



**President – Mike Hibbert**

## **SEASONS PROSPECTS FOR 2016**

### **ADDINGHAM CRICKET CLUB**

Following the tremendous 2015 season which saw us promoted to Div B, it was hoped for a quiet winter recruiting new players to compliment our 1<sup>st</sup> team, however Tom Smallwood the captain decided for personal reasons to ply his trade at Olicanian for 2016, huge thanks to him for all his efforts in the previous 2 seasons, we are pleased to announce Laurie O'Connor as the new captain and he will be ably supported by Ricky Palacio as his number 2, good luck for the new season guy's. We have replaced Nathan Harford our overseas in 2015 with a Kiwi Ted Haggas who is a hard hitting batting all rounder, we wish him well for the season. We have also signed Rich Hannam an all rounder who previously played in the Scottish premier league, also James Nixon has come from Olicanian.

The second team will continue to be captained by Ian Mason who did an outstanding job last season in bringing on the young players whilst still keeping the senior players on board, he will be assisted by Jack De'Ath. We have lost father and son players Paul & Harry Barker who have both gone to Keighley. We are sure we will see the continued development of our young players ably helped by the seniors, and are sure the team will be looking to improve on their final league positioning 2015.

This season will be of interest to see how both our young teams will cope with life in their respective divisions, we wish both teams well.

### **ADEL CRICKET CLUB**

Nick Smith is to continue as captain of the first eleven for his fourth year after returning to the Club. There will again be no overseas player this year, the Club retaining the services of Andy Laws who had a successful first season as player/coach. There will be few changes to the squad but the batting line up will be strengthened as Tom Shaw, who hit the highest ever innings for the first team last year, will be available for the full season.

The second team will be lead by Chris Ridgway who has taken over the captaincy from Mark Robinson. There is expected to be strong competition for places from a core of very promising younger players.

The third team has a new captain in Chris' brother Danny who will have Ryan O'Sullivan as his deputy. The team will continue to give opportunities for junior players who are entering senior cricket. It is hoped that the team will be at least as successful as last term when finishing in a very creditable fourth place.

### **ALWOODLEY CRICKET CLUB**

The 2016 season for Alwoodley CC will be one of youth and development. The success of the junior section last season truly showcased the talent that Alwoodley CC is unearthing and developing. We hope that this season that talent can come to the forefront within our senior teams and help both teams improve on their league positions from last season.

### **BARDSEY CRICKET CLUB**

The teams will start the season in good spirits and with match practice under their belt after a tour to St Kitts & Nevis in the Caribbean. Many thanks to those who have worked so hard in planning this spectacular trip, particularly our great friend Harwood Williams. We have signed Saeed Williams as our overseas player for 2016. His father Stuart played for Bardsey in the 90s and represented Leeward Islands & West Indies so we are excited to see what the next generation has to offer. The rest of the playing roster remains unchanged at time of writing, though there may be a couple of further new players joining us by the start of the season. Matt Wells continues as 1st XI captain. Gareth Plant has chosen to stand down so Holly Richardson will lead the 2nd XI. Both teams underperformed last year, and finishing in the top half of the table with more consistency from the batters must be the minimum to aim for. We continue to place a big emphasis on our junior section and bring through youngsters into the senior game as much as possible. Off the field, we will be holding our NatWest Cricket Force weekend a bit later than others on 9/10 April due to the tour and will be renovating our practice nets. We wish all clubs a successful year and hope we can bring some Caribbean sunshine home with us.

### **BECKWITHSHAW CRICKET CLUB**

The club is looking forward to an excellent season in 2016, under the leadership on the field of Alex Lilley. The 2nd XI is looking forward to rising to their return to Div 1, with Pete Hotchkiss as captain.

New signings include Eugene Burzler and James Lilley. Sam Moore moves from us to Skipton CC with our many thanks and best wishes.

Our administrative change is that we welcome a new club treasurer and are hugely grateful to Matthew Smart for many years of excellent service.

The club is beginning on the process of fundraising to continue to improve our facilities.

### **BEN RHYDDING CRICKET CLUB**

It's all change at the top at Ben Rhydding as Robbie Miller takes the reins of first team captaincy from brother Alex. Namesake Robbie Oldham will act as vice-captain, and the club are confident of a strong showing in Division B this time out.

