

Recalling days of the 'Gentlemen of Golcar'



A NEW exhibition will tell the story of cricket in the Colne Valley.

The special display – entitled *Bat and Ball* – will go on show at the Colne Valley Museum, Golcar and will feature archive photos, documents and artefacts.

It has been researched and produced by the Cricket Heritage Project team at the University of Huddersfield.

“The Colne Valley has a distinctive cricketing history,” said project leader Dr Peter Davies (pictured left).

“Clubs have been linked to churches and pubs and grown

New exhibition traces the history of cricket in the Colne Valley

up alongside the local textile industry.”

There are seven existing clubs in the valley - Paddock, Golcar, Leymoor, Linthwaite, Broad Oak, Slaithwaite and Marsden, while Meltham is in an adjoining valley.

And the list of former clubs is a long one - and includes names like Linthwaite Hall, Marsden Mechanics, Paddock Methodists, Westwood United and the intriguingly-named Gentlemen of Golcar.

Dr Davies explained: “There is a

rich tradition of cricket in the valley.

“In the past there was a Colne Valley Cricket League - and some villages had three or four clubs!”

One special guest at the exhibition launch will be Kali Mountford, MP for the Colne Valley.

And it is hoped that all eight current clubs will be represented on the opening night.

The launch event (by invitation only) takes place on Friday June

13 and the exhibition will be open to the public from Saturday June 14 until Sunday August 3.

Opening times are Saturdays and Sundays 2-5pm, with admission £1.60 (adults) and 80p (children/concessions).

Colne Valley Museum is located at Cliffe Ash, Golcar, Huddersfield (tel 01484 659762) and is opposite St. John's Church.

Go to www.ckcricketheritage.org.uk for further details.