

A CENTURY OF SPORT IN LODSWORTH

An informal history
of
Sport in Lodsworth
during the
Twentieth Century

by
James Fisher
Lodsworth Heritage Society

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AN INFORMAL HISTORY
of
SPORT IN LODSWORTH

The following text is based almost entirely on notes used by James Fisher in his presentation in Lodsworth Village Hall on 4 November 2011 with later additions and corrections arising from contributions made by the audience. This will explain the informality of the text. Since new material continues to turn up from time to time, this document may be considered 'live' and subject to occasional updating.

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. Only last week, at the Gardening Club AGM, ideas were sought for events to be pursued in the forthcoming year. In particular it was felt that illustrated talks with slides were probably the least popular events and were best avoided. Now. What am I about to do?

However, since many of you were, or indeed in some cases still are, participants, I hope that we can develop my limited findings through dialogue during the evening.

Within the time available we will explore the history of our three main sports as played over the last century, Cricket, Football and Stoolball. Given time, there will also be a short but intriguing piece on chess.

STOOLBALL

Since Stoolball lays claim to being the earliest of our three sports, having been started, in Sussex, as far back as the 14th Century - and is perceived as the forerunner to cricket, we thought we'd start with that.

Immediately I have to say that this title is something of a misnomer since we have found no evidence of Stoolball being played in Lodsworth before 1952, so we are really talking here about half a century.

However, to start with it might be helpful to touch on the origins of the game and how it is played? Certainly I admit that I knew very little about stoolball before coming to Lodsworth and perhaps there are some here tonight who might also like to know more about it.

STOOLBALL

When it was first played, chiefly if not entirely by milkmaids, milking stools were used as wickets – hence the name of course – and we have here a 1767 print appearing to show a four legged stool as a wicket. So it would appear that this form of the game, or at any rate this form of wicket, prevailed for a very long time. Only some centuries after its inception do we read that the seat of the stool was hung from a tree, presumably at a height nearer the four feet of the modern wicket, and from that was developed a simple board being attached to a post.



The modern wicket was certainly in place by the middle of the 19thC. as we can see from this 1878 print, although you may note that the board in this print is octagonal with the corners, removed whilst today's wicket has a square board. (exhibit shown).

The official rules state that play normally takes place within a 90 yard boundary although in Lodsworth the team say they

prefer to 'run everything', claiming that this ensures their superior fitness!

As in cricket runs are scored by running between the wickets or hitting the ball beyond the boundary. Although I did read somewhere that, in its original form, the batsman had merely to defend the wicket with his hand, scoring a point for each successful stop until the wicket was hit. If true it hardly sounds exciting! This print was taken in 1861.



Each Stoolball team consists of eleven players. Bowling is under arm from a crease about a third of the way down the pitch with the ball reaching the batsman on the full as in rounders rather than bouncing from the pitch as (usually intended) in cricket. The pitch itself is, at 16 yards, 6 yards shorter than a cricket pitch. Each over comprises 8 balls as opposed to the 6 ball over in cricket. No balls and wides apply as in cricket.



Whereas in cricket there are ten ways of being dismissed, including things like being timed out and obstruction, stoolball players may only be out bowled, caught or run out. There is no lbw as such but if

any part of the body other than the hand prevents the ball from hitting the wicket, the batsman is deemed to be bowled out.

The bat, as you can see, (exhibit shown) is rather like a table tennis bat but considerably heavier. The handle is spliced into the blade and the back is chamfered like a cricket bat. The ball, (again exhibit shown) is somewhat smaller than a cricket ball and has a sewn leather cover.

The popularity of stoolball as a game seems to have fluctuated over the centuries but it made something of a renaissance in the early part of the twentieth century – championed largely by one Major Grantham. He even introduced the game to Lords where it was played during the 1920s.

Historically, it is hard to imagine that, bearing in mind its Sussex roots, stoolball was not played in Lodsworth many years ago but, unfortunately, as I explained earlier, we have found no record of it until 1952 when a group of local girls got together to start up a team here in Lodsworth. Quite what sparked this off is not known though the advent of the new recreation ground must have been an obvious contributor.