Kervon Christmas returns as overseas player, and he is joined by new signings Fraser Smith, a Scotland-born South African middle order bat who is moving to Leeds long-term, and seamers Danny Bell and Michael Slater, who join from Tong Park Esholt and Green Lane respectively. We extend a warm welcome to all our new faces.

Soon-to-be graduated Leeds Trinity students Sam Housam and Rob Withers are likely to be available for selection throughout the Summer, which will add real strength in depth in both batting and bowling.

Charlie Swallow has departed for Horsforth with our best wishes.

After relegation in 2014, Olly Musgrave retains the second team captaincy, where real emphasis will again be placed on developing the handful of talented teenagers that did such a fine job for the club in the last campaign. The side are confident of a promotion challenge.

After flood damage over the winter, the clubhouse will undergo a full renovation before the season, which will act as the first step in a huge project in the Sports Club plans for the next few years. A 4G football pitch, athletics track and second hockey pitch are all part of plans to make Ben Rhydding one of the well-equipped and impressive sports clubs in the country.

We extend good luck to all clubs and look forward to welcoming many of you to Coutances Way in 2016.

### **BILTON CRICKET CLUB**

1<sup>st</sup> XI - Following a successful 2015 season the challenge is on to continue that success. The addition of Sam Davies and the return of Ryan Heptinstall provide more options for the bowling attack whilst providing more depth to the batting order. Some changes to the batting order should mix consistency with potentially explosive power when required. Vic Craven will continue as Captain this season with Ryan Bradshaw as Vice-Captain.

2<sup>nd</sup> XI - After achieving the first target of staying in Division 1 following promotion in 2014 the intention for this season will be to improve on that and we will be aiming for a top half finish at the very least. The return of Andy Walker & Carl Heptinstall will add significant experience to both the batting & bowling whilst the younger players will improve having gained a lot of experience in 2015. Neil Styryn has taken over as Captain with Carl Heptinstall as Vice-Captain.

3<sup>rd</sup> XI - Another difficult season beckons as exams take their toll again. A very young side with promising future players will take the field most weeks in the first half of the season. We will be looking to find experienced players to add to the squad from those not available on Saturday's. Anything other than finishing bottom of the table will be seen as a successful season this year.

### **BURLEY IN WHARFEDALE CRICKET CLUB**

After a fifth place finish and a Waddilove cup final appearance last season, Richard Brook again leads our 1XI and has recruited well this winter. Danny Bott joins from Ilkley CC. Raes Ishtiak a fast bowler from Follifoot CC, Abbas Ahmed a leg spinner from Spen Victoria CC and Ben Richardson from Menston CC all join the club.

Harry Brook will play whenever possible after making several appearances for Yorkshire 2XI last season. Sam Fox is another involved in the Yorkshire set up and after a winter on the gold pathway system, should impress with his left arm pace. Jason Wright is now fully fit after a knee operation and a winter of rehabilitation.

Danny Bryan, another injury casualty from last season should also be fit. The clubs 2XI after being relegated to Division B are to be led by Paul Barker. Nick Day who led our 3XI to Chappel Cup success is now studying at Guildford University.

Dave Cooper remains as our club coach. His expertise and commitment over a number of years has played a massive part to the clubs successes especially working with our junior section. He has also recently returned from a six month coaching stint at Otorohanga cricket club in New Zealand.

### **BOLTON VILLAS CRICKET CLUB**

All at BVCC are again looking forward to 2016 with vigour, The First XI has a new captain in Andrew Clarke who replaces last year's skipper Joe Lawrence who now lives and works in Newbury Berkshire. BVCC would like to thank Joe for his valiant efforts last year and wish him well down south. We also welcome our Overseas Player Luke Pickford a 25 year old opening bowler from East Torrens CC in Adelaide's West End Premier League; we wish him well and plenty of wickets. After a few seasons away from the game Craig Blackwell joins his brother Gareth from the Thornton area and again we wish him well and hope he enjoys his return to the game. There are no more signings to report as of yet but we remain hopeful of one or two late additions to the squad, we also look forward to the return of speedster Louis Brown in June once his teaching course at Northumbria University finishes. We are delighted also to see a fit and re -juvenated Rehan Butt return to the field after missing the majority of 2015 following a badly broken leg whilst playing football

2<sup>nd</sup> XI will again be led by Adam Marsden who enjoyed a good first year in charge; he will again lead the usual collection of young players, seasoned players and the odd few who can best be described as wily old campaigners.

