



### CUP FINAL SPECIAL

Lowerhouse V Church

THE BIGGEST SHOW IN THE WEST END FOR 150 YEARS!

## THE HEROES



Legend
CHRIS BLEAZARD, 45



Adopted Son FRANCOIS HASSBROEK, 24



110 JOE BENEDUCE, 32



Tortoise always wins PATRICK MARTIN, 20



'Junior' Champion
CHARLIE COTTAM, 31



TNT MATT WALKER, 19



Potential match winner
JONATHAN FINCH, 29



Officer and a gentleman FERGUS BAILEY, 19



Transformed BEN HEAP, 24



Top of the class JOE MARTIN, 18

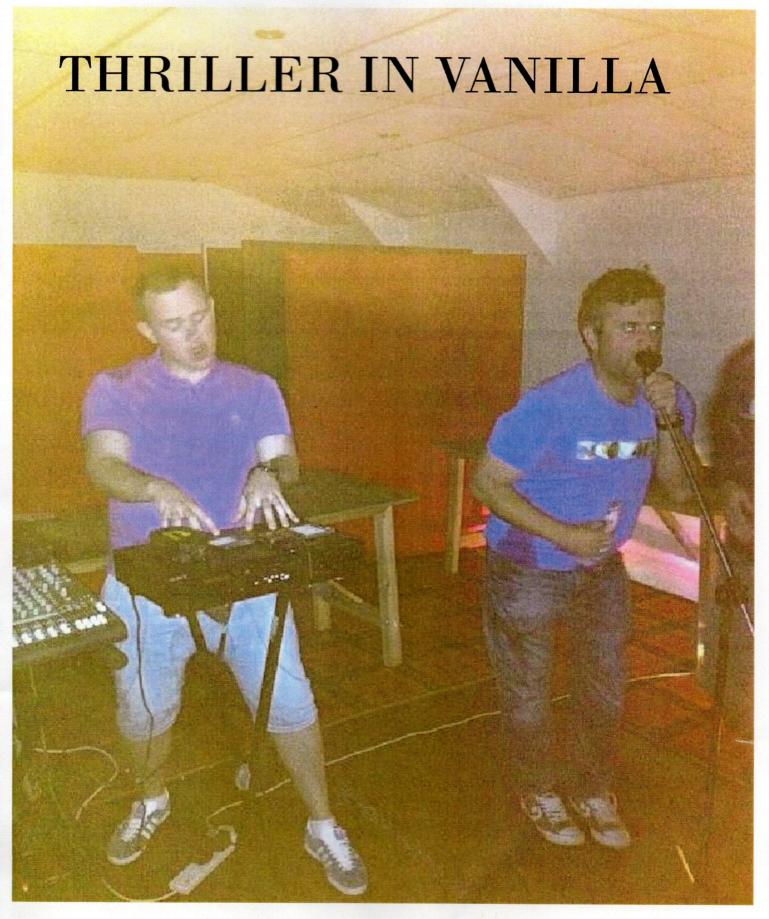


Under estimate him at your peril JOE HAWKE, 22



craftsman who loves to entertain JONNY WHITEHEAD, 17

THIS IS AN UN-OFFICIAL FANZINE AND THE VIEWS HEAR IN ARE NOT CONECTED IN ANYWAY TO THE CLUB, IT'S OFFICIALS, DIRECTORS OR PLAYERS.



Jazzy Joe had em rocking in the isles on Saturday night. His duo partner genuine vanilla face Stevie c rap said you av to respect jazzy Joe he was bustin to go the toilet for an hour but he stuck to his task- a real pro.

They brought the house down with classics like 'sweet like chocolate'. Black is black. White lines and pass the duchy down the leg side wide.

