

# ‘THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO HAVE FUN’

## Profile of Graham Whitehouse By Duncan Robinson

Newly appointed Augustinians captain Graham Whitehouse is trying to put enjoyment back into the players’ cricket this season as they strive to achieve promotion back to the top division.

This is Whitehouse’s philosophy on the game and he believes it is the most important aspect. He said, “It is important to remember that it is amateur cricket and the most important thing is to have fun. Obviously we want to get promoted but we want to have fun while we’re doing it - otherwise it defeats the purpose.”



Whitehouse, who has lived in Huddersfield all his life, has played for Augustinians for 15 years, making him one of the longest serving players at the club.

However, he does not play as significant a role as he used to. He explains, “I injured my leg playing football and that meant I did not play any cricket for six years. I’m just a wicketkeeper now, really, although I bat at about 8 or 9 sometimes when I’m needed.”

Whitehouse, perhaps unsurprisingly, describes his greatest moment as an Augustinians player as winning the league in the early 1990s.

However, it is the moment he describes as “the worst in my career” that is more entertaining. He reveals, “It was a big game and I dropped two catches that I really should have taken. The first of the batters went on to score 158 and the other got 147. Overall they ended up getting a score of 429-9 in 50

overs. So obviously the two dropped catches could have made a massive difference!”

Whitehouse is a great cricket lover and enjoys watching games when he gets the opportunity. He follows his county side, Yorkshire, and lists Viv Richards, Ian Botham and Shane Warne among his all-time favourite players.

He claims that he enjoys “any sports” and as well as being a member of Augustinians Cricket Club he is also a talented snooker player and a member of Marsh Snooker Club.

Away from sport, Whitehouse is married and has a young daughter. This is convenient for his job, which is working for Mamas and Papas! Whitehouse’s parental instincts can also come in useful on the cricket field, especially in his new role as captain.

When asked what he saw as his duties as captain he answered, “It’s really important to help the junior players, particularly in concentrating for the entire game, because they’re not used to playing as many overs. It’s not just the juniors though, I have to help everyone, I cannot just focus on my own game.”

Whitehouse sees his new duties as follows, “I’ll have to organise the umpires, the scorer, arrange the tea and make sure the players know what they’re doing. I’ll also hopefully win the toss!”

Augustinians will be hoping the toss is not the only thing that Whitehouse wins this season.