

GET A THIRD MAN IN!

• The Monthly Newsletter For Thurstonland CC

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TWO 99s PLEASE BUT NO FLAKE...

BY ANDREW PEARSON

The delayed Allsop and Tinker Cup games on Sunday June 27th saw two scores of 99 by John Eastwood, who remained undefeated in the first team game against Azaad, and David Oldham who was dismissed one short of his century in the second team game at Holmbridge. It is unlucky to fail by one run to reach a century but the occurrence of two batsmen experiencing this on the same afternoon is a very unusual one. John's fine run of form so far in 2004 has seen him reach 591 runs by the end of June with an average of 147.75 and in the process he has passed 5000 runs in the first team. He and Mick Ingledow are also to be congratulated on reaching the 200 appearance landmark. The game against Edgerton saw a great spell of 6 for 21 from Greg Holmes including five wickets, all bowled, in nine balls.

Victory over Denby Dale at the end of June made up for the very disappointing performance in defeat at Old Almondburians the previous week and put the first team into joint leadership of the Premier Section with Cawthorne and defending champions Cumberworth. With Hoylandswaine and Green Moor close behind there promises to be a good second half to the season.

Recognition was given to two more of our young players when both Matthew Gummerson and Adam Thackray were selected for Huddersfield Joe Lumb representative side. Their absence for the Allsop Cup game against Azaad enabled Damien Pawson to make his seasonal debut on return from university and Tom Sykes performed capably behind the wickets as stand in for Adam. With Ashley Armitage's 15 victims making him the leading wicket taker in the second team and Jack Oldham's 194 runs second only to slightly less young Uncle David's aggregate, the new generation of players is certainly beginning to make its mark.



David Oldham - 99 V's Holmbridge

There are many positive things to report off the field as the season reaches its half way point with, as I write, the Village Gala just gone. The bag packing session at Morrisons raised £615, a timely sum with running repairs having to be carried out to part of the clubroom roof. The two 90 minute sessions were well supported by all sections of the club with parents helping younger members who were, for the most part, the ones in the front line helping the customers. Their pleasant manner was commented on by members of the public and letters of thanks have been distributed to those involved and to Morrisons for giving us the opportunity.

Fixtures

1st Team

- Sat Jul 10**
Hoylandswaine (H)
- Sat Jul 17**
Woodfield Park (A)
- Sat Jul 24**
Cumberworth (H)
- Sat Jul 31**
Woolley (A)
- Sat Aug 7**
Green Moor (H)
- Sat Aug 14**
Cawthorne (A)
- Sat Aug 21**
Crossbank Methodists (H)

2nd Team

- Sat Jul 10**
Hoylandswaine (A)
- Sat Jul 17**
Azaad (H)
- Sat Jul 24**
Bradley & Colne (A)
- Sat Jul 31**
Nortonhorpe (H)
- Sat Aug 7**
Penistone (A)
- Sat Aug 14**
Heckmondwike (H)
- Sat Aug 21**
Flockton (A)

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Forthcoming Events

Saturday 10th July - Former Players Reunion
Wednesday 4th August - Children's Books Evening at the club 8pm
Thursday 26th August - Junior Presentation
Sunday 29th August - Twenty20 Re-match
TCC Golf Day - TBC

If you have any articles or ideas you would like to see in this newsletter, please let me know using one of the following methods. These can be related to the cricket club or the village in general.

Lee Booth - 31 Town Moor Lane, Thurstonland - 662348 - lee@thurstonlandcc.com

The Longwood Harriers Joe Percy 10k Memorial Race on Wednesday June 23rd did not bring June like weather but, as usual, the race was well supported by runners from clubs throughout West Yorkshire and the bar was kept busy afterwards. Once again, several favourable comments were made about our social facilities. The Casino Night on June 26th was well attended and raised welcome funds. It coincided with the Colne Valley Connection sponsorship which also includes a barrel of beer and some of them and friends stayed on to enjoy the 'gambling'.

