

ALLAN SIDDALL
A CRICKETER IN THE EAST RIDING OF
YORKSHIRE 1879 - 1904



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PREFACE

Family stories, passed down from one generation to the next, are fascinating to most of us. We want to believe them, but can we be sure of their authenticity? Has the story become distorted over the years? Is there any evidence? If only we could go back in time and see for ourselves.

We have a number of family stories. Some are humorous, some sad. There are tales of opportunities missed, of success and accounts of hard times. Amongst the stories there are those of skill and prowess in sport, and two of these stories have always intrigued me. Both concern the legendary cricketing successes of Great-Grandmother's brother, Allan Siddall.

My Grandfather Arthur Richardson had named his youngest son Allan Siddall Richardson. Why? Grandad said that no finer man had lived than Allan, and what a great cricketer he had been!

This booklet is an attempt to discover if there is some truth behind the Allan Siddall stories.

THE SIDDALL STORIES

The first story reveals that Allan had been a farmer at Barmby Moor in the East Riding of Yorkshire. In the summer months he had risen early to work the land, and then he had spent the afternoons playing cricket.

As a young man he had earned money as a practice bowler for Lord Hawke, the famous Yorkshire County Cricket Club captain. When his Lordship wanted batting practice he summoned Allan to bowl against him. Lord Hawke put up a single stump whilst he batted and rewarded him with half a crown (25p in today's money) whenever Allan struck the stump. All bowlers reading this will no doubt be thinking that Lord Hawke was careful with his money! The family story insists that Allan had on a number of occasions returned home with the rich reward of £1 ... and so he should, to make a good story! The story goes on to reveal that Allan and Lord Hawke had a disagreement at some later stage and they parted company. The story does not embellish this at all.

The second account involving Allan Siddall apparently happened in the 1930's, when my great-uncle Sydney Richardson was at the Scarborough Cricket Festival. The ball had been struck out of the ground and Uncle Syd had turned to the aged man sitting next to him and declared it to be the biggest hit he had ever seen. The unknown man had replied,

“Nay, lad! I saw a man called Allan Siddall hit the biggest six there's ever been on this ground.”

These were the stories that made me want to find out more. Are the stories true? When did he play? Which club did he play for? Was he a gifted cricketer? The search began and I attempted to go back in time.

THE SEARCH

The family had no written documentation or photographs of Allan Siddall. He was buried in Barmby Moor churchyard on July 22nd 1918, and his gravestone can still be seen. The epitaph on the headstone reads,

‘ALLAN SIDDALL who died July 22nd 1918 aged 54 years. To memory ever dear.’

(His age was actually aged 55 ... the scorer must have missed 1)

He had lived most of his life at what is now called Nottingham Farm, close to the Parish Church. (Map 1 and Photo 1)

The first line of search seemed clear. Had there been any reference to his death in the local newspapers of the time? Success quickly followed, for the following report was found in the *‘Howdenshire Chronicle and Pocklington News’* July 27th 1918.

FUNERAL OF ALLAN SIDDALL

The interment took place in the churchyard at Barmby Moor on Tuesday of Mr. Allan Siddall, farmer, whose death occurred on Sunday after some weeks’ illness. In his younger days he was a cricketer of considerable local repute and was for many years professional for the Yorkshire Gentlemen. A fine bowler and a punishing bat, he was extremely popular on the grounds of East and North Yorkshire, where he accomplished many excellent performances. He afterwards assisted Beverley Town and Londesborough Park Clubs. A thorough sportsman and possessed of a generous and genial disposition, his death will be much regretted by a very large circle of friends, including the children of Barmby Moor, who were all deeply attached to “Allan”, of whom it can be truthfully said, “he had no enemies.” ... One beautiful wreath, bearing the words, “In remembrance of many happy days spent together. George Cobb, Londesborough.” (1)

This funeral notice enabled me to delve further into the forgotten life of Allan Siddall, a Victorian cricketer who had a remarkable career.

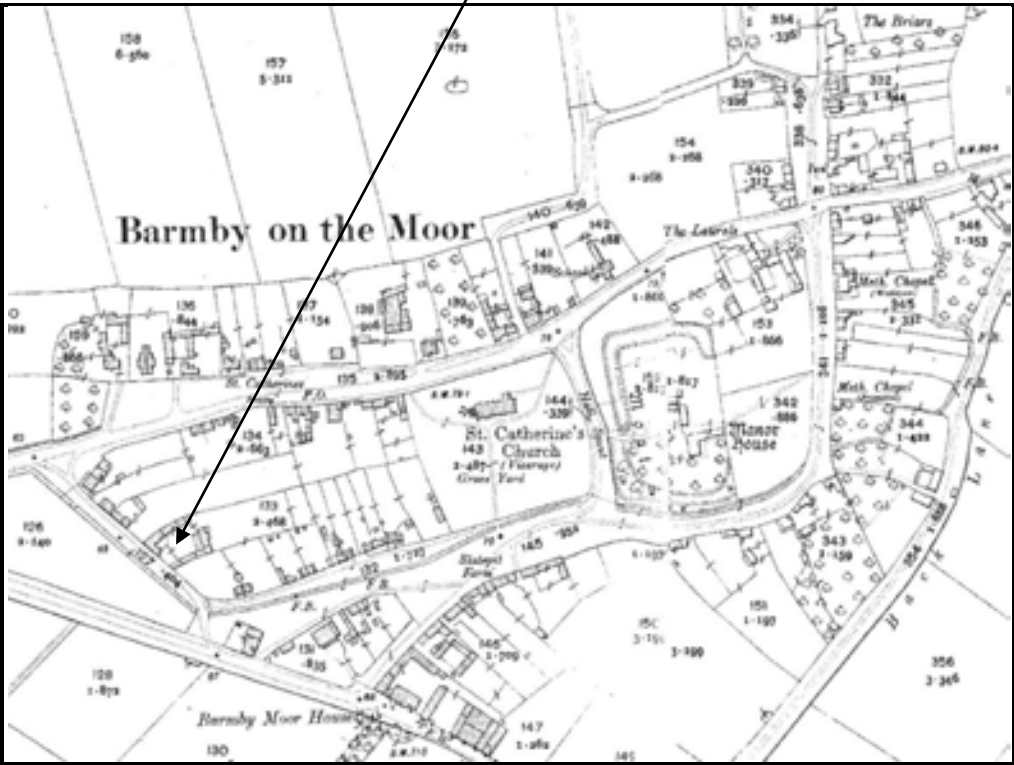
Fate now played a hand in the search. Shortly after finding the funeral notice, I had a piece of extreme good fortune. Whilst browsing in an Otley antique shop I was drawn to look at a pile of dusty old picture frames stacked in a dark corner. In amongst the old frames there was a photograph of a cricket team. The title could be read clearly, ‘Holderness Nomads. 1895’ (Photo 2). The players were all named, and incredibly, there he was, Allan Siddall, bat in hand, staring out at me from the past. I now knew that he was playing cricket in 1895 in the East Riding. This gave an excellent starting point, as old newspapers could be searched, cricket clubs could be contacted and individuals approached for information. Gradually the facts revealed a fascinating story, better I think, than the original family stories.

(1) George Cobb (see Londesborough Park team photo 4) was a player and official with Londesborough Park Cricket Club for many years.



Photo 1

Nottingham Farm, Barmby Moor



Map 1

Barmby Moor (Part of O.S. map1910)



Photo 2

The Holderness Nomads 1895

C. Jordan (Umpire). C. H. Fox. Rev. Goldsmith. A. K. Wilkinson. P. Frith.

W. R. Smith. J. W. Rome. H. S. Burstall (Capt). H. Bell. A. Siddall.

H. Martin.

F. Soulsby.

THE CRICKETER

In the 1871 Census, the Siddall family is recorded as follows:-

Hugh Siddall, aged 48. Farmer 95 acres.	Born, Barmby Moor, Yorkshire.
Eliza Siddall, aged 48.	Born, Fangfoss, Yorkshire.
Fanny Siddall, aged 18. Farmer's Daughter.	Born, Barmby Moor, Yorkshire.
Jane Siddall, aged 16. Farmer's Daughter.	Born, Barmby Moor, Yorkshire.
Allan Siddall, aged 7. Scholar.	Born, Barmby Moor, Yorkshire.

Betsy Siddall was Allan's older sister. She married, aged 21, my great-grandfather, Elisha John Richardson at Fangfoss on 24th September 1868.

Allan was born on May 11th 1863, the year that Yorkshire County Cricket Club was founded. In the previous year, the sixteen year old W.G. Grace had made his first appearance at Lords. Cricket was popular at this time, played in villages and the rapidly growing towns and cities in all parts of England. The interest in cricket was developed by All England teams, a kind of professional cricket circus, travelling the country playing games against eighteen or twenty-two of different districts. The modern cricketer would not have recognised the games of that era. The ground described by W.G. Grace in 1854, his earliest recollection of a cricket match, would perhaps have been typical of many of the village grounds of the period.

“Originally a ridge and furrow field ... specially re-laid the previous autumn. The pitch was first rate, but the rest of the ground rough and uneven.....The team played in top hats..... W. Clarke bowled slow underhand deliveries. Flags were put up to mark the boundary and we had no pavilion” (1)

By the close of the Nineteenth Century, W.G. Grace's best cricketing days were almost over, as were Allan Siddall's. They had played in a period of great growth in cricket, perhaps the greatest boom that the game has seen. In 1899 Grace wrote,

“In the thirty-five years over which my memory sweeps, cricket has undergone many changes. The game we play today is scarcely like the game of my boyhood ... The smooth turf and billiard table wickets would amaze the old bowler who triumphed on bumpy pitches ... The high delivery of the modern bowler would horrify the famous trundler of the good old days, when to deliver the ball from above level of the shoulder was as heinous offence as throwing is today.” (1)

Allan Siddall had also played his cricket during this period of change and development. A great deal of cricket was being played in the East Riding of Yorkshire. There seems to have been two tiers indicated in the newspaper coverage of the time. The lower level was the small village teams, Sunday School teams, groups of workers (for example, York Engineers, York Town Clerks), Married versus Singles, and other small group teams playing local fixtures.

The higher level sides included the larger cricket clubs such as Hull, Beverley, York, Selby, Scarborough and Middlesbrough. One of these higher level cricket clubs was the Yorkshire Gentlemen Cricket Club:-

“An active and powerful club side developed through the drive of the Rev. E.S. Carter” (2).

Various other teams, selected by invitation, were also strong. One such team was Lord Londesborough’s Eleven.

“The first of a series of first class matches to take place in Londesborough Park was played on Monday, between Londesborough and Selby, in the presence of Lord and Lady Londesborough. Londesborough won by an innings and plenty to spare.” (3)

(1) “*W.G.*” *Cricketing Reminiscences & Personal Recollections* W.G. Grace 1899.

(2) *Yorkshire Cricketers 1839-1939* P. Thomas 1973.

(3) *The Yorkshire Gazette* 22nd August 1885.

THE EARLY CRICKETING YEARS 1879-1888

Where had Allan learnt to play cricket? During the search for information, another Siddall, with the initial 'H', is found to be playing in the 1880's. H. Siddall is playing with Warter, a hamlet close to Barmby Moor. It is highly probable that this person is Hugh Siddall, Allan's father, the farmer at Barmby Moor.

Donald Milne of Market Weighton has in his possession a mounted cricket ball dating from 1871. The ball has this inscription, written on paper and attached to it.

Gentlemen v. Farmers	Gentlemen	Farmers
<p><i>This ball was won by an Eleven of Farmers from an Eleven of Gentlemen on the 8th and 9th of August 1871 at Everingham Park</i></p>	<p><i>Hon. W. Maxwell (Capt.) " W C Maxwell " J C Maxwell " B C Maxwell W C Fox Esq. Hon. H Pe?..re H Tollemache M Thompson Esq. Major Egerton H Sturton Esq.</i></p>	<p><i>Mr W Usher " E Craven " E Handley " Seth Waring " W Grove " H Usher " J Coxon " W Rickell " J Story " H Siddall " J E Ross</i></p>
	<p><i>Scores 147 7?</i></p>	<p><i>Scores 95 155</i></p>

(? Is where the writing is unclear)

It seems certain that the number 10 for the farmers is Hugh Siddall of Barmby Moor. On two occasions, both A. and H. Siddall play in the same Pocklington team, on Monday June 6th 1881 and Monday June 12th 1882. It is easy to imagine father and son playing alongside one another in the same team, and that Hugh had been a great encouragement in Allan's early cricketing days.

In 1879, Allan, aged sixteen, played with Waplington Manor, Wilberfoss and Fangfoss, all small communities close to his home in Barmby Moor. The photo of Melbourne, (Photo 3) another local side which Allan played for at a later date, reflects the type of game played. The photograph comes from the family archive, and is without names. Older relatives thought that the man standing in the centre of the back row could be Allan Siddall, but nobody was really sure. (Perhaps the man sitting front left, bat in hand, is a stronger possibility).

Photo 3 MELBOURNE CRICKET TEAM (Date Unknown)



In 1880 Allan joined Pocklington Excelsior C.C., no doubt a progressive move, and he had great success. In May he took twelve wickets against Hull Dock Company. In June, seven wickets against Kirby Underdale were followed by a score of 43 not out.

Pocklington had Allan's services for the next two seasons, although they had to share him with a number of other clubs. He turned out for Pocklington Grammar School, Barmby Moor, Warter, Wilberfoss and Market Weighton, often opening both the batting and the bowling.

One of the most impressive performances was for Pocklington against Pocklington Grammar School on Wednesday July 27th 1881. Pocklington were bowled out for 31 in their first innings and for 47 in the second. Allan then destroyed the Grammar school batting taking seven wickets in the first innings when they were bowled out for 11, followed by another seven when the second innings total was 51.

