

ic Huddersfield - Birchencliffe in bid for the top with Hinchliffe

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Feb 11 2004

By The Huddersfield Daily Examiner

BIRCHENCLIFFE have three big reasons to be cheerful as they prepare for the new season in the Arrow Central League.

The Ainley Top club will firstly be embarking on a brand new season in Section A, having won the Section B title last season to gain promotion.

Secondly they will be officially launching their new electronic scoreboard and, thirdly, they hope to unleash their high-profile new signing who could help steer them to a first-time ever berth in the Premiership.

Top-rated batsman Darren Hinchliffe has turned his back on the Drakes League after a tremendous career at Honley, Meltham, Holmfirth and most recently Skelmanthorpe to join the progressive Birchencliffe club.

And Hinchliffe, who will join another former Melthamer, Ashley Haywood, under the captaincy of John Eaton, could well be the catalyst to even greater things for the Halifax Road club, who have designs on playing in the top flight.

"A couple of years ago we set up a five-year plan to get into the Premiership," said club secretary Bob Smith, "and after winning the Section B title last year and now capturing Darren's signature, I think we're at least on schedule to achieve that.