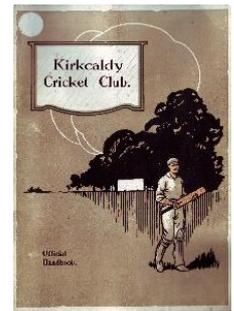


# Kirkcaldy Cricket Club Its Origins and Story



## Introduction

We are delighted that David Potter makes a welcome return to our project by producing our *April Object*. David is a *well kent* face in the town as an author, a researcher, a playwright, a singer and an actor, as well as having a myriad of other accomplishments. He has written a number of books – many with a local flavour – with sport featuring in many of the titles. This month David turns his eye to the story of cricket in Kirkcaldy, especially its origins before embarking on the history of Kirkcaldy Cricket Club.

It is a sad fact that the reader has to be close to thirty years of age to have even the faintest possibility of having seen the club in action. The demise of the club is both sad and tragic with David exploring and unveiling the reasons for its untimely demise in 1997.

Although now only a memory it was not always thus. Kirkcaldy Cricket Club had a fine history which stretched back as far as the end of the Crimean War in 1856 with its ranks including many of the well known and illustrious names connected with Kirkcaldy. Many of its committee members gave unstinting voluntary service in the administration of the club, often after a lengthy playing career, and it was not unheard of for the club to hire a professional player/coach. All this required sustained efforts to raise the funds to meet that cost and also maintain the pitch and pavilion.

Make no mistake – this was not a team that was watched by the proverbial *two men and a dog* – in its heyday it was not uncommon for crowds of over 1,000 to view home matches in the Beveridge Park!

The local press devoted many

column inches to the team and indeed the other local clubs.

Cricket was clearly big business at one time and David's article

highlights the game's importance

as a leading summer sport in the

town. The club arranged many

functions to raise funds, often

with the help/cooperation of

other groups, with the Rugby Club

and Dunfermline Cricket Club

regularly giving assistance. Over

the years the press carried rafts of advertisements for such functions.

The *Fife Free Press* in particular highlighted not just the more

serious competitive matches but often the fun occasions

which are now a thing of the past. Who would believe that

Kirkcaldy's Councillors would regularly take on their officials

on the cricket pitch? Would it be likely that the rugby club

would play the cricket club wearing fancy dress? Well, it did

happen and the *Fife Free Press* was there to capture such

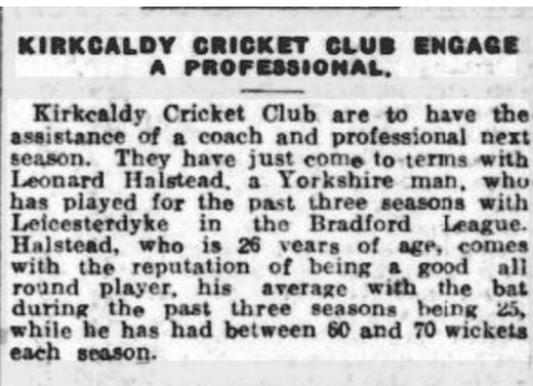
moments as is shown below.

The legendary *Wembley Wizard* – Alex James – he of Raith

Rovers, Preston North End, Arsenal and Scotland fame also

took an interest in the town's cricket. He had a bat

autographed by the 1930 Australian Touring Team – Don





## **CRICKET IN KIRKCALDY**

It is a matter of regret that Kirkcaldy Cricket Club no longer exists, having gone to the wall in 1997. There is still Dunnikier Cricket Club who are keeping the flag flying for the sport in the middle reaches of the East of Scotland Leagues, but it is sad that Falkland, Freuchie and to a lesser extent, Largo, all small villages, can have strong teams year after year, while a large town like Kirkcaldy struggles to keep the sport going.

There are many reasons for this, but Kirkcaldy Cricket Club had a great history in its time. They were never one of the leading lights in the game in Scotland, but they had their moments of glory as well – there was a strong team in the years immediately before the Great War, and in the 1920s, but their greatest year was 1984 when they won the East of Scotland League and twice won the 25 Over Masterton Trophy in 1985 and 1989. Sadly, they collapsed almost immediately after that and by 1997, they were out of business.

Cricket is of course a far older sport than either football or rugby, the first recorded game in Scotland being reported in 1785 in Alloa. Several teams, like Kelso, Perth and Rossie Priory appeared in the 1820s, but what gave the game in Kirkcaldy a great boost was the Crimean War of 1854-1856 when some local lads learned how to play the game from their English friends at places like Aldershot or Portsmouth while waiting to embark.



These soldiers and sailors came home, and legend has it that in spring 1856, they approached James Townsend Oswald of Dunnikier asking for permission to play the game on the extensive grounds on the Dunnikier Policies. They were indeed extensive in 1856 containing the area where the Dunnikier Estate and Kirkcaldy High School are now. *The Fifeshire Advertiser* of

May 3 1856 talks about the firework celebration that marked the end of the Crimean War (now over for more than a month) and tells us as well that

*“It is a matter of common observation that the number of those who delight in quiet and thoughtful amusements are comparatively few to those who are inclined to take part in the outdoor sports which encourage the animal spirits in in the competition of feats of strength and agility. In a manufacturing and trading community such as ours, many of our citizens are of necessity employed in the sedentary occupation of life and therefore nothing could be more acceptable or beneficial as a physical recreation than the lively or rollicking outdoor sport of cricket playing. A club for this exhilarating amusement has just been formed and it will no doubt be hailed by many of our sprightly youths as an interesting addition to the healthful and manly sports of the community”*

The annoying thing is that the writer, clearly a fan of cricket and other sports, fails to tell us where this game was to be played. It may have been somewhere near the beach, but it

seems more likely that it was at the Dunnikier Policies (a good mile outside the town) that the new game was first played. It is possible that Townsend himself was quite keen and may even have considered himself to be young enough to have played the occasional game. Certainly when he died in 1893, he is mentioned as being the founder of the Dunnikier Cricket Club, and a “player”.

In any case, Oswald unlike some of his contemporaries was sufficiently enlightened to realise that there were worse things that a young man could do than play cricket. Victorian society was not always as stable and cohesive as it is sometimes portrayed as being, and Oswald, like many landowners was perpetually on edge about what happened in France in 1789. He may well have worried about organisations like the Chartists and Anti Corn Law League (even though they were long past their peak) It was surely better for young men to play a healthy game like cricket rather than get involved in any undesirable political activities. So both Kirkcaldy and Dunnikier Cricket Clubs could claim their origin from the events of 1856. In later years, of course they would diverge, but at the moment they were the same team. For the first few months of summer 1856, the players presumably just played among themselves, but then a very important event occurred on August 13 when the first organised game took place against opposition from another town.