At junior level we will again look to field teams at Under 9 through to Under 15 in The Bradford Junior League and will continue to forge links with 4 local primary schools as part of the Chance to Shine Scheme.

Our Over 50's Grey Fox XI will also look to defend their title win after lifting the trophy at North Marine Road in September last year.

A warm welcome is extended to all visitors in what we hope will be a warm rain free summer

### **CALVERLEY ST. WILFRID'S CRICKET CLUB**

Promotion for the 1st XI to Division 2 has helped captain, Ben Waller, attract new players: Barry McCormick and Jay Atkinson join the club from Alwoodley and Leeds Modernians to strengthen the batting. Indian overseas player Jatinder Singh will be joining the club for a second season after great success in 2015.

The 2nd XI will be captained by Chris Randall who joined from Rawdon last summer. New players include batsman Paul Swales from Adel and the return of bowler Andy Ralph after a spell with Rodley.

The club is investing in new equipment to improve the ground and refurbishing the changing facilities. It looks forward to consolidating its position for both teams in Division 2 with competitive cricket from its strengthened squad.

### **COLLINGHAM & LINTON CRICKET CLUB**

Collingham first team finished 6th in the very competitive 1st division last year which was a fantastic achievement with a mixture of senior players but a number of young emerging players. Our first team is once again looking forward to competing in a strong First division and mounting a serious challenge for the Waddilove Cup. We believe we will benefit immensely from the experience the young players have gained over the last couple of years. The mixture of these players and the new signings of Asanga Weerasinghe, Tom Clayton, Callum Robinson, Andrew Guest & James Brecknock will hopefully lead to a successful year.

Collingham second team achieved last year's target of immediate promotion back into Division Two, there is a real feeling that we can surprise a few people in 2016. We are a completely different outfit from the team that suffered relegation in 2014 and, with the 1st team recruiting well; our squad strength looks great ahead of this season. With a great blend of youth and experience I am genuinely excited to see what we can deliver in 2016 but most importantly we will play our cricket with a smile on our face and enjoy a beer after the game win, lose or draw.

A huge amount of work has been undertaken on the ground during the winter months and so once again Collingham look forward to welcoming supporters to the club. A special thanks to Bill Powell, Godfrey Lumb and Billy Barker for their assistance.

### **COLTON INSTITUTE CRICKET CLUB**

Colton enjoyed a successful season in 2015. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI continued to make good progress in Division 2 and was in contention at the top of the table for the majority of the season before eventually finishing a close 3<sup>rd</sup>. Danny Gautrey remains as captain and with the support of all of the same players from last year hopes are high for a continued improvement in 2016. The Club are hoping to secure 2 new signings within the next couple of weeks to further boost the playing strength.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI also enjoyed a strong season by finishing in the top half which was a creditable achievement. This was even more rewarding considering the backbone of the side comprised of home grown juniors who all made valuable contributions throughout the season. It will be a mixture of youth and experience in 2016. Dominic Chalk takes over as captain and is looking forward to the challenges ahead. His ability and experience will be invaluable to the youngsters in the side.

This year we are running 3 junior teams at U13, U15 and U18 age groups. New lads are always welcome to come along and enjoy the excellent facilities at Colton which are as a result of a hard working team of committee members.

2016 will no doubt be another competitive season and we look forward to welcoming all visiting teams, supporters and friends to School Lane.

### **FOLLIFOOT CRICKET CLUB**

Following the disappointment of relegation last season due to an administrative oversight rather than anything that happened on the pitch, the Club are looking forward to a much more positive season in what is their 170th Anniversary.

The Club is delighted to have three Follifoot CC stalwarts captaining the senior teams in the form of Paul Angove (Firsts), Paul Townsend (Seconds) and Euan London (Thirds) and we are sure they will lead by example. There will also be a real emphasis on youth and trying to bring through as many of our younger players as possible. For example, almost all of the First Team will be under the age of twenty four.

We will also aim to maintain the vibrancy of our large junior section which exists thanks to the efforts of our committed coaches and the involvement of the parents.

As always, we are grateful for the kind support of our main sponsor, Sentinel car parking and also YESSS Electrical and Deighton Manufacturing.

It is our aim to provide a warm welcome to all our opponents and guests and we look forward to seeing you at one of Yorkshire's most picturesque cricket grounds in 2016.

