

THE HISTORY OF ASHBY CARINGTON CRICKET CLUB

PART 1806 - 1972

I hope you enjoy this draft version of the history of cricket in Barsby and Ashby Folville. It is intended to include more recent information since 1972 on the current Ashby Carington club in the next version. There are also quite a few gaps in the post War history of the Barsby Club that are still being researched. If anyone can help fill any of the gaps/spots errors/has photos etc. they can be sent to me on the email below. I am also particularly interested to receive any old recollections/amusing stories of cricket in Barsby and Ashby.

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Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
PART I: The History.....	2
Chapter One: The Early Years (1800 - 1850).....	2
Chapter Two: The Start of Organised Cricket (1850 – 1900)	7
Chapter Three: Before the War (1901 – 1914)	17
Chapter Four: Between the Wars (1921 – 1940)	21
Chapter Four: Barsby Cricket Club (1946 – 1969).....	34
Chapter Five: Ashby Carington Cricket Club (1970 – 2020).....	41

Introduction

Ashby Carington Cricket Club is a traditional village cricket club running three teams in the local Leicestershire Leagues. On Saturdays, the club participates in Division 9 of the Leicestershire and Rutland Cricket League with a team focused on developing the younger players. The Sunday team plays in Division 2 of the Melton and Grantham League and the Midweek team plays in the Tuesday night Burrough Cricket League.

Cricket has been played in the local villages surrounding Ashby Folville and Barsby since the start of the early 19th Century. The very first local match reports in 1802 included a joint team from Great Dalby, Thorpe Satchville and Twyford along with matches played by Melton, Syston and Asfordby. Over the next few years cricket teams were also recorded to be representing the villages of South Croxton, Rearsby and Queniborough.

At one time nearly every village had its own cricket team, in the immediate vicinity of Ashby Folville there would have also been teams in Barsby, South Croxton, Thorpe Satchville, Twyford, Hungarton, Tilton, Pickwell and Leesthorpe, Somerby, Burrough, Gaddesby, Rearsby, East Goscote, Thrussington, Brooksby, Kirby Bellars, Quenby, Frisby, Lowesby, Great Dalby. All but the last three have disappeared.

Originally the current Ashby Carington Cricket Club was based in Barsby moving to its current location in 1972. Before that there have been several incarnations of clubs based in both villages with the first recorded game in 1806 when a joint Barsby and South Croxton team beat Asfordby and Grimstone at a spot in Kirby Bellars. Local cricket strongest periods were before the end of the Second World War when both Ashby Folville and Barsby villages had their own flourishing cricket teams.

As one of the few remaining traditional village teams from our local area we thought it would be a good time to record some of the history of the club. There are many gaps in the history especially during the 1960's and 1970's when newspaper reporting of local cricket wasn't as widespread as previously. Any contributions to fill these gaps is greatly appreciated.

PART I: The History

Chapter One: The Early Years (1800 - 1850)

The first records of cricket involving Ashby Folville or Barsby are found in EE Snow's History of Leicestershire Cricket where he mentions a game in August 1806, a joint team from Barsby and South Croxton beat Asfordby and Grimstone at a spot near Kirby Bellars.

No further records of cricket in Barsby or Ashby Folville are available until 1827 when a team representing Barsby and Twyford played a two-day game at Burley near Oakham against the Rutland Union Club. This was an auspicious location to play with the cricket ground situated in the grounds of the mansion of George Finch, 9th Earl of Winchilsea (founder member of the MCC) at Burley-on-the-Hill in Rutland. The ground had been used for first-class cricket in 1790, when an early All-England team played a Hampshire team. Also in 1791, an Old Etonians side used the ground for a game against the Marylebone Cricket Club and in 1793, England played a Surrey team at the ground. The site continued to be used for local cricket matches until the outbreak of the Second World War

The Barsby game must have been a big occasion as reports of the game along with a scorecard were to be found in the National newspaper "*Bell's Life in London and Sporting Chronicle*". Reports stated: "Barsby and Twyford were victorious, beating their opponents in one Innings, by three runs; and including their second innings, concluded the game with a majority of 41 in their favour".

Bell's Life in London and Sporting Chronicle was a sporting paper published as a pink broadsheet between 1822 and 1886.

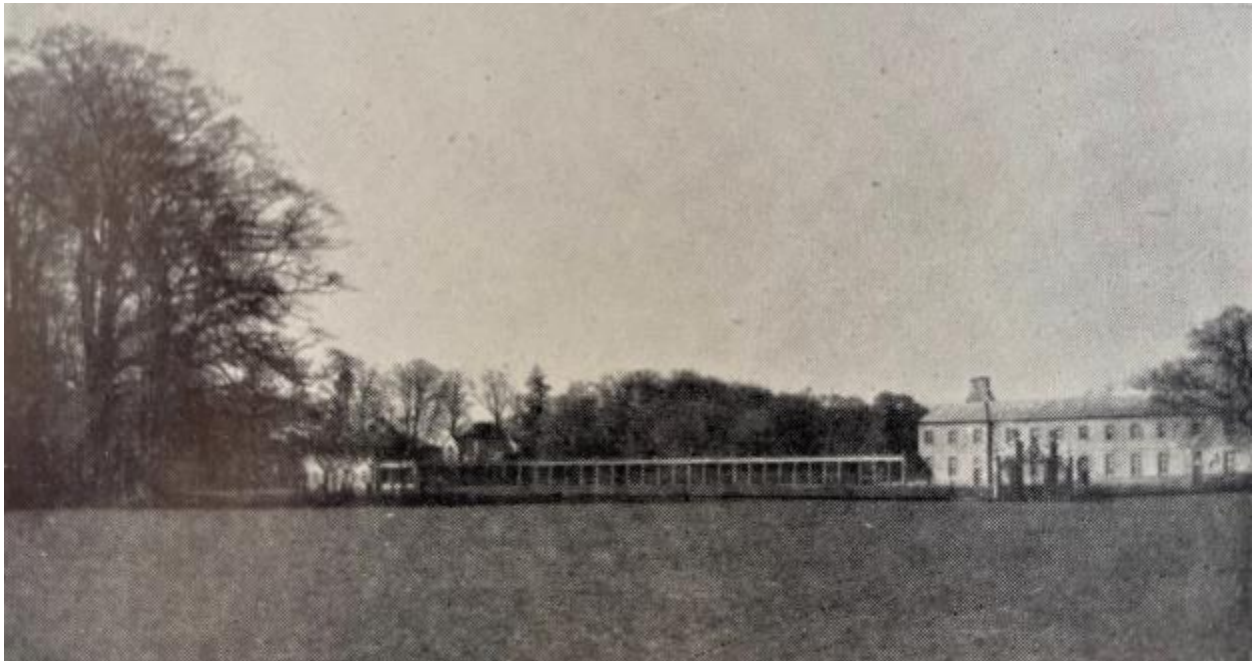
Match report from the Bells Life in London and Sporting chronicle 30/9/1827

BARSBY AND TWYFORD against RUTLAND.			
A match was played on Thursday and Friday, the 20th and 21st instant, at Burley, near Oakham, between Eleven of the Rutland Union Club and Eleven of the Barsby and Twyford Clubs, Leicestershire, when the latter were victorious, beating their opponents, in one innings, by three runs; and, including their second innings, concluded the game with a majority of forty-one in their favour. The following is a statement of the game:—			
BARSBY.		RUTLAND.	
	1st inn. 2d do.		1st inn. 2d do.
Mr. J. Warrington ..	31 7	Mr. Sellers	0 0
— James	8 0	— Broom	5 3
— S. Warrington ..	9 0	— Fryer	4 3
— H. Warrington ..	15 0	— Stimson	26 3
— Marshall	11 4	— Brown	4 4
— R. Whitwell .. .	5 1	— Nedham	5 0
— Ward	6 1	— A. Tirril	10 10
— J. Whitwell .. .	3 1	— S. Tirril	0 2
— Fairbrother .. .	3 3	— Mawby	3 0
— White	3 3	— Tyler	2 0
— Gregory	3 4	— Lester	0 2
Byes	3 6	Byes	2 6
Total	100 38	Total	61 36

The Barsby and Twyford Players are willing to play the Rutland Club a return match, for from twenty to fifty sovereigns a-side, if they think proper.

The Warrington family whose name crops up regularly in the history of Barsby and Ashby Folville cricket were represented by J, S and H Warrington, John Warrington starting with the bat scoring 31 in the first innings. This was not too surprising as he later represented Leicestershire from 1828 and played in a match against Sheffield in 1839 and again in 1848 against Manchester where he was both the top scorer and leading wicket taker. As appeared customary at the time there is evidence the match was played for a cash reward with reports stating that the Barsby and Twyford players were willing to play the Rutland club in a return match for “from twenty to fifty sovereigns a side, if they think proper”.

Burley on the Hill Cricket Ground



On the 11th and 12th of September 1828 Barsby played Melton in a two-day game that was widely previewed and reported in the press. Reports of the game were to be found in the Stamford Mercury, Leicester Herald, Leicester Journal and Bells Life. Friends of the Barsby team were reported as being confident—betting 2 to 1 at the commencement. Perhaps again due to John Warrington who now represented Leicestershire being part of the team (reports of the time incorrectly refer to him as “John Waddington”)

MELTON AGAINST BARSBY.

This match was played at Melton Mowbray, on the 10th and 11th inst. The Barsby Club included John Waddington, one of the first eleven of the County Club, notwithstanding which, they were beaten in fine style by the Meltonians in one innings, although the friends of the Barsby Club were confidently betting 2 to 1 at the commencement of the game. The following is a statement :

BARSBY.		1st Inn.	2d Inn.
Mr. J. Waddington, b. by Cooke	2	c. by Manchester	18
— Jas. Waddington, b. by ditto	17	run out	8
— Marshall, c. by Brown	2	b. by Cooke	9
— Henson, b. by Cooke	1	c. by Lundice	9
— W. Waddington, b. by Barker	1	run out	18
— R. Whitwell, run out	1	b. by Cooke	7
— White, b. by Cooke	2	b. by ditto	8
— J. Whitwell, b. by Lundice	2	b. by ditto	8
— Baker, not out	3	run out	7
— Goss, run out	3	b. by Lundice	5
— Gregory, b. by Cooke	0	not out	9
Byes	1	Byes	9
Total	—34	Total	—59
MELTON.		1st Inn.	
Mr. Hewardine, c. by J. Whitwell	17		
— Lundice, leg before wicket	1		
— Hubbard, c. by Henson	8		
— Frowe, b. by W. Waddington	9		
— Manchester, b. by ditto	11		
— Cooke, c. by Marshall	4		
— Marshall, c. by J. Whitwell	14		
— Barker, b. by W. Waddington	9		
— W. Willis, b. by ditto	2		
— J. Willis, b. by ditto	4		
— Williams, not out	0		
Byes	25		
Total	—87		

Single Wicket Cricket

In 1831 the first reports of “single wicket cricket” games involving Barsby start appearing in the press.

The 1831 issue of New Sporting Magazine stated: “single wicket cricket was not a one-on-one competition but was defined as cricket with less than five players per team. In this modified form, runs could only be scored by hitting the ball to an area forward of the wicket, halving the zone in which runs could be scored”. Otherwise, the rules were like ordinary cricket, which the publication referred to as “double wicket”. Single wicket cricket has known periods of huge success when it was more popular than the eleven-a-side version of the game. Its popularity soared in the first half of the 19th century; single wicket matches however were riddled with gambling-related match fixing.

A single wicket game against Melton was played on the Melton cricket-ground on Wednesday 5th of October 1831, between four of the Barsby Club and four residents of Melton, for five-pound, a-side. It was reported to have “created great interest and led to much speculation”. The Barsby team comprised four members of the Warrington family, with Melton containing a player called “Hubbard” surely not a relative of Nigel who currently plays for Ashby Carington?

The game was won by Melton who scored 19 across their two innings to 11 from Barsby. Not lacking in confidence Barsby were reported after the game to be offering to play four of any one town in Leicestershire.

Match report from the Stamford Mercury 7/10/1831

A single-wicket match took place this week on the cricket-ground at Melton Mowbray, between four of the Barsby club and four residents of Melton, for 10*l.*: the following is a statement of the game:—

<i>Melton First Innings.</i>		<i>Second Innings.</i>	
Bishop—b. by T. Warrington.....	1	c. by J. Warrington... 1	
Hubbard—c. by T. Warrington.....	8	b. by J. Warrington... 6	
J. Willis—b. by W. Warrington.....	0	b. by W. Warrington... 1	
E. Langham—b. by S. Warrington... 0		run out	2
	—9		—10
<i>Barsby First Innings.</i>		<i>Second Innings.</i>	
J. Warrington—c. by Willis	1	c. by Hubbard	9
T. Warrington—b. by ditto.....	0	b. by J. Willis	0
S. Warrington—c. by ditto	1	b. by ditto	1
W. Warrington...run out	5	c. by ditto	1
	—7		—4

Betting 2 to 1 on Barsby; after the first innings, any odds on them.—The Barsby players have been open to play four of any one town in the county of Leicester for 12 months past.

By 1834 the Barsby players were still not having much luck at Single Wicket cricket. A game between Sam Dakin, of Leicester, and Warrington, was began on Wednesday October 8th, Dakin staking £6 to £4. In his first innings, Dakin faced 60 balls, had 49 hits, scoring 39 runs, and was then bowled out. Warrington, in his- first innings, faced 50 balls, 28 hits, 11 runs, and was also bowled out. Dakin then went in a second time, and faced 44 balls, 30 hits, 35 runs, when the match was adjourned to Thursday morning. At the appointed hour, Dakin was ready to resume his innings, but Warrington failed to appear, and, as matter of course, his opponent claimed the stakes. This would have been a challenging match as Sam Dakin who was born in Sileby represented Leicestershire from 1829 and played for the All England X1 in 1847.