Here we have one of the earliest photographs we could find taken, it is thought in 1952, with Marie Courtney (later Marie Bowers) as captain in the middle top row and Fay Bayley (now Fay Bicknell of course) as vice captain on her right. However, neither Ann Hill nor Rosemary Hyde, who is today's president appear and they were certainly two of the founding members. Marjorie Morley was appointed as chairman and Grace Osborne, then running the Hollist, was appointed secretary.

We do know that, as soon as they were set up, the girls played an inaugural game against Duncton – though regrettably nobody seems to remember anything about the game, let alone the result.

As the team developed it was found to include several mother and daughter partnerships and was almost entirely made up from Lodsworthians. However, although the team has gone from strength to strength, local representation has gradually dwindled and most players now come from Midhurst. We will see the same thing happening in other sports this evening.

Transport to those early away matches was initially provided by Marjorie Morley's husband Clem driving the works van from the local saw mill (now Wests) in Selham. Quite why this was called the 'passion wagon' is, perhaps for good reason, not

known. Later on the school bus was used, driven by Bill Hyde Senior, Rosemary Hyde's father-in-law.



We have now moved on a couple of years but only two of those in the last photograph appear again. These are Grace Osborne third from left at back and Marie Courtney second from left in the front.

The others here are, from left to right at top, Sally Hyde (Rosemary's sister in law), Joan Wakeford (with Brian Wakeford as scorer on right), Grace Osborne we've already noted, then the almost unpronounceable Barbara

Niewiarowski, Dimp Holmes and Joan Hurst. Then in front, Mrs Wildman (?), Marie Courtney, Rita Wakeford, Ann Tizzard and Cora Carver

And so to our last group photograph taken in the late 50s or early 60s. Here we have, in the back row, F Bicknell, S Vivash, P Wells, J Lambert and, in the front row, V Baker, W Newell, R Gamlin, R Hyde and K Bicknell. However, there are only nine in the picture and no one has yet identified the cup for me!



And so from cups to tournaments. In or about 1960 the annual Lodsworth knockout Tournament was set up under the guidance of the then Chairman, Ruby Gamlin, mother of the current president Rosemary Hyde. Twelve teams were invited with a format of four overs per innings.

This proved very successful but it was thirty years before a second annual tournament run along similar lines was introduced in 1990 to commemorate Ruby Gamlin. This is known as the Charity Tournament.



Now mixed stoolball. I am not sure how long mixed stoolball has been played nationally but it certainly goes back a century or two – here we have the Bishop of London with the matron of some hospital playing against a side put together by the aforesaid Major Grantham.

As an aside, I did read a reference to stoolball being associated with romance and courtship and in Shakespeare's comedy 'The Two Noble Kinsmen', the phrase 'playing stoolball' is used as a euphemism for what was otherwise called 'rolling in the clover'.

Perhaps that's why, during the 70s, the Lodsworth men began to get involved with the game and before long a mixed stoolball side was formed, called the Lodsworth Lions. The Lions joined a local league and were extremely successful, running out one year with 13 wins from 14 matches.

It is known that David Bayley and Stan Bicknell played, no doubt encouraged by Fay – David's sister and Stan's husband – and, among many others there were several couples like Michael and Sylvia Vivash, Dick and Pauline Wells, Roddie and Sue Brown to mention but a few.

Remarkably, and unfortunately, no photographs have turned up of any of the mixed teams. Furthermore, mixed stoolball in Lodsworth seems to have been rather short lived and, for no obvious reason, the game died out by the end of the 70s. Having said that, we do still play one mixed stoolball game against Frazer Nash in Midhurst every year, albeit without any Lodsworth men.

However, Ladies' Stoolball has itself gone from strength to strength and the fixture list now runs from the beginning of April to the end of September. The club is run most enthusiastically under the stewardship of, just to mention a few, Rosemary Hyde as President and Wilma Newell as Chairman. The captain is Sue Wakeford whose family featured in these photographs.

