

BOOTH CC

STAR MEN

SAM PATRICK



When, during the 1950s, the *Halifax Courier* ran a series on local cricket history, it described how Sam Patrick was regarded by many to be *'among the top 12 cricketers in ability ever to be produced in the Halifax District.'*

He first played for Booth in 1908, at the age 15, and, apart from brief spells with Mytholmroyd and King Cross, remained at the Club until 1920.

He scored six centuries for the Club and during the 1919 season amassed 670 runs, a remarkable figure for the time. A year later, although only playing in four matches, his aggregate was 390 runs with only one dismissal.

Sam left Booth in 1921 to become a professional with Tong Park, who were then in the Bradford League.

GEORGE WOODHEAD



During the inter-war years, George Woodhead spent his early career with Halifax in the Yorkshire Council.

He moved to the Luddenden valley in 1945 and joined Booth where he became a leading player and official. After taking a keen interest in the history of the Club, during the 1960s, his research and reminiscences formed a key part of the Club's centenary brochure.

George's work and memories have also been invaluable in compiling this HLF-sponsored Exhibition.

JACK CORBOY



One of the great characters, Jack Corboy is also rated among the most talented batsman ever to play for Booth.

His first spell with the Club spanned the years 1938 to 1956. During this period he was part of the 1948 side that won the Halifax Parish Cup for the first time in the Club's history.

After a brief period with Luddenden Foot he returned to the Club in the late-1950s.

BILLY THOMAS



During the 1960s Billy Thomas captained Booth to three Halifax Parish Cup wins and one Halifax League title.

A highly regarded all-rounder, he was described in the Club's centenary brochure as a *'pigeon fancier and man of few words, he led by example and could win matches with bat or ball.'*

ROY COLLINGE



Roy Collinge is currently the Club Chairman.

An opening batsman, he captained the side to the Halifax League title in 1979. In 1984 he scored 898 runs at an average of 52.82.

Roy has also been invaluable in providing us with material to compile this Exhibition.

TOMMY OGDEN



Another of Booth's great characters, Tommy Ogden was a local artist, sometimes featured on BBC North.

He was also one of the last practitioners of a traditional local game called 'billets' and took over as groundsman when Fred Mitchell retired.

THE MIDGLEY FAMILY



Leonard Midgley served the Club as president for 40 years up until his death in 1944.

Robert Midgley played his first game at Booth in 1921, but for Barkisland. Soon after, he joined Booth and was heavily involved in re-starting the Club after the Second World War.

His son, also Robert, and grandson Geoff have continued the family connection.

THE GAUKRODGER FAMILY



James



Willie

The Gaukrodger Family were renowned for their massive support for the Club.

The extended family of husbands, wives, children and grandchildren were often seen at the ground.

They provided an enthusiastic workforce, which Booth will never forget.

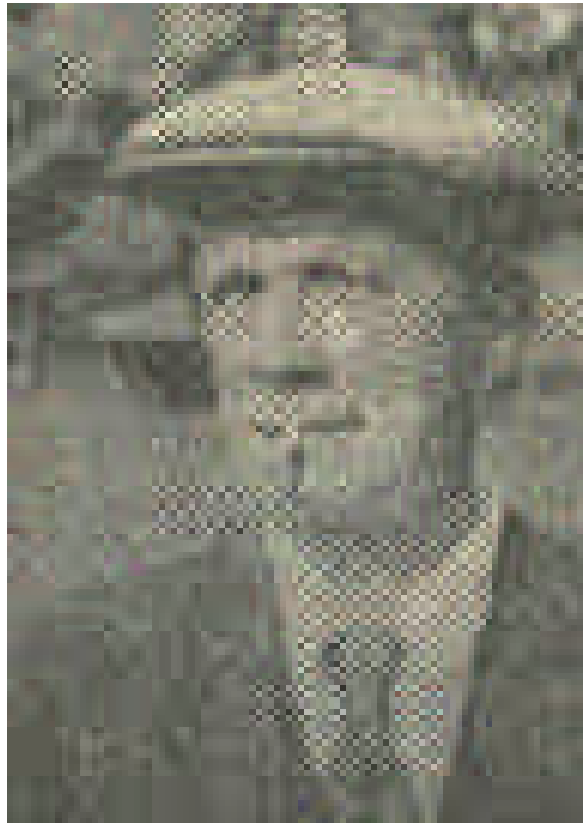
HARRY CLEGG



Harry Clegg served as secretary for 14 years. His minute books were a model for all secretaries.

He always found the most enjoyable task to be arranging the annual dinners, which were a huge success year after year.

FRED MITCHELL



A dedicated cricket fan, Fred Mitchell served Booth as an official but also as groundsman.

His time as groundsman spanned the traumatic war years (1939-45) when the field was ploughed up for food production, decimating years of hard work.

It must have been with a great feeling of satisfaction that he saw the new ground – Broad Fold - take shape after the War. Generations of Booth cricketers remember how Fred would take up his stand by the roller.

RONALD MURGATROYD



Two things stand out that indicate the importance of Ronald Murgatroyd to the Club.

Firstly, the fact that he is affectionately referred to as 'Mr Ronald' and, secondly, the overwhelming feeling of sadness that greeted his death in 1974.

A wonderful patron of the Club, in 1946 he provided the Broadfold ground after Bob Midgley suggested it would provide the best location for a cricket field in the village. He became President of the Club in the same year and occupied this position until his death.

RODNEY ANNISON



Another great Booth stalwart.

When the Club celebrated its centenary in 1993, Rodney Annison had already racked up 25 years as Chairman. He still occupies the post today, 12 years later, and is also the Club's official scorer.