

# BIRSTALL FOLK

**J. K. BINNS &  
G. D. WOLFENDEN**

**J.K. Binns (below) and G.D. Wolfenden were instrumental as the Club recaptured its former glories after a slump in fortunes during the mid-1960s.**

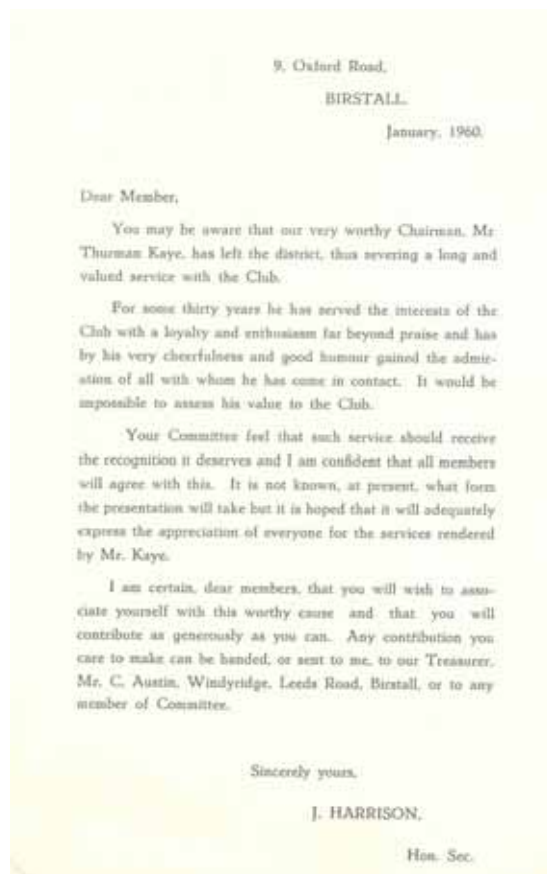


**They played an important role in the clubhouse extensions of 1969 and 1974 which provided new revenue from the bar facilities.**

# THURMAN KAYE

Mr Kaye left the Club in 1960. In a letter, sent to ask members to contribute fittingly towards a presentation, his contribution to the Club was described as follows.

***For some thirty years he has served the interests of the Club with loyalty and enthusiasm far beyond praise and has by his very cheerfulness and good humour gained the admiration of all with whom he has come in contact. It would be impossible to assess his value to the Club.***



# HERBERT HAINSWORTH

Herbert Hainsworth was captain and star bowler in the remarkable 1954 treble-winning season. That year he won the Central Yorkshire League bowling prize, taking 48 wickets at an average of 10.02

## HAINSWORTH —PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Birstall had lots of confidence in Herbert Hainsworth when they appointed him captain for the first time in his ten years' service with the club. In his first season as "skipper," Hainsworth has led his team to great achievements and there was every reason for him to feel a proud man after last Saturday's snatching of the championship title from Staincliffe with one and a half overs to go.



But Hainsworth—the modest, unassuming Herbert — would be the last to take any credit for Birstall's feats this season. He gave all praise to his side after Saturday's encounter with a quiet "Well done lads."

Hainsworth has had ten seasons at Leeds Road. He came from Hanging Heaton where he had been a professional and had played professional with Undercliffe and Idle in the Bradford League.

Hainsworth had the joy of hitting the winning run that won the Heavy Woollen Cup for Birstall when they met Ossett in the final at Heckmondwike last month.