There was some 'trouble at mill' earlier this year when the hall and ground was double-booked for a stoolball tournament and for the gardening club's flower show. In the event both were run concurrently and, from this perspective at least, I thought it made for a brilliant afternoon with a lot of people learning more about the game. I, personally, would like to see it repeated next year.

It's a great game and good to see its run so efficiently and with such enthusiasm by all involved. We'd like to build more on to this rather sketchy history so if anyone can add anything then do please get in touch with me some time.

CRICKET

When this talk was presented the earliest reference that could be made to cricket in Lodsworth was 1876. However, in Martyn Hepworth's 'Lodsworth: The Story of an English Village' reference is made in the 'Hollist Scrapbook' to a printed programme of a match that took place in Petworth Park in September 1874 between the Gentlemen of the Neighbourhood and the Petworth Institute Club. Of course, however likely it might be, we cannot be certain that Lodsworth was represented in the Neighbourhood side and, with this proviso, the text of my presentation has been retained. Furthermore, the latter makes a better story!

Now, whereas we cannot go back beyond 1952 with our local Stoolball, we can go back a lot further with cricket even if the early history is somewhat conjectural.

It all stems from the discovery of a cricket cap bearing the insignia Lodsworth CC 1876 around a stylised tree. Some have claimed that this represented the Jubilee chestnut outside the Hollist and others the oak tree at the top of the recreation ground. Well – clearly this cannot be since the first Jubilee was in 1887, eleven years later than 1876 and the recreation ground was not to be opened for another 75 years or so – so the significance of the tree remains something of a mystery. And, let's face it – it looks more like a bunch of twigs than a tree!



Now, the earliest reference we have found to Lodsworth cricket after 1876 was a game played in 1890 against Easebourne to celebrate the silver wedding anniversary of Colonel and Mrs Hollist. Scoring was not high with Easebourne falling short of Lodsworth's 75 all out with a paltry 37!

From the score sheet two local names spring out – H Gamlin and J Bridger. One would like to think that the Gamlin was the from the same family as Ruby Gamlin and all the other Gamlins and I suppose that's more than likely – and Bridger possibly one of the chess playing Bridgers of that time. And/or lastly the Bridger family who lived at Heath End Farm before the war?



It is not clear where that Easebourne game was played but, bearing in mind the celebration, it was presumably on home turf. But we do know that later, perhaps until the war, cricket was played in a field to the west of the village just beyond Heath End Farm.

We are told that teas were served from the farm, no doubt to compensate for the lack of any other facilities or a pavilion.



We are most grateful to Brian Kingshott, visiting this evening, for a couple of photographs, probably taken just before the outbreak of war, that identify the cricket pitch with the long barn of the Farm beyond and the trees on the right running down the ancient track. Brian's father, Will Kingshott, of whom we shall hear more later, is standing at the back on the left.

One would have to surmise that the pitch was pretty agricultural! – but note the roller which has somehow survived and found its way to our present ground.

Note also the batsmen walking out accompanied by a small dog, no doubt acting as runner.



We do not know what cricket, if any, was played during the war years but, we learn again from Martyn Hepworth, that in 1942 the then vicar of Lodsworth approached the Hollist / Barnes family to see if a further part of Beech Field could be made available for a recreation ground. This would take some years to materialise, as we will see, but in the meantime a cricket pitch was set up in the field just below St Peter's Well – known as Well Meadow.

The fact that the pitch was every bit as rough as that at Heath End was no doubt why a more suitable alternative was being sought.

Nevertheless, the Well Meadow field did at least boast a simple pavilion, although it was necessary to surround it with barbed wire to keep the resident cows at bay. Also, we are told that games were frequently interrupted by walkers and mothers with prams going down to Eel Bridge.

Immediately after the war a committee was set up to raise funds in pursuing the earlier initiative towards providing the new recreation ground and this was completed in 1952 to provide areas for, not only cricket, but a reborn football club and, as we have seen the new stoolball club.