Church 2XI 116 – 9 LHCC 2XI 121-1 LHCC u13 Cougars 220-7 LHCC U13 Jaguars 235-2 Michael Lee 4-17 Ben Gorton 73\* Oscar Coates 22\* Sam Harrison 11 Scott Hope 3-35 Lewis Marsden 28\* Jess Nixon 10\* Kieran Tighe 2-32 Tom Halstead 2-17 A maiden 2xi half century for under 15 Ben Gorton well Not the result expected on paper. The younger Jaguars batted deserved too. Failing to get the 2 bonus bowling points much better than the older Cougars to secure an unexpected was a frustration. victory Nelson 3XI 67 all out (rain reduced to 64) LHCC 3XI 65 - 1 Rishton u11 269-4 LHCC u11 Bears 213-5 Shaun Heaton 5-19 Oli Bayliff 29\* Jack Simm 2-15 Tom Halstead 12\* Rhys Woodworth 21\* Ismael Khalil 2-11 Dylan du Toit 10 Corey Hope 2 - 36 The team were given a lesson in all 3 disciplines by an attacking With the strength in numbers having increased post Rishton team. One of the most inconsistent teams ever seen at examinations the 3XI was a strong team which the club with application and focus a constant struggle for the acquitted itself well against an equally strong Nelson team manager LHCC U17 131-5 Burnley 231-4 East Lancs u11 (B) 195-5 LHCC u11 Koalas 221-3 Dec Bailey 51\* Dec Bailey 3-26 Dylan Taylor 3-0 Georgina Coates 10\* Josh Lavin 28 Ben Gorton 17 Currently the most successful team in the club. The under 11(3) completed the double over East Lancs. New recruit Dylan Taylor A battle of the big guns but Burnley's innings just ran out goes from strength to strength with the ball of steam as |Dec bailey claimed the honours. Dec hopefully showing signs of a return to bowling form Colne u11 260-7 LHCC U11 Koalas 234-6 Longridge u15 (2) 92-4 LHCC U15 Dolphins 95-7 Jack Spence 4-12 Jack Simm 13 Micky Rogan 2-20 Tom Nicholas 27 Big hitting from the Colne first team set too big a target Harry Spark 22 Maddy White 11 LHCC u9 229 - 5 Bacup u9 216-10 A top v bottom clash which the team made hard work of. Josh Butterworth 2-0 Fielding was substandard and the batting very poor in parts. Ben Harrison 2-2 Yousaf Nadeem 2-5 Bacup u15 60-9 LHCC U15 Barracudas 61-4 Back to winning ways for the 9s who bowled their way to victory Danny Simm 3-15 Kean Craig 22 Michael Rogan 2-8 Hamzah Zaman 18 LHCC 9s 235-2 Euxton u9 264-7 Only a second win of the season for the 15(3)'s with James Bridge 12\* Jack Spence 2-2 Rogan and Simm in fine bowling form this season. Aman Singh 16 LHCC U13 Panthers 145-3 Rishton u13full 117-3 Much to commend the team performance here. Only 2 wickets lost and 5 run outs gained. Dec Stansfield 34\* Danny Faulkner 28 Harry Wheatcroft 22\*

Ethan Laraway 21

A sensational batting display which completely blew Rishton away and showed that the lads can put bat to ball, after some dour batting performances.

Ross Birchall 16\*

LOWERHOUSE and CHURCH in the WORSLEY CUP - a brief history.

Although Colne in 1919 are listed as the first winners of a cup donated by Haslingden League rep Alderman Tom Worsley, it was Nelson, a year later, who won the competition we recognise today, when all 14 League clubs took part for the first time.

Lowerhouse versus Church is a unique and unlikely final because it brings together the 2 Clubs with the poorest overall records in the Worsley Cup. Both teams have won the old trophy just once. Lowerhouse won in 2004 and were runners-up in 1980. Whereas Church have been to the final in 1930, 1939, 1954, 1974, 2002, and last year, 2011. Their only triumph was the 1974 final when Collis King's Nelson were soundly thrashed. It might surprize some people but Lowerhouse made a good fist of the early years of the Cup and got to 3 semi-finals in the first 8 years. A rule change in 1926, which wasn't scrapped until 1949 was responsible for many lean Cup-fighting years. This involved the first and second rounds being on a regional basis. Lowerhouse could never get past Learie Constantine's Nelson side.

There was a 25 year gap between semi-final appearances when Lowerhouse reached that stage in 1952. They also got to semis in 1965 and 1974 but it was at the seventh time of asking when they defeated Rishton in 1980 to reach the final. Kevin Hayes and East Lancs scuppered 'House's dreams.

There was a 22 year gap until Lowerhouse made some more Cup noise but that was silenced by today's opponents. Two seasons later Lowerhouse seemed to have messed things up again at the semi-final stage but Blez and his able lieutenant Charlie Cottam pulled things round, not only in the semis but also in the final against formidable Haslingden.

The Worsley Cup competition had existed for 33 years before Lowerhouse and Church ever met. This was in the second round of 1952. Amateur Tom Riley and pro Khan Mohammed bowled out Church for 121 and the 'House won by 3 wickets. The 2 teams next met in the second round of 1965. This time Church were bowled out for 105 with Pascal Roberts taking an impressive 5-49.Big Jim Minhas added 49 not out to his 3 wickets to see Lowerhouse home. How lucky were the Club to have such a talented amateur?