Burntisland had had a cricket team for a few seasons, and duly invited their equivalents from Kirkcaldy to come along and

play a game, the recent arrival of the railway system making this possible. The scorecard, according to *The Fifeshire Advertiser* was as follows;

Burntisland v Kirkcaldy	Burntisland	August 13 1856
KIRKCALDY		
Eadie b Taylor	1 not out	37
Cross c Hardie b Taylor	9 lbw	16
Henderson c and b Taylor	4 b Taylor	22
Brown lbw	4	
Bremner c Clarke b Hardie	2 not out	2
Bowie T b Hardie	5	
Drysdale b Hardie	16	
Lockhart b Taylor	1	
R Landale b Hardie	0	
Matthews b Clarke	6	
Beveridge not out	0	
	Extras 19	Extras 9 (1 overthrow)
	TOTAL 67	TOTAL 86/2
BURNTISLAND		
Mills b Drysdale	2	
Hardie b Drysdale	0	
Tillie run out	1	
Taylor b Henderson	0	
Jas Clarke c Drysdale b Henderson	9	
Hutchison b Henderson	0	
Marshall b Henderson	0	
Brownlee b Henderson	0	
Munro b Bremner	4	
Webster b Bremner	2	
Jas Clarke not out	1	
	Extras 22	
	TOTAL 41	

The scorecard for this game is a little short, one feels, of what one would like nowadays but it is a good example of what was expected of “markers” in the 1850s. The bowling figures are not recorded, there seems to be no credit given to a bowler

for lbw, an overthrow or a “buzzer” is recorded as an extra, and only surnames are given apart from “Bowie T” and “R Landale” in the Kirkcaldy side, and for Burntisland there is a “Jas Clarke” (James, presumably?) who seems to have batted twice! Perhaps the fact that the teams repaired to the Forth Hotel after the game to enjoy the “repast” of Mrs Clarke had something to do with it?

It was however a great occasion for Fife cricket on this Thursday August 13 1856. Burntisland had had a cricket team of sorts for several years, but had suffered from having no opposition, and were thus compelled to play games among themselves along the lines, presumably, of “married men v bachelors” or “bearded men v non-bearded” etc. Cricket had been played in the town for several decades with varying rules etc. and as all one really needed was a piece of wood for a bat, a ball and three sticks for a set of stumps, it was not difficult to arrange at this level.

So a challenge was issued to Kirkcaldy, and accepted. It was well publicised, and as the railway had now been open for several years, there was the possibility of travelling by train rather than by stage coach! The date was set for Thursday August 13 1856 when there would be many people on holiday. The Victorian age was the time when the seaside became a popular place for the artisans to go to, and Burntisland, then as now, had a lovely stretch of beach.

The Kirkcaldy team is tantalising and we wish we could know more. Beveridge may be the man who donated the Beveridge Park in later years, Lockhart had almost certainly some

connection with the linen industry and most intriguing of all was “R Landale” who might have been a son of David Landale who 30 years earlier in 1826 took part in Scotland’s last ever duel and who is therefore an ancestor of James Landale the BBC TV News Reporter and Diplomatic Correspondent. It matters not. These eleven men were pioneers of the game in Fife.

Burntisland was all agog for this event to be played on the Burntisland Links. The atmosphere from an early stage this bright sunny day was “animated and gay”, the Burntisland Instrumental Band “discoursed sweet music” including presumably “Willie, We Have Missed You” and “I Dream of Jeannie With The Light Brown Hair”, the current favourites of the 1850s, and as every reporter of a cricket match in the 19<sup>th</sup> century seems to have a problem with women, we are told there was “the cheering presence of many of the fair residenters” whom presumably the cricketers would have a chance to impress with a fine performance at the wicket.

At 3.30 pm, the wicket having been prepared, (we would like to know exactly what this meant) Kirkcaldy won the toss and were “not got rid of until they had run up 67”. This seems to have been looked upon as a good score, but the only individual performance of note was Drysdale who put on 16. Burntisland then “handled the willow” for an hour and a quarter but could only reach 41, 22 of which were extras. So the ball was better than the bat on this occasion!

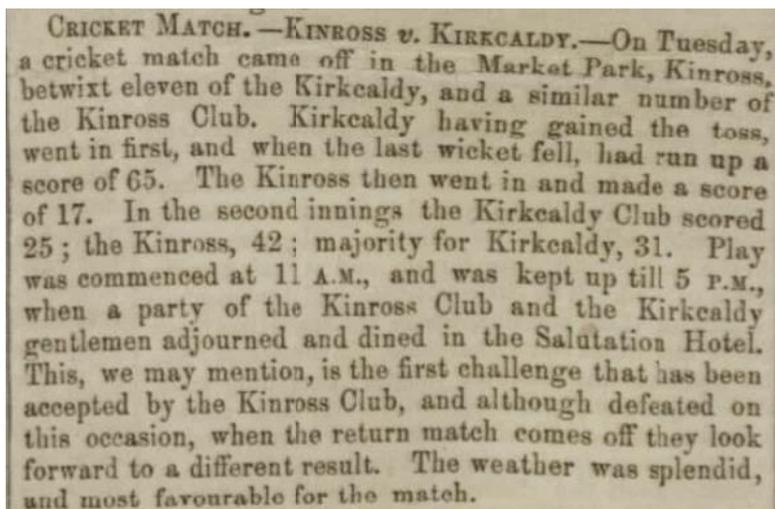
Kirkcaldy thus seemed to have won, but they “were prevailed upon” to play a second innings. This time the batting was much

improved with Eadie in particular reaching 37 not out before “the weather having now overcast, at quarter to eight by mutual consent” the game finished and everyone went to the Forth Hotel for some food and drink, thereby establishing a tradition still in vogue over 160 years later after the end of a cricket match.

It was a great day in Fife cricket and undeniably the start of something. Cricket had been slow to reach the kingdom, although it was already well established in other parts of Scotland, particularly Perth and the surrounding area. It was particularly strong in the “garrison” towns of Perth, Stirling, Edinburgh, Inverness and Aberdeen, thanks to the presence of English troops. Now more and more people were beginning to understand what cricket was all about, and as by this time, more and more Scottish towns now had a station and a rail link, the possibilities were endless.

There was the downside as well. We are told that a “reveller” had to be spoken to very severely by a constable at Kirkcaldy Station for having sung the “Queen’s Anthem”. Does this mean “God Save The Queen”? In which case, what was the problem? Or was it rather than the other one that was common among Crimean War veterans “My floppy German sausage” – a rather bawdy number which seemed to imply that private relations between the Queen and Prince Albert were not always as happy as they appeared to be in public! There was an even less respectable one about what Florence Nightingale really did to help wounded soldiers on their way to recovery!

And then there was another game on Tuesday September 2 1856 at Kinross. The scorecard is not available here, but it was a two innings match, and Kirkcaldy who scored 65 and 25 as distinct from Kinross's 17 and 42 won



CRICKET MATCH.—KINROSS v. KIRKCALDY.—On Tuesday, a cricket match came off in the Market Park, Kinross, betwixt eleven of the Kirkcaldy, and a similar number of the Kinross Club. Kirkcaldy having gained the toss, went in first, and when the last wicket fell, had run up a score of 65. The Kinross then went in and made a score of 17. In the second innings the Kirkcaldy Club scored 25; the Kinross, 42; majority for Kirkcaldy, 31. Play was commenced at 11 A.M., and was kept up till 5 P.M., when a party of the Kinross Club and the Kirkcaldy gentlemen adjourned and dined in the Salutation Hotel. This, we may mention, is the first challenge that has been accepted by the Kinross Club, and although defeated on this occasion, when the return match comes off they look forward to a different result. The weather was splendid, and most favourable for the match.

well, thanks in no small measure to Drysdale's 18. But we are also told that the team travelled by horse and coach (there was no viable rail link to Kinross at this stage) and the journey took 4 hours in the morning to get there and a little longer to return at night as "stops at hostleries were frequent".

