

HOUSE!

Sunday 5th September 2010

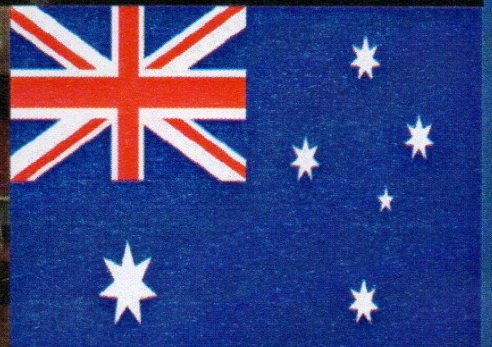
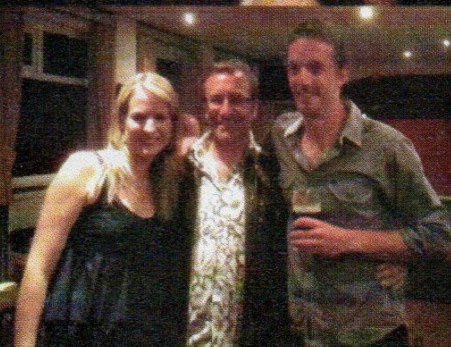
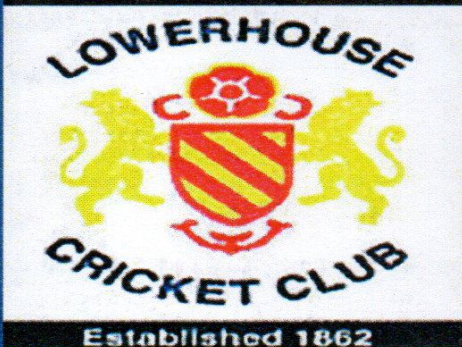
Lowerhouse

v

Colne

CLA^{UK}

🎵 Bye Me Kangaroo Down Sport 🎵



THE TEAMS

MEET THE TEAMS

LOWERHOUSE

Cottam
Russell
Bailey F.
Beneduce
Bleazard
Doughty
Finch
Heap
Martin J
Martin P
Crook

COLNE

Wilson
Rimmer
Ellis
Tillotson
Varley
Proctor
Walker
Clark
Lambert
Duerden
Anwar Ali

Editor - Mark Whitehead,
The Future - Stan Heaton
Meet The Teams - Paul Hargreaves
Letter From A Lifer - Paul Hargreaves
Design - Helen Laycock, Printing - School Stars

All too soon we have reached the last home game of the season, in which ninth placed Lowerhouse host Worsley Cup winners Colne, who are second to bottom. The highlight for the 'House last week was the clearcut victory over Bacup last Saturday. It was a game in which Jonny Whitehead belied his age and experience. Jonny "The Kid" wasn't just content in becoming the youngest 'House player to achieve a senior League half-century; he also got close to beating V. Tripathi's record of youngest Lancashire League centurion. Unfortunately on 88 and after a rain break, he slipped in adjusting his shot and popped the ball up to a grateful fielder. Chris Bleazard also did some belying. Often known, rightly or wrongly, as a slow and diffident starter, he scored a 24 ball half century containing many of his scrapbook strokes. Bacup gave Clive of India and Roy of Rossendale something to shout about in reply but never looked quite like winning. The impressive Paul Gallagher carried his bat for 101 not out. This win put the 'House 2 points above Burnley and players and supporters assembled at Turf Moor, not to praise Burnley but to bury them. Unfortunately it can only be said 'House laid an egg of gargantuan proportions. It is rather ominous when Johnny Russell is the top scoring amateur batsmen; certainly not a put out flags, have a street party and eat cake moment. I can't speak about the second half of the game having sneaked out, gone to watch Padiham lose at Edenfield; then watched the exciting conclusion at the Snake Pit, where Church conceded over 20 runs in the last 2 overs, to hand the reptiles' victory. Ultra-veteran Michael "Iguana" Ingham hit the winning six. Not a good day! Colne had a mixed week-end. On Saturday they lost at home to Tod just as easy as Lowerhouse did to Burnley. Going into Sunday's match at Accy the team had won 4 out of 23 games in the League, compared with 4 out of 4 in the Worsley Cup. Perhaps Colne need a hypnotist to lull them into thinking every game is a Cup game. In the event Colne got win 5 by a 19 run margin. Although Anwar Ali had a steady game (39 and 3-43) he wasn't the hero for once; that accolade going to veteran Jeff Ellis with 79 and 6-55. Excellent all-round figures. Our own Jonathan Finch has had a great all-round season and let's hope he gets the 44 runs necessary to follow Jon Hartley in 1980, as the second 'House player in history to do the "mini-double".

