

PARISH CUP FINALS AND PING-PONG

Profile of Neil Crosland – Second Team Captain

By David Brenchley

Describe yourself on the pitch.

Keen to win, fair, determined. I like a bit of banter with the opposition – as long as there's nothing untoward.

How long have you been playing for Outlane and who have you played for previously?

I have played for Outlane since I was 14 or 15, for about 35 years. I had two years at Kirkheaton but my family has always played for Outlane. My dad had played here, Trevor Crosland, and his dad and possibly his dad, I'm not quite sure. My son plays here as well.



Do you have any memorable matches for Outlane?

I guess the first one would be the 1975 Parish Cup final, I was only 17 at the time and we were massive underdogs against Copley but we managed to turn them over. I guess that was the best one. There are lots of good ones at juniors, Outlane at that time dominated juniors; the under 18s, as it was then, and the under 14s.

Who would you say is your cricketing icon?

Over the years, Geoff Boycott. I liked to see him score big hundreds, I saw him get his hundredth hundred at Headingley against Australia which was quite something.

What do you enjoy most about playing cricket?

Again, being part of a team. Having a laugh with the lads and, obviously, playing the game itself.

What other sports do you play (or watch) in your spare time?

I play table tennis, I play for a team called Brook Motors and we are currently top of the Premier Division. I do that to keep ticking over during the winter. It used to [take up a lot of time] but nowadays we just turn up, play our game and leave. It's just an evening's entertainment really. There was a lad at our club who, at one point, was number 10 in England, I think, so it's a good standard.