arranged) the prices, and stipulated Rent to be as stated in your letter.- And we shall be glad to complete the matter whenever it is convenient to you.

We are
Dear Sir
Yours faithfully
Lamb & Moore

Mining Lease - Ince 4ft & 7ft, Pemberton 5ft & 4ft (35 years from 1870)



gotten is £329 and this sum I am prepared to give.

There is a great discrepancy between your valuation and mine and I cannot help thinking some mistake has been made on your part in computing either the Area or Value and I shall be glad if you think proper to compare the figures with you.

Awaiting the favour of a reply

I am

Dear Sir

Yours truly

W. J. Lamb.

LAMB & MOORE
CHEMISTS
185, FROG LANE,
WIGAN.

Newtown & Meadows Collieries.

Wigan Septr 3rd 1885

Jos. T. Ward Esq

Dear Sir,

Referring to the correspondence and my interview with Mr Hale and yourself re the Coal Mines under the Cricket field in Wigan I have had a careful valuation of the same made and find that after deducting from the Gross area the value of Coal cut off by faults and that portion necessary to support the Surface and crediting me the amount of overpaid mine rent the present Value of the Mines remaining to be

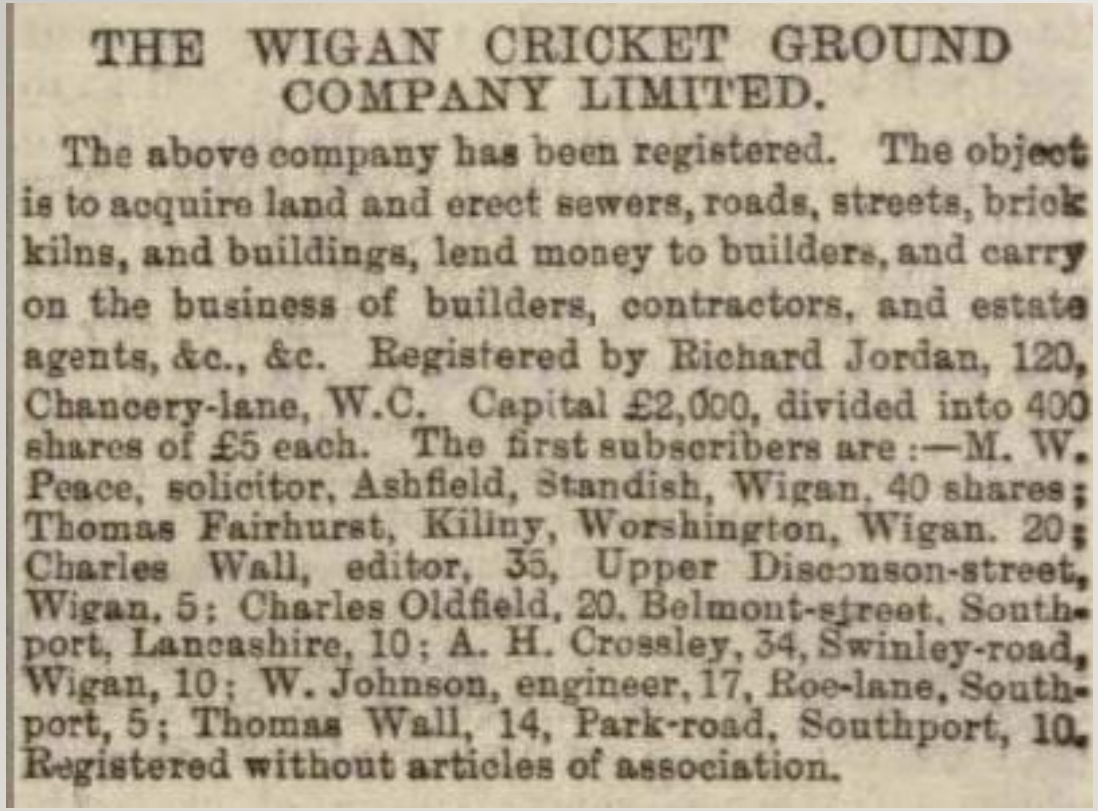
Sept 1885. Correspondence from Jonathan Lamb to the Lessor.

Identifies a large fault in the coal seams and problems supporting the surface, and therefore the lease agreement.
Also discrepancies in the overpayment of rent.

Supposition:
Lamb must have previously contacted members of the cricket club regarding the issues with the agent of the Earl of Derby.

What happens next?

WIGAN CRICKET GROUND LTD – FORMED JULY 1885



THE WIGAN CRICKET GROUND COMPANY LIMITED.

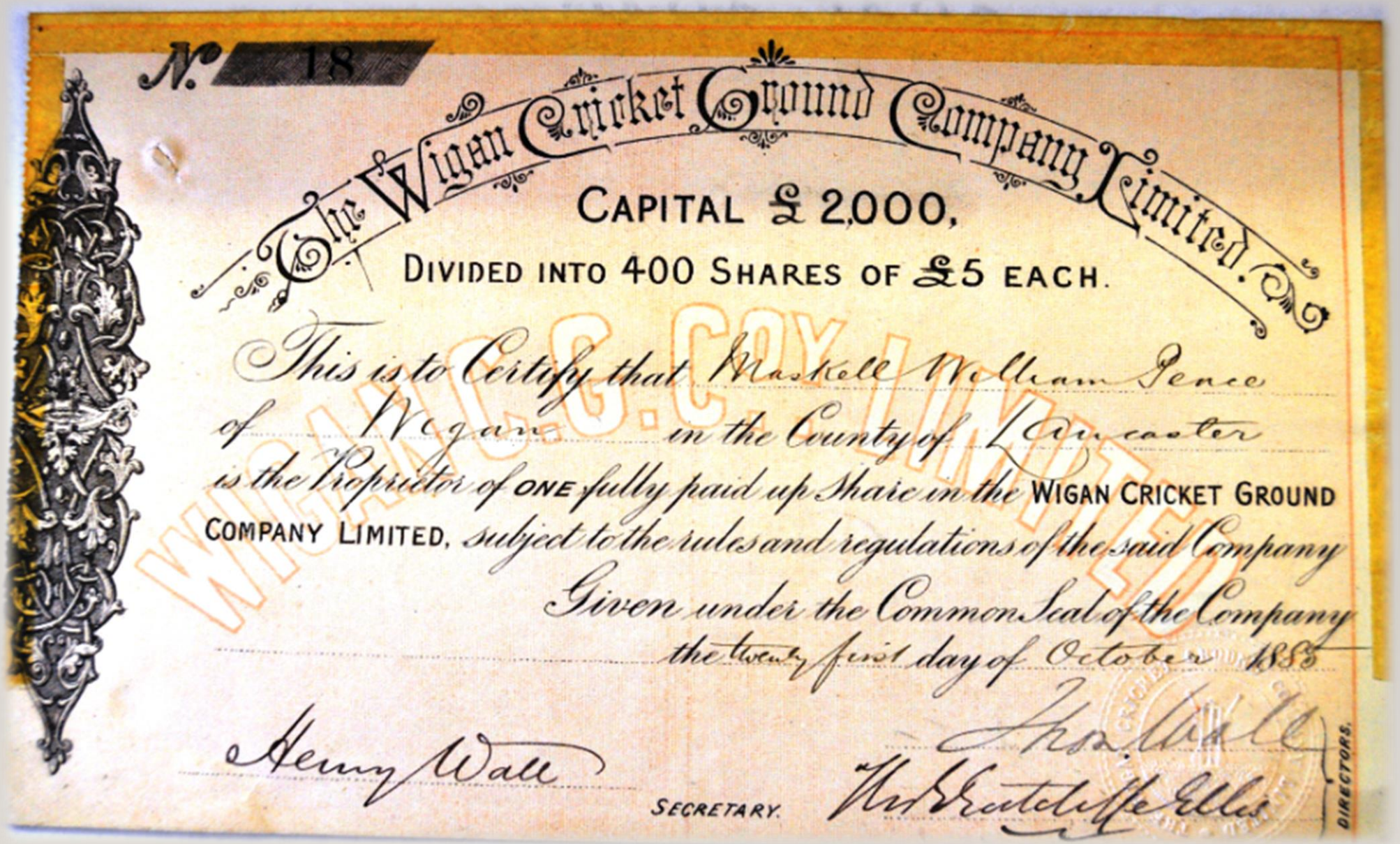
The above company has been registered. The object is to acquire land and erect sewers, roads, streets, brick kilns, and buildings, lend money to builders, and carry on the business of builders, contractors, and estate agents, &c., &c. Registered by Richard Jordan, 120, Chancery-lane, W.C. Capital £2,000, divided into 400 shares of £5 each. The first subscribers are :—M. W. Peace, solicitor, Ashfield, Standish, Wigan, 40 shares; Thomas Fairhurst, Kiliny, Worshington, Wigan. 20; Charles Wall, editor, 35, Upper Disconson-street, Wigan, 5; Charles Oldfield, 20, Belmont-street, Southport, Lancashire, 10; A. H. Crossley, 34, Swinley-road, Wigan, 10; W. Johnson, engineer, 17, Roe-lane, Southport, 5; Thomas Wall, 14, Park-road, Southport, 10. Registered without articles of association.

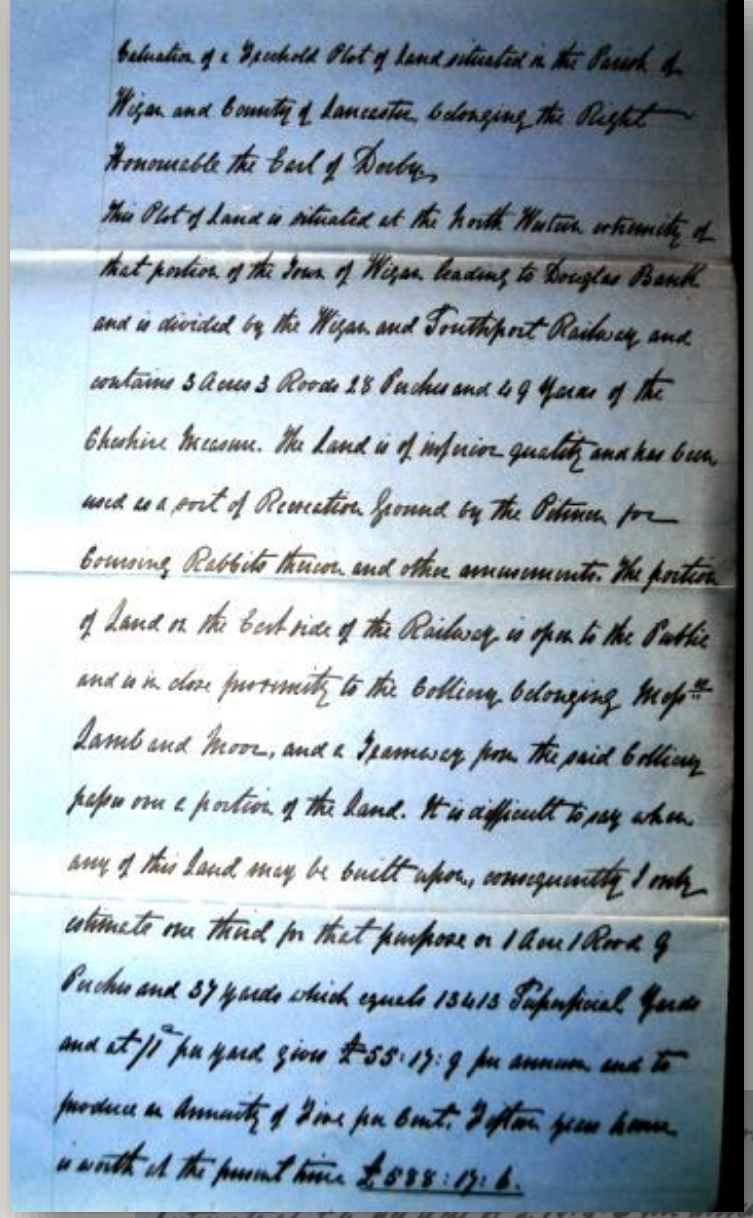
Initial Shareholders:
Maskell Peace – Ashfield House - 40
Thomas Fairhurst – Kilhey Court - 20
Charles Wall – 35, Upper Dicconson Street - 5
Charles Oldfield – Belmont St, Southport - 10
A.H Crossley – 34, Swinley Rd -10
W. Johnson – Roe Lane, Southport - 5
Thomas Wall Snr – 14, Park Road, Southport - 5



Maskell William Peace
John Mayhew gave him his first job!

Signatures
Thomas Wall
Henry Wall
Thomas Ratcliffe Ellis.





Valuation of a Freehold Plot of land situated in the Parish of Wigan and County of Lancaster belonging the Right Honourable the Earl of Derby.

This Plot of Land is situated at the North Western extremity of that portion of the Town of Wigan leading to Douglas Bank and is divided by the Wigan and Southport Railway and contains 3 Acres 3 Roods 28 Perches and 19 Yards of the Cheshire Measure. The Land is of inferior quality and has been used as a sort of Recreation Ground by the Pitmen for coursing Rabbits thereon and other amusements. The portion of Land on the East side of the Railway is open to the Public and is in close proximity to the Colliery belonging to Messrs Lamb and Moore, and a Tramway from the said Colliery passes over a portion of the land. It is difficult to say when any of this Land may be built upon, consequently I only estimate one third for that purpose or 1 Acre 1 Rood 9 Perches and 37 Yards which equals 13413 Superficial Yards and at 1/1 per yard gives £53:17:9 per annum and to produce an Annuity of Five per Cent. I often years hence is worth at the present time £588:17:6.

...ds and 19 Perches ... and at 33/3 ... years purchase £349:3:4.

VALUATION

Land Valuation – unsure of the source and date

In the ownership of the Earl of Derby.

The land, is inferior quality and has been used as a sort of Recreation Ground by the Pitmen for coursing rabbits thereon and other amusements, belonging to Lamb & Moore.

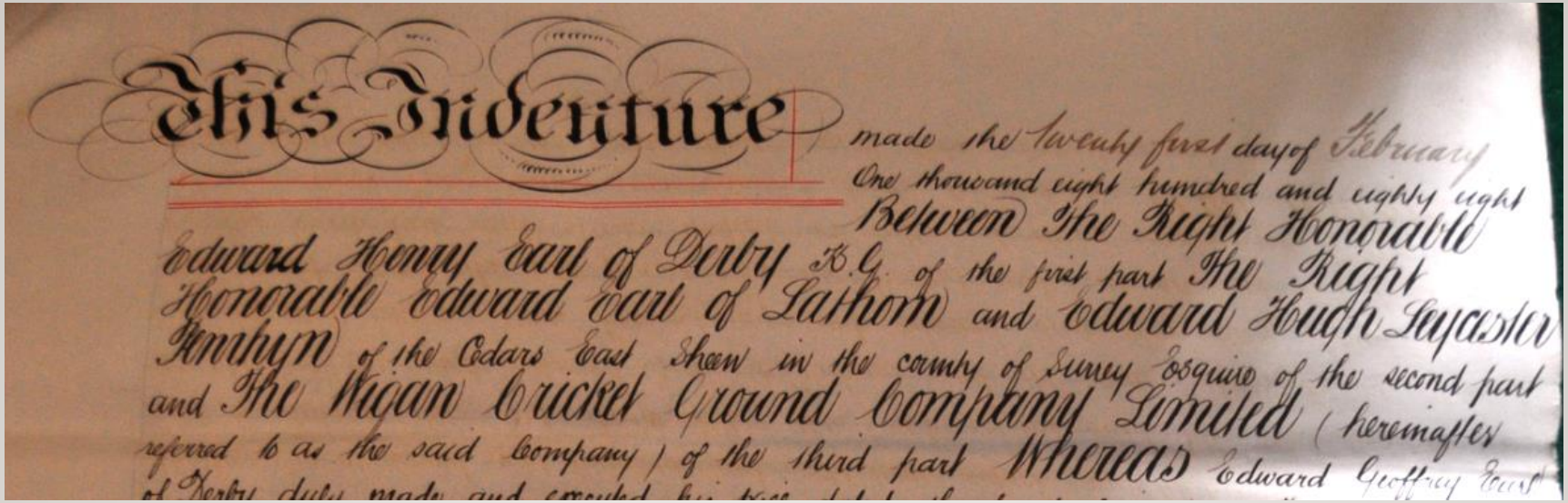
The land to the east of the railway is open to the Public and is in close proximity to a tramway from the said Colliery and goes over a portion of the land,

It is difficult to say when any of the land maybe built upon, consequently I only estimate one third for that purpose.

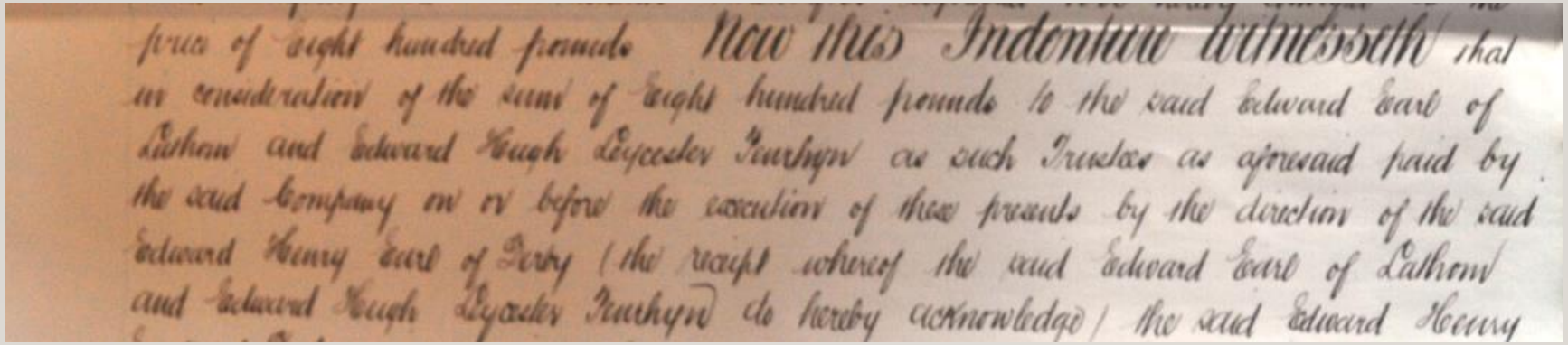
Value £588:17:6

The other plot of land at £349:3:4

Total Value just over £900


This Indenture made the twenty first day of February One thousand eight hundred and eighty eight Between The Right Honorable Edward Henry Earl of Derby K.G. of the first part The Right Honorable Edward Earl of Lathom and Edward Hugh Leycester Tarbuck of the Cedars East Sheen in the county of Surrey Esquire of the second part and The Wigan Cricket Ground Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as the said Company) of the third part Whereas Edward Geoffrey Earl of Derby duly made and executed his

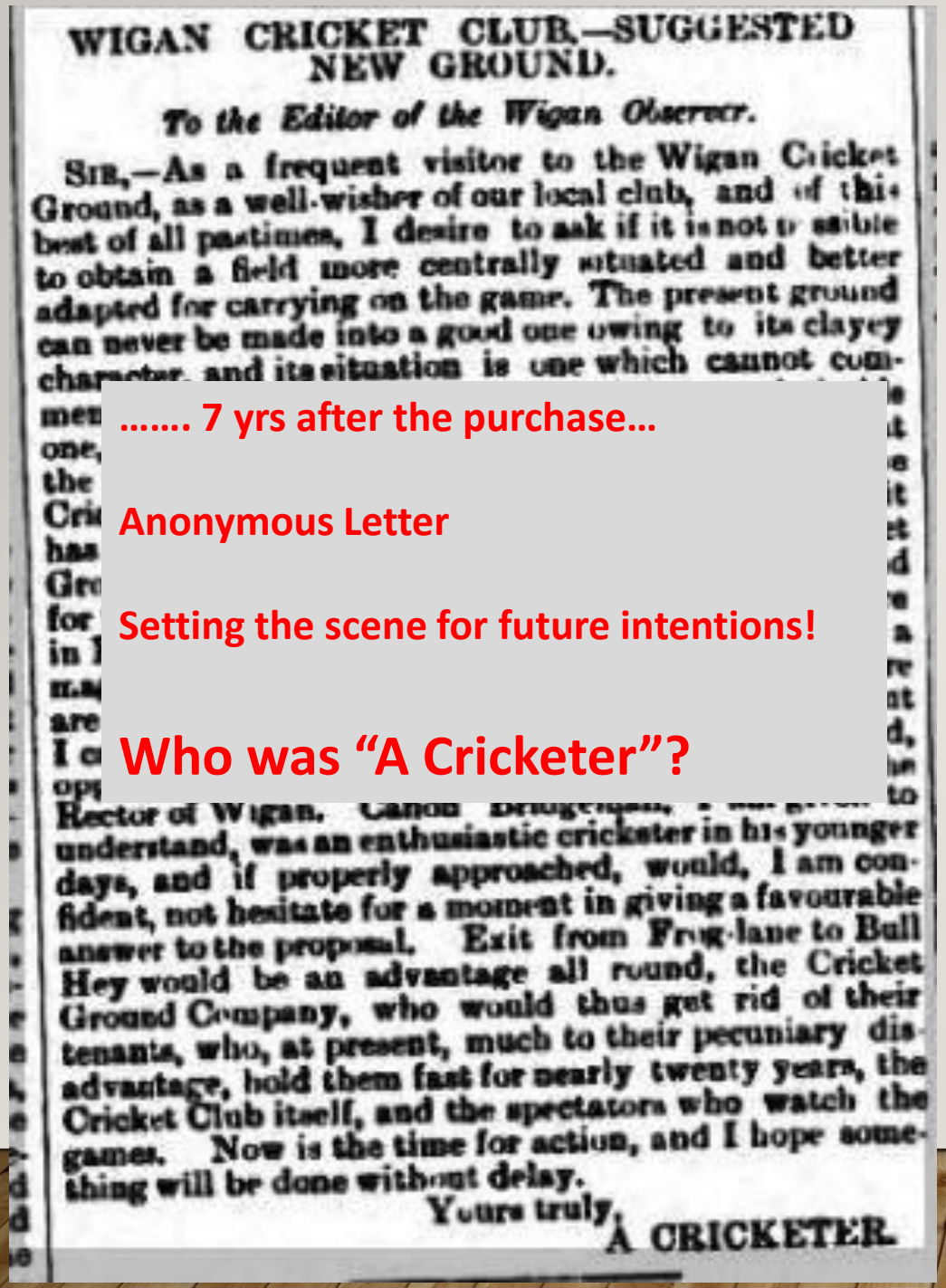
Purchase of the Frog Lane Enclosure by Wigan Cricket Ground Ltd from the Earl of Derby on 21st Feb 1888 for the sum of £800


price of eight hundred pounds Now this Indenture witnesseth that in consideration of the sum of eight hundred pounds to the said Edward Earl of Lathom and Edward Hugh Leycester Tarbuck as such Trustees as aforesaid paid by the said Company on or before the execution of these presents by the direction of the said Edward Henry Earl of Derby (the receipt whereof the said Edward Earl of Lathom and Edward Hugh Leycester Tarbuck do hereby acknowledge) the said Edward Henry

Copy of Indenture Courtesy of Knowsley Hall

After the purchase a long term lease was agreed with Wigan Cricket Club


Bull Hey
B.M. 114·5
B.M. 103·8
Wigan
Union Workhouse
B.M. 105·0
L.B
S.P.
S.B.
Wigan Hall
Colliery
Sun. Sch.
99·2
Schs.
B.M. 115·5
B.M. 88·5
Newton-le-Willows 7 M.P.
S.P.
S.P.
Wigan Cricket Ground Ltd
Land purchased by the company included land either side of L&Y railway
Cricket & Football Ground
B.B.
S.P.
B.M. 86·4
109·5
LANE
RICHMOND ST.
MORNING ST.



WIGAN CRICKET CLUB.—SUGGESTED NEW GROUND.

To the Editor of the Wigan Observer.

SIR,—As a frequent visitor to the Wigan Cricket Ground, as a well-wisher of our local club, and of this best of all pastimes, I desire to ask if it is not possible to obtain a field more centrally situated and better adapted for carrying on the game. The present ground can never be made into a good one owing to its clayey character, and its situation is one which cannot com-

Rector of Wigan. Canon Bridgeman, I am given to understand, was an enthusiastic cricketer in his younger days, and if properly approached, would, I am confident, not hesitate for a moment in giving a favourable answer to the proposal. Exit from Frog-lane to Bull Hey would be an advantage all round, the Cricket Ground Company, who would thus get rid of their tenants, who, at present, much to their pecuniary disadvantage, hold them fast for nearly twenty years, the Cricket Club itself, and the spectators who watch the games. Now is the time for action, and I hope something will be done without delay.

Yours truly,

A CRICKETER.

……. 7 yrs after the purchase…

Anonymous Letter

Setting the scene for future intentions!

Who was "A Cricketer"?

Sept 1895 – Suggested new ground!

Present ground can never be made good – Clayey soil

Approach undesirable.

Cricket Club have a long lease.

Idea to purchase a new ground.