Four weeks ago Colne won their seventh Worsley Cup to add to their four League title successes. The club won their first League Championship in 1902 and further wins quickly followed in 1905 and 1910. This means they have just the one Championship in the last 100 years. This occurred in the club's annus mirabilis of 1959. That year Stanley Jaysinghe was in the third of his 4 years as pro at the Horsfield. He was a solid Lancashire League pro even if his first class record was somewhat mediocre. The club was skippered by Frank Taylor, who uniquely, won the 1959 double with Colne and the 1965 double as Nelson captain. One often thinks of Colne as Nelson's little brother (21 Championships to 4) but in 1959 the tables were turned. Colne pipped Nelson by 3 points in the League and knocked them out of the first round of the Cup. In the second round Colne tied with Burnley and a replay ensued. In this game Lowerhouse Crescent resident Bob Entwistle scored 36 out of Burnley's paltry 59 score and Colne went on to meet Todmorden in the semis. In this game Lowerhouse member and ex-player Malcolm Blackhurst was at the crease as a nail-biting 1 wicket win was gained. The final was slightly anti-climactic and Bacup were defeated by 4 wickets.

Colne like Lowerhouse haven't often been strong enough to contend at the top of the table, but unlike the 'House have a great Worsley Cup record. They have contested 11 finals and, impressively, won 7 of these. Colne were inaugural winners in 1919. Since then wins have come in 1924, 1948, 1959 (as detailed), 1969, 1999 and 2010. In '99 Colne gained revenge on East Lancs who had defeated them the year previous. Colne pro Joe Scuder had a fine match with 56 and 3-39. This year high-flying Rammy were put to the sword. The main swashbucklers were Anwar Ali with 5-22 and Justin Nutter with 46 not out.

Some of Colne's notable professionals include Bill Alley (last man to score 3000 runs in an English season) Collis King, Hartley Alleyne, Ben Johnson and Marcus North. So let's hope for a fine match today, our last until the Spring of 2011.

THE FUTURE

Bacup 2XI 122-all out

LHCC 2XI - 123-6

Scott Hope 5-23

Kieran Tighe 32 *
Mickey Lee 30*
Oli Bayliff 15

LHCC 2 XI 201-5

Burnley 2XI 132 -9

Phil Haggerty 74
Rhys Wood worth 36*
Scott Hope 27

Scott Hope 3-43
Kieran Tighe 2-7
Mickey Lee 2-18

After 16 successive matches without a victory the boys recorded two successive victories against their basement rivals. Saturdays win was built on a good bowling and fielding display with 2 crucial run outs. However at 32 -5 the cause looked lost until a 54 partnership from lee and Tighe saw the team home. Sunday's win saw the much threatened return to big runs from skipper Haggerty, ably supported by Scott Hope and the developing Woodworth and Bayliff.

A dogged innings of 30 from old boy Chris Whitehead denied the bonus point and provided the returning first team supporters with an opportunity for banter.

Ramsbottom 3XI 233-5

LHCC 3XI 98 All out

Shaun Heaton 3-28
Corey Hope 2-25

Dec Bailey 18
Jack Edgar 10

A simply dreadful batting performance

Burnley U15 116-1

LHCC U15 Dolphins 87-4

Jack Herbert 51*
Sam Snape 12
Will Norcross 10

An inept performance with both bat and ball

East Lancs U9s 241-9

LHCC U9 236 - 8

Ben Woodall 15

The youngsters snatched defeat from a comfortable winning position

Burnley District under 11s finished in 4th place in the Lytham Festival losing to Oldham in the 3rd placed ply off after a win over Fylde and a defeat to Ribble Valley in the League format.