Lowerhouse were to go on to make it a hat-trick in 1979 when the 'House and Church met in a first round game. Church made a mere 59 all out with legend Alan Holden taking 5-26. Lowerhouse won effortlessly by 10 wickets. The Worsley Cup had been in existence 59 years before Church finally got the better of their fellow West Enders in 1988. That very good cricketer Roger Watson made 80 as Church edged over the 200 mark. Although Club stalwarts Stan Heaton and Jez Hope put on 60 for the first wicket 'House collapsed to 138 all out. Lowerhouse got back to winning ways in 1999, again in the first round. Pro Martin van Jaarsveld made 59 out of 153. Most of those were surplus as Church were rolled for a paltry 43. Paul Stanfield's 4-13 I can just about have but John Procter's 3-16! Are you kidding me!

Lowerhouse were therefore 4-1 up going into the 2002 semi-final, the only match at that stage ever between the rivals. This game was was of the most painful for the then long-suffering 'House faithful. It started when Matt Hope, on a beautiful day for batting, listened to Jacques Rudolph, rather than his own instincts and put Church in to bat. The good news was they were bowled out 13 balls before the 50 over mark. The bad news 325 runs were on the board, of which Mark Higgs scored 163. One felt particularly sorry for Blez who was an irregular bowler. He was asked to make up the overs, which was scant reward for all he'd done for L.H.C.C. Lowerhouse lost the match by over 180 runs.

As we can see all the previous games leading up to the second round match of 2009 have been terribly one-sided. This match looked like the rest as Church slipped to 133-8 chasing 215 for victory(Joe Hawke 55 top scored for 'House) Church lost their ninth wicket at 170 and then unbelievably to distraught home fans proceeded to knock off the target in the last over. That pesky tailender Sam Tucker and Andrew Bentley were the heroes. So in conclusion, Lowerhouse have a 4-3 lead and have also done the double over Church in the League this season. Let's hope the team aren't lulled into thinking it's in the bag.

# "WELL DONE STAN YOU ARE THE ENVY OF THE ENTIRE LEAGUE & BEYOND" - Editor



"Well done mate..
Well deserved for all the hard work you have put in to all formats of cricket at Lowerhouse Cricket Club and Burnley District"

"Stan is Extremely focused and driven on making lowerhouse invincible (not doing a bad job either!!) And he Has the ability to get players to match his 100% desire"

The Davies Family (Darwen C)

Q Ali

## BABY HOUSE



Now listen Jonny I'm sorry to interrupt your innings Eliza says you've been naughty at least 6 times. Phoebe says you keep stealin her milk when Shazza's back is turned. The twins are fed up of you getting them to read you a bed time story and Henri says that you said that I said that he said that my Dad is bigger than you Dad. So you might well stand there looking upset but I've got some good news we're having breakfast at sycamore farm on cup final day so if you wash behind your ears and eat all your porridge and prunes we'll let you play in the kiddies area for 15 minutes.

So get back to the middle now and don't do anymore 150mph straight drives along the deck until that dog has finished poohing behind you otherwise it could get messy.

Behind every successful man .....

Heading
Louise passes with
flying colours



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### I HAVE A DREAM BY MARVIN LUTHER BLING

Last night I came home from cricket and put the TV on. HG Wells time machine was on – one of my favourite films. I've seen it many times but I never get fed up of watching it. When it finished I ate a right big lump of cheese for my supper and went to bed. I was very soon embarking on a dream or nightmare journey I'm not sure which – maybe you will be able to decide for me.

It's a bit fuzzy in my mind but I'll try to remember the main bits, my son had just qualified as a professor of mathematics and innovative design and he and his tutor Chris Bleazard had made me an exact copy of HG Wells time machine for my 60th birthday. I asked them to programme it for me to visit the next decade and after a few calculations on the chalk board my son and Blez soon had me on my way.

I came to rest outside the gates of Lowerhouse Cricket Club and the date on the machine read 1st July 2025, there was a notice on the gates saying re-located to turf moor. I gasped with horror and decided to investigate further. Fortunately they had built in a telekinetic satellite navigation system which allowed me to re-locate instantly, which was quite lucky because I had become so big locomotion was no longer my strongest suit. Within moments I was indeed landing at Turf Moor but unfortunately I had landed on top of a parked car on the car park at the side of the pavilion. I looked down and I could see a plate on the wall which said parking space

reserved for the chairman of cricket. I could just see the letter 's' on the floor but the other letters were hidden under the car. I leaned over and looked at the other side of the car and I could see the letter 'N' and then a small gap then the letters 'MBE'. It didn't take me long to suss who's parking spot it was – somebody whose first name started with 'S' and whose last name finished with 'N' who had become a member of The British Empire. It could only be one of three people, either Simon Rain, Steven Hawkin or maybe Sir Joe Hawkein – his Knight Hood was I presumed for his tireless developement of stimulative but measured verbal interaction and the further pursuit of on-field cricket language, diction and expression.