The outfield is looking good at the moment and has benefited from its first cuts with the new mower. The job is now so much quicker and there is no longer the anxiety of wondering if a veteran machine is going to start playing up. We are very grateful for the generous loan which has enabled us to go ahead and buy it.

Tickets are out for the NCA Draw and stubs should be returned to Trevor Peace by the beginning of August. More books are available so please ask and remember that every ticket sold (£1 each) brings money directly to the club. Apart from administering the distribution of the books and sending off the stubs at the appropriate time, there is no work required by the club. Please try to support this.

Saturday July 10th is the date of the former players' reunion. Up to twenty guests are expected for this event which is formally organised every five years. We look forward to renewing acquaintances with everyone, some of whose playing days go back to the fifties and sixties.

Under 13's

A dramatic win off the last ball at Nortonthorpe has been the highlight since the last newsletter. With three balls remaining we were 14 runs adrift (8 runs are deducted for each lost wicket) and then Josh Smith took a good catch at fine leg from Felix Lee's bowling. A good yorker was kept out next ball and then a surprisingly ambitious drive from the last delivery went in the air towards mid off where, after a moment when a three fielder collision seemed likely, Harvey Grange dived to scoop up the ball inches from the ground.

With a couple of exceptions the team members are either 11 or 12 years old and ' big lads' from Flockton and Shepley have tended to overawe them in recent weeks. It is important, however, that basic fielding skills and batting techniques are used in matches rather more consistently as doing the simple things well can build confidence and frustrate even the apparent giants of the Under 13 scene. Efforts continue to be made to give everyone as many games as possible and the experience will be of benefit next year when all but three members of the squad will still be able to play in this age group.

Apart from an uncharacteristic lapse against Shepley, Sam Wright has shown promise with the bat as well as bowling as consistently as most. Josh Booth's generally accurate performances have so far brought him ten wickets.

Fixtures

Sun Jul 11
Hall Bower (H)

Sun Jul 18
Kirkheaton (A)

Sun Jul 25
No Game

Sun Aug 1
No Game

Under 15's

In recent weeks excellent victories over Upperthong & Old Almondburians in the Armitage Cup , and Thongsbridge & Upperthong again in the league have put the Un 15s into the cup semi - final and into a commanding position at the top of the league. This has been an all - round team effort with superb fielding, tight bowling and sensible batting. All the lads involved are reaping the benefits of the hard work they put in on a Thursday evening.

Leading run scorers so far are Jack Oldham (251), David Gaunt (242), Greg Holmes (141), Russell Mottram (129) & Angus Cox (97).

Leading wicket takers are Ashley Armitage (17), Jordan Thackray (13), Greg Holmes (12), David Gaunt (7) & Jack Butterworth (6).

Fixtures

Mon Jul 12
Skelmanthorpe (A)

Mon Jul 19
Scholes (H)

Mon Jul 26
Flockton (A)

Mon Aug 9
Kirkburton (H)

Under 17's

The u17s good season continues with the side currently sitting in second position in the league, 3 points behind current leaders Shepley a Walker Cup semi-final is also on the horizon away at Lascelles Hall on Friday the 9th of July. There have been many good performances to point out since the last correspondence including an maximum points victory at home over a strong Skelmanthorpe side which was also notable as it contained hat-tricks for both Ashley Armitage and Matthew Gummerson. Other comfortable wins have been achieved against Denby, Denby Dale and Clayton West. The only blot on the landscape being an allround poor performance against Almondbury, a game in which we were very lucky to tie after the visitors required 2 runs to win from the last 4 balls of the match.

Kris Thackray has been the cornerstone of the majority of innings with scores of 50, 41* and 31 in recent weeks the bowling as it has all season long has been more of a team effort with several players amongst the wickets.

Fixtures

Wed Jul 14
Shepley (H)

Wed Jul 21
Crigglistone (H)

Wed Jul 28
Kirkburton (A)