

2007 Marathon Man!



The new cricket season commences in April, but Halifax League newcomers Shelf have got other things on their mind.

Club legend Mick Priestley (above) will be running the Flora London Marathon for the first time in 2007 – despite having never attempted such a distance before.

“Obviously I am completely mad,” the 55-year-old joked, “but I have done the Great North Run for the past three years.”

Mick will not be running the 26 miles alone, however. He has managed to persuade several members of his family to join him in the capital city. “There are six of us running the distance altogether, including my brother-in-law who also plays for Shelf.”

A club veteran, Mick has been at Shelf for 41 years and is relying on club members to help raise £1,500 for his chosen charity, St.Johns Ambulance.

“Fundraising is going really well,” he said.

“We are hoping every Shelf player will donate at least £10, which would be fantastic. “St.Johns is a charity close to my heart. I was a team member in my youth and the organisation really needs all the financial support it can get.”

The marathon, which has become more of a celebration of sport in recent years, has been graced by a selection of odd costumes in recent years, but Mick is confident that a traditional running outfit will do.

“I don’t think we will be as noticeable as some of the other runners, but if the Shelf players contribute enough, I may wear my cricket whites!”

He has currently raised over £700 and those who want to sponsor Mick can do so at his website: www.justgiving.com/michaelpriestley.