



DR PETER DAVIES: An expert on the history of village cricket at Huddersfield University.

University's new spin on the history of cricket

Andrew Robinson

LORD'S may be the home of cricket but Huddersfield is the new home of cricket research.

The first Cricket Research Centre in the UK has been launched at Huddersfield University by historians of the game who are now hoping to encourage further academic work.

Dr Peter Davies, who has established the research centre with university colleagues, described it as a significant development.

"The only other similar body we know of is in Barbados. It's called the University of the West Indies Centre for Cricket Research," he said.

Dr Davies is excited by future possibilities.

"Over the past five years, there has been significant research in the area of cricket history at the University of Huddersfield. The establishment of the Cricket Research Centre reflects this and also opens up new avenues for collaborative projects and cross-disciplinary activity in and around cricket history."

Dr Davies will be assisted by Dr Rob Light – an expert on amateurism and professionalism and the history of cricket in the nineteenth-century West Riding – and two Phd students Dennis O'Keefe and Duncan Stone.

The Huddersfield group holds monthly research seminars and has a full programme of guest lectures planned. And the new Huddersfield Cricket Research Centre is particularly keen to encourage postgraduate study.

Its website is www.hud.ac.uk/mhm/history/research/cricket.