Barsby Cricket Club in the 1830 and 1840's

Hostilities were resumed with Melton in 1835 when a joint Barsby and Twyford team played at Melton in an early season June game on Whit-Wednesday. The game was described as “between eleven of the Melton Senior Club, and twenty selected from Twyford, Barsby, and the neighborhood”. There was much anticipation, and it was reported that; “with the selection the county gents, have made, some very superior play is confidently expected”. The game was scheduled to begin at nine o'clock in the morning – clearly no concern about dew on the pitch. Unfortunately, no record exists of the result.

Two Further games were scheduled against teams from Melton in 1838. The first of the games due to be played on Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th of September was between a joint Barsby/Twyford team and the newly formed New Tradesmen's Club. Proceedings were scheduled to start at 9am at a new cricket ground in Priors Close. The ground is believed to have been on the land between Waterfield Baths and the railway line. Previews of the games were to be found in the Leicester Herald, Stamford Mercury, and Leicester Journal.

The match interestingly featured eleven of the Melton Club, and thirteen selected from the Twyford and Barsby Clubs, Barsby won the match by 52 runs. Newspaper reports described the bowling and batting of the Twyford and Barsby teams as “very good indeed”, while on the other hand the Meltonians performance was described as “inferior to anything ever witnessed in this town”. The return match was scheduled to be played at Barsby on Wednesday October 10th although no reports of the outcome of this game are available.

Scorecard from the Leicestershire Journal 5/10/1838

TWYFORD, BARSBY, &c.			
1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
T. Foster, run out	-	3	bowled by Campion
J. Warrington, caught by Bishop	7	7	caught by Bishop
Jos. Warrington, ditto by Willis	9	9	bowled by Etches
W. Warrington, run out	-	7	bowled by ditto
Henson, bowled out by Campion	0	run out	-
S. Warrington, stumped by Willis	23	caught by Bishop	18
J. Adams, stumped by ditto	1	bowled by Etches	0
Buggs, stumped by ditto	-	1	caught by Smart
S. Fairbrother, run out	-	6	caught by Etches
Dilks, bowled by Campion	-	2	bowled by Campion
Clark, bowled by ditto	-	2	not out
Brown, not out	-	0	bowled by Campion
Lee, caught by Willis	-	0	bowled by Etches
Byes	-	3	by 1 wide & no ball
Total	-	68	Total
MELTON.			
1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Jos. Willis, run out	-	16	caught by Warrington
S. Willis, bowled by J. Warrington	8	caught by Lee	2
Campion, stumped by S. Warrington	3	caught by ditto	3
Etches, bowled by Jos. Warrington	2	run out	-
Bishop, bowled by J. Warrington	5	b. by J. Warrington	0
Smart, bowled by ditto	-	2	bowled by ditto
Tyler, bowled by ditto	-	1	not out
Short, bowled by ditto	-	7	caught by Henson
Sharp, bowled by ditto	-	0	b. by Jos. Warrington
Dormall, caught by S. Warrington	3	bowled by ditto	5
Buggs, not out	-	3	caught by Buggs
Byes	-	5	Byes
Total	-	53	Total

The next mention of Barsby Cricket was a six a side match against Mountsorrel on 2nd and 3rd September 1844. The two-day game was played at Barsby who won in one innings, with nine runs to spare.

The return match was played at Mountsorrel on the 9th and 10th September 1844. In the 1st innings Mountsorrel scored 21, and the second 8 runs. Barsby's, first innings totalled 22; however, in the second when three of the players were out for 5 runs a dispute arose respecting a wide ball, the game was left undecided.

It appears that controversy was not unusual in local cricket at this time. Following the first recorded match involving South Croxton at Queniborough in August 1844 several players were arrested and charged with being drunk and creating a disturbance after the game.

Chapter Two: The Start of Organised Cricket (1850 – 1900)

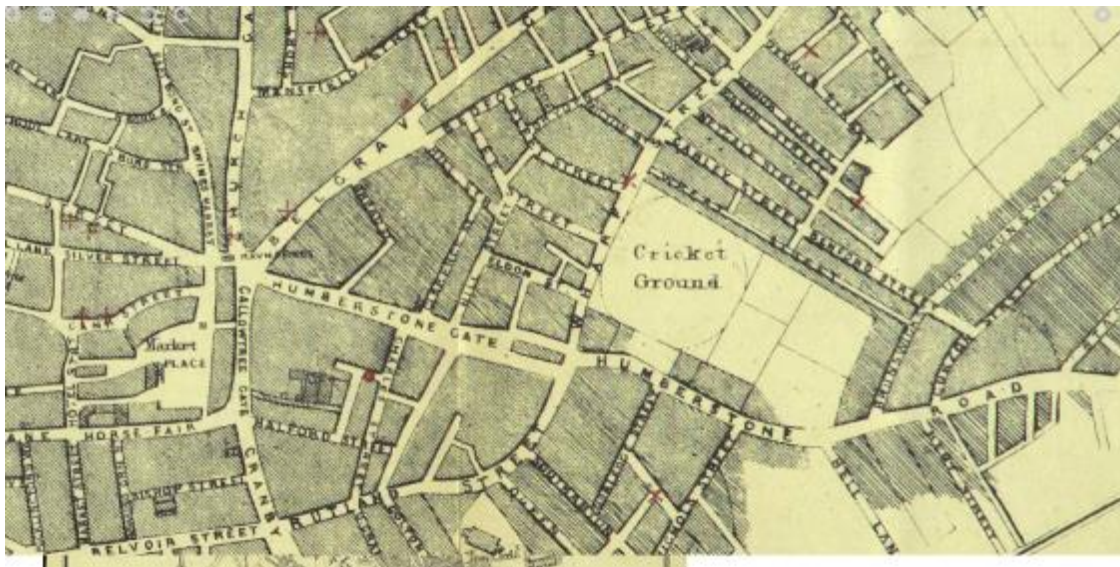
The Warrington's and Single Wicket Cricket

In the second half of the 19th Century Single Wicket Cricket seemed to be to the fore in Barsby. Between 1850 and 1860 six games were recorded with Barsby still represented mainly by members of the Warrington family. Many of these games were played for money and against high profile opponents.

On Monday 13th of September 1852, a match of Single Wicket Cricket was played on the “Barker's ground”, between W. Warrington junior of Barsby, and W. Allen, of Leicester. Warrington at this time had already represented Leicester in 1845. Warrington was victorious scoring 74 in 41 balls, a performance described by the Leicester Chronicle: “We understand such a feat has never before been accomplished”. The full scores were Warrington 1st innings. W. Warrington, 69, wides 5, total 74. Allen 1st innings. W. Allen, 4, wides, 2, total, 6..

The Barker's Ground (mainly referred to as “Wharf Street” was the home of Leicestershire cricket having opened in 1828. The owner of the ground was “Old Barker”, the landlord of the Anchor Inn, Halford Street, who did very well from the gate money. The ground was located on the east side of Wharf Street, near the Humberstone Road. Following the final match held at Barker's Ground, it was sold for building. Today, the ground would be located along Wharf Street, which is in the centre of Leicester. Unfortunately, no known pictures exist of the Wharf Street ground.

Plan of Leicester from 1860 showing location of Wharf Street Cricket Ground



Later in 1852 three of the Warrington family (William, Joshua, and Samuel) represented Barsby in another single Wicket game at Wharf Street against three from Sileby. An extensive report in the Leicester Chronicle described the game. “The match was held on Monday 27th and Tuesday

28th of September. The Sileby men had recently played Barrow for £5 a side and were victorious. They followed up their victory with offering to play three of their men against the three Warringtons of Barsby for £5." The Chronicle had the Warrington's as favorites due to their cricketing celebrity, and the fact that the Sileby men had not hitherto distinguished themselves. Messrs. T. Barker, of Nottingham, and W. C. Smith, of Leicester, were, after some discussion, appointed umpires. The Sileby players fielded rather loosely and missed two or three chances, but Mr. Kirkby bowled admirably. The result of the first day's play was that both parties had had an innings, and the Warringtons led their opponents 33 runs. The day was brought to a close with an excellent dinner at Mr. Henson's, the *Cap and Stocking*, and arrangements were made to stay Tuesday and play the match out.

The Cap and Stocking was a pub in Eastgates area of Leicester pulled down in 1865.

Tuesday opened with bleak, wet, and altogether miserable weather; but the Sileby men, nothing daunted, sent Kirkby to the wicket soon after eleven o'clock. Joshua Warrington took the ball, and bowled for nearly an hour, but the batter managed to guard them off his wicket, though his leg stump had two very narrow escapes. As the bowling had no effect and the runs began to count up, young Warrington (William) was "put on," and he quickly sent a ball which the batter put into Samuel Warrington's hands. Mr. Smith then went and scored two, when he was bowled out and Widdowson's wicket met with a similar fate, the player finding a "nought" affixed to his name. Thus, the Warrington's won the game in one innings, with 20 runs to spare, after a very plucky attempt on the part of their opponents to wipe off the score.

Several further Single Wicket challenges were played in 1854. The first being a match for £5. A-side again on the Barker's ground, between John Antill, of Leicester, and William Warrington, of Barsby. The publicity of the match, and the ability of the combatants, were sufficient to attract a large crowd especially of the friends of Warrington from Syston, Barsby, and the surrounding villages. John Antill was the son of a Leicestershire cricketer and was himself a Leicestershire player being described as a right arm round bowler and the best fielder in the county. At the commencement of the game Antill was the favorite, and a good amount of money changed hands in the shape of bets. Some splendid play was exhibited by both men, and the bowling of Antill was superior to that of his antagonist, but in the last innings Warrington batted so admirably and with such safety that it appeared questionable if the finest bowler in England could have lowered his stumps. In the first innings Antill scored 9 and Warrington 4. In the second innings Antill scored 19 and Warrington 25 not out. There was one "no ball" thrown during the game by Warrington, and a "wide" by Antill. The umpires were Messrs W. Smith and J. Slawson. Afterward William Warrington, of Barsby, having heard that the friends of Antill were dissatisfied with the result of the match, says that he is willing to play any man in the county of Leicester for £5 a-side, on Barker's ground.

It appears the challenge was taken up by a cricketer from Grantham. A single wicket match was played at Harby on Wednesday, the 25th of October, between Mr. Wilson, of Grantham, and Mr. W. Warrington, jun, of Barsby. A single innings on each side was to decide the game, and at the close Wilson had scored 7, and Warrington 8 (not out) and therefore victorious.

In 1853 Joseph Warrington became the third Warrington of Barsby to represent Leicestershire at Cricket following John in 1828 and William in 1845. William Warrington later in 1855 representing Leicestershire against a strong All England X1 at the Wharf Street ground in Leicester. He performed well scoring 18 and 23 in the drawn game.

Another Single Wicket match was scheduled in 1858 on Monday 16th of August, for £2. a-side, between the young Warrington (Brothers) from Barsby, and the two young Adcocks' of Syston. However, the stake posted for this match were forfeited by the Warringtons, in consequence of the inability of one of them to play from illness. A second match was then agreed upon between three of the brothers Warrington (S, J and R), and the Adcocks with another Syston man named Ratcliffe. It was anything but an interesting game to the public, due to the inequality of the players. The Warrington bowled the Syston trio out for 4 in the first innings and scored 59 in response. Syston were again bowled out cheaply for 5 in their second innings. S.Warrington taking five of the six wickets the other being a run out.

Barsby Cricket Club in the 1850's and 1860's

In 1859, Barsby were again reported as playing a 11 a side game. The match was against Melton 2nds and took place on Wednesday September 28th. Despite the Melton side consisting of boys between the age of 12 and 18 they still won easily with 8 second innings wickets to spare.

Scorecard from the Grantham Journal 1/10/1859

MELTON v. BARSBY.—A match was played on the Melton Ground, between these clubs, on Wednesday, 28th September, which resulted in favour of Melton, with eight wickets to fall.				
<i>First Innings.</i>		MELTON.	<i>Second Innings.</i>	
H. Goodacre c Chandler	8	0	b Brown	7
W. Goodacre b Pearcey	0	14	b Pearcey	0
W. Palmer ditto	14	9	not out	6
Wilson c ditto	9	8		
Gattridge b Brown	8	7	not out	2
Wright not out	7	1		
Langham b Pearcey	1	1		
Wilcox c Dilks	1	2		
Wesson b Pearcey	2	4		
Hinman run out	4	0		
Harnes b Brown	0	8	Byes	1
No balls 1, byes 5, leg byes 2.	8			
Total	53	Total	16	
<i>First Innings.</i>		BARSBY.	<i>Second Innings.</i>	
Brown b Langham	15	0	b Wilcox	2
Brewin run out	0	0	c Wesson	2
E. Pearcey b Langham	0	3	not out	5
J. Dilks b Wilcox	3	3	b Wilcox	15
Spencer b Langham	3	3	b Langham	8
J. Warrington b Wilcox	7	7	run out	1
G. Greaves b Wilcox	0	0	b Wilcox	0
G. Chandler run out	2	2	b Langham	0
E. Warrington b Wilcox	0	0	c ditto	0
Black not out	0	0	b Wilcox	0
No balls	1	1	Byes 2, no balls 1.	3
Total	31	Total	26	

The following year 1860, Barsby had more success in a game against Great Dalby winning easily by an innings and 15 runs. In the return match at Great Dalby there was a similar outcome with Barsby winning by an innings and 10 runs.