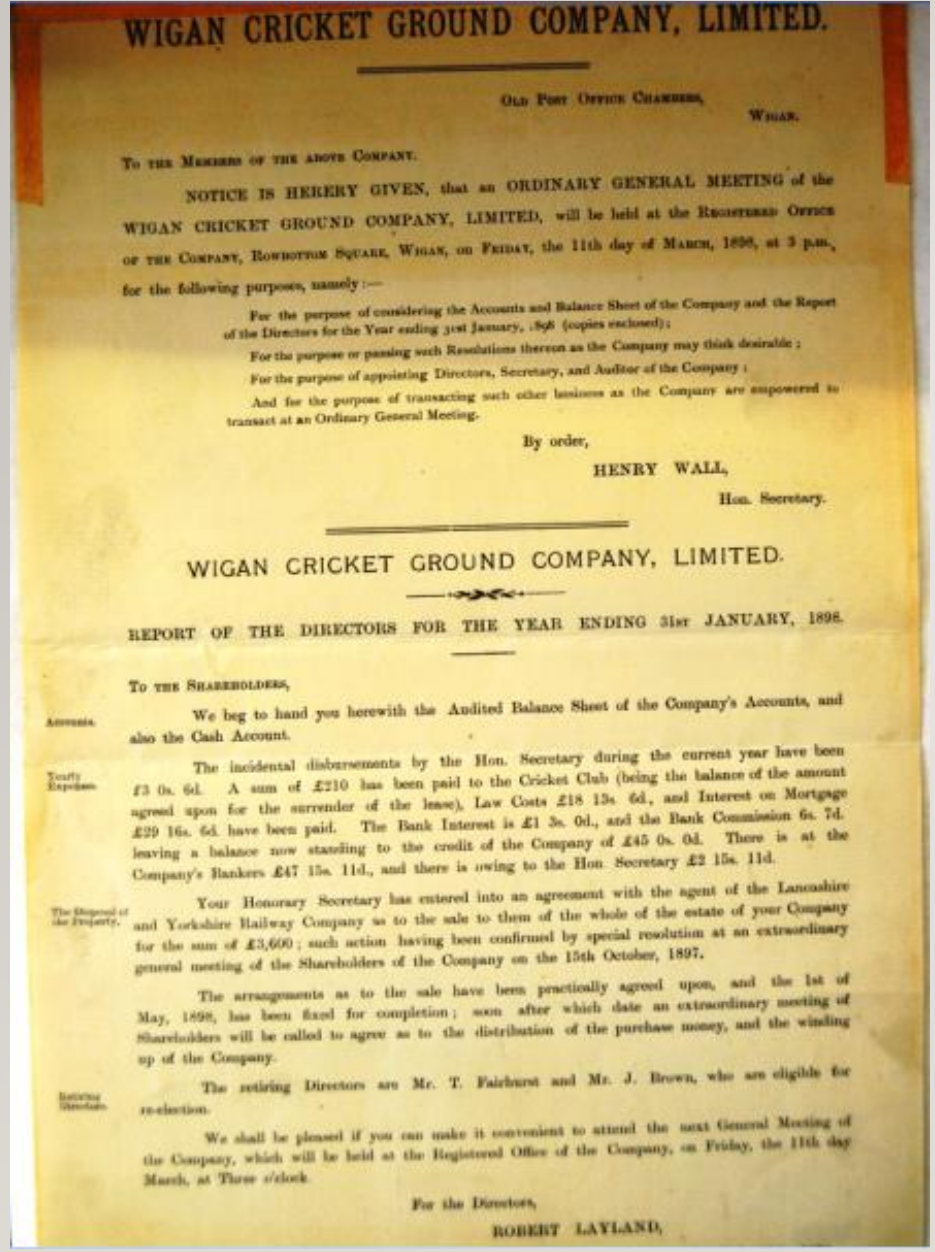
WCG Ltd - develop the land for housing.

Suggest Bull Hey as a suitable site.

Canon Bridgeman – a keen cricketer in his youth.
Wouldn't hesitate in giving a favourable answer.

Wigan Cricket Ground Ltd – financially disadvantaged by the lease to the Cricket Club.

Now is the time for action!!



WIGAN CRICKET GROUND COMPANY, LIMITED.

Old Post Office Chambers,
Wigan.

To the Members of the above Company.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that an ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the WIGAN CRICKET GROUND COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held at the Registered Office of the Company, Rowbottom Square, Wigan, on Friday, the 11th day of March, 1898, at 3 p.m., for the following purposes, namely:—

For the purpose of considering the Accounts and Balance Sheet of the Company and the Report of the Directors for the Year ending 31st January, 1898 (copies enclosed);

For the purpose of passing such Resolutions thereon as the Company may think desirable;

For the purpose of appointing Directors, Secretary, and Auditor of the Company;

And for the purpose of transacting such other business as the Company are empowered to transact at an Ordinary General Meeting.

By order,

HENRY WALL,
Hon. Secretary.

WIGAN CRICKET GROUND COMPANY, LIMITED.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st JANUARY, 1898.

To the Shareholders,

Accounts. We beg to hand you herewith the Audited Balance Sheet of the Company's Accounts, and also the Cash Account.

Trustees' Expenses. The incidental disbursements by the Hon. Secretary during the current year have been £3 0s. 6d. A sum of £210 has been paid to the Cricket Club (being the balance of the amount agreed upon for the surrender of the lease), Law Costs £18 13s. 6d., and Interest on Mortgage £29 16s. 6d. have been paid. The Bank Interest is £1 3s. 0d., and the Bank Commission 6s. 7d. leaving a balance now standing to the credit of the Company of £45 0s. 0d. There is at the Company's Bankers £47 15s. 11d., and there is owing to the Hon. Secretary £2 15s. 11d.

The Disposal of the Property. Your Honorary Secretary has entered into an agreement with the agent of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company as to the sale to them of the whole of the estate of your Company for the sum of £3,600; such action having been confirmed by special resolution at an extraordinary general meeting of the Shareholders of the Company on the 15th October, 1897.

The arrangements as to the sale have been practically agreed upon, and the 1st of May, 1898, has been fixed for completion; soon after which date an extraordinary meeting of Shareholders will be called to agree as to the distribution of the purchase money, and the winding up of the Company.

Retiring Directors. The retiring Directors are Mr. T. Fairhurst and Mr. J. Brown, who are eligible for re-election.

We shall be pleased if you can make it convenient to attend the next General Meeting of the Company, which will be held at the Registered Office of the Company, on Friday, the 11th day March, at Three o'clock.

For the Directors,

ROBERT LAYLAND,

3 years later……

1898 - Sale of the Frog Lane Enclosure

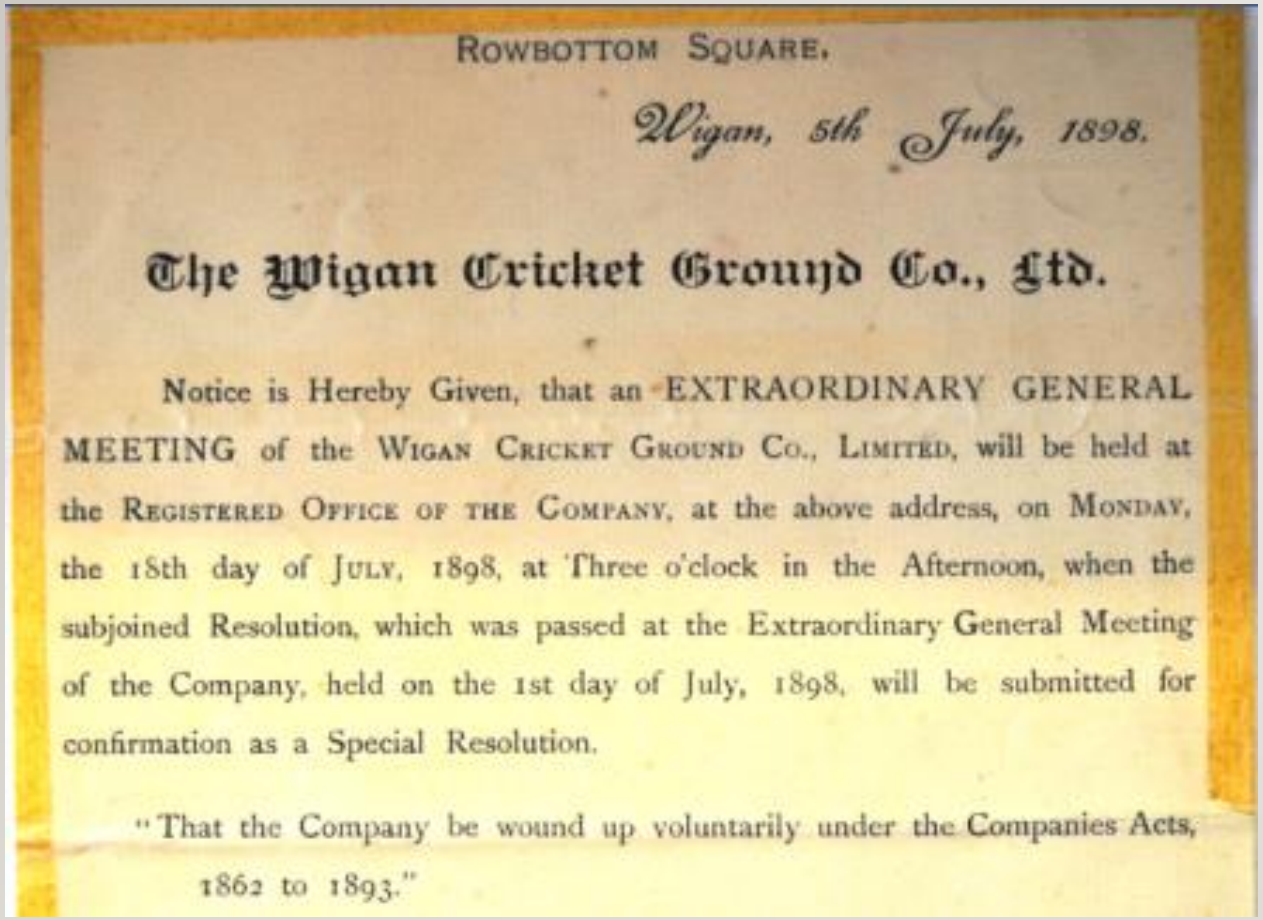
Your Hon Sec has entered into an Agreement with the agent of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co as to the sale of the whole of the estate of your Company.

For the sum of **£3,600**; such action having been confirmed by the special resolution at an extraordinary general meeting of the Shareholders of the Company on 15th October 1897.

The arrangements as to the sale have been practically agreed upon and 1st of May 1898 have been fixed for Completion, soon after which date an extraordinary Meeting of the Shareholders will be called to agree as to the Distribution of the purchase money and the winding up of the Company

The land was bought for £800 in 1888.
Sold for £3,600 in 1898.
Profit of £2,800 in 10 years! - £445k in today's money?

WCG Ltd - Liquidated



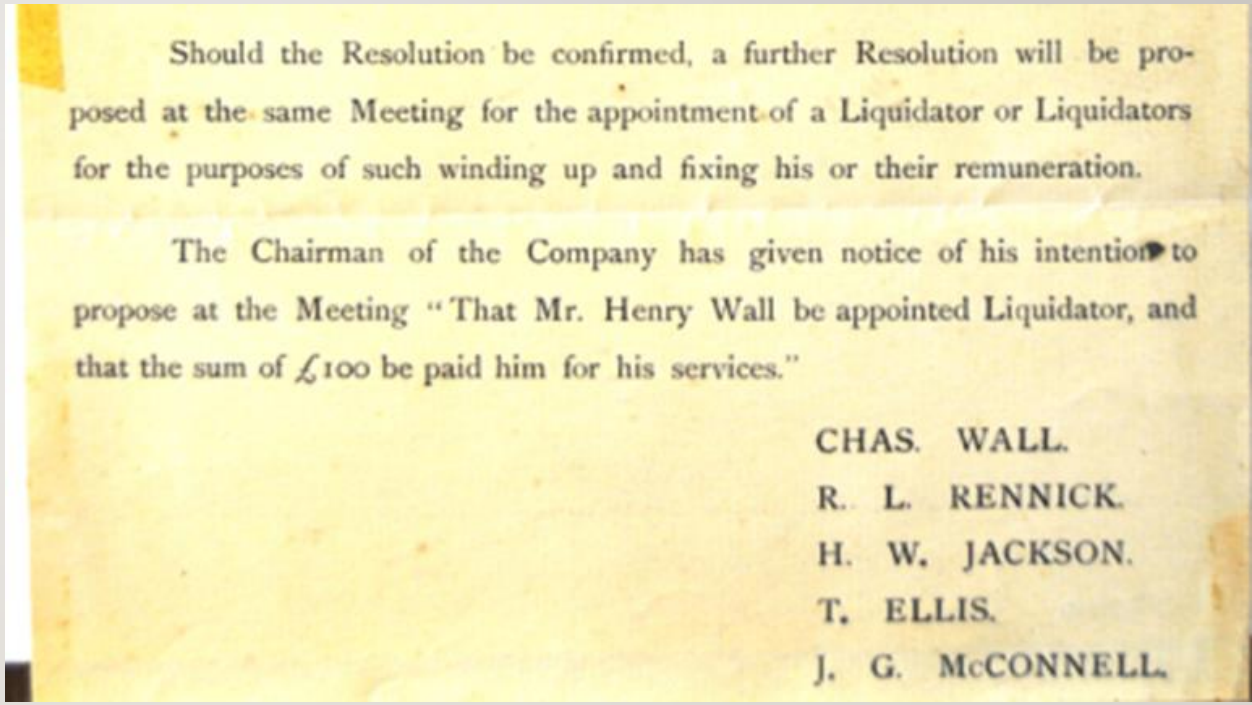
ROWBOTTOM SQUARE,

Wigan, 5th July, 1898.

The Wigan Cricket Ground Co., Ltd.

Notice is Hereby Given, that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the WIGAN CRICKET GROUND CO., LIMITED, will be held at the REGISTERED OFFICE OF THE COMPANY, at the above address, on MONDAY, the 18th day of JULY, 1898, at Three o'clock in the Afternoon, when the subjoined Resolution, which was passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company, held on the 1st day of July, 1898, will be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution.

"That the Company be wound up voluntarily under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1893."



Should the Resolution be confirmed, a further Resolution will be proposed at the same Meeting for the appointment of a Liquidator or Liquidators for the purposes of such winding up and fixing his or their remuneration.

The Chairman of the Company has given notice of his intention to propose at the Meeting "That Mr. Henry Wall be appointed Liquidator, and that the sum of £100 be paid him for his services."

CHAS. WALL.
R. L. RENNICK.
H. W. JACKSON.
T. ELLIS.
J. G. McCONNELL.

TIMELINE - FROG LANE ENCLOSURE – aka PRESCOTT ST GROUND

1870 - Lamb & Moore secure lease on the land for mining purposes

Presume Lamb & Moore were only interested on what was under the ground, and allowed WCC to play on the land.

1875 - First Cricket Match,

1885 - Wigan Cricket Ground Ltd formed

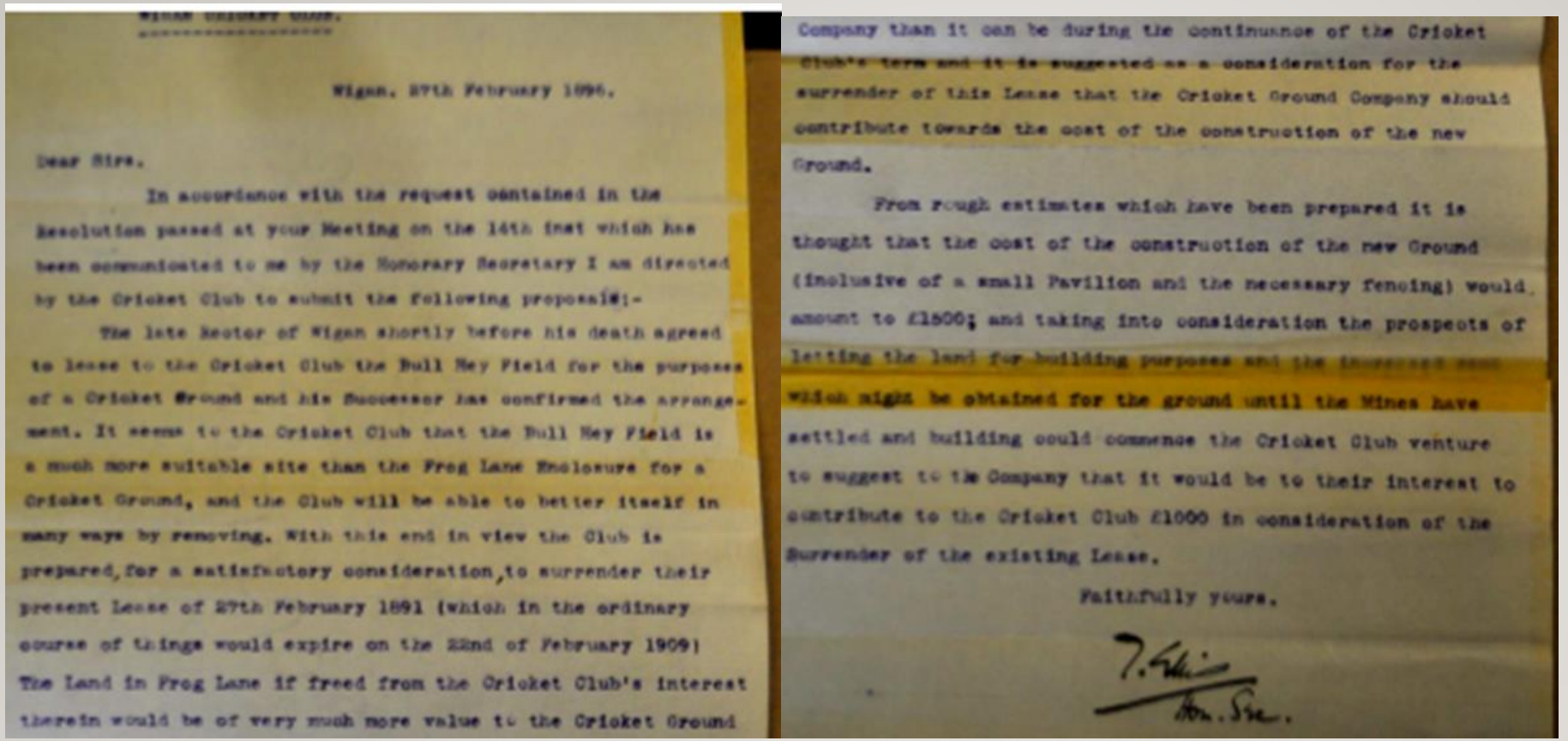
1888 - WCG Ltd purchase land from Earl of Derby for £800

1898 - WCG Ltd sell land to L & Y Railway for £3600

1898 - 18th July WCG Ltd Wound up – Donation of £750 to the Cricket Club.

BULL HEY

1898 – 2023



Wigan. 27th February 1896.

Dear Sirs.

In accordance with the request contained in the Resolution passed at your Meeting on the 14th inst which has been communicated to me by the Honorary Secretary I am directed by the Cricket Club to submit the following proposal:-

The late Rector of Wigan shortly before his death agreed to lease to the Cricket Club the Bull Hey Field for the purposes of a Cricket Ground and his Successor has confirmed the arrangement. It seems to the Cricket Club that the Bull Hey Field is a much more suitable site than the Frog Lane Enclosure for a Cricket Ground, and the Club will be able to better itself in many ways by removing. With this end in view the Club is prepared, for a satisfactory consideration, to surrender their present Lease of 27th February 1891 (which in the ordinary course of things would expire on the 22nd of February 1909) The Land in Frog Lane if freed from the Cricket Club's interest therein would be of very much more value to the Cricket Ground Company than it can be during the continuance of the Cricket Club's term and it is suggested as a consideration for the surrender of this Lease that the Cricket Ground Company should contribute towards the cost of the construction of the new Ground.

From rough estimates which have been prepared it is thought that the cost of the construction of the new Ground (inclusive of a small Pavilion and the necessary fencing) would amount to £1500; and taking into consideration the prospects of letting the land for building purposes and the increased rent which might be obtained for the ground until the Mines have settled and building could commence the Cricket Club venture to suggest to the Company that it would be to their interest to contribute to the Cricket Club £1000 in consideration of the Surrender of the existing Lease.

Faithfully yours.

T. Ellis
Hon. Sec.

The letter above from Secretary, Tom Ellis, giving up the lease in return for £1,000.
Estimates suggested that laying out the ground, a small pavilion and necessary fencing would cost £1,500.
Todays money - £200k

The new Rector, Rev. Roland George Matthews, confirmed the arrangements for a lease on Bull Hey Field



WIGAN & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE THIRD ANNUAL SHOW

To be held (by kind permission of the Hon. and Rev. Canon Bridgeman)

IN BULL HEY FIELD, WIGAN,

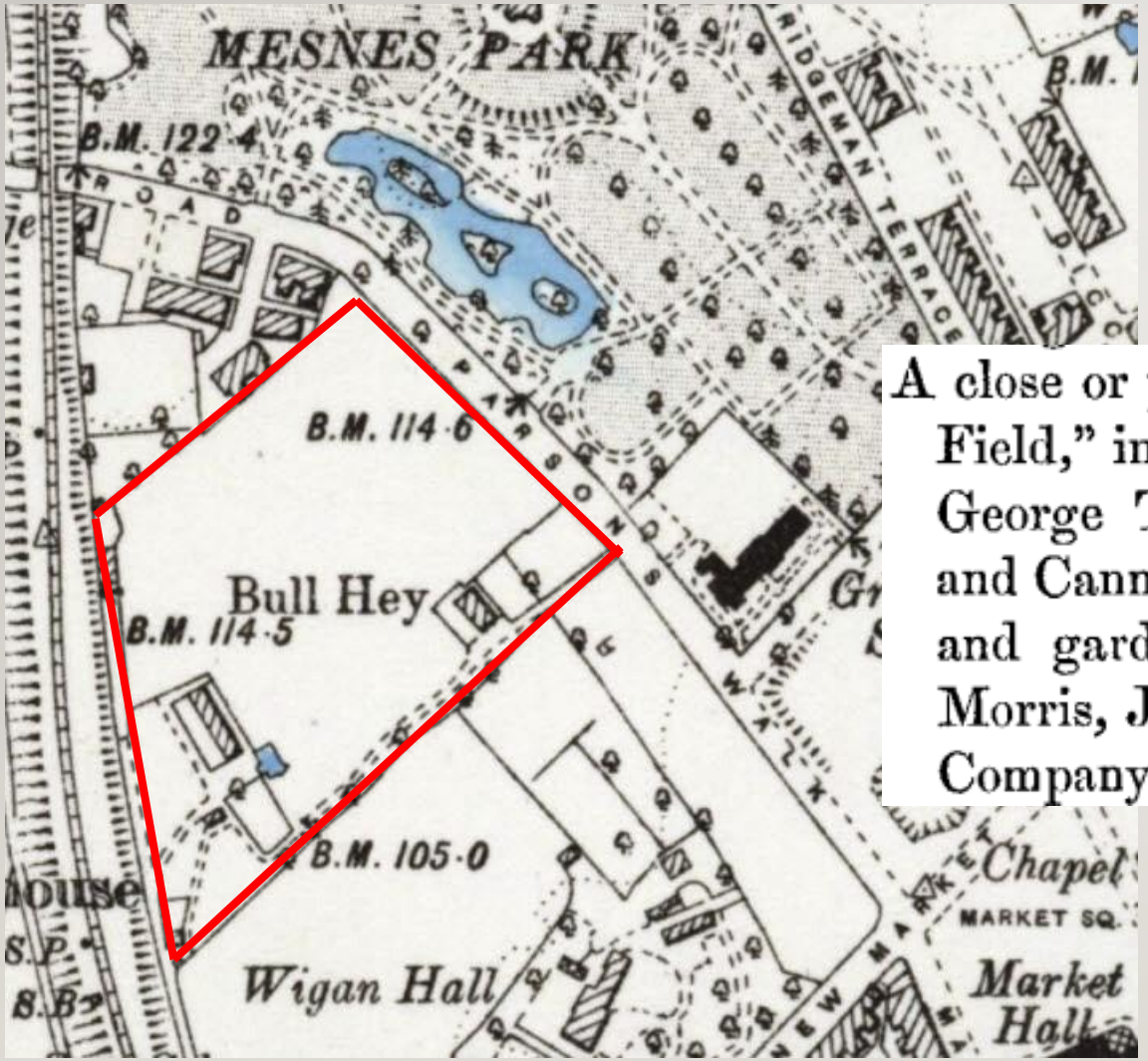
INSTEAD OF WHITLEY PARK,

ON SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH, 1895.

Is this Bull Hey?

