

# Mirfield move!

## Ex-Bradford League club switch to Arrow Central action for this summer

MIRFIELD have joined the Arrow Huddersfield Central League.

By DAVID LOCKWOOD  
Sports Reporter

Despite joining the Bradford League only back in 2001, Mirfield have moved on after losing their main sponsor and an entire first-team squad.

While seeking release from the Bradford League, the well set-up club decided to take the all-amateur path.

And after securing their 'freedom,' they promptly applied to join the Central League and were accepted into Section B for the coming season.

They have also amalgamated with current Arrow Central side Harry Lime, who were originally Mirfield-based.

It will be Mirfield's existing second team who will play in the B section, while the remainder of players and juniors will reinforce the Harry Lime side in Section D.

It was in 1952 that Mirfield became members of the then Yorkshire Council (later to become the Central Yorkshire League) and enjoyed some success, particularly in recent years winning the Jack Hampshire Memorial Trophy in 1994 and again in 2000 under the captaincy of Dave Jackson.

They have also tasted success in the Heavy Woollen Cup, winning it back-to-back in 1962 and 1963 before beating Drakes League side Shepley in the 1990 final and lifting it for a fourth time in 2003.

Mirfield boast an excellent ground at Memorial Park on Dewsbury Road,

and their move into the Central League has a certain touch or irony.

For their neighbours Moorlands, who are now in the Yorkshire Central League, were formerly Dewsbury Moorlands and played in the Huddersfield Central League — so the two clubs have performed a complete swap!

"We're delighted to have such a notable club like Mirfield joining our League from the Bradford League," said president Adrian Whittaker.

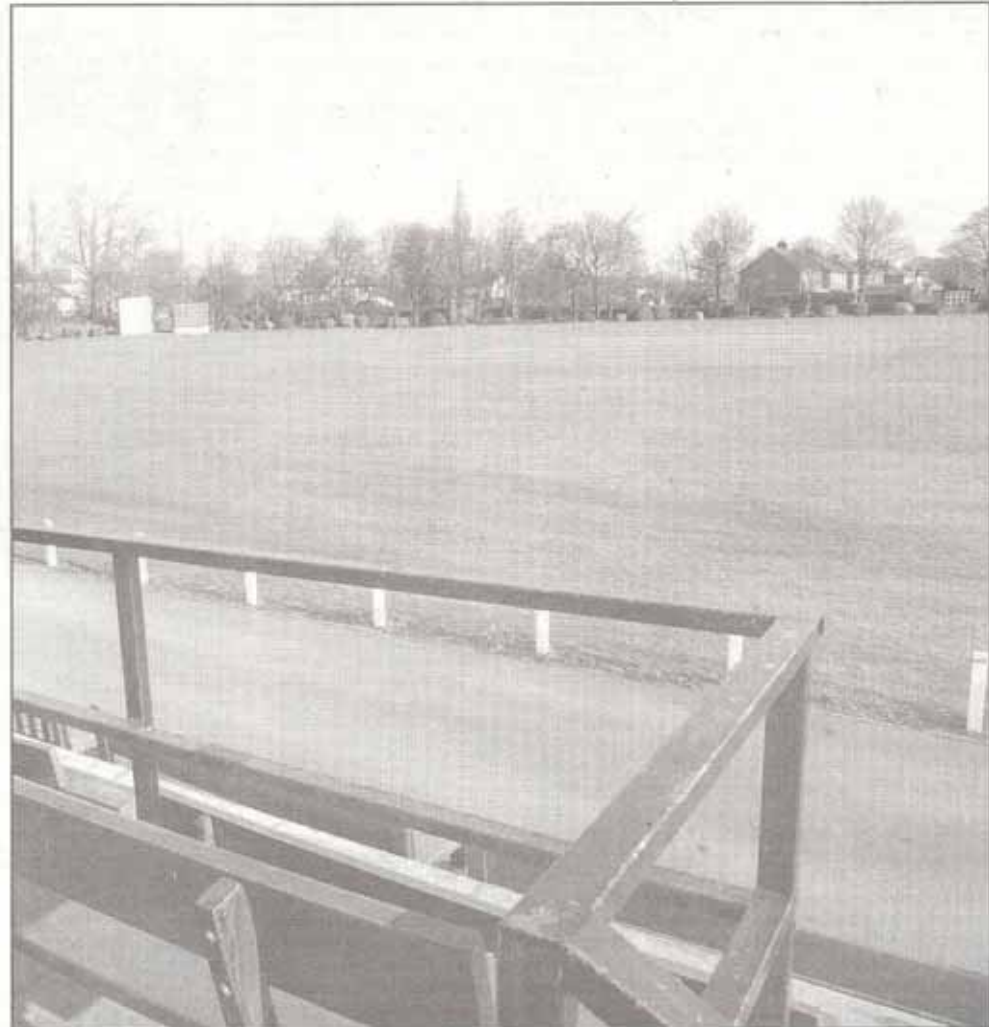
"It's certainly another feather in our cap to capture a club with such a distinguished history. They had one or two options open to them, but chose us.

"And we shall welcome them with open arms, as we did Heckmondwike last season."

Central League officials will also be pleased to use Mirfield's superb large ground and excellent facilities for possible future representative games and cup finals.

● Arrow Central League officials are now gearing for their annual dinner and prize presentation evening at Painthorpe Country Club on Friday, March 4.

This year the chief speaker is retired bank manager David Kendal, while the cricketing celebrity is Lancashire's Ian Austin and the compere Malcolm Lord.



■ PASTURES NEW: Mirfield's Dewsbury Road ground will now host Arrow Central League cricket and it may also be used for representative games and cup finals.





