

SPEN VICTORIA CC

The Later Years

CAN YOU NAME THE YEAR?

UNDATED TEAM PHOTOGRAPH



Spen Victoria, Bradford League Div. 2 leaders, photographed at Spen Lane on Saturday before the start of holiday games. Seated (left to right): A. R. Elliott, H. Hoyle, J. A. Heaton, G. Brown, S. Platt. Back: K. Brown, J. A. Carter, D. Laycock, E. Fisk, G. Venner, P. Watson.

POST-WAR HEROES

1950s – TRIO OF TEAM PHOTOS



1951



1954



1957

MAKING HISTORY

LOCAL CRICKET RESEARCH

The 2005 HLF Cricket Heritage Project follows in the footsteps of others keen to enquire into the history and social history of Spen Victoria C.C..



Do you recognise this cricket team of a bygone day? If so, we would be interested to hear from you.

Remember Spen Vic's past?

by Reg Law

MEMORIES of past achievements have been sought in Spen Victoria's old club house, a fine and well kept building in Bradford Road, Glasshopton, for 100 years. Photographs which Mr Roberts has passed on are of the teams of 1908/1909 and 1910/1911. Mr Roberts has also an interesting story to tell.

The History Of Spen Victoria
1865—1927



Compiled By H.Hoyle

SUCCESS AND FAILURE!

1968/9 – LEAGUE AND CUP

Spennings were celebrating in 1968 with promotion to the top division of the Bradford League.



But they succumbed in the semi-final of the Priestley Cup.



1969

GOING UP!

1979 – PROMOTION SUCCESS

25 THE GUARDIAN AND TRIBUNE, Friday, September 14, 1979

Promotion for champions Spen and Cleckheaton

SPEN VICTORIA are the Bradford League second division champions and gain promotion along with CLECKHEATON as runners-up.

The season was marked by battles but not before there had been moments of high drama as two sides fought to win the promotion battle. In following the Bradford League...

Spen, Cleckheaton and Green... (text continues) ...

TROPHY PRESENTED:

The trophy presentation to the Spen... (text continues) ...

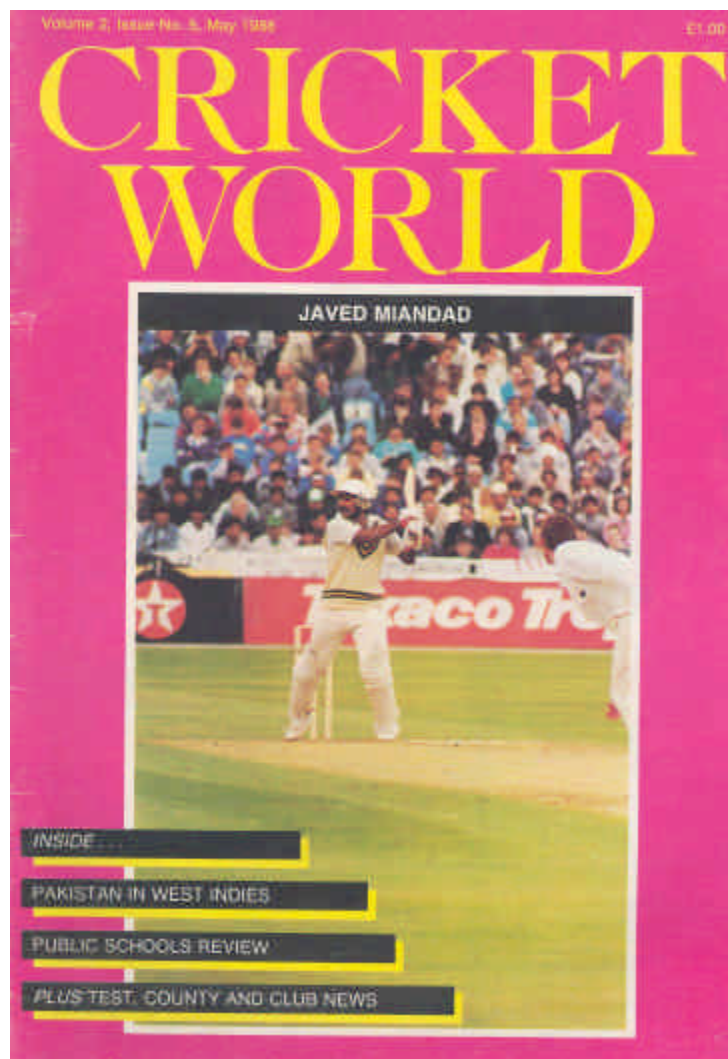
MODERNE ACHIEVEMENT:

Cleckheaton can add... (text continues) ...