Scorecard from the Leicester Mercury 25/8/1860

CRICKET.			
BARSBY v. GREAT DALBY.—Eleven of Great Dalby went to Barsby to play a match on August 6, Barsby beating in one innings, with 15 runs to spare. The return match was played on August 20, at Great Dalby. The following is the score:—			
DALBY.			
1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
J. Fisher, c E. Percy	0	b J. Warrington	0
R. Gun, hit wicket	0	b S. Warrington	2
John Wild, c J. Warrington	6	c Joshua Warrington	2
T. Blount, b ditto	5	c E. ditto	3
J. Leadbetter, c J. Brown	0	b J. ditto	0
J. Walker, b S. Warrington	3	c J. Brown	2
Joseph Wild, b J. Warrington	1	b J. Warrington	6
J. Parker, b S. Warrington	3	not out	1
T. Measure, c E. Percy	6	c J. Warrington	2
Joseph Warner, c Joshua Warrington	3	b S. ditto	2
John Warner, not out	1	b S. ditto	0
Leg bye	1		
	29		29
BARSBY.			
H. Brown, run out		3	
E. Warrington, b J. Fisher		18	
James Warrington, b ditto		9	
J. Brown, b ditto		0	
Joshua Warrington, run out		1	
S. Warrington, b J. Fisher		7	
E. Percy, run out		11	
N. Percy, c T. Measures		0	
T. Spenser, c J. Fisher		9	
G. Graves, not out		4	
Wide 4, leg byes 3		7	
		69	

The Beginning of Cricket in Ashby Folville - 1860

Both the Leicestershire Mercury and Leicester Guardian from the 8th of September 1860 have the first recorded cricket for Ashby Folville. The reports describe a “return” match against Gaddesby Second XI from Monday September 3rd. No details exist of the preceding game. The match was held on the day of the “Ashby wake” on what was described as a “fine day” with “numerous company (including a good sprinkling of the fair sex) assembled”.

The term “wake” was originally used to denote a prayer vigil, often an annual event held on the feast day of the saint to whom a parish church was dedicated.

Possible site of Ashby's first game at back of Nether House – Gaddesby



For the occasion, a field was kindly lent by Mr. Hall (probably William Hall of Little End, Gaddesby). It's not clear where this field was located but it's reasonable to assume it could have been on the Gaddesby Road as "Little End" now referred to as "Nether End", lies at the Ashby Folville end of Gaddesby. Ashby batted first, but through the excellent fielding and bowling of their opponents, they were only able to make 39. Gaddesby then went in, and some fine batting ensued, in which Messrs. F. Foster and W. North chiefly distinguished themselves. The first innings closed for 82. Ashby second innings, only succeeded in obtaining 45, thus leaving their opponents only 3 to get to win, which were soon obtained without the loss of wicket.

Report and Scorecard from the Leicester Guardian 8/9/1860

<p>ASHBY FOLVILLE v. GADDESBY SECOND ELEVEN.— Monday last being Ashby wake, and the day very fine, a numerous company (including a good sprinkling of the fair sex) assembled in a field kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Hall, to witness the return match between the above parties. Ashby was the first to take possession of the wickets, but through the excellent fielding and bowling of their opponents, they were unable to make a long score, their last wicket falling for 39. Gaddesby then went in, and some fine batting ensued, in which Messrs. F. Foster and W. North chiefly distinguished themselves. The latter added 25 to the score in first-rate style, and carried out his hat. The first innings closed for 82. Ashby, in their second innings, only succeeded in obtaining 45, thus leaving their opponents only 3 to get to win, which were soon obtained without the loss of a wicket. The following is the score:—</p>	
ASHBY.	
1st Innings.	
S. Black, c S. Foster	7
T. Brewin, c H. Foster	9
W. Hinman, c J. Underwood	5
J. Black, run out	3
J. Johnson, b R. Carr	11
H. Kettle, b S. Foster	0
D. Ward, b ditto	2
W. Adcock, b H. Carr	3
T. Brown, b S. Foster	0
W. Black, b ditto	0
H. What, not out	0
Bye	1
	39
2nd Innings.	
run out	6
b H. Carr	3
c J. Underwood	3
run out	3
c W. North	0
b S. Foster	3
b ditto	1
run out	0
not out	9
c C. Hand	2
b S. Foster	4
Byes	5
	45
GADDESBY.	
1st Innings.	
F. Foster, c S. Black	15
W. Hardy, c ditto	4
R. Carr, c ditto	6
S. Foster, c H. Kettle	9
W. North, not out	25
H. Mason, run out	4
J. Underwood, run out	5
J. Johnson, b S. Black	5
J. Clark, c S. Black	0
H. Foster, run out	0
C. Hand, b S. Black	4
Byes	2
	82
2nd Innings.	
not out	0
not out	3
	3

Late 19th Century Cricket in Ashby Folville and Barsby

For the remainder of the second half of the 19th Century it seems likely that cricket continued in both Ashby Folville and Barsby in parallel. Barsby were likely the preeminent club, reports on Ashby Folville being quite sporadic with only nine games recorded before 1900. Interestingly there are no reports of the two villages ever competing against each other, but they did join forces to beat a Gaddesby team in 1885.

In September 1863 Barsby entertained a team from Gaddesby on Tuesday 25th to celebrate the village feast. This game itself was eventful probably due to overindulging in the public house between innings.

To suit all parties, it was agreed to play the game fully out. Gaddesby won the first innings, and they left host Nichol's cricket ground, and went to an adjoining public house, known by the name of the "*Shoulder of Mutton*" to take a little refreshment; there they stayed for a period of two hours or more. When they came back, they informed the Barsby side that they did not intend to lose the game. The Grantham Journal reported that the conduct of some of the players on the Gaddesby side, as well as their umpire, in drawing the stumps before the time, was anything but gentlemanly or even manly. This was the third match between the two the teams this season.

Richard Nicholls was the landlord of the King William IV Public House from 1863-1870 and also owned four closes of the adjoining pasture land. It is therefore likely that this game was played at the same venue next to the King William that Barsby was still playing on when cricket ceased in the late 1960's.

The Shoulder of Mutton pub was probably located opposite the King William IV public house. It burnt down in 1882 and finally closed in 1895 There was also a third pub in the village in 1863 called the Plough.

Disputed Scorecard from the Grantham Journal 5/9/1863

GADDESBY.			
T. North, b J. Warrington	.. .. 17	lbw b S. Warrington	0
J. North, b ditto	.. .. 8	b J. Warrington	.. 0
F. Foster, b ditto	.. .. 5	b E. Percy	.. .. 0
T. Baker, run out	.. .. 2	b J. Warrington	.. .. 0
W. North, b E. Percy	.. .. 0	b ditto	.. .. 2
J. Ward, b E. Percy	.. .. 7	b ditto	.. .. 9
W. Brown, b J. Warrington	.. .. 6	b T. Brewin	.. .. 2
Jos. Underwood, b ditto	.. .. 8	run out	.. .. 2
H. Brown, c Brewin b ditto	.. .. 1	not out	.. .. 24
Joshua Underwood, not out	.. .. 2	b J. Warrington	.. .. 4
J. Smith, b J. Warrington	.. .. 0	run out	.. .. 2
Byes	.. .. 10	Byes	.. .. 5
	Total—61		Total—50
BARSBY.			
T. Brewin, b J. North	.. .. 0	b J. North	.. .. 0
J. Dilks, c W. Brown	.. .. 0	b ditto	.. .. 26
R. Brewin, b H. Brown	.. .. 5	b ditto	.. .. 4
J. Warrington, b H. Brown	.. .. 21	not out	.. .. 4
E. Percy, c J. North	.. .. 0		
S. Warrington, b ditto	.. .. 3	b H. Brown	.. .. 11
James Warrington, b Foster	.. .. 7		
T. Spencer, run out	.. .. 1		
S. Warrington, not out	.. .. 1	b ditto	.. .. 1
W. Smith, b Foster	.. .. 1		
J. Draycot, b H. Brown	.. .. 1		
Byes	.. .. 8	Byes 5, wide 1—8	
	Total—63		Total—62

Ashby Folville Cricket Club were back in action by 1864 losing a two innings game at home to Thorpe Satchville.

Scorecard from the Grantham Journal 9/9/1864

CRICKET.					
THORPE SATCHVILLE V. ASHBY FOLVILLE.—This match was played at Ashby Folville, on Monday, August 29th, which resulted in favour of Thorpe Satchville. Subjoined is the score:—					
THORPE SATCHVILLE.					
G. Yates, b J. Black	...	...	3	c and b G. Brewin	7
J. H. Leadbeater, run out	...	...	7	c J. Black, b H. Kettle	2
E. Black, run out	...	...	8	b H. Kettle	0
F. Foster, b H. Kettle	...	...	24	b G. Brewin	3
W. North, c G. Brewin, b J. Black	...	...	0	c and b H. Kettle	11
W. Fisher, c Johnson, b Kettle	...	...	1	b H. Kettle	8
W. Smith, b H. Kettle	...	...	4	b H. Kettle	2
J. Beadle, b J. Black	...	...	2	not out	6
W. Hardy, b J. Black	...	...	3	b J. Black	0
J. Walker, b H. Kettle	...	...	4	b H. Kettle	1
J. Huddleston, not out	...	...	3	b H. Kettle	0
Byes	...	...	7	Byes	3
			72	42	
ASHBY FOLVILLE.					
T. Smith, st Foster, b Leadbeater	...	...	7	c Yates, b E. Black	5
H. Waite, b Foster	...	...	2	l b w, b Foster	3
S. Hodgkin, b Foster	...	...	0	run out	4
J. Johnson, b Foster	...	...	2	run out	0
J. Black, b Foster	...	...	10	b Leadbeater	17
H. Kettle, b E. Black	...	...	5	b Foster	3
G. Brewin, c Leadbeater, b Foster	...	...	3	c W. Smith	0
W. Black, jun., c E. Black, b Foster	...	...	4	b Foster	0
W. Black, b E. Black	...	...	0	not out	0
G. Freekingham, b Fisher, b Leadbeater	...	...	13	run out	2
M. Scarbow, not out	...	...	0	run out	1
Byes	...	...	9		
			55	35	

In 1870 Barsby joined with South Croxton to play a game against Houghton Juniors. Unfortunately, Houghton won easily winning by 10 second innings wickets having bowled Barsby out for 37 and 47 in their two innings.

Between 1874 and 1878 reports of several Barsby games were in the local press. These included two games against Tilton and District, three against Thrusington, three against Twyford, plus single games against, Hoby, Asfordby, Belgrave, Great Dalby and finally “*Leicester Elastic Weavers*”. Twelve of these were won, one drawn against Leicester Elastic Weavers and one lost away to Twyford in 1876.

An unusual name on the Barsby fixture list was “Mr. Turners (Leicester) Elastic Weavers”. In the mid-19th century, the manufacture of elastic webbing for boots, stockings, braces etc. was a very profitable business in Leicester. Luke Turner was from a prominent family of elastic weavers and established his own company in 1858 building an impressive factory in 1862 on Grange Lane. Like many companies of the time, Luke Turner ran a company cricket team. This is probably not surprising given his interest in cricket being one of the original shareholders in the Leicester cricket Club in 1877..

Luke Turner’s son, John Alfred Turner played first-class cricket for Cambridge University and the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) between 1883 and 1890.

Scorecard from the Grantham Journal 17/8/1877

BARSBY V. LEICESTER ELASTIC WEAVERS.

A match was played at Barsby on the 11th inst. between the Barsby club and eleven of Mr. Turner's elastic weavers, Leicester. Score:—

BARSBY.			
S. Walker, b Robinson	4	b Robinson	5
E. Adams, b Spence	2	b Spence	0
F. Foster, b Spence	3	b Robinson	2
R. Harris, b Robinson	1	c Sharp, b Norton	5
Y. Barsby, b Spence	0	not out	5
T. North, b Robinson	0	c Cowell, b Robinson	0
Mr. Balard, c Wildbore, b Robinson	1	b Robinson	0
E. Barsby, c and b Spence	2	c Cowell, b Robinson	0
T. Bruen, b Spence	2	b Norton	3
J. Sanders, not out	1	c Spence, b Robinson	7
W. Greaves, b Robinson	0	b Robinson	0
Extras	7	extras	6
Total	29	Total	36
ELASTIC WEAVERS.			
Hubbard, c and b Foster	0		
Robinson, b Walker	4		
Cowell, b Walker	5	b Walker	7
Spence, b Walker	2	b Walker	11
Bhenton, run out	0	run out	1
Sharp, b Foster	0	b Foster	6
Norton, b Foster	2		
Worrell, c and b Foster	4		
Glover, b Walker	0		
Wildbore, b Foster	2		
Smith, not out	2		
Extras	1	extras	0
Total	23	Total	25

During this late 19th Century the Warrington family were still very active in Barsby cricket with four family members representing the club, H Warrington, M Warrington, William (Commercial Traveller), Samuel (Manufacturer).

Other prominent family names in the Barsby teams of the time included the following with many running local businesses in the village.

E and William Bonshor (William Bonshor - Grazier)

T and H Brown - (Henry Brown – Farmer/Miller)

Job and Samuel Dilkes, (Job Dilkes – Cottager, Samuel Dilkes – Farmer)

T North (Thomas North – Carpenter)

T Randell (Thomas Randell – Farmer)

John Powell (Grazier)

Edward Percy (Blacksmith)

John Walker (Farmer/Shoulder of Mutton in 1884)

Samuel Walker (King William in 1884)

W Greaves (Grazier)

Other players included:

F Mansfield , R and T Pears , John and R Barsby ,J Baker, L and E White, F Foster, E Adams, B Cliff, R Harris, W Richardson, C Ploughman, A Tunicliffe, T Smith, D Whitish, W Bent, S Whait.

In 1879 Barsby played two games against Hoby. For the first game the Barsby team was named the “Barsby Rose Club” and for the second game the team was described as “Barsby Rovers” For both games the Hoby team was described as “Hoby Rising stars” The reason for these team names seems unclear (perhaps it might have been a Ladies team or junior team) however the Barsby team contained many of the same players that had represented Barsby in previous games.