### **GREEN LANE CRICKET CLUB**

Having kept the core of our 1st XI squad from 2015 and being strengthened by the addition of Michael Sanderson (an All-Rounder from Ringwood CC in Melbourne), we are confident of challenging strongly for an immediate return to Division 2. We wish long-serving Michael Leeroy Slater the best of luck as he leaves us for Ben Rhydding CC

Ben Roberts again captains our second team, he has a couple of new additions to the team and we hope for a good successful season, unfortunately last year just missing out on promotion. After the wet winter our groundsman Tommy Powell is working hard to bring the cricket square up to the required standard!

Ian Roberts is captaining the thirds having a good mixture of seniors and juniors to boost the team and as always we hope for success. Green Lane are looking forward to the 2016 season and welcoming visiting clubs to our club

### **GUISELEY CRICKET CLUB**

Clearly 2015 was a very disappointing season for Guiseley as the 1<sup>st</sup> XI was relegated from the 1<sup>st</sup> Division, but there is a real determination to return at the first attempt. The squad has been strengthened with Richard Nichols, who joins as Player/Coach from Skipton CC, Tom Brady who joins from Otley and is a quality young keeper batsman and Michael Truswell, who actually signed for the club in 2014 from Burley, but has been travelling since. The overseas player is Taylor Cumberland, who is the nephew of the club's first ever overseas player, Chris Cumberland. He is a top order batter from Dunedin. Going the other way is Bradley Reeve, who will try his hand at Rawdon, and last year's skipper Alex Bell who joins Ilkley. Peter Towner returns as Captain having done so in 2014.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI comprises the usual suspects, but with additional strength in the 1<sup>st</sup> XI, ambitions should be higher through maintaining a more consistent side which is once again skippered by Nick Fraser for the 105<sup>th</sup> consecutive season!!!

The 3<sup>rd</sup> XI will aim to put up a stout defence of their League title and the club is grateful that the side will once again be led again by Martin Hings, who clearly understands the blend that needs to be achieved between youth and experience.

### **HARDEN CRICKET CLUB**

Harden Cricket Club welcomes all visitors for the forthcoming season.

Paul Quinlan continues as 1<sup>st</sup> XI and Club Captain. Paul will be supported by Mark Portlock who takes over from Scott Hartley as Vice-Captain. We will, once again, be utilising the services of an overseas player and we welcome a number of new recruits to Cuckoo's Nest.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI will be led by Richard Falkingham and Steve Gardner once again. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> XI will, as ever, be a mix of youth and experience.

### **HORSFORTH CRICKET CLUB**

After securing promotion to Division A as champions in 2015 and a semi final place in the Waddilove Cup, the 1st XI hopes to consolidate our league position as well as another cup run. Hopefully we can go a couple of steps further in the cup! The club have made two exciting additions to the 1st XI squad with the arrivals of Charlie Swallow from Ben Rhydding CC and Siddhant Adhataro from Thackley CC as our overseas player. The club wishes a warm welcome to Charlie and Siddi. Unfortunately, the club have lost two experienced 1st XI players in Mark Gilliver (Pool CC) and Mahir Ali (Tong Park Esholt CC). The club would like to thank Gilly and Mahir for their contributions towards our back to back promotions and wish them well for the future.

Under the guidance of new skipper Dean Skillicorn, the 2nd XI cemented their place in Division A with a mid-table 7th placed finish. There were notable performances with both opening batsmen, Chris Binks and Tom Colley, scoring over 700 runs for the season. Our experienced bowlers Matthew Bates and Kris Lewis were reliable as ever with the ball as well as Alex Myers showing real promise. The club hopes that the 2nd XI continue with the blend of youth and experience to build on last season and push further up the table in 2016.

The 3rd XI rounded off a successful season for the club with an impressive 2nd placed finish in the league. Their achievement was made more impressive by the fact that the team was mainly made up of juniors and a handful of senior players including the captain, Peter Lawrence. The club hopes that the 3rd XI can continue to give experience to our junior players whilst maintaining another title push.

All captains remain the same for the 2016 season. The club wishes them luck for a successful 2016 season.

Off the field, the club is moving into an exciting new era with the completion of the new clubhouse. We look forward to a competitive and successful 2016 for all our teams and a warm welcome to all visitors at a brand new King George's Field.

### **HORSFORTH HALL PARK CRICKET CLUB**

"The club celebrated its 125th anniversary with a new kitchen and electronic scoreboard. The kitchen has paved the way for a cafe which is open daily (closed Mondays in winter). This has seen an explosion in membership of the club over the past year. A successful Beer Festival was held over the Easter weekend.