The two results were greeted with joy in Kirkcaldy and the local Press were quite keen for return fixtures to be arranged in the town of Kirkcaldy so "as to give our citizens an opportunity of witnessing their sport when we are sure that a numerous attendance will be present". The players were clearly listening and two return matches were arranged later that autumn, against Kinross on Friday September 19 and Burntisland on Thursday October 9. The venue was interesting. It was played not at the Dunnikier Policies, but at the ground "below the Raith Gates, the tenant having given his permission". This seems to mean round about where Ava Street and Asquith Street are now, with one of the boundaries being the railway embankment.

This piece of land would become known as Newton Park. Possibly, Oswald felt that he did not want a game to be played



on his land, or he possibly felt that Newton Park might be closer to the town, and therefore attract a larger attendance. In any case, he missed a trick here,

and we can already see how “Kirkcaldy” and “Dunnikier” will develop as two separate cricket clubs.

Indeed there was a large attendance at the Kinross game and “ladies were present” says the impressed *Fifeshire Advertiser*. It was a two innings game, and Kirkcaldy won by “seven wickets to go down”, after which the players adjourned to the National Hotel for a “repast”. Kirkcaldy did even better in the game against Burntisland, played in “fine autumn sunshine” albeit punctuated by a few showers. The writer of the *Fifeshire Advertiser* is even more impressed by the presence of the fair sex “the fair and graceful forms of the ladies lent enchantment to the view”, and once again Kirkcaldy won, this time by an innings. Normally, they would have batted again, but this was October and darkness fell early. No doubt there was revelry again.

**KIRKCALDY CRICKET CLUB—“MAIDEN” MATCH.**—A friendly match between the first eleven and the two second elevens of the Kirkcaldy Cricket Club was played on the green belonging to the Club at the Newtown on Saturday afternoon. The scores at the close stood thus:—First eleven, 90; two second elevens, 40, showing the former to be winners by 50 runs. The weather during the former part of the day was extremely wet, but about midday the rain ceased, and though the sun shone in the afternoon, the green was not in very good condition. This is the first or “Maiden” match played by the Kirkcaldy Cricket Club and we understand that the second match will take place to-day—this time with the Dunnikier Club.

Thus cricket had been launched in Kirkcaldy. It is important to realise that this was not entirely an alien concept, for there would have been any amount of street cricket played in the past, as all one really needs is a ball and a block of wood. What was different was the game being played on an organised basis with boundaries, stumps, umpires, scorers etc. and of course, newspaper attention. Newspaper coverage however is sporadic and totally dependent on things like space availability and the whim of the editor. Already it was clear however that Kirkcaldy Cricket Club were not going to be dependent on Mr Oswald of Dunnikier, and that the two strands were already diverging.

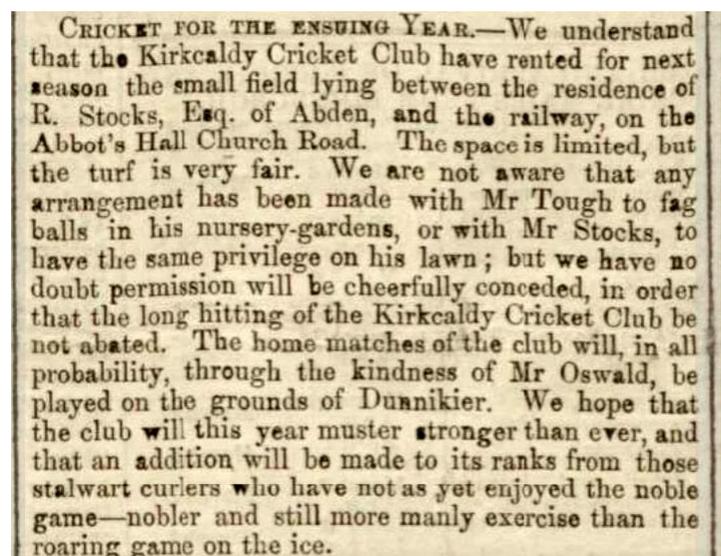
1857 saw further developments of the game, this time on “Mr Key’s field” which seems to be where the Fire Station is now, but these were all “intra-club” games and little mentioned in the press. The only game played within Kirkcaldy against opposition from another town seems to be the one played on Thursday August 20 1857 at the Dunnikier Policies against Dunfermline. Townsend himself played in this game, but the weather was disappointing with constant drizzle, although it did fair up a little by the afternoon. Henderson was the star man for Kirkcaldy in that he scored 23 and took five wickets in each innings as Kirkcaldy won handsomely. The refreshments were provided by Mr Christie of the Bell Coffee House.

Kirkcaldy also played several away games in 1857 at Perth, Cupar and the return match against Dunfermline. They lost to both Perth and Cupar, towns where cricket had been established for longer but they beat Dunfermline again on

September 10 in what seems to have been a lavish occasion on the grounds of Pitferrane Park, the seat of Sir Arthur Halkett Bart., a hero of the Crimean War and who actually played in the game. Kirkcaldy won comfortably with Drysdale, Henderson and Gross distinguishing themselves. *The Fifeshire Advertiser* gives a lovely image of the game was played in the 1850s

*“In the afternoon, ladies, carriages and horsemen were on the ground; and nothing could be more picturesquely beautiful than the park at that time. The field of combat itself with its rainbow hues of cricketing uniform and echoing with laughter or shouts of excitement was something to remember as being a very fine sight”*

This passage tells us that cricketers did not necessarily wear whites in the 1850s and seems to imply that cricket was far from the sport of the working man in the 1850s! But cricket continued to be played, although in the 1860s, it was less widely

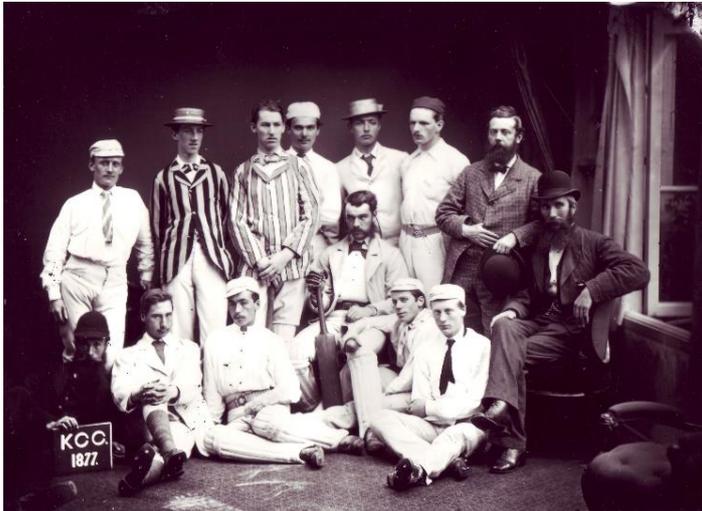


CRICKET FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.—We understand that the Kirkcaldy Cricket Club have rented for next season the small field lying between the residence of R. Stocks, Esq. of Abden, and the railway, on the Abbot's Hall Church Road. The space is limited, but the turf is very fair. We are not aware that any arrangement has been made with Mr Tough to fag balls in his nursery-gardens, or with Mr Stocks, to have the same privilege on his lawn; but we have no doubt permission will be cheerfully conceded, in order that the long hitting of the Kirkcaldy Cricket Club be not abated. The home matches of the club will, in all probability, through the kindness of Mr Oswald, be played on the grounds of Dunnikier. We hope that the club will this year muster stronger than ever, and that an addition will be made to its ranks from those stalwart curlers who have not as yet enjoyed the noble game—nobler and still more manly exercise than the roaring game on the ice.

reported in the local press, as if it was now less of a novelty. Nevertheless, there seems to be loads of games played, and as many as six local teams are mentioned in 1869 – Dunnikier, St Brycedale, St Clair, Blairhill, Newton and The Rose – but very few details ever appear other than that Newton Park was

much employed, and that Kirkcaldy Cricket Club seems to have disappeared, at least temporarily.