His "six wickets" performances have not been as prevalent as in previous years but his bowling figures for the past season are interesting. Here they are:

	Matches	Wkts	Runs
League	15	42	429
H.W. Cup	4	16	145
Yorks. Council	2	6	82
Totals	21	64	656

# **KEN HALEY**

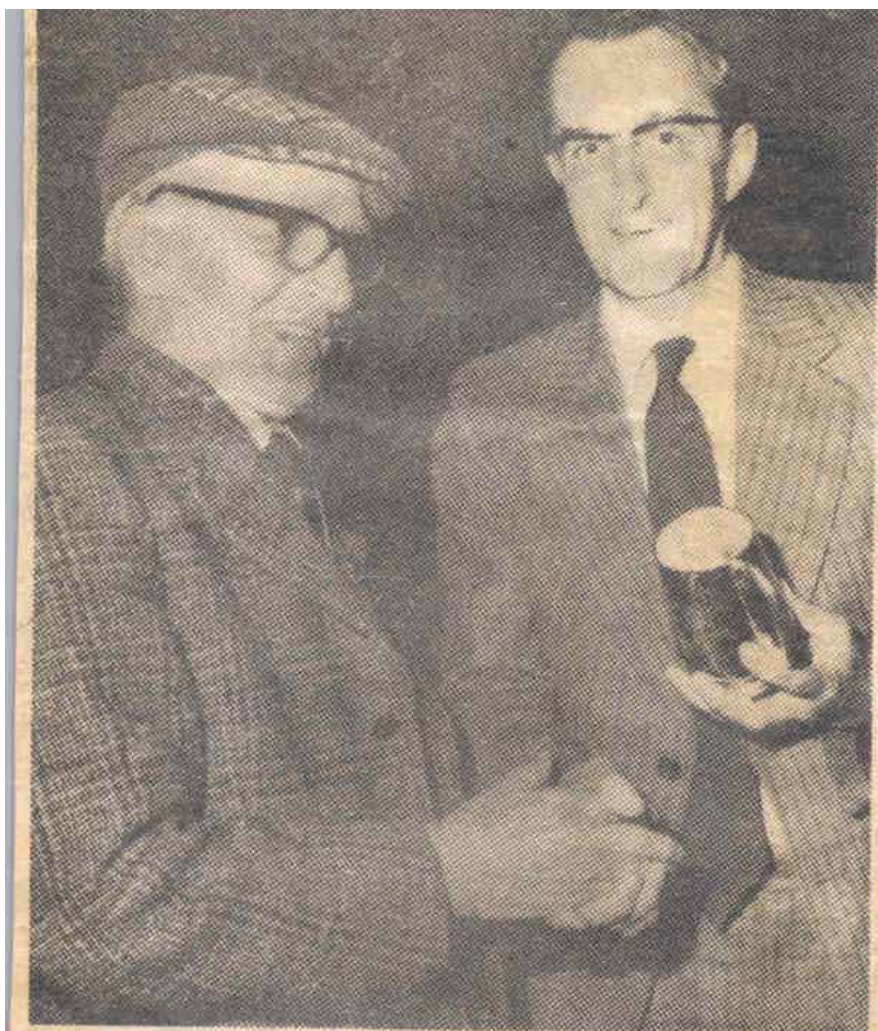


**Ken Haley arrived at Birstall CC via Batley 2<sup>nd</sup> XI and Staincliffe. After featuring in the Club's 1954 treble-winning side, he went on to become captain, groundsman and president of the Club.**

**In 1976, after 26 years playing league cricket, he was still good enough to top the Central Yorkshire League bowling averages, taking 61 wickets at a cost of 7.85 each.**

**He died on the cricket field, aged 52, and although he had moved on to play at Crossbank Methodists CC he remained groundsman and president of the Birstall Club.**

# JOE DANIELS



ONE MEMBER of Birstall Cricket Club has seen the team through most of its ups and downs, and will be hoping things are on the up this weekend in the Heavy Woollen Cup semi-finals.

Mr. Joe Daniels has been a member at Birstall since 1928 and his long service was recognised when Birstall CC President, Mr. Ken Haley, presented a silver tankard to Joe in commemoration of his 53 years at the club.