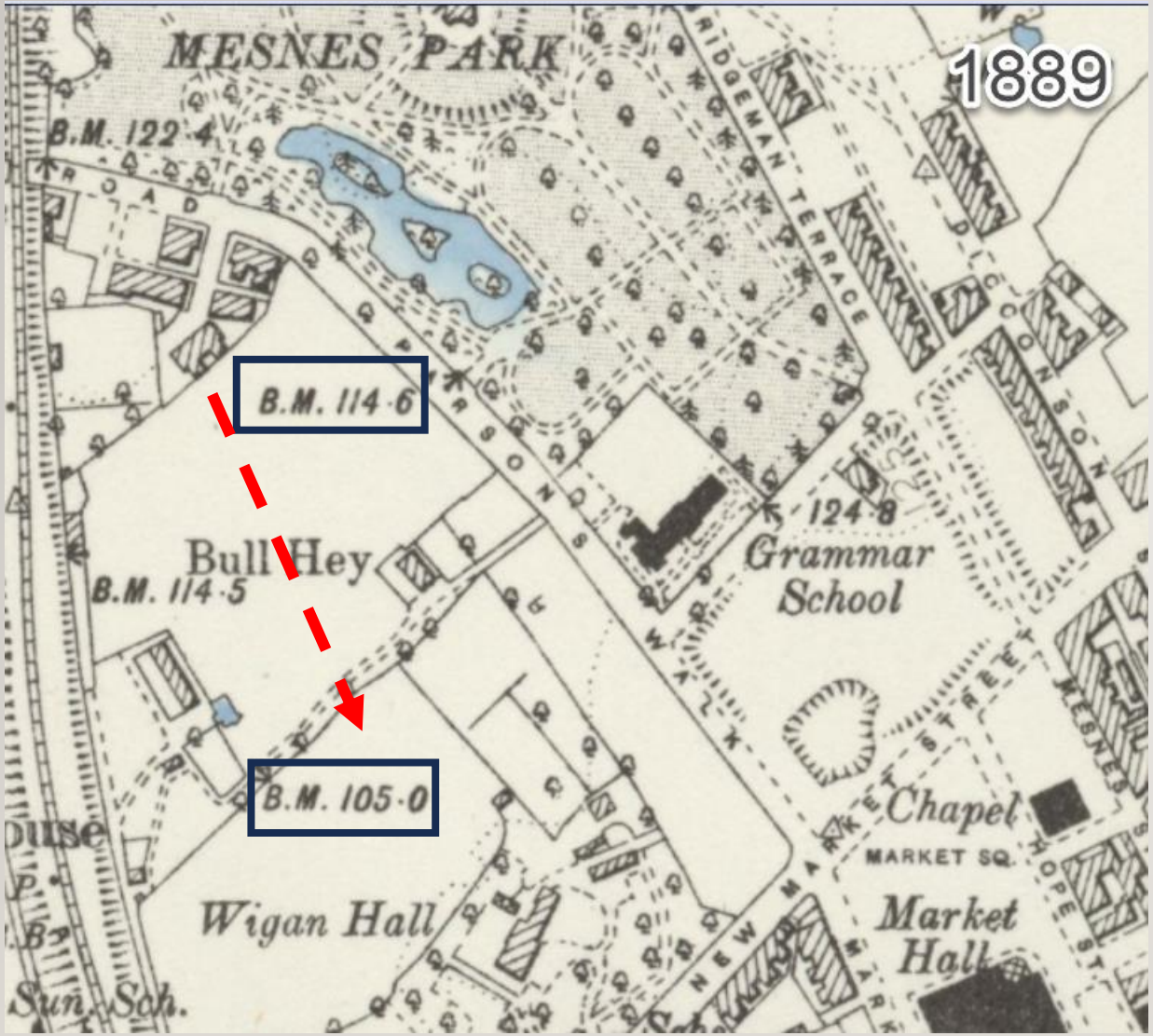
The committee that approved the lease for the cricket club move? ……only joking!

THE LAND TO BE LEASED



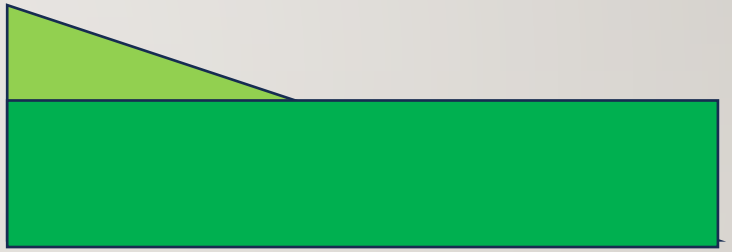
Description comes from 1871 Wigan Rectory Glebe Act – Schedule D

A close or parcel of land in Wigan aforesaid, called the "Bull Field," in the occupation of the Honourable and Reverend George Thomas Orlando Bridgeman, the Ince Hall Coal and Cannel Company, and Charles Turner, with four cottages and gardens in the occupation of Joseph Leigh, Thomas Morris, James Lowe, and the Ince Hall Coal and Cannel Company, containing after the like measure - -



1889 Map

B.M 114.6 and B.M 105.0 probably indicate the ground levels. The ground sloped downwards from Mesnes Park to Wigan Hall.



Needed a level playing field

1907 Map





The pitch was levelled by Preston & Hurst under the direction of club member Alfred “A.E” Shaw.
Employed by Henry Wall
The cost £368 – today £58k ….well worth it!

A great investment.

His two sons A.E and G.H Shaw would play a prominent role in the club, both on and off the field.

WIGAN CRICKET CLUB JUBILEE YEAR :: Opening of Bull Hey Ground, April 23rd, 1898

A. N. HORNBY'S LANCASHIRE XI v. 15 of WIGAN C.C.



Watson, C. R. Darlington, Paul, Tyldesley.

R. Crompton (Umpire), Dr. Bradbury, G. H. Sowter (Chairman), R. L. Rennick (Captain), W. F. Goodwin (Vice-Captain), A. N. Hornby, G. V. Hornby, A. H. Hornby, F. Taylor, C. R. Hartley, A. Bryham, J. M. Gaskell, A. Shaw, Hallam, G. C. Roger, Hopkins, Barstow, A. Clements (Scorer), Jones (Umpire).

Seated: H. L. Trotman, Irving, Barlow, S. Ball, F. S. Hammersley, Smith, C. Hedden, J. Halliwell.

MR. HORNBY'S TEAM v. FIFTEEN OF WIGAN.

The fiftieth year of the Wigan Cricket Club was appropriately marked by the opening of the new ground, which is centrally situated at Bull Hey, and has so far entailed an outlay of about £1,000. There were 2,000 spectators. Score :—

Wigan.		Hornby's Team.	
Rennick c A. N. Hornby b Barlow	12	A. N. Hornby (retired)	75
Holden b Barlow	1	Barlow c Barstow b Hopkins	1
Halliwell b Barlow	0	Paul b Barstow	0
Trotman c Smith b Barlow	14	A. H. Hornby b Goodwin	6
Darlington b Watson	1	Hartley c Rennick b Hopkins	0
Barstow run out	25	Tyldesley not out	78
Goodwin c and b Barlow	20	Baker c Rennick b Roger	6
Bryham b Watson	0	Smith not out	2
Hopkins b Watson	4		
Shaw c Barlow b Watson	17		
Hammersley b Watson	0		
Bell c A. H. Hornby b Barlow	1		
Gaskell not out	19		
Roger run out	3		
Taylor b Watson	1		
Extras	3	Extras	10
Total	121	Total (for 5 wickets)	178

A.N. Hornby



His father was a director of the L&Y Railway who purchased the Frog Lane land from WCG Ltd.
Captain of Lancs CCC
Played rugby and cricket for England.

2,000 spectators attended the opening match



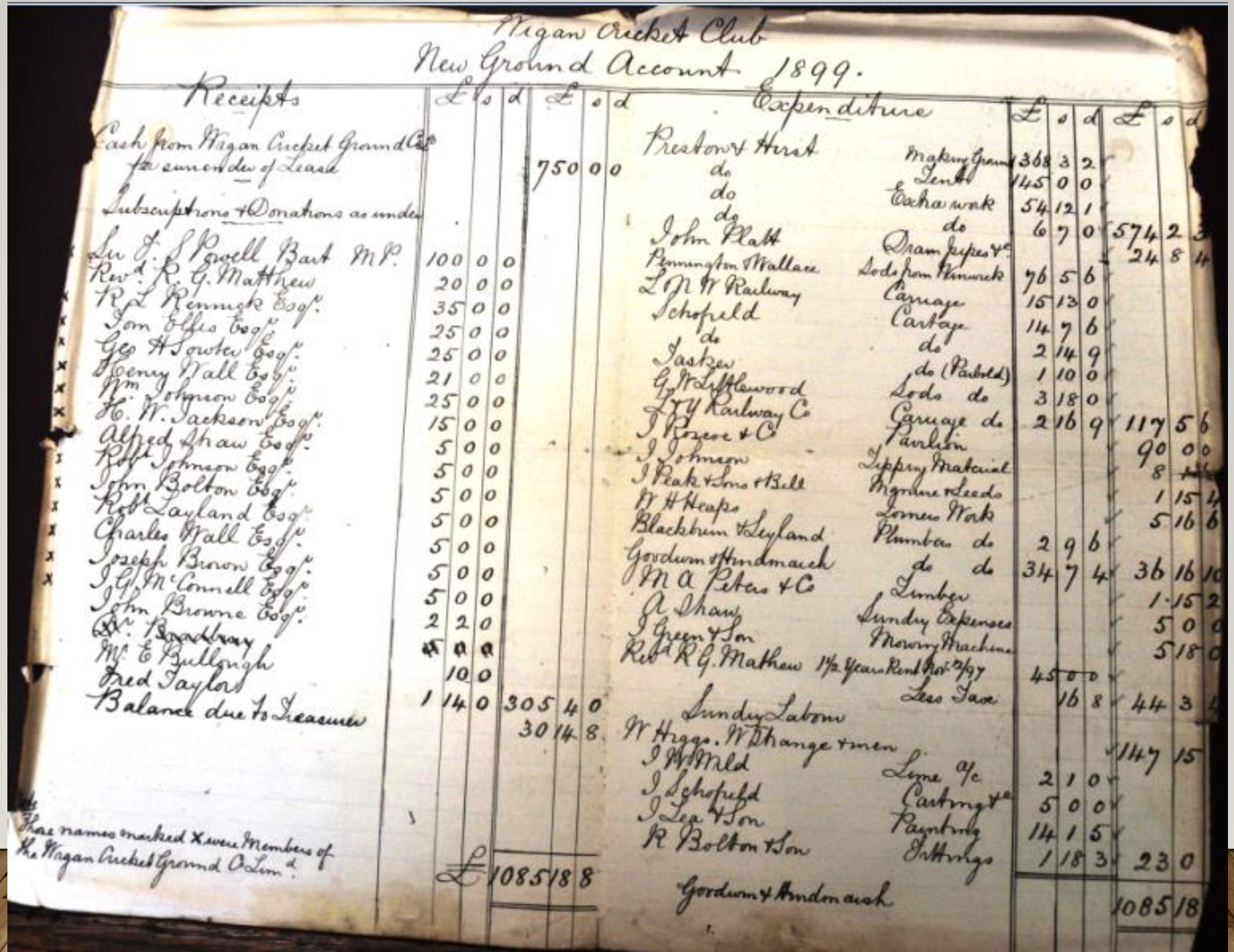
Opening of Bull Hey Ground - April 23rd 1898 Wigan XV v A.N. Hornby's Lancashire XI

X – Shareholders of Wigan Cricket Ground Ltd

£5 worth £160 today

Raised £1,085 but needed £1,500 from the original estimates provided by Tom Ellis, Sec.

How did the Club raise the money required?



Wigan Cricket Club

New Ground Account 1899.

Receipts	£	s	d	£	s	d
Cash from Wigan Cricket Ground Co for surrender of Lease				750	0	0
Subscriptions & Donations as under						
Sir F. S. Powell Bart MP.	100	0	0			
Rev. R. G. Matthew	20	0	0			
R. L. Rennick Esq.	35	0	0			
Tom Ellis Esq.	25	0	0			
Geo. H. Souter Esq.	25	0	0			
Henry Wall Esq.	21	0	0			
Wm. Johnson Esq.	25	0	0			
H. W. Jackson Esq.	15	0	0			
Alfred Shaw Esq.	5	0	0			
Robt. Johnson Esq.	5	0	0			
John Bolton Esq.	5	0	0			
Robt. Layland Esq.	5	0	0			
Charles Wall Esq.	5	0	0			
Joseph Brown Esq.	5	0	0			
J. G. McConnell Esq.	5	0	0			
John Browne Esq.	2	2	0			
W. Broadbent	5	0	0			
Mr. E. Bullough	10	0				
Fred Taylor	1	14	0			
Balance due to Treasurer				305	4	0
				30	14	8
				£	1085	18 8

Those names marked X were Members of the Wigan Cricket Ground Co Ltd.

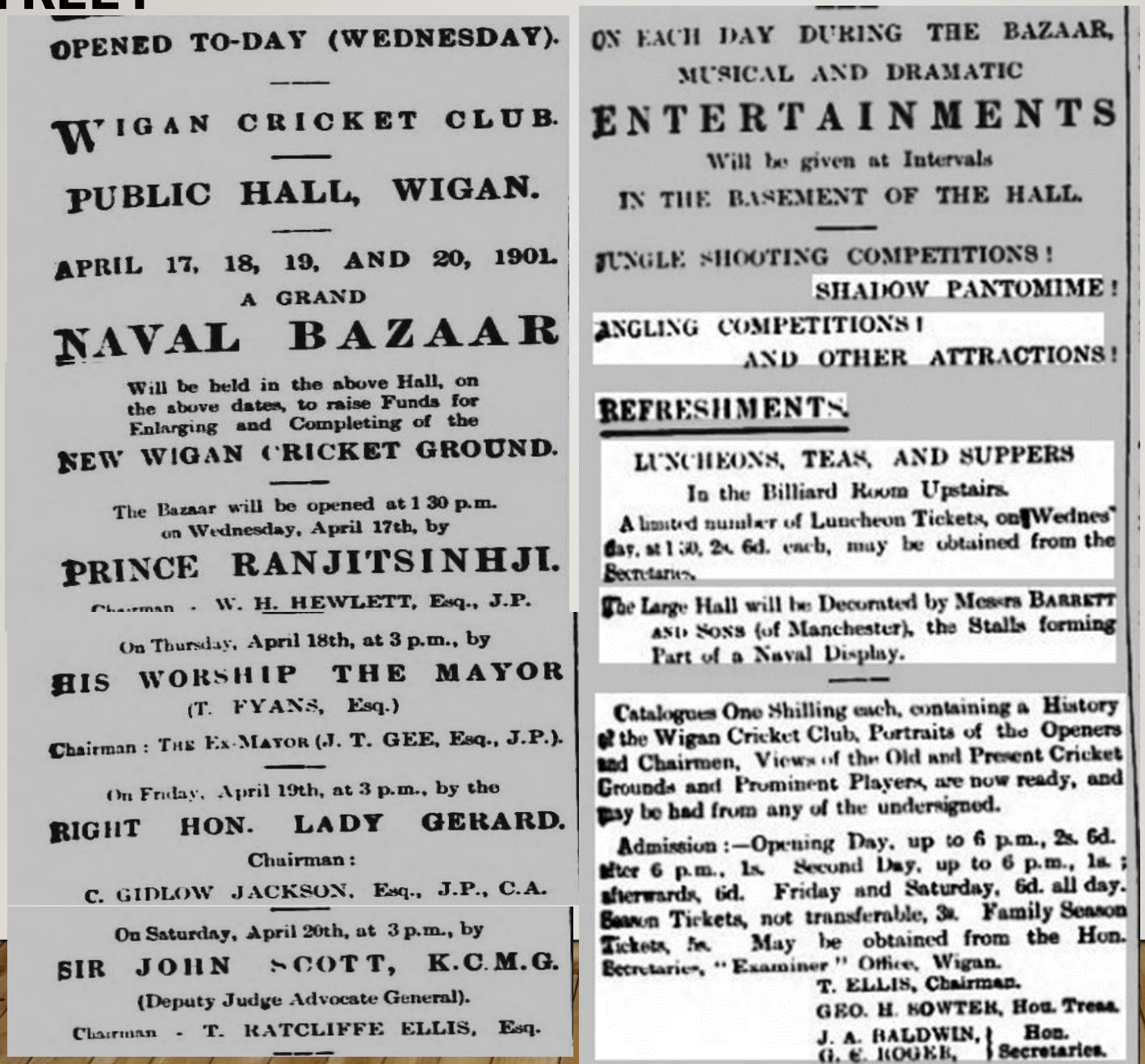
Expenditure		£	s	d	£	s	d
Preston & Hurst	Making Ground	368	3	2			
do	Levelling	145	0	0			
do	Excavating	54	12	1			
do	Drainpipes &c	6	7	0	574	2	3
John Platt	Sods from Winnick				24	8	4
Pennington Wallace	Carriage	76	5	6			
L N W Railway	Cartage	15	13	0			
Schofield	do	14	7	6			
do	do (Rabbit)	2	14	9			
Jaskey	Sods do	1	10	0			
G. W. Liffleworth	Carriage do	3	18	0			
L. Y. Railway Co	Parlour	2	16	9	117	5	6
J. Rogers & Co	Tipping Material				90	0	0
J. Johnson	Mortar & Sundries				8		
J. Peak & Sons & Bell	Lowes Work				1	15	4
W. H. Heaps	Plumbers do				5	16	6
Blackburn & Leyland	do do	2	9	6			
Gordum & Hindmarch	Timber	34	7	4	36	16	10
M. A. Peters & Co	Sundry Expenses				1	15	2
A. Shaw	Mowing Machine				5	0	0
J. Green & Son	Rent Xmas 1897				5	18	0
Rev. R. G. Mathew	1½ Years Rent	45	0	0			
	Less Tax		16	8	44	3	4
Sundry Labour							
W. Higgs. W. Grange & men					147	15	
J. Whitfield	Lime a/c	2	10	0			
J. Schofield	Carting &c	5	0	0			
J. Lea & Son	Painting	14	1	5			
R. Bolton & Son	Ditching	1	18	3	23	0	
Gordum & Hindmarsh					1085	18	

THE 1901 NAVAL BAZAAR

April 1901 -To raise the remaining funds for enlarging and completing the New Cricket Ground

The death of Queen Victoria in Feb 1901 did not affect the event.

4 DAY - GRAND NAVAL BAZAAR – APRIL 1901 AT THE PUBLIC HALL, KING STREET



OPENED TO-DAY (WEDNESDAY).

WIGAN CRICKET CLUB.

PUBLIC HALL, WIGAN.

APRIL 17, 18, 19, AND 20, 1901.

A GRAND

NAVAL BAZAAR

Will be held in the above Hall, on the above dates, to raise Funds for Enlarging and Completing of the

NEW WIGAN CRICKET GROUND.

The Bazaar will be opened at 1 30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17th, by

PRINCE RANJITSINHJI.

Chairman - W. H. HEWLETT, Esq., J.P.

On Thursday, April 18th, at 3 p.m., by

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR

(T. FYANS, Esq.)

Chairman: THE EX-MAYOR (J. T. GEE, Esq., J.P.).

On Friday, April 19th, at 3 p.m., by the

RIGHT HON. LADY GERARD.

Chairman:

C. GIDLOW JACKSON, Esq., J.P., C.A.

On Saturday, April 20th, at 3 p.m., by

SIR JOHN SCOTT, K.C.M.G.

(Deputy Judge Advocate General).

Chairman - T. RATCLIFFE ELLIS, Esq.

ON EACH DAY DURING THE BAZAAR,

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC

ENTERTAINMENTS

Will be given at Intervals

IN THE BASEMENT OF THE HALL.

JUNGLE SHOOTING COMPETITIONS!

SHADOW PANTOMIME!

ANGLING COMPETITIONS!

AND OTHER ATTRACTIONS!

REFRESHMENTS.

LUNCHEONS, TEAS, AND SUPPERS

In the Billiard Room Upstairs.

A limited number of Luncheon Tickets, on Wednesday, at 1 30, 2s. 6d. each, may be obtained from the Secretaries.

The Large Hall will be Decorated by Messrs BARRETT AND SONS (of Manchester), the Stalls forming Part of a Naval Display.

Catalogues One Shilling each, containing a History of the Wigan Cricket Club, Portraits of the Openers and Chairmen, Views of the Old and Present Cricket Grounds and Prominent Players, are now ready, and may be had from any of the undersigned.

Admission:—Opening Day, up to 6 p.m., 2s. 6d. after 6 p.m., 1s. Second Day, up to 6 p.m., 1s.; afterwards, 6d. Friday and Saturday, 6d. all day. Season Tickets, not transferable, 3s. Family Season Tickets, 5s. May be obtained from the Hon. Secretaries, "Examiner" Office, Wigan.

T. ELLIS, Chairman.

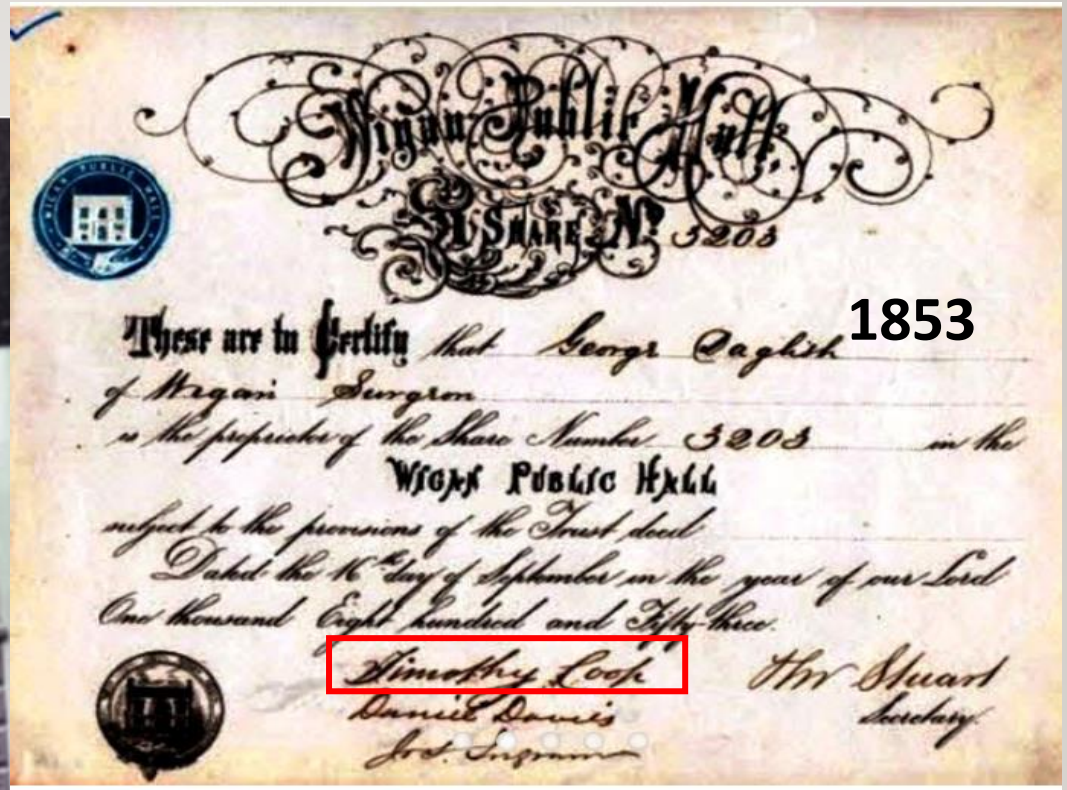
GEO. H. SOWTER, Hon. Treas.

J. A. BALDWIN, G. E. ROGER, } Hon. Secretaries.

Advert
Wigan Observer

PUBLIC HALL - King Street





1853

The Public Hall was purchased by the Wigan Examiner.
The newspaper closed in June 1961.

Daniel Davies played in the first game on Brick Kiln Field

ON EACH DAY DURING THE BAZAAR,
MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC
ENTERTAINMENTS
Will be given at Intervals
IN THE BASEMENT OF THE HALL.

JUNGLE SHOOTING COMPETITIONS!
SHADOW PANTOMIME!
ANGLING COMPETITIONS!
AND OTHER ATTRACTIONS!

Does anyone have a copy?

All three floors of the Public Hall were used:-
Upstairs - Luncheons, Teas & Supper
Basement - Entertainments & Competitions
Ground Floor - Various Stalls

REFRESHMENTS.

LUNCHEONS, TEAS, AND SUPPERS
In the Billiard Room Upstairs.

A limited number of Luncheon Tickets, on Wednesday, at 1.30, 2s. 6d. each, may be obtained from the Secretaries.

The Large Hall will be Decorated by Messrs BARRETT AND SONS (of Manchester), the Stalls forming Part of a Naval Display.

Cost - £26 10s - £2.6k

Catalogues One Shilling each, containing a History of the Wigan Cricket Club, Portraits of the Openers and Chairmen, Views of the Old and Present Cricket Grounds and Prominent Players, are now ready, and may be had from any of the undersigned.

Admission:—Opening Day, up to 6 p.m., 2s. 6d. after 6 p.m., 1s. Second Day, up to 6 p.m., 1s.; afterwards, 6d. Friday and Saturday, 6d. all day. Season Tickets, not transferable, 3s. Family Season Tickets, 5s. May be obtained from the Hon. Secretaries, "Examiner" Office, Wigan.

T. ELLIS, Chairman.
GEO. H. SOWTER, Hon. Treas.
J. A. BALDWIN, G. E. ROGER, } Hon. Secretaries.



WIGAN CRICKET CLUB.

PUBLIC HALL, WIGAN.

APRIL 17, 18, 19, AND 20, 1901.