IN THE BRADFORD LEAGUE

NATIONAL FAME!

1988 – MAGAZINE COVERAGE



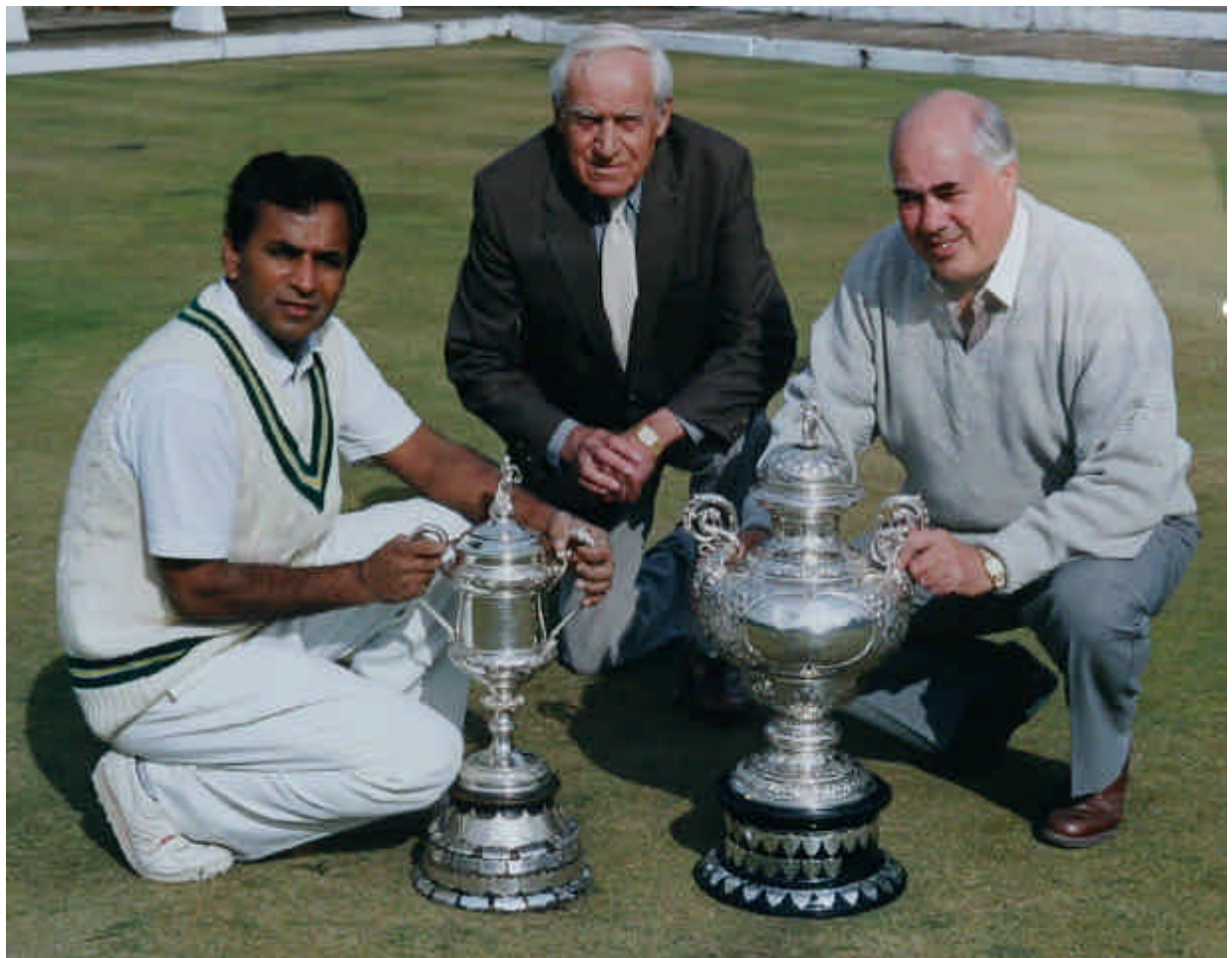
SOLLY'S BOYS

1990 – PRIESTLEY CUP WIN



Spennings beat Pudsey St. Lawrence in 1990 to lift the prestigious Priestley Cup trophy.

Three members of the Solly Adam-skippered team went on to play first-class cricket: John Wood (Durham and Lancashire), Tim Walton (Northants and Essex) and Mike Smith (Gloucester and England).





LOVE AND AFFECTION

VOLUNTEER FORCE

In recent years Club stalwart Harry Hoyle and a group of volunteers have tidied up Spen Lane premises on a *daily* basis. Maybe that's why the ground always looks so attractive...