**Joe Daniels first joined Birstall Cricket Club in 1928. By 1981 he had been a regular member of the Club for 53 years and this milestone was recognised with the presentation of a silver tankard.**

# PETER INGHAM



**He joined the Club from Harrogate in 1979, while he was with Yorkshire CCC. He captained the 1st XI to three top-six finishes at the start of the 1980s, as a place in Division 1 of the Central Yorkshire League was consolidated.**

**A prodigious schoolboy talent, Ingham won the Wetherell Award for the Leading All-Rounder in English Schools Cricket in 1974. His career with Yorkshire began in 1976 and ended in 1982; he played 8 times for the 1st XI.**

# PAUL BLAKELEY



**In 2002 Paul Blakeley won the Premier Division bowling prize as Birstall became Central Yorkshire League champions for the first time.**

**He captured 51 wickets at an average of 17.33 to win his third consecutive individual league honour. In both 2000 and 2001 Blakeley had been the League's top all-rounder.**

**He scored 603 runs at an average of 41.20 and took 48 wickets at 16.50 each in 2001; and scored 627 at an average of 43.36 and took 47 wickets at 16.04 each in the previous year.**

# ANDREW TOWNSLEY



**Birstall CC signed Andrew Townsley two years on from his brief first-class career, during which he made two 1<sup>st</sup> XI appearances for Yorkshire.**

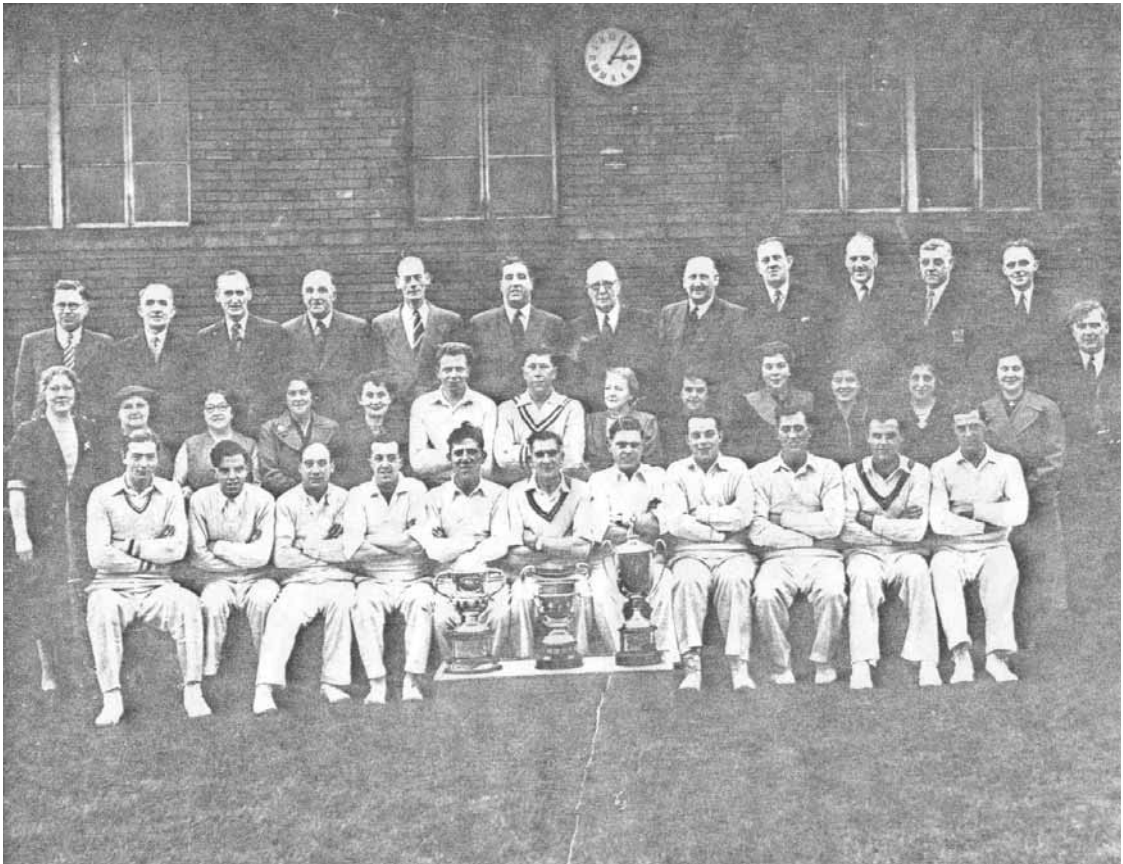
**His pedigree shone through during the 1978 season, as Birstall lifted the Central Yorkshire League second division title. Townsley dominated proceedings, with both bat and ball, achieving the individual 'double' by scoring over 1,000 runs and taking over 100 wickets.**

