

LIKE AN EXOCET!

Graham Hobson on key names from the past

Dennis Johnson was a significant figure. He was a genuinely quick bowler and very quick for our league. He bowled straight and gave very few runs away.



1973 1st XI

He was also a good slip fielder and from the boundary he had a rocket arm – like an Exocet missile. As a batter he was a genuine no.11: three sixes and then he was out! He contributed in lots of ways.

Charlie Manby was another fine slip fielder. He was a good bowler and took a lot of wickets for Birstall. On one occasion – when the wicket was cut at 90 degrees to where it is now – I remember him knocking someone's middle peg out of the ground and seeing the stump cartwheeling its way to the boundary!