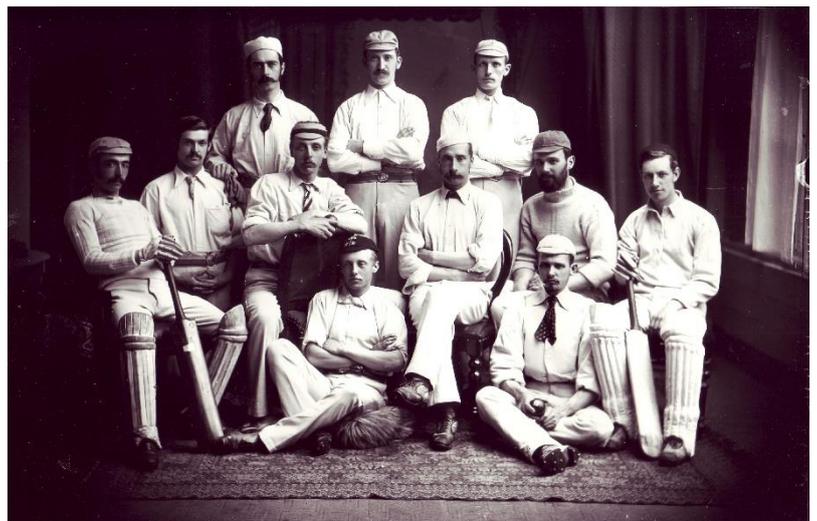
A meeting was held, however at the George Hotel on September 4 1871, for the purpose of reconstructing the



Kirkcaldy Cricket Club. An agreement was reached, Newton Park was leased and 1872 saw cricket resume, as far as Kirkcaldy Cricket Club was concerned. It was a time of great development for other sports as well, both locally and nationally. 1872 saw the first

ever football international at Hamilton Crescent (a 0-0 draw) and across the water at Raeburn Place, Edinburgh international rugby started as well.

There was a political and social dimension to this as well, for employers were now beginning to give their workers a half day off on a Saturday. This meant that more and more young men could play the game, although it has to be stressed that cricket at this stage was very much a middle class pursuit and would stay like this for some considerable



1885

time. It also meant however that more and more people were able to come and watch the game at Newton Park. There were still few fixtures however, but there were games against Dunnikier (which always attracted a large crowd), Cupar, Burntisland and Dunfermline. They were not always dignified and well behaved, for there are reports of walkings off, disputings of Umpires' decisions with the games against Dunfermline having a particular bite to them.

The proximity to the railway station was a great thing and we find Kirkcaldy CC beginning to dip their toes into the Edinburgh circuit with games against Brunswick a regular feature. They also fielded several professionals, but whether this was a good idea or not is open to question because by 1884 a major financial crisis appeared with a debt of £100. No more professionals for a while, then, but the club itself survived until another, less tractable, problem appeared in the shape of Newton Park being required for building purposes.

But by 1892 the Beveridge Park opened, and this was the obvious place for the club to move to. They first played there in 1893 and lasted until 1957.

During these years, they were a much respected team in Scotland, although it is difficult to quantify just exactly how well they did because they



1902

**KIRKCALDY CRICKET CLUB.]—**The Kirkcaldy Cricket Club this season are now in possession of a splendid pitch. A portion of the public park was set aside for the cricketers, and through the generosity of Mr Ferguson of Raith, the club have now got a capital pitch. Mr Ferguson not only gave the turf free, but was at the expense of putting it down at the park. An excellent list of fixtures has been arranged, and an opening is to be made on the first Saturday in May. The list of fixtures is as follows:—

May	5th.—Opening Match,	Home
"	12th.—Leith Franklin (2nd XI),	Away
"	19th.—Edinburgh University (Scr.)	Home
"	30th.—Asbourne and Strathmore v. Kirkcaldy (Scr.),	Home
June	2nd.—Cupar (2nd XI),	Home
"	9th.—Cupar,	Home
"	16th.—Stewartonians,	Home
"	16th.—Cupar (2nd XI),	Away
"	23rd.—Leith Franklin,	Away
"	23rd.—Stewartonians (2nd XI),	Home
"	30th.—Leith Franklin (2nd XI),	Home
July	7th.—Calton (2nd XI),	Away
"	11th.—Volunteer Artillery, Kirkc'y,	Home
"	14th.—Edinburgh University (Scr.),	Away
"	14th.—Australasians (2nd XI),	Home
"	21st.—Leith Franklin,	Home
"	28th.—Dunnikier v. Kirkcaldy (Scr.)	Home
Aug.	4th.—Stewartonians,	Away
"	8th.—Volunteer Artillery, Kirkc'y,	Home
"	11th.—Cupar,	Away
"	11th.—Dunfermline (2nd XI),	Home
"	18th.—Clarendon,	Home
Sept.	1st.—Dunfermline,	Away

did not until, the mid 1950s, play in any League or Cup competition, at least not at a national level. What is obvious however is that many of the larger teams in Edinburgh, for example, were prepared to give them a fixture, and many good games were played against the likes of Carlton and Heriots, for example.

The games were played on a Saturday. Sunday cricket was rigorously disapproved of by the Churches until after the Second World War, but this did not stop it happening on an unofficial basis all over Scotland. Wednesday was of course the local half-holiday and it was always possible to play cricket then, although it was not a half-holiday for everyone and team selection was often haphazard, and there were always a few evening matches although for obvious reasons, they had to be time limited and played only against very local opposition.

Attendances were good, phenomenally good by modern standards. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, even in the Fife cricketing hotbeds of Falkland and Freuchie, a crowd of 100 is reckoned to be good, but we find frequent references in *The Fife Free Press* of the 1920s, for example, to “the bad weather limiting the attendance to about 300”, and on a good day, they could expect four figures. The great advantages of playing in the Beveridge Park, of course, were that it was close to the station, it was within walking distance of most of Kirkcaldy, and that, being a public park, one could watch some of the cricket, take children over to the



1906

swings and boats, buy them ice cream, then return to watch more of the cricket.

There were certain parts of the ground where the club could charge for admission, but it was difficult to stop people watching for free, and great financial importance was therefore attached to the “boxie” whereby a member of the club would walk round with a wooden box and invite contributions. It was a job that would attract a certain amount of abuse, but it was essential for the club, and although reports exist of financial corruption in some other clubs, there were no major indications of this happening in Kirkcaldy.

The period before World War One is often described as a “Golden Age” of cricket, and so it was for Kirkcaldy. Teams from as far afield as Kilmarnock came to the Beveridge Park, and Kirkcaldy themselves in 1908 played a game at Hamilton Crescent, Glasgow, the home of West of Scotland and generally reckoned to be the home of Scottish cricket. There were many fine players, but none more so than Tom Johnston, who also played for Carlton, and the team was well led by captain James C Mackie. Good performances were often described as “improving the spirits of the town” but bad games often led to letters in the local press with caustic comments about whether the team ever did any fielding practice, and shouts from the crowd of “Do you want a basket?” or “Put some glue on your fingers” in the wake of a dropped catch.