# ERNEST BLAKELEY

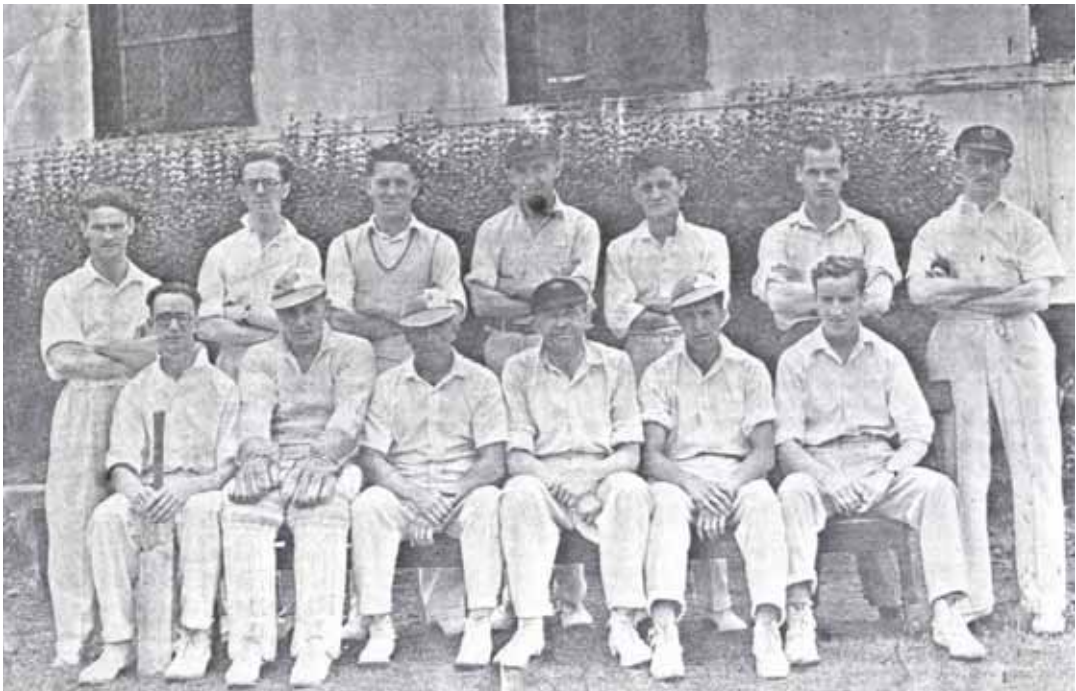


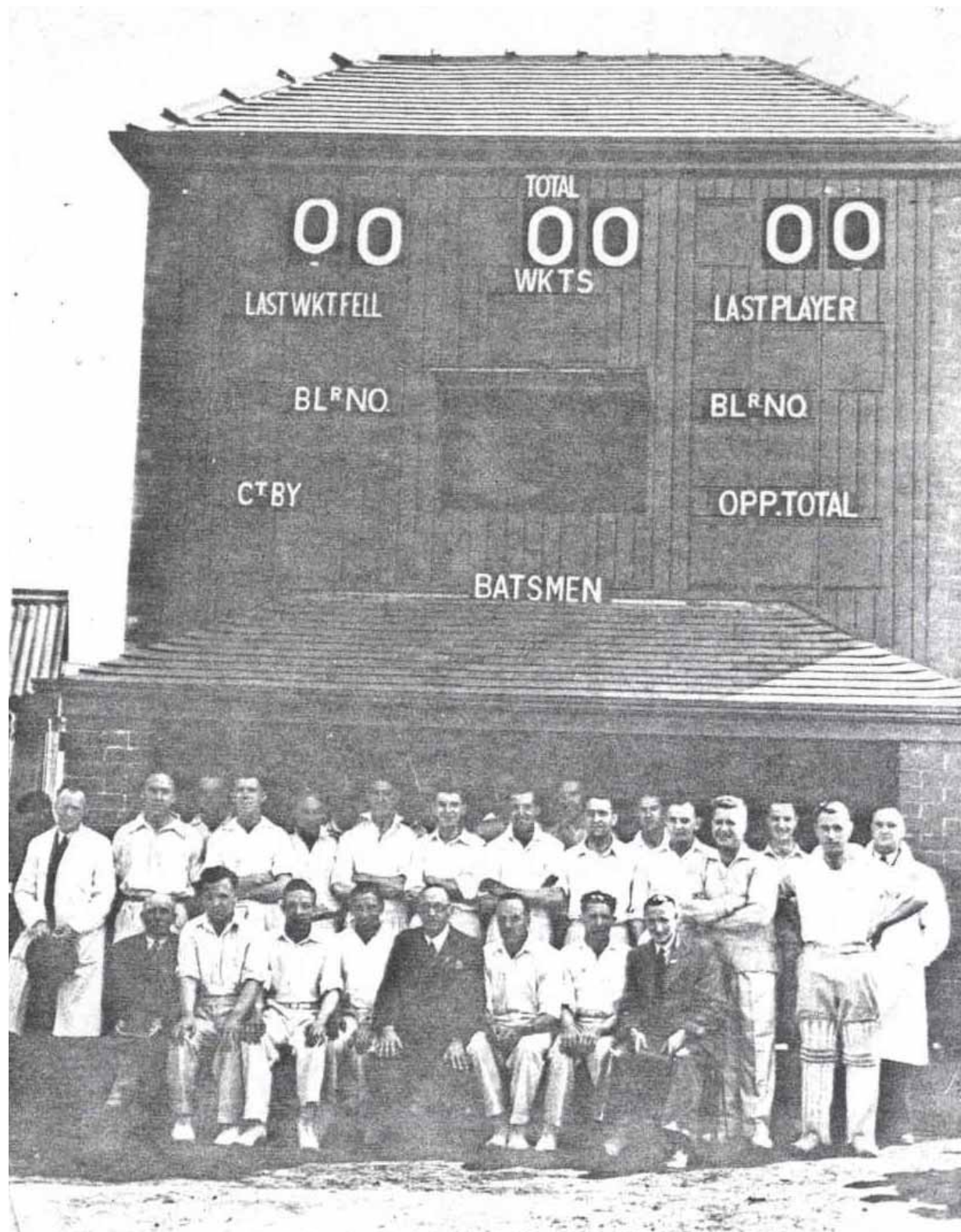
**Another star of the 1954 treble-winning side, Ernest Blakeley was a left-arm quick bowler who formed a formidable opening bowling attack with Herbert Hainsworth.**

**His stature in local cricket was such that in 1987 he could still be referred to as 'legendary league cricketer' in the Central Yorkshire League Golden Jubilee Brochure.**