It is worth mentioning at this point that for one or two years cricket was played at Lickfold, in the field beyond the hedge by the present letter box. An old Nissen hut served as pavilion and teas were served from the dutch barn at the bottom of Bexley Hill. In the absence of better advice, it can only be assumed that this field was used as a stopgap whilst the new recreation ground was being prepared.



Once the new ground was ready it must have been quite a transformation for the cricketers, even if they had to make do for a while with the old pavilion transferred from Well Meadow. The hard tennis court may have been laid at this time, or very soon after? I have to confess to not researching tennis in the area but do have this one shot of a Lodsworth Tennis Tournament in 1958. In it we see Sue Barnes presenting the trophy to David Harding who later

became president of the FC and his partner Cora Carver of stoolball fame.

I am told that it proved difficult to play tennis tournaments with only one court and, although we used to play Graffham, the matches were all played away and even those have died out. Having said that there is considerable support for the club which currently has 35 members and we really should record the fitness of half the pilates team who, having done their gymnastics, spend the rest of Wednesday mornings playing tennis.

But back to the ground. A few years later a sort of flat pack pavilion was obtained from Longmoor Camp. Quite what is meant by 'obtained' is unclear but, anyway, it lay in pieces until David Bayley's father Bill erected it on the western boundary of the ground in 1964 – whereupon the old pavilion was demoted to a store for sports equipment with a tractor shed built alongside by Ted Holmes and George Tooth.

This 1964 pavilion was quite a step up from its predecessor since water was laid on and there were lavatories and showers as well as a central hall for serving teas from a modest kitchen.

Just to bring the history of the grounds up to date we move forward to the turn of this century when the recreation ground was extended to the west and the new Village Hall erected in the space gained. At the same time the implement shed was replaced with a new one. The opportunity was also taken to move the square further away from the Oakfield estate that had been erected in the late 70s.



It would surely be profitable, now, to make better use of the land that was gained to the west of the tennis court and I believe that several suggestions have been put forward, including a bowling green or croquet lawn. Of course, the addition of second tennis court might unlock the possibility of reintroducing tennis tournaments. Literally watch this space!

Now let us look at some of the luminaries of the post war period although we have nothing of note before 1952 beyond those already presented.



Firstly, perhaps, we should go back to the formal opening of the new recreation ground in Coronation Year 1953, even if the ground itself was completed the previous year. Notably we have Cecil Barnes on the right. Barnes, who married into the Hollist family, was a formidable man, known affectionately (or perhaps in awe?) as the Mayor of Lodsworth, he played the most prominent part in fostering all sport in Lodsworth and was himself an accomplished cricketer and played for the Sussex Martlets on occasion.

On the left we find George Tooth, another in the long line of Toths (it's always tempting to say Teeth) who with other members of the family represented Lodsworth at both cricket and football throughout the whole of the 20thC for we have a Brian Tooth featuring in an early 1900s football team as we shall see later. Wyndham was the first Lord Egremont, **but who was Holroyde?**

Although not in the photograph, Will Kingshott, who was in the earlier photograph of the Heath End Farm pitch, was another who was much involved in the move to the new recreation ground and was instrumental in running the sports day at the Coronation celebrations. He was another who represented Lodsworth at both cricket and football and was captain of the cricket team for the first post war years. Both Will Kingshott and his wife Edith were also keen supporters of the Stoolball club, she being president during the 80s until she died in 1997.

We then come to a classic shot taken in the mid 50s that is bound to stir some memories.

In the middle is the aforementioned Cecil Barnes as captain. Sitting to his right is Sid Haines, a fast bowler who in partnership with Will Kingshott, sitting to the left of Cecil Barnes, skittled Hollycombe for all of 2 runs in 1967!



Haines figures on that day were 6 for 2 and Kingshott's 4 for 0!



At the opposite end of the front row is George Clifford who was a particularly fine spin bowler and went on playing for the Club until he was 72 and is seen here receiving one of several trophies from Cecil Barnes.