**"Jimmy" Taylor  
56 Years Wed**



All Langtonians and countless others, who have played cricket or rugby at the Beveridge Park, Kirkcaldy, before the war will remember Jimmy Taylor, the groundsman. Jimmy and Mrs Taylor, who are now resident in Canada, celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary on Friday of last week at the home of their daughter and son-in-law, Zena and Woodrow Gillis, in Toronto.

The ground was well tended by Jimmy Taylor (who was also groundsman at Stark's Park), a crusty individual who took it personally if anyone damaged his wicket. Games were usually played in a competitive, but friendly spirit, although there were the usual complaints about Umpires (each team normally supplied an Umpire) and common disputes about time. Games were played on a time basis, and normally the Pavilion Clock was used, so that when it registered 6.30 pm (or whenever it was agreed) the Over in

progress was finished and the game ended. Yet, time was wasted by both sides (if it suited them) and there were even allegations about the Pavilion Clock being deliberately sabotaged!

War came in 1914. The team played a few games in 1915, but then folded until a partial recovery in 1919. Several of their players had perished, and so many more were permanently



1921

injured, but by the mid 1920s, cricket was back in full swing with Kirkcaldy's star player being the great Walter Venters, a man who had played for both Falkland and Freuchie before joining Kirkcaldy



for whom he played for many years. On one occasion at Burntisland Links in a local derby, Venters

managed to hit a ball over the railway line, to the general amazement of everyone.

THE PRESS, SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1938

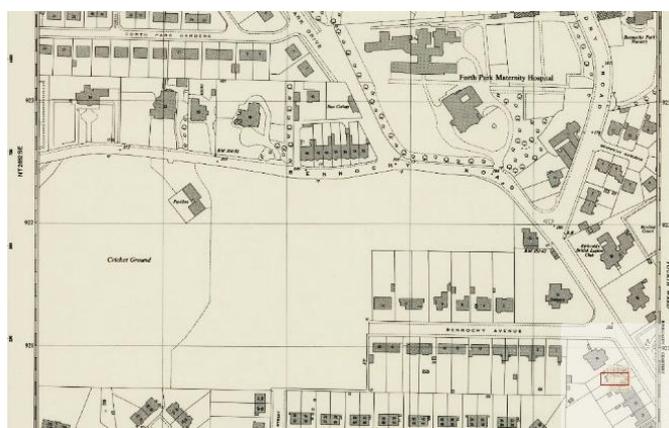
### Kirkcaldy Cricket Club.



The members of Kirkcaldy 1st XI, which defeated Carlton at Kirkcaldy. Back row left to right, W. Eokford (umpire), T. Tasker, Lea (prob.), R. B. Barrie, D. Duncan and G. McAughey; Front Row, left to right, A. Bruce, A. D. Robertson, A. P. Pezzio, J. R. McDougall (Capt.), J. Wishart and R. Stark.

There was a general decline in performances in the 1930s, but the club kept going until another war brought an end to things. The resumption in the late 1940s was slow, but in 1955 Kirkcaldy had entered the Edinburgh and District League for the first time and almost won it, being deprived of the title by “a hairsbreadth lbw decision” on

Saturday August 20 1955 against Stenhousemuir at the Beveridge Park before a crowd of 2,000 spectators! Had Kirkcaldy held out until 7.30 pm it would have been a draw and enough to give Kirkcaldy the title, but “with anxious faces turning towards the pavilion clock” and the last two at the crease, a straight ball hit the pad of young Ian Alexander and the game was lost.



Soon after that, the club began to look for a ground of its own. One was found at Bennoch (on the site of where the doctor's surgery is now) and

it was leased from Michael Innes the

## New Ground Gift To Kirkcaldy C.C.

A GENEROUS gift to Kirkcaldy Cricket Club from an anonymous donor has enabled them to get new ground at Bennoch Road and already a large amount of work has been done on it. This was announced at the annual general meeting of the Club in Kirkcaldy on Thursday.

solicitor, and duly opened on June 7 1958. It was an impressive pavilion, but it was also in some ways the beginning of the end for Kirkcaldy cricket as a spectator sport, not least because the ground, although affording a great view of the river Forth was well away from the town centre and difficult to reach for the casual spectator.

Yet although spectator interest in the sport slowly dwindled in the 1950s thanks to the arrival of things like television and motor cars, the sport itself stayed strong with at least two other cricket teams in Kirkcaldy, namely Dunnikier and Nairn's, and most villages like Kennoway, Leslie, Markinch, Crossgates and Townhill boasting a cricket team. As with most sports, such clubs came and went, but the trend from the 1960s onward however was for cricket teams to disappear.

The next forty years from 1957 to 1997 were to be interesting ones for Kirkcaldy Cricket Club, not least because they reached the top of the cricketing tree, and then collapsed more or less immediately. The 1960s and 1970s, although years of prosperity for the town in general, were years of mediocrity for Kirkcaldy CC. They had some good players, not least professional Bill Dennis and a young man called Alan Ormrod who went on to play for Worcestershire, but it was generally an era of enthusiastic players who occasionally put up some good performances without achieving any sustained success.



Yet they survived, had enough players to run a second XI, and usually yoyoed between the First and Second Division of the East of Scotland League. That all changed in 1983 when professional Ray Joseph arrived from the West Indies and became the first Kirkcaldy cricketer to be capped for Scotland. Kirkcaldy were now in the First Division of the East of Scotland League, and in 1984, under professional Bob Carter, an outstanding all-rounder, they began to do well, beating a few Edinburgh teams, notably Heriot's and the feeling began to grow that they might just win the League.



It all happened on August 25 1984. Ironically, Kirkcaldy chose to put on one of their worst performances of the season and lost at Bennoch to Leith Franklin in what can only be described as a major disappointment for the large crowd that had assembled. But the news from the other game was good. Basically, Kirkcaldy now needed Heriot's to beat Stenhousemuir. This was long before the age of the mobile phone, so it was difficult to keep up with the news, but eventually an official of the East League phoned to congratulate Kirkcaldy on their success.

It was an odd way to win anything, but that did not mean that it was not deserved. The club were fortunate in having several



players all at their peak playing for the club at the same time – Steve Rowley, Ian Gavin, Mike Everett, Graham Welsh for example and of course in professional Carter, they had something special. After a long history, Kirkcaldy had indeed won something tangible, with a great deal of the credit deservedly going to ex-players Ian Alexander, Gordon Lowe and John Irvine who had done so much for the club behind the scenes.

The success continued for a spell, with Indian Test Match professional Sandip Patil. Kirkcaldy won the 25 Over midweek Masterton Trophy in 1985 and 1989. This was an Edinburgh based trophy and the club also won the Fife Cup on a number of occasions, and until the early 1990s the club was more than respectable in cricketing circles, doing well in the Scottish Cup on occasion and reaching the semi-final to lose to Poloc in Glasgow in 1985.