A GRAND

NAVAL BAZAAR

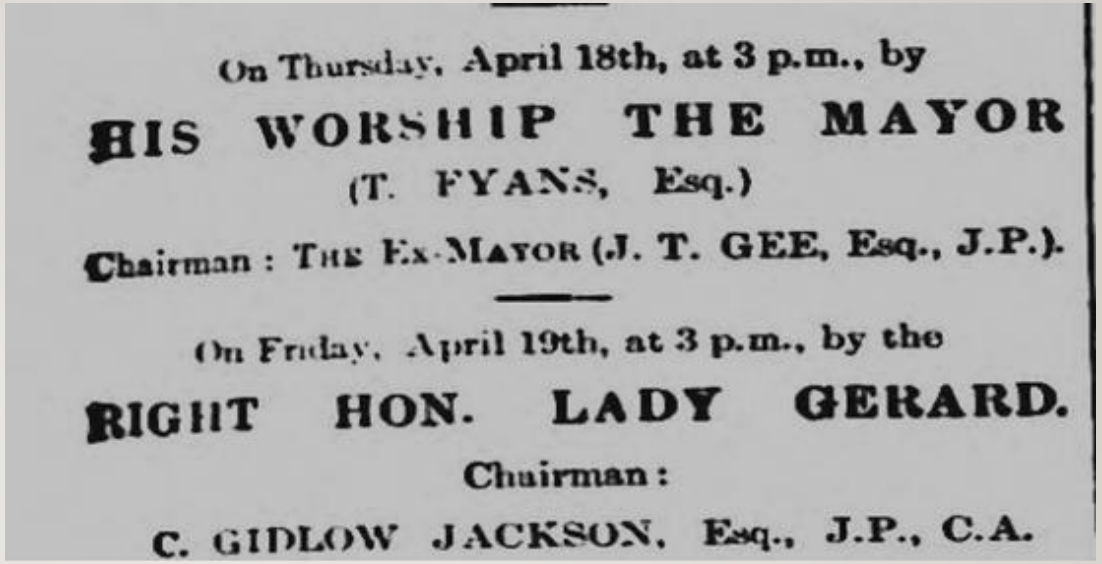
Will be held in the above Hall, on the above dates, to raise Funds for Enlarging and Completing of the

NEW WIGAN CRICKET GROUND.

The Bazaar will be opened at 1 30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17th, by

PRINCE RANJITSINHJI.

Chairman - W. H. HEWLETT, Esq., J.P.



On Thursday, April 18th, at 3 p.m., by

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR

(T. FYANS, Esq.)

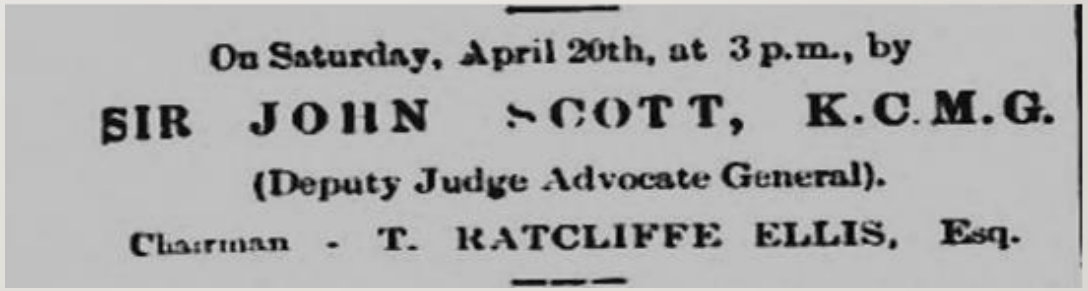
Chairman : The Ex-Mayor (J. T. GEE, Esq., J.P.).

On Friday, April 19th, at 3 p.m., by the

RIGHT HON. LADY GERARD.

Chairman :

C. GIDLOW JACKSON, Esq., J.P., C.A.



On Saturday, April 20th, at 3 p.m., by

SIR JOHN SCOTT, K.C.M.G.

(Deputy Judge Advocate General).

Chairman - T. RATCLIFFE ELLIS, Esq.

Opening - Speeches from Guest and Chairman.

GRAND NAVAL BAZAAR

OPENING BY PRINCE RANJITSINHJI
Sussex CCC & England

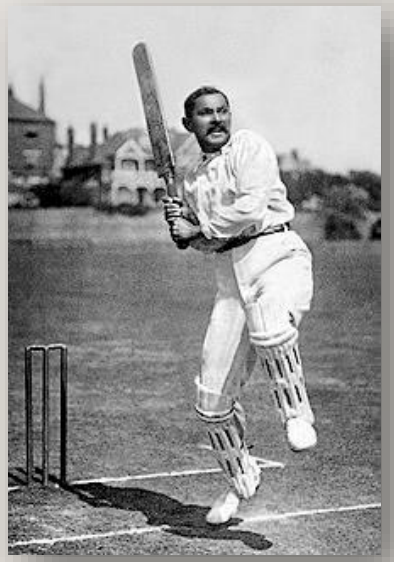


England's premier batsman to open the Bazaar.

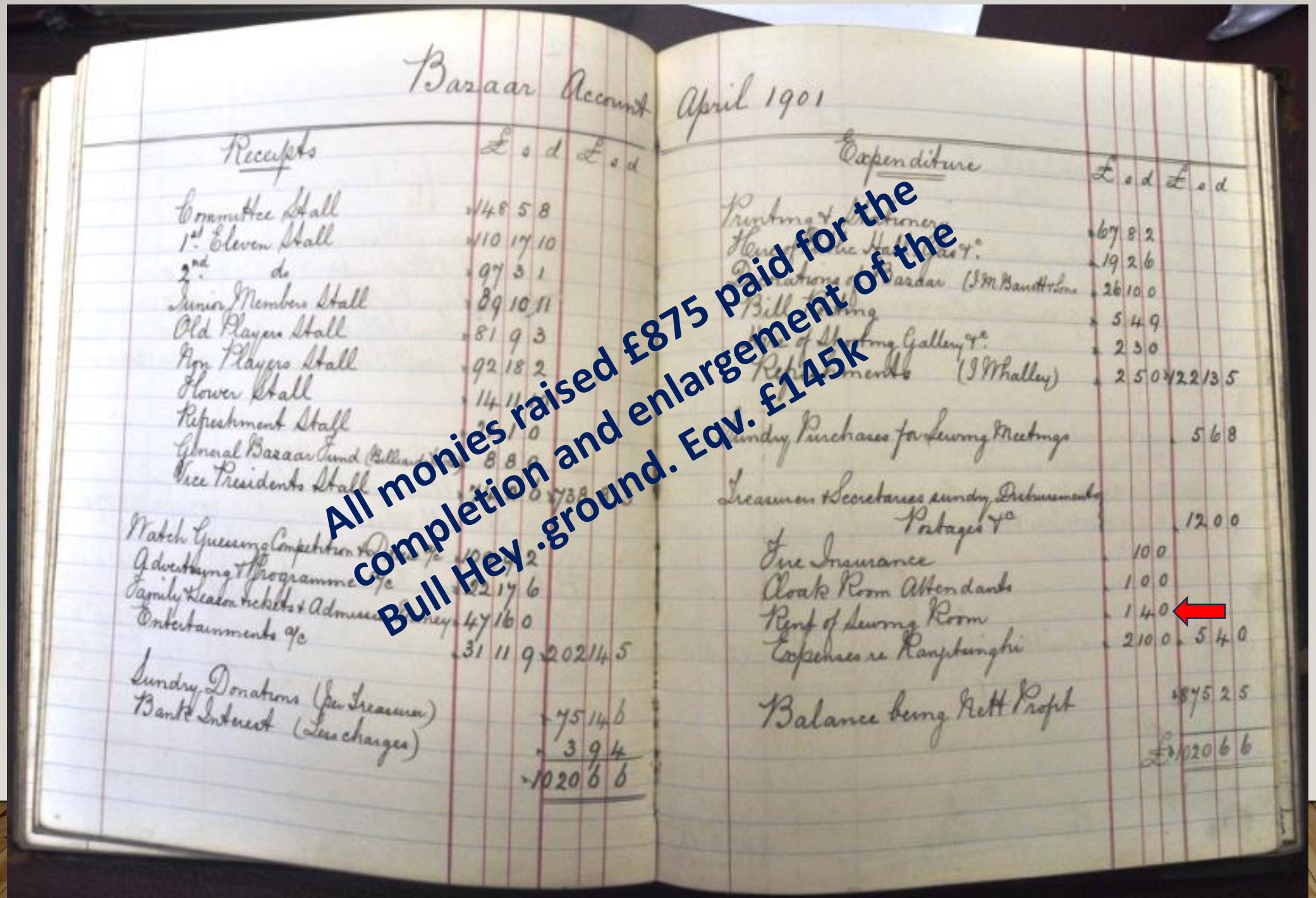
The guest of Dr Bradbury, he will arrive in Wigan on Tuesday evening and will probably make a descent of one of the Wigan Coal & Iron Company's collieries on the Wednesday morning previous to the opening of the bazaar in the Public Hall at half past one. Afterwards if time permits he will visit one of the local cotton mills







Unfortunately, Ranjitsihji was unable to attend. Not too sure he would keen on a visiting a cotton mill and a visit down a coal mine.



Bazaar Account April 1901

Receipts

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Committee Stall		148	5	8		
1st Eleven Stall		110	17	10		
2nd do		97	3	1		
Junior Members Stall		89	10	11		
Old Players Stall		81	9	3		
Non Players Stall		92	18	2		
Flower Stall		14	11			
Refreshment Staff			10	0		
General Bazaar Fund (Billiard			8	8		
Vice Presidents Stall				738		
Watch Guessing Competition &c						2
Advertising & Programmes &c			12	17	6	
Family Season Tickets & Admissions		47	16	0		
Entertainments &c		31	11	9	202	14 5
Sundry Donations (per Treasurer)					75	14 6
Bank Interest (Less charges)					3	9 4
					£102	0 6 6

Expenditure

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Printing & Stationery		67	8	2		
Hire of Music Hall &c		19	2	6		
Donations to Bazaar (J M Bamforth Esq)		26	10	0		
Bill Posting		5	4	9		
Hire of Shooting Gallery &c		2	3	0		
Refreshments (J Whalley)		2	5	0	£222	13 5
Sundry Purchases for Sewing Meetings					5	6 8
Treasurers & Secretaries sundry Disbursements Postages &c					12	0 0
Fire Insurance			10	0		
Cloak Room Attendants		1	0	0		
Rent of Sewing Room		1	4	0		
Expenses re Ranfurnghi		2	10	0	5	4 0
Balance being Nett Profit					£875	2 5
					£1020	6 6

All monies raised £875 paid for the completion and enlargement of the Bull Hey .ground. Eqv. £145k

1938 - Renewal of Lease

PEACE & ELLIS.
SOLICITORS.

48 King Street
Wigan.

28 : 2 : 38.

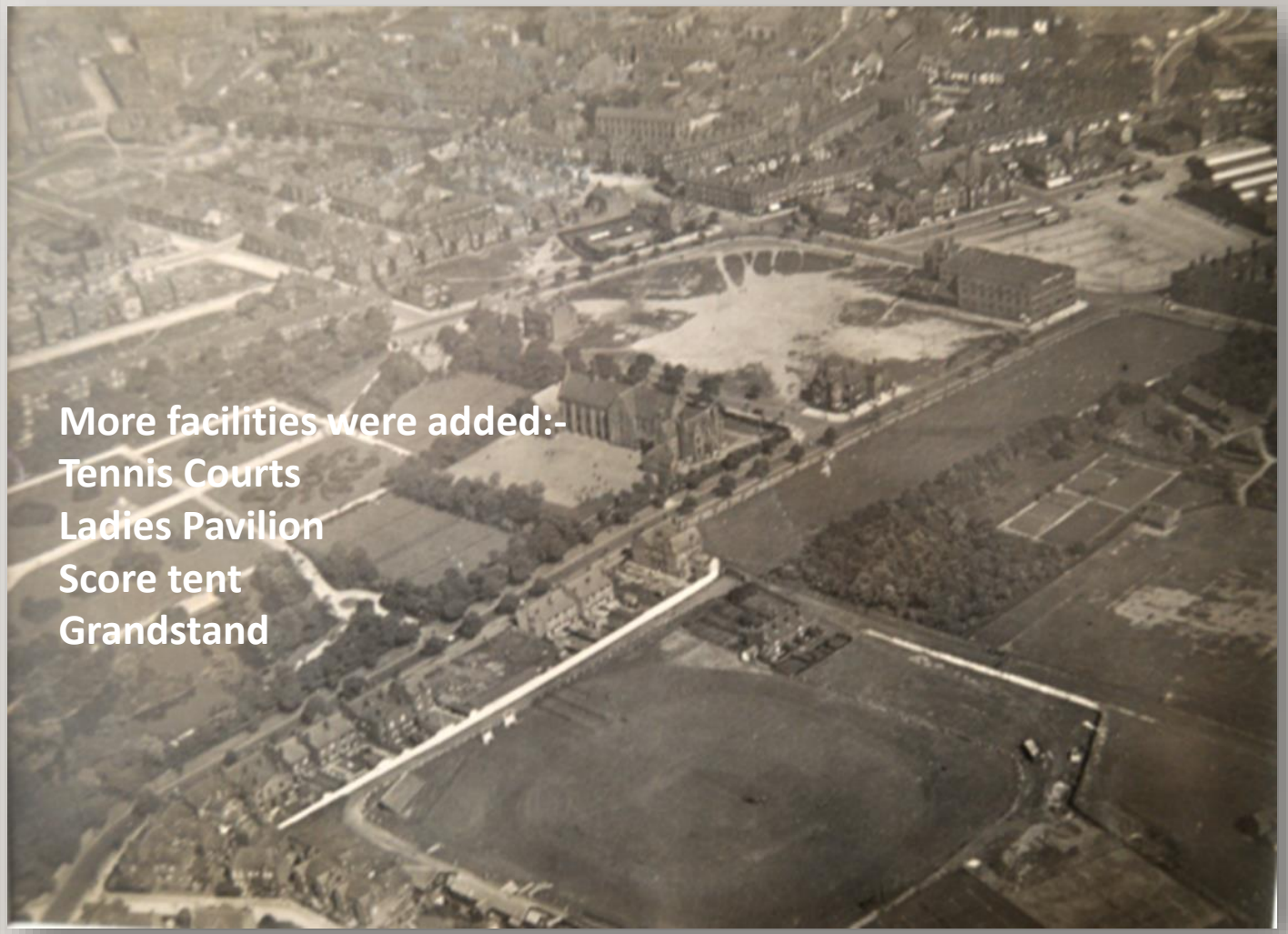
Dear Mr Oliver -

I have had a personal letter from the Rector, offering to renew our lease of the Cricket ground forthwith for a period of 21 years, at a rental of £100 per annum. Will you let Messrs. Clarke & Glover know this, & see what they think, & whether the Committee should be called together to meet it.

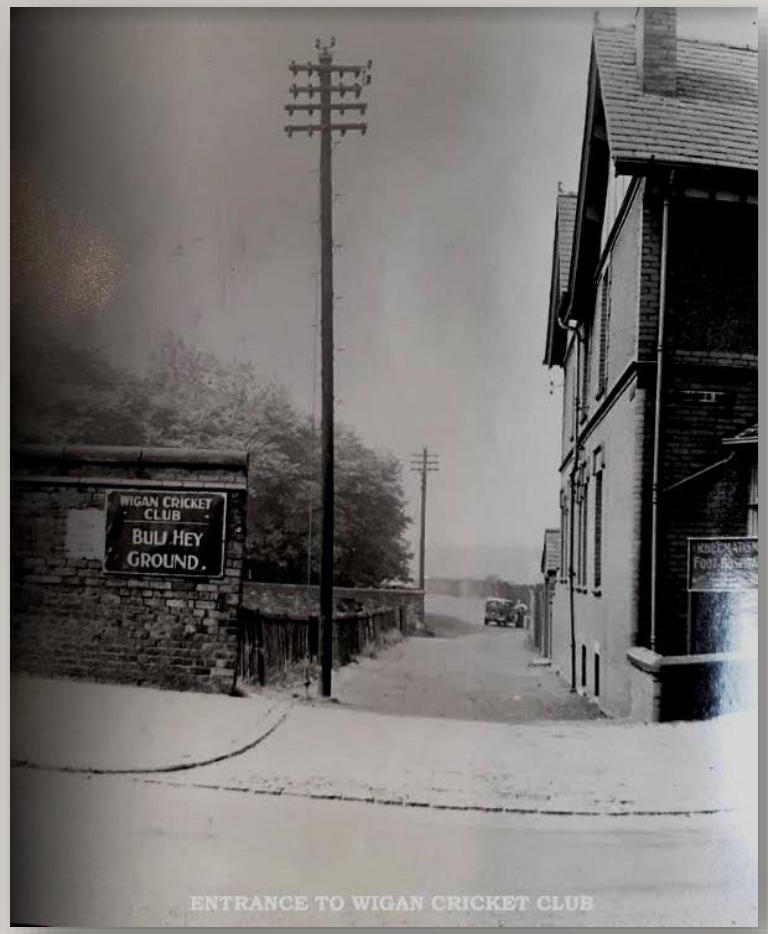
Faithfully yours
Arthur Ratcliffe-Ellis



Major A. RATCLIFFE-ELLIS
(Chairman of the Wigan Cricket Club.)



More facilities were added:-
Tennis Courts
Ladies Pavilion
Score tent
Grandstand



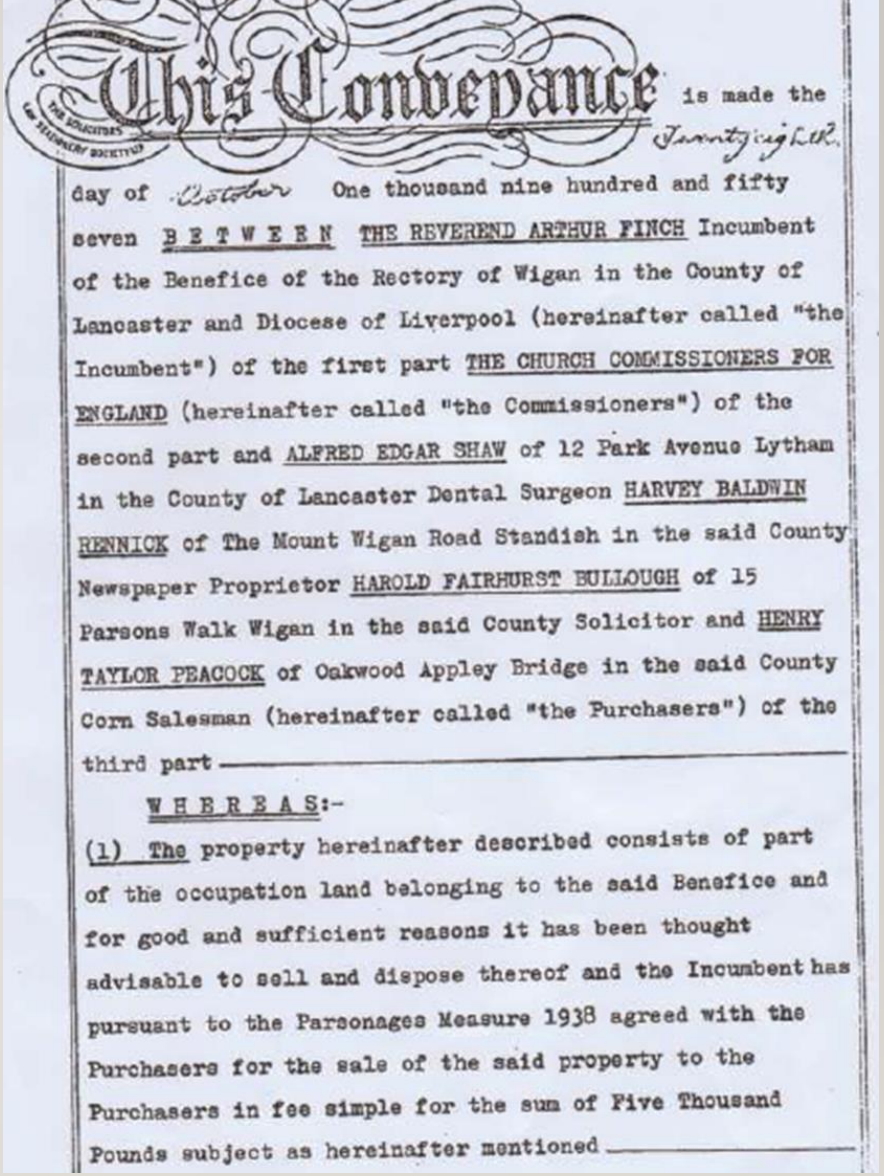
ENTRANCE TO WIGAN CRICKET CLUB

OCTOBER 1957
Anecdotal evidence suggests that the Liverpool Diocese were about to take control of the all churches revenues and redistribute on a more equitable basis.

Rector Rev Arthur Finch decides to offer Bull Hey land for sale to the Cricket Club for £5,000.

"The Purchasers"
Harold Bullough
Harvey Rennick
A.E. Shaw
Henry Peacock.

All the money was raised by public donations.
Weekly list of donations published in The Wigan Observer and Examiner.



This Conveyance is made the twenty eighth day of October One thousand nine hundred and fifty seven BETWEEN THE REVEREND ARTHUR FINCH Incumbent of the Benefice of the Rectory of Wigan in the County of Lancaster and Diocese of Liverpool (hereinafter called "the Incumbent") of the first part THE CHURCH COMMISSIONERS FOR ENGLAND (hereinafter called "the Commissioners") of the second part and ALFRED EDGAR SHAW of 12 Park Avenue Lytham in the County of Lancaster Dental Surgeon HARVEY BALDWIN RENNICK of The Mount Wigan Road Standish in the said County Newspaper Proprietor HAROLD FAIRHURST BULLOUGH of 15 Parsons Walk Wigan in the said County Solicitor and HENRY TAYLOR PEACOCK of Oakwood Appley Bridge in the said County Corn Salesman (hereinafter called "the Purchasers") of the third part

WHEREAS:-

(1) The property hereinafter described consists of part of the occupation land belonging to the said Benefice and for good and sufficient reasons it has been thought advisable to sell and dispose thereof and the Incumbent has pursuant to the Parsonages Measure 1938 agreed with the Purchasers for the sale of the said property to the Purchasers in fee simple for the sum of Five Thousand Pounds subject as hereinafter mentioned

The club had dialogue with 4 Rectors, Gunning, Bridgeman, Matthews and Finch

History from this point is very much "work in progress!"

1966 – Developed a design for a new Clubhouse.

Fund raising started involving many activities.



1966 Brochure

Officials

Hon. Auditors : Messrs. HOLMES & TURNER.

Hon. Treasurer : Mr. E. GREEN,
4 Winifred Street, Lower Ince,
Wigan.

Hon. General Secretary : Mr. J. BENN,
5 Linley Rd., Tunstall Lane Estate,
Pemberton, Wigan.

Hon. Assistant Secretary : Mr. F. GREGORY,
62 Whitley Crescent,
Wigan.

Hon. Fixture Secretary : Mr. E. C. LOWE,
16 Lilac Avenue, Beech Hill,
Wigan.

Hon. Subscription Secretary : Mr. A. H. WARD,
42 Trafalgar Road,
Wigan.

Some familiar names

GENERAL COMMITTEE :

Mr. A. E. Shaw	Mr. E. Griffiths	Mr. F. Parr
Mr. T. Winstanley	Mr. C. P. Hartley	Mr. J. B. Roby
Mr. C. W. Banks	Mr. R. M. Hodson	Dr. G. H. Shaw
Mr. G. Booth	Mr. E. Kearsley	Mr. F. Topping
Mr. H. F. Bullough	Mr. F. W. Layland	Mr. A. H. Ward
Mr. R. N. Cain	Mr. E. C. Lowe	Mr. J. Benn
Mr. J. Collins	Mr. M. P. Miles	Mr. E. Green
Mr. F. Gregory	Mr. J. A. Morris	

1st XI Captain : Mr. F. W. LAYLAND.

1st XI Vice-Captain : Mr. G. BOOTH.

2nd XI Captain : Mr. J. COLLINS.

2nd XI Vice-Captain : Mr. M. P. MILES.

3rd XI Captain : Mr. C. P. HARTLEY.



Opened by Earl of Derby on 1st Sept, 1967 – “56 years ago!”
Plaque in the main hall to commemorate the opening– Relocated on the conversion to the Pavilion Suite in 1992.

Design problems. The plan to:-
accommodate cricket nets and a badminton court-
too short and too low!
Outside facilities – downstairs and upstairs was “boxed in”
Entrance, lounge and changing rooms altered.

Built at a cost £23,000.

Squash Courts built in 1975

Thanks to David Layland

Clubhouse Changes



….. From this



…… to this


….. and this has been the home of Wigan Cricket Club for the last 125 years …….
…… with lots of memories for lots of people …….












W.C.C.



Short Film of

Wigan Carnival 1928

At Bull Hey







EVENTS

FOUNDING MEMBERS OF LANCASHIRE CRICKET CLUB



Queens Hotel, Manchester

A historic meeting was held on 12th January 1864, at the Queens Hotel, to form Lancashire County Cricket Club.

Thirteen Lancashire cricket clubs attended, Manchester, Broughton, Western, Longsight, Liverpool, Northern, Huyton, Ashton, Blackburn, Accrington, Wigan, Whalley and Oldham.