Here we are putting faces to some of the names on the above scorecard by finding much the same team at much the same time - but without George Clifford who appears to have been replaced by Tom Newell standing with his lovely wife Wilma as scorer that day next to Cecil Barnes taking over umpiring duties.

Others in the back row are, Jimmy Baker, Arthur and John Enticknap, M and C Gray and Eric Enticknap on the end. In the front row are Thomas Haines and Sid Haines sitting between the two 'Teeth', George and Les.

Now another picture. We have an interesting newspaper cutting from 1970 when the Lodsworth Over 40s were pitched against the Horsham YCs. Quite why this was played is not known but we can still identify one or two Lodsworthians.

The umpire on the left is the aforesaid Will Kingshott whilst the umpire on the right is Cecil Barnes. To the right of Will Kingshott is the Rev Dudley Dinnis, and two further places to the right, fourth along is George Clifford still taking wickets (he took four in this match).



Apparently Lodsworth won the match quite comfortably but the match report concludes with the dubious observation that the 'fielding was good in parts'.

As explained earlier, by the early 80s there was something of an exodus of younger players to the surrounding towns and this is one of the last photographs we have before that denouement.

Having said that, all was pretty rosy in the mid 70s for we have a fixture card for 1975 for both a Saturday side and a Sunday side. The captain then was Joe Clifford and vice captain Tom Newell. It may also be worth noting that, just a few years later in 1979, no less than 29 players attended the AGM, quite a pool from which to draw.



In this photograph, probably taken around 1978, we are still seeing the likes of David Bayley towering over Jimmy Baker with Joe Clifford in front of them.

In the middle, holding a trophy (what trophy?) is Sean White who I mentioned earlier and certainly looks as if he could hit a ball!

Names we haven't seen before are John Steele and Dick Langridge (there's a famous Sussex cricketing family for you) standing next to Arthur Enticknap. Then to Arthur's left is ? Spicer and Brian Bullpit. Roger Bridger is on the left of the front row – was there any connection with Lionel Bridger who used to own Heath End Farm?

It is interesting to study the reports of matches played towards the end of the 70s, of which there are many. Whilst all participants made contributions at one time or another the three names that keep recurring with honours are Jimmy Baker, Joe Clifford and Eric Enticknap, the latter followed by his brothers John and Arthur.

For a few years from 1977 a single wicket knock out competition was held, seemingly sponsored by the Southdown Observer, and became so popular that, in 1981, a preliminary round was played before the main event. Three of the individual winners were the above mentioned John Steele, Dick Langridge and Arthur Enticknap.



In view of the enthusiasm that abounded at this time, it does appear somewhat incongruous that, by the mid 80s, Lodsworth's cricket was almost dead and it is for that reason that we must be grateful to Patrick Atkins and Andrew Muir for sparking the revival in the 90s and to John King, Bob Powell and Paul Phillips amongst others for keeping the momentum going since the millennium. This shot taken in 2008.

Lodsworth Cricket Club now plays twenty matches during the season and just three of those have lasted throughout on fixture lists over the last 50 years, excepting of course the fallow period at the end of the 80s. Those three are Ebernoe, Fernhurst and Tillington.

Reference to Ebernoe is particularly interesting because Ebernoe is home to the Horn Fair held annually on 25th July. The celebration, which is centuries old, is held on the village common and the main attraction is a cricket match between Ebernoe and a local village. Towards the end of the day the highest scoring batsman, not the team, is awarded a set of horns taken from a sheep that has been roasted during the day.

It would appear that there has only been one occasion, in 1984, when Lodsworth participated in the Horn Fair match. John King hopes to persuade Ebernoe to select Lodsworth as their adversary in a future Horn Fair match.

There are so many stories that could be told, and no doubt will be when we break for an interval shortly. However, to get you going here are a couple of anecdotes from recent years.