Scores rarely totalled 100 in these games, low by today's standards. Typical was the game between Pocklington and Mr. W.E. Lowe's XI from York, played on Monday June 6th 1881. Allan opened the batting and made the top score of 19 out of the total of 46. At the end of the

defeated Selby, Allan took six wickets. Success did not come as easily for Allan in this higher level. Moving up a standard was difficult, but he did have some good performances. Perhaps the highlight of this season was the game where he was invited to play in Lord Hotham's XI against the Yorkshire Gentlemen on July 25th 1885 at Dalton Hall.

“On a good wicket Siddall carried his bat for a well played 32. In the Gentlemen's first innings they totalled 69, Siddall taking six wickets.” (1)

No doubt, the Yorkshire Gentlemen took note of Allan after this game.

In between 1885 and 1888, Allan played many times for Londesborough Park. (See Photo 4) Fixtures included Everingham Park, Selby, York, the Marshall's Club of Drifffield, the 15th Regiment and two fixtures against the Yorkshire Gentlemen.

LONDESBOROUGH PARK v YORKSHIRE GENTLEMEN			
Played at Londesborough, 12th June 1886			
LONDESBOROUGH PARK:			
W. A. Usher	c Cholmley	b Archdale	6
Boyes		b Boddy	27
J. Wreghitt	c Leatham	b Archdale	1
Goodall	c Hawke	b Archdale	12
H. Dobbinson	c Hildyard	b Archdale	2
W. Brown		b Boddy	0
A. Siddall	c Leatham	b Boddy	3
H. Usher		b Boddy	2
A. Ward		b Archdale	3
E. R. Young		b Archdale	10
G. Cobb	not out		5
Extras			5
			<u>76</u>
YORKSHIRE GENTLEMAN:			
Cpt. Flint		b Siddall	8
G. A. B. Leatham	c H. Usher	b Goodall	6
Boddy		b Siddall	7
Cpt. Archdale	c Dobbinson	b Boyes	9
Cpt. Witherley	c Boyes	b Siddall	3
Hon. M. B. Hawke		b Siddall	10
Cpt. Seymour		b Siddall	2
G. Croft		b Siddall	1
R. G. Cholmley	not out		10
H. J. Hildyard	c and	b H. Usher	17
E. Jones		b Siddall	9
Extras			5
			<u>87</u>

June 12th 1886 Londesborough Park v Yorkshire Gentlemen

(A scorecard from the Londesborough Park C.C .Website.)

In this game Allan clean-bowled the future Lord Hawke, the Hon. M.B. Hawke. Allan was aged 23 and Hawke was 26. Their paths were to cross many times on the cricket field over the ensuing years. (Hawke and Siddall certainly knew each other well in cricket circles).

His performances must have impressed the Yorkshire Gentlemen, for in the 1889 season he was appointed their professional for a number of games at the age of 26.



Photo 4

Londesborough Park C.C. (c.1888)

Back row left –right

Unknown, G. Cobb, F. Botrill, R. Young, W.A. Usher, J. Wreghitt, M. Usher, W. Brown, E.W. Usher.

Front row left –right

R. Triffit, E.W. Usher, H. Young, R. Scaife, A. Siddall

1889 An Important Season

The 1889 season saw Allan make his debut for the Gentlemen, playing for them in a number of fixtures, whilst still remaining a player with Lord Londesborough's XI. When the two sides met, Allan played with Londesborough Park. In the game on August 13th he produced a fine all round performance, scoring 20 runs and taking seven wickets. (The following season, Allan played the whole season with Yorkshire Gentlemen as their professional, and perhaps this performance influenced their decision to appoint him). Allan also played a number of games with York C.C. during this season.

Allan's debut for the Gentlemen may well have been on July 29th in the twelve-a-side match on their home ground at Bootham Stray in York, against Uppingham Rovers. The Gentlemen were soundly beaten by an innings and Allan had a disappointing game, dismissed for a duck in both innings. In the field he did somewhat better, taking three wickets and holding a catch.

Allan's games with the Gentlemen was certainly a move up the cricket ladder, but his highest achievement came during the 1889 season when he was selected to play for the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire on five occasions.

The North and East Ridings team had been formed in the 1880's to try and break the domination of Yorkshire representative cricket by Sheffield. Lord Londesborough had been prominent in the formation of this team and he became President in 1888. Lord Derwent succeeded him in 1889, but it seems likely that Allan's selection was influenced by his connections with Lord Londesborough's XI at Londesborough Park.

The team to play against Northumberland at Scarborough appears in the Yorkshire Post on August 2nd 1889. It reveals that Allan was a professional, since Siddall, along with Duckworth, Padgett and the Skilbecks, have no 'Mr.' in front of their names; this omission denotes professional status.

North and East Ridings of Yorkshire Cricket Club.

The following team will represent Yorkshire (North and East) v. Northumberland at Scarborough, today and tomorrow:-

Mr. R.W. Frank(Captain), Mr. D. Frank, Mr. H. Leadbeater, Mr. J. Ewbank, Mr. W. Heckley, Mr. W. Coverdale, Siddall, E. Skilbeck, R. Skilbeck, Duckworth and Padgett.

This was a team with some excellent players. R.W. Frank, the captain went on to play for Yorkshire and later captained the Yorkshire Second XI for many years. Harry Leadbeater played for Yorkshire on a number of occasions between 1884 and 1890, as did Padgett, 1882

to 1889, W. Coverdale in 1888 and Ed. Skilbeck in 1890. Allan was in top cricketing company, and he performed well, both with bat and ball. (**Appendix 1**)

The 1889 season had been a marvellous season for Allan. It was the year in which he really made his mark and created an impact on the cricketing scene in the East Riding and further afield. The selection of games in Appendix 1 is intended to reflect this. Of particular note is the outstanding bowling performance which Allan had playing for Lord Herries' XI on August 6th. The nine wicket haul was probably his career best.

Did Allan play as a professional for Londesborough Park and with the Yorkshire Gentlemen? The Londesborough Park records have been lost and so it cannot be proved that he was a paid player. However, Lord Londesborough certainly must have had a hand in appointing Allan as professional for the North and East Ridings team and so it would seem safe to assume that he paid him to play for the Londesborough Park team. Yorkshire Gentlemen record Allan as their professional in later seasons and so they probably paid him to play in the games during the 1889 season.

Appendix 1

Scores of selected matches involving Allan Siddall in the 1889 Cricket Season.

(From the Yorkshire Post Newspaper, June – August 1889)

June 5th 1889 Manchester v. North and East Ridings of Yorkshire

The match took place at Old Trafford, Manchester, on Monday and resulted in a defeat for the visitors by an innings and 51 runs. Mold took three wickets in three balls

Manchester

S M Crossfield	c. Coverdale	b.Siddall	9
F Ward	run	out	17
J O Fullalove	c.Siddall	b.Frank	60
J G Heap		b.Siddall	28
C H Haigh	c. &	b.Frank	0
M Leese		b.Keld	3
White		b.Keld	6
A F Pope	c.Padgett	b.Keld	3
R Walker	c.Nicholson	b.Keld	1
E B Rowley	not	out	7
Mold		b.Siddall	5
		Extras	2

1st Inn. Total 141

Bowling

Keld	24	2	50	4
Siddall	18	3	37	3
Wardell	2	0	11	0
Frank	14	5	23	2
Bookless	8	3	18	0

North and East Ridings of Yorkshire

A Worsley		b.Ward	5	c.Crossfield	b.Keld	0
Wardell	c.Pope	b.Ward	3		b.Mold	0
W Coverdale		b.Ward	14		b.Mold	4
T W Nicholson		b.Mold	1	run	out	1
Padgett	c. &	b.Mold	10		b.Mold	0
F P Seymour	c. Ward	b.Mold	3		b.Mold	2
Bookless		b.Mold	2		b.Mold	4
T Ewbank		b.Mold	0	not	out	0
Keld	not	out	2		b.Mold	11
W L Frank		b.Mold	0		b.Mold	0
Siddall	c.Leese	b.Mold	16		b.Mold	0
		Extras	3		Extras	2
	1st Inn.	Total	59	2nd Inn.	Total	24

Bowling

Crossfield	5	2	6	0	Mold	12	5	11	8
Ward	10.1	3	32	4	Ward	12	5	11	1
Mold	15	8	18	6					

June 6th 1889 Manchester v. North and East Ridings of Yorkshire

The Yorkshiremen have figured badly in both of their engagements with Manchester, as after being beaten in one innings on Monday, they commenced a return match yesterday, and Manchester winning the toss occupied the wickets nearly the whole day, Yates scoring 123. Mold's bowling was again too much for the visitors.

Manchester

S M Crossfield		b.Wardell	46
Yates	c.Wardell	b.Bookless	123
J G Heap	c.Coverdale	b.Wardell	13
R Walker		b.Wardell	0
C H Haigh		b.Wardell	0
M Leese		b.Siddall	0
F Ward		b.Frank	14
White		b.Siddall	6
A F Pope		b.Ewbank	33
E B Rowley		b.Wardell	0
Mold	not	out	2
		Extras	16
		Total	253

North and East Ridings of Yorkshire

A Worsley	st.White	b.Mold	1
Wardell	c.Pope	b.Mold	7
W Coverdale		b.Ward	16
T W Nicholson	not	out	2
Padgett		b.Mold	0
F P Seymour	c. Ward	b.Mold	0
Bookless	c. &	b.Mold	16
T Ewbank		b.Mold	1
Keld	not	out	11
W L Frank		b.Mold	0
Siddall	c.Leese	b.Ward	8
		Extras	3
		Total	62 for 9 wickets

June 24th 1889 York v. Meanwood at York

York

J R Wood	c. J R Bower	b.Watmough	13
M Tomlinson		b.Macaulay	10
G Mais		b.Watmough	7
F Hotham	c.Watmough	b.Fletcher	2
R Barnum		b.Watmough	1
A Siddall		b.Watmough	4
W Bean	l. b. w.	b.Fletcher	12
A Nottingham	thrown out	Watmough	0
E Bean		b.Watmough	0
R Phillips		b.Fletcher	0
J Dobson	not	out	10
		Extras	16
		Total	75

Meanwood

H Sykes	st. Bean	b.Mais	2
C H Macaulay	l. b. w.	b.Barnum	5
W Fletcher		b.Barnum	13
F Watmough	c.Nottingham	b.Mais	21
T Greenwood	st. Bean	b.Mais	11
J Brooke		b.Siddall	2
A Firth		b.Mais	1
T T Bower		b.Siddall	7
J R Bower	c.Bean	b.Siddall	0
A C Dowgill	run	out	3
J Dobson	not	out	0
		Extras	0
		Total	65

July 3rd 1889 North and East Ridings of Yorkshire v. Cumberland

The two day match was commenced on the Linthorpe Road ground Middlesbrough, yesterday, in fine weather, a fair number of spectators being present.

North and East Ridings of Yorkshire

A Keld		b.Hardy	11
J W Nicholson		b.Irving	0
J Ewbank		b.Fleming	23
A Worsley	c.Hardy	b.Fleming	28
R W Frank	run	out	0
D Bookless		b.Ingham	19
W Worsley	c &	b.Fleming	8
W L Frank		b.Fleming	0
A Siddall	c.Fleming	b.Ingham	89
W Heckley	not	out	3
J Hunter		b.Burrows	14
		Extras	16
		Total	211

Cumberland

First Innings

Rev.T.W.Stevenson		b.Siddall	0
J Thorpe	c.Nicholson	b.Heckley	33
G Hardy	l.b.w.	b.Siddall	3
Maj. Webber-Smith	c.Hunter	b.Siddall	2
L Burrows		b.Heckley	5
J Ingham		b.Siddall	6
T Irving	run	out	14
Kesteven		b.Heckley	0
H Ineson		b.Heckley	0
E Gray		b.Siddall	0
J Fleming	not	out	0
		Extras	0
		Total	63

Second Innings

c. &	b.Ewbank	51
c.Hunter	b.Siddall	26
	b.Heckley	0
not	out	14
c. &	b.Ewbank	9
not	out	4
	Extras	0
	Total (for	104
	4 wickets)	

July 15th 1889 North and East Ridings of Yorkshire v. Yorkshire County

This two days' match was concluded yesterday at Middlesbrough on Saturday, the County winning by an innings and 27 runs.

Yorkshire County

Mr A Sellars	run	out	28
L Hall	run	out	23
J Driver		b.Waller	0
F Lee		b.Siddall	48
D Boddy	c.Frank	b.Waller	0
S Wade		b.Borrie	112
A Hill	c.Coverdale	b.Bookless	0
R Wainwright	retired	hurt	53
J Parrett	c.Frank	b.Waller	60
R Moorehouse		b.Siddall	20
W Middlebrook	not	out	8
		Extras	11
		Total	363

North and East Ridings of Yorkshire

First Innings

A Worsley	c.sub	b.Wade	3
Skilbeck		b.Parrett	26
J Ewbank		b.Wade	0
R W Frank		b.Middlebrook	17
J Padgett		b.Parrett	5
A Borrie		b.Parrett	26
Bookless		b.Parrett	9
Siddall	not	out	14
W Coverdale		b.Wade	0
Waller		b.Wade	0
Bedford		b.Parrett	1
		Extras	8
		Total	109

Second Innings

c. Boddy	b.Wade	22
c.Lee	b.Middlebrook	13
	run out	9
c.Hill	b.Wade	10
c.Lee	b.Hall	96
c.Moorehouse	b.Hall	41
c.Parrett	b.Hall	7
	b.Parrett	17
c.Moorehouse	b.Wade	4
c.Sellars	b.Parrett	3
	not out	0
	Extras	5
	Total	227

July 31st 1889 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. Uppingham Rovers

This twelve-a-side match was brought to an early conclusion yesterday, on the Gentlemen's Ground, Bootham Stray, York.

