

YORKSHIRE CRICKET FEDERATION.

YORKSHIRE JUNIOR TEAMS 1961 SERIES.

July, 1961.

To:- *Y. Bottomley*

I am pleased to inform you that you have been selected to attend the trial nets for the above, to be held at Headingley on *Aug. 1.* and should be pleased to have confirmation that you can be there.

Teams will be selected for matches (full day) as follows:-

Wed. 15th. August v Durham at Stockton.
Tour matches dep. Leeds p.m. Sun. 19th. Aug.
Mon. 20th. August v Notts. at Nottingham.
Tue. 21st. August v Leicester at Leicester.
Wed. 22nd. August v Bucks at Chesham.
Thur. 23rd. August v Essex at South Chingford.
Fri. 24th. August v Lincoln at Scunthorpe.

Sat. Return to Leeds in time for cricket if possible.

Nets start at 2 p.m. and cease at 6.15 p.m. If you cannot be there for 2 p.m. due to work or travel, or wish to leave early for the same reasons, kindly enter full details on the enclosed slip, when every effort will be made to accommodate you.

Boys should bring ALL their own tackle. See that it is clean and sound and report on the ground for registration to Mr. Winder. Tea will be provided.

Please return the enclosed form as soon as possible to the undersigned. Receipt of it will be accepted as full confirmation of your intention to attend the nets and unless any unforeseen circumstances make any change of date or time necessary, no further communication will be sent to you.

Bring this letter with you.

A Holdsworth
..... (Hon. Sec. Yorks. Jnrs.)

The Hawthorns.
46, North Broadgate Lane,
Horsforth (Tel: 3439)
LEEDS.

Chris Heime's PEOPLE

The season for the smack of leather on willow

A SURE sign that summer is not far away is the space now being given to cricketing news in our local newspapers - which team is going to have which new players and the pundits telling us who will be topping the tables before a ball has been struck.

It only seems like yesterday we were talking about Christmas - that was four months ago and I suppose someone will tell us now that there are fewer than 270 shopping days to the next one.

Having had Easter eggs on sale since New Year's Day, I'm sure we will start to have Christmas things back on the shelves soon.

But what about cricket in Brighouse. One of the earliest teams was playing in



the 1850s and was regularly playing against teams such as Halifax and Heckmondwike.

There were a number of local teams - some of them with fancy names such as Brighouse Free and Easy Club, the Brighouse Lane Enders, Toothill Bank Merry Boys, the Thornhill Bridge Club and the Rastrick New Road Club - a club that was brave enough to travel to Sheffield and play!

They were even allowed to play with a team of 22 against a Sheffield 11 and I still think they lost.

The concept of a workshop competition was nothing new with all the town's tailors having an annual match.

Open spaces back in those days were plentiful so we were fortunate enough to have a number of clubs with their own grounds.

The most popular during the mid-19th century was behind the Black Bull, with others at Lane Head and Wellholme.

Without doubt the match that created the most interest throughout those early seasons was between Brighouse and Rastrick.

By the turn of the century there were clearly four main local teams Brighouse, Clifton, Rastrick and Lightcliffe, but of course there were many other smaller teams such as those connected with the Sunday Schools.

Yes and in 1888, although the ladies were not allowed to vote, they were allowed to play in a ladies' cricket team.

It was 1905 when Rastrick built itself a new pavillion and invited Rhodes and Hirst to attend the opening ceremony.

However, money being a problem for most amateur organisations then - as it is

today - Rastrick found it could not afford a professional player for their 1906 season and had to reluctantly revert to paying talent money to its players based on individual performances.

This was so unpopular they soon had to revert back to singing on a professional.

In 1923, the Rastrick club joined the Huddersfield Cricket League while Brighouse and Lightcliffe joined the Bradford League the following year.

Sadly by 1936, Clifton had ground problems and had to close down.

Most of our local clubs have all had their ups and downs over the last century but they always seem to have the knack of bouncing back - usually from the brink of extinction; to being either top of the league or winning a cup competition, the following year.

In 1951, Rastrick C and A won the Sykes Cup. The team of the day were, from left, Charlie Wade (secretary), S.C. Helme (president), C. Horner, J. Gledhill, T.R. Newsome, A. Walker, E. Sanders, E. Fairbank, E.H. Hill, E. Horner, P. Sutcliffe and scorer, H. Thorton. Front row, from left, K. Armitage, C. Sykes, K. Holme (cptn), W. Berry and D. Croft.