When I jumped down from the time machine I looked up at the pavilion and it was magnificent. Three floors, balconies, balustrades, verandas, mezzanines, pillars, patent glazing, an absolute work of art – then I noticed a plaque on the wall it read: This pavilion was opened by sir James Anderson on 1st June 2020, funding was from The Lottery, Sport England, HSBC, Burnley Council, Moorhouse's Brewery and The Shareholders of Lowerly Burnhouse CC Trust, a member of the North West Champions League.

I looked towards the football ground but it no longer existed. In its place was a car park, a hotel and leisure centre all part of the Lowerly Burnhouse Project. I asked one of the many car park stewards what had happened to Burnley Football Club and he looked at me like I was simple, "where've you been" he said, they teamed up with yon lot over at Accy last year I asked what the club was now called "Accrington Burn Stanley" he replied. That sounded more like a witch hunt to me so I didn't pursue that

one any further.

my attention was captured by some disturbance up towards the main road at the entrance to the ground and some folk dressed in blue polo shirts holding up banners saying 'Lowerhouse til I die' were grappling with the gate attendant. i asked one of the stewards what they were doing and he said they are trying to get the coat hanger out of the gate attendant's jacket without removing the jacket from his body. Then I saw a 'wonderful' sight a very pretty heavily pregnant girl with dark black hair was pushing a twin i candy top of the range perambulator followed by a guy who looked like a Hollywood movie star. It couldn't be, could it? Yes it was indeed my son. He was carrying three children two of them had dark hair like their mother and one of them had light brown sandy hair. He had become too busy to play cricket anymore in fact I learnt that he was working on a project to save the entire continent of Africa from drought by channeling all the water that appears from under the west end room at Lowerhouse every time frank flushes the chain in the men's toilet.

I noticed that the girl was wearing a t-shirt that said "be careful what you wish for!"
Suddenly there was an almighty rush of wind and the Burnhouse opening bowler sped

towards the bowling crease.

The Champions League had commissioned Mr Lawson QC to establish exactly what kind of bowling action was being deployed.

The aforementioned bowler wazzed the corky down at 107 mph and the batsman Michael Ingham who was playing for Bacup Ramsrawtenbottom (another merged club) got a thin edge on his home-made bat.

Joe Martin was waiting on top of the advertising boards on belvedere road and he took the catch with ease. The QC asked me what I thought and I said give me a couple of minutes and I'll let you know. I went over to the time machine I turned it back 3 minutes and I stopped it at the exact moment the bowler was ready to release the ball. There were more bends and kinks than a soft top Merc on a lazy Sunday afternoon. I realised that nobody else got see the frozen frame, so I returned to the present and simply said to the QC everything was exactly as it should be. The QC said "thank you I thought the same".

Somebody had called the police to sort out the skirmish with the gate steward and the Lowerhouse lifer's, sergeant dibble jumped out of the meat van and out of sheer zealousness and commitment to the cause of crime prevention he pounced on Shapcott and soon had him in a double headlock with a full nelson.

I decided that I had seen enough but when I turned round to return to the time machine, to my horror I saw it exiting the ground on top of the car. I was about to panic but within moments the car reappeared and out stepped Stan. I realised that he had accidently moved the gear stick backwards on the time machine because from the clothes he was wearing, he'd obviously just come straight back from 1975. I jumped on the time machine and headed back to 2004 as quick as I could. When I arrived in 2004 I went straight to the bookies and asked the bookie what odds could I have on Lowerhouse winning the league title at least twice in the next 8 years the bookie laughed at me and said since they haven't won it at all in the last 140 odd years you can make you own odds up. So I put a pound on them at one million to one. I was soon to be a rich man I thought. What should I do with the money? I asked myself.

This merger malarky was obviously going to be the only successful road ahead for the next generation. So I picked the phone up to the other main club in the town besides us.

"Hello" said a voice "Belvedere Social Club" hello I said can I speak to John Waite, the voice said "he's no longer here in fact right at this moment he is pulling a forty ton Eddie Stobart from Burnley centre to Brierfield with his teeth, in the Mr Muscel UK contest, so I'll put the cricket chairman on" she said. "Hello" said a voice "Paul Blakey speaking how can I help?" drat i thought as I quickly put the phone down.

Then I woke up and as ever the dream started fading fast in my mind. As I got up out of bed, to face another day in the jungle of life, I thought maybe it's best for Lowerhouse to go it alone after all.

"OR IS IT?" I HEAR YOU SAY