

# MALTON & NORTON HERITAGE

## Sport

### Cricket

**MALTON v. WOLD WANDERERS.**  
At Malton on Wednesday. Play was much interfered with by heavy showers. The visitors won by 20 runs. For the home team W. P'Anson took four wickets for 18, M. P'Anson two for 13, and Puckrin two for 36. Score:—

MALTON.	
Rev H Ward c Huggan b Munby .....	26
W A Jackson c Robson b Featherby .....	4
R Brown c Robinson b Featherby .....	0
M P'Anson c Munby b Robinson .....	2
J Hollings c Gaunt b Huggan .....	33
W P'Anson st Bradford b Huggan .....	1
Rev P Gibbon c and b Gaunt .....	17
R Blair not out .....	3
W Puckrin c Marshall b Huggan .....	7
J Eastwood b Huggan .....	7
B Russell c and b Huggan .....	3
Extras .....	4
Total .....	107
WOLD WANDERERS.	
W S Robinson b W P'Anson .....	43
G Robson c Blair b Rev H Ward .....	37
G C Otley lbw b Puckrin .....	0
J D Munby c Jackson b M P'Anson .....	2
W D Featherby lbw b M P'Anson .....	9
Y Gaunt b W P'Anson .....	1
H Marshall lbw P Puckrin .....	1
H Huggan not out .....	19
E L Railton b W P'Anson .....	8
T Bradshaw c Eastwood b W P'Anson ...	5
J O Bradford run out .....	0
Extras .....	2
Total .....	127

Malton Messenger, 8 June 1907

The Malton Amateur Cricket Club was formed at a meeting at the Talbot Hotel on 26 March 1862 [1] A newspaper article in 1884 attributes the founding of the club to Mr Charles Marshall [2] (a school master who would later become the Inspector of Nuisances)

In May that year it was reported that the club had 90 members, and that 'Nearly £30 has been expended in preparing the ground, and from all accounts it is likely to be inadequate to accommodate the large number of members.' [3] The first inter-club match was played against Castle Howard, on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 1862, the team being Craven, Dickinson, Matthews, Dodsworth, J. Wise, Cr. Russell, Bell, W.H. Rose, J. Sowray, Lockey and Rogers [4] The last game of the season was

played on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October and the club had reportedly grown to 134 members [5]

#### AMATEUR CRICKET CLUB

On Tuesday afternoon last the cricket ground of the Malton Amateur Club was formally opened, when the members mustered in strong force, and a very good game was played by two sides chosen respectively by Mr James Wise and Mr Robert Boulton, and terminated in favour of the former. The ground was in excellent condition, and some very good play was exhibited by some of the members. A great number of the members and their friends were on the ground to witness the game; and the 1st North York Rifle Band was also present during the afternoon, and enlivened the scene by playing several of their best selections. On the whole it may be considered that the Malton Amateur Cricket Club has recommenced under the most favourable auspices, and with most brilliant prospects. We understand that a general meeting of the members of the club will be held at the Black Bull Inn, Market-place, on Wednesday evening next at eight o'clock; and we are also requested to state that the subscriptions are now due and will be received by Mr J.C. Wise (secretary) or Mr W.H. Rose (treasurer).

Malton Messenger, 17 May 1862

Notable Malton cricketers were: Alfred Brown - played for Malton and in 1872 Yorkshire, went on to run a sports outfitting business in Malton; Roger Iddison - original captain of Yorkshire, later played for Malton; William Bosomworth - played for both Yorkshire and Malton. George Freeman - played for Malton, Yorkshire and All-England Eleven

#### References:

- [1] Yorkshire Gazette, 29 March 1862
- [2] York Herald, 28 November 1884
- [3] Yorkshire Gazette, 10 May 1862
- [4] Yorkshire Gazette, 14 June 1862
- [5] Yorkshire Gazette, 11 October 1862

## Golf



A public meeting was held in Malton Museum early in 1910 to discuss forming a golf club. Mr. G. Reed reported that a 'fairly good ground had been secured, about one-and-a-half miles from Malton, near Roxburgh Farm, on the York Road.' It was 74 acres in extent, ample space for a nine-hole course. Mr. Gervase Markham was elected Captain. [1] (Oral history tells us that the reference to 'Roxburgh Farm' should have been Roughborough Farm, part of the Huttons Ambo estate). The picture above shows part of the original course.