A new decking area for al fresco dining and drinking has been erected to the front of the clubhouse.

The 1st XI continues to be led by William Brown. Josh Hobson and Mark McEneaney have returned to the fold, whilst Dan Kastelik has moved to the area from London. Callum Postle has moved down the road to Bradford League newcomers Rodley CC and we wish him well.

Daniel Holah returns to the helm of the 2nd XI, which will be strengthened with our talented juniors.

The club will again be entering the Grey Fox Trophy after being narrowly beaten in the semi-final last year.

### **ILKLEY CRICKET CLUB**

After a winter the Club would wish to forget Ilkley CC are hoping for a summer to remember. Two floods and a major break at the club have given the club unexpected and unwanted additional workloads and stress. The club has been fortunate to have had the support of the Probation Service who has provided 'volunteers' to assist with recovery and remedial work over several months. Peter Roe, umpire and Probation Service Officer, has provided the supervisory responsibilities for the workforce and we are extremely appreciative of his commitment and desire to help the club.

The club has also had excellent support of the ECB, YCB and Sport England with some grant support and advice.

On a more positive note the club has been reaccredited with Club Mark status with the junior section continuing to thrive. The social, playing and financial benefits of the growing junior section augurs well for the future. The club has a healthy number of parents (mums and dads) and players supporting the juniors with coaching and the social activities.

As an aside perhaps one should advise on player movement! Danny Bott, the elder of the Bott lads has moved downstream to Burley whilst Michael Sant has moved the other way back to Ilkley. We expect another product of the trade route involving Guiseley to provide another player and the club will enjoy this season the services of an overseas player (registration yet to be confirmed).

Visiting clubs and officials will continue to be warmly welcomed but **will need to be aware that roadwork's to the west of Ilkley (Ilkley / Addingham) but will impact on travelling times on all routes to Ilkley (ten weeks from the end of March).**

### **ILLINGWORTH ST. MARY'S**

Subject to acceptance, season 2016 is expected to be Illingworth's last season in the League as the Club having applied to join the Halifax Cricket League for 2017. Illingworth have no issues with the Airedale & Wharfedale League or its member Clubs and have enjoyed over half a century of good cricket. However, having consulted with players extensively it is apparent that the modern player prefers a shorter game and less travelling time. The committee at Illingworth feel it must act on this feedback and meet the needs of players.

Luke Brooksby is captain in 2016 aided by Jamie Moorhouse. Our Overseas is Daniel Murfet who plays for Glenorchy in Tasmania and is from a similar background as previous imports James Whiteley, Sean Stephenson and Matthew Battle. Daniel is a left hand batter who also bowls spin. Otherwise the players will be the same as last season with further progress expected from Matthew Smith and Joe Lewis – two promising young players. Veryan Brooksby will be a regular and it was noteworthy that Steve Cook qualified for the League bowling averages last season having previously kept wicket for the first team!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI is captained by Paul Roberts who adds further experience to the leadership team with Steve Smith as his deputy. There will be similar look to the team as last year with a blend of youth and experience. Winter nets have been very well attended and it is hoped that the evident enthusiasm will be reflected in performances and results.

Off the field the Club is endeavouring to upgrade the pavilion with a new boiler, electrical work and roof repairs. It may be that new mobile covers will be on the agenda during the season.

With best wishes to all Clubs for season 2016.

### **KIRKSTALL EDUCATIONAL CRICKET CLUB**

Stephen Brown continues as 1<sup>st</sup> XI skipper after taking over from Andy Siddall part way through the 2015 season. The club welcomes Baba Butt for a full season at the club after his move from Pudsey Congs half way through last season.

There have been a small number of new signings, with the second team looking to continue to bring through young talent and challenge for promotion.

As ever, the junior section looks to have a successful season across all age groups.

### **KNARESBOROUGH CRICKET CLUB**

Following the hugely successful bicentenary in 2015, we are once again looking to develop our cricket at all levels in 2016. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI will be lead by Neil Marshall, the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI will be skippered by Henry Perham and the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI will be captained by Jordan Tear. We have an overseas coming over from Melbourne by the name of Kiefer Peries, he follows in a line of good young players to come to our club and we wish him well. On the playing front we welcome James Green from Durham, James Keane from Spofforth and Ben Cutts from Killinghall, again all young players eager to make their mark in league cricket.

