

MIRFIELD CC

The Later Years

Renaissance Men!

1952 – CLUB RE-FORMED

The 're-formation' of Mirfield CC was due to the efforts of a group of local businessmen and local councillors.



Colonel Walker opens new pavilion, 26 April 1952

They all saw the potential in a 'new' Mirfield CC. They were also helped by the fact that there was a 'vacancy' at the Memorial Ground.

For, in 1951 the lease held by the Craven Gentlemen - another Mirfield-based cricket team - had run out, and new cricketing tenants were being sought.



The scene at the opening – note the roller and scoreboard in the background

And local folk were pretty confident that the Mirfield CC Mk II would be given the green light: the new club was admitted to the Heavy Woollen Cup on 29 September 1951, prior to the official re-formation actually taking place!

The town was very enthusiastic about the re-formation.

TOP LADIES!

1952 – THE FEMALE CONTRIBUTION

The Club has always been indebted to its female membership, particularly in the early months after re-formation.

CRICKET ENTHUSIASTS

There are now nearly fifty lady members of the Mirfield Cricket Club. They are proving a very useful addition to the club for not only have they made the club flag, but they have also arranged social events to add to the club's funds. Who knows? Once the men's teams are properly established, there might even be a ladies' team! At the cricket lecture given by Wilf Barber at the Modern School this week there were four young ladies taking down notes of points made by Mr. Barber. At one time he asked the young lads a question on the l.b.w. rule. None of the boys could answer it but one of the girls could. The same girl also asked a question on the shoulder position of the "googly" bowler.

Betty.

Dewsbury & District News, 12 April 1952

EASTER HOPE!

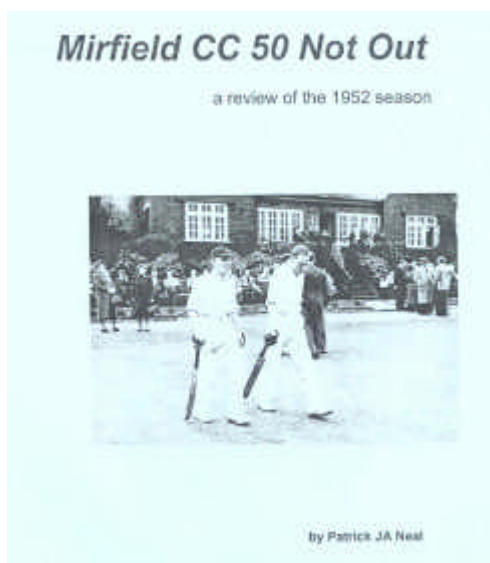
1952 – ENTHUSIASTIC NETTING



Dewsbury & District News, 19 April 1952

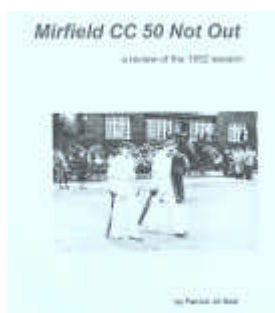
1952 was thus a milestone year in the history of Mirfield CC.

On the Club's 50th birthday, stalwart Pat Neale produced a fascinating study of the 1952 season.

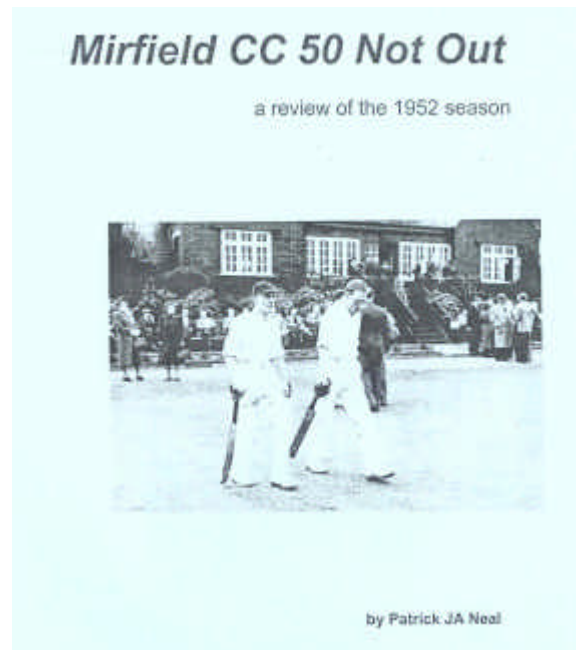


The Boys of '52: Some of the STARS

Charles Buckley - public schoolboy who skippered the 1952 side; right-hand batsman and off-spinner, he dropped down swiftly to the 2nd XI and then became a Committee member and Vice-President; outside cricket he was MD at Buckley's Brush Works and was the son of the founder.



Wilf Barber - Yorkshire and England cricketer who joined Mirfield at the age of 51 from Halifax side King Cross; he averaged 41.18 and 45.89 in his two seasons at the Memorial Ground and won the Division 2 Batting Award in both years; he scored 15,315 runs for Yorkshire and gained two Test caps.



Hurst Barber - Ex-Holmfirth player who made his name as an excellent fielder and a fixture at the top of the order, scoring the new club's first-ever half-century (79 in the opening game); between 1958 and 1960 he led the 1st XI to a hat-trick of Championships and also starred in the Double-winning side of 1963; he went on to skipper the 2nd XI, manage the Under-18 side and become Life Vice-President.

Swinging 60s!

1960 – TREBLE SUCCESS

The 1960s began on a sweet note, with Mirfield claiming their third Central Yorkshire League title in a row.



Dewsbury Reporter, September 1960

Cup Triumph

1962 – FIRST HEAVY WOOLLEN CUP WIN

In 1962 Mirfield won the Heavy Woollen Cup for the first time. In the same year the 2nd XI won the Championship under the captaincy of Cyril Spencer.



Dewsbury Reporter, 11 August 1962

END OF AN ERA

2004 – THE CURTAIN FALLS

2004 was the Club's last in the Bradford League.



2 becomes 1

2005 – HARRY LIME MERGER

Due to a financial crisis, and an accompanying exodus of players, Mirfield were forced into a life-saving merger with Harry Lime CC in 2005. The new club will play in the Huddersfield Central League.



The Huddersfield Examiner, February 9th 2005

...UNTIL NOW