Yorkshire Gentlemen

First Innings

C R Seymour	not	out	21
R E Walker	c.Martineau	b.Whitwell	5
A Hughes-Onslow		b.Whitwell	1
C W Landon	c.Martineau	b.Whitwell	5
G Croft		b.Lucas	7
L Dodsworth	c.Lucas	b.Eccles	4
A Siddall	c.Eccles	b.Whitwell	0
Child		b.Whitwell	0
Allsop	c.Lucas	b.Whitwell	66
Meeking		b.Whitwell	0
W H Garforth		b.Whitwell	0
E D Mackie	c.Jillard	b.Whitwell	0

Second Innings

b.Whitwell	11
b.Fox	2
b.Whitwell	0
b.Crossfield	3
b.Whitwell	10
b.Whitwell	4
b.Crossfield	0
b.Crossfield	5
b.Whitwell	4
b.Whitwell	1
not out	6
b.Whitwell	2

Extras	14	Extras	8
Total	133	Total	56

Uppingham Rovers

S S Schult	c.Siddall	b.Allsop	31
A P Lucas		b.Siddall	27
L Martineau	st.Meeking	b.Garforth	21
J F Whitwell		b.Landon	2
H Eccles	l.b.w.	b.Child	14
C J Fox	c.Croft	b.Garforth	19
J J Crossfield		b.Siddall	16
J H Roberts	not	out	40
H Jillard	c. &	b.Child	7
W F Whitwell		b.Siddall	3
C E Marriot	c.Child	b.Dodsworth	0
C Marriot		b.Hughes-Onslow	11

Extras	19
Total	215

August 2nd 1889 Lord Londesborough's Eleven v. Seamer

At Londesborough Park yesterday.

Seamer

W Plewes	c. &	b.Siddall	0
G Clarkson	c.Mitchell	b.Siddall	3
T Walker	c. &	b.Siddall	26
W Fox		b.Harbour	7
W Young		b.Harbour	5
S N Morley		b.Siddall	11
H Dawson		b.Siddall	9
J W Young		b.Siddall	0
R Ward		b.Siddall	0
G Jackson	c. &	b.Harbour	3
G Hardy	not	out	0
		Extras	0
		Total	64

Lord Londesborough's Eleven

R W Usher		b.Walker	0
W A Usher	c.Plewes	b.W Young	1
R Newbald		b.Walker	6
H Usher		b.Walker	30
A Siddall	c.Fox	b.Walker	9
W W Harbour		b.Fox	9
H B Young		b.Fox	38
G Cobb	run	out	29
Sir G Sitwell	c.Walker	b.Fox	13
H Mitchell	not	out	1
R R Young		b.Walker	1
		Extras	10
		Total	147

August 3rd 1889 Northumberland v. North and East Ridings of Yorkshire

The play on the opening day of this two days' fixture was attended with fine though somewhat fitful weather. The Northumberland captain won the toss. Play was commenced at 12.15. The principal scorers were Hansell and J S Crawford, the captain, the latter of whom just attained the half century when he was clean bowled by Mr. H. Leadbeater. Hansell was missed by Ewbank off Frank, and the mistake was an expensive one. The Northumberland teams innings closed at 4.28 for a well earned 235. The tykes could not, (with the exception of Skilbeck, who went in first and carried his bat for 63, giving only one very difficult chance), withstand the bowling of Palmer and Walters, and they were all out for the comparatively meagre score of 112.

Northumberland

W Dawson		b.Duckworth	9	Bowling Analysis				
H Phillipson	l. b. w.	b.Duckworth	13					J Frank
J Hansell	run	out	52	J Duckworth	22	7	57	0
F Lattimer		b.Siddall	7	Siddall	20	0	45	4
J F Ogilvie	c. J Frank	b.Siddall	28	Leadbeater	11	1	36	1
Rev. E W R Walters	c. &	b.Siddall	17	Fox	6	0	6	0
S J Crawford		b.Leadbeater	50	W Frank	1.1	0	5	1
A W Baker	not	out	23	Ewbank	3	0	12	0
H Haslam		b.Siddall	16					
C Lattimer	run	out	1					
L H Palmer		b.Siddall	0					
		Extras	14					
		Total	235					

North and East Ridings of Yorkshire

H Leadbeater		b.Palmer	0	Bowling Analysis				
H Skilbeck	not	out	63					Rev. Walters
J Padgett	l. b. w.	b.Palmer	1	L H Palmer	17	3	39	5
Ewbank		b.Palmer	11	C Lattimer	1.1	0	5	1
R W Frank		b.Palmer	0	F Lattimer	1	0	10	0
Coverdale	c. &	b.Walters	0					
J Frank		b.Palmer	5					
Siddall		b.Walters	9					
W Frank		b.Walters	0					
J Duckworth	run	out	1					
W Fox		b.Lattimer	16					
		Extras	6					
		Total	112					

August 6th 1889 10th Hussars v. Lord Herries' Eleven

In Everingham Park.

10th Hussars

First Innings

A H Onslow	c.B Maxwell	b. Siddall	0
Q.Master Sergt. Byatt	run	out	0
Hon. E Baring		b. Siddall	4
Lord Bentinck		b. Siddall	5
Hon. H J Allsop	c.Wenlock	b. Siddall	1
E W D Baird	c.Smith	b. Siddall	18
Capt. R B Fisher		b. Siddall	3
C B Meeking	l. b. w.	b. Siddall	3
Private Henry		b. Siddall	8
Private Miller	not	out	1
Private Dilley		b. Siddall	0
		Extras	7
		Total	50

Second Innings

	b.Usher	0
c.Stuart	b.Smith	1
	b.Smith	2
	b.Smith	3
	b.Smith	16
c.Dennison	b. <u>Usher</u>	1
	b. <u>Usher</u>	9
not	out	0
	b. <u>Usher</u>	0
not	out	0
	Extras	1
	Total	33
	(for 8 wickets)	

Lord Herries' Eleven

Lord Wenlock		b.Allsop	0
Hon.W Maxwell	c.Fisher	b.Onslow	3
G J Collins		b.Allsop	1
Hon. B Maxwell	c.Fisher	b.Onslow	3
H Usher		b.Onslow	17
G Maxwell-Stuart	not	out	17
A Siddall		b.Onslow	5
Col.Denison	c.Onslow	b.Allsopp	1
Sir E Doyle	run	out	6
Lord Herries	c. &	b.Onslow	0
W Smith	c.Baring	b.Onslow	0
		Extras	0
		Total	53

August 14th 1889 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. Londesborough Park

At York, yesterday.

Yorkshire Gentlemen

G Croft		b.Siddall	10
F Mitchell	c.H Usher	b.Siddall	10
E D Mackie		b.Siddall	0
A Hughes-Onslow		b.Harbour	3
E Gray	c.Siddall	b.Harbour	7
C P Sykes	c.Wreghitt	b.Siddall	27
E R Bramall		b.Siddall	0
G Corbham	c.Harbour	b.H.Usher	35
H M Walker	not	out	20
H P Child		b.Siddall	3
H L Swift	c.Breed	b.Siddall	0
		Extras	10
		Total	115

In the second innings, E.W. Mackie scored 24 n.o. A. Hughes-Onslow 34 n.o.

Londesborough Park

W A Usher	st.Mitchell	b.Child	2
E W Usher		b.Child	6
A Worsley	c.Sykes	b.Swift	5
G Breed	not	out	52
A Siddall		b.Child	20
H Usher	c. &	b.Onslow	1
H B Young		b.Swift	6
W Harbour		b.Swift	4
J Wreghitt		b.Swift	1
G Cobb		b.Child	2
R R Young		b.Swift	3
		Extras	13
		Total	115

A Professional Player with Yorkshire Gentlemen 1890 – 1892

The Yorkshire Gentlemen Cricket Club was one of the premier cricket clubs in Yorkshire. The club had been developed in the late nineteenth century by the Rev. E.S. Carter. Lord Hawke, the Yorkshire County Captain played many games with the Gentlemen, whose home ground was on Bootham Stray, York. Lord Hawke wrote:-

“Never were more enjoyable cricket matches played than those in which I participated on the side of the Yorkshire Gentlemen on their pretty ground at York. Whilst still at Eton in the holidays I made a lot of runs (for Yorkshire Gentlemen) ...” (1) (*Lord Hawke was at Eton from 1874-1881*)

The Gentlemen gave a number of Yorkshire County players a sound start to their careers. For example, the 18 year old Frank Mitchell played in a number of games during the 1890 season. (**Appendix 2**)

The 1890 season was Allan’s first full season with the Gentlemen, and it turned out to be his most successful with them. In the Yorkshire Gentlemen’s Scrap Book for the 1890 Season, the first game is shown to be against St. John’s College. Allan is recorded as the professional, scoring 49 runs and taking 5 wickets, an excellent start to the season.

The Gentlemen played against the following teams in 1890 :-

York St. Peter’s College, Airedale Wanderers, Fulford, Durham University, St. Peter’s School York, Wakefield, 68th Light Infantry, York Revellers, York CC, Manningham, Londesborough Park, Huntington, I Zingari, Uppingham Rovers, Tettenhall Nomads, Heworth Revellers, Harrow Wanderers, Eton Ramblers, The Gentlemen of Cheshire, M.C.C. Ground and Hull Reptonians.

Allan played in 26 games and at the end of the season he figured prominently in the club averages.

BATTING				
Innings	N.O.	Highest	Total	Average
34	5	74	554	19.3
BOWLING				
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
610.4	159	1425	134	10.85

Allan had opened the bowling and had batted in most positions, including opening the innings and number 11. He had been in excellent form all season, but paradoxically he had

not been selected for any representative side. It seems likely that the Gentlemen would not release Allan from his professional obligations with them, thus preventing him from playing for other teams.

In the following 1891 season, Allan was again successful. The Gentlemen played six fewer games than in the 1890 season. Allan's end of season averages for 1891 were:-

BATTING				
Innings	N.O.	Highest	Total	Average
22	2	64	376	18.16
BOWLING				
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
344 (1720 Balls)	93	869	77	11.22

Reading these statistics reminds us that the games were played with 5 balls to the over. This rule was in use between 1889 and 1900 in English cricket.

1892 seems to have been Allan's last full season with the Gentlemen. In the 'Minutes Book of the Gentlemen' dated April 7th 1892, there is this entry:-

“Allan Siddall. Siddall to be engaged for May until June at £2 5s. 0d. as the club bowler.”

This is a similar rate of pay to that set by Lord Hawke for Yorkshire Second XI players who received £3 for fixtures played inside Yorkshire and £4 10s. 0d. for fixtures outside of the county. As the professional bowler for the Gentlemen, he was well paid considering that the average wage for this period was around £1 per week.

His averages for the 1892 season:-

BATTING				
Innings	N.O.	Highest	Total	Average
26	3	84	373	16.5
BOWLING				
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
432.2 (2162 Balls)	94	1222	66	18.34

The following season, Allan had been replaced as the professional bowler for Yorkshire Gentlemen. He returned to Londesborough Park for the 1893 season. Perhaps his

disappointing bowling figures for the 1892 season had been the cause. Maybe there is some truth in the family story and Allan had a fall out with Lord Hawke. The mists of time close in!

Allan played in one more game for Yorkshire Gentlemen in the 1896 season. He did not bat in the game and as a result, he only appears in the bowling averages for that season:-

Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
39 (195 Balls)	10	122	5	24.2

In this 1896 season, Allan played for Beverley against the Gentlemen, and it seems that he must have played this single fixture for the Gentlemen as a favour when they were short-handed.

The seasons of 1890, 1891 and 1892 were Allan's career at its peak, playing in the company of some of the best cricketers in Yorkshire. Of particular interest is the fact that Allan really did have contact with Lord Hawke through cricket, and so there is always a chance that the family story does have some truth in it! Perhaps he did bowl to Lord Hawke as a 'Private and Practice' bowler. Lord Hawke's autobiography (1) has been consulted but although there is reference to Yorkshire Gentlemen, there is no mention of Allan. Of course, if they did have a disagreement, he wouldn't figure in the book!

If Allan did bowl to give Lord Hawke practice, then it could have been in the period from 1874 – 1881, when he came home to Wighill Park near Tadcaster during the school holidays. Allan was 16 years old in 1880 and one would imagine that this could be the earliest it could have taken place. Of course, he could have given his Lordship practice whenever he deemed it necessary. He lived at Wighill Park for fifty years, he knew of Allan's bowling ability, and his home would have been easily accessible for Allan by rail travel. However, this family story isn't backed up with any facts from the research done so far, and so this story is of doubtful authenticity.

(1) *Lord Hawke 'Recollections and Reminiscences'* Williams & Norgate Ltd. 1924

Appendix 2

Scores of selected matches involving Allan Siddall in the 1890 Cricket Season.

(From the Yorkshire Post Newspaper, June – August 1890)

June 14th 1890 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. 6th Light Infantry

At York yesterday.

Yorkshire Gentlemen

G Croft		b.McMahon	5
T S Brogden	c. McMahon	b.Lascelles	5
E M Lawson-Smith		b.Edwards	6
Capt.Lloyd		b.McMahon	6
G H Aitken		b.Edwards	13
D H Garforth		b.Edwards	4
D F Burton	run	out	28
Capt. Saville		b.McMahon	4
E Blackett		b.Lascelles	0
Palmer		b.Saville	10
Siddall	not	out	22
		Extras	7
		Total	111

6th Light Infantry

Capt. Mansell		b.Palmer	13
B W McMahon	c.Croft	b.Palmer	1
R F Bell		b.Palmer	13
Capt. L Parke	c. &	b.Siddall	0
A G Lascelles		b.Siddall	0
E S G Pratt	c. sub.	b.Lawson-Smith	18
R C Saville	run	out	17
Corp. Edwards		b.Siddall	29
Corp. Clough		b.Burton	6
E S Hales	c.Lloyd	b.Siddall	0
H Morant	not	out	0
		Extras	10
		Total	107

June 20th 1890 York v. Pontefract

At York yesterday. York declared their innings closed.

York

G Breed		b.O'Connell	27
F P Seymour	c.Boddy	b.O'Connell	3
J L Proctor	c.Boddy	b.Crofts	9
F Lazenby	c.Crofts	b.O'Connell	1
W R Nicholson		b.Crofts	5
A Siddall	not	out	42
W Bean	not	out	20
		Extras	3
		Total	110
		(5 Wickets dec.)	