## Archery

The earliest mention in the regional newspapers of the Malton Archery Club is in 1863 [1] This report referred to the 'first prize shooting in connection with the Malton Archery Club'. Archery was very popular with the Malton ladies, but did not, at least at first, attract those beyond the gentry. Events often took place in the grounds of The Lodge. Those taking part in that event in August 1863 were Miss M. Carr, Miss Carr, Miss Bromhead, Miss Copperthwaite, Miss Jackson, Mrs Hartley, Miss E

In March 1923, at a meeting in Malton Museum, members met to consider the future of the club given that the lease was to expire in April 1924. The membership was reported as 36 men and 14 ladies. They thought the time had come 'to look out for a new ground.' Captain Gibson at Welham Park offered ground at a rental of £32. There was discussion about building bunkers, as should the golf club leave Welham, Captain Gibson did not want to have the problem of filling the holes in. The meeting concluded by resolving to form a new club with subscriptions at 40s for men and 21s for ladies; entrance fees to be 21s and 10s6d respectively. [2] The new Malton & Norton course opened on Thursday 23 August 1923 by Rear-Admiral Sir Guy Gaunt, M.P. for Buckrose, who drove the first ball [3].

### References:

- [1] Whitby Gazette, 18 February 1910
- [2] Malton Messenger, 3 March 1923
- [3] Malton Messenger, 25 August 1923

Metcalf, Miss Bartliff, Miss E. Jackson, Miss Metcalfe, Miss Allen, Miss Hopkins, Miss Wright, Charles Russell, Rev. R.W. Elliot, Arthur Jackson, Edward Rose, Rev. C. Farrow, R.J. Smithson, John Soulby, and Mr. Milner.

### References:

- [1] Yorkshire Gazette, 29 August 1863

## Rifle Shooting



Members of Malton Rifle Club outside their Water Lane range c1920

The Malton Rifle Club had been established by July 1901, their secretary being Mr. G.W. Brown. They opened a new range in The Brows Quarry on York Road [1] By March 1908 there were 160 members including 30 ladies and Lieutenant General Baden Powell had opened their new miniature rifle range in Water Lane. It had 'accommodation for six marksmen (or markswomen) at a time (which number, however, can be doubled if necessary), and is lighted throughout by electricity.' [2] Miss Phyllis Bethell, a member of the Malton Rifle Club, won an 'open event' at Bisley (home of the National Rifle Association) after making a 'highest possible score in the disappearing miniature target at 25 yards' in

## Curling

Arguably, Malton's greatest sporting achievement has been in the world of curling and Woodhams Stone have considerable material on this subject. Curling was introduced in Malton by William l'Anson, the race horse trainer of Blink Bonny fame. [1] There is evidence that curling was played in the area in January 1867 when there is a report "The lakes at Welham and Castle Howard have been crowded with skaters, and the ice was being cleared of snow for curling matches on Monday [2] A year later the York Herald reports that 'a curling club has been established in connection with the Malton Amateur Cricket Club, a lake having been made in the cricket field' [3] Possibly immediate winters were mild and unsuitable for play as in December 1869 a report states 'The Scotch game of curling has been this week introduced here by the Malton club, with a success which promises to make the game a

1908 [3] Malton's proficiency in rifle shooting was demonstrated at the annual competitions of the North Riding Association of Rifle Clubs at the Northallerton County Range. In the Ladies' Championship, Miss Phyllis Bethell won the cup, scoring 96 out of a possible 100 points. In second place was Miss Hall (also of Malton) after a tie and 'shoot-off' with Mrs S.E. Yorke also of the Malton Club. Malton's mens' teams came first and second in the Legard Challenge Cup [4]

In 1909 at an international match for rifle club members, the third man in the United Kingdom team was Mr J. Chandler of Malton [5] Second-Lieutenant W.C. Wright was killed in action, aged 25, in the First World War and had been secretary of the Malton Rifle Club [6]

### References:

- [1] Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer, 19 July 1901
- [2] Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer, 27 March 1908
- [3] Daily Telegraph and Courier, 23 July 1908
- [4] Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer, 4 August 1908
- [5] Yorkshire Evening Post 8 May 1909
- [6] Hull Daily Mail, 20 July 1916

popular winter out-door amusement. The curling pond was formed two years ago in the cricket field, but until now has never been in use. The present frost has led to the inauguration and really admirable sport' [4]

At the annual meeting of the Malton Cricket Club in February 1870 it was agreed that the cricket club and curling club should be amalgamated [5]. At the end of 1870 Bell's Life in London and Sporting Chronicle had described curling as 'the winter cricket of the famous band who hail from Malton' [6]

The club, having gained some momentum, were unable to play in the winters of 1871 and 1872 due to unsuitable weather conditions [7]

At the end of 1878 the Malton curlers were playing at both their lake in the cricket field [8] and at Welham Park [9]

The York Herald, 6 December 1879, carries a synopsis of the rules and terminology of the game at the time.