Throughout the remainder of the 19th Century further Barsby games were recorded against Gaddesby, Hungarton, Twyford, Asfordby, Great Dalby and Somerby. Three of these games were won, two lost with the remainder being drawn. The games all took place on weekdays, Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesdays and were usually two innings matches, so it is likely many of these games coincided with local Feast days.

In 1885 the Barsby and Ashby Folville teams joined forces to beat Gaddesby. The game was played at Ashby Folville with the home team scoring 85 in their first innings. A very respectable score for the time. Gaddesby were bowled out for 32 and 17 in their two innings. The star of the day was H Brown who took 14 wickets the majority being bowled. Interestingly he appears to have been poached from Gaddesby by Barsby having previously represented Gaddesby earlier in the season.

Scorecard from the Grantham Journal 5/9/1885

ASHBY FOLVILLE AND BARSBY UNITED V. GADDESBY.			
A cricket match was played at Ashby Folville on Monday, August 31st, between Ashby Folville and Barsby United and Gaddesby, and resulted in a victory for the home team by an innings and 37 runs. Score:—			
ASHBY FOLVILLE AND BARSBY UNITED.			
H. Brown, c Ward, b Brown	15	G. Crawford, c S. Whait,	
S. Robinson, b E. Whait	4	b Walpole	5
J. Barratt, c Ward, b Brown	2	S. T. Black, b E. Whait	0
H. Greaves, b Ward	38	D. Baker, b Whait	4
W. Underwood, c Ward,		J. Baker (capt.), not out	1
b E. Whait	2	Extras	4
C. Pykett, b Brown	1		
T. Black, c Knapp, b E.			
Whait	10	Total	86
GADDESBY.			
E. Whait, b Brown	3	b Brown	0
S. Whait (capt.), b Brown	4	b Pykett	4
W. Walpole, c Barratt, b Brown	6	b Pykett	0
D. Johnson, b Greaves	6	c Greaves, b Pykett	5
J. Dalrymple, b Brown	3	b Brown	0
J. Knapp, b Brown	0	b Brown	1
J. Ward, b Brown	0	b Brown	0
T. Brown, b Greaves	0	b Brown	4
J. Hillyer, c Greaves, b Brown	3	c T. Black, b Brown	1
J. Cooper, not out	4	c Greaves, b Brown	0
G. Baker, b Barratt	0	not out	1
Extras	3	extras	1
Total	32	Total	17

The following day an interesting game at cricket was played at Ashby Folville, between the Married and Single. The Single men gained an easy victory by an innings and 33 runs, the scores: Married, 17 and 38; Single, 88.

Formation of the Ashby Folville Cricket Club - 1890

According to EE Snow in his excellent book “County House Cricket Grounds of Leicestershire and Rutland” he states that Ashby Folville were formed around 1890 by *HH Smith-Carington*. This date does tie in with an upturn in reported cricket matches in Ashby Folville and probably represents the start of an organised Cricket Club with only a few ad-hoc games played previously. This is further corroborated by reports in 1892 that the newly constituted John O’Gaunt and Twyford C. C had decided to send challenges to the teams of Abb Kettleby, Tugby, Somerby, Barsby, Ashby Folville, South Croxton, Leicester Tradesmen and Leicester Borough Police Force.

The Ashby Folville estate was bought in 1890 by Herbert Hanbury Smith-Carington, then mayor of Worcester (died 1917), who built cottages and a village institute and restored the church. His grandson, Wing Commander John Smith-Carington (a long time President of the current Ashby Carington club) inherited the Ashby Folville Estate, which extends to approximately 1200 acres, just after the Second World War. After the Wing Commander’s recent death, the responsibility of running the Estate is now in the hands of his grandson, Alex Stroud (current Ashby Carington Cricket Club President).

From 1893 five further Ashby Folville games were recorded up to the end of the 19th Century against Frisby, Wymeswold, Great Dalby, Rearsby and Thorpe Satchville. Like Barsby many of these games coincided with local Feast Days. The game away to Frisby was on July 11th, 1893 (Feast Tuesday). Ashby also visited Great Dalby on the 18th of June 1898 as part of the Dalby Feast. The Dalby Village Feast was celebrated during the week with the principle point of interest being the cricket ground where during the first three days matches were played with Ashby Folville Thorpe Satchville and Gaddesby each time the home team proving themselves “masters” according to the Grantham Journal.

The final recorded game of the 19th Century was on Monday 27th August against Thorpe Satchville. A report in the Grantham Journal hints at the possible decline of the village “Feast Week” although the link to cricket was still very evident.

Grantham Journal report: “The Feast. —Although the Church here is dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin the Feast falls during the present week, within the octave St. Bartholomew telling no doubt, of an earlier dedication, and the tenacity the people towards old customs and dates. Suitable allusion to the event was made Sunday the Vicar, the J. Godson, R.D., but otherwise there was no special celebration the Church. None of the usual paraphernalia of the holiday, in the shape of stalls, etc., were evidence. There was cricket match on Monday, Ashbv v. Thorpe Satchville. When the former proved victorious. Dancing in the Carrington Arms attracted a fairly large company in the evening.”.

Chapter Three: Before the War (1901 - 1914)

Ashby Folville Cricket Club and the Springfield Road Ground

In the early part of the 20th Century nine games were recorded for Ashby Folville many again coinciding with Feast Days.

1900 Season: The first such game was against Rearsby on Tuesday 4th of September 1900. Monday's cricket was described as somewhat disappointing, as at the eleventh hour the expected visitors from Thorpe notified their inability to fulfil the engagement. A scratch match was arranged for the local team and passed off very pleasantly. The fixture with Rearsby was played on the Tuesday and resulted in a victory for Rearsby by the narrow majority of 4 runs. The Feast Week had attractions including, dancing each evening at the " Carrington Arms," and for the juveniles shooting galleries, swings, skittles, and cocoa-nut shies.

1901 Season: The following year Ashby Folville provided the opposition for the Kirby Bellars Village Feast. Four days of cricket had been arranged, Kirby were disappointed by the standard of cricket provided by Frisby in the first game having compiled 101 and then dismissing Frisby for 21 and 11 in their two innings. Hopefully, they were more satisfied by the game against Ashby Folville on the Tuesday although no record exists of the result.

1904 Season: In 1904 Ashby Folville played a game against Melton Wyvern, included in the Ashby teamsheet was W.S Carington. Reports describe "a very pleasant game" being played at Ashby Folville the visitors winning by 34 runs with a wicket to spare. The home team batted first, and scored 58, Mr. Carington and J. Walker batting well for their runs. S. Spencer brought off two brilliant catches, and Hazlewood again bowled well. H. Muff and T. Bursnell started well for Wyvern, and subsequently good scores were made by Hazlewood and Nudds. Walker bowled effectively for Ashby.

Scorecard from the Grantham Journal 27/8/1904

ASHBY.		WYVERN.	
W. S. Carrington, Eq., c		G. Day, b Walker	2
Nudds, b Smith	10	H. Muff, b Walker	10
E. Hollier, c Spencer, b		T. Bursnell, run out	14
Hazlewood	5	S. Spencer, b Walker	0
H. Warrington, c Burs-		H. Herring, run out	8
nell, b Spencer	0	J. Hazlewood, b Sereaton	24
F. Sereaton, c Spencer, b		A. Nudds, b Sereaton	15
Smith	5	E. Spawton, c & b Sere-	
J. Adams, c Day, b		ton	8
Hazlewood	9	H. Ackroyd, b Walker	4
J. Walker, b Hazlewood	11	A. Smith, not out	1
J. Jones, b Day	1	J. Mann did not bat.	
W. Perry, run out	0		
F. Day, b Hazlewood	0		
A. Adams, not out	8		
J. Blochley, c Mann, b			
Hazlewood	0		
Extras	3	Extras	8
Total	58	Total (3 wickets)	92

The Wyvern Spinning Mills owned by T. W. Rust and Co were located in Mill Street. They were later used by Patons and Baldwins and in 1951, Petfoods moved to the site.

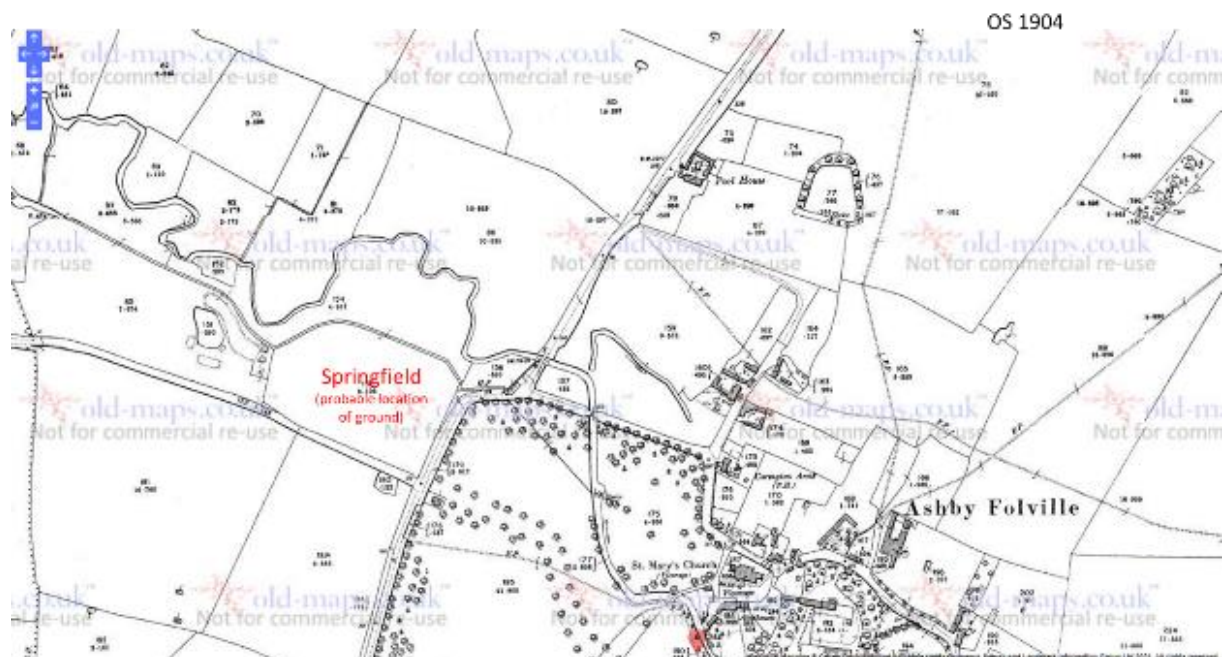
WS Carington was the son of Herbert Hanbury Smith-Carington. Neville Woodford Smith-Carington (1888-1933) who was born at the manor would have been 16 years old at the time of the game. He stood for the Conservative Party in Loughborough at the General Election of January 1910 but was not elected. He then stood again in the 1923 Rutland and Stamford by-election, winning the seat, which he held until his death in 1933.

1905 Season: In 1905 Ashby Folville along with Little Dalby and Somerby provided the opposition for the Great Dalby Feast Week. Ashby were victorious in their game played on the Tuesday. The games were played on what was described as the “new ground” in Great Dalby.

Cricket was certainly gaining popularity in the local villages at the start of the 20th Century. South Croxton and Baggrave Cricket Club were formed in 1904 and moved to their new ground in 1905. The new cricket-ground, in great measure due the interest and support extended to the Club by the president, A. E. Burnaby, of Baggrave Hall. Gaddesby also had renewed interest in cricket with a meeting arranged in 1906 attended by twenty two supporters with the objective of organising a Club. They agreed to contact Great Dalby, Frisby, Ashby Folville, Rearsby, and Thrusington CC to arrange fixtures.

Springfield Ground: A report in the Grantham Journal on the 8th of September 1906 made the first reference to the Springfield Ground. The ground was described as “on a field off Springfield Road”. Almost no reference exists to a Springfield Road but it possible this could have been the South Croxton to Ashby Road. Springfield itself is located on the corner of the Barsby and Gaddesby roads and is probably the field referred to. EE Snow in his book “County House Cricket Grounds of Leicestershire” claimed Ashby had been at the ground since 1890 and describes the ground as being “almost opposite the Lodge”

1904 OS Map showing probable location of “Springfield Road” Ground



1906 Season: The game at Springfield Road was held on the Monday against Somerby as part of the Annual Feast Week. The proceedings near the Carington Arms Inn were described as very lively during the earlier part of the week, and the various amusements appeared to be well patronised. The visitors had first innings, soaring 64 runs. A. Smith bowled in such good form that the first two wickets fell in less than six balls. Messrs. Tinkler (16 runs) and Pepper (10 runs) played well but were not able stem the adverse tide. Then came the turn of the Ashby team, who obtained 148 runs for five wickets when the time limit was reached. The highest scorers were W. Davis 47, J. Adams not out, J. Smith 21, A. Percy 14, C. Martin 11, and T. Wright 6 not out. On Tuesday, the Thorpe Satchville cricketers came over to play Ashby. Thorpe had the first innings and declared 120 for 5 wickets Ashby replying with 60.

1907 Season: Three games were recorded in 1907, two against Melton WMC 2nd XI and one against Gaddesby. The first of the games against Melton was held on the All England Cricket Ground, the game was curtailed by rain with Melton 37 for 9. The return game in September along with the Gaddesby game were part of the Ashby Feast Week.

On the afternoon of Monday September 2nd, the Gaddesby cricketers played Ashby on the Springfield Road pitch. However, the heavy showers stopped play between four and five, leaving the score as follows: Gaddesby 32 runs, Ashby Folville 12 runs for no wicket. Mr. F. Walker's bowling was described as "very accurate" and was highly applauded when three wickets fell for about six balls or so. On the Saturday afternoon, Melton Working Men's Club had played on the same ground, but the game resulted in draw, owing to the sharp showers.