Pontefract

D Boddy		b.Siddall	22
W A Chappell		b.Lazenby	0
E Crofts		b.Lazenby	3
M J Phillips		b.Lazenby	3
S Bonyng	c. &	b.Lazenby	0
G O'Connell		b.Lazenby	0
W M Wood	run	out	1
J Crabtree	not	out	8
J Dawson	run	out	1
J Whiteoak		b.Lazenby	1
T Wordsworth	c.Proctor	b.Siddall	4
		Extras	3
		Total	46

June 23rd 1890 York v. Yorkshire Gentlemen

At York.

York

G Breed		b.Dodsworth	34
W Bean		b.Siddall	25
T Watson		b.Swift	0
J T Wisker	c.Swift	b.Dodsworth	25
T Hebblethwaite	c.Lees	b.Siddall	1
F Lazenby		b.Siddall	6
T Hotham		b.Siddall	9
J Stainthorpe		b.Siddall	3
A Bean	c.Dodsworth	b.Siddall	5
E Bean	not	out	2
H Nottingham	c.Croft	b.Siddall	7
		Extras	14
		Total	127

Yorkshire Gentlemen

A Lincoln	c. Nottingham	b.Lazenby	1
T S Brogden		b.Lazenby	4
G Croft		b.Lazenby	42
Siddall	c.Nottingham	b.Bean	19
L Dodsworth	c.E Bean	b.Lazenby	20
H L Swift	c.Hotham	b.Wisker	4
H H Sutton-Lowe		b.Lazenby	13
R Copperthwaite	st. Bean	b.Wisker	0
R J Hutchinson	st. Bean	b.Wisker	14
S Richardson	l. b. w.	b.Lazenby	2
G F Lees	not	out	2
		Extras	12
		Total	133

June 30th 1890 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. York Revellers

On the ground of the former. The Gentlemen declared their innings closed.

Yorkshire Gentlemen

G Croft		b.Dixon	2
T S Brogden		b.Hebblethwaite	14
Lord G Scott	st. Wheatley	b.Dearlove	121
Hon. A Lawley	c.Brown	b.Masterman	27
Capt. Saville	st.Wheatley	b.Dearlove	26
T W Brand		b.Collery	17
J E Jones	not	out	8
C H Dent	c. &	b.Dearlove	11
E C Meeking		b.Hebblethwaite	8
		Extras	9
		Total	231
		(for 8 wickets dec.)	

York Revellers

H Stephenson	c.Saville	b.Brand	8
G Elskip		b.Siddall	6
J Masterman		b.Siddall	0
J Collery	c.Brogden	b.Brand	9
J Dixon	c.Croft	b.Brand	2
G Dearlove	c.Meeking	b.Siddall	3
T Hebblethwaite		b.Siddall	3
R Barnett		b.Dent	4
W Brown	c.Scott	b.Brand	6
H Spencer	not	out	0
		Extras	8
		Total	49

July 10th 1890 Manningham v. Yorkshire Gentlemen

This match was concluded at York yesterday. Score:-

Yorkshire Gentlemen

First Innings

G Croft		b.Constable	11
E D Mackie	c.Woodhouse	b.Constable	23
C W Langdon		b.Havers	0
W H Worsley	c.Constable	b.Pearson	42
Siddall	c.Woodhouse	b.Constable	5
H T Marsden		b.Havers	13
W E Bromet	c. &	b.Havers	22
T P Cooke		b.Smeeth	3
E S D Carter		b.Havers	3
W M Carter	not	out	3
E Richards	c.Smeeth	b.Havers	10

Extras 14

Total 149

Second Innings

c.Crowther	b.Haigh	25
	b.Smeeth	83
not	out	47
	b.Constable	60
run	out	15
	b.Smeeth	3
	b.Constable	0
l. b. w.	b.Constable	5
c.Coates	b.Constable	9
c.Haigh	b.Constable	3
	b.Constable	9

Extras 41

Total 300

Manningham

First Innings

F Crowther	c. &	b.E Carter	33
W Farey	c.Marsden	b.Worsley	68
J W Smeeth	c.Bromet	b.Siddall	19
W Haigh		b.Worsley	29
H T Coates	l. b. w.	b.Worsley	1
W H Woodhouse	run	out	12
L Havers	c.Marsden	b.Worsley	12
T Priestman	c.Worsley	b.Siddall	0
J Pearson	c.Worsley	b.Siddall	0
A Constable	not	out	0

Extras 5

Total 179

Second Innings

b.Siddall	9	
b.Siddall	12	
c.Langdon	b.W Carter	6
l. b. w.	b.W Carter	15
l. b. w.	b.W Carter	46
c.Langdon	b.W Carter	8
not	out	2
	b.Siddall	5
c.Croft	b.Siddall	4
c.Mackie	b.W Carter	0

Extras 9

Total 117

July 12th 1890 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. I Zingari

This match was concluded at York yesterday. Scores:-

Yorkshire Gentlemen

First Innings

G Croft		b.Brand	10
L Dodsworth		b.Brand	4
G Sheldon		b.Lord H Scott	29
F Mitchell	c.Brand	b.Lord H Scott	10
F P Seymour	c.Lord Scott	b.Brand	15
F G Lees	c.H Allsopp	b.Brand	21
Siddall		b.Brand	4
Capt.Saville	c.H Allsopp	b.Brand	12
W H Garforth	run	out	6
F P Cooke	not	out	5
S Richardson	c.Brand	Lord H Scott	6
		Extras	12
		Total	134

Second Innings

1. b. w.	b.Allsopp	27
	b.Onslow	0
	b.Onslow	23
	b.H Allsopp	41
not	out	84
	b.Onslow	11
c.Lord Scott	b.Onslow	51
c.Brand	Lord Scott	10
	b.Onslow	9
	b.Lord Scott	4
	b.Onslow	0
	Extras	10
	Total	270

I Zingari

First Innings

W E W Baird		b.Siddall	21
Hon.H T Allsopp		b.Dodsworth	40
Lord G Scott	c. &	b.Siddall	31
Lord Hawke	c.Dodsworth	b.Siddall	2
Lord F E Allsopp		b.Dodsworth	7
Lord H Scott		b.Siddall	1
Lord Southampton		b.Siddall	0
W T W Brand	run	out	3
Capt.Onslow	c.Mitchell	b.Siddall	1
Capt.The Hon.A Lawley	st.Mitchell	b.Dodsworth	2
Capt.The Hon. J Bing	not	out	0
		Extras	7
		Total	115

Second Innings

c.Siddall	b.Dodsworth	72
	b.Mitchell	21
c. &	b.Sheldon	33
c. &	b.Siddall	6
	b.Siddall	50
c.Mitchell	b.Siddall	6
c.Lees	b.Siddall	3
c.Lord Hawke	b.Dodsworth	16
c.Sheldon	b.Dodsworth	9
not	out	16
run	out	7
	Extras	7
	Total	246

It is interesting to note that Lord Hawke fielded for the Gentlemen in I Zingari's Second Innings and took a catch!

July 14th 1890 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. York

On the ground of the Gentlemen.

York

F Procter	c.Swift	b.Siddall	59
G Breed		b.Siddall	36
A Fawbert	c.Elliot	b.Dodsworth	1
W Bean	l. b. w.	b.Dodsworth	0
H Hebblethwaite	l. b. w.	b.Swift	11
E Bean	not	out	26
A Bean		b.Swift	3
F Watson		b.Siddall	6
F Lazenby		b.Swift	2
J Wisker		b.Swift	0
J C Waller		b.Siddall	0
		Extras	2
		Total	146

Yorkshire Gentlemen

C H Dent		b.Hebblethwaite	32
F Mitchell		b.Hebblethwaite	11
W E Bromett		b.Lazenby	3
G B Croft		b.Lazenby	1
T S Brogden		b.Lazenby	19
C T Elliot		b.Hebblethwaite	17
Siddall	c.Procter	b.Hebblethwaite	4
T Hutchinson		b.Lazenby	28
S H Lowe		b.Lazenby	0
I Dodsworth	c.Walker	b.E Bean	3
H L Swift	not	out	0
		Extras	5
		Total	123

July 16th 1890 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. Uppingham Rovers

This match was concluded at York yesterday. Scores:-

Uppingham Rovers

A P Lucas	c. &	b.Frank	24
S S Schultz	c.Worsley	b.Frank	1
J A Turner	run	out	9
H B Steel	l. b. w.	b.Swift	2
J Haigh		b.Frank	0
H Eccles		b.Swift	8
J H Roberts	c.Wright	b.Onslow	93
J F Whitwell	not	out	30
S S Crossfield	c.Swift	b.Frank	0
J Lees	c.Onslow	b.Frank	50
W F Whitwell		b.Frank	0
H Tillard	c.Wright	b.Siddall	29
		Extras	31
		Total	277

Yorkshire Gentlemen

First Innings

C W Wright	c &	b.Whitwell	3
Hon.H T Allsopp		b.Turner	7
Lord G Scott	l. b. w.	b.Turner	17
Lord Hawke		b.Turner	4
J Frank		b.W Whitwell	7
W H Worsley		b.Turner	1
Capt. H Onslow		b.Turner	0
C W Landon	not	out	15
R D Mackie		b.Turner	1
W T W Brand	run	out	8
Siddall	c.Eccles	b.Crossfield	1
H L Swift		b.Crossfield	9
		Extras	3
		Total	76

Second Innings

	b.Crossfield	3
c.J Whitwell	b.Turner	8
c.Lucas	b.Eccles	121
c.Eccles	b.W Whitwell	17
	b.W Whitwell	41
	b.Turner	10
c.Lees	b.Roberts	47
c.Steel	b.Crossfield	8
c.Lees	b.Turner	5
	b.Roberts	4
not	out	35
	b.Steel	12
	Extras	8
	Total	319

July 23rd 1890 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. Pocklington

At York yesterday.

Yorkshire Gentlemen

G Croft	c.Usher	b.Hatfield	29
R E Walker		b.Johnson	18
J F Leatham		b.Johnson	21
E Gray		b.Hatfield	5
E G Lees		b.H Usher	15
Hon.G Lambton		b.H Usher	30
T Whitehead		b.H Usher	17
E S D Carter	c.Griffith	b.H Usher	0
F G Lees	c. &	b.Smith	5
Siddall	l. b. w.	b.H Usher	2
S H Lowe	not	out	0
		Extras	15
		Total	157

Pocklington

First Innings

W A Usher	c.Croft	b.Carter	12
O Ogle	c.Walker	b.Carter	14
H Usher		b.Siddall	0
W Smith	c.Walker	b.Carter	0
C Johnson	c.Croft	b.Carter	0
A Hatfield	c.Lees	b.Carter	0
R Triffit	c.Croft	b.Carter	3
W Barger		b.Siddall	0
H Kendall		b.Carter	5
Rev.W Griffith	not	out	11
F Nixon		b.Siddall	1
		Extras	5
		Total	51

Second Innings

b.Carter	0
b.Siddall	9
b.Siddall	21
b.Lambton	7
b.Lambton	0
b.Lambton	3
b.Lambton	0
c. & b.Siddall	7
absent	0
c.Croft b.Siddall	2
not out	3
Extras	29
Total	81

July 26th 1890 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. Tettenhall Nomads

This match was commenced at York yesterday. Score:-

Yorkshire Gentlemen

Lord Hawke	c.Macfarlaine	b.Day	44
G Croft		b.Harmer	12
G H Aitken		b.Kershaw	36
T I Nelson		b.Hamer	16
C P Sykes	c.Butler	b.Kershaw	12
W H Garforth		b.Hamer	12
E G Lees	c.Day	b.Macfarlane	25
Hon. C Lambton		b.Hamer	0
Siddall		b.Hamer	74
C G Broadwood	not	out	26
G F Lees		b.Hamer	3
		Extras	11
		Total	271

Tettenhall Nomads

R Kershaw	c.Lees	b.Nelson	17
E M Wales		b.Nelson	6
R J Mackinnon		b.Siddall	53
R A Macfarlane	c. &	b.Siddall	4
T Manifold	c.Croft	b.Garforth	20
W L Butler	not	out	16
K G C Day	not	out	7
		Extras	2
		Total (for	125
		5 wickets)	

August 5th 1890 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. Wakefield

At Wakefield yesterday.

Wakefield

H Hayley	c.Liddy	b.Lambton	20
C W Harrison		b.Siddall	20
J P Murphy	run	out	7
T Gill		b.Siddall	17
G Horner		b.Siddall	6
J F Leatham		b.Siddall	9
J Firth	c.Croft	b.Siddall	23
J F Spencer		b.Siddall	20
H Wade		b.Siddall	25
Hemingway	c.Maxwell-Stuart	b.Siddall	1
W Bennett	not	out	12
		Extras	14
		Total	174

Yorkshire Gentlemen

First Innings

D B Wilson	c.Bennett	b.Firth	2
G Croft		b.Firth	4
G Liddy		b.Murphy	4
E G Lees	c.Leatham	b.Firth	12
Siddall		b.Firth	13
C Maxwell-Stuart	c.Wade	b.Hayley	34
E D S Carter	run	out	20
A Ringstone		b.Hayley	0
E L Cox	c.Firth	b.Hayley	4
C Lees	run	out	3
Hon.C L Lambton	not	out	10

Extras 1

Total 107

Second Innings

c.Wade	b.Murphy	13
	b.Bennett	9
	b.Bennett	1
	b.Bennett	4
c.Murphy	b.Murphy	8
	b.Bennett	0
	b.Bennett	0
	b.Hayley	0
not	out	1
	b.Hayley	19
c.Hayley	b.Murphy	2

Extras 5

Total 62

August 8th 1890 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. M.C.C.

