

WORKING HARD

David Peel on club chairmen

In the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s we had a good committee. The chairman today, Mel Dearden, is doing a good job. He's very enthusiastic and has got people working for the club. The ground is much improved and he has done a lot of work around the perimeter of the field.



Mel Dearden

In the early 1980s there were a number of big personalities at the club. Harry Atkinson came from Ossett and replaced Abdul Qadir.

Roger Braithwaite was the second spinner in the side when Qadir was here and Brian Wilkinson was the chairman of the club – a very successful guy.

Brian approached Harry Atkinson about joining the club again. Brian was a businessman by trade, a buyer in the woollen trade. He was good at doing deals in a quiet kind of way and getting players to join. He ran the club – he was the committee. Brian had plenty of helpers but he was very much the man!

Others key names were Chris Leathley, captain in 1983, who broke his leg in an accident; Peter Ingham; and David Garner, who was skipper for 15 years.

Women have been very active at the club. The Ladies Section organised teas but this has since faded out.