No further records exist of cricket at Ashby Folville under after the 2nd World War.

Barsby Cricket club

1901/1902 Season: Reports of Barsby playing cricket were sparse in the early 20th Century. The four recorded games include two against Mr. E Clarkes Firm (Melton) in 1901 and 1902 followed by games against Great Dalby and Gaddesby in 1909 and 1910.

Unusually the first game against Mr. E Clarkes Firm was held in June on a Saturday at Barsby. The game was won by Barsby 50 runs to 38 with J Haines taking 7 of the Barsby wickets. In 1902 Barsby met the same opposition on the 15th of August as part of the Feast Week. The Grantham Journal described the festivities. "The Feast passed off quietly in-the early part of this week. On Monday, the chief entertainment was found watching a contest between the home cricket team and a team made from among the employees of Messrs. Clarke, builders, Melton. Other attractions included a couple of toy and sweet stalls catering for the children, and dancing was indulged in during the evening the King William the Fourth."

1909 Season: Barsby provided the opposition for Great Dalby as part of their Feast Week. Cricket must have played an important part in the festivities at Great Dalby as they also had games against Gaddesby and Pickwell. Despite the game taking place in June the weather was

described as being “a bit cold for flannels”. Against Barsby on the Monday, Great Dalby made 54 and 87, the Barsby getting 30 and 69 for seven wickets.

Season 1910: For the 1910 Barsby Feast Week Gaddesby were the visitors. There were a large number of visitors on the Sunday, when the old time custom of baking the Feast Sunday dinner was kept by Mr. H. Rodily. The great attraction on Monday was the meeting of the neighbouring villages, Gaddesby and Barsby, in a friendly contest on the cricket field. The result was described as a “draw in favour of the Barsby team by 30 on the first innings” A small array of stalls was located at the entrance the cricket paddock, near the King William IV Inn, where dancing was carried on in the evening.

South Croxton Cricket Club

One of the reasons for the lack of games recorded for Barsby might well have been the resurgence of cricket in South Croxton. The club had an active social calendar as well as a full fixture list against the like of Thorpe Satchville, Midland Railway Clerks, Melton WMC, Syston and Thurmaston Band.

A highlight of the local cricket calendar was the South Croxton and Baggrave Cricket Club Cricket Week. In 1907 the second of the annual cricket weeks was held on the Croxton ground with the event attracting a large crowd of spectators. Representatives of the game gathered from Ashby, Barsby, Gaddesby, Beeby, Baggrave, Syston, Thorpe, Somerby, Rearsby. A splendid lunch for 150 guests was organized the catering was this year entrusted to local hands, Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin, of the " Cheney Arms," Gaddesby,

Chapter Four: Between the Wars (1921 – 1940)

By 1921 Barsby Cricket Club had resumed playing cricket as had South Croxton Cricket Club (now without the Baggrave suffix). However, no records of any games for Ashby Folville exist until 1929 around the time that South Croxton Cricket Club appear to have played their last game.

1921 Season: On the 27th of August 1921 Barsby played a game against Lowesby. The venue for the game was *Quenby Hall*. Lowesby won the game easily scoring 79 with a struggling Barsby scoring only 12 and 17 in their two innings.

The Quenby ground was situated to the right of the footpath that leads to Hungarton about ½ a mile from the church. A separate ground was later opened at Quenby in 1932 and used by the village team.

Two games were also played against Thorpe Satchville in 1921, no record exist of the first game but the return game at Thorpe on Saturday 3rd September was easily won by the home team who scored 110 to 65 scored by Barsby. The Barsby team included: H Brown, AG Platts, E Gutteridge, H Heard, Sam and Sid Warrington, W Allan, AS Platts, A Adams, A Morris, J Bowley.

1922/1923 Season: Games were played at Thrussington and Kirby Bellars, Barsby again losing both games. Not much is known about whether results improved in 1923 as the results of the only two known fixtures against Melton British Legion were not recorded.

Barsby and The Hospital Cup - 1923

In February 1923 a meeting was arranged by the Committee organising a knock-out competition in connection with the newly established Melton and District War Memorial Hospital Cricket League. The competition was to be used to raise funds for Melton Hospital. Ashby Folville and Barsby Cricket Clubs joined forces to enter the tournament.

Sixteen Clubs were admitted Saxby, Twyford, Rotherby and Hoby, Somerby, Old Dalby, Harby, Barsby and Ashby Folville, Waltham, Great Dalby, Wymondham, Melton Midland Railway, Holwell Works, Abb Kettlebv, Melton British Legion, Asfordby, Frisby-on-the-Wreake. It was agreed the draw for the first round would be made at the next meeting.

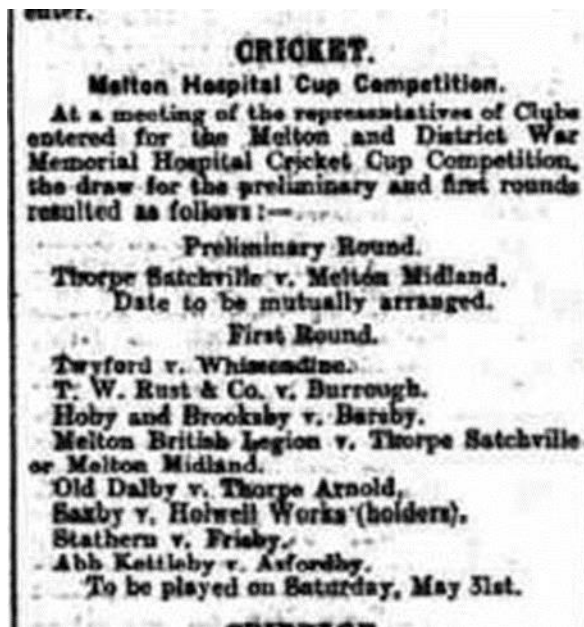
It's not clear who Barsby and Ashby Folville drew in the first round but in July it was reported at a meeting of the Management Committee by Honorary Secretary (Mr. J. W. Hubbard) that Holwell Works and Frisby-on-the-Wreake had qualified for the final, and arrangement were made for the match played the ground of the Egerton Park Cricket Club, Melton, on Saturday August 4th. The Hospital Cup Final was quite an occasion with 750 spectators present raising £19 at the gate, the competition raised £28 for Melton Hospital.

Despite the Competition Committee noting in October 1923 that the Hospital Cup should be competed on a league basis (in 1923 it was organised as a cup format due to the short notice of setting up the competition), it appears 1924 was also run along the lines of a cup competition.

1924 Season: For the 1924 season from the draw made in February it appeared that Barsby Cricket Club entered as a standalone team without Ashby Folville. However later in the year when the umpires were announced Barsby had been replaced in the draw by Rotherby.

Apart from the Hospital Cup there was also a schoolboy's fixture against Twyford.

1924 Draw for Hospital Cup – Grantham Journal 9/2/1924



1925 Season: By 1925 there was an entry of 26 teams into the competition, adding to those entered in 1924 were: Melton Bible Class, Wymondham, Somerby, Waltham, Great Dalby, Branston, Long Clawson, Scalford, Melton Young Liberals, Eaton and Stonesby. No entries were received from Melton British Legion and Holwell. Barsby were drawn at home to Thorpe Satchville in the Preliminary Round in Division A. Although no record exists of the scores Thorpe Satchville progressed to the 1st round so, we presume Barsby lost.

Barsby played a 13 a side friendly against Melton British Legion in 1925. Barsby won that game by one run, H Riley top scoring for Barsby with 19.

Barsby and the Burrough League – 1926

1926 Season: From 1926 Barsby competed in the Burrough League. A competition that is still going strong in 2020 with Ashby Carington competing in Division 2. The competition however seems to have changed somewhat. In 1926 the games were played on Saturdays (and presumably not over limited), today's competition is played on a Tuesday night league limited to 18 overs. This may have been the inaugural season for the competition as no earlier records could be found.

Burrough and District League.					
	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Burton Lazars ...	10	8	1	1	17
Thorpe Satchville	10	5	3	2	12
Burrough	10	8	4	0	12
Barsby	10	5	4	1	11
Somerby	10	2	8	0	4
Great Dalby	10	2	8	0	4

Burton Lazars have thus won the Cup given by Mr. Lindsay Everard, M.P.

Barsby had a commendable season winning five of their ten games although no record exists of any of the individual results. It was also interesting to note that the cup was donated by *Sir Lindsey Everard* (Everards are still supporting the league to this day).

SIR WILLIAM LINDSAY EVERARD, D. L., J. P., died at Torquay on March 11th 1949, aged 57. He played twice for Leicestershire and was Hon. Secretary of Leicestershire Gentlemen's Club 1914-35. President of County Club 1936 and 1939; member of the M.C.C. Committee 1938-45. One of the pioneers of private flying at his own aerodrome near his Leicestershire home, Ratcliffe Hall. Sir Lindsay took over the business of Everards Brewery in 1925 and remained in that position until his death.

In the 1926 Season there were 28 teams entered in the Hospital Cup, Barsby were drawn away to the previous year's finalists Frisby. Not surprisingly Barsby lost being bowled out for 35 chasing 62 for 8 scored by Frisby.

1927 Season: It's not clear if Barsby entered again the Burrough League in 1927. It was however the final year we can find records of Barsby entering the Hospital Cup. It also turned out to be their most successful. Somerby were defeated in the 1st Round before Whissendine visited Barsby to win in the 2nd round encounter.

In January 1927 a Fancy-Dress Dance was held at Ashby Folville village hall in aid of Barsby Cricket Club. The competitors were judged by Mrs. A. E. Burnaby, of Baggrave Park, and Miss Monica Sheriffe, of Goadby Marwood, their decisions being as follows: Ladies 1. Mrs. Dalby (Great Dalby), Gipsy; 2. Miss Dudgon (Leicester), Carnival; 3. Mrs. Paling (Nottingham), Pied Piper. Gentlemen 1. Mr. R. Wilson (South Croxton), Nurse; 2. Mr. W. Andrews (Barsby), Cupid; 3. Mr. P. Hart, jun. (Gaddesby), Dutch Boy. Music was provided by the Melton Mowbray Scouts' Orchestra.

1928 Season: Barsby were included in the 1928 fixture list for the Burrough League which also included Twyford extending the league to seven teams. No records exist of where Barsby finished in the final table although we do know that Burton Lazars were champions. In the one recorded game Barsby lost at home to Somerby on June 2nd by 118 runs to 63. For Somerby C. and G. Underwood (father and son) played a sterling game, the father scored 32 and the son 54. For Barsby H Riley with 22 being the only player to reach double figures.

Burrough League Fixture List 1928 and 1929 – Grantham Journal

Burrough and District League.	
Fixtures 1928.	
May	5—Barsby v. Twyford.
	5—Somerby v. Thorpe.
	5—Burton v. Great Dalby.
	12—Somerby v. Burrough.
	12—Thorpe v. Barsby.
	12—Burton v. Twyford.
	13—Burrough v. Thorpe.
	13—Twyford v. Somerby.
	13—Great Dalby v. Barsby.
June	2—Burton v. Burrough.
	2—Thorpe v. Great Dalby.
	2—Barsby v. Somerby.
	9—Somerby v. Burton.
	9—Burrough v. Barsby.
	9—Great Dalby v. Twyford.
	16—Twyford v. Thorpe.
	16—Barsby v. Burton.
	16—Great Dalby v. Burrough.
	23—Burrough v. Twyford.
	23—Somerby v. Great Dalby.
	23—Burton v. Thorpe.
	30—Twyford v. Barsby.
	30—Thorpe v. Somerby.
	30—Great Dalby v. Burton.
July	28—Burrough v. Somerby.
	28—Barsby v. Thorpe.
	28—Twyford v. Great Dalby.
Aug.	4—Thorpe v. Burton.
	4—Somerby v. Twyford.
	4—Barsby v. Burrough.
	11—Burrough v. Burton.
	11—Great Dalby v. Thorpe.
	11—Somerby v. Barsby.
	18—Burton v. Somerby.
	18—Barsby v. Great Dalby.
	18—Twyford v. Burrough.
	25—Thorpe v. Twyford.
	25—Burton v. Barsby.
	25—Burrough v. Great Dalby.
Sept.	1—Twyford v. Burton.
	1—Great Dalby v. Somerby.
	1—Thorpe v. Burrough.

Burrough and District League.	
	June 1st.
	Somerby v. Burton.
	Great Dalby v. Barsby.
	Twyford v. Burrough.
	June 8th.
	Burrough v. Burton.
	Great Dalby v. Thorpe.
	Barsby v. Somerby.
	June 15th.
	Burton v. Thorpe.
	Somerby v. Twyford.
	Barsby v. Burrough.
	June 22nd.
	Burrough v. Somerby.
	Barsby v. Thorpe.
	Twyford v. Great Dalby.
	June 29th.
	Twyford v. Barsby.
	Thorpe v. Somerby.
	Great Dalby v. Burton.
	July 27th.
	Burrough v. Twyford.
	Somerby v. Great Dalby.
	Thorpe v. Burton.
	August 3rd.
	Twyford v. Thorpe.
	Barsby v. Burton.
	Great Dalby v. Burrough.
	August 10th.
	Burton v. Somerby.
	Burrough v. Barsby.
	Great Dalby v. Twyford.
	August 17th.
	Burton v. Burrough.
	Thorpe v. Great Dalby.
	Somerby v. Barsby.
	August 24th.
	Burrough v. Thorpe.
	Twyford v. Somerby.
	Barsby v. Great Dalby.
	August 31st.
	Somerby v. Burrough.
	Thorpe v. Barsby.
	Burton v. Twyford.