The first concerns no less a body than the Royal Household. For, when the Royal Household CC (whose Patron is the Duke of Edinburgh) celebrated their centenary in 2003, they sought games with clubs across the south east and were subsequently challenged, with no little audacity, by Lodsworth CC to a game. In the event the RHCC put out a very strong side and also put us to the sword! Nevertheless we were presented with a shield (where is it?) and offered a return match. Perhaps it was better that the latter never materialised!

Then there was that somewhat difficult situation concerning the eligibility of overseas players! It happened in 2007 that Lodsworth had a couple of Indian players of considerably above average ability who were key factors when they turned up with one or two friends who were similarly gifted for the game against Milland. The opposition was not amused.

FOOTBALL



We have already seen that stoolball and cricket were first played in, respectively, the 14thC and 15thC. Rather surprisingly, I have learned only recently that football has only been played in its modern form since the 19thC – although many different forms have been played all over the world since the year dot.

However, we have a recent newspaper cutting that suggests an earlier date of the 16thC when a football was found in Mary Queen of Scot's bedchamber. Quite what it was doing there has not been established.

As far as we're concerned, Lodsworth FC was founded in 1898 and shortly thereafter joined the Midhurst and District Junior Football League when it was formed in the 1909-1910 season.

Unfortunately we have few records of those early days but we can start with a rather faded photograph of what is labelled the 1900-10 team which, as referred to earlier, includes one Brian Tooth, father of George, and an Ernie Boxall who, much later, became chairman of the Football Club. I am not aware that the Chandler is any relation of Paul Chandler of Smithbrook.. To label the team covering a ten year period seems most unlikely and one suspects it was really the 1909-10 season, the year that they were elected to the league.



We'd love to know where this 1913 photograph was taken. It might have been by Heath End Farm (to which I alluded earlier) but the hill on the right doesn't fit and we have concluded that it was probably taken at an away match. The shot features on the programme invitation to this evening's talk, so if anyone can identify the site would they please let me know?



This shot was taken at a match against Petworth in 1933. Again we cannot identify the site, it might indeed have been taken at Petworth, but we can identify Will Kingshott at top right, the very same Kingshott who featured in our cricket history.

For what it is worth, Lodsworth lost this match 4-1 but in the same year they were runners up in the Midhurst and District Junior Football League.

We may not know where these games were played but we do know that for many years football was played on a field leading down to Halfway Bridge. The pitch could not have been ideal since its rolling contours gave it the name Roly Poly field and indeed it is still so called on the recent millennium map.

There were certainly no changing facilities on Roly Poly field so the players arrived in their strip and would return home to bath and change after the match. There was no access for cars but then, even into the 50s, few would have cars and all would have arrived on foot or by bicycle.



In passing, I did find one reference to a much earlier game or games of football being played in the field to the south of Gills Lane and I did wonder if this in fact was the same field where cricket was played – though that was beyond and to the west of Heath End farm and not south of Gills Lane.

However, to retrace a step or two, these were uncertain times for the Football Club which, by the mid 30s, seems to have been disbanded. We know this from minutes of a meeting held in 1937 to reform the Club. It appears from these and subsequent minutes that games were played in the 1937/38 and 1939/40 seasons but then ceased during the war and were not restarted until 1952 when the new recreation ground came into being.

The reference to grounds about this time is also interesting – and puzzling. The 1937 minutes proposed an approach to a Mr Smallridge for use of his meadow and it seems likely that this is Well Meadow because I have heard reference to 'Smallridge cows' at Well Meadow. But then the 1938 minutes propose asking a Mr Kaye for ground or, failing that, asking Mr Smallridge again. Then the 1939 meeting proposes asking a Mr Rowlands for a ground 'because the former (?) ground had been ploughed up'. Lastly, to compound the mystery, later in the same minutes it is assumed that 'the ground at Lickfold' might be available.



Only with the reformed Club and its move to the new recreation ground in the brave new world of 1952 can we be clear. Now, suddenly, changing facilities were provided although, as we learned earlier, they were nothing like those in today's building. Indeed I was told that when it was deemed necessary to separate the teams they used to just hang up a sheet! As we have heard, this pavilion was shared with the Cricket Club.