### **LEEDS MODERNIANS CRICKET CLUB**

There have been a few changes at Cookridge Lane this season: first, the club's name. Second, chairman Chris Walker has stepped down after many years' service and is succeeded by Mark Ripley. Third, last year's 1<sup>st</sup> XI captain, Jay Atkinson, has departed for Calverley and been replaced by Dwayne Heke.

There have also been some personnel changes, as the club is strengthened by new arrivals. We welcome Kevin Owens from Skipton; we are pleased that Jarran Cook rejoins us from sabbatical at Castleford; and we look forward to the arrival of Nick Hyden, our new Australian overseas player.

Otherwise, the club is enjoying a good deal of stability. Matt Walker retains the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI captaincy. The squad as a whole remains largely unchanged, and we hope to put out two strong sides each week. At 2<sup>nd</sup> XI level we expect to see more from several young players who enjoyed their first full season of senior cricket last year. For the 1<sup>st</sup> XI, promotion should be a definite possibility.

### **MENSTON CRICKET CLUB**

Menston Cricket Club is pleased to announce David Blackburn as 1st X1 captain following the departure of Charlie Parker to Pudsey St Lawrence; the club wishes Charlie well in the Bradford Premier League. David will be supported by Shahid Bashir as vice-captain and the club welcomes Kiwi Doug Bradley as its overseas player. Mohsin Iqbal continues as 2nd XI skipper with Ed Killerby again as vice-captain. Both 1st & 2nd XIs will look to better last season's finishes in Division C. The re-introduction of a 3rd XI, led by Kevin Woodley, will continue and enhance the club's policy of promoting junior players into senior cricket.

The junior section of the club will be led by Chris Woodthorpe, and much time and energy will be devoted to developing the club's promising under 9, under 11 and under 13 players.

The club has again worked hard to improve its facilities during the winter months, with the club steadily improving its offering to existing and prospective members. **As with last season, we kindly ask all visiting teams to abide by the parking restrictions in The Fox car park, (a reminder of which has been distributed for the attention all at clubs, Sec.**

### **NEW ROVER CRICKET CLUB**

This year, the 1XI will again be skippered by Kieren Thurston supported by Matthew Dinsdale as vice captain. The 1XI are looking to build on last season after narrowly missing out on promotion on the last day of the season. The 2XI will be led this year by Hamza Mir after taking over from Chris Buttery, with Kav Mistry as vice captain, and looking to bounce back following relegation last year from Division 1. The club welcome new players Sam Gascoyne from Follifoot and Danny Reuben back from North Leeds.



### **NORTH LEEDS CRICKET CLUB**

For North Leeds after an encouraging end to the 2015 season finishing in 7th place after promotion the previous year the 1st X1 welcome back Larry Audain as their overseas player from St Kitts. Larry was a key part of the bowling unit and one of best fielders to have played for the club in many seasons. The club will continue to develop its young talented players in Adam Copley , Harry Dixon and Harry Kellaway who all made significant contribution in 2015.

The club have secured the services of Jack Richardson from Devon Premier League Torquay on a Student Dual Registration and look forward to his talent as a left arm medium pace swing bowler and middle order batsman but have lost the services of Martin Kellaway who has decided to take a break from the game and his experience will be missed. Rob Winter continues as 1st X1 Captain and his vice-Captain will be Andy Carson

Andy Stevens will again captain the 2nd X1 who hope to go one better than their Runners Up spot last Year. Vice-Captain Simon Taylor has moved back to his first club in North Yorkshire but again there are many juniors vying for places. The club will continue to field a 3rd X1 and continues to have a very strong Junior Membership with over 170 members and a frustrated further 65 on the waiting list.

On Saturday night 14th February the groundsmans shed was broken into and all ground equipment bar the heavy motor roller was stolen. Fortunately the club insurance covered all replacement costs and the square and outfield should be in their usual condition by the start of the season with replacement equipment stored in a secure container until the planned re-build of the scoreboard and adjoining ground equipment store for the 2017 season.

