

Where Did Findon Play Cricket in 1823?

On 21 June 1823 the Brighton Herald reported that Findon cricketers played the Highdown Hill Club at Findon Stone Walls on 13 June. The Findon side included three given men from Storrington. In those days it was not unusual for village sides to be strengthened by players from other villages. It was also not unusual for bets to be laid on the results of matches and in this instance the betting was in favour of Highdown. However, time did not permit the match to be played out as, whilst Findon batted twice scoring 91 and 90 runs, Highdown batted only once for 95 thereby topping Findon's first innings score by 4 runs.

The match was also reported on by the New Globe newspaper on 23 June 1823. The return match at the Highdown ground took place on 7 July and was again reported by the Brighton Herald.

The whereabouts of the ground called Findon Stone Walls where the match on 21 June was played is of interest to the writer as it could not have been where Findon currently plays. If anyone can provide an answer to this question would they kindly contact Chris Winter on 01798 812806.