

December
2024
Number 35



Hat Trick for Roger & Three Wickets for Jen

The last game of the year attracted a near record attendance with 21 players, including two new players - Jack (real name Mark) and Jill Horner.

The game was a clear win for Blue who scored 128 runs for 3 wickets and Red trailed at 54 runs for 7 wickets.



Roger delivering his hat trick



Gail in her birthday hat



Jen bowling one of her demon balls

Most wickets were taken with good bowling and special mentions must go to Roger and Jen. Also bowling mentions to Katie, Myra and Terry.

The game was marred by Liz sustaining an injury to her mouth, which we are pleased to report has healed up well.

INSIDE

- ◆ More games and all the up to date news
- ◆ Full List of Nominations
- ◆ Photos of Award Winners and the Lunch



Some additional shots from the 12th. Nina bowling, Gail wearing a festive number. Dave taking a strike and Elizabeth wondering where the ball went.

Upper Hand for Hud Players

Huddersfield visited Tod on the 5th December and two mixed teams took on each other. The blue team (predominantly Tigers) went into bat and sadly lost six wickets making only 32 runs.

The red team (predominantly Hudders-

field) answered with 130 runs for the loss of 4 wickets.

Everyone retired to the studio for refreshments and a good chat. Many thanks to all those who brought sweet and savoury items for the social hour.



The Huddersfield and Tod Teams



Relaxing Together



Sue from Huddersfield bowling with Katie at the wicket



Mike H getting back to the crease



Chris waiting for the ball

Game on the 28th Nov Was Low On Numbers but High on Runs



There was a small turn out today due to illness and injury. In total we had 12 members in attendance. The teams were

Reds - Sue - Nina - Jenny - Jill - Ashley and Andrew

Blues - Liz - Martin - Dave - Roger - Derek and Peter

The blues won the toss and elected to field first the Reds scored 73 for the loss of no wickets off their 12 overs with some big hitting from Nina and Andrew then it was the Blues turn to bat and they managed score 62 runs for the loss of 2 wickets. So overall there was 135 runs scored for the loss of only 2 wickets - the wickets fell as a run out and catch by Andrew.

Friendlies for 2025

So far Andrew and Paul have arranged the following fixtures for next year.

6th March Rotherham—Home

27th March Lancashire—Home

3rd April Leeds—Home

Put these dates in your new diaries and let Andrew know if you would like to play.



WOMEN ONLY GAME
Against Wakefield
Thursday 6th February
TLC 2 – 4 pm
Let Andrew Know if You
Would Like to Play.



Mike Cooke receiving the Umpires medal on the 12th December

The 3rd Annual Christmas Lunch & the Second Awards Event

This years event was dogged by ill-health with four members having to drop out on the day and the final number had dropped from 24 to 18 attending.

After an excellent lunch Michael made a report on the year to the group. Edited highlights are shown below.

Andrew gave a brief view of the playing year and noted the improvement shown by all players.

John said that Tod was the team that he had seen develop the most of all the Yorkshire WC teams. He then went onto present this years Improvement Awards

When I circulated that article about Dickie Bird it reminded me that this group started because of an article in TAM. As Group's co-ordinator at the April 2022 members meeting our Gill read out an extract from an article in TAM about Norah and 80 year old from Barnsley who said "I'm not 82 when I am playing walking Cricket I'm 40 again". This article got me thinking about starting a WC group here and it was on the 14th July 2022 we had our first game. Eight of the people who attended that session are still playing with us today and five are here today! (Derek, Chris, Elizabeth, Richard and Gill) Nina came the next session on the 28th as did Mike B and Gail.

Overall, we have averaged 15 (16) per session and we have 35 active members (35) which is 12 ladies (11) and 23 male (24). 6 friendlies plus the York and Bradford events. So, I think we are in good health as a group and continuing to grow and develop.

I would just like to focus on the special ingredient of this group and quite frankly it is not about the cricket (well it is a bit) it is about the people. I sometimes think we could play any game, well probably not but... and as long as we have this group of people, and the ethos of mutual support and encouragement to all, we would still enjoy it as we do.

At the beginning of this year, we had our coach John Brierley resign his role. Now, I believe that people come into your life when you need them and, on the 22nd February, it happened when Andrew walked into the gym at the TLC – he was a chauffeur for two ladies, but it turned out he was a lot, lot more. He has become our captain, our coach and with Paul our organiser of friendlies. The thing I love about Andrew is his positivity even when things are not looking so good. I have never heard him utter anything but an encouraging word during and after a game. Thank you, Andrew, for being Susan's chauffeur that day – as the say the rest is history.

We have had the benefit of using the TCC and I can report we collected £ 110 at the last game to contribute to their funds and Stuart their chair has said that they appreciate the gesture and the money greatly.

Before I hand over to Andrew to give his view of the playing year I would like to give some other honourable mentions Ashleigh (who joined us on the 17th August 2022) for his contribution to the coaching team and his unbridled enthusiasm and support. He did a great job at the Sowerby Bridge event and even though he has been injured he is always there and an important part of us. Also, Martin who gives unstintingly of his time to help less competent players, as we know he has just recovered from an operation but he is eager to back at the crease. Paul joined us in April this year but his ideas and suggestions have proved invaluable to our growth and development.

As they say enough from me – let me hand over to Andrew to give us his view of the playing year.

The Improvement Awards for 2024

The improvement awards were voted on by the members, and members had to have two or more nominations to qualify for consideration of the award.

Nominations & Winners

The nominations and chosen members were as follows:

Most Improved Newcomer of the Year

Nominations: Katie, Peter and Sue.

The award went to Katie

Most Improved Bowler of the Year

Nominations: Sue, Jen and Gill

The award went to Gill

Most Improved Batter of the Year

Nominations: Nina, Andrew, Mike H

The award went to Nina to ill to attend

Most Improved All-Rounder of the Year

Nominations: Roger, Paul and Gill

The award went to Roger to ill to attend

Most Improved Fielder of the Year

Nominations: Dave B, Liz, Nina

The award went to Liz

Contribution to the Group Outside of Playing Award went to Andrew and Paul

A special gift was to be presented to Sue (our media team support) of a media tabard but she was too ill to attend.

All awards to members not able to attend will be presented at the next game



Gill receiving the Bowling award from John



Katie receiving the Newcomer award



Liz receiving the Fielder award



Andrew & Paul getting the Award for their contribution outside of playing



Gill & Martin reading out nominations and the rest of our wonderful group enjoying their festive meal.



Sue's Reel of the Year

Sue created a reel of the years play including video clips as well as stills.

To add interest, it entertained the diners with six players that didn't quite qualify for the Tigers! How many did you get?

Waking Cricket Days

In the golden years, we gather 'round,
With plastic bats and laughter's sound,
On the pitch, our spirits soar,
In U3A, we play once more.

With gentle strides and careful aim,
We chase the ball, relive the game,
Each swing and catch, a joy to see,
In walking cricket, we are free.