Wigan CC were represented by Thomas Wall Jnr and SH Swire.

A further meeting was held at the Royal Hotel, Liverpool, for the purpose of putting the club into working order

WIGAN RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB 1872



Dicconson Arms



Royal Hotel

At the WCC Annual Dinner, 13th November 1872, held at the Dicconson Arms, Standishgate, talk amongst the members turned to starting a rugby team during the winter months.

Not only for recreation but may improve the financial position of the club.

A meeting of the Cricket Club was called for the 21st November, 1872 to be held at the Royal Hotel, Wigan to discuss the possibility (whilst sober) of forming a Wigan Football Club.

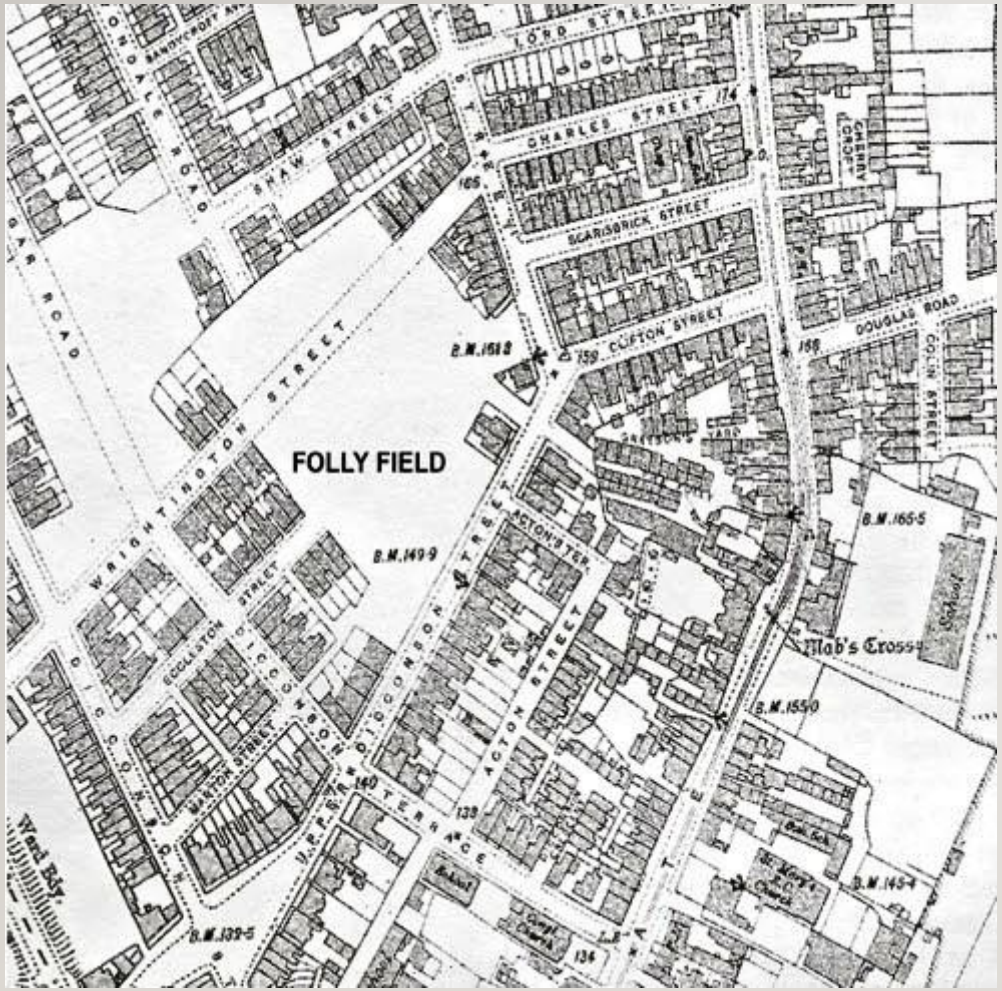
During the meeting things such as the rules of the game, who would play, which opponents to play against and a backroom structure needed to be established.

Hence, the following committee was selected: Messrs. T.R. Ellis, R.V. Kyrke, J. Sayers, E.R. Walker, J. Smith, G. Sowter, H. Wall and R. Procter.

Nathaniel Eckersley, had just been re-elected as Mayor of Wigan a week prior to this meeting and agreed to provide the necessary finances.

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) was formed in 1871, Wigan joined in 1872 and was the first club to register in the North of England. Harlequins RFC also joined in the same year.

RV Kyrke, the first captain, his grandfather was a pupil at Rugby School in 1835 at the time of Dr. Arnold.



A series of trial matches was played at "Folly-field", originally part of Brick Kiln Field in the 1820's

First Game was away against Warrington and the team was Wigan - **Kyrke (captain),** Blakeney, Bromilow, Hughes, **Sayer**, **Sowter**, Tarbuck, Wilson, **Woodcock** (forwards) Hayes, **Sayer Jnr**. (halfbacks) **Clare (three-quarter) H & W Wall**, **E.R. Walker (backs)**

The club played at Folly Field until 1885 and then moved to the Cricket Club ground at Prescott St (Frog Lane Enclosure) and stayed until the ground was sold by Wigan Cricket Ground Ltd to L&Y Railway.

The club spent one season at Springfield before moving to its own ground at Central Park

Xmas Card 1889

Wigan Rugby Football Club.



· The · Committee ·

· wish · you ·

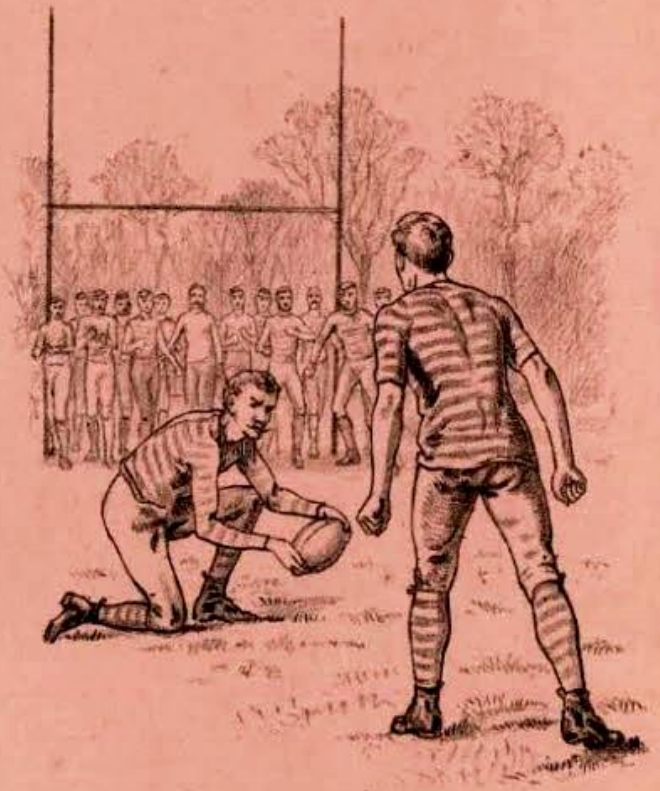
· A · Merry · Christmas ·

· and ·

· A · Happy · and ·

· Prosperous · New · Year ·

Dec. 25th, 1889.



Platt, Lith., Wigan.

SEASON 1889-90.

MATCHES ALREADY PLAYED.

	FOR G.	FOR T.		AGAINST G.	AGAINST T.	
MANNINGHAM	0	1	...	0	0	WON
WARRINGTON	0	3	...	0	0	„
TYLDESLEY	1	0	...	0	1	„
WIDNES	0	4	...	0	0	„
KENDAL HORNETS	0	0	...	0	0	DRAWN
LEIGH	1	1	...	1	0	WON
BRIGHOUSE RANGERS	0	1	...	0	2	LOST
ST. HELENS RECREATION	0	3	...	0	0	WON
SWINTON	1	2	...	0	0	„
WARRINGTON	1	0	...	0	0	„
BARROW	1	1	...	0	1	„
ASPULL	3	2	...	0	0	„
MOSSLEY	0	2	...	0	1	„
BROUGHTON RANGERS	Not Played. Foggy.					
WIDNES	0	0	...	0	0	DRAWN
	8	20	...	1	5	

RFU Archives. Twickenham

WIGAN ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB

1883-1888

George Sowter



- For many years associated with the Club as Treasurer and Chairman.
- Played cricket – mainly 2nd XI.
- Played in first game for Wigan Rugby – 18 Jan 1873.
- Prominent member that formed Wigan Association Football Club in 1883.

The Wigan Association Football Club, which has been fo ed its ch was played on the cricket ground between Darwen and Blackburn. Over 2,000 persons witnessed the game, which was well contested, but the Blackburn Rovers had only practically a second team and were outmatched throughout. Darwen won by four goals to nil. Teams:—Darwen: I. Richmond, goal; S. A. Warburton and T. Crook, backs; S. Fish, D. Owen, and H. Hamilton, half-backs; T. Marshall, I. N on, and J. Sharrock, f Sharrock and Blenkhorn, backs; Gregson and on, half-backs; Norris, A. Fecit, Birtwicke, Scott, Barton, and Twines, forwards.

Organised an exhibition game Darwen v Blackburn Rovers

Blackburn won the FA Cup in 1883

To the Editor of the Wigan Observer.

SIR,—I notice in your issue of last Saturday a letter signed "Spectator" asking for information re the above.

Permit me, in reply, to say that the club is still in existence, and the committee who have it in hand are fully expecting to carry it on. As "Spectator" seems to be aware, it has during the past season been carried on in connection with the Cricket Club, and we are now awaiting the decision of that committee as to having the use of the ground for next season before moving further in the matter. I should be very glad if "Spectator" or any other gentlemen having the interest of the dribbling game at heart would kindly communicate with me. I cannot see but that we ought to raise a team worthy to uphold the credit of our town

Hoping you will grant me the favour of inserting this,

I remain, yours truly,

GEO. H. SOWTER,

Captain Wigan Association Football Club.

83, Woodhouse-lane, Wigan.

1884 Season

WIGAN ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB.

The list of fixtures entered into by this club has been issued, and considering that it is only its second year of existence, a capital programme of engagements has been entered into. "A" team matches have been arranged with such powerful organisations as the Blackburn Rovers, Blackburn Olympic, and Preston North End; and conclusions will also be tried with the first elevens of many prominent clubs in the county. Owing to the combination into one of the Association and Parish Church clubs, the matches will be played on the very suitable ground of the latter behind the Rectory, and the season will be opened on the 4th prox., when the local organisation will meet Heywood in the first of the Lancashire Cup Competition. As some debts have been contracted and owing to the their the fu

Home games were played on land behind the Rectory - Bull Hey?

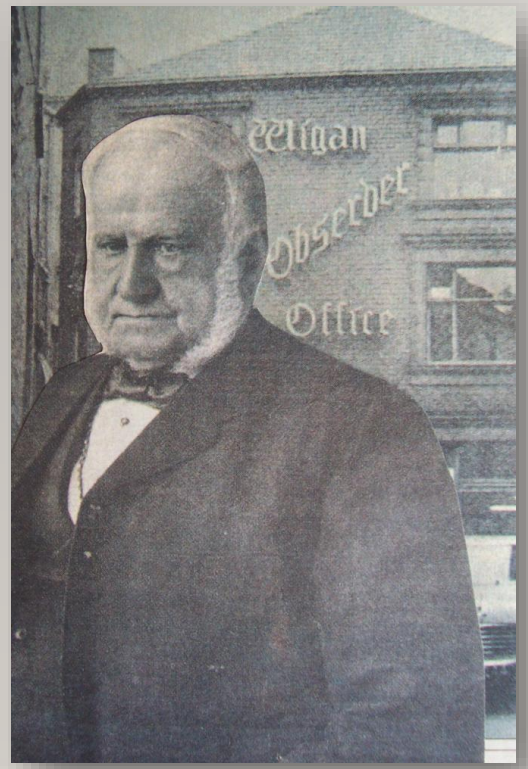
Date.	FIRST TEAM. CLUB.	WHERE PLAYED.
Oct. 4	Heywood (L. C. T.)	Wigan.
„ 11	Southport	Home.
„ 18	Preston North End (a team)	Home.
„ 25	Barscough	Away.
Nov. 1	Leigh	Away.
„ 8	Blackburn Rovers (2nd team)	Away.
„ 15	Everton (a team)	Away.
„ 22	Blackburn Olympic (2nd team)	Away.
„ 29	Chorley	Home.
Dec. 6	Liverpool St. Mary's	Away.
„ 13	Atherton Rovers	Home.
„ 20	Preston North End (a team)	Away.
„ 27	Fishwick Ramblers	Home.
Jan. 1	South Shore (Blackpool)	Home.
„ 3	Blackburn Rovers (2nd team)	Home.
„ 10	Bolton Wanderers (2nd team)	Home.
„ 17	Darwen (a team)	Away.
„ 31	Liverpool Rovers	Away.
Feb. 7	Everton (a team)	Home.
„ 14	Blackburn Olympic (2nd team	Home.
Shr'veTu.	Liverpool Rovers	Home.
Feb. 21	South Shore (Blackpool)	Away.
„ 28	Leigh	Home.
Mar. 7	Chorley	Away.
„ 14	Southport	Away.
„ 21	Liverpool St. Mary's	Home.
„ 28	Atherton Rovers	Away.
Apr. 4	Accrington (a team)	Home.
„ 11	Darwen (a team)	Home.
„ 18	Bolton Wanderers (2nd team)	Away.
„ 25	Fishwick Ramblers	Away.

Unfortunately the club struggled and folded in 1888 as they were unable to secure an enclosed ground.

Fixtures against the Second Teams of Everton, Blackburn and Bolton Wanderers, Preston North End

THE WALL FAMILY

THOMAS WALL



Born in Wednesfield, Staffs

Worked for the Wolverhampton Chronicle, came to Wigan in 1838

Played in the first Wigan Cricket Club game in 1848

Connected with failed newspaper "Wigan Gazette"

Founder of the Wigan Observer in 1853.

Shop in Market Place, stamp distributor, later postmaster, printer, etc – later demolished to make the opening of Library St into Market Place.

Early tenant of the Minorca Building

Died in 1904 aged 88 years

Still had time to have 11 children, 6 daughters and 5 sons

Original member of the Anti-Corn Law League and gave enthusiastic support to the great Trade Movement.

In local affairs he was a persistent and notable worker:-
Member of the Wigan Board of Guardians
"Workhouse", becoming Chairman.

Councillor then Alderman of the Borough

Borough and County Magistrate

One of three promoters of Wigan Infirmary.

The other two promoters,
John Lancaster
Nathaniel Eckersley

Wall Family

1861 England, Wales & Scotland Census Transcription

27, Wallgate, Wigan, Lancashire, England

Household Members

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Gender	Age	Birth year	Occupation
Thomas	**Wall**	**Head**	**Married**	**Male**	**45**	**1816**	**Postmaster... Bookseller Letter Post ###**
Elizabeth	Wall	Wife	Married	Female	44	1817	-
Thomas	Wall	Son	Unmarried	Male	19	1842	Reporter Newspaper
Ann	Wall	Daughter	Unmarried	Female	17	1844	Booksellers Assistant
Ellen	Wall	Daughter	Unmarried	Female	16	1845	Booksellers Assistant
Elizabeth	Wall	Daughter	Unmarried	Female	14	1847	Scholar
John	Wall	Son	Unmarried	Male	12	1849	Scholar
Charles	Wall	Son	Unmarried	Male	10	1851	Scholar
Henry	Wall	Son	Unmarried	Male	8	1853	Scholar
William	Wall	Son	Unmarried	Male	7	1854	Scholar
Mary	Wall	Daughter	Unmarried	Female	5	1856	-
Grace	Wall	Daughter	Unmarried	Female	3	1858	-
Alice	Wall	Daughter	-	Female	1	1860	-
Margaret	Prescott	Servant	Widow	Female	22	1839	Cook Domestic
Eliza	Webster	Servant	Unmarried	Female	22	1839	Housemaid
Elizabeth	Pennington	Servant	Unmarried	Female	14	1847	Housemaid



Minorca Building

The 5 Wall Brothers

Thomas

Eldest son and followed his father into the family business
Educated at Wigan Grammar School
Represented Wigan at the meeting in Manchester to form Lancashire County Cricket Club
Played for the Wigan XXII in 1867 & 1868 against the United All England XI on the Mesnes.
Played cricket for Lancashire CC
Died at an early age of 34 from bronchitis and Phthisis

John

Educated at Wigan Grammar School
Regular cricketer for WCC.
Solicitor – articled to Richard Leigh and then Sir Thomas Ratcliffe Ellis.
Own practice in Clarence Chambers
Deputy Coroner to Lever R Rowbottom
Original member of Wigan Rowing Club
Also played for the Wigan XX11 in 1867 & 1868 against the United All England X1 on the Mesnes.
Played for Wigan Rugby Football Club
His son John Jnr was at Gallipoli

Charles	Educated at Wigan Grammar School On the death of his brother Thomas became Editor of The Observer, a position held until his death Lived at 24, Swinley Road. Member of the Wigan Library Committee Regular cricketer over many years, batsman of more than ordinary ability Hon Sec of WCC for many years Prime mover for the 1901 Naval Bazaar which raised £875 Played for Wigan Rugby Football club Founding Member of the Wigan and District Philarmonic Society
Henry	Played for Wigan CC and Lancashire CC Capt of Wigan CC for many years Secretary of Wigan Cricket Ground Ltd, when Prescott St ground was purchased from Lord Derby Played for Wigan Rugby Football Club Mining Engineer, articled to William Kellett in King St Own practice in King St, Rowbottom Square, and subsequently in Tower Buildings. Formed Henry Wall & Co – Consulting Engineers to Pearson & Knowles
William	Not much known. lived at 21 Upper Dicconson St (previous occupant William Lever – later Lord Leverhulme) Worked at The Wigan Observer as a printer and publisher Played cricket for Wigan CC Played for Wigan Rugby Football Club

On 1st November 1873, Charles, Henry, John and William played in the same Wigan Rugby team v Warrington, at Warrington

Lots of Wiganers who had made "a bob or two" during the Victorian period went over Parbold Hill to live in the bracing air of Southport!

1901 England, Wales & Scotland Census Transcription

14, Park Road, Southport, Ormskirk, Lancashire, England

Household Members

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Gender	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birth place
Thomas	**Wall**	**Head**	**Widower**	**Male**	**85**	**1816**	**Magistrate Retired Printer &c**	**Wednesbury, Staffordshire, England**
Ellen	Wall	Daughter	Single	Female	55	1846	-	Wigan, Lancashire, England
Elizabeth	Wall	Daughter	Single	Female	54	1847	-	Wigan, Lancashire, England
Mary	Wall	Daughter	Single	Female	45	1856	-	Wigan, Lancashire, England
Grace	Wall	Daughter	Single	Female	43	1858	-	Wigan, Lancashire, England
Alice	Wall	Daughter	Single	Female	41	1860	-	Wigan, Lancashire, England
Maria	Howard	Servant	Single	Female	23	1878	Housemaid Domestic	Southport, Lancashire, England
Emily	Griffiths	Servant	Single	Female	22	1879	Cook Domestic	Shropshire, England

Thomas living with 5 unmarried daughters, aged between 41 and 56
Thomas died in 1904

KNIGHTS OF THE REALM

Sir John Scott



Born in Standishgate, Wigan in 1841

One of the first juvenile members of Wigan CC.

Brother of Edward, also a cricket member, who was a partner with Thos. Ratcliffe-Ellis under the style of Scott & Ellis, Grimes Arcade, King Street.

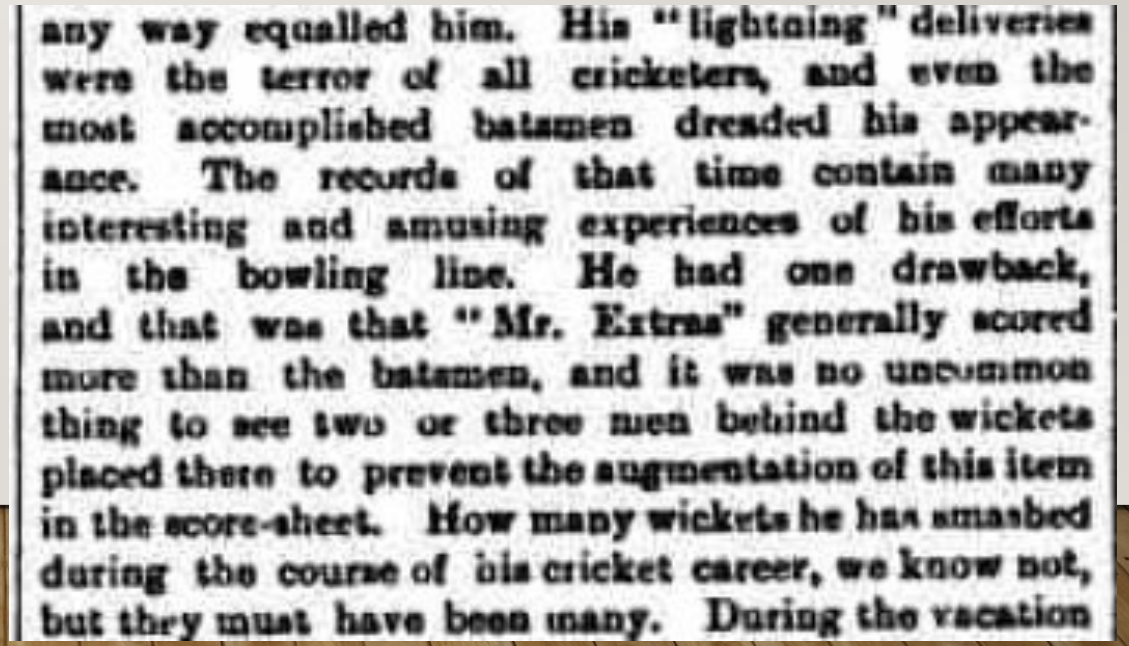
Described as a very fast left arm bowler, if somewhat erratic, some games required 2 long-stops. (behind the wicket keeper)

Oxford educated – Cricket Capt - Pembroke College

Played for Oxford against Cambridge in 1863 at Lord's. Oxford won in 2 days by 8 wickets.

He pursued a career in law working in France, India and Egypt. Scott reformed the Egyptian legal system, removing the system of indentured labour that had been in existence since the Pharaohs. In 1893 he received the Freedom of Wigan and the following year became Sir John Scott. In 1924 his collection of Ancient Egyptian artefacts were donated to the town.

Wigan Archives



any way equalled him. His "lightning" deliveries were the terror of all cricketers, and even the most accomplished batsmen dreaded his appearance. The records of that time contain many interesting and amusing experiences of his efforts in the bowling line. He had one drawback, and that was that "Mr. Extras" generally scored more than the batsmen, and it was no uncommon thing to see two or three men behind the wickets placed there to prevent the augmentation of this item in the score-sheet. How many wickets he has smashed during the course of his cricket career, we know not, but they must have been many. During the vacation



WALTER PARRATT

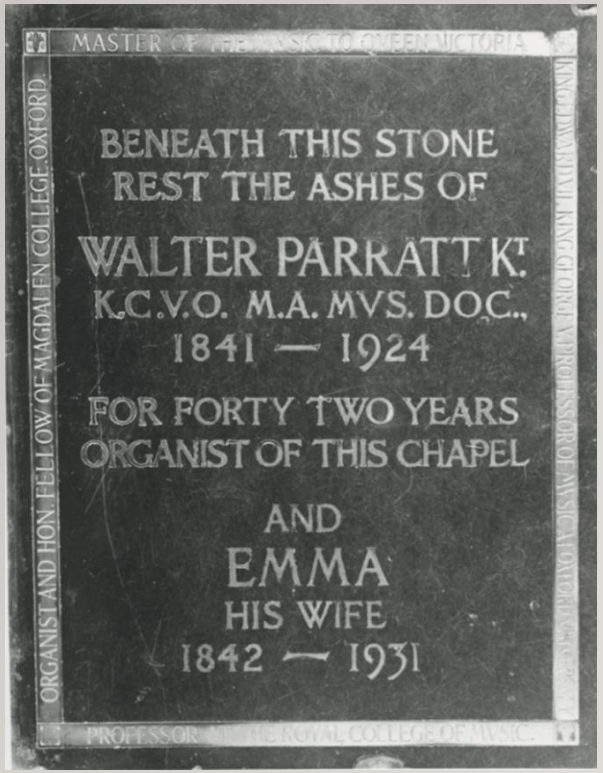
All the Wall boys were members of the Choir at Wigan Parish Church where the choirmaster, Walter Parratt, was a fellow cricketer for Wigan CC.