1929 Season: For 1929 the Burrough League continued with the same seven teams. From the reports of Barsby's home game against Burton Lazars it appears they were again the team to beat. The "Leicester Illustrated Chronicle" reported: Burton Lazars continue their victorious career in the Burrough and District League by defeating Barsby. The latter were keeping the Feast, and they had hopes of lowering the champions colours, but Burton fielded their strongest XI. and won "In a canter." The home side were sent back for 50 (R. E. Prior five wickets for 22; J. E. Wild three for 17 and C. Prior two for 9), and Burton replied with 53 for the loss of 3 wickets (W Prior 20, and RE Prior 23 not out).

Burton Lazars were duly awarded the cup for the third successive year at the end of season Presentation Meeting held at the Oddfellows Hall Twyford. Chief guest Mr. Packer (Secretary of the Leicestershire County C.C), gave useful advice respecting the game, and outlined a scheme whereby it, was hoped to interest all villages the Melton Mowbray district in League cricket.

In the final table for 1929 Barsby finished 4th winning five of the eleven games played. Several Barsby players performances were recognised in the league averages including L. Roberts with a batting average of 12.5. Bowling, P Warrington and A Walker both averaged 4 runs a wicket. A Walker was also recognised for taking 7 wickets for 10 runs in a game.

Burrough League Averages and Table 1929 – Grantham Journal

Burrough and District Cricket League.					
	P.	W.	D.	L.	P.
Borion Lazars	12	9	1	2	19
Thorpe Satchville.....	12	3	0	4	16
Twyford	11	7	0	4	16
Harsby	11	5	0	6	12
Somerby	10	4	0	6	8
Great Dalby	10	3	1	6	7
Burrough.....	12	2	0	10	4

Twyford and Harsby awarded 2 points for matches not played.

Leading Averages.					
	Inns.	Total	Not	Aver.	Age.
R. Pryor, Burton	10	174	2	21.75	
W. Prior, Burton	10	147	0	14.70	
J. E. Wild, Burton	10	126	1	14.00	
S. P. Jones, Great Dalby	7	87	0	12.42	
L. Roberts, Harsby	9	103	1	12.50	
E. Baker, Great Dalby	10	91	2	11.37	
R. Thody, Twyford.....	11	113	0	10.25	
G. Underwood, Somerby.....	10	106	0	10.60	
A. Cooke, Twyford	8	81	0	10.10	

Best individual performance:—R. Pryor, Burton, 55 not out; A. Topley, Thorpe, 54; W. Pryor, Burton, 53; L. Roberts, Harsby, 51.

BOWLING.			
	W.	R.	Avg.
G. Underwood, Somerby	29	108	3.7
J. Bowley, Twyford	56	227	4.1
F. Warrington, Harsby	16	75	4.7
A. Walker, Harsby	11	53	4.8
J. E. Wild, Burton	23	113	4.91
J. Mauld, Somerby	29	143	4.95
H. Innes, Twyford	43	214	5.0

Bowler to take most wickets, J. Bowley, Twyford, 56.

Ashby Folville Cricket Club Reforms - 1929

In September 1929 it was reported that *Rev C Turner* was largely responsible for reforming the Ashby Folville cricket club, the last games being played prior to the First World War. In the “Village People” article in GQ magazine (September 1993), Bert Slater also recounts Teddy Gutterage, the odd job man at the manor and the chauffeur Hake Baker starting the team.

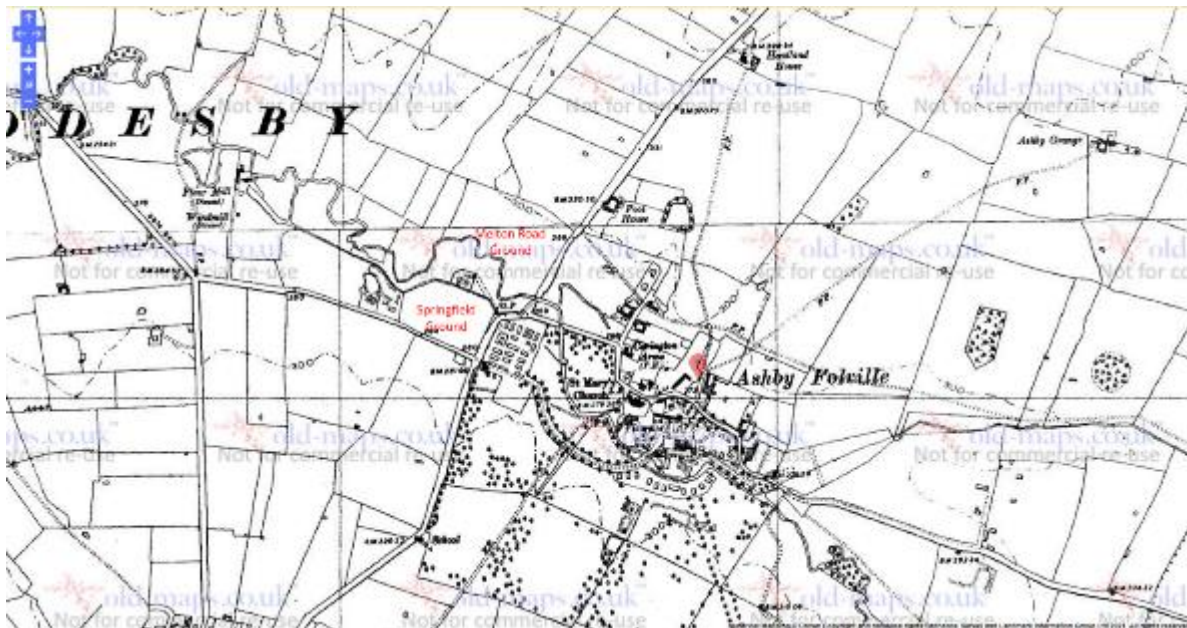
Reverent CA Turner was appointed vicar of Ashby Folville in 1929 and remained until 1935 when he was succeeded by Rev Francis George Bullock

As was often the case, cricket and the Village Feast were intricately connected. Following festivities in the village on Saturday and Sunday evenings the newly formed Cricket Club had a Feast Monday match against Mr. M Rankins XI on 2nd of September 1929. Although the opposition had included the Kirby Bellars club’s star players and a few from Egerton Park and Asfordby the Ashby side won by 96 runs to 33, S. Warrington (22) and Police-sergeant Jones (15) were the top scorers. Jones, with his famous deliveries also took seven wickets. A dance at the Village Hall concluded the festivities.

Melton Road Ground: The reformed club were playing at a new ground in 1929. EE Snow in his book “County House Cricket Grounds of Leicestershire” describes the new ground as being at the bottom of the Melton road. This being the current “Dalby Road”. It is understood this field was used by the club until it ceased activities at the onset of the Second World War. The location is corroborated by local farmers who still refer to the field as the “Old Cricket Field”, Bert Slater referred to the ground at the bottom of the hill in the GQ article and one former player still remembers playing on the ground.

In February 1930, a dance at the Village Hall was arranged that raised £9 for club funds. The event was described as one of the most successful and gay social functions ever hold in the Village Hall. The Rev. C. Turner was in charge of the arrangements, and he had assistance of his enthusiastic Committee. The quaint variety of get-ups made a striking spectacle, and Commander and Mrs. Colin Buist, who kindly came over from Ashby Pastures in order to judge, awarded the prizes follows – Ladies: 1. Miss Jordan “Old Mother Hubbard and her dog”; 2. Miss Spencer Twyford “Chips Off the Old Block”, 3. Miss Connie' Hartshorn “Night”, Gentleman: 1. Mr. Parker (Great Dalby) “Quorn Hunt Hedge Cutting Competition”, 2. Mr. Frank Terry (Barsby) “Prison Garb”, 3, Mr. Pert Richardson (Twyford) “Restless Nights” prizes, which were presented Mrs. Ruish, were given by Mrs. Smith-Carrington, Messrs Simpkins and James (Leicester), Mr. G. K. F. Ruddle and Messrs. Clarke (Melton). The music was by Mr. George Clarke’s Band (Syston), and the ladies in charge of the refreshment buffet, were. Mrs. Hartshorn. Mrs. Allen, and Miss Roberts.

1952 OS Map showing location of “Melton Road Ground”



Ashby Folville Cricket Teams only known fixture in 1930 was a game in August away to Holwell Works. From 1931 to 1935 it is known that further friendlies were arranged with Holwell Works (twice), *Stocken Hall* (3 games), Kirby Bellars and Twyford.

Stocken Hall was an unusual fixture as Stocken Hall is located in Rutland on the outskirts of Stretton close to the Great North Road (A1), most fixtures were far more local. The only possible connection we can find is that Stocken Hall in the 1930's was venue for the final of the Smith-Carrington Cup which had been donated by Mr. Neville Smith-Carrington, M.P (a former Ashby Folville player). who was also honorary President of the Cup. It is known the cup which was competed for by teams in the Grantham area was still being contested in 1958.

Barsby in the 1930's- Burrough League and return to Friendlies

1930 Season: Barsby continued playing in the Burrough League until 1932. In the 1930 season the Burton Lazars games were widely reported in the local press; Leicester Illustrated Journal, Grantham Journal, Leicester Mail and Nottingham Journal. The game at Burton was won by the home team in convincing style by 40 runs to 21. For Burton, R. E. Prior, of Melton, took seven wickets for 7 runs, and also headed his side's score with 25. For Barsby, F. Warrington took four wickets for 12, F. Broadley three for 8, and Adams two for 11.

1930 was a successful season for Barsby finishing runners up to surprise champions Burrough who had finished bottom in the previous season. At the league presentation About 120 cricketers associated with the Burrough and District League, assembled at the Oddfellows' Hall. Major Burnaby presided in the absence of Colonel Crawford, who was ill. The cup and medals were presented by Mr. W. Lindsay Everard, M.P. for Melton, he presented the cup to the captain of Burrough, and medals to the members of the team, medals to Burton Lasers and Barsby teams, who tied for the position of runners up. Major Clarke, Lowesby, received the medal for best batting average. and R. Prior, Burton Lazars, for best bowling analysis.

1931 Season: Barsby were placed in the B division of the Burrough League playing fixtures against, Rearsby, Lowesby, Queniborough, Thorpe Satchville and Great Dalby. There was also recognition for Barsby as a E Springthorpe was selected to play in the Burrough League Representative side against Leicestershire Club and Ground staff.

1932 Season: This was the final year Barsby entered the Burrough League prior to the War, they were again placed in the B Division playing the same opposition as in the previous year. No record exists of any of these results.

The 1932 annual meeting of the Barsby Cricket Club was held at the King William IV. Inn and presided over by Mr. H. Brooks. The balance sheet showed an expenditure of £19 15s 6d against an income of £13 6s 8d a deficit of £5 19s 10d. which was considered favourable in view of the extensive ground improvements over the last year. A vote of thanks to the Westleigh club for their generous support was carried. It was decided not to enter the Burrough and District League for the 1933 season. The following officers were elected: President. Major E A. Burnaby, Captain: H. Brooks, Vice-Captain: H Riley, Committee H. Adams. G. Swain. S. W. Warrington. W. Morris and P. Hart jnr; Umpire; P. Hart snr; Groundsmen. H. Riley and W Morris.

1933/34 Season: For 1933 Barsby had returned to friendly cricket, perhaps a bit surprising given the investment in the ground. There were fixtures against Leicester Harlequins and De Montfort, and in 1934 against Kirby Bellars. The excellent performance of the De Montfort bowlers dismissing Barsby for 31 headlined the sports news in the Leicester Daily Mail. The Barsby team that day included: M Riley, G Swain, J Springthorpe, W Morris, P Hart, H Hawley, F Warrington, A.Terry, M Evans, A Lambert, Rev Turner.

After pulling out the Burrough League there must have been a shortage of fixtures as the Leicester Evening Mail reported a request from Mr. H. Roberts of Barsby Cricket Club, for fixtures.

De Montfort game makes the Headline News – Leicester Daily Mail 2/8/1933

12 LEICESTER EVENING MAIL, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1933

Seven Wickets For 11—Five Clean Bowled



DE MONTFORT BOWLER GETS BARSBY IN A TANGLE

Measham Red Banks' Trundler Also Claims Seven Victims

MID-WEEK LEAGUE AND FRIENDLY CRICKET

SEVEN wickets for eleven runs—five clean bowled—was the splendid return of J. Smith (De Montfort), who played a big part in the dismissal of Barsby for 31. Another fine performance was that of W. Jones (Measham Red Banks), who secured seven victims for a cost of 47 against Denisthorpe Celliary II.

BRITISH TENNIS TEAM FOR THE STATES
The British lawn tennis team, composed of R. G. N. Lee, E. R. Avery, F. J. Perry and F. H. D. Wilde, which is to compete in the American championships at Forest Hills and then proceed to Australia, will leave England for the Continent on Saturday. Lee will act as captain of the side, and Avery will manage the team.

STOCK MARKETS SUMMARY
PRICES FAVOUR HOLDERS
Some Advances Among

1937 Season: No records exist of any cricket at Barsby in 1935 or 1936. However, in 1937 two friendlies were played home and away against Brooksby.

1939 Season: No games were recorded in 1938. In 1939 two games were played against Frisby on the Wreake, and one against Birstall 2nd XI. It's not clear what the result of this game was but Dennis Lee of Birstall took seven wickets for no runs in 5 overs so signs were not good. The game at Frisby in May was won by Frisby scoring 118 runs to 40 from Barsby.

Barsby Ladies Team - 1933

Little is known of Ladies cricket at Barsby although in 1933 it was reported that the Thorpe Arnold Ladies Team had a fixture list that included: Holwell, Cossington, Leicester Ladies, Great Dalby, Oakham, and Barsby.

Reverent Turner

In March 1935, the Grantham Journal reported the departure of The Rev. C. A. Turner, the popular sporting Vicar of Ashby Folville since 1929. He had been credited with the formation of the Ashby Folville Club in 1929 and had been a stalwart of the Barsby Club, also playing for Leicestershire Gentlemen.

