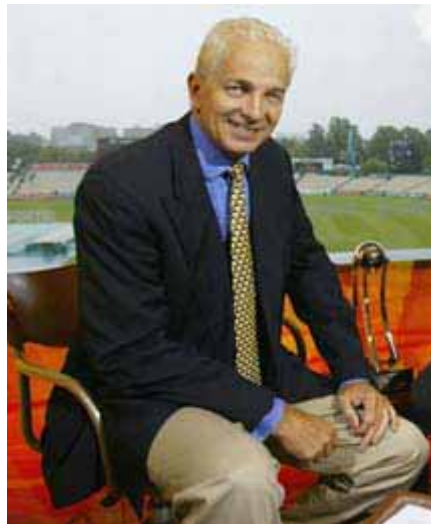


GOWER, WASIM, AND THE MOONRAKER LEGEND!

11 Things You Might Not Have Known About Slaithwaite CC By Mark Edmonds

- 1) Edwin St. Hill was the first black cricketer to represent any side in the Huddersfield League. He made his debut in 1934 after being introduced to the club by the legendary Learie Constantine.
- 2) Why is the club badge so? Legend has it that local smugglers tried to explain their nocturnal activities as "raking the moon from the canal". As a result, "Moonraker" is now the official nickname for a native of the village.



- 3) Tom Simpson took two hat-tricks in the same season for Slaithwaite's second string in 2006. Bowling medium-paced in-swingers, Simpson took all his wickets either by lbw, caught by the wicketkeeper or caught and bowled - such was his accuracy.
- 4) England star Ryan Sidebottom pitted his wits as a teenager against current Slawit player John Hey in two different matches – once when Hey was at Holmfirth as they played Meltham and the other when Sidebottom represented Kirkburton against Linthwaite.
- 5) Hey also had the privilege of taking on Ryan Sidebottom's father Arnie, himself a one-time England Test cricketer, when Primrose Hill took on Slaithwaite.
- 6) Current first-teamer Dave Berry managed to send current India opening batsman Wasim Jaffer into a spin while the international was learning his trade at Scholes. Not only did Berry manage to take

Jaffer's wicket caught and bowled, he also had two extremely good shouts for gloved behind and lbw turned down. To this day, Berry maintains he got him out three times!

- 7) Sun – rather than rain - stopped play (of all things) has been known to occur on occasions due to the sun setting down by the scoreboard, blinding both players and umpires.
- 8) As a teenager, England legend David Gower was actually turned down by Slaithwaite! Leicestershire sent three players up for experience but SCC only needed two – as a result, Dave Munden, who is now a professional sports photographer, and Tim Smith, who went on to play for various minor counties, were chosen at Gower's expense.
- 9) 1987 saw the club enter, and then go on to win, the Heavy Woollen Cup at the very first time of asking, defeating Chickenley by 41 runs. SCC have also reached the final on two other occasions, in 1991 and 1993.
- 10) Yorkshire all-rounder Craig White was part of the Honley side that played Slaithwaite in 1991. The ex-England player starred as the two teams clashed in the Sykes Cup final held at Slaithwaite. Slaithwaite won the trophy that year.
- 11) Bank Holiday weekend in May 2005 saw not one but two centuries from Chris Payne. Incredibly, both of them came against Meltham, one at home and one away, with scores of 169 on the Saturday and 121 on the Sunday!