This match was concluded at York yesterday. At the conclusion of the first innings the home side were in a minority of 50, and out of the total of 101. Mr. Mitchell had contributed 60 not out. In the second innings Mr. Mitchell made the same score. The other double figures were made by Mr. Croft, Mr. Morton, Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Broadwood. Major Webber-Smith, for the visitors played splendidly, and was not out for 101. Mr. Wells-Cole put together 60 in the second innings and 30 in the first, while Mr. Dykes in the second innings made 41. Scores:-

Yorkshire Gentlemen

First Innings

Mr. G Croft		b.Rawlin	2		b.Burton	11
Mr. F Mitchell	not	out	60	l. b. w.	b.West	60
Mr. R C Saville	c.West	b.Burton	3		b.Rawlin	4
Mr. P H Morton		b.Crossfield	9	not	out	29
Mr. H W Rhodes		b.Wells-Cole	1	st.West	b.Burton	17
Mr. C Lees		b.Wells-Cole	6		b.Dykes	1
Mr. E G Lees		b.Wells-Cole	5	c.Wells-Cole	b.Burton	0
Mr. Siddall	c.Hartley	b.Rawlin	0	c.Steel	b.West	1
Mr. J Sweetman	c.Young	b.Rawlin	0	l. b. w.	b.Burton	0
Hon. C Lambton		b.Rawlin	4		b.Rawlin	0
Mr. C J Broadwood	c.Burton	b.Wells-Cole	0	c.Burton	b.Wells-Cole	14
		Extras	13		Extras	10
		Total	101		Total	157

Second Innings

M.C.C.

First Innings

Mr. J Steel		b.Morton	27	c.Mitchell	b.Siddall	9
Mr. J E Crossfield		b.Rhodes	11		b.Rhodes	1
Mr. L F Dykes	c.Croft	b.Rhodes	1	c. &	b.Siddall	43
Mr. G F Wells-Cole	c.Broadwood	b.Siddall	30	c.Lees	b.Siddall	60
Rawlin		b.Morton	0	c.Mitchell	b.Sweetman	41
Maj. Webber-Smith		b.Morton	15	not	out	101
Mr. T Hartley		b.Siddall	0	c.E G Lees	b.Siddall	18
Capt. A H Young		b.Lambton	7	not	out	5
Burton		b.Siddall	21			
West	c. &	b.Rhodes	1			
Mr. A B Wilson	not	out	12		b.Rhodes	22
		Extras	12		Extras	23
		Total	151		Total	330

Second Innings

August 11th 1890 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. Hull Reptonians

This two days' match was concluded at York on Saturday.

Hull Reptonians

First Innings

G Barrington		b.Siddall	39
R G Exham	l. b. w.	b.Brand	16
J H Kelsey		b.Brand	10
L C H Palairet		b.Siddall	14
F G J Ford		b.Siddall	22
R C M Palairet		b.Brand	2
E M Forbes	c. &	b.Brand	0
A H Cochraine	c.Brand	b.Siddall	6
E A Surtees	c.Scott	b.Brand	8
Rev. F R Marriott	not	out	22
Rev. A Foreman		b.Hughes-Onslow	6
Rev. H G Topham		b.Siddall	6

Extras 17

Total 166

Second Innings

b.Siddall	47
b.Siddall	14
b.Hughes	9
l. b. w. b.Brand	25
b.Siddall	83
b.Siddall	0
c.Brand b.Carter	8
not out	25
c.Mitchell Hughes-Onslow	30

Extras 12

Total 253
(for 6 wickets)

Yorkshire Gentlemen

First Innings

G Croft	c.Exham	b.Marriott	0
F Mitchell		b.Cochraine	19
W H Worsley		b.Marriott	2
Lord G Scott		b.Marriott	11
Capt. Hughes-Onslow		b.Marriott	0
E S Carter	c.Surtees	b.Marriott	7
H W Rhodes		b.Marriott	18
T W Brand		b.Cochraine	0
H L Swift	c.Kelsey	b.Marriott	6
P H Morton		b.Marriott	19
Siddall	not	out	20

Extras 9

Total 113

Second Innings

not out	15
b.Cochrane	19
l. b. w. b.Ford	11
not out	32
c.Foreman b.Ford	6
b.Ford	3
c.& b.Ford	20

Extras 7

Total 116
(For 5 wickets)

August 21st 1890 York v. Thirsk

At York yesterday.

Thirsk

R W Macaulay		b.Breed	2
W Mitchell	run	out	11
C H Macaulay		b.Siddall	7
W Horner	c.Bean	b.Siddall	16
O Firth		b.Tindall	12
W W Hall		b.Tindall	22
K Pearson		b.Tindall	0
W Boddye			5
R Bolton	c.Bean	b.Tindall	10
H Kirby		b.Bean	5
H Nicholson	not	out	0
		Extras	1
		Total	91

York

T Hotham	c. Hall	b.Firth	0
T Pride	c.Bolton	b.C H Macaulay	2
A Bean		b.Firth	3
G Breed		b.C H Macaulay	9
A Siddall		b.Firth	0
H Nottingham		b.C H Macaulay	1
W Abel		b.Firth	5
W Tindall	c.Nicholson	b.C H Macaulay	0
H Lamb	not	out	2
T Helliwell		b.Firth	0
T Hinde	c. &	b.C H Macaulay	1
		Extras	1
		Total	24

August 25th 1890 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. Fulford

At York.

Yorkshire Gentlemen

Siddall	c.Kershaw	b.Nottingham	0
F Mitchell	st.Langley	b.Mussett	55
R H Dyson		b.Nottingham	0
J E Jones	c.Stuttart	b.T Thorpe	0
J M Dyson		b.T Thorpe	0
J T Seymour	run	out	2
F Nixon		b.Nottingham	0
Dewse	run	out	12
Rev. E S Carter	not	out	8
Mason		b.T Thorpe	0
E S Jones		b.T Thorpe	0
		Extras	5
		Total	82

Fulford

A Keech	c.Mason	b.Carter	12
A Mussett		b.Carter	0
H Nottingham		b.Siddall	1
F Langley	st.Mitchell	b.Carter	8
J W Masterman	st.Mitchell	b.Carter	0
C F Stuttart		b.Siddall	40
T Thorpe	c.Mason	b.Carter	0
A Kershaw		b.Carter	3
W Atkinson	c.J E Jones	b.Mason	12
E Thorpe	not	out	7
G Hanks		Siddall	0
		Extras	10
		Total	93

August 29th 1890 Yorkshire Gentlemen v. Eton Ramblers

This two days' match was concluded at York yesterday. Scores:-

Yorkshire Gentlemen

First Innings

E M Lawson-Smith	l. b. w.	b.Foljambe	5
E D Mackie	c.Heseltine	b.Foljambe	2
C W Landon	c.Brand	b.Foljambe	1
Rev. E B Firth	st.Phillipson	b.Brand	0
E C Saville	c.Dunn	b.Lyttelton	39
E Macmahon	l. b. w.	b.Brand	7
Siddall	c.Foljambe	b.Lyttelton	57
F Mitchell	c.Lyttelton	b.Heseltine	36
T L Whitehead		b.Lyttelton	0
Randon	not	out	9
W Carter		b.Lyttelton	5

Extras 16

Total 177

Second Innings

c &	b.Tollemache	29
	b.Heseltine	0
	b.Foljambe	19
	b.Foljambe	0
	b.Heseltine	5
c.Goslin	b.Dunn	32
c.Goslin	b.Dunn	39
	b.Dunn	4
	b.Dunn	0
not	out	8
	b.Dunn	8

Extras 19

Total 159

Eton Ramblers

Hon. A Lyttelton		b.Macmahon	22
H Phillipson	c.W Carter	b.Macmahon	87
Hon. M G Tollemache	c.Whitehead	b.Macmahon	81
T W Brand		b.Whitehead	12
A T B Dunn	c &	b.Carter	3
W S Goslin		b.Siddall	0
C Heseltine		b.Siddall	12
G A Foljambe		b.Randon	14
Capt. Cleese(?)		b.Macmahon	16
Hon. E Haring		b.Lawson-Smith	28
G S Foljambe	not	out	11

Extras 29

Total 314

Beverley Town C.C. 1895. A Season to Remember

In 1893 Allan had returned to play with Londesborough Park, probably as a paid player. Once again he was playing with a number of teams local to his home at Nottingham Farm, Barmby Moor. The 1894 season followed in the same manner. In 1895, Allan joined Beverley Town as a professional, and a new and successful phase of his career began.

The photograph positively identifying Allan, 'Holderness Nomads', (Photo 2), dates from 1895, the year when Allan began playing with Beverley.

Why did he move to Beverley? In the 1894 season, he had played for York against Beverley. The York innings totalled 141 with Allan scoring 54. Beverley were then bowled out for 64 with Allan taking 8 wickets. This performance must have impressed the Beverley Club, but he was already well known to the Beverley players, for he had played in invitation teams with a number of them. In June 1893 he played at Cherry Burton for D.F. Burton's XI, a team which included a number of Beverley players.

The answer to the question regarding Allan's move to Beverley may well be found in a report from the Beverley Guardian on May 1st 1895:-

"The Secretary of the Beverley Cricket Club is sorry to announce that the matches played with East Hull C.C. and Londesborough Park C.C. will not take place owing to it having been impracticable for these clubs to be carried on."

Londesborough Park obviously had some serious problems in 1895, and could not play cricket that season. Allan, having no alternative other than to find a new club, moved to Beverley.

The Beverley Town Cricket ground was the Recreation Ground. It had been opened in 1884.

"It covers about four acres, is walled around and has one of the best cycle tracks in the kingdom, one-fifth of a mile round. There is excellent accommodation for cricket, lawn tennis and football. On the ground is a commodious grand stand, dressing, and refreshment tents. The ground is tenanted by Beverley Cricket Club" (1)

In 1895, Beverley Town C.C. paid a rent of £80 per annum, a sum which worried the club officials even though they sub-let the ground to the Cycling Club. The cricket club had a record number of 201 paid members in 1895. (2) To put this figure into perspective, the Yorkshire County C.C. had less than 300 paid members in 1892

(1) *Green's Complete Hand-Book to Beverley* (p.85) J.J. Shehan. 1903

(2) Information from Beverley Town C.C. records provided by Mr. B. Sanderson



Map 2 Part of the OS 1893 Map of Beverley
(The Recreation Ground can be seen to the East of the Cattle Market)



**A Cricket Match in progress at the Beverley Recreation
Ground c.1884 (1)**



A Cricket Match in progress at the Beverley Recreation Ground c.1884 (2)

These photographs show the Recreation Ground on which Allan played his home fixtures. The photos must date from around 1884, because the Beverley Ironworks in the background was closed in 1878 and demolished in the 1880's. In Photo1, the bowler is a left- arm, and in Photo 2, a right-arm bowler is posing for the camera. The spectators are sitting on the cycle track. It is interesting that most of the fielding side are wearing top hats, including the bowlers.

The fielding positions would be readily recognised in league cricket today. Wicket-keeper with pads and gloves, mid-off, mid-on, cover, point (very close!), gulley, two slips, mid-wicket and a backward square leg. One fielder is off camera.

Beverley Town C.C. left this ground in 1909 and moved to their present home at Norwood Park in Beverley.

The 1895 season turned out to be a momentous season for both Beverley Town C.C. and Allan. This season will be studied in some detail, revealing a long forgotten, record breaking summer of triumph. (All details are from the Beverley Guardian in 1895)

The Beverley Town C.C. fixture list was published in April 1895 in the *Beverley Guardian*:-

May 18 th	Hull Church Institute	H
May 22 nd	Pocklington Grammar School	H
May 25 th	Pickering	A
May 29 th	Oliver's Mount Scarborough	A
June 3 rd	Congo's CC	H
June 8 th	Driffield	H
June 15 th	Hornsea	A
June 19 th	Scarborough	H
June 22 nd	East Hull	H
June 29 th	Hull Town	A
July 4 th	Londesborough Park	H
July 6 th	Oliver's Mount Scarborough	H
July 17 th	Yorkshire Gentlemen	H
July 18 th	Northern Nomads	H
July 20 th	Scarborough	A
July 24 th	Pocklington Grammar School	A
July 27 th	Driffield	A
July 31 st	Hull Town	H
Aug. 3 rd	Londesborough Park	A
Aug. 5 th	York	H
Aug. 6 th	Old Leodiensians	H
Aug. 10 th	East Hull	H
Aug. 14 th	Mitchell's Benefit Match	H
Aug. 23 rd	Hull Church Institute	H
Aug. 24 th	Hornsea	H

Some of these fixtures were not played, and a number of extra fixtures were arranged and played during the season.

Allan made his debut for Beverley against Pickering on May 25th.

“On Saturday last, the Beverley cricketers proceeded to Pickering to fulfil their first engagement with the latter team.....Siddall, aided by the captain Bainton, carried the score upwards.....Siddall made 24 in good style. So well did Mitchell and Siddall bowl.....Mitchell took 4 wickets for 8 runs and Siddall 6 for 13.”(1)

Beverley		Pickering	
J W Downes	19	First Innings	22
AE Hobson	0	Second Innings	45
Dr. Bremner	4		
JB Benton	18		
A Siddall	24		
R Dunning	0		
JP Raby	3		
CH Mitchell	n.o.11		
J Fletcher	9		
T.Wild	0		
GR Leaper	0		
Extras	10		
Total	98		

In the games of this period, the full time allocation was used. The game result was decided on a one innings per side basis, but if there was still time left, a second innings was played. If the side batting second won the game, then they continued to bat as time allowed. This explains why some of the score sheets seem strange to the eye of the reader of today.

On June 8th Beverley had the better of the draw against Driffield.