1985

But then things began to go wrong. The ground was required for housing development and they had to return to the Beveridge Park. A proposed merger with Dunnikier, which might have saved the club, did not go through, and the steady

supply of young cricketers began to dry up, possibly as a result of schools no longer teaching the subject with the enthusiasm that they did before. With bewildering speed, the club suffered relegations, the disbanding of their 2<sup>nd</sup> XI and a struggled to field a team at all as the best players defected to Freuchie, Falkland and elsewhere. By 1997 President Gordon Lowe had to send a letter to the East of Scotland League Secretary saying that the club would not be able to fulfil fixtures in 1998.

Kirkcaldy Cricket Club  
Founded 1867

Please reply to: W. G. LOVE  
11, Adam Smith Tower,  
Kirkcaldy.

P. Edington  
8, Hamilton Place,  
Edinburgh EH11 1SF  
2/10/98  
Dear Pat,

DAVIDSON & ROBERTSON FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIV 3 1998

I write with great regret to inform you of Kirkcaldy Cricket Club's withdrawal from the league for the ensuing season. I can only apologise for the lateness of this correspondence but, after strenuous efforts to field a side it would appear that it is no longer possible.

It is possible that the club may play a few friendly matches but as there is no guarantee that you will be fielded on a regular basis, and having no desire for a repeat of last year's scenario it was deemed only fair to intimate the club's withdrawal. I sincerely hope that you will manage to repair things in time for the start of the new season and accordingly offer my apologies on behalf of K.C.C. to all member clubs.

I can only reiterate my feelings of regret and those of my colleagues in the under-19 team in having to pen this epistle.

Yours sincerely, Gordon Lowe  
PRESIDENT

The facsimile of the resignation letter shown above brings an end to David's contribution. The beautiful script conveys the sad message that Kirkcaldy Cricket Club is no more. Whether or not the reader has an interest in the game, it is still a matter of regret that a major team pastime of the summer months no longer features Kirkcaldy Cricket Club.

This is offset by the knowledge that Dunnikier Cricket Club are still in existence and keeping the game alive in Kirkcaldy and

district. It is heartening that they continue to play within sight of James Townsend Oswald's former home where it all began 166 years ago. It is comforting that in a world of change the connection between house and cricket field having stood the test of time still lives on.

The narrative prompted and motivated the team to learn a little more. Attached below are some further snippets which are intended to compliment the story. Some are unusual, some historic, some interesting, and some designed to show some of the illustrious names who played for the Club. Who would have thought that the opening batsmen in one match would have been Lord Rothes and Colonel Wemyss of Wemyss Castle.

All that remains is to thank David Potter most sincerely for this further contribution and to hope readers enjoy our 22<sup>nd</sup> offering.

Our cricketers are in a state of considerable excitement, so far as is consistent with animal comfort in this torrid June weather, at the prospect of their match on Monday next, with the Caledonian Club from Edinburgh. The Kirkcaldy Cricket Club has hitherto enjoyed a provincial celebrity, which bids fair to be, after Monday, extended to the metropolis. Dumfriesshire is to be the theatre of the contest. Intending spectators are grumbling at the mile-and-a-half out, in this hot weather, but if they only knew how beautifully shaded the Den is at present, and that it is their path for half the distance, they would be rather pleased than otherwise with the necessity of a walk. Moreover, once they are out, the uplands of the cricket field, drooped with trees and dotted with opportunistic stumps for chairs, and the surrounding belts of green trees and gaudy flowers, will form a charming termination to their stroll; not to speak of the match itself, which will be the most interesting of any yet chronicled in the annals of the club.

The Kirkcaldy eleven will be selected from the following players, viz.—Lord Rothes; H. E. Wemyss, Esq. of Wemyss Castle; Messrs Watt, Henderson, Drysdale, Brenner, J. Landale, Lockhart, R. Landale, Jamieson, Brown, Bowie, Wilson, and Pirrie. The bowlers will be Messrs Drysdale and Henderson, with Lord Rothes and Mr Watt for change, all round-hand and swift, with the exception of Mr Watt. Wickets will be pitched about half-past ten, and the match will likely be finished by four o'clock.

1858

## 1858 - a week later

CRICKET.—The tranquillity of last Sabbath eve was, we fear, somewhat disturbed by excited cricketers scanning the southern heavens if there were any sign of rain for the morrow. Their forebodings were too

well-founded, for Monday arose bleak, windy, and eventually rainy. The opening overs at Dumfriesshire were rather disconsolate, but, as good fortune would have it, the rain cleared off, and the heavens, after 12 o'clock, were propitious for the general pleasure of the day. The match was between the Kirkcaldy Cricket Club, and the following eleven from the Caledonian (Edinburgh), viz.—Messrs Watson, Robertson, Slight, M'Intosh, Brown, Dun, Russell, Law, Harvey, Morrison and Flockhart. The Caledonian went to the wickets, to the bowling of Messrs Drysdale and Henderson. Mr Robertson retired to the latter bowler, for a round 9, and Mr Watson joined Mr M'Intosh. Some free hitting was then hinted at, and the field was all alive. Oh! but unfortunately, the first-named gentleman was beautifully caught at leg by Mr Bowie, off Henderson, and M'Intosh was bowled by Drysdale for 7. This, with Mr Watson's score of 4, gave a total of 11, for three of the best bats, and Kirkcaldy looked sunshiny. Throughout the remainder of this innings no score was made, as the marking will evidence, and all were out for a total, with extras, of 41. Kirkcaldy then undertook the willow, and sent in Messrs Bowie and Watt, to the bowling of Messrs Russell and Slight. Bowie missed his accustomed stand and was neatly bowled over by Slight. Mr Henderson joined Mr Watt and the play began to be brilliant. Watt added 6 to the score, when he was bowled by Slight, and R. Landale filled the gap. Meanwhile, Henderson, "with wild hair streaming in the breeze," was hitting the Caledonian bowling all over the field for three, most of his score being composed of that figure. Mr R. Landale did not trouble the score, and Lord Rothes took his place. Henderson, who had by this time written 27 to his credit, was dismissed by a ball from Slight, and H. E. Wemyss, Esq., joined Lord Rothes and put a brace after his name. Lord Rothes was cutting merrily for two's when Russell did for him with a well pitched ball, and Mr Drysdale next asserted Kirkcaldy to the admiring eyes of the Edinburgh players. Mr Brown, who was in then, wrote a single, when his wicket was "sent to grass" by Russell's bowling; a fate shared by Mr J. Landale after three neat singles. Drysdale was next disposed of by accident, having dropped a ball from Russell on his wicket, which had risen over his bat and caught his arm. Mr J. Lockhart then helped the score by hitting bravely to leg, but was splendidly caught by Morrison, the wicket-keeper, off Slight's bowling. Mr Brenner, the last man, carried his bat without an opportunity of scoring. The total was, with extras, 52 runs. Caledonia looked "stern and wild," and went in to regain their laurels, but to no purpose, and man after man went rapidly out without troubling the scores much. Their score this time, with byes, &c., was 36, thus leaving Kirkcaldy victorious by one innings and 21 runs. This is the greatest triumph yet obtained by Kirkcaldy, and may be fairly attributed to genuine improvement in playing, particularly in fielding. Mr J. Landale, in particular, was applauded for returning a brace of hits to the bowler, and thereby putting a pair out. The bowling of Kirkcaldy was also very good, and considerably swifter than the Caledonian, which was well pitched, but slow. A return match will be played shortly. A large assemblage of ladies and other spectators graced the match, amongst whom were Lady Harriett St Clair, Lord Loughborough, &c., &c. The eleven lunched together in a marquee, on the ground, during the day, the viands being supplied by Mr Christie of the Bell Coffee House. Subjoined is the score.