Those chiefly responsible for the 1952 resurgence all feature in this photograph where we find George Tooth, third in from right top row and just to the left of Sid Haines. Then, at each end of the middle row are Bill and George Bayley, respectively father and uncle of David Bayley. All were equally responsible for fostering the cricket club in its new location and there is no doubting the success of the new recreation ground in rejuvenating sport in the area. Not in the picture is Peter Haines, Sid's brother, who was treasurer.



Bill Saunders, at top left, was one of the linesmen

Now, as with cricket, it is impossible to mention but a very small number of individuals that have contributed to the Lodsworth FC. However, having seen the team of 1952-53, it might be worth identifying just some of the later teams

We start with the 1958 team.



Reading from left to right, on the top row we have Bill Saunders, Colin Thayer, David Bayley, George Tooth (but no Les), Sid Haines, captain of cricket and Arthur Enticknap, one of three brothers that all played both cricket and football at one time or another.

On the front row, again from left to right, we find Robert Bridger, Jimmy Baker with his brother Brian on the right and between the two Bakers, Les Howard, Den Pierce and Stan Court.

It is interesting to note, again, how many of the protagonists played both cricket and football for Lodsworth. Today, as I have already said, none does.



Here we have a team from 1960 and see, either side of Sid Haines and Davis Bayley in the back row, John and Arthur Entisknap and in the front row, Colin Thayer, George Tooth, L Bourne, Les Howard (Capt) and the two Baker brothers at the end, but who is next to them?

In this year the Club won the Midhurst Charity Cup.

Before moving on to 1966 with the next team photograph we must record the events surrounding the Club's efforts to win the Charity Cup again in 1962-63 when, against all expectations, Lodsworth beat the country mile favourites Lurgashall 2-1 with goals scored by David Bayley and Malcolm Clark.

The game was played at Rotherfield in Midhurst and the story goes that so confident were Lurgashall of victory, perhaps justifiably in view of their two previous encounters when they won by 9-0 and 11-0 respectively, that they had their post match celebrations ready prepared. It is said that even the birds stopped singing in Lurgashall that week.

Anyway, moving on to 1966, we find two Bayleys this time, Bob, third from left in front row and David, the tall one at the back, and all three Enticknaps this time, Arthur (second from right hand end of front row), Eric (second from right hand end of back row) and John (on David Bayley's left) and Brian Baker (but no Jimmy).



Now running through others from left to right top row we have Bill Hyde (husband of Rosemary Hyde of stoolball fame and who was the team coach driver), Micky Vivash, Mr Chandler, Barry Gamlin (brother of Rosemary Hyde), Tony Gray, Norman Penny, Robert Bridger (again), and Bill Hyde Junior performing linesman's duties.

In the front row, others than those already identified, Len Smith, Lester Evans, and then, flanking the captain Les Bourne, Ernie Boxall as Chairman of the Club on his right and Lady Fiennes as president and staunch supporter of the club on his left. That just leaves Bill Saunders, still patrolling the sideline. Of course we saw Ernie Boxall in the 1900 photograph earlier. What relation, if any, was Tony Gray to Fred or Michael of cricketing fame?

It is worth repeating at this stage that, although he doesn't appear in these photographs, Cecil Barnes was as enthusiastic about the LFC as he was of the CC although he dictated the programme in such a way that he would not allow the two seasons to overlap.

At this point, it is also worth remembering others who were contributing to off field activities around this time.

We might start with one Les Clark who, with his wife ran the village shop and, as an additional matter of interest, was Petula Clark's father. One of Les duties, as manager of Lodsworth FC, was to pin up the team sheet for the next match. Now for some years this was pinned up in the Hollist but, following a fracas between Lady Fiennes and the pub dog, team sheets were then directed to be put up on the Parish notice board instead. Another anecdote arising from the team selection was the dismay felt by one Alan Martlow who, having scored five goals one week, was dropped the next. The committee who selected the team in those days were said to have reasoned that he should have scored six!