Rev Turner arranged some of his own games on the Ashby Folville Ground. On such game was reported in the Grantham Journal on the 19th of September 19th against Melton Police. The report describes the day: "The weather was glorious, and a most enjoyable game resulted in a win for the Police, for whom Sergeant Jones took seven wickets for 3 runs. For the Rev. Turner's XI., W. Allen took five wickets for 5 runs. Sergeant Jones (15) and Supt. Smith (14) were the

chief scorers for the Police. Both teams were entertained to tea by Mrs. Smith-Carington, of Ashby Folville Manor, and Supt. Smith, on behalf of all, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to her for her kindness, which was enthusiastically accorded; and to the Rev. Turner for inviting the Police to Ashby Folville to play the match, which they had all thoroughly enjoyed.

Rev. Turner team included.: V. R. Pochin, P. Heggs, Rev. H. B. Holderness, S. Warrington, J.H.H. Salaman, E. Gutteridge, R. Thody, Rev. B. Hunt, J. Desborough. W. Allen, Rev.C. Turner. The team was a mixture of local players (Warrington, Allen, Gutterage, all representing Barsby at some point) and some local dignitaries. VR Pochin had captained the Gentlemen of Leicester and been Chairman of Leicestershire County Council.

Ashby Folville and the Burrough League - 1935

1935 Season: Following the withdrawal of Barsby from the Burrough League at the end of the 1932 season Ashby Folville Cricket Club had entered the competition in 1935. Fixtures included games against Melton Mission Church, Burton Lazars, Burrough and Thorpe Sathville.

In May Ashby lost to Melton Mission Church who finished near the bottom of the league chart the previous season. The scores were Melton 50, Ashby Folville 43. For the return match in July at Melton, Ashby Folville won by 50 runs to 23. For the Mission XI, Fred Moss gave an exhibition of caution in batting which can rarely have been surpassed. He was at the wicket one hour and a half and scored six runs.

The only other recorded win was at home to Burrough with Ashby scoring 60 runs to 47 by Burrough. Ashby recorded a heavy loss against Burton Lazars who scored 105 runs to 29 from Ashby. Away at Thorpe Sathville Ashby lost scoring 105 in reply to Thorpe's 126 runs. Playing for Ashby Folville that days were: M. Riley, C. Ledger, S. Warrington, J Hack, D Lambert, E Hubbard, W Morris, T Trivitt, T Rhodes, G Morris, J Favell. Ledger top scored with 43 and the best bowling was by Hack who took three for 48. Several of these players had represented Barsby in the past.



1936 Season: Ashby Folville entered the Burrough League again in 1936 remaining in the league through to the outbreak of War in 1939. Still a Saturday league the fixtures for 1936 included Burrough, Great Dalby, Kirby Bellars, Thorpe Satchville, Cold Overton and Burton Lazars. The only result recorded was a victory at home to Cold Overton 64 runs to 63. Fundraising events at the end of the season seemed quite tame compared to the modern day with a Whist Drive being held in the Village Hall.

1937 Season: Ashby faced similar opposition to the previous season. The season started poorly with a heavy loss away at Kirby Bellars the opposition amassing 165 runs. According to the Grantham Journal this is the tale of a pair white flannel trousers and a spot of ill-luck. The owner of the "bags" is L. Gane, the Kirby Bellars player, and it seems that every time he wears them, he is out of luck at the wicket. On Saturday he cast them aside and wore an ordinary pair. Ashby Folville were the visitors and scored 67 in two hours, and after a spot of tea Kirby went three wickets went down for 25—a dismal outlook—and then Gane took his place at the crease. Partnering Brutnell and later, Charles, he saw Ashby's score passed comfortably, and to finally settle the ill-luck bogy he started to punish the bowling, aided by J. Elson. Every ball that came along was banged unmercifully to the boundary. Three were lost, and the score mounted to 152—the 9th wicket put on 61—when Gane was stumped with 54 to his credit. The innings closed at 165 within five minutes from time.

The following game away at Thorpe Satchville was no more successful this time the tea was to blame! The Grantham Journal reporter commented: "I think they must serve strong tea at Ashby Folville, because, immediately after the interval in the Burrough League game with Thorpe Satchville on Saturday Ashby went all to pieces. Thorpe had first knock and sent up 41. Then came tea. after which Ashby lost 1 for 10 and the following nine batsmen had six runs between them! Sumner, four for 2, Morris, one for 2, and Foxon. four for 10 were responsible."

Burrough League Scorecard v Thorpe Satchville – Grantham Journal 26/6/1937

BURROUGH LEAGUE	
ASHBY FOLVILLE v. THORPE SATCHVILLE	
Thorpe Satchville	
L. Roberts c Bolland b Hack	3
A. Heard b F. Warrington	1
G. Bradley b F. Warrington	0
G. Sumner run out	0
A. Queenborough b F. Warrington	16
C. Morris b F. Warrington	2
E. Foxon c Bolland b Smith	4
A. Cooke lbw b F. Warrington	2
J. Denny b Smith	5
R. Quinsey c Riley b F. Warrington	1
S. Wass not out	2
Extras 5	Total 41
Hack 1 for 11, F. Warrington 6 for 19, Smith 2 for 6.	
Ashby Folville	
S. Warrington b Sumner	1
W. Baker b Morris	8
J. Hack b Sumner	2
M. Riley c Quinsey b Sumner	3
W. Smith run out	0
D. White c Morris b Foxon	0
D. Bolland c Cooke b Sumner	0
E. Hubbard c Morris b Foxon	1
Alf Queenboro' c Roberts b Foxon	0
W. Morris not out	0
F. Warrington b Foxon	0
Extra 1	Total 18
Sumner 4 for 2, Morris 1 for 2, Foxon 4 for 10, Heard 0 for 1.	

Ashby also lost to heavily against Burton Lazars at the end of June only scoring 13 runs to 76 by Burton. However, they had more luck at home to Cold Overton beating them by 1 run 64 to 63, Cold Overton only had 10 men only. For Cold Overton. G. Underwood took six for 17. W. Smith, of Ashby Folville was top scorer with 28. Smith also had the fine bowling analysis of five for 5.

The following week at home to Burrough the bowlers had the upper hand, with Burrough winning 57 runs to 26. F Warrington took seven for 16 for Ashby and for Burrough R Mclean took five for 8.

Ashby also played a couple of friendly matches in 1937 against Brooksby and Pickwell & Leesthorpe.

1938 season: Following a heavy defeat at Burton Lazars in May where Ashby lost 154 runs to 40, Ashby entertained Burton on Saturday July 2nd, having an unexpected victory winning 125 runs to 80.

Rain not only spoilt the Burrough League match between Great Dalby and Ashby Folville on July 16th but also gave Great Dalby a serious setback in their championship race with Kirby Bellars. Dalby opened with 123 (E Sharpe 40) and when Ashby had lost 4 wickets with only 35 on the board a deluge fell so according to league rules the points were shared. In the return match

Great Dalby who were leading the table beat the bottom side Ashby Folville 35 to 25. Police Sergeant P Jones and his son Herbert Jones did wonders with the ball for Great Dalby taking seven for 7 and three for 5 respectively.

In the final game of the season Ashby lost to Burrough 111 runs to 76.

Scorecard from Final game of 1938 Season v Burrough

BURROUGH v. ASHBY FOLVILLE	
Burrough	
J. Meadows lbw b F. Warrington	20
G. Burnett lbw b Dawson	2
J. Hayes c Baker b Terry	1
T. Simpson not out	38
F. Davison c Smith b Terry	4
R. MacLean b Terry	5
E. Lewin b Smith	8
E. Burnett c Warrington b Boncher	18
E. Riley b Terry	3
A. Riley c Dawson b Boncher	4
A. Slater lbw b Boncher	1
Extras 7	—111
Boncher 3 for 8, Terry 4 for 17, Smith for 19, F. Warrington 1 for 32, Dawson for 28.	
Ashby Folville	
W. Smith c Meadows b Simpson	23
W. Baker c E. Burnett b Hayes	13
M. Riley b MacLean	4
F. Warrington c G. Burnett b Simpson	8
S. Warrington run out	2
E. Waite b Hayes	12
W. Dawson c MacLean b Hayes	2
H. Boncher b MacLean	2
W. Morris not out	0
F. Terry b Simpson	7
W. Hubbard b MacLean	0
Extras 3	—76
MacLean 3 for 24, Hayes 3 for 13, Simpson 3 for 14.	

Burrough League Table at end of July 1938

Burrough and District League					
	P.	W.	L.	D.	P.
Cold Overton	8	5	2	0	10
Great Dalby	8	4	3	1	9
Kirby Bellars	4	3	1	0	6
Burton Lasars	5	3	2	0	6
Thorpe Satchville	7	2	4	1	3
Burrough	5	1	3	1	3
Ashby Folville	7	1	5	1	3

1939 Season: The 1939 commenced with a Whist Drive in March with the winners claiming a “box of biscuits”. Cricket wise the season wasn’t very successful with all five recorded results ending up in defeats. In early May Ashby Folville lost at Tilton on the Hill 83 runs to 29. Later in the month Pickwell & Leesthorpe scored 76 to Ashby’s 36 runs. Great Dalby convincingly beat Ashby with Police Sergeant P Jones again starring for Dalby taking six wickets for 14 runs and top scoring with 56. Ashby scored 50 runs to 145 from Dalby. On the 17th of June Ashby visited Kirby Bellars and only managed 40 runs to 77 from Kirby, S Warrington top scoring for Ashby with 17.

In the final Burrough League game of the season Ashby Folville paid a visit to Frisby-on-the Wreake. but travelled two men short and lost easily, 31 runs to 14. Best return among the Ashby bowlers was M. Riley, who claimed six for 13.

Burrough League	
FRISBY-ON-THE-WREAKE v.	
ASHBY FOLVILLE	
Frisby	
J. Stubbs b Riley	3
A. Pearce run out	5
E. Hoyles c Walker b Riley	4
F. Skinner not out	14
R. Jaggard lbw b Riley	0
G. Skinner c Hubbard b Riley ..	2
H. Palmer b Riley	2
A. Copley b Watts	0
W. Pym b Watts	0
W. Skinner c Walker b Riley	0
L. Fox b Terry	0
Extra 1. Total	31
Hubbard 0 for 11. Riley 6 for 13. Bonshor 0 for 4. Watts 2 for 1. Terry 1 for 1.	
Ashby Folville	
M. Riley b Pearce	3
G. Hubbard b Jaggard	1
H. Bonshor b Pearce	2
A. Watts b Jaggard	1
J. Terry b W. Skinner b Pearce	5
W. Smith b Jaggard	1
B. What b Pearce	0
J. Flavell not out	1
H. Walker c Jaggard b Pearce ..	0
Total (8 wk's.)	14
Jaggard 3 for 9. Pearce 5 for 5.	

In March 1940 it was reported in the Leicester Evening Mail that two old-established cricket clubs Ashby Folville and Cold Overton had withdrawn from the Burrough and District League. The league now consisted of five teams: Great Dalby. Thorpe Satchville. Burrough. Frisby-on-the-Wreake and Kirby Bellars.

The Billesdon League

Between the Wars it is worth noting one other short lived Cricket League that some local teams competed. South Croxton entered the Billesdon League in 1929. Other members of the league were Quenby, Tugby, Scraftoft, Billesdon, Thurnby and Oadby.

Chapter Four: Barsby Cricket Club (1946 – 1969)

Following the War Ashby Folville Cricket Club did not reform owing to the “lack of local youths” according to EE Snow.

Season 1946: Barsby Cricket Club resumed fixtures in 1946. Two games were played against Rothley Park 2nd XI. In the first game Barsby scored a credible 160 with Rothley replying with 61. The second game was closer but Barsby were again victorious scoring 110 to 102. In July, the Leicester Evening Mail also had reports of Barsby beating a Leicester 2nd XI by 130 runs to 56. G Smith top scoring for Barsby with 37 and taking eight wickets for 13 runs.

Season 1948: On the 13th of September 1948 Barsby beat a Barkby 2nd XI scoring 69 for 4, Barkby replying with 47 for 8. Top scorers for Barsby were E Walker 20 and D Heggs 24. In November at the annual dinner Leslie Berry, Leicestershire captain, spoke, on the importance of giving encouragement to the younger players. Other speakers were Mr. Ronald Brown president, Mr. Burgin (chairman) and Mr. L. R. Cursley (Captain). The club were referred to as the Barsby and En Tout Cas Cricket Club. The nature of the connection with En Tout Cas is unclear.

Season 1949: On June 27th Barsby lost heavily at Syston being bowled out for 54, Syston scored 144 for 8.

Season 1950: The club must have taken on board the words of Leslie Berry at the 1948 dinner as by 1950 Barsby were fielding a junior team. Two games were recorded for the junior team against Syston. In the first game Barsby scored 20 to Syston 50 runs. They had no more luck in the second game scoring only 17 in reply to 74 for 7 from Syston.

In July, the senior team of the Barsby and En Tout Cas Cricket team won games against Thornton and Stoughton. Against Stoughton, Barsby scored 118 for 7 and bowled Stoughton out for 64. Top scores were R Cursley 53 not out, J Straw 26, best bowling was from Webb five for 11 runs. Barsby scored 121 for 9 declared against Thornton who scored 69 in reply. Top scorer was Meadows with 38 and the best bowling by Spencer with five wickets.