**Can you name the years?**





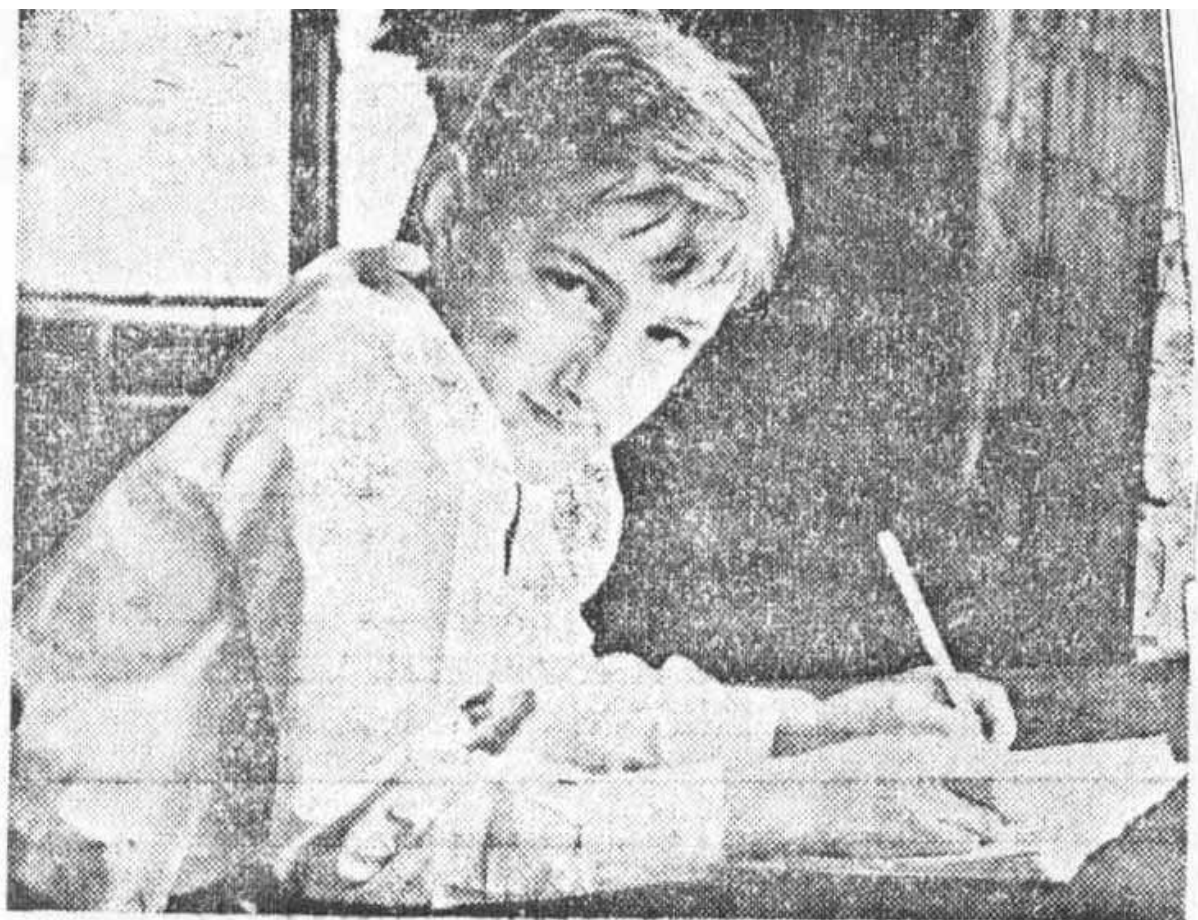
# JUNE HARRIS



**June Harris (above, middle and below, left) is a stalwart of Birstall C.C.. She has taken on a variety of roles at the Club and describes it as an 'indispensable' part of her life. Her help in compiling this Exhibition was invaluable.**



# PHILIP HALEY



When Birstall Cricket Club's regular scorer, Paul Binns, had to stay at home to study for his examinations the officials were left in a quandary as to who could fill the gap. However, their problem was soon solved when 10-year-old Philip N. Haley, son of Birstall star Ken Haley, offered to do the job.

Philip, who attends Staincliffe Church of England School, followed his father wherever he played and now, instead of counting in his head the many runs his father scores, he can jot them down in the scoring book.

A keen sportsman, he already has his own cricket outfit and practises regularly. A keen all-round athlete, Philip also has a passion for football, and other sports.

With his love for sport showing so much in his younger years he could well prove to be "a chip off the old block."