### **OLICANIAN CRICKET CLUB**

The new season sees the first team continue in the third division where they narrowly missed out on promotion last year, the second team continue in the second division and we will again run a third team with The sole objective of giving the opportunity for our junior players to gain experience in senior cricket. We will operate a range of mixed junior teams at under 9, 11, 13 and 15 age groups and will also run an under 7 mini cricket group. The first team will again be captained by Harry Smallwood whilst our second team will have a new captain with Jamie Hudson taking over from Kevin McGuinness, who we thank for all his efforts over recent years. Robert Brear continues as the captain of our third team. We welcome Tom Smallwood to our first team moving to us from Addingham CC whilst James Nixon travels in the opposite direction and we wish him well. We are hoping to recruit one or two more players before the start of the season and after a successful season with us last year we welcome back Scott Sanderson from Perth, Australia as our overseas player. During the autumn we completed an extension to our ground lease which secures our tenure of the ground for another 25 years. This also enabled the £50,000 upgrade of our square to go ahead which involved the complete relaying of the square with laser levelling, drainage and two extra pitches added. Unfortunately the very wet autumn/winter resulted in the whole ground including the newly laid square being flooded on three separate occasions. As a result the square will not be ready for the start of the season and our early home games cannot be played at Denton Road. We have been extremely fortunate to be able to hire the ground of Haworth West End CC, formerly of the Craven League, and are looking forward to playing there. We have also received planning permission for a new score box and hope to have this work completed before the end of the season.

### **OTLEY CRICKET CLUB**

Otley Cricket Club have experienced very little changes in all 3 teams - 1st and 2nd team captains remain unchanged whilst Chris Halliday has taken over from D Bell as captain of the 3rd Team

1st team welcome Chris Thompson from BBB and see the departing of Tom Brady to Guiseley CC

Various improvements have been made to the Clubhouse during the close of season

Once more all 3 teams aim to be competitive and look forward to the season ahead

### **POOL IN WHARFEDALE CRICKET CLUB**

After a successful season in 2015 both the 1XI and 2XI secured promotion to division A. The 2016 season sees the 1XI field a new look side as a result of losing last season's captain Ben Platt, Tosh Baker, Sam Wilson and Mickey Hutchins. Pool CC is delighted to have gained the services of experienced batsmen Mark Gilliver from Horsforth who will also take up the position of head coach. Young prospect Billy Whitford has also joined from Keighley. Charlie Bell will take up the position of 1XI captain and Adam Collett will continue as the 2XI captain. The 2016 season also see's the introduction of the 3rd XI which will be led by Andy Williams.

### **RAWDON CRICKET CLUB**

There have been minimal changes in the playing personnel at Larkfield Road during the close season. The first team will again be captained by Ben Heritage and he will rely largely on the squad from last year. There have been two additions, Ahmad Raja, a middle order batsman joins from Bradford League club Undercliffe and spin bowler Bradley Reeve makes the move from Guiseley. Our overseas player will once again be the popular Kuda Samunderu, Zimbabwean top order batsman and off spin bowler who joins us for his second year. The second team sees a change of captain with the appointment of Wayne Martell. Wayne will balance his side with the best of the clubs upcoming youth players and the more experienced performers as he looks to continue the improvement made last season. Danny Appleton has decided to stand down as third team captain this year after several successful years of helping with the introduction of our junior players into the senior game. The club will continue this policy of developing the players from our successful junior section into third team cricket and beyond.

The club will have improved facilities this season with the extension and redevelopment of our changing rooms thanks to a grant received from Sport England. Both home and away changing rooms will have the benefit of new self contained showers and we will also have new changing rooms for umpires and female changing. In addition to the changing rooms we also plan to install a new electronic scoreboard.

Three our senior players have moved to pastures new and we would like to thank Tony Gilks, Chris Gill and Josh Hobson for their service to Rawdon Cricket Club.

As always League officials and visiting teams and members are assured of a warm welcome at Larkfield Road

### **SILSDEN CRICKET CLUB**

Former player Chris Meehan has returned to the Club after six years working abroad, to Captain the 1st X1. He replaces long serving Hugh Sugden who will; now concentrate on the ground and junior coaching.

We welcome overseas player Shaun Brentnall from Melbourne, who played with Hamphwaite last season where he won the League batting award. Also Majid Inayat and Manley du Preez have committed to a full season after missing most of last year due to work and injury respectively, and youngsters Nick Firth, and Upper Airedale jun. player of the year Ben Sugden are both hopeful of securing places on the 1st X1.

Andrew Pullen will again lead the 2nd X1 with the usual mix of youth and experience.

Following the severe floods in December, a massive cleaning operation was required, and more work is needed before the start of the season, but our 10 year plan of Clubhouse, Scorebox/store, and net facility is now complete with the addition of new mobile covers.

The Club and its hard working members are honoured that the League have awarded them the Birtwhistle Cup Final in August 2016.