Today, of course, team members are advised by telephone and, as said before, there are no longer any footballers in the village.

Another character from this period was Alec Rogers who was a cobbler living in Church Lane. It is said that, despite a severe war wound, Alan never missed a home match and no doubt his boot repairing business thrived as a result.



As mentioned earlier the general exodus of the younger local residents led to a gradual influx of outside players but this did not really take hold until the late 70s and into the 80s. However, it is worth recording that the team of 1976 still contained David Bayley, bottom left with Micky Vivash alongside, and Barry Gamlin top left with another Tooth, Colin, alongside. Vic Ledwich (?) peers over the top in a cap whilst most of the others came from Easebourne or Midhurst. We

are now clearly well into the long haired lovers of Liverpool era!

The 1975-76 season was significant for a couple of reasons at least. Firstly this was the year that Lodsworth were runners up in the Midhurst Invitation Cup and, secondly, they were the winners of the Sportsmanship Trophy for the fewest infringements on the field.

Perhaps even more significantly, 1976 was the year of Lodsworths FC's entry into Europe when exchange visits with a German club called SuSa were initiated by Tom and Wilma Newell who should be applauded for their enterprise. These visits take place at Easter every other year with alternating home and away games.

The story goes that when the first of these matches was played it became immediately obvious that Lodsworth were to be the David to SuSa's Goliath. In the event, at half time it was suggested that the goalkeepers changed sides to even things up a bit. How successful that was is doubtful to say and, reading between the lines, the disparate approach of both teams continued through to the post match celebrations with the contrasting attire of the two teams during prize giving.

Although in subsequent matches efforts were made to select teams of similar standard the real emphasis was aimed at the spirit of friendship – an Anglo-German entente cordiale if you like.



Here we are on the second visit to Germany in 1980 with DB exchanging trophies in the town hall, this picture being reproduced from the local paper at the time. Note the two glasses of schnapps in front of the Germans and the bottle of lager in front of David!



Moving on two years we see Tom and Wilma preparing a welcome for the Germans aided and abetted by Vera Baker and Roger Hyde, Rosemary's son.

To demonstrate our continuing entry into Europe Lodsworth FC has now continued further exchanges arranged by Tom's son Andrew with a Danish Club called AB 70 in Copenhagen – set up as a means of bringing together older members of the two clubs. The trophy is a splendid Viking helmet.



Just to go back a bit, towards the end of the 70s, although there was an ever increasing number of players from outside the village, there was certainly no loss of enthusiasm and, from 1978-79, the Club has been able to field both a first and second eleven. Incidentally, this is the 1986 team as hosts to the SuSa team in 1986. Tom Newell is clear of course but, sad to say, there are no Lodsworthian's here.



As a final note, so as to record the position that Lodsworth FC has reached today, the second eleven is currently in the Fifth Division South and the first eleven is in the Second Division South, enjoying its highest position to date. Tom Newell as president of the Club and his son Andrew amongst others continue to give the Club its impetus and are to be applauded for it.

Now one more accolade. In the 30s, the Everett Cup was presented by a lady of that name who lived at Vining Wood. It appears that the cup was awarded for different achievements at different times but here we have one J Carter being presented with the cup in 1933, more than likely in a handicap competition.



Incidentally, the gentleman seated with his hand on the chess board is apparently Dr Joad the famous philosopher whose involvement and contribution to the Brain's Trust might be remembered by the older amongst us. I would have thought, also, that the two Bridgers are in the photograph but we do not know. They were both still alive and active at this time.

The popularity of chess continued to fluctuate in the area and was virtually killed off by the second World War though, in 1945, a joint Lodsworth and Petworth CC was formed and did last for a few years.

As I hope I explained, this is all a very brief summary of material supplied by Brian Denman, to whom we are much indebted. If anyone would like a copy of his full report please get in touch with us.

The presentation itself ended at this point but was followed by general discussion and the revival of many memories!