

Cricket protester dies, 83

A CRICKET club's landlord who drove on to the wicket in a dispute over the ground lease has died.

It was just last month when John Maude, 83, got out his flask and sandwiches after parking on the field.

Barkisland's game against Lascelles Hall in the Drakes Huddersfield League was held up for an hour.

His son David said he did not think the stress had done his father any good.

The ground wrangle which led to him driving his Honda HRV 4X4 on to the field is still not settled.

The row with the cricket club escalated when the ground lease was being renegotiated.

The club wanted a 25-year lease — so it could get better grants — but Mr Maude was only willing to offer 10 years.

The continuing dispute worsened at the start of this year, when Mr Maude resigned as president.

He first played for Barkisland in 1937 and was a former captain. His father played there in the 1920s.

Mr Maude, of Saddleworth Road, Barkisland, leaves his wife Kathleen, to whom he was married 60 years, his son David and eight grandchildren.

He worked for the family woollen business, John Maude and Son, of Barkisland.