### **SKIPTON CRICKET CLUB**

The 1st XI will be captained by Rob Walker and the ,2nd XI by Dave Hedges. We have been joined by Sam Moore a hard hitting top order batsman. We have also signed South African Pieter Coetzer as our overseas player. Pieter is having an impressive season playing for Pretoria , he is a top order batsman and medium paced bowler. Home crowd favourite and danger man Will Huggins is also expected to return to the club after a number of years working down South. We will continue our policy of pushing our junior members into the 2nd team to play alongside and learn from the senior members.

Kev Owens and Richard Nichols have moved on to new clubs and we wish them well.

### **STEETON CRICKET CLUB**

Steeton Cricket Club had a very good season in 2015, appearing in two cup finals and all three teams retaining top division status.

On the field the highlight of the season was Steeton CC's victory over Guiseley in the Birtwhistle Cup Final at Green Lane. It was the first time we have won that competition. Craig Walton was both Captain and Man of the Match. Our youngsters in the Third Eleven did us proud in getting to the Chappell Cup final but sadly were beaten by a strong Burley side.

Our junior section continues to grow and prosper. Our U15 team won their Upper Airedale Junior Cricket League championship. Our U13 did the double winning league and cup. Bradley Akrigg (U17) and Aatif Modak (U15) both won their respective league batting awards.

Stephen Pearson continues with first team captain duties. His Vice Captain will be Craig Walton who has decided to commit to the first team after a successful season as Second Team Captain. Paul Hardwick takes over as Second Team Captain. Hayden Tennant once again takes the reigns as Third Team Captain in 2016 to develop our junior player's transition into senior cricket.

Steeton CC has decided to dispense with an overseas player for the coming season and instead will try and progress our junior members through the senior ranks.

We have lost two key first team players in Neil Spragg and Jonathan Best. Jonathan has moved away to Jersey and Neil has retired. They will be greatly missed.

The Steeton tea ladies again delivered the Aire- Wharfe league unofficial 'Tea of the Year award' in 2015 as voted for by umpires and players alike. It is now twenty one years in a row our ladies have won this award.

Steeton CC looks forward to welcoming you all to the Tom Barritt Pavilion at Summerhill Lane in 2016.

### **THACKLEY CRICKET CLUB**

The 1st X1 have to make changes for 2016 as 4 players have left the club. Jonathan Rudge( opening bowler) has signed for Wrenthorpe, Sidhant Adhatrao ( overseas) has signed for Horsforth, Joe Ollerenshaw (W/k Batsman) has emigrated to Australia, and Tom Johnson ( Allrounder ) has returned to Idle. In their places at the moment we have signed Amer Ayub ( Allrounder) from Saltaire, Andrew Parratt ( Allrounder) from Hartshead Moor, also we hope To have a new Overseas from Pakistan, we are just awaiting his visa. Josh Brooksbank will Capt the side in place of Bradley Goodaire, who will still play. The rest of the side should be as last year.

The 2nd X1 will have a new Capt, but at the moment a final decision has not been made, as our original person Alan Cuff is now going to wicket keep in the 1st X1. We also are pleased to welcome back from Birmingham Raece Shah (Opening Bowler). The side will once again have a mixture of experienced & young players, who we feel are good enough to challenge for promotion.

We are again not running a 3rd X1 and a Wednesday Evening side due to lack of players.

### **TONG PARK ESHOLT CRICKET CLUB**

TPECC had a poor season in 2015. The 1<sup>st</sup> team was relegated to Division C but the 2<sup>nd</sup> team finished mid-table in Division A. Player movement has been quite high, 5 players have left the club replaced by 5 new payers and last year's Australian bowler has been swapped for an Australian batsman. We are looking forward to introducing more players from our junior section. Clubmark certification was awarded during last season.

Sadly, we had a severe flood on Boxing Day and the ECB have informed us that we cannot play on the Esholt ground this season. The league has given us permission to revert to the Tong Park ground. The cricket square and outfield played very well last season but we apologise that the facilities are not as good. We hope that visiting teams will take this into consideration.

### **UPPER WHARFEDALE CRICKET CLUB**

There is very little change on the field at UWCC with Jake Starkey taking over the captaincy from Callum Lockett due to early season University commitments. Pete Jeffrey takes charge of the second team. Off the field, the club has finally obtained planning consent for the new pavilion, long in coming but very welcome. Opposition teams will have to put up with the current facilities for a little longer.