The Grantham Journal carried an extensive report on the Barsby Fete Day at the on the August 7th Bank Holiday Monday. Proceeds of the Fete were to be split between the Barsby Cricket Club and the Football Club raising £81. The Fete was opened by Mr RHS Brown president of the cricket club. He congratulated the members having what was recognized as a village wicket second to none in the county. A cricket match between Barsby and Quenby provided interest, Barsby scoring 190 for 9 (Meadows 89, Favell 51), Quenby replying with 74 (Webb eight for 22). The Fete was clearly a big occasion for the village with amusements including Skittling (organised by D Paletorpe & P Terry), Spinning Jenny (N. Mansfield), Hoola (M Riley), Roll Penny (Ivor Dilkes), Hit the Topper (G Dilkes & F Warrington), Table Skittles (G. Smith & N Crawford, Hiddon Treasure (J Smith), Ices (E Walker), Donkey Rides (W Adams).

In July and interesting article appeared in the Leicester Illustrated Chronicle. The article discusses the history of the Gaddesby Cricket Club. Intriguingly it also mentions the reformation of the Gaddesby Club in 1947 "incorporating Ashby Folville and a small part of Barsby" The amusing article talks about the challenges of village cricket with cows and sheep entering the field of play. Some of the current Ashby Carington team will have more recent memories of several of Alan Smith's cows walking out of their paddock and into the cricket field at Ashby.

Article on reformed Gaddesby Club from Leicester Illustrated Chronicle Journal -29/7/1950

14 ILLUSTRATED LEICESTER CHRONICLE, JULY 29, 1950
CRICKET SKETCHBOOK . . . Written And Drawn By R.A.P.

COWS STOPPED PLAY

IF I speak of Washbrook's sparkling knock for Gaddesby and District, or of Ramadhin's courageous attempt to bowl in plimsoles on wet grass, you must have patience.

I have not yet recovered from a sort of Marx brothers' cricket match played at a village whose only pub has the front door at the back.

YES, Gaddesby's the place: where the cricket field lies smack in the middle of what is claimed to be some of the finest grazing land in Leicestershire, and where, in the long walk from the main road to the nearest boundary, the cows are apt to frown at you if you step off the path on to their next meal.

Even the wicket has had its adventures, not to mention the small pavilion but which still shows ample evidence of being kicked by a horse.

The large square of choice turf was laid more than 40



FAMILY AFFAIR

WHEN Gaddesby and District cricket club was formed three years ago, the G.P.O. had quite a little picking in stamp duties.

Their benefactor was Bill Smith (pictured here), electrician by trade, and life scribe of the club. He was the man who revived Gaddesby cricket, but, when he sent out the notices concerning the first meeting, he overestimated the amount of postage that the postman would carry for treponence.

The club now has a membership of 34, including 40 players, which means that there is hardly a family in the district that is not represented. There are nine Whatiss, six Smiths, and six Bakers, counting 32-year-old Bill Baker, the undertaker, who is still active on the pitch, and who puts up with a lot of cracks about dead bats. He is a mere lad, however, compared with umpire Fred Pepper, who is 73 years of age, not out.

DEADNESS WANTED

years ago by one Baron de Forest, who, despite his continental extraction, had a passion for cricket and who lent his name to an eleven made up of his own friends and a sprinkling of Gaddesby villagers. Upon the outbreak of the First World War the Baron departed, and cricket in the village virtually came to an end.

The wicket, however, miraculously survived. The fact that it lay smack in the middle of some of the finest grazing land in Leicestershire saved it from the plough during two world

wars, and, during the second, it came safely through an intensive onslaught of American baseball.

Three years ago the wicket was re-laid by the members of the newly-formed Gaddesby and District Cricket Club (incorporating Ashby Folville and a small slice of Barsby. But it is to be doubted whether any wicket saw such strange cricket as that on Saturday.

Gaddesby's normal fixture had been cancelled, and, instead, they entertained a works team from Melton Mowbray. One's first clue that they played cricket was the sight of hats and leg-pads; in the matter of dress they were better equipped for an afternoon in the garden. If, indeed, any sartorial line were drawn at all, it was that shirts, whatever colour, should be collar-attached and no studs showing.

Footwear, was left to personal taste, which varied from calf-leather shoes to open-work sandals and plimsoles. Freedom from the irritating flapping of full-width, lounge trousers was obtained by what appeared to be bicycle-clips or some other form of anchorage.

Yet, listening to the Trent Bridge Test commentary, one realised that some form of individualism in the matter of clothing might be beneficial to cricket. While John Arlott, for instance, was dealing in such obtuse terms as extra fine, shortish square leg to define a fielder, the men in and around the Gaddesby but were pin-pointing a man quite readily with such lucid phrases as "the bloke in the green pull-over," or "the chap in the navy-blue pin-stripe."



In fact, the only thing in common between the two games were the interruptions caused by scattered showers, and the fact that the wind was blowing from Gaddesby to Nottingham produced a very convenient form of staggering.

When they were sheltering at Trent Bridge they were playing at Gaddesby. And when it was raining at Gaddesby they were able to crowd into the hut and listen to the happenings at Trent Bridge. It was unfortunate, I thought, that an oversight on the part of the B.B.C. made it impossible to return the favour.

The Test players would have been interested to know that the Gaddesby game had to put up with interruptions, not only from rain, but also from cows and sheep; that a miniature sheepdog trial was not the least of the attractions, and that, round about four-thirty a hen laid an egg not far from the off boundary.

One cannot really blame the cows—they are not to know of the atmosphere of sacredness that hangs over a piece of ground where Cricket is in progress. In moving from point A to point B they had no thought of skirting the boundaries, but merely obeyed the elementary logic of the shortest possible route. Play stopped while this migration was executed in the longest possible time.

Then sheep broke on to the field in all directions and threatened complete chaos. But, like something jet-propelled, a sheep dog streaked on to the scene, and players and spectators alike stood still and

marvelled at the skill and cunning with which this remarkable animal went about its work. In a few moments, a wild-eyed rabble was co-ordinated into a compact, woolly mass, and shepherd into captivity.

Despite all these counter-attractions, Gaddesby and district managed to dislodge the opposition for 22 runs, and make 33 for none—all before tea.

Which, I should think, was just as well; for, after the sort of tea that Ted Ratcliffe serves up at the pub with the front door at the back, any further form of physical activity would go against the grain. Gaddesby cricketers are very proud of Ted's tea, and make a point of saying so. "Never mind," I was told as I watched the cricket, "you'll get a good tea."

The men from Melton were similarly consoled over their defeat. But they were a sporting lot, and, of all places, they couldn't have been better treated than at Gaddesby, where they really love cricket, and where they are inclined more to talk about their lickings than their victories. There was certainly plenty of time for talk on Saturday night, and it was only a short walk from the tearoom to the back parlour.

"Remember that pasting we got last season," recalled one. But by this time I was closing the back door and trying to persuade myself I was at the front. What was it they said? The pub was the right way round until they altered the main road?

Oh, well, probably they were pulling my leg.

Bill Ratcliffe

Bill Ratcliffe

Bill Ratcliffe

Bill Ratcliffe

Bill Ratcliffe

Bill Ratcliffe

Bill Ratcliffe

Bill Ratcliffe

Bill Ratcliffe

Season 1952: Still referred to as the Barsby and En Tout Cas Cricket Club, one game was recorded against Dunlop (members of the Leicester and District Mutual League in 1960) who won easily. Barsby were all out for 40 with Dunlop scoring 45 with no loss of wickets.

Season 1954: The earliest team photo of the Barsby team in front of the pavilion included players including: Bill Mitchell, Jon Favell, Ivor Dilkes, Bas Dilkes, Derick Palethorpe

Barsby Cricket Club Team Photo 1954



Season 1956: Now simply referred to as the Barsby cricket Club, two results were recorded in the Leicester Evening Mail. The first being an early season game in late April against Westfields, who scored 124 for 5 with Barsby scoring 118 all out. Powell top scored for Barsby with 38. Later in the season Barsby played *Parmeko*, Barsby batted and scored 72. No record if opposition batted.

Parmeko were a Leicester based works team who in 1960 were playing in the Leicester United Trades Cricket League Div. 2 and also the Leicester Amateur Evening Cricket League

Season 1957: A team photo believed to be from 1957. The photo includes, Bas Dilkes, Peter Palethorpe, Derick Palethorpe, Tony Evans, Brian Burgin and Fred Warrington.

Barsby Cricket Club Team Photo 1957



Season 1958: By 1958 it is known that Barsby had re-entered the Burrough League. The Grantham Journal reported a victory against Kirby Bellars. Barsby 82 for 3 with Kirby Bellars scoring 76 for 6. The Barsby team that day included T Evans, G Dilkes, D Palethorpe, J Burgin, P Burgin, C Smith. Colin Smith took 4 for 33 and T Evans top scored with 21.

Season 1959: No records of the cricket are available for 1959. The Fete in August raised £100 and was split equally between the cricket club football club and village hall.

Season 1960: The only records of the Cricket Club in this year refer to the Garden Fete in aid of the village hall and the village cricket and football clubs. The Fete was opened by Mr. R. H. Brown, with the highlight of the evening programme, being team skittling for the Sir Harold Nutting Challenge Cup. Seven teams competed and the cup was won by the holders Queniborough. At cricket the Barsby team beat Fleckney.

Season 1961: A team photo believed to be from 1961 shows the Barsby team competing for the Salamon Cup. The photo includes, Bas Dilkes, Peter Palethorpe, Derick Palethorpe, Tony Evans, Brian Burgin and Fred Warrington

Barsby Cricket Club Team Photo 1961



Season 1962: In May, Barsby had an early season game against Barkby. The Leicester Evening Mail describes Barkby as having “one of the most green and picturesque grounds in the County. Although a number of the trees surrounding the playing area have disappeared in recent years, the old chestnut tree which encroaches almost to the square, causing both gladness and annoyance to batsmen and fieldsmen, still retains its position of prominence” Many current players will remember that tree (with catches being allowed off it) that only disappeared in recent years.

Barsby batted first and declared with a score of 116-5. Top scorer for Barsby was Derek Smith 61 not out while Colin Smith gave him valuable support with 35 not out. Barkby's most successful bowler was, yes, a Smith—George who bowled 15 overs, taking three wickets for 19 runs. The match ended in a draw with Barkby 81- 6 at the close. Brian Kirk was top scorer with 39. George Smith gave him no help—“he got a duck.” Barsby’s Colin Smith took four wickets for 29 runs while Derek Smith, although taking no wickets bowled half -a - dozen economical overs.

Season 1963: Barsby were the visitors for Barkbys first game of the season. Barsby started well scoring 30 for the first wicket. Each of the first five batsmen scored double figures, Barsby reaching 100 for 5. Barsby finally declared on 123 for 9. Barkby got off to a good start, Richardson and H Kirk putting on 25 before Kirk was bowled. Wickets began to tumble and Barkby were 6 down for 47. Barkby finally made 97 for 7. The pick of the Barsby bowling was J. Burgin four for 27 and D Smith three for 18.

Barsby Cricket Club Team Photo mid 1960's



Season 1971: The 1971 season was Barsbys final year before the club moved to its current location in Ashby Folville renaming the club to Ashby Carington Cricket Club. It is understood that the move was largely as a result of the owner of the King William IV who also owned the cricket ground being unhappy with the level of support the team gave to his public House.

Leicester Pilgrims

Following the departure of Barsby Cricket Club the Leicester Pilgrims team played on the Barsby ground for a few seasons. One notable game was recently mentioned in the letters page of the Leicester Mercury.

Tony Holyoak, Secretary, Pilgrims CC 1963-1979 wrote: I THOUGHT the following might be of interest as a tribute to Brian Booth who died recently (“Batsman who carved his name in County’s history dies at age of 85”, Mercury, December 23rd 2020). As part of his testimonial year in 1973, Pilgrims CC were hosts to a strong Leicestershire CCC side, captained by Brian, played on the pretty village ground at Barsby on Sunday, September 16. The following is how the event was reported in the Pilgrims’ weekly newsletter: “On a gloriously warm and sunny afternoon, Brian’s side scored 242-7 in 40 overs on a magnificent wicket and John Steel, George Knew, Jeff Tolchard, Barry Dudleston, Mick Norman and Paul Haywood all scored between 25 and 50, thereby treating a crowd exceeding 300 to some memorable batting. “Pilgrims fielded virtually without blemish, David Wills being outstanding in the deep, while Jim Reeves and John Larder bowled remarkably well in the face of a never-ending succession of gifted professional batting.

“It was worth 20 times the admission fee just to watch Graham McKenzie bowling at two-thirds his usual pace and throwing in from the boundary like a siege gun. “However, his presence did little to overawe Michael Tyack, who smacked him heartily into the covers and twice hooked him confidently to square leg in an innings of 51 in 44 minutes, during which he took seven boundaries in the space of four overs by John Steele and Terry Stretton and was playing with rare panache when well caught by Brian Booth at short midwicket.

“His dismissal prompted a collapse, with five wickets falling in three overs for two runs, two to quite staggering close in catches. “Fortunately, the rot was stemmed by the late middle order and at the close of 40 overs, 156-8 represented a salvaging of honour. “Brian Booth bowled his leg spin and googlies to great effect and Jack Birkenshaw claimed three wickets in a long, testing spell.

“Apart from some outstanding cricket, the ladies dined the players right royally, non-playing members worked unceasingly to relieve the crowd of their small change and during an after-the-match presentation ceremony the Pilgrims’ president handed over a substantial cheque to Brian, who made a short but courteous speech, much appreciated by a happy crowd gathered around the rabbit hutch of a pavilion.

“Finally, the Pilgrims’ secretary presented Jack Birkenshaw with a white leather travelling bag in recognition of his selection for the forthcoming MCC tour to the West Indies. “It was a very special occasion to which Brian’s contribution as batsman, bowler, captain and guest added much to a memorable day.”

Fortunately, most of the Pilgrims’ side on that day happily survive and frequently reminisce about a marvelous occasion and I am confident with this submission much parochial delight will help dispel some of the current misery surrounding Covid and its effect on supporting professional sport.

Chapter Five: Ashby Carington Cricket Club (1970 – 2020)

Work in progress