The Southport and Malton curling clubs played a match in August 1880 at the Southport skating rink [10]

At the annual meeting of the club in 1882, it was resolved to construct a new curling pond (double rinks) at the new cricket ground Old-Malton road [11], however, it appeared this work had not been completed by the time of a meeting of the club in September 1884 [12]

This meeting, at the Sun Hotel, resolved 'to complete the formation of the new curling pond by 1st November,' and a tender from Mr. Hodgson, builder, for £158 was accepted. £80 had been promised, the balance to be raised by private subscriptions. 'It was determined to make the new curling pond large enough to play two rinks upon, and when completed the club will challenge the best North of England men to compete with them.'

CURLING CLUB - The presence of a sharp frost enabled this club to commence operations on Tuesday, when several of the members met on the old pond (the new one not being ready yet), and played a very close game. Messrs. l'Anson and Boulton "skipped" as usual and victory fell to the "Highfield team" by two points only. the details were: The Highfield Team - Mr. W. l'Anson (skip), Mr. Topham, and Mr. George Langbourne, 14. Mr. Boulton's Team - Mr. R. Boulton (skip), Lieutenant M.F.W. Williamson, and Mr. H. Tinsley, 12. It was intended to have a stronger game on Wednesday, but unfortunately rain came on and the ice broke. Yorkshire Gazette, 25 November 1882

When the club tried their new rink for the first time there was disappointment as 'the ground had been laid unevenly, hence the ice had formed thin in places, and the stones cut directly.' [13]

Matches were played regularly against curlers from Hull, Harrogate, Leeds, Huddersfield, Scarborough, Middlesbrough, Newcastle and Darlington, often

being arranged at very short notice by telegraph consistent with weather conditions.

The teams for matches seemed to comprise the same small set of players but the Curling Club had many members. Newspaper reports in the 1890s suggest that the members played on the pond at the cricket club whereas matches tended to be played at Welham Park. Matches drew large crowds.

The members played annually for a silver challenge cup. The winner in 1892 was Alfred Brown and in 1893 William l'Anson [14]

In 1893 the Malton Curling Club initiated an 'International Bonspiel,' or grand international match between England and Scotland [15] Also during 1893, a year said to be 'the most satisfactory and successful season in the society's existence,' the pond was enlarged and the surround asphalted [16]

The first International Bonspiel took place, after various weather induced postponements, in January 1895. Malton entered two teams, one of which won their 'rink'. Scotland won overall [17] Due to the weather, it wasn't until February 1902 that the second International Bonspiel took place, at Loch Maben Loch, Dumfriesshire. Both Malton 'rinks' lost [18] Sheffield Daily Telegraph, 15 February 1902

In 1905 the Malton curlers, skippered by Wm l'Anson, reached the final of the Championship of the English Province Royal Caledonian Curling Club held at the Prince's Skating Club, Knightsbridge, London – Darlington winning a closely fought encounter (Mr. l'Anson had donated the trophy 'The President's Cup' some years earlier) [19]

The finest hour for the Malton curlers was competing in February 1907 in the International Bonspiel in Kandersteg, Switzerland. They left Malton on 24<sup>th</sup> January, completing the last eight miles of their journey by sleigh. The team (comprising Mr William l'Anson, Mr W. Wilkinson, Mr. J. Atkinson and Mr. McKenzie [20] won all of their eight rinks and took the trophy home! A big crowd welcomed them at Malton station [21] more detailed report Musselburgh News, 22 February 1907 and photographs in the Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News, 14 December 1907



Bonspiel Winners: from left to right John Potter, William l'Anson and William Wilkinson with the trophy and their stones – pictured outside the Royal Oak.

As photographs began to appear in the local press the Leeds Mercury of 2 January 1914 has a photograph of 'Victorious Curlers:' Messrs. P. Russell, R. Brown, Miles l'Anson, J.W. Atkinson, and G. Ethel.