Beverley		Driffield	
J Edgar	4		72 – 6 wickets
JW Downes	15		Dunning- 3 wickets
JP Raby	3		Siddall – 2 wickets
A Siddall	78		Mitchell – 1 wicket
JB Bainton	85		
CN Jackson	4		
WH Anstead	18		
R Dunning	19		
Extras	19		
Total	238 (for 6 wickets)		

On June 15th at Hornsea, the game again ended in a draw, after time ran out as Beverley “chased a moderate Hornsea total. Mitchell bowled well:-

28 overs – 13 maidens – 43 runs - 8 wickets.” (1)

Beverley

WH Anstead	4
JW Downes	3
JB Bainton	15
A Siddall	n.o.17
R. Dunning	n.o.20
Extras	2
Total	(for 3 wickets) 61

In the home game against Scarborough on June 19th Scarborough batted first and were bowled out for 111.

“R.W. Frank of County fame, opened the batting.....Siddall upset Frank’s wicket.” (1)

When Beverley batted,

“Siddall and Compton made it lively for the fielders....and before Siddall was bowled for a capital 40, the game was won.”(1)

Beverley

J Downs	11
W Compton	63
H Taylor	16
A Siddall	40
JB Bainton	9
Dr Bremner	3
J Edgar	1
R Dunning	9
C N Jackson	0
Mitchell	12
M Jeffrey	6
Extras	10
Total	180

Scarborough – 111 all out

On June 22nd Beverley travelled to Hull and were involved in an extremely close game, eventually winning by 2 wickets.

Beverley

JW Downes	1	
J Edgar	3	
H Taylor	0	
A Siddall	1	Hull - 83 all out
JB Bainton	17	
CN Jackson	1	
HN Wade	43	
WH Anstead	2	
Dr. Bremner	8	
R. Dunning	4	
Mitchell	4	
Extras	2	
Total	86	

On July 6th Oliver's Mount visited Beverley and were swept aside.

Beverley

JW Downes	9	
J Edgar	17	
A Siddall	67	Oliver's Mount - 40 all out
EW Usher	15	
JB Bainton	n.o. 54	
R Dunning	n.o. 9	
Extras	5	
Total (for 4 wickets)	176	

Four days later, Allan travelled to York with his fellow players to the Yorkshire Gentlemen's ground. No doubt Allan was particularly keen to perform well in this fixture. Beverley came perilously close to defeat in the game and it seems that time came to the rescue. Allan however once again gave a good account of himself.

“Bainton joined Siddall and both batsmen getting well set, put on runs at a good pace. Wade was Siddall's next partner and a long stand took place. Both played in splendid style ... ” (1)

Beverley

H Taylor	1
JW Downes	1
P Harrison	0
A Siddall	66
JB Bainton	21
HN Wade	86
Lieut Webb	0
R Dunning	1
BC Burton	11
J Edgar	10
CH Mitchell	n.o. 1
Extras	6

Total 204

Yorkshire Gentlemen - 183 for 4 wickets

Beverley's next game was also in York against York Cricket Club on and Allan maintained his fine form with the bat.

“Siddall played a careful innings of 43 ... York could not withstand the deliveries of Mitchell and Siddall.”

Beverley

H Taylor	22
J Edgar	17
JW Downes	1
A Siddall	43
JB Bainton	7
Rev. BC Burton	18
R Dunning	12
CH Mitchell	7
W Webb	10
R Johnson	n.o. 6
W Fell	1
Extras	10

Total 143

York - 92 all out

On July 13th Beverley played the first of three consecutive home games. One of these fixtures, against Pickering, was an addition to the original fixture list published in April.

“The secretary of the Beverley C.C. begs to inform members and to inform lovers of cricket in Beverley and the neighbourhood generally, that the First XI will play the noted Pickering team at the Recreation Ground today, commencing 11 o'clock, and the following matches on

the same ground during the course of next week. Viz. Yorkshire Gentlemen on Wednesday, Northern Nomads on Thursday. Some good cricket may be relied upon each occasion, and it is hoped that a large company may avail themselves of the opportunity to be present.” (1)

Efforts were being made to encourage people to come and watch the unbeaten Beverley team which had made an excellent start to the season.

In the game against Pickering, Beverley got the better of the draw. Allan, who was in such fine form with the bat, opened the batting for the first time with Beverley.

“R.W. Frank and Pickup were unable to make much headway against the bowling of Mitchell and Siddall. The latter got rid of Frank with a sharp return catch for which he was heartily cheered.” (1)

Beverley

A Siddall	35	
JW Downes	4	
JB Bainton	6	Pickering – 48 for 4 wickets
Dr. Bremner	10	
R Dunning	1	
EW Usher	29	
AE Hobson	26	
Lieut. Webb	0	
CH Mitchell	30	
GH Leaper	8	
WH Anstead	n.o. 22	
Extras	16	
Total	187	

The return fixture against the Gentlemen gave Beverley an early opportunity to gain revenge for their poor showing in the drawn game of the previous week. The Gentlemen did not appear to take their visits to Beverley very seriously during this period. *The Beverley Guardian* reported,

“The Gentlemen turned up late and short-handed as usual, and no play took place before lunch.”

Did the Gentlemen treat the annual trip as an ‘easy fixture’ which did not call for too much effort? If so, then they certainly must have had a shock in the 1895 fixture at the Recreation Ground. Beverley, almost half way through the season were in buoyant mood and deserved to be treated with some respect. That July afternoon, Beverley scored the highest score ever made on the ground.

Beverley

P Harrison	118	
H Taylor	12	
HN Wade	47	
A Siddall	24	Yorkshire Gentlemen – 15 for 4 wickets
JB Bainton	66	
Dr. Bremner	6	“Siddall bowled 3 of the Gentlemen” (1)
JW Downes	9	
R Dunning	59	
J Edgar	8	
CH Mitchell	8	
WH Anstead	1	
Extras	15	
Total	373	

Revenge indeed! One wonders how Allan must have felt after the game. If he had been sacked by the Gentlemen, he no doubt was very satisfied! Certainly it is safe to assume that the Gentlemen took the fixture more seriously the following season.

On July 20th the fixture against Scarborough ended in a draw. Scarborough made 163 all out Allan taking 2 wickets. Beverley replied with 64 for 3 wickets, with Allan and J.B. Bainton batting out time to save the game.

Beverley

AE Hobson	0	
EW Usher ret. hurt	1	
WH Anstead	15	Scarborough – 163 all out
J Edgar	0	
JB Bainton	n.o. 29	
A Siddall	n.o. 26	
Extras	3	
Total (for 3 wickets)	64	

The last match of July, against Hull Town C.C. was a tense and nail-biting affair. Hull managed to score 67 on what must have been a difficult wicket. In the Beverley reply, the Hull bowlers dominated, and Beverley found themselves in real trouble with seven wickets down with runs still to score to win the game. They were now facing their first defeat in 1895.

“Every run was now watched with breathless attention, and when Mitchell got a beautiful snick through the slips to the boundary, such an ovation took place unequalled since the ground was used for cricket.” (1)

It is doubtful that the Hull side thought the snick to be beautiful! (The scorecard does not reveal the closeness of the game because the side batted on after victory was achieved.)

Beverley

H Taylor	6	
W Compton	0	Hull – 67 all out
HN Wade	0	
A Siddall	13	
JB Bainton	2	
WH Anstead	15	
R Dunning	19	
J Tempest	2	
J Edgar	12	
C Mitchell	13	
R Johnson	8	
Extras	5	
Total	95	

On August 5th York were beaten at the Recreation Ground. The match report contains an interesting comment.

“The York batsman Pride ... the ex- county player holds the record individual score of 201 on the Beverley ground.” (1) (This score had been made in the previous 1894 season.) (2)

Beverley

T Burras	28	
H Taylor	1	
J Edgar	33	
A Siddall	18	York – 114 all out
RD Anstead	7	
R Dunning	19	
WH Anstead	9	
R Johnson	0	
JB Bainton	12	
J Tempest	7	
R Hudson	0	
Extras	16	
Total	143	

C. H. Mitchell, the well known Beverley professional bowler, missed the game against York owing to a finger injury. He had recovered in time to play in his Benefit Match against 22 of Beverley on August 14th. Allan Siddall did not play in this game which raised the huge sum of £300 for Mitchell. Mitchell was the Beverley professional from 1892 until 1905, and he was granted another Benefit Match in 1906. (3)

On the evening following the Benefit game, the club secretary spoke at a dinner held as part of the fund raising effort for Mitchell.

“During the past eight to ten years the club has been gradually reaching a position of eminence which it has never held before ... though it held a very high position in the county half a century ago.”(1)

The season moved on towards its climax with Beverley still unbeaten. On August 24th Hornsea travelled to Beverley to try to halt their progress. Hornsea were overpowered with ease, and once again Allan played a big part in the victory.

Beverley

AE Hobson	31	Hornsea – 62 all out
J Edgar	18	
J Burras	0	(Siddall 3 wickets)
A Siddall	n.o. 60	
JB Bainton	2	
Rev. RC Burton	5	
R Dunning	24	
JW Downes	1	
C H Mitchell	0	
R Johnson	3	
E Walker absent	0	
Extras	4	
Total	148	

The 1895 season was almost at an end, and Beverley remained unbeaten. The final fixture of the season had yet to be played and it is easy to imagine the excitement of the officials, members and players as the game against Grove Park C.C. commenced.

Beverley batted first, and made a big total. When the Grove Park side batted, they were dismissed for 80 runs.

Beverley

Grove Park – 80 all out

Charlesworth	77
PE Harrison	4
J Edgar	9
A. Siddall	73
JB Bainton	22
R Dunning	n.o.18
Extras	29
Total (for 5 wickets)	232

Charlesworth, the opening bat for Beverley must have been drafted in especially for this important fixture. It is highly likely that it is A.P. Charlesworth, who played a few games for

Yorkshire in the 1894 and 1895 seasons. He was at one time the professional with the Hull Town C.C. (2). To our modern eyes this may seem to be sharp practice, but then it was quite usual for sides to strengthen their team for important games, and bring in a paid batsman or bowler.

Beverley had achieved a rare feat, going through the whole season without a defeat. Allan had played a major role, both with bat and ball.

In the 1895 Club averages, published on August 31st, Allan led the batting and was third in the bowling.

Innings	Not Out	H.S.	Runs	Average
16	4	78	598	49.75
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
168.4	44	350	31	11.29

To mark the special achievement of being undefeated in the 1895 season, Beverley Town C.C. decided to play an extra fixture as a celebration. On September 14th 1895, *The Beverley Guardian* announced:-

“Mr. Harrison, of Brandesburton Hall, is bringing an exceptionally strong team, including, amongst others, Lord Hawke, Mr. F.S. Jackson, and other prominent Yorkshire cricketers ... Beverley will be strengthened by the assistance of Earnshaw, the Yorkshire wicketkeeper in Hunter’s absence.” (1)

The game was played on September 21st in front of a large crowd in beautiful weather.

“Beverley closed their season unfortunately without their captain and two or three others ... Jackson was clean bowled by Siddall ... Carter falling victim to a trimmer from Siddall.... Lord Hawke was greeted with a great ovation ... but he was clean bowled by a beautiful break back ball from Siddall. Siddall took 6 for 87 and Mitchell 2 for 47.” (1)

(The Beverley captain who was unable to play was J.P. Bainton and two regulars who were missing were H. Taylor and J.W. Downes.)

Allan had bowled out one of the greatest players of the era, F.S. Jackson. This can now be added to the family stories about Allan, and it is probably the best one!

Mr. Harrison’s team batted first and made 178 all out. Beverley replied with 110 all out. In the time remaining, Mr. Harrison’s side batted for a second innings and were three wickets down when time was called.

Mr. Harrison's Team

First Innings			Second Innings		
F S Jackson		b. Siddall	21		
Rev. TS Carter		b. Siddall	30		
Rev. EB Firth	c. Earnshaw	b. Mitchell	22	c. Siddall	b. Mitchell 42
Capt. Wilkinson		b. Siddall	18		
Lord Hawke		b. Siddall	1		
EM Young	c. Earnshaw	b. Mitchell	17		
J Windham	run	out	15		
HG Amos		b. Siddall	0	b. Siddall	9
DF Burton		b. Siddall	11		
JM Hannay	not	out	8	b. Siddall	19
		Extras	13		
		Total	178		

Beverley

J Edgar	retired	hurt	9		
AE Hobson		b. Young	2		
HN Wade		b. Jackson	59		
A Siddall	c. Windham	b. Jackson	3		
R Dunning		b. Windham	18		
Rev. BC Burton	hit wicket	b. Carter	2		
WH Anstead		b. Young	7		
M Jeffrey		b. Jackson	0		
HB Ostler		b. Jackson	0		
D Earnshaw		b. Jackson	0		
Mitchell	not	out	0		
		Extras	8		
		Total	110		

The 1895 season had ended and Allan must have looked back in contentment at his achievements. Perhaps he remembered this last game of the year as his most satisfying, and the 1895 season as one of his most rewarding.

At the 1895 Beverley Cricket Club dinner, the Secretary reported:-

“The season had been a most successful one throughout England. Fine weather and hard wickets had prevailed ... Beverley Town C.C. was in the unique and grand position of having played from the beginning to the end of the fixture list without suffering a single reverse. Mr. Bainton, the Club Captain, was presented with a miniature silver bat to mark the achievement of the team. In his speech ... he seized upon the opportunity for commenting on the fair umpiring, remarking how difficult in these days of league matches it was to get fair decisions ... He hoped that as long as Beverley C.C. continued to play, it would not take part in any league matches.” (1)

On November 28th 1895, the Annual General Meeting took place.

“Great praise was due to Mr. Allan Siddall who scored altogether 598 runs ... Both Lord Hawke and F.S. Jackson had stated that the Beverley ground was one of the best they had played on during the season ... Mr. Siddall was presented with a bat in recognition of his heading the batting averages.” (1)

1895 had truly been a season to remember.

Mr. Sanderson who was the secretary of Beverley C.C. at the time of my research, managed to unearth a team photo which has Allan Siddall on it (Photo 5). It is not dated, but it is taken at the Recreation Ground. Allan looks older than in the 1895 photograph of Holderness Nomads, and therefore the date is probably circa 1900. A number of the players on the photograph played in the 1895 season. G. Leaper, R. Dunning, W. Compton, R.D. Anstead, C.H. Mitchell, J.B. Bainton, T. Burras and A. Siddall.