CALEDONIAN CLUB.	
1st Innings.	
Robertson, b Henderson	0
Watson, b Drysdale	4
Morrison, b Drysdale, c Rothes	4
Bowie, b Drysdale	2
Dun, b Drysdale	0
Slight, b Drysdale	0
Russell, not out	0
Law, not out	0
Harvey, J. Landale, b Drysdale	0
Flockhart, b Drysdale	0
	21
Byes, 2; w, 4; b, 8; 1 b, 1.	41
2d Innings.	
Robertson, b Henderson	1
Watson, not out	4
Morrison, b Drysdale	4
Bowie, not out	0
Dun, not out	0
Slight, b Henderson	0
Russell, b Drysdale	0
Law, not out	0
Harvey, b Henderson	0
Flockhart, b Henderson, c Watt	0
	14
W, 4; b, 8; 1 b, 2.	30
KIRKCALDY CLUB.	
Bowie, b Slight	0
Watt, b Russell	6
Henderson, b Slight	0
R. Landale, b Slight	11
Lord Rothes, b Russell	11
H. E. Wemyss, b Slight	14
Drysdale, b Russell	1
Brown, b Russell	1
J. Landale, b Russell	0
Lockhart, c Morrison, b Slight	6
Brenner, not out	0
	52
W, 9; b, 12; 1 b, 1.	92

1872

CRICKET MATCH.—A friendly match between the first eleven and the two second elevens of the Kirkcaldy Cricket Club was played on the green belonging to the Club at the Newtown on Saturday afternoon. At the close of the game the scores stood thus:—First eleven, 90; two second elevens, 40, showing the former to be the winners by 50 runs. The weather during the former part of the day was extremely wet, but about midday the rain ceased, and though the sun shone in the afternoon, the green was not in very good condition. This is the first match played by the Kirkcaldy Cricket Club, and we understand that the second match will come off on Saturday first (the 29th inst.), this time with the Dumfriesshire club.

1873

Tuesday. On Wednesday, however, a cricket match between eleven members of the regiment, and an equal number of the Kirkcaldy Cricket Club, took place in the afternoon at the Cricket Park, Newtown of Abbotshall, in presence of 1000 spectators. It was 4.50 before play commenced. The volunteers went in first, Messrs Anderson and Maxton facing the bowling of Messrs Stocks and Banks. From the third ball Mr Anderson got run out in trying a very short run. Captain Cheape came next, and drove the ball well to the on, but being well fielded, Mr Anderson was run out, and his successor was caught next over. (Three wickets for 1 run.) Mr A. Drysdale took his place, and the first ball he drove well forward for a single, being stopped mid-on. The next over Mr Lamont had to retire. Mr Mills was well caught at point by Dodds. Davidson, who commenced with a single, and then a good cut for 2, followed it up with another for the same, but he was then bowled with a full pitch from Stocks. Wallace was bowled next ball, which made way for Veitch, who made a good leg-hit, but was run out in trying to get a second run. Dewar then joined A. Drysdale, who got two square leg-hits off Stocks for 2 each, then served Mr Banks the same, and was then well bowled by Banks. Drysdale was next to go, being caught by long-stop in hitting round to leg, having seen six of his ride out. The innings closed for the short score of 25, which might have been better but for the foolish run outs. Lamont and W. Drysdale commenced batting for Stocks and Dodds. Dodds was the first to go, being 1 b w to Drysdale. (One wicket for 10.) Banks, who came next, gave an easy catch to point, which was accepted, and Mr G. A. Key joined Stocks, and after playing a few overs got 1 b w. Aitken was next, and Stocks had a very good leg hit for 4, which made 26—one ahead of their opponents' score, and after playing a few more overs, was well caught by Dewar at point. Messrs Aitken and Heriot were in a long time for their runs, the former showing some steady defence. Mr A. Key in his score of 13 made a splendid on-drive to the pavilion for 4. It should be added that Pookett (Yorkshire), the professional of the local club, had prepared a wicket which played remarkably true, especially when it is considered that the ground has only been recently relaid.

F. M. R. V.		KIRKCALDY.	
Anderson, run out	0	Stocks, c Dewar b W.	15
Maxton, c Key b Stocks	4	Drysdale	0
Captain Cheape, run out	0	Dodds, lbw b W. Drysdale	2
A. Drysdale, c Fulton b	0	Banks, c Dewar b W.	0
Stocks	9	Drysdale	0
Lamont, c Nairn b	0	G. Key, lbw b Drysdale	0
Stocks	0	Aitken, b A. Drysdale	5
Miller c Dodds b Banks	1	Nairn, lbw	0
Davidson, b Stocks	5	Fulton, b W. Drysdale	0
Wallace, b Stocks	0	Stenhouse, b W. Drysdale	0
Veitch, run out	1	dale	0
Dewar, b Banks	7	A. Key, b Davidson	13
Drysdale, not out	0	Heriot, b W. Drysdale	8
Byes	1	Quarton, not out	2
	25	Byes 12, w 12, 1-b, 3.	27

1894

**KIRKCALDY (SCOTCH) v. RAITH ROVERS.**—This match was played on the Beveridge Public Park on Wednesday evening last before a large turnout of spectators. The Rovers team included a few members of the Kirkcaldy Cricket Club, which helped to strengthen the team, but, unfortunately, they failed to come off on this occasion. Kirkcaldy, having won the toss, took the first of a good batting wicket, and after running up a score of 108, for 4 wickets, the closure was applied. J. M. Doggart, W. Innes, and W. Cook, sen., having 41 (not out), 33, and 10 respectively. Raith Rovers then handled the willow, but the light by this time was bad, and we believe that had they got a better chance their score would have been larger. However, they were all disposed of for 46, none of them reaching double figures, "Mr Extras" alone having this honour. The following are the detailed scores:—

<b>KIRKCALDY (SCOTCH).</b>	<b>RAITH ROVERS.</b>
W. Innes, run out . . . 33	A. Hall, c Young, b Innes . . . . . 7
A. Westwater, c Cook, b Hall . . . . . 6	W. Wishart, b Innes . . . . . 1
D. "Forbes," run out . . . 2	N. Deuchars, c Young, b "Forbes" . . . . . 9
W. Cook, sen., run out 10	J. Williams, c Cook, b Jo. . . . . 0
J. M. Doggart, not out 41	W. Cook, jun., c Gillespie, b do. . . . . 0
D. Young, not out . . . 8	R. Inglis, c Henderson, b do. . . . . 9
G. Gillespie, T. Lockhart, A. Brown, J. Hendersen, K. Black, to bat.	D. Thomson, b Innes . . . 5
	A. Lumsden, not out . . . 3
	J. Todd, b "Forbes" . . . 3
	J. Neilson, c Gillespie, b Innes . . . . . 2
	W. Dall, b "Forbes" . . . 0
	Extras . . . . . 10
Extras . . . . . 6	
Total for 4 wickets, 106	Total . . . . . 46

1916

**LIEUTENANT J. H. LOCKHART KILLED.**

Another gallant Kirkcaldy officer of the Black Watch killed in the recent fighting is Lieut. James Herbert Lockhart, youngest son of the late Councillor James Lockhart, The Elms, and a second cousin of Provost Sir Robert C. Lockhart. The gallant lieutenant served his apprenticeship as a civil engineer with Mr Sang, C.E. When a young man of 20 years he journeyed to India, and for 10 years was engaged at the construction of the great Assuan Dam and other irrigation works there. He enlisted in the Black Watch shortly after the declaration of war. The deceased was a keen sportsman, and for some time was a prominent member of Kirkcaldy Cricket Club.