Tom Lawson , Ben Uttley , Joe Halstead and Danny Faulkner were the leading run scorers with Jack Moodie leading wicket taker .

THE FUTURE

Continued

LHCC U13 Lions 201-10

Nelson U13 180 - 9

James Ridehalgh 11*
Joe Bayliff 11
Will Norcross 10
Matt Locke 10

Will Norcross 2-7
James Ridehalgh 2-10
Harry Spark 2-12

A somewhat bizarre game with wickets falling at an absurd rate . 201 looked about 70 short but all credit to the team who either batted or bowled their way to success . Hard to decide which really . Nelson were looking championship material so this was a crucial win at the top of the table

Bacup U13 172- 10

LHCC U13 Cougars - 227 -3

Conner Bethwaite 3-5
Aiden May 2-3

Alex Claridge - Ingham 14*

Salesbury u13 201 - 8

LHCC U13 Cougars 235-4

Alex Claridge Ingham 3-12
Matty Anderson 2-2

The Cougars (under 12s) moved closer to silverware with these 2 comprehensive wins, built on the bowling. Still unbeaten this season

LHCC U13 Jaguars 281-1

Enfield u13 235- 7

James Wheatcroft 22*
Jamie Stackhouse 15
Harry Wheatcroft 10*

Sam Wright 3-8
James Wright 2-4

The Jaguars continue to exceed expectations with another fine victory

LHCC U11 Bears 221-5

East Lancs 251 - 6

Jack Moodie 13

Danny Faulkner 3- 18

East Lancs completed the hat trick over the Bears including the cup .

LHCC U11 Cubs 241 -3

Church U11 230 - 4

Come the start of the last over Church had won the game . 2 wickets from Charlie Bithell swung the game in the under 11 reserves favour . They now wait nervously to see if they can finish runners up. The season has been very successful for last years under 9s

LETTERS FROM A 'LIFER'



By Life-Long 'house' Fan Paul Hargreaves

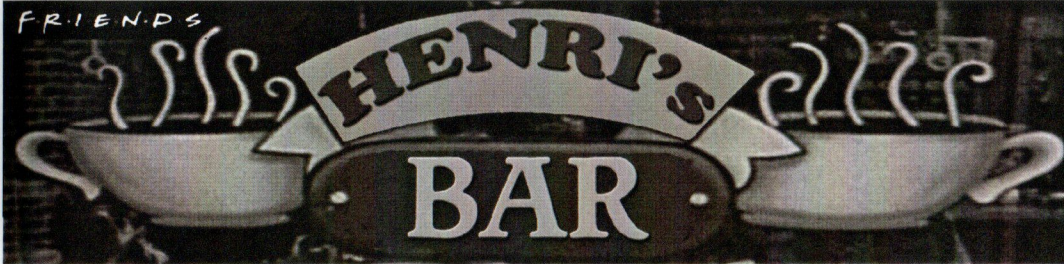
Only 4 months since our first home game on May Day we reach our last home fixture of the 2010 season. In this the last of the "lifer" series we'll reflect on Lancashire League matters that have arisen this year. Our opponents today, Colne C.C., did the League's small fry a favour by winning the Worsley Cup. A remarkable sequence of performances by Anwar Ali led to his team belying their dire League position. As for the Championship there is a scrap going on between big nasty Goliath and big, very nasty Goliath, and I don't particularly care who wins it.

The Lancashire League is in danger of becoming like the F.A. Premiership in soccer, whereby only a select few with the financial resources can win it. Rawtenstall haven't won for 28 years; for Enfield it's 31; Church 48 and Todmorden 53. Colne have won once in 100 years and 'House once in forever. If teams only paid their actual pros then moral champs Church might be the actual champs. The 2 teams fighting out the League have players paid to coach when any self-respecting imbecile knows they are paid to play. The most prominent this season is Jonathan Fielding with 100 wickets, the first amateur to reach this milestone since Church's Tommy Lowe took 101 wickets in 1939. (Church's first season as Champions). My worry about all this, is that young players emerging at poorer clubs will be lured by the filthy lucre on offer to the richer clubs. Could we get to the position, for example, where Bacup's Paul Gallagher is lured to a team like the reptiles as pro, with Hayes being added to the paid coaches list. Far fetched? Just remember how Hayes was poached from Rammy in the first place. We could even end up where the pro is the third or fourth best player on a team behind two or three paid coaches. Far fetched? Just look at Bootle in the Liverpool Competition. Could we blame a young player for taking such money which might pay for his first car, for example.