Walter was the organist at Wigan from 1868 to 1872 and lived at 19, Clifton Street,

Walter, became Sir Walter Parratt and was the Master of the King's Musick from 1893-1924.
He was succeeded by Sir Edward Elgar, best known for his "Enigma Variations", particularly "Nimrod"

On his death his ashes were interred in St. George's Chapel. Windsor



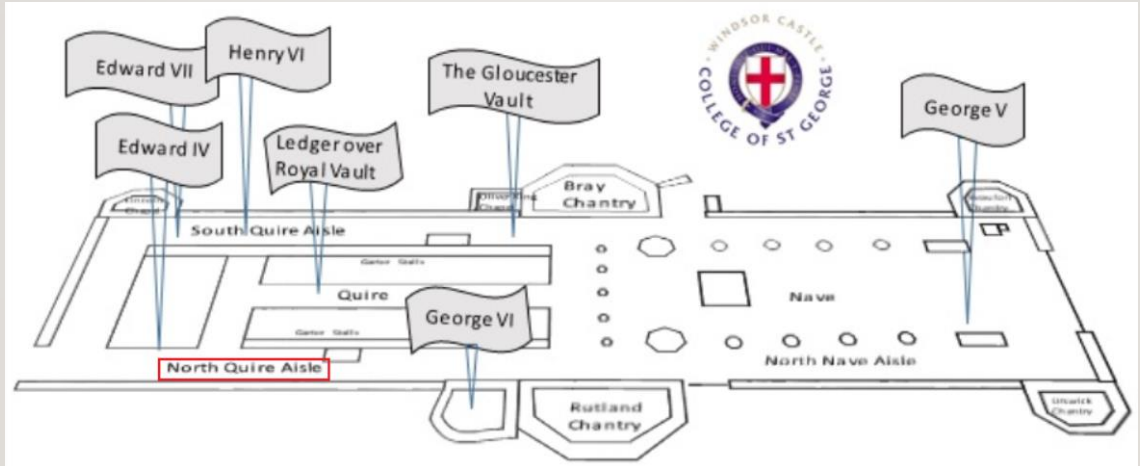


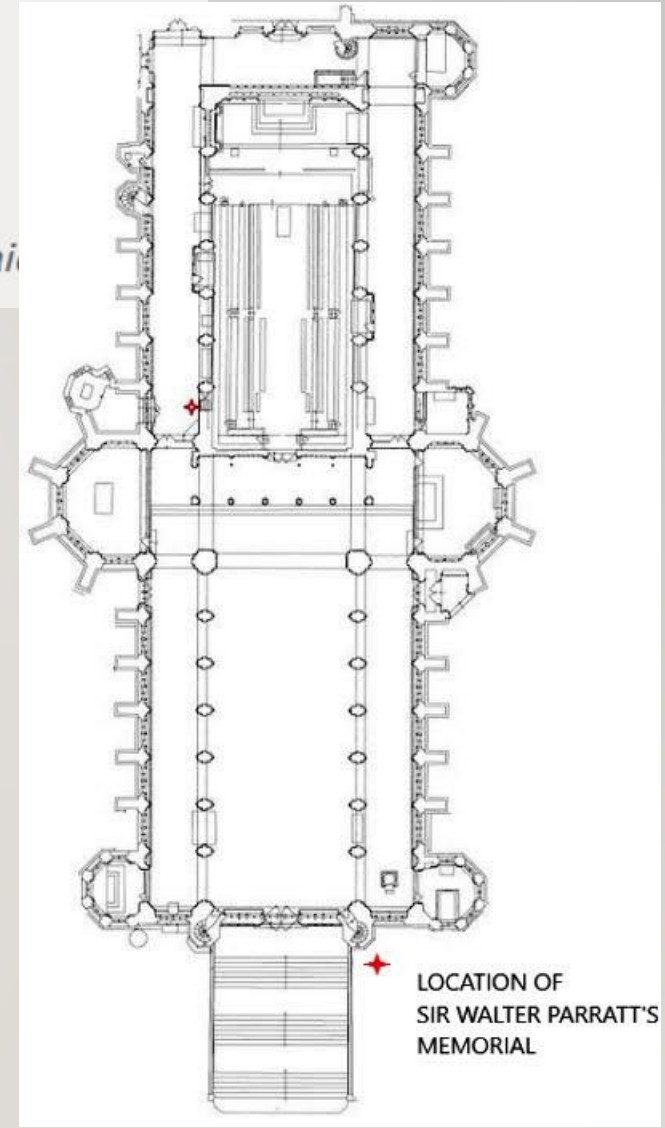
North Quire Aisle:

King Edward IV *(d. 1483)*

Queen Elizabeth Woodville *(d. 1492)*

Princess Louise, *Duchess of Saxe-Weimar, niece of Queen Adelai*





Walter's Memorial is by the door to the organ loft which as it happens is directly opposite the George VI Memorial Chapel where Queen Elizabeth II was laid to rest.

Kate McQuillian. Archivist & Chapter Librarian

Copyright – The Deans and Canons of Windsor

SIR THOMAS RATCLIFFE-ELLIS – 1842-1925





Successful solicitor, much respected.

Formed partnerships with Richard Leigh (Leigh & Ellis), Edward Scott (Scott & Ellis), and Maskell William Peace (Peace & Ellis) – All in King Street (Grimes Arcade)

Lived at the Gothic House in Dicconson St before his move to The Hollies.
Any information on Gothic House?

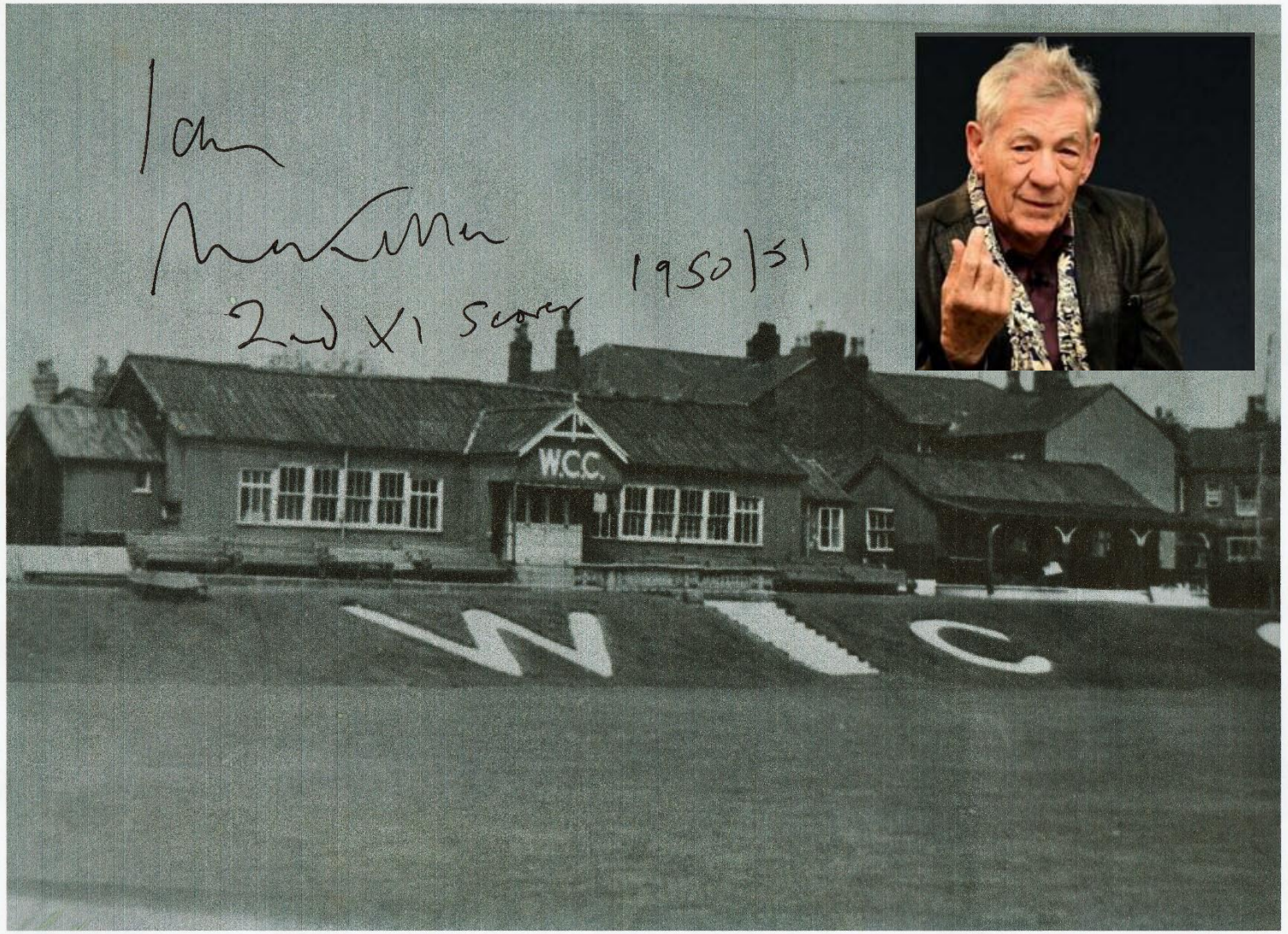
On the committee that formed Wigan Rugby in 1872.
Secretary of the Wigan Cricket Ground company.

Provided much legal assistance to the Club.

His sons, Tom, Arthur and Henry played prominent roles in the Club.

Knighted in 1911

The whole family were very active in the community of St. Michael's Swinley. Sir Thomas was churchwarden until his death



Sir Ian McKellen - 2nd Team scorer 1950-51
Ian lived in a house on Parsons Walk, overlooking Bull Hey.



THE MAYHEW FAMILY

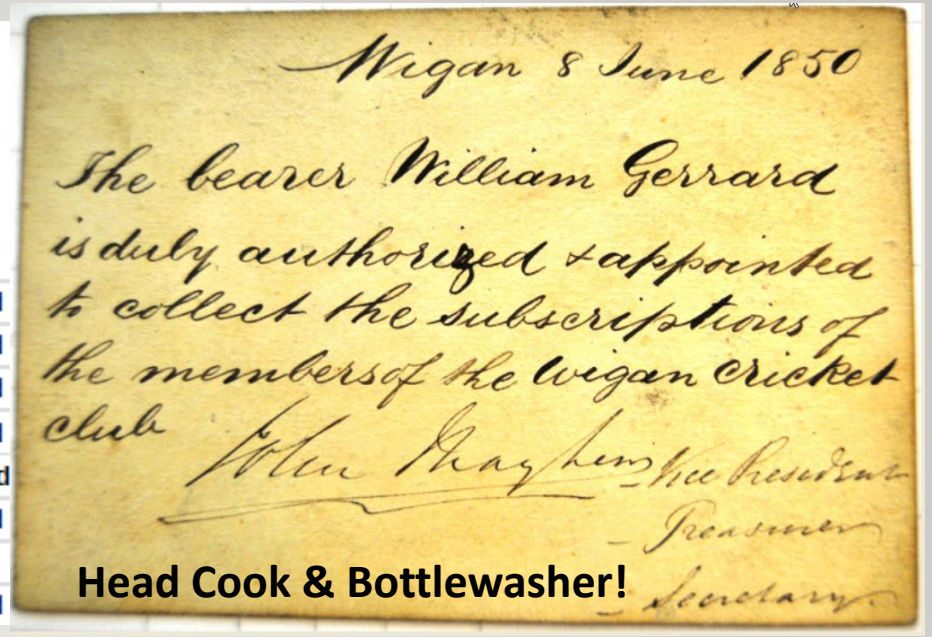
John Mayhew founding member and his children

1841 England, Wales & Scotland Census Transcription

Sewardstone Road, Waltham Holy Cross, Edmonton, Essex, England

Household Members

First name(s)	Last name	Gender	Age	Birth year	Birth place
John	Mayhew	Male	25	1816	Essex, England
Elizabeth	Mayhew	Female	25	1816	Essex, England
Clemdine	Mayhew	Female	6	1835	Essex, England
Johanna	Mayhew	Female	4	1837	Essex, England
Walter	**Mayhew**	**Male**	**2**	**1839**	**Essex, England**
Theresa	Mayhew	Female	0	1841	Essex, England
Edwin	Alfred	Male	15	1826	-
Jane	Summer	Female	15	1826	Essex, England


Wigan 8 June 1850

The bearer William Gerrard is duly authorized & appointed to collect the subscriptions of the members of the Wigan Cricket Club

Head Cook & Bottlewasher!

1851 England, Wales & Scotland Census Transcription

Wigan Lane, Wigan, Lancashire, England

Household Members

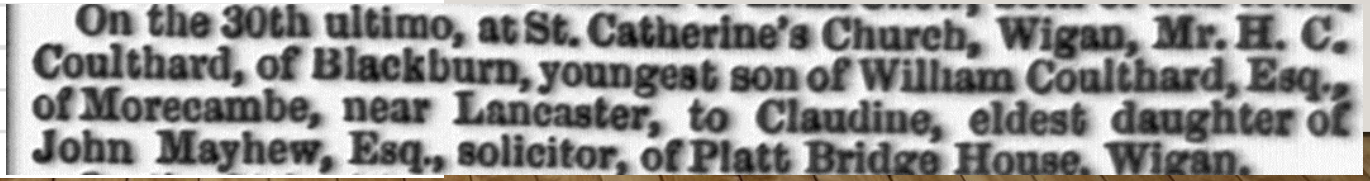
First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Sex	Age	Birth year	Occupation
John	**Mayhew**	**Head**	**M**	**Male**	**38**	**1813**	**Attorney At Lae And Solic**
Elizabeth	Mayhew	Wife	M	Female	37	1814	-
Joanna	Mayhew	Daur	-	Female	13	1838	Scholar
Walter	Mayhew	Son	-	Male	12	1839	Scholar
Auther	Mayhew	Son	-	Male	7	1844	Scholar
Horace	Mayhew	Son	-	Male	5	1846	Scholar
Janet	Mayhew	Daur	-	Female	1	1850	
Sarah	Harvey	Servant	-	Female	61	1790	
Ann	Wilsher	Servant	U	Female	18	1833	
Alice	Atherton	Servant	U	Female	14	1837	

Nov 1876


DONATION OF SCRIPTURE QUILTS.

A letter was received by Mr. J. Lowe (the governor) from Mr. Francis Whitehead, Crayford, Kent, stating that he had been desired by the widow of the late Mr. John Mayhew, of Platt Bridge Hall, to send him six Scripture quilts for the benefit of the inmates of the Wigan Workhouse. The gift was accepted, and on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded Mr. BRYHAM, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mrs. Mayhew for her kindness.

Oct 1858


On the 30th ultimo, at St. Catherine's Church, Wigan, Mr. H. C. Coulthard, of Blackburn, youngest son of William Coulthard, Esq., of Morecambe, near Lancaster, to Claudine, eldest daughter of John Mayhew, Esq., solicitor, of Platt Bridge House, Wigan.

2 references to Platt Bridge Hall/House as the residence of the Mayhews?

John Mayhew **1813-1871**

John was born about 1813, at Waltham Abby, Essex. He married Elizabeth Rapley.

Elizabeth Rapley **1813-1888**

Elizabeth was born about 1813, the daughter of John Rapley

Claudine	Born abt 1836	Essex	Married Hiram Craven Coulthard
Joanna	Born abt 1838	Essex	Married Charles Donald Macleod
Walter	Born abt 1839	Essex	Married Ann Sumner
Theresa Henrietta	Born abt 1841	Essex	Married Herbert Saxton Woolley
Arthur	Born 14 Apr 1843	Essex	Married Alexa Edith Wright, Pauline Hope
Horace	Born abt 1845	Essex	Married Mary Helena Dixon
Janet	Born abt 1850	Lancashire	Married William Henry Hewlett
Florence	Born abt 1854	Lancashire	

Obituary

- Died at his residence Lulworth House, Southport on 16th **Sept 1871**, aged 59.
- Admitted as a solicitor in 1847
- For many years solicitor to the late and also the present Earl of Crawford and Balcarres.
- His connection with mineral property gave him considerable experience in collieries and mining operations.
- Formed Mayhew & Sons - Law firm
- This brought him a very large practice among the great colliery owners in the neighbourhood of Wigan.
- Director of Law Union Insurance Co.
- Alderman, but declined the offer of Mayor.
- Politically a Conservative, worked actively for the Lindsays in two General Elections.
- He had just returned from a tour of Syria and the Holy Land.

LULWORTH HOUSE, BIRKDALE PARK, SOUTHPORT.

(The Residence of the Late John Mayhew, Esq.)

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, BY 1873

MR. JAMES PLATT,

at the VICTORIA HOTEL, in SOUTHPORT, on THURSDAY, the 7th day of AUGUST, 1873, at four o'clock prompt in the afternoon.

All that handsome and substantially built DWELLING-HOUSE called "Lulworth House," with the Conservatories, Peach House, Vineries, Hot Houses, and other Appurtenances thereto belonging.

The Gardens and Pleasure Grounds have been laid out with taste and at great expense, and are in a good state of cultivation.

The premises are bounded by Lulworth Road and Aughton Road. The quantity of land is 3529 square yards or thereabouts, and is held under an indenture of lease dated the 1st day of August, 1854, from Thomas Weld Blundell, Esq., for 99 years, from the 29th day of September, 1850, at a yearly ground rent of £3 4s. 0d.

The usual tenant's fixtures and the plants, peach trees, and vines, will be included in the sale.

The house is conveniently situated to both the Southport and Birkdale Railway Stations, and the new street tramway runs past the entrance gates.

To be viewed by ticket only, for which, and for further information apply to the Auctioneer, London Street, Southport, or at the office of

Messrs. MAYHEW & SON,
Solicitors, Wigan.

MAYHEW, Elizabeth - The Will with a codicil, of Elizabeth Mayhew, late of 13 Kensington-Park-Gardens, in the County of Middlesex, Widow, who died 17 August 1888, at 13 Kensington-Park-gardens, was proved at the Principal Registry, by **Walter Mayhew**, of Euxton Hall, Chorley, in the County of Lancaster, **Arthur Mayhew** of 10 Devonshire-place, Eastbourne, in the County of Sussex, and **Horace Mayhew**. of Bank House, Wigan, in the County of Lancaster, Gentlemen, the Sons, three of the Executors. Effects £17,853 1s. 3d.

WALTER MAYHEW

Eldest son

First juvenile member of the Club, elected 11th June 1854.

Alderman.

Mayor of Wigan 1876-1877, and 1877-1878,

Chairman of the Library Committee from its institution in 1877 to 1895.

Lived at Duxbury Hall

Senior Partner in Mayhew & Sons, 20 Standishgate



LANCASTER 4 Apr 1918 **Probate**

MAYHEW, Walter - of Duxbury-park, Chorley, Lancashire, esquire, J.P. died 6 February 1918, Probate Lancaster 4 April, to **Perceval Sumner Mayhew**, esquire. Effects £28,765 8s. 10d.

HORACE MAYHEW 1846-1926



Educated at King William College, Isle of Man

Also a juvenile member of Wigan Cricket Club

Apprenticeship as a mining engineer with the Wigan Coal & Iron Company

1869 - Mining Engineer based at 11, Standishgate

Managed and part owned collieries' in the Wigan Area

1883 formed a partnership with WE Gladstone – managed Gladstone's extensive collieries and brickworks in Hawarden.

1888 took over Halls Collieries at Swadlincote, Burton-on Trent, employing 2,000 mineworkers.

Lived at Bank House, Wigan Lane, purchased from the Woodcock banking family.

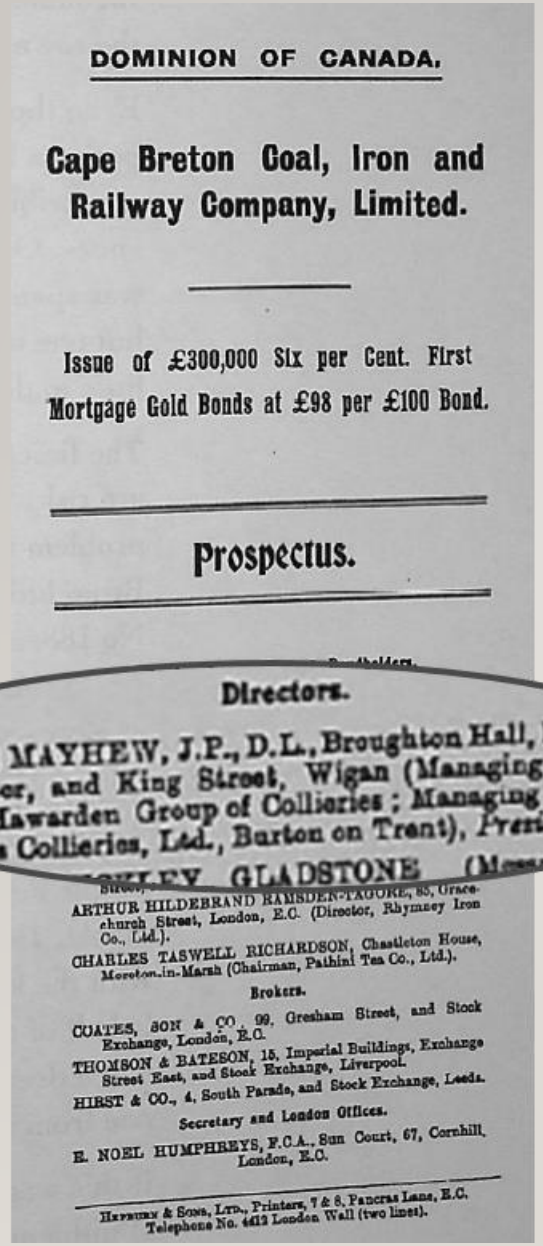
Bank House was made available to accommodate the high court judges in the trial of Sir Francis Sharp Powell. Sold in 1898.

Horace became High Sheriff of Flintshire.

His biggest project:-

CHESTER 18 November 1926 **Probate**

MAYHEW, Horace, of Cartre Westminster Park, Chester, died 15 August 1926, Probate Chester, 18 November to **Mabel Eleanor Mayhew**, widow, **John Dixon Mayhew**, retired lieutenant-colonel H.M. Army, **Geoffrey Dixon Mayhew**, and **Arthur Joyce Mayhew**, mining engineers. Effects £40,118 5s.



DOMINION OF CANADA.

Cape Breton Coal, Iron and Railway Company, Limited.

Issue of £300,000 Six per Cent. First Mortgage Gold Bonds at £98 per £100 Bond.

Prospectus.

Directors.

HORACE MAYHEW, J.P., D.L., Broughton Hall, Broughton, Chester, and King Street, Wigan (Managing Partner in the Hawarden Group of Collieries; Managing Director of Hall's Collieries, Ltd., Burton on Trent), *President.*

ARTHUR HILDEBRAND RAMSDEN-TAGORE, 85, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C. (Director, Rhymney Iron Co., Ltd.).

CHARLES TASWELL RICHARDSON, Chastleton House, Moreton-in-Marsh (Chairman, Pathini Tea Co., Ltd.).

Brokers.

COATES, SON & CO., 99, Gresham Street, and Stock Exchange, London, E.C.

THOMSON & BATESON, 15, Imperial Buildings, Exchange Street East, and Stock Exchange, Liverpool.

HIRST & CO., 4, South Parade, and Stock Exchange, Leeds.

Secretary and London Offices.

E. NOEL HUMPHREYS, F.C.A., Sun Court, 67, Cornhill, London, E.C.

Hepburn & Sons, Ltd., Printers, 7 & 8, Pancras Lane, E.C. Telephone No. 4412 London Wall (two lines).

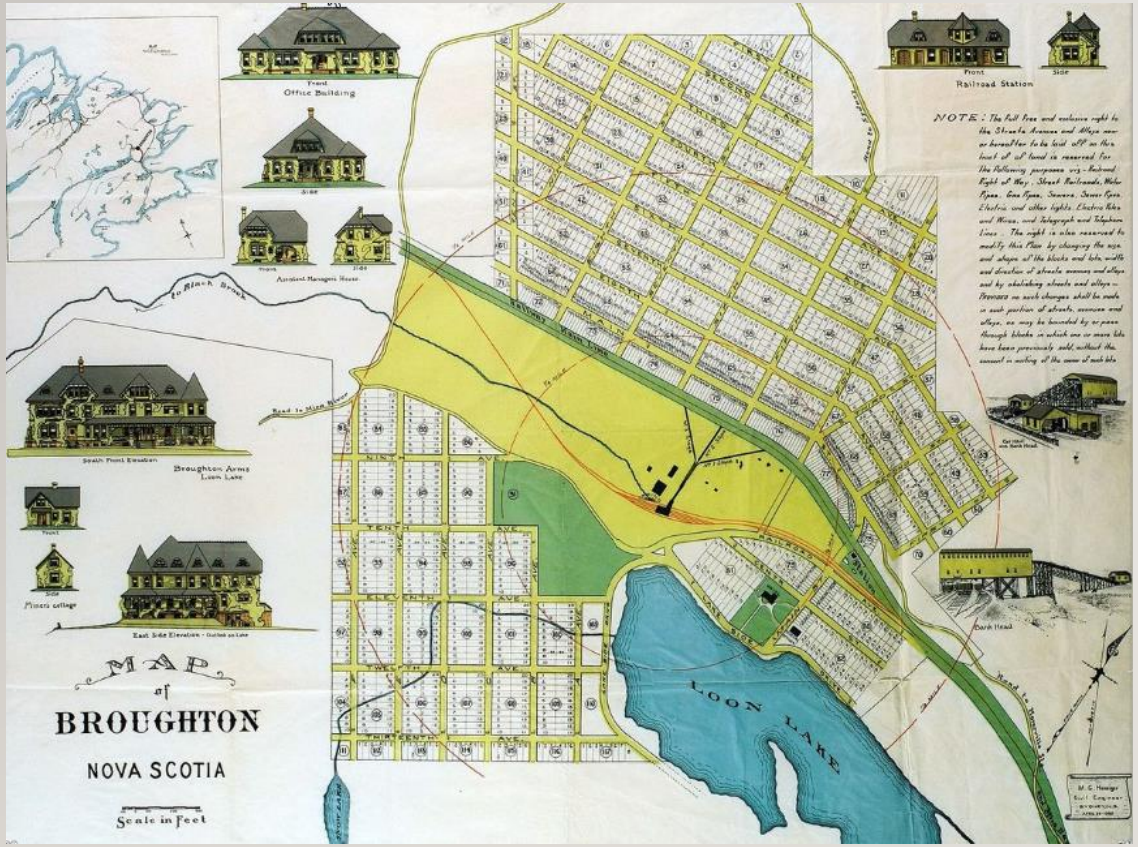
Cape Breton Coal, Iron & Railway Company

In the early 20th Century Horace Mayhew founded the town of Broughton in Nova Scotia and established the Cape Breton Coal. Iron & Railway Company. One of the first planned communities in Canada, constructed a general mining building, a church and the "palatial" Broughton Arms Hotel, with the first revolving door in North America.

