

**LIGHTCLIFFE  
C.C.**

Established 1875

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**Bradford  
League  
Division 1**

**2002 Season**

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**LIGHTCLIFFE C.C.**

### Mad For It

No one should underestimate Paul Keighley's commitment to the cause. Last Sunday, minutes before that start of the crunch game against Queensbury, skipper Paul realised he only had ten men on duty. A panic struck him. What should he do? Moments later he was seen rushing down the snicket, still padded up, at the speed of light. He leapt into a car (was it his?) and roared off at high speed – the dust finally cleared Wakefield Road late on Wednesday evening. Where was he going? At the same time I was sitting at home, enjoying some test match cricket and recovering from the previous day's exertions at the Leeds Festival. I was woken from my slumber by an incredible banging noise. It nearly broke the Richter Scale. On opening the door I found Paul, out of breath, asking me if I fancied a game! So I have gone from firsts to thirds in a matter of weeks. The only way is up! On a serious note Paul has done a first class job this season, not only in winning games but also bringing on the junior players. Let's hope they can seal the championship in the next couple of games.

### Pudsey Double?

It's now over four months since, on that sun kissed spring day, we defeated Pudsey SL. Today, with autumn not far away, we have the chance to achieve a similar feat against their neighbours. Why not? We have plenty of match winners in our team and one of these days they are all going to come off on the same day. Let's hope that when we are 'looking on the happy autumn fields and thinking of the days that are no more' that we can have a few more happy memories to look back on.

### Finally....

All the best to Yorkshire as they aim for their first victory in a one day final since 1987. A Yorkshire win, six points for us and three points for Halifax Town.....now that would be something to celebrate tonight.

Michael Brooke

Thanks to Dave Curran for his patience, not only this week, but throughout the season with regards to this programme. It simply would not get produced if it wasn't for him.

### **LIGHTCLIFFE CRICKET CLUB 1<sup>ST</sup> XI 2002**



## **A PLAYER'S VIEWPOINTS**

Here are a few general observations from around the Cricket Club.

### Darkness Descends

As I write these notes on Thursday evening at 8.15pm there is a rather gloomy landscape outside. It is definitely too dark to be playing cricket. If the game goes the distance today, and both teams take three and half hours to bowl their overs (we normally do!) then we might not get a finish in. If you throw in the tea interval then we are looking at an 8.30pm finish. It will surely be too dark. What is the answer? Games could start at 12.30pm from mid August or more stringent penalties could be placed on teams who, like us, take far too long to bowl their overs.

### Rumour Mill

Talk is always rife at this time of the year about which players are staying at the club and who is thinking about pastures new. It seems to be worse than ever this year. I am not commenting here about who may be leaving, but I do know that we have a very loyal bunch of players in the first team squad who have either played at the club since they were juniors, or for many years as senior players. The only two who don't fall into that category (apart from Moby) are Jocky Wilson and Lee Smith and I am sure they will be at the club for many years to come. Everything goes in cycles but I am sure that, when the crunch comes, many of this year's team will be here next time around.

### Bearded Wonder

I hope I speak for the players when I thank Bob Horne for his input as 'cricket guru' over the last few months. His quiet, behind the scenes approach, has been most refreshing and his calm influence and cricket knowledge has brought a great deal of benefit to the team.

### Yorkshire Riders

There are unsung heroes at every cricket club. Two that fall into that category at Lightcliffe are loyal supporters Ernest and Dickie who, home or away, rain or shine, come to cheer us on. Sometimes their journey involves changing buses three times! Rumour has it that Ernest knows the time and number of every single bus in West Yorkshire – it's just a shame for Ernest that "Mastermind" finished a few years ago!

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