1919

**CRICKET.**—An effort is being made to re-start Kirkcaldy Cricket Club, and a meeting for that purpose has been called for Thursday evening. It is hoped that the meeting will be well attended, and a vigorous start made with the game, which in the past was a great attraction to visitors to the Park on Saturday afternoon.

Like Kirkcaldy, Dundee Electricity Committee are contemplating a large scheme of extension, involving the expenditure of a quarter of a million. We also note that due to an increasing wages bill and other costs Dundee tramway fares will shortly be increased 3d all round. The maximum fare will then be 3d.

1906

**OPENING WIN**

Kirkcaldy Cricket Club opened their season on Saturday by beating Cupar on their home ground by 44 runs. The feature of this match was the masterful batting of Kirkcaldy's new professional, Montgomery, who knocked up 36 of their 134 runs. He also took six wickets for 32 runs.

Kirkcaldy's second string made it their first double for twelve years since they also beat their Cupar rivals by the overwhelming score of 109 runs to 16. Jimmy Mitchell knocked up the exceptional total of 65.

1917

**"FIFESHIRE ADVERTISER" MAN WOUNDED.**

Mr and Mrs James Baird, 15 West Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy, have received a letter from their son, Bombardier John Baird, R.F.A., informing them that he has been admitted to a base hospital suffering from severe burns on the leg from "mustard gas." Bombardier "Jack" Baird was on the "Fifeshire Advertiser" staff when he enlisted, and is widely known and popular as a football player and as secretary of Kirkcaldy Cricket Club. He was home on leave a few weeks ago. A brother, Private James Baird, Gordon Highlanders, was killed in action some time ago.

1923

**THE COUNTY QUESTION AGAIN.**

**POSITION OF A KIRKCALDY PLAYER.**

It would seem that the past few weeks of excellent harmony which has characterized the Kirkcaldy Cricket Club has been slightly ruffled owing to the fact that one of the most prominent players in the First XI has contravened a regulation made at the general meeting of the club whereby no players were permitted to play at Dunfermline in the county fixtures. This contravention was given in the interests of the other Fifeshire clubs, who objected to the manner in which in the past years these county engagements had been conducted, and it had been decided upon with the view of securing that these matches be placed on a better basis in future.

The player in question on this occasion was Mr W. Pattinson, who recently joined Kirkcaldy C.C. from Nairn Cricket Club. Mr Pattinson, who was present at the meeting held on Thursday night, explained his position. He stated that he had been asked last year to play for the county again this season when he was a member of the Nairn club. He had given his promise then, and he could not break it.

Mr R. Howie asked the chairman, Mr D. Blawie, if Mr Pattinson could tell the members if he was aware when he joined Kirkcaldy club that there was a regulation existing debarring their members from taking part in such matches.

Mr Pattinson said he was. As he had made the promise for this year he would have to keep it, and he could assure them that after that his services, if they wished them, would be given only to Kirkcaldy.

It was agreed that the best way out of the difficulty was for the secretary of the Kirkcaldy club to write Mr Brown, secretary of the Fifeshire County Committee, explaining the circumstances, and stating that the promise given would only last for a year.

1955

1952

### 3-A-SIDE CRICKET

Mr Roy Stark, secretary of Kirkcaldy Cricket Club, told "Fifer" this week that he has sent out invitations to seven Fife cricket clubs to enter teams in a three-a-side cricket tourney to be held by Kirkcaldy C.C. at the Beveridge Park on Monday, July 21—the Monday of the Trades Holiday.

The clubs invited were:—Cupar, Dunfermline, Burntisland, Largo, Franche, Nairn and Dunnikier. Unfortunately, Cupar have arranged to play a Bradford League Select that day and cannot send a team, and Dunfermline are doubtful for they have their annual fixture with Clydesdale on the same date. Mr Stark hopes, however, that he will be able to get the necessary eight teams to "face the starter."

Interesting local point is, will Kirkcaldy "A" or "B" represent the Beveridge Park club? It will be recalled that the "B" side, captained by D. R. Bisset, won the initial tourney which was held at the beginning of this month, trouncing Kirkcaldy "A" in the semi-final.

The competition will commence at 2.30 p.m. and the final will be played before the close of play that night, weather permitting.

### KIRKCALDY CRICKET CLUB. NEW PAVILION.

TENDERS are invited for the following Trades in connection with the erection of the above Pavilion.

- (1) Excavator, Mason and Brickwork.
- (2) Carpenter and Joiner Work.
- (3) Glazier Work.
- (4) Plumber Work.
- (5) Plaster Work.
- (6) Roughcast Work.
- (7) Bituminous Felt Roofing.
- (8) Painter Work (External Only).
- (9) Electrical Work.

Conditions of Contract, Specifications, Schedules of Quantities and forms of Tender may be obtained on application to Messrs. Jang's Gingles & Son, Quantity Surveyors, Osborne House, Kirkcaldy, where plans may also be inspected. Tenders endorsed "Kirkcaldy Cricket Club—New Pavilion" to be lodged with the Secretary of the K.C.C., M. W. Innes, 197 High Street, Kirkcaldy, not later than 12 noon SATURDAY, 29th September, 1955.

The lowest or any tender may not be accepted.

1956

## KIRKCALDY CRICKET CLUB

### Cost of New Ground

Kirkcaldy Cricket Club are holding a meeting at the Deaf and Dumb Institute on Monday evening in connection with the development of the new ground at Bennoch and the erection of the cricket pavilion.

Mr M. W. Innes, hon. secretary, requests that all donations should be forwarded by Monday so that the committee of the club can consider the financial position in relation to the anticipated cost of the provision of the new ground and pavilion.



1887



1903



1931

THE PRESS, SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1938

**Kirkcaldy Cricket Club.**



The members of Kirkcaldy 1st XI, which defeated Carlton at Kirkcaldy. Back row left to right, W. Eckford (umpire), T. Tasker, Les (pro.), R. B. Barrie, D. Duncan and G. McAughy; Front Row, left to right, A. Bruce, A. D. Robertson, A. P. Pezzio, J. R. McDougall (Capt.), J. Wishart and R. Stark.



T. HARVEY, I. THOMSON, C. EDDIE, R. B. BARRIE, R. STARK, R. BURT  
A. D. ROBERTSON, A. W. STARK, A. P. PEZZIO, A. BRUCE, J. HIRVING, F. N. DALL

1946

**KIRKCALDY CRICKET CLUB**



Kirkcaldy Cricket Club 1st XI, engaged at an interval in their first home match of the season with Dunfermline. Willie Anderson, the former Scottish international and singer, who for many years captained Dunfermline, is seen acting as umpire for the visitors. The game ended in a draw. Those in the picture are—front row (left to right)—J. H. Irvine, Gen. Mair, A. D. Robertson (capt.), Ray Stark (vice-capt.) and A. Donohoe; back row—W. Anderson (umpire), A. W. Stark, Ken Allan (professional), Allan Woods, W. Black (hon. treasurer), G. D. Halsey, I. M. Gibson, A. Beattie and J. C. Mackie (Kirkcaldy umpire).

1950



1951



1966



1968