The company was based in King Street, probably in the Leaders Building, you may remember it as “The Turnkey Restaurant”

The company was unable to secure a means to transport the coal by railway to the local port of Sydney for onward delivery to customers by sea.

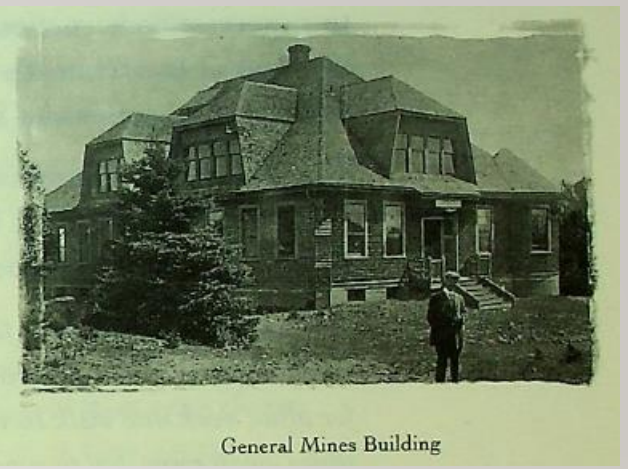
So, the company went bankrupt in 1907 and Horace returned to Flintshire and established a new practice with his remaining sons. The firm Mayhew & Mayhew later owned several collieries in the Flintshire area.



Broughton, Nova Scotia – Plans for a town to serve 12,000 residents.



Broughton Arms



General Mines Building



Army Drills outside the Crown Hotel - 1918

A tragic family incident was to happen while at Cape Breton

Horace Dixon Mathew

Son of Horace Mayhew, English Coal Baron, Kills Himself in Nova Scotia.

Special to The Tribune.



Young Mayhew was spending the week end at the house of Timothy Spencer near Mira river, in company with James Hampson, manager of the company's coal railway at Broughton. He retired last evening apparently in the usual health and spirits. Early this morning Spencer was awakened by a strange noise in Mayhew's room. Entering he found young Mayhew with his throat cut almost from ear to ear. Just as Spencer entered, the young can, who was standing in front of a mirror gazing at the horrible wound, staggered to his bed and fell dead. A coroner's jury rendered a verdict of death by suicide while temporarily insane.

Mayhew was 30 years old and unmarried, and has been in Broughton two years, representing his father's interests. His father has a fine estate at Broughton hall, Wigan, Lancashire, England, and is reported to be a multimillionaire. No cause for the suicide has been ascertained, but it is believed to be due to weakening of the mind as a result of an attack of rheumatic gout from which he had been suffering for several weeks.

HORACE MAYHEW & SONS



The LIST OPENED THURSDAY and will CLOSE on or before TUESDAY, 2nd July, 1912, at 4 p.m

DOMINION OF CANADA.

CAPE BRETON COAL, IRON & RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

(Incorporated by Special Acts of the Legislature of the Province of Nova Scotia, Canada.)

CAPITAL - - - $5,000,000

Divided into 50,000 Shares of $100 each, of which 40,000 Shares are issued or agreed to be issued as fully paid.

AUTHORISED BOND ISSUES—

Six per Cent. First Mortgage Gold Bonds of $100 each £410,900
Five Per Cent. Income Bonds (of which $921,000 are issued) $2,000,000

THERE ARE NOW OFFERED FOR SUBSCRIPTION £300,000 SIX PER CENT. FIRST MORTGAGE GOLD BONDS (part of the above 410,900) **AT £98 PER £100 BOND.**

The balance, viz., £110,900 of such Bonds will be available for future issue if required.

Horace's second attempt for a successful mining operation in 1912 also ended in failure

Horace Dixon seated next to Horace

The other Mayhew Children



Janet Hewlett 1850-1944 – married William Henry Hewlett of the Wigan Coal & Iron Co. who became Managing Director in 1912, one of the largest companies in the UK.
Lived at Strickland House, Standish and raised 11 children.
Janet and William retired to Munstead Rough, Godalming, Surrey, house still there, valued at £5.3 m



Joanna Macleod 1838-1930 – married Major General Charles Donald Macleod, 31st Bombay Native Infantry.
3 children, 2 born in India.
Died in Bournemouth aged 92



Arthur Mayhew 1843-1929
Partner in a London law firm.
First wife Alexa Edith Wright
1883 - Married second wife Paulina Hope at the British Embassy in Paris
Chairman of Eastbourne Bench of Magistrate
Died in Eastbourne in 1929



Claudine Coulthard 1836-1925 – married Hiram Craven Coulthard, Civil Engineers who built several railways in Lancashire, probably mineral railways.
Hiram left Claudine and “buggered off” to New Zealand in 1878 with a Jane Carter. Unfortunately died in Napier, North Island, 3 years later in 1881.
Claudine never remarried.



Theresa Wooley 1841-1916 – married Herbert Saxton Woolley, a Manchester wool merchant.
5 children including twins.
Herbert died in Hawkes Bay, New Zealand in Jan 1893, aged 49. “Sheep expedition?”
Lived at Lansdowne Road, Kensington, London



Florence 1854-? – never married,

From the 1880’s Claudine, Theresa and Florence lived out the rest of their lives together at Ashburnham, Sylvan Road, Upper Norwood, London. Living on own means with 2 servants.

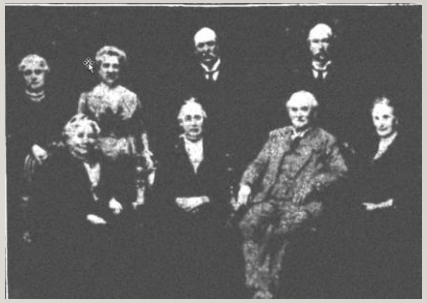
Children of John Mayhew at a Luncheon at The Carlton Hotel, London on 26th May 1914



Thanks to David Mayhew – 2 x great grandson of John Mayhew



Walter presented a Loving Cup to each brother and sister.



Newspaper photo

Standing – Florence, Janet Hewlett, Horace, Arthur
Seated – Claudine Coulthard, Joanna McLeod, Walter Mayhew, Theresa H Woolley

To: John Mayhew

A smart choice relocating north to Wigan …… family done well!

Cricket club flourishing …

Regards,
All at Wigan CC

Thanks for their help and assistance:

George Graham
U.S.A.

David Lionel Mayhew

Estate Research
Genealogy Matters

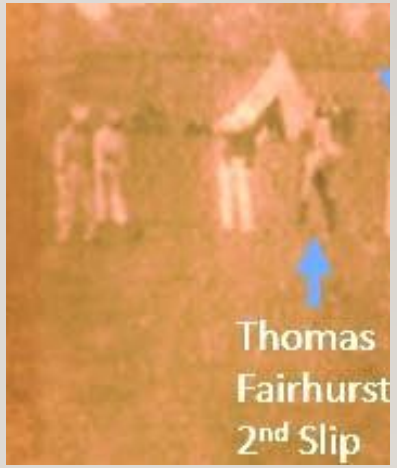




THOMAS FAIRHURST & FAMILY

Warrington Lane Brewery, Gladstone House, Kilhey Court.

A "Man of Scholes" – Born in Scholefield Lane



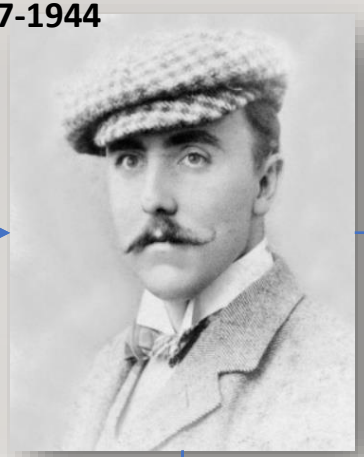
Thomas Fairhurst
1839-1912





Elizabeth Swift
1843-1918

Son - James Aston Fairhurst
1867-1944

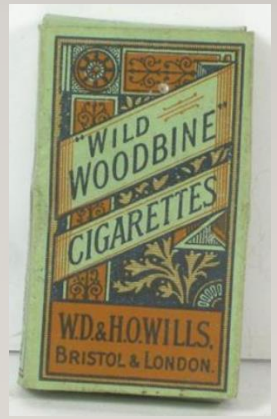


Eva Louise Ansell
1868-1929



Grandson - Thomas Ansell Fairhurst 1903-1955
Barbara Joan de Winton Wills 1902-1980



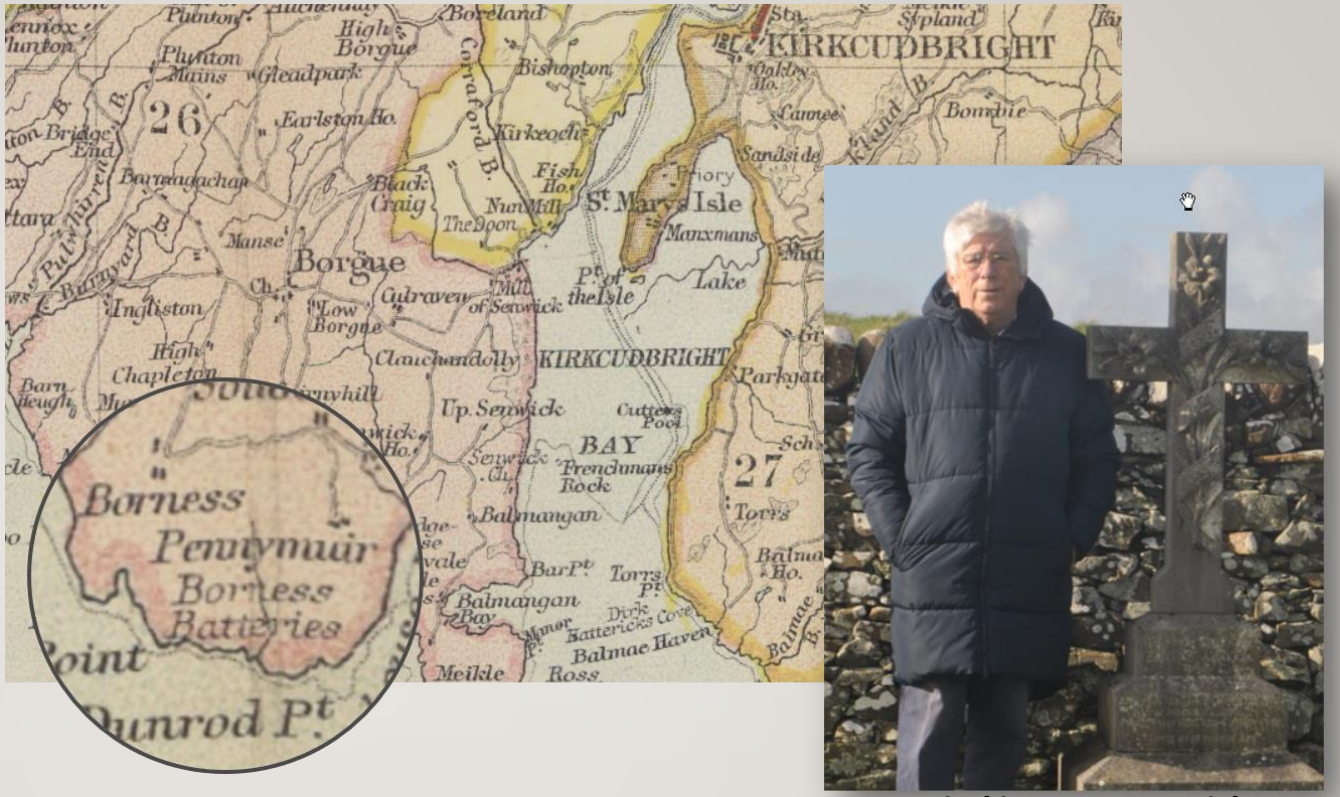


Wedding of James & Eva Louise





Thomas owned a large estate in Borness, Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland.



Buried in Borgue Parish Churchyard

Played during the time on the Mesnes and served on various committees

FAIRHURST, Thomas, of Kilhey-court, Worthington, Lancashire, died 12 February 1912, at Borness, county Kirkcudbright, Probate, London, 17 August, to **Elizabeth Fairhurst**, widow, **James Ashton Fairhurst**, esquire, and **Sir Thomas Ratcliffe Ratcliffe-Ellis**, knight.
Effects £163,397 19s. 9d.

Inscriptions:

In loving memory of Gordon Ansell, son of James Ashton and Eva Louise Fairhurst, of Borness & Stafford, born 5th May 1897, died 4th Oct'r 1902. "Suffer me to come to thee".

In loving memory of Thomas Fairhurst, of Borness and Kilhey Court, Wigan, born 23rd June 1840, died 12th Feb'y 1912.

Managing Director of Ansells Brewery.
James Aston bought at Auction in 1905.
His home until his death in 1944.

PARTICULARS, VIEWS, PLAN AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

OF THE

EXCEPTIONALLY BEAUTIFUL FREEHOLD

RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE

KNOWN AS

"Arlington Manor,"

NEWBURY.

Situate in the Parish of Chieveley, in the most favourite part of this choice Residential District,

And well known as the Country Seat of the late Lord St. Helier.

The property comprises a handsomely-appointed Country House, throughout in excellent condition, and enjoying a grand situation on high ground within its Finely-Timbered Park, sheltered by lovely Pine Woods, interspersed with Forest Timber. It is approached by Two long Drives with Lodge Entrances, and contains a charming Suite of Reception Rooms, handsome Billiard Room, about Twenty-four Bed and Dressing Rooms, Two Bath Rooms and capital Offices. Lighted by Acetylene Gas. Heated by Hot Water. Perfect Water Supply.

DELIGHTFUL PLEASURE GROUNDS AND GARDENS

Adorned by grand Conifers, &c., Range of Glass-houses.

CAPITAL STABLING. MOTOR HOUSE AND ACCOMMODATION FOR MEN.

A Gentleman's House called "Oaklands,"

Let on Lease, and

FOUR FARMS

with Houses and Buildings in good repair, ample Cottages, &c., the whole extending to about

595 ACRES,

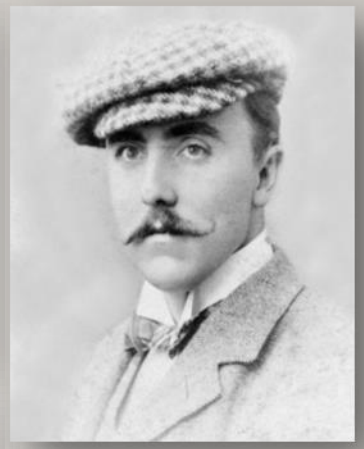
of which 100 Acres are Woodlands, and

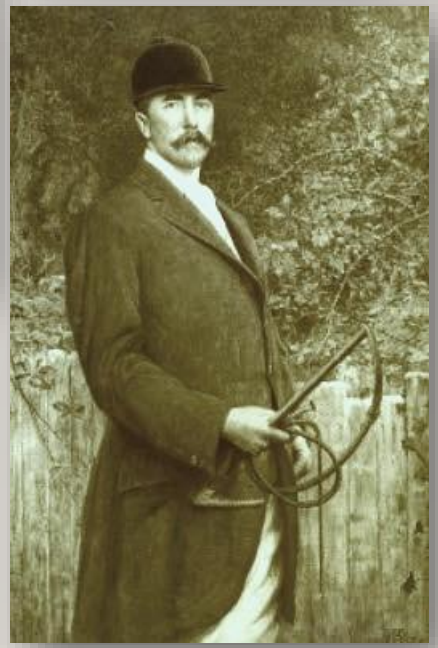
TOGETHER WITH THE MANOR OF ARLINGTON.











LLANDUDNO 29 Jul 1944 **Probate**

FAIRHURST, James Ashton, of Arlington Manor, Newbury, Berkshire, died 8 January 1944, Probate, Llandudno, 29 July, to **Thoma Ansell Fairhurst**, of no occupation, **Ronald Allen France**, solicitor, and **Arthur Edward Wiley**, company director.
Effects £644,365 7s. 6d.



Thomas Ansell Fairhurst was educated at Rugby and at Jesus Coll., Cambridge (B.A. 1888, M.A. 1892), and called to the Bar at the Inner Temple 1892, is a J.P. and C.C. for Berkshire, Major and Hon. Lieut.-Col. ret., late 6th Batt. Manchester Regt., T.D., and Lord of the Manor of Arlington. - Arlington Manor, Newbury, Berkshire

RATCLIFFE ELLIS FAMILY

SIR THOMAS RATCLIFFE-ELLIS – 1842-1925





Successful solicitor, much respected.

Formed partnerships with Richard Leigh (Leigh & Ellis), Edward Scott (Scott & Ellis), and Maskell William Peace (Peace & Ellis) – All in King Street (Grimes Arcade)

Lived at the Gothic House in Dicconson St before his move to The Hollies.
Any information on Gothic House?

On the committee that formed Wigan Rugby in 1872.
Secretary of the Wigan Cricket Ground company.

Provided much legal assistance to the Club.

His sons, Tom, Arthur and Henry played prominent roles in the Club.

Knighted in 1911

The whole family were very active in the community of St. Michael's Swinley. Sir Thomas was churchwarden until his death

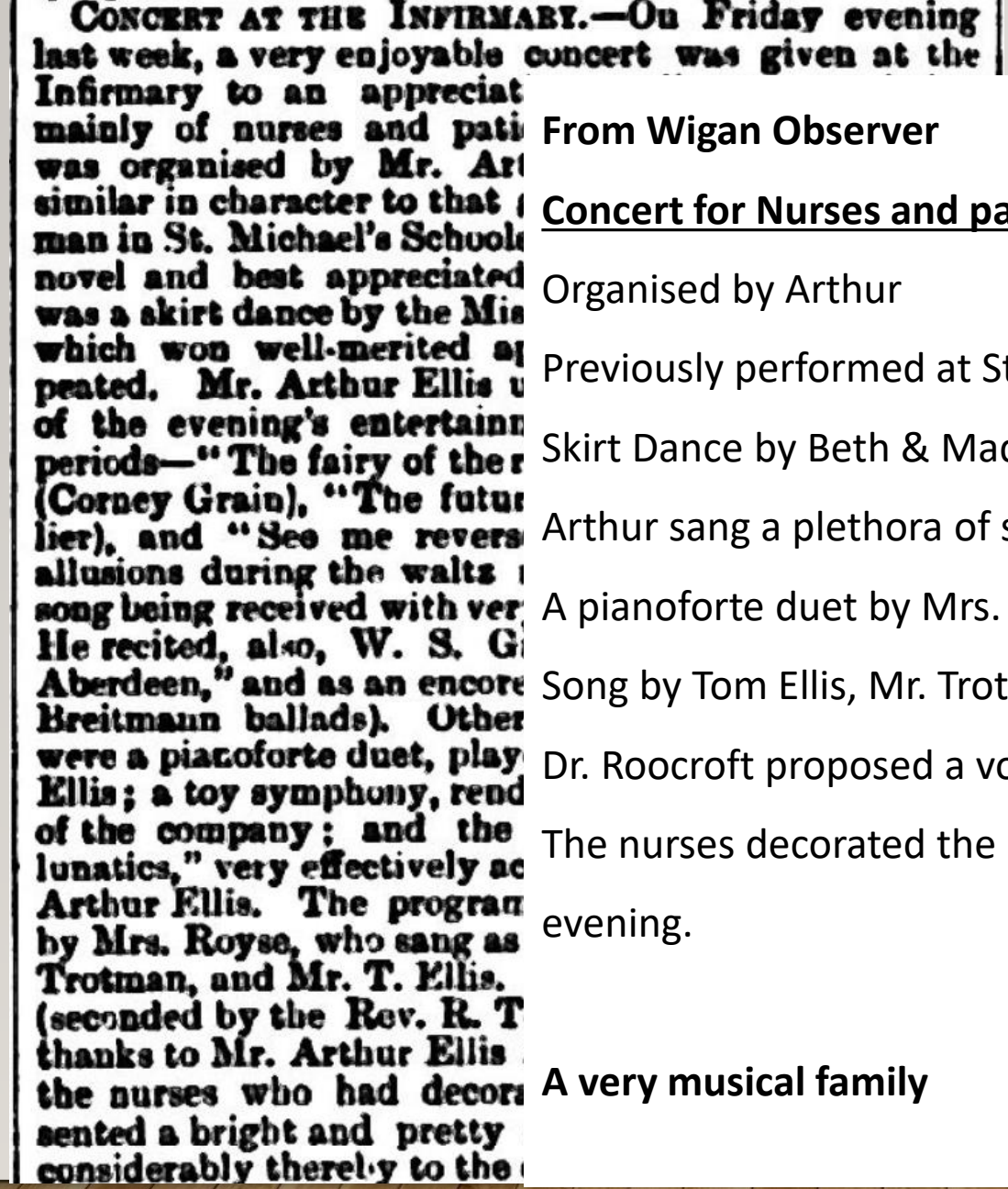




Madge & Dorothy Ellis

Children of Sir Thomas

Thomas
Mary
Arthur
Elizabeth
Madge
Ruth
Dorothy
Henry



CONCERT AT THE INFIRMARY.—On Friday evening last week, a very enjoyable concert was given at the Infirmary to an appreciat mainly of nurses and pati was organised by Mr. Art similar in character to that man in St. Michael's School novel and best appreciated was a skirt dance by the Mis which won well-merited ap peated. Mr. Arthur Ellis u of the evening's entertainn periods—"The fairy of the r (Corney Grain), "The futur lier), and "See me revers allusions during the waltz song being received with ver He recited, also, W. S. G Aberdeen," and as an encore Breitmann ballads). Other were a pianoforte duet, play Ellis; a toy symphony, rend of the company; and the lunatics," very effectively ac Arthur Ellis. The program by Mrs. Royse, who sang as Trotman, and Mr. T. Ellis. (seconded by the Rev. R. T thanks to Mr. Arthur Ellis the nurses who had decor sented a bright and pretty considerably thereby to the

From Wigan Observer

<u>Concert for Nurses and patients at Wigan Infirmary</u>

Organised by Arthur

Previously performed at St.Michael's, Swinley

Skirt Dance by Beth & Madge Ellis

Arthur sang a plethora of songs some to considerable amusement.

A pianoforte duet by Mrs. & Beth Ellis.

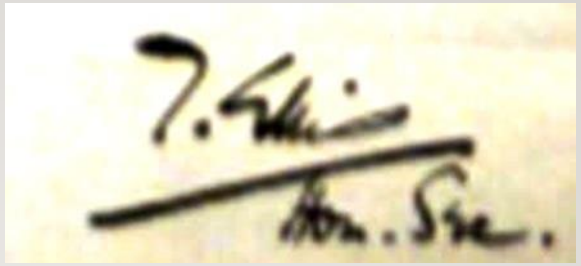
Song by Tom Ellis, Mr. Trotman and Mrs Royce.

Dr. Roocroft proposed a vote of thanks to Arthur and his party.

The nurses decorated the room which contributed to an enjoyable evening.

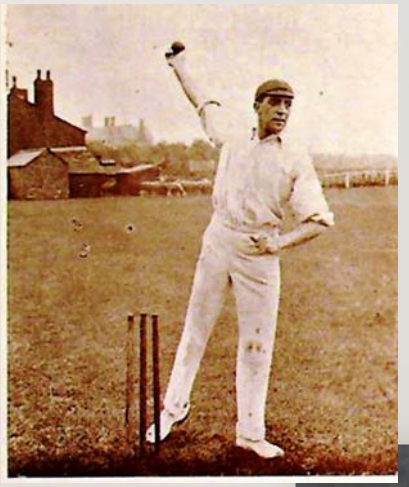
A very musical family

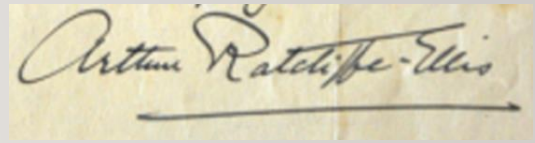
Thomas – “Tom”
Educated at Rugby School
Solicitor – family practice Peace & Ellis
Member & Stage Manager – Wigan Amateur Operatics
Clerk to the Wigan Borough Magistrates for 36 years.
Secretary of WCC for many years 1890’s – 1914
Organised the move from Frog Lane to Bull Hey.
Chairman of the 1901 Naval Bazaar



Arthur – ”Bobby”
Also educated at Rugby School
Oxford University
Solicitor – Peace & Ellis
WCC Capt 1905-1912
WCC Chairman 1920-1945
Committee – Lancashire County Cricket Club
Member of Wigan Amateur Operatics







Henry – “Cliffe”
Solicitor – Peace & Ellis
WCC Capt 1912-1914 & 1919 -1920 – Off spinner.
Married Grace Wall in 1913, daughter of Chares Wall, and grand daughter of Thomas Wall.