After this period, mentions of the Malton Curling Club in the local newspapers are very few. Perhaps the demise of those involved in the 'glory years' contributed to this. The death of Percy Lancelot Russell was reported in 1938 and he was referred to as being 'a prominent supporter of the now defunct Malton Curling Club.' [22]

### When Curling was Played at Malton: A Dip Into the Past

By Old Hand Malton Gazette 12 December, 1925

At the time of writing the relentless wintry weather still holds the countryside in its icy grip, and many prophecies are being made as to the length of time the spell is likely to endure. Many villages in the East Riding wold country have been cut off for days, and while the conditions are not so severe in the immediate neighbourhood of Malton they are bad enough. It has been a rare time for winter sports, and the Old Hand could not but think it was a pity that the old Malton Curling Club was defunct. The curling pond still stands at the botton of the cricket field a mute reminder of the palmy days of Malton when the game was in full swing. Curling was introduced into Malton by William l'Anson, and it was, therefore, fitting that the present William l'Anson should skip the winning team which carried off the International cup at Kandersteg, Switzerland. This was in 1907, when the Malton team comprised Mr. W. Wilkinson and the late Mr. John Potter. On their return the victors were met by the Malton band and escorted to the Royal Oak Hotel.

### References:

- [1] Yorkshire Evening Press, 18 May 1893
- [2] Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer 7 January 1867
- [3] York Herald, 18 January 1868
- [4] York Herald, 4 December 1869
- [5]. York Herald 5 February 1870
- [6] Bell's Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 31 December 1970
- [7] Richmond & Ripon Chronicle 25 January 1873
- [8] York Herald, 21 December 1878
- [9] York Herald 28 December 1878
- [10] Yorkshire Gazette, 4 September 1880
- [11] York Herald, 11 November 1882
- [12] Yorkshire Gazette, 16 September 1884
- [13] Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer, 28 November 1884
- [14] York Herald, 9 January 1893.
- [15] Yorkshire Evening Press, 18 May 1893
- [16] York Herald 27 December 1893
- [17] York Herald, 30 January 1895
- [18] Sheffield Daily Telegraph, 15 February 1902
- [19] Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer, 15 April 1905
- [20] Yorkshire Evening Post, 2 February 1907)
- [21] Yorkshire Evening Post, 8 February 1907
- [22] Yorkshire Post and Leeds intelligencer 7 November 1938

## History of Curling

The Old Hand was reading the other night an interesting book giving the history of curling. Like golf, it came from Scotland, although historians are not agreed as to the date of its foundation. In the Annual of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club for 1865 there is a song written for the Dollar and Devondale Curling Club, in one verse of which the author says:-

“Hoo far it dates in bygone years  
Let antiquarians tell;  
But Fergus, first of Scottish Kings,  
We dootna played himsel’.”

## An Old Time Tale

Curling was at one time supposed to be one of the failings of the clergy, and an old Scottish proverb has it that “Frae Maidenkerk to Johnny Groats nae curlers like the clergy,” and in 1884 Dr. James Taylor, writing on the subject, stated that in Ayrshire “the clergy have, time out of mind, been keen and skilful curlers, and it must be admitted that they have sometimes carried their pursuit of this enticing game rather beyond the bounds of prudence and propriety.” As an example of this the Doctor cites a case of a young clergyman of Kyle who, soon after his induction, curled for six days one week and then gave an old sermon to his congregation on the Sunday, having no time to make a new one. But the reverend gentleman had some excuse, for he did it at the express wish of his curling parishioners, who, on the Saturday morning, appeared at his window waving their brooms (he had locked the door in order to keep them out) and on his pleading the necessity of his spending the day preparing his sermons, shouted with great unanimity and cordiality “Gi’s an auld ane.”

## The Chaplain’s Duty

This love on the part of the clergy for the game must have been the means of instituting to every club a chaplain whose duties were not very onerous, the preaching of an occasional sermon to curlers, and the saying of grace at club dinners being the most important ones. In this connection it is interesting to repeat the statement before given in this column that the Malton Club possessed a chaplain who still resides in our midst, this being the veteran Rector of Stonegrave, the Rev. E.A.B. Pitman. His appointment to that ancient office led to him being mentioned in “Truth,” Labby writing a satirical paragraph asking whether his duties included the singing of a “Te Deum” when the Malton Club were victorious. During a keen wintry spell some years ago curling also took place on the ice at Welham Fish Pond, but now the old members seem to have died off and the younger men do not appear to have showed much inclination for the game of their forefathers.