At Lowerhouse we have to hope that our patiently developed youngsters stay put. It is largely they who have made the season enjoyable and worthwhile and the club will have improved their overall position despite losing Collins, McGregor and Hawke from the 2009 squad. Fergus Bailey, Joe Martin and Jonny Whitehead can become the cornerstones of a team which is a rising force in the next year or two. There looks plenty of runs in the team. "The Kid" and Finchy are 500 runs a year players and 400 plus is a reasonable target for Blez, Fergus, the skip and Ben Heap. Joe Martin has shown that he is capable of being in that group and Matt Doughty has untapped potential. Clearly 'House's concerns rest in bowling. An optimistic scenario is that a pro does better than Drew and Heal, who fell short of our expectations in bowling. Paddy Martin's off-spin comes along and Matt Walker's injury problems clear up satisfactorily. If all this comes together a top 4 position could be in reach in 2011.

A big concern this season has been the decrease in crowds. Purists might not like it but developing 20-20 cricket might provide an answer to this. The crowd for the Burnley 20-20 at our ground was probably the best since a certain big game in 2004. A week later, versus Todmorden, on a not particularly good night, the crowd was more than reasonable. I think 20-20 fixtures should double at the expense of replays. We could then play Burnley, Tod, Colne and Nelson home and away, with Saturday tea-time fixtures book-ending the Friday nights. I think we just have to accept that most people are happier to spend 3 hours rather than 7 watching cricket. Three hours is in line with the time most other sports take to complete a game. In my opinion most Lancashire League clubs only commit halfheartedly to 20-20 but still get decent crowds. Maybe a 20-20 finals day could be inaugurated. If nothing else these changes are worth a try. I have to concede that getting these fans into the ground for the shorter version of the game won't convert many to the 50 overs game. I well remember the home game after the 2004 Worsley Cup final, where I hoped that people would be enthused by that fantastic day. In the event I arrived at the Liverpool Rd side 5 minutes before the play was due to commence, only to find myself the only one there. After the events of the previous week it was a very surreal experience.

On a personal note I hope you've found some interest in the "meet the teams" column and the potted histories of the League's constituent clubs. To do this every year would be somewhat repetitive so I'll leave someone else to put their own slant on that in 2011. Unfortunately I suspect the "lifer" columns will be remembered for one particular article. This column catapulted me into the limelight but as somebody without superfan ambition or pretension, I'll be doing a less controversial column next year. I hope to reprise the "Trip down Lowerhouse Lane" feature, looking back at 'House pros of the past and one of the particular team we are playing that week. An example would be Basil Butcher (Lowerhouse) and Chester Watson (Church) who competed against each other in Church's last title winning year of 1962. Hopefully Mark Whitehead will get some support from members in providing input for the programmes. When one goes to Burnley and there isn't a teamsheet on offer, or Nelson where there is barely that, we at Lowerhouse should be proud that an effort is made. The Lancashire League give scorebox and tea-room awards but don't find recognition for the few clubs making the effort to provide basic information in programmes. All that's left is to say is see you in April and stay well.



Drinks Menu

1. WKD In A Minute

Everytime you hear Charlie sing this classic line simply rush to the bar & quickly order your next ice cool wicked - simples!

2. Six In A Minute

Everytime you hear Charlie sing this classic line simply rush to the bar & quickly choose one of our six classic beers - Go on beer devil.

3. Wine Not Give It A Go

Try one of our chilled 'HOUSE' wines from places that are loads n loads of miles away beyond pronunciation - You won't believe how much better off you'll feel in your pocket.

4. W.A.G 'n' Wheel

All sit round in a circle on our brand new sumptuous leather sofa's and discuss how wonderful your fella is while you sip the cocktail of your choice at a strike rate of 1 every 20 balls.

5. On Your March

Try to beat Henri to the top and back after a full beer deal (No Stuarts allowed) - Get Set Go!