All were involved in the social and religious life of St. Michael’s Church, Swinley

Record Transcription:

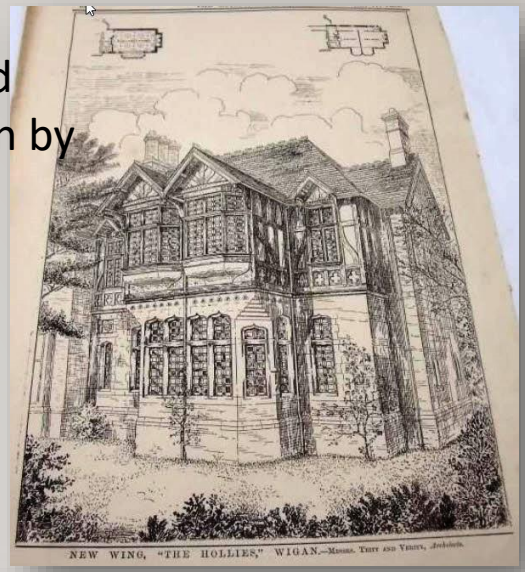
1911 Census For England & Wales

The Hollies Wigan, Wigan, Lancashire, England

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Sex	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birth place
Thomas Ratcliffe	Ellis	Head	Single	Male	68	1843	Solicitor	Lancs Wigan
Mary Dean	Ellis	Wife	Married	Female	63	1848	-	Lancs Wigan
Thomas	Ellis	Son	Single	Male	41	1870	Solicitor	Lancs Wigan
Arthur	Ellis	Son	Single	Male	38	1873	Solicitor	Lancs Wigan
Henry Ratcliffe	**Ellis**	**Son**	**Single**	**Male**	**25**	**1886**	**Solicitor**	**Lancs Wigan**
Adelaide Frances	Jenkins	Servant	Single	Female	33	1878	Cook Domestic	
May	Phillipson	Servant	Single	Female	21	1890	Housemaid Domestic	
Mary	Green	Servant	Single	Female	17	1894	Waitress Domestic	
Minnie	Phillipson	Servant	Single	Female	17	1894	Housemaid Domestic	
Leah Ellen	Chamberlain	Servant	Single	Female	24	1887	Waitress Domestic	
Mary Alice	Boycott	Servant	Single	Female	20	1891	Housemaid Domestic	
Mary Ann	Handley	Servant	Single	Female	17	1894	Kitchen Maid Domestic	

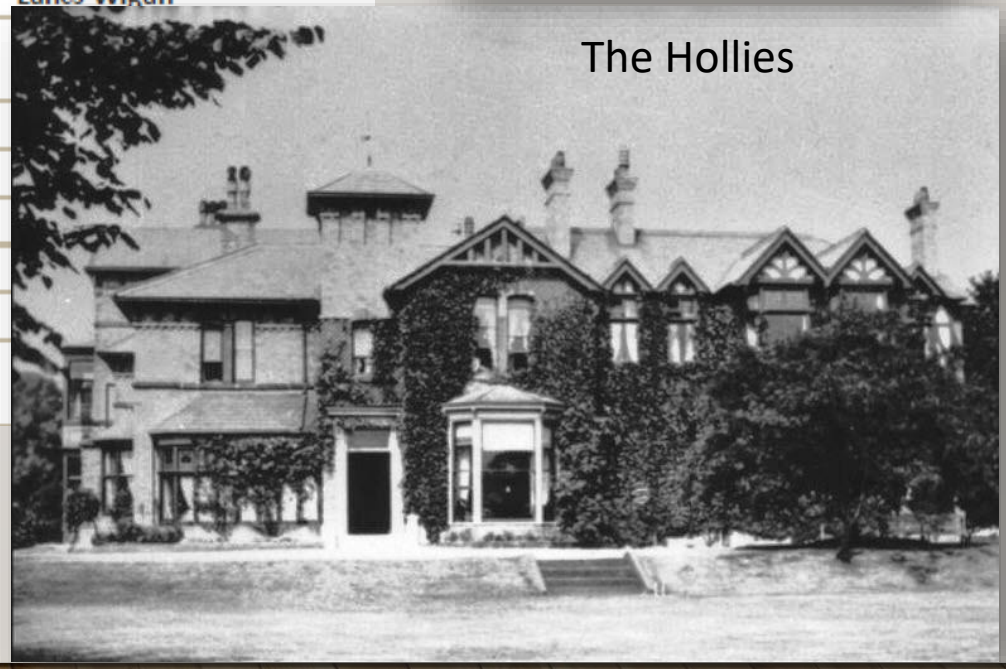
With 7 Servants

Proposed Extension by Thomas



NEW WING, "THE HOLLIES," WIGAN.—Messrs. Tate and Tebbs, Architects.

The Hollies



The Hollies became the Notre Dame Convent – Prep School – Looking for photos! …. or memories



Henry



Arthur



Wigan CC 1st XI

Major Arthur Ratcliffe-Ellis, of the Hollies, Wigan, secretary and legal adviser to the Lancashire and Cheshire Coalowners' Association, a member of the committee of the Lancashire Cricket Club, and son of the late Sir Thomas Ratcliffe-Ellis left £114,395, net £100,487.

Arthur's short engagement!



76 images of Lily in the National Portrait Gallery

Both Tom and Arthur never married.

Arthur had a very short-term fiancée in Lily Brayton, his half cousin –the daughter of his maternal grandmother, Mary Barton, by her first husband.

Lily was a famous actress and the daughter of a doctor from Hindley.

Apparently, they decided to get married during a house-party and then, early the following morning, each of them slipped a note under the other's door saying that they hadn't really meant it!

Q. How would life have change for Arthur if they had both meant it?

BITS & PIECES

Ladies Pavilion



Unsure when it was built, probably the 1920's

No ladies or "strangers" allowed in the Clubhouse.

Although drinks could be ordered and delivered to the pavilion.

Doesn't fit well the current thinking or policies around equality, diversity and inclusion.

Athletic Festivals 1870's & 1880's

August 1876

WIGAN CRICKET CLUB.

UNDER DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE.

PRESIDENT ..... LORD LINDSAY, M.P.

THE FIRST ANNUAL AMATEUR

ATHLETIC FESTIVAL

Of the above Club will be held on the CRICKET GROUND,

ON SATURDAY, AUGUST THE 28TH, 1876,

WHEN UPWARDS OF £150 WILL BE GIVEN IN PRIZES.

THE GREAT SCOTCH ATHLETES,

DONALD DINNIE

AND

FLEMING,

Will give an Exhibition of their FEATS OF STRENGTH in the course of the Afternoon.

A BAND WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE.

The Prizes will be distributed immediately after the Sports.

REFRESHMENTS MAY BE OBTAINED ON THE GROUND.

Sports commence at 1 30 p.m.

ADMISSION :—To the Ground, 1s; to the Grand Stand and Inclosure, 2s. 6d.

Prospectuses and Forms of Entry may be obtained from the Hon. Secretaries.

Entries close August 21st, or by post August 23rd.

A number of the Prizes to be given are now on view at the *Observer* Office.

W. WALL, J. F. LEIGH CLARE, } Hon. Secs.

Wigan Cricket Club Athletic Festival

June 21st 1879

Receipts

Donations	30	17	6
Tickets Sold Out side	25	17	9
Entrance Fees	28	.	.
Receipts at Gate - Less Bad 2/6	115	18	9
For Refreshments	10	.	.
~~Balance~~ -			
£	210	14	"
Balance brought down	7	1	"
Tickets sold to come in	5	16	"
£	12	17	"

WIGAN CRICKET CLUB Eleventh Annual

ATHLETIC FESTIVAL.

SATURDAY, JULY 24TH, 1886.

£100 IN PRIZES

Prospectuses will be ready in a few days, and may be had at the Newspaper Offices, or from the Hon. Secretaries,

R. YOUNG.

F. J. BALDWIN.

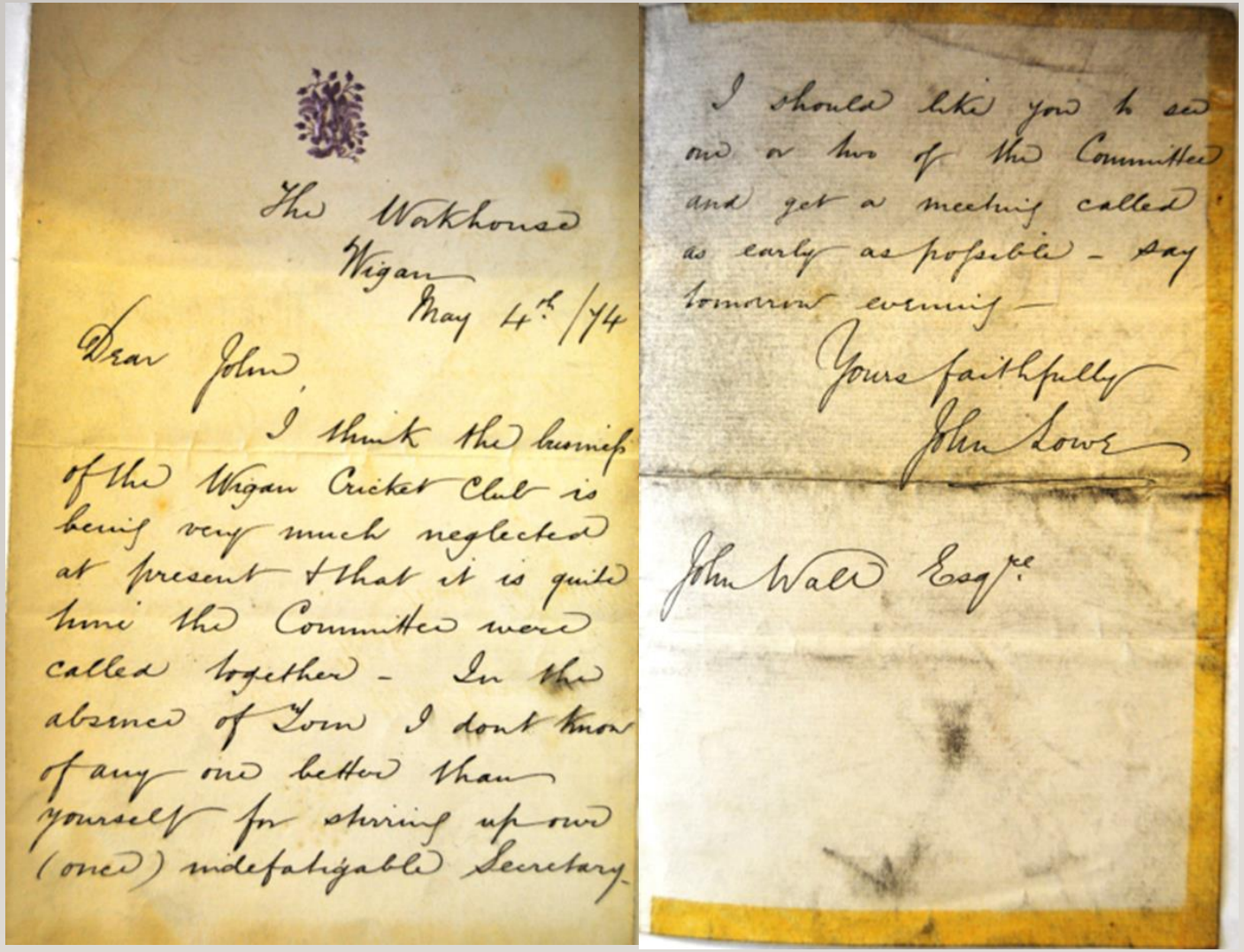
43, Corporation-street, Wigan.

Peters W.	Laying Out Ground	17 . .
Horder G.	Refreshments	3 8 2
Platt Walter	Handicapping	2 2 .
Meek & Sons	Decorating	3 6 ~~4~~ "
- Bond -	Indefatigable	7 5 4
Prizes as per Cheque Book -		94 10 .

Payments as per Secretary's Petty Cash Book

Jugs of War	6	. .
Gatemen	4	13 .
Police Detectives &c	3	5 6
Stamps Telegrams & Carriage	3	8 5
Boxing Gloves	1	. .
String &c &c		17 9
Extra Labour	2	. .
Balance	7	1 .
£	210	14 .

Letter from John Lowe (Governor of the Wigan Workhouse) to John Wall (4th May 1874)



The Workhouse
Wigan
May 4th /74

Dear John,

I think the business of the Wigan Cricket Club is being very much neglected at present & that it is quite time the Committee were called together - In the absence of Tom I dont know of any one better than yourself for stirring up our (once) indefatigable Secretary.

I should like you to send one or two of the Committee and get a meeting called as early as possible - say tomorrow evening -

Yours faithfully
John Lowe

John Wall Esqre

I think the business of the Wigan Cricket Club is being much neglected at present that it is quite time the Committee were called together – In the absence of Tom (Thomas Wall jnr) I don't know of any one better than yourself for stirring up our (once) indefatigable Secretary . I should like you to send one or two of the Committee and get a meeting called as early as possible- - say tomorrow evening.

Who was the Secretary?

Richardson Thomas Johnson – Architect

Brother-in-Law of Thomas Wall founder of the Observer.

Designed - Royal Court Theatre, Grimes Arcade, both King St. Springfield Park Trotting Track and New Jerusalem School in Warrington Road.

Had an eventful life and died in the Rice Lane Workhouse in Liverpool

JJB

Who was JJB?





John Jarvis Broughton (1873-1952)

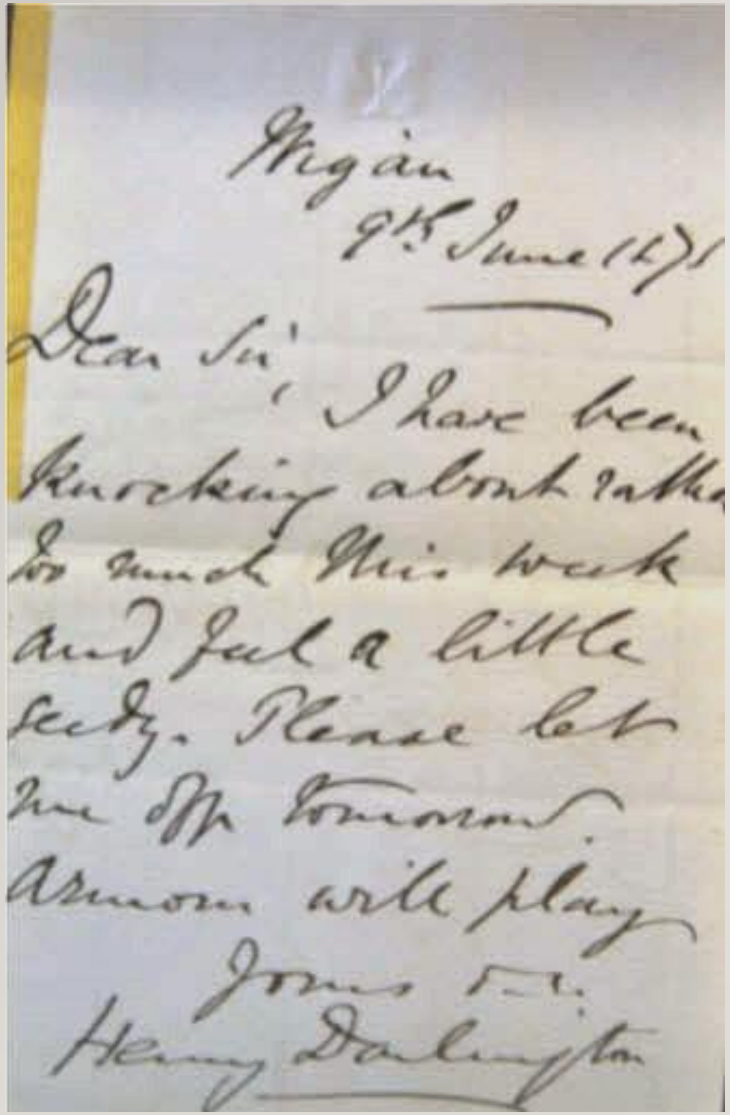
Another famous cricketer with strong links to Wigan Cricket Club.
Played for Lancashire in 1901 & 1902 with a highest score of 99
Played Minor Counties Cricket for his old county of Lincolnshire 1907-1914
During his time with Wigan he scored over 6,300 runs and took over 800 wickets.
Sports Outfitter for many years at 76 Market Street.
He sold his business to JJ Bradburn another revered Wigan cricketer.
The business was later sold to Dave Whelan who created the JJB empire.





76, Market Street Sign

That’s a cry off!



Wigan
9th June 1875

Dear Sir,
I have been knocking about rather too much this week and I feel a little seedy. Please let me off tomorrow. l’Anson will play

Henry Darlington



Son of Ralph Darlington
Mayor & Town Clerk
Successful Solicitor.

GEORGE FORMBY
AT THE
ROYAL COURT THEATRE.

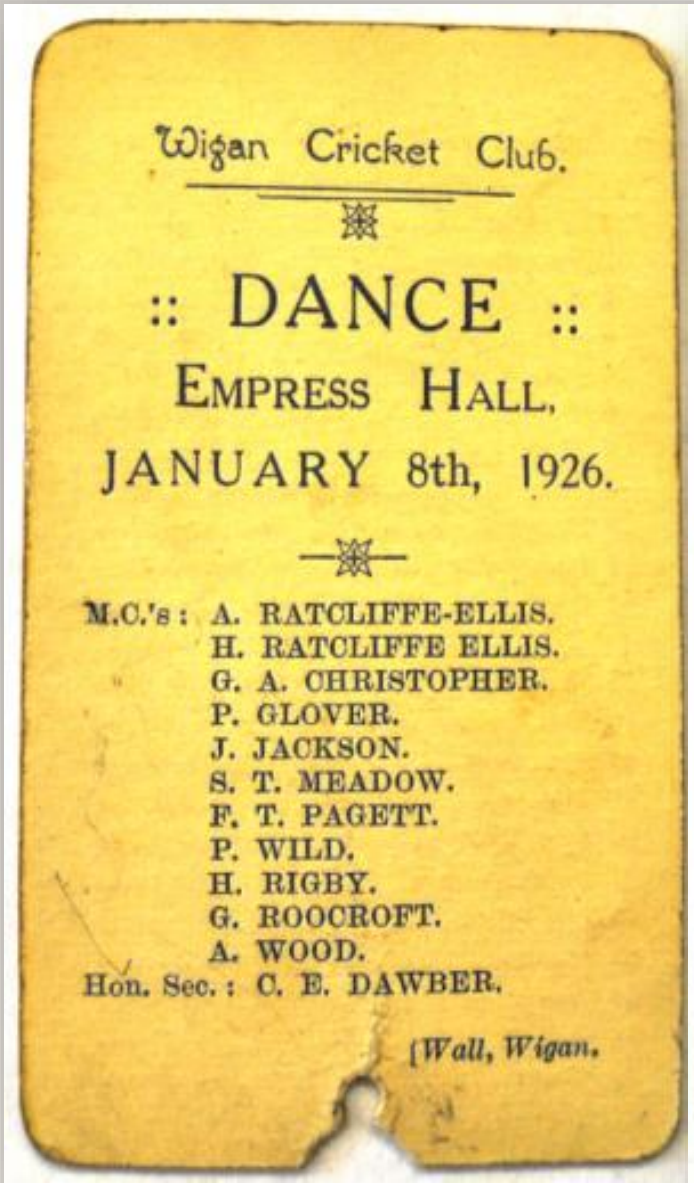
George Formby, the eminent Lancashire comedian visited Wigan on Wednesday afternoon, and sang at a matinee organised by the committee of the Wigan Cricket Club. The effort was to raise funds for the benefit of the club and it received its impetus from a generous offer on the part of the Wigan singer that he would be prepared to come down on some convenient date and sing several songs. At once the club availed itself of his kindness, and the Wigan Entertainments Company, who lent the theatre and offered seconding and supporting Mr. Formby in his good "turn" for the club it now means that a substantial addition has been made to the club funds as a result of the large audience that assembled in the Royal Court Theatre. The afternoon was a fine one, and many people might have been excused had they sought outdoor attractions. It was a fine testimony to the local popularity of George Formby that his appearance attracted so numerous an audience, added to which there was the interesting fact that he had so recently sung before the King and Queen at Knowsley. He was given a fine reception, and in all sang three songs. "There're all good lads," "Then we're all going in," and "Spanish onion." The latter, with its dancing side play sent the audience into peals of laughter. A Lancashire comedian is appreciated at his highest when he is natural. His mannerisms are too pronounced, and he overdoes them so frequently in order to get a laugh that he will have lost a lot of the piquancy which endears him to residents in other parts of Lancashire. The secret of his success is the more in George Formby's case, that he was able to retain the attention of his audience so closely. They recognised his peculiarities, and the senses of picturing a scene were keenly appealed to. He conjured up the vision of a man who, after a couple of sentences had been exchanged, suddenly carried the banner aloft, and proudly displayed it to his proud mother and the rest of the audience in his hand. He had his turn with the orchestra, and the conductor of the orchestra (Mr. [illegible]) was the victim, and altogether he did not spare himself in providing his hearers with more than a sample of his powers. At the close he came to the foothights, and thanked

George Formby, the eminent Lancashire comedian visited Wigan on Wednesday afternoon, and sang at a matinee organised by the committee of the Wigan Cricket Club. The effort was to raise funds for the benefit of the club and it received its impetus from a generous offer on the part of the Wigan singer that he would be prepared to come down on some convenient date and sing several songs. At once the club availed itself of his kindness, and the Wigan Entertainments

George Formby Senior 1913







Wigan Cricket Club.

:: DANCE ::

EMPRESS HALL,

JANUARY 8th, 1926.

M.C.'s: A. RATCLIFFE-ELLIS.
H. RATCLIFFE ELLIS.
G. A. CHRISTOPHER.
P. GLOVER.
J. JACKSON.
S. T. MEADOW.
F. T. PAGETT.
P. WILD.
H. RIGBY.
G. ROOCROFT.
A. WOOD.

Hon. Sec.: C. E. DAWBER.

[Wall, Wigan.



Wigan Cricket Club Dance.

PROGRAMME.

1 WALTZ....*When You and I were 17*
2 FOX TROT..... *Tea for Two*
3 ONE STEP ..... *Susie*
4 PAUL JONES ..... Selected
5 FOX TROT ..... *Ukelele Lady*
6 TANGO ..... *Havana*
7 WALTZ ..... *Shadowland*
8 FOX TROT..... *Yes Sir, that's my baby*
9 ONE STEP .....*San Francisco*
10 FOX TROT ..... *Don't bring Lulu*
11 LANCERS ..... *Gondoliers*

INTERVAL.

12 WALTZ ..... *Babette*
13 FOX TROT.....*I want to be happy*
14 ONE STEP ..... *Toy Drum Major*
15 TANGO..... *La Cansion d'Amor*
16 FOX TROT ..... *Ukelele Lady*
17 COTILLIONS ..... *Chiming*
18 FOX TROT ..... *Yearning*
19 WALTZ.....*How I miss you to-night*
20 FOX TROT *The king aint king no more*
21 ONE STEP ..... *Tessie*
22 WALTZ ..... *Midnight Waltz*



GRAND

CRICKET MATCH

BETWEEN

MEMBERS OF THE 4TH BATTALION L.R.V.

AND THE

WIGAN CRICKET CLUB

ON

SATURDAY, SEPT. 11, 1869.

The Band of the 21st L.R.V.

Will perform the following

PROGRAMME OF MUSIC:

PART I.

March—"The golden crown" .....*Dusac.*
Fantasia—"The corn-fields".....*Smith.*
Nell's Opera.....*Smith.*
March—"Les Bords de L'oise".....*Couturier.*
Lana Valse.....*Vandervell.*

PART II.

Fantasia, from Gounod's Opera of "Faust".....
March—"La Vieille Picardie" .....*Couturier.*
Fantasia—"Evening camp".....*Reinhold.*
Immessichoff Quadrille .....*Smith.*
Quick March—"Her bright smile haunts me still" .....

HERR KUPER,

BANDMASTER.

THANKS

- Ron Hunt – wiganworld
- Graham Taylor
- Wigan Archives
- Knowsley Hall
- Rita Fell
- Pat & Will Sharp
- Jim Meehan
- Wigan Local History & Heritage Society Members
- Building Preservation Trust volunteers
- Aidan Hutchins – Estate Research
- David Mayhew
- Frank Layland & Harold Bullough - sadly departed neighbours.
- David Layland
- George Graham

Finally

Wigan Cricket Club today, is a very different club from the from the one created 175 years ago.

It reflects a modern club built on the values of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

….. truly a place for pitmen and cotton workers.

Unfortunately, today Wigan doesn’t have any pitmen and cotton workers

Thanks for coming