(1) *The Beverley Guardian*

(2) *Yorkshire Cricketers 1839 – 1939*. Peter Thomas. (Derek Hodgson 1973)

(3) *East Yorkshire Cricket 1778 – 1914*. Peter Howarth. (Lowndes Publications 1995)

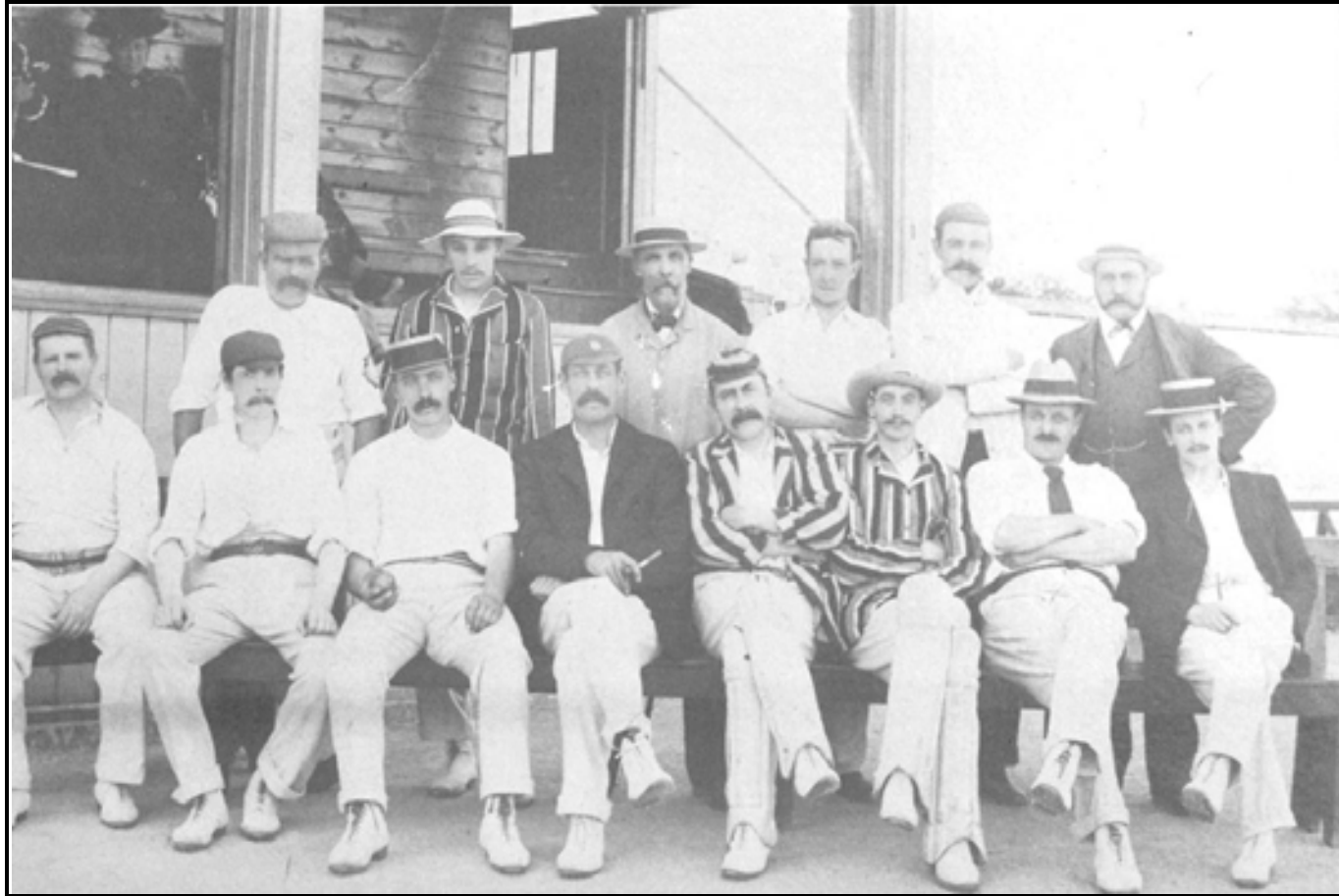


Photo 5

Beverley Town Cricket Club c.1900

Standing

G.Leaper R D Anstead Dr. Calvert A. Walker R. Dunning (Umpire) A.J. Hind (Scorer)

Sitting

S. Grimshaw W. Compton C.H. Mitchell J.B. Bainton J. Edgar(Captain) E.W.Walker A.Siddall T.Burra

1896 - 1900

Beverley Town never reached such heights again in Allan's time at the club. In the seasons which followed, matches continued to be well reported in the local papers and often Allan featured prominently. One particular report did seem to be of some significance with regard to the story of Allan's supposed big hit at Scarborough. The game in question was played at Scarborough on July 21st 1897. Beverley won the game to complete the double over Scarborough that season. Scarborough were bowled out for 86, and Beverley easily knocked off the required runs, Allan top scoring with 41.

“When Siddall joined Walker, some of the best cricket of the day was shown, both batsmen having mastered the bowling. Several bowling changes were tried ...Siddall being in grand form, twice hitting the professional out of the field in succession.” (1)

It is possible that one of these hits could have been the source of the story relating to the big hit recalled by the old gentleman sitting next to Uncle Syd at the Scarborough Festival.

Londesborough Park had resumed playing, but were not the force which they had been. On July 29th 1899, they were well beaten by the Beverley team. They were bowled out for 29, with Allan taking 5 wickets for 12 runs.

New teams were added to Beverley's fixture list, one example being Goole. *The Beverley Guardian* noted that the train would be leaving Beverley station at 12.57 p.m.

The Beverley Town team still played on Thursdays, and the club decided to change the name of the Thursday side, calling it Beverley Thursday XI. Allan played for this team, as well as with Pocklington, Driffield, Barmby Moor, Melbourne and other local teams.

Peter Howorth mentions Allan in the season of 1897.

“He was a talented all-rounder who could command good match fees and was much in demand ... His value as match professional can be illustrated by a series of games in 1897 when he was hired by the inexperienced Pocklington Club. Against Driffield he scored 82 not out of 112 and then took 3 wickets to help dismiss Driffield for 39. J. Richardson took the other 7. He then scored 63 out of 125 against Pocklington School, one of the few occasions when ‘Town’ beat ‘Gown’. He followed this up with 68 out of 106 against a Hull Thursday XI. In a rather unexpected fixture, he retired after scoring 100 for Melbourne against the Yorkshire Gentlemen. It is not surprising that when he turned out for Barmby Moor in the Wilson Todd Challenge Cup, Holme on Spalding Moor lodged a complaint on the grounds of alleged professionalism.” (2)

(The unbeaten century scored against Yorkshire Gentlemen is the highest score that has been found in this research. Allan certainly was a thorn in the side of the Gentlemen whenever he played against them!)

There is a framed newspaper cutting hanging on the wall in the Pocklington C.C. Clubhouse. It records that Allan Siddall had the following averages in the 1897 season:-

Batting	4 innings	1 n.o.	H. S.	82n.o.	Total 216	Average 72
Bowling	53 overs	15 maidens		89 runs	13 wickets	Average 6.8

On the 15th July 1897, Allan opted to play with his home village team, Barmby Moor against Beverley Thursday. He captained the side as well as opening both the batting and bowling.

Barmby Moor				Beverley Thursday			
A Siddall	. l. b. w	b. Mitchell	30	S Grimshaw	b. Siddall	4	
H. Richardson		b. Dunning	3	E Welburn	b. Siddall	8	
A Dixon		b. Owston	14	A Walker	b. Mather	21	
Mather	c. Owston	b. Mitchell	4	CH Mitchell	b. Siddall	26	
H Dixon		b. Mitchell	6	R Dunning	b. Siddall	0	
H Kendall	c. Wood	b. Grimshaw	20	H Brown	b. Mather	4	
A Room		b. Grimshaw	10	RH Wood	b. Mather	0	
T Wilson		b. Grimshaw	0	Dr. Savage	b. Siddall	0	
E Welbourne		b. Mitchell	3	Sgt. Jones	b. Siddall	1	
T Hird	c. &	b. Grimshaw	0	J Owston	b. Siddall	1	
T Sissons	not	out	3	EJ Wells	not out	0	
		Extras	12		Extras	0	
		Total	105		Total	65	

Allan top scored with 30 runs and took 7 wickets for 37 runs. He must have enjoyed the occasion and he did his home village proud.

In the following season he won a trophy whilst he was the captain of Barmby Moor. The vicar of Barmby Moor, the Rev. W.D. Rees, wrote,

“Cricketer. This grand old game has always been loved at Barmby, but alas, no record has been kept of its noted cricketers. The old inhabitants still talk of Parson Manley, Parson Duntz, George Taylor, William Houlden and others, and of their skill with bat and ball.

In 1897, Sir W. H. Wilson Todd M.P., in order to encourage the game, presented a beautiful silver cup to be competed for by clubs within the Parliamentary Division of Howdenshire.

The following is the inscription engraved upon the cup:-

1897 Pocklington C.C. J Robson Capt. 1898 Barmby Moor C.C. A Siddall Capt.” (3)

The Beverley Town C.C. AGM took place on October 1st 1898 and *The Beverley Guardian* reported:-

“Allan Siddall has also done well, having a batting average of 19.6, his highest score being 68 made against Hull Town C.C. For this performance he was presented with a silver plate and a cricket bag and pads by members and supporters of the club. His bowling average was 45 wickets with an average of 12.7 per wicket.” (1)

On the 17th June 1899, Allan won a box of cigars for the best performance in the game against Hull Albert United. In the same season, playing for Londesborough against Selby, he bowled 7 overs of which 4 were maidens and took 4 wickets for 8 runs. Selby were 15 all out. Against Pocklington Grammar School he took 7 wickets for 14 runs. On August 19th Hull Town came under the Siddall hammer.

“Siddall, who seems to have a liking for the Hull bowling, played a grand innings of 75 without giving a chance.” (1)

In the 1900 season Allan seems to have played his last games with Beverley. (He possibly played an occasional game in later seasons.) On June 2nd 1900 Allan actually played for Londesborough Park against Beverley. Allan, as we might expect, played a major part in the Londesborough success. He scored 67 in the Londesborough score of 167 for 2 wickets and then took 5 wickets for 27 runs when Beverley were dismissed for 67.

Why had he changed sides in this fixture? It is difficult to find a reason since he continued to play for Beverley in the other fixtures for the rest of the season. Perhaps the reason was that the Beverley Committee did not want him to play as a professional for this game, but Londesborough were prepared to pay him to play for them. (See below in ‘the minutes extract for May 22nd 1900’). In the return fixture against Londesborough Park he played for Beverley. This game is significant, for it probably marks the last appearance of Allan in a Beverley team. (I have been unable to find any further reference in the local newspapers of Allan playing in a Beverley team.)

“Londesborough Park scored 38 for 2 wickets in reply to Beverley’s 83, when a ball from Siddall got up and hit Wadsworth a severe blow on the head. The captains then decided to draw stumps on account of the dangerous state of the wicket.” (1)

Mr B. Sanderson, the Secretary of Beverley Town C.C. at the time of this research, generously spent time looking through the Minute Books of the period. He provided the following pieces of information regarding written mention of A. Siddall.

Extracts from the Minutes of the Committee Meetings held in the Beverley Arms Hotel

Wed. 27th April 1898 It was resolved that Siddall be engaged for, if possible, the two matches against each of the following clubs – Scarborough, York, Hull and Driffield.

14th May. Two professionals were included – C H Mitchell and A. Siddall.”

The minutes also tell us that these two professionals played in the matches against Northern Nomads, Hunmanby and Londesborough Park.

August 5th Siddall to be engaged to play against Driffield Marshalls on the 20th inst. In the statement of accounts for the year end 1898, the total payment made to the professionals and groundsman was £39 15s. 0d.

May 1st 1899 Proposed that Siddall and Banks (Hull) be engaged to play against Hull on May 11th 1899. A letter from W. Banks (Hull) asking for a fee of 7s. 6d. ... A Siddall to play against York, Hunmanby, Hull Albert United, Driffield, Selby, Londesborough and Pocklington Grammar School.

May 15th A/C entry A. Siddall 10s. 0d.

June 26th A/C entry A. Siddall £1 5s. 0d.

May 22nd 1900 Proposed that Siddall be engaged to play whenever the committee think necessary.

Mr. Sanderson confirms that the entry of May 22nd 1900 is the last mention of Allan in the minutes.

The Beverley Town C.C. had, in the period of Allan’s association with them, a resident professional, Mr. C.H.Mitchell, and entries in the accounts show that he was paid £1 17s. 6d. per week. He may well have had other duties. Some years later, Mitchell became Chairman of the club. Other professionals, as well as Allan Siddall, mentioned during this period were Riley, Banks, J. Shaw of Wakefield and T. Rennard. Shaw offered to play for £1 plus his railway fare and he probably played in one match in May 1899. Rennard later became the club secretary and in time became the Chairman of the Cricket Club Section when the club expanded to include Bowls (Ladies and Gentlemen) and Tennis at the new ground, Norwood Park, in 1909. (2)

(1) *The Beverley Guardian*

(2) Information provided by Mr. B. Sanderson Secretary Beverley Town C.C. (1988)

(3) *A History of Barmby Moor from Prehistoric Times*. Rev. W.D. Rees. 1911

The End of Cricket 1901 – 1904

When Allan left Beverley, he returned to the scenes of his youth, playing with Pocklington Town, Barmby Moor, and Melbourne between 1901 and 1904. In the 1904 season at the age of 41, he opened the batting and bowling for Stamford Bridge and District and he took 6 wickets for 11 runs.

This game at Stamford Bridge marks the end of my search, for he seems to disappear from local press reports in the 1905 season. Perhaps he had retired from cricket, perhaps he played in occasional games, but I have found no records of him doing so.

Allan Siddall must have been, as the obituary notice in *'The Howdenshire Chronicle and Pocklington News'* said,

“Very popular on the grounds of the North and East Ridings.”

He had been the product of the ‘Railway Age’, where players had the opportunity for the first time to move about England quickly and relatively cheaply. Professional players could be brought in via the railway links, teams strengthened and standards of cricketing skill raised.

All the grounds on which Allan played were close to the Railway (Map 2). Without the Railway, he could not have played at so many grounds whilst still farming at Barmby Moor.

Every morning the train left York and called at the following halts:-

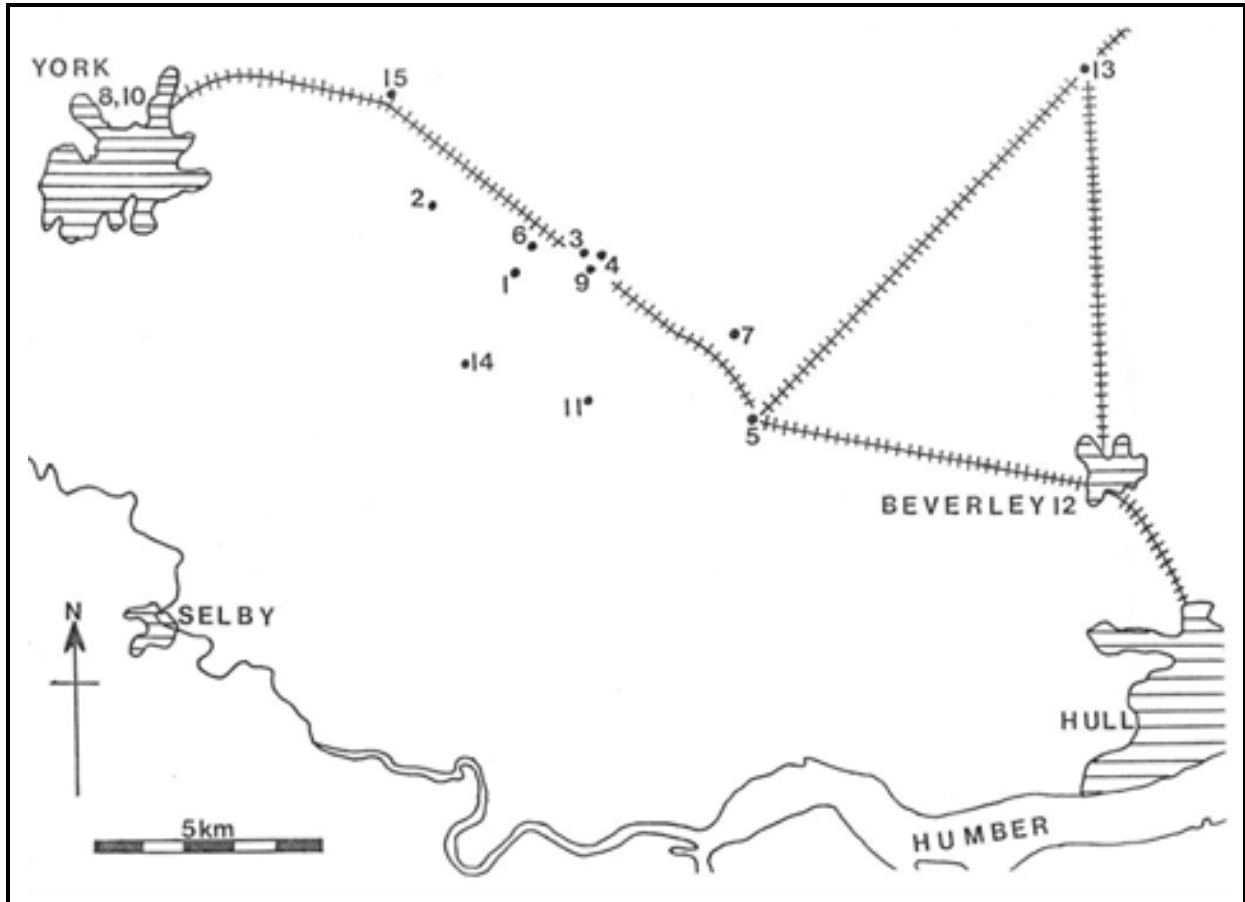
Earswick, Warthill, Holtby, Stamford Bridge, Fangfoss, Pocklington, Nunburnholme, Londesborough, Market Weighton, Kipling Cotes, Cherry Burton, Beverley, Cottingham and arrived in Hull one hour and fifty five minutes later. Connections for the North Riding and the East Coast could be caught in Beverley.

On July 27th 1918, his nephew, and my great uncle, Alf Richardson, registered the death of his uncle Allan Siddall. The Death Certificate records that Allan Siddall, farmer, had died on July 21st 1918, aged 55. His headstone can still be seen in the north-western corner of St. Catherine’s churchyard at Barmby Moor.

Perhaps the Death Certificate should have had ‘cricketer’ added. Allan had played a major role in the development of cricket in late Victorian East Yorkshire. He played for many teams across the region (Fig.1), and must have put a great deal of energy and effort into his cricket. How on earth did he manage to be a farmer as well as a cricketer for all those twenty-five summers long ago? Perhaps the money he earned through cricket helped to pay for extra help on the farm. Perhaps his father, Hugh, ran the farm during the summer months. (Hugh died in August 1897). Could the family story be true that he got up early in the summer, did his work on the land and then travelled away to the cricket fields? Did the farm have as much success as Allan had in his cricket career? These are all questions which cannot now be answered, but it is certain that the family stories about Allan have a great deal of truth in

them. However, the real story which has been uncovered through this research is, I believe, much more entertaining and enthralling.

Map 3 Selected Cricket Grounds where Allan Siddall played Home Fixtures 1879-1904



1. Waplington Manor	1879	(Aged 16)
2. Wilberfoss	1879	(Aged 16)
3. Pocklington Excelsior	1880	(Aged 17)
4. Pocklington Grammar School	1881	(Aged 18)
5. Market Weighton	1882	(Aged 19)
6. Barmby Moor	1884	(Aged 21)
7. Londesborough Park	1885	(Aged 22)
8. Yorkshire Gentlemen	1889	(Aged 26)
9. Pocklington	1889	(Aged 26)
10. York	1889	(Aged 26)
11. Lord Herries' XI	1889	(Aged 26)
12. Beverley Town	1895	(Aged 32)
13. Driffield	1897	(Aged 34)
14. Melbourne	1893	(Aged 30)
15. Stamford Bridge and District	1904	(Aged 41)

N.B. The dates are when Allan first played for these teams.

Fig. 1 Cricket Teams in which Allan Siddall played 1879 - 1904

1879	Waplinton Manor, Wilberfoss
1880	Pocklington Excelsior
1881	Pocklington Excelsior, Pocklington Grammar School, Warter
1882	Pocklington Excelsior, Wilberfoss, Market Weighton, Barmby Moor
1883	Market Weighton
1884	Pocklington Grammar School, Market Weighton, Barmby Moor
1885	Londesborough Park, Lord Londesborough's XI, Lord Hotham's XI
1886	Londesborough Park, Lord Londesborough's XI
1887	Londesborough Park, Lord Londesborough's XI
1888	Londesborough Park, Lord Londesborough's XI
1889	Londesborough Park, Lord Londesborough's XI, Pocklington, York, Yorkshire Gentlemen, Lord Herries' XI, North and East Ridings XI
1890	Yorkshire Gentlemen, York
1891	Yorkshire Gentlemen, York
1892	Yorkshire Gentlemen, York
1893	Londesborough Park, York, DF Burton's XI, Melbourne
1894	Londesborough Park, York, Melbourne
1895	Beverley
1896	Beverley, North and East Ridings XI, Yorkshire Gentlemen
1897	Beverley, Barmby Moor, Pocklington
1898	Beverley, Barmby Moor
1899	Beverley
1900	Beverley, Pocklington
1901	
1902	Barmby Moor, Mr. Whitehead's XI
1903	Melbourne
1904	Barmby Moor, Stamford Bridge and District

These teams have only been listed using scorecards printed in the contemporary newspapers. Allan probably played for other teams during this period where the matches were not reported on.

Conclusion

The research has been successful in revealing a great story of a forgotten cricketer who played an important role in the development of cricket in the East Riding of Yorkshire. The family stories which prompted the search all seem to have a basis of truth. Allan did play cricket with Lord Hawke and they would have known each other well. Allan was a professional cricketer, and it is quite possible that he was employed as a bowler to the young Hon. M. Blaydon, (the future Lord Hawke). Unfortunately I have found no evidence for this. Allan certainly dismissed him on a number of occasions (once in 1886 playing for Londesborough Park, twice in 1890 playing for Yorkshire Gentlemen, and once in 1895 playing for Beverley).

There is proof that Allan hit two sixes out of the Scarborough ground on July 21st 1897. Were they the biggest hits seen at the ground? Once again, we cannot know, but the family story does seem to have some credibility.

Did he bat right handed? Was he a left arm bowler? No evidence has been found in this research. It is enough to describe Allan as a good all-round cricketer, one of the best in the East Riding of Yorkshire.

There were some disappointments in the research. The Yorkshire County Cricket Club kindly gave permission for an examination of the Year Books in the library. All First XI and Second XI games are recorded in these detailed publications, and I hoped to find a reference to Allan Siddall. The name Siddall appeared on five occasions:-

1. Yorks. Second XI, Leeds, June 29th & 30th 1893 v. Surrey Second XI.
2. Yorks. Second XI, Hull, June 25th & 26th 1894 v. Hull & District.
3. Yorks. Second XI, Middlesbrough, June 17th & 18th 1895 v. 16 of Midd'bro District.
4. Yorks. Second XI, Batley, August 12th & 13th v. 16 of Heavy Woollen District.
5. North and East Riding, Wakefield, June 17th & 18th 1896 v. West Riding.

I felt certain that this would be Allan Siddall, since through all my research, I had not come across another Siddall playing in the higher levels of cricket. I really wanted it to be Allan after reading the stunning single line on the scorecard for the game against the Heavy Woollen District:-

“Wilfred Rhodes, b. Siddall 0”

The problem was that identification needed the all important initial ‘A’ to be certain. The only way to find the extra information was to go back to the newspapers of the time and find details of the teams selected to play.

After some time, all four Second XI teams were found, and to my great disappointment the Siddall selected was H. J. Siddall of Rotherham. However, the Siddall playing for the North

and East Riding XI did turn out to be Allan Siddall of Barmby Moor. This fixture is therefore the only mention of Allan Siddall in the Yorkshire County Cricket Club Yearbooks.

West Riding v. North and East Riding

Played at Wakefield June 17th and 18th 1896. Drawn.

North and East Riding

First Innings				Second Innings			
R W Collinson		b.Haigh	49	b.Brown		17	
Charlesworth	c.Brown	b.Foster	7	b.Foster		7	
H Snell		b.Haigh	29	b.Brown		2	
W L Frank		b.Lancaster	4	b.Foster		4	
E Walker	c.Coates	b.Shaw	19	b.Foster		26	
E Hill		b.Haigh.	5	run out		0	
Mitchell		b.Haigh	0	b.Lancaster		14	
Siddall		b.Shaw	1	b.Foster		18	
Oyston	c.Lancaster	b.Shaw	0	b.Foster		9	
Soulsby	not	out	9	b.Brown		1	
Hardwick		b.Shaw	1	not out		2	
		Extras	8	Extras		9	
		Total	132	Total		109	

West Riding

First Innings				Second Innings			
P B Coates	c.Oyston	b.Mitchell	8	not out		13	
Outram		b.Mitchell	11	c.Charlesworth	b.Oyston	7	
Kilburn	c. &	b.Mitchell	6	not out		23	
H Wilkinson	c.Hardwick	b.Mitchell	14				
Lancaster	c.Snell	b.Oyston	0				
Haigh	c.Mitchell	b.Soulsby	5				
Bedford		b.Mitchell	4				
Earnshaw	not	out	14				
Foster	c. &	b.Soulsby	5				
Brown		b.Mitchell	0				
Shaw		b.Mitchell	4				
		Extras	3	Extras		4	
		Total	74	Total		47	
				(1 wicket)			

Allan did not bowl in the First Innings, but bowled 8 overs in the Second Innings, with 1 Maiden and 0 wickets for 30 runs.

Whilst searching for information on the game where Wilfred Rhodes was dismissed for a duck, I came across an interesting sporting announcement in the Yorkshire Post referring to this fixture, dated August 1st 1895:-

“Heavy Woollen District v. Yorkshire Second XI. Players wishing to take part should send their names before Friday August 2nd to Jos. Brearley Rose Cottage, Batley.”

I wonder if Wilfred Rhodes actually wrote a letter?

Researching and reading through the old newspapers was a great pleasure. Each page is a rewarding read, especially for any person with a real interest in cricket. The unexpected story always catches the eye, and often I would be distracted from the search. Biased umpiring, crowd problems, objections to team selections, disputes, scandals, record breaking feats with both bat and ball, as well as comprehensive reporting of hundreds of games, all make wonderful reading for the cricket fan.

One newspaper report which made me forget about the search for Allan Siddall, was the coverage of the excitement generated when the Captain of the Canadian Cricket Touring Team was sensationally arrested before the game could get underway because he had deserted from the British Army some years earlier! What a story that is!

Many people have been helpful in this research. I would like to thank Beverley Cricket Club and the late Bob Sanderson for his enthusiasm and for providing the photographs relating to Beverley Town Cricket Club. Sincere thanks also go to the late Donald Milne and his son Peter, for all their help with information and photographs from the Londesborough Park Cricket Club. Thanks must be given to Peter Howorth, the East Riding cricket historian, for his helpful suggestions and information. Thanks to John Richardson for the help with the tedious job of reading through old newspapers.

R.S. Richardson February 2010