

MBE HONOUR!

By Sam Hollis

Holmfirth CC can proudly announce that Head Coach Tony Eustance has been awarded the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.



Tony has been working with young people in sport for nearly 50 years as a teacher and sports coach. The nomination for the honour came from former colleagues, parents and pupils from the schools where he taught in Liverpool and Chester. The much respected coach, who predominantly spent his time at Oulton Park, now lives and works in Holmfirth and has collected the MBE he was handed in recognition of his 50 years of service to cricket.

Tony was instrumental in forming Liverpool-based Oulton Park's impressive junior section, but started his teaching career in Toxteth, in 1961. For many years he worked at Parklands School in Speke, where he taught English, Drama and, of course, cricket. From 1991 to 2002, Tony was based in Cheshire, where he worked with people of all ages in cricket - from county squads to handicapped teams, and with all ages from 4 years to 70.

Tony retired from teaching five years ago and moved with his wife Irene to the Holme Valley. It did not take him long to link up with Holmfirth Cricket Club, and it is largely through Tony's drive and enthusiasm that the club is expanding its junior set-up so effectively. "I'm absolutely delighted," Tony said of the award, "Not only have I enjoyed every single moment in the game of cricket, I've got paid too!"

Everyone at the club sends congratulations to Tony on this honour - one that is very well deserved! We hope he continues to work with Holmfirth and his experience continues to benefit the club.