Service has been part of Harry's life at Spen

By Mike Poplewell

SPEN VICTORIA CRICKET CLUB plan to honour outgoing treasurer Harry Hoyle with a special presentation during Saturday's game with Mirfield at Spen Lane.

For nearly 70 years Harry has served the club. As player, secretary, chairman, groundman, president and, until the end of May, treasurer - as many as three of those roles have been carried out simultaneously at times.

Together with his wife, Hazel, another long standing servant of the club, Harry, of Woodlands Avenue, Gomersal, is a life member and is also a trustee and life president.

I caught up with Harry by the players pavilion, during his morning tidying up stint at the ground, and talking to him, as he gazed wistfully across the rain soaked grass, was like a re-run of 'The Field of Dreams'.

In his mind's eye the old house where he was born and raised, backing on to the Spen Victoria ground on the Spen Lane

previously been landlord at The Grey Ox, Hartshead, but was 'mine host' at the Old Saw when Harry was growing up.

Harry's role in this field of dreams has been a lifetime one.

He played as a young child on the grass, summer and winter alike, he watched the cricket as soon as he was old enough to understand, he helped carry the kit bag at six, and by the time he was 13 he was hanging up the 'tins' on their hooks on the scoreboard, scoring for Ernest Carter when he went for a beer, and filling in for players missing during the Spen Valley Holidays.



first title triumph.

He also finished second only to Lidget Green's Derbyshire and England pace bowler Bill Copson in the league averages



CUP MAGIC!

1990s – TROPHY AFTER TROPHY

Spen won two Heavy Woollen Cups in 1996 and 1998 and gained a promotion in 2000.

Jaffer leads Spen to HW Cup triumph

By Paul McGinley

A SUPREME century by Spen Victoria's Wasim Jaffer dominated the 119th Heavy Woollen Cup final and set his side on their way to a 144-run win over Hanging Heaton.

By seven minutes past three there was little doubt the Cup was on the way to Spen Victoria but discussion time is three years.

That was the time 20-year-old Jaffer and Spen skipper Andy Hethel notched up a superb century partnership for the first wicket.

The Spen innings was dominated by him as the Match Jaffer's marvellous 131. He always looked in control and rarely gave a chance.

His century was majestic, he pulled



Heavy Woollen Cup heroes, Wasim Jaffer, left, who scored a supreme century, (C050802). Right Chris Elstob devastated the Hanging Heaton batting with 5-40. (C050802)

A packed crowd enjoyed possibly the best day weather-wise all season for the final at picturesque Lyonsdale CC - the ground's return to the host club.

Some great running as the end by Spen took their total to 241-5, although they did not throw the bat (on) with wickets in hand.

Overall, British

Over 4000s followed around the ground.

Teenager - Chris Elstob was the star with the ball for Spen as the 16-year-old part-time abled 5-40 in 15 overs to shatter the main/late number. He

SPEN VICTORIA

* captain: Gareth Kinley	
1. Jaffer (131)	10
2. Hethel (101)	40
3. Elstob (5)	40
4. Hethel (101)	40
5. Hethel (101)	40
6. Hethel (101)	40
7. Hethel (101)	40
8. Hethel (101)	40
9. Hethel (101)	40
10. Hethel (101)	40



Heavy Woollen Cup Winners 1998

VISA NIGHTMARE

2004 – ANJUM SETBACK

In 2004 the Spen club were involved a long-running saga involving an Indian professional (Rao Anjum), an elusive travel visa and the British High Commission.

At the time, Club spokesman Alan Birkinshaw said: ***‘A series of circumstances have conspired against us and we must now move on. In the fullness of time we will reflect on the whole episode and look at our policy with regard to the signing of overseas players.’***



SET-PIECE OCCASION


2004 – CROWTHER CUP FINAL

Spen Lane hosted the 2004 Crowther Cup final. And the marquees were out in force.

Heavy Woollen District Cricket
Crowther Cup Final

SPONSORED BY:
R.P. HODSON
Group of Companies

TOWNVILLE
v.
EAST BIERLEY



At Spen Victoria Cricket Club,
Spen Lane, Cleckheaton
Monday 30th August, 2004 at 1.00 pm

The Heavy Woollen District Cup Committee are
Greatly Indebted to R.P. Hodson for their
Sponsorship, and to Spen Victoria Cricket Club for
Staging this Final.

Admission: Adults £1.50, O.A.P.'s and Children 50p



INTO CYBERSPACE!

CLUB TODAY

Today the Club has a thriving junior section, a wonderful website, and Spen Lane always looks a picture.



Spen Victoria Cricket Club

Cricket Club Website

[The Club](#) [1st Team](#) [2nd Team](#) [Bradford League](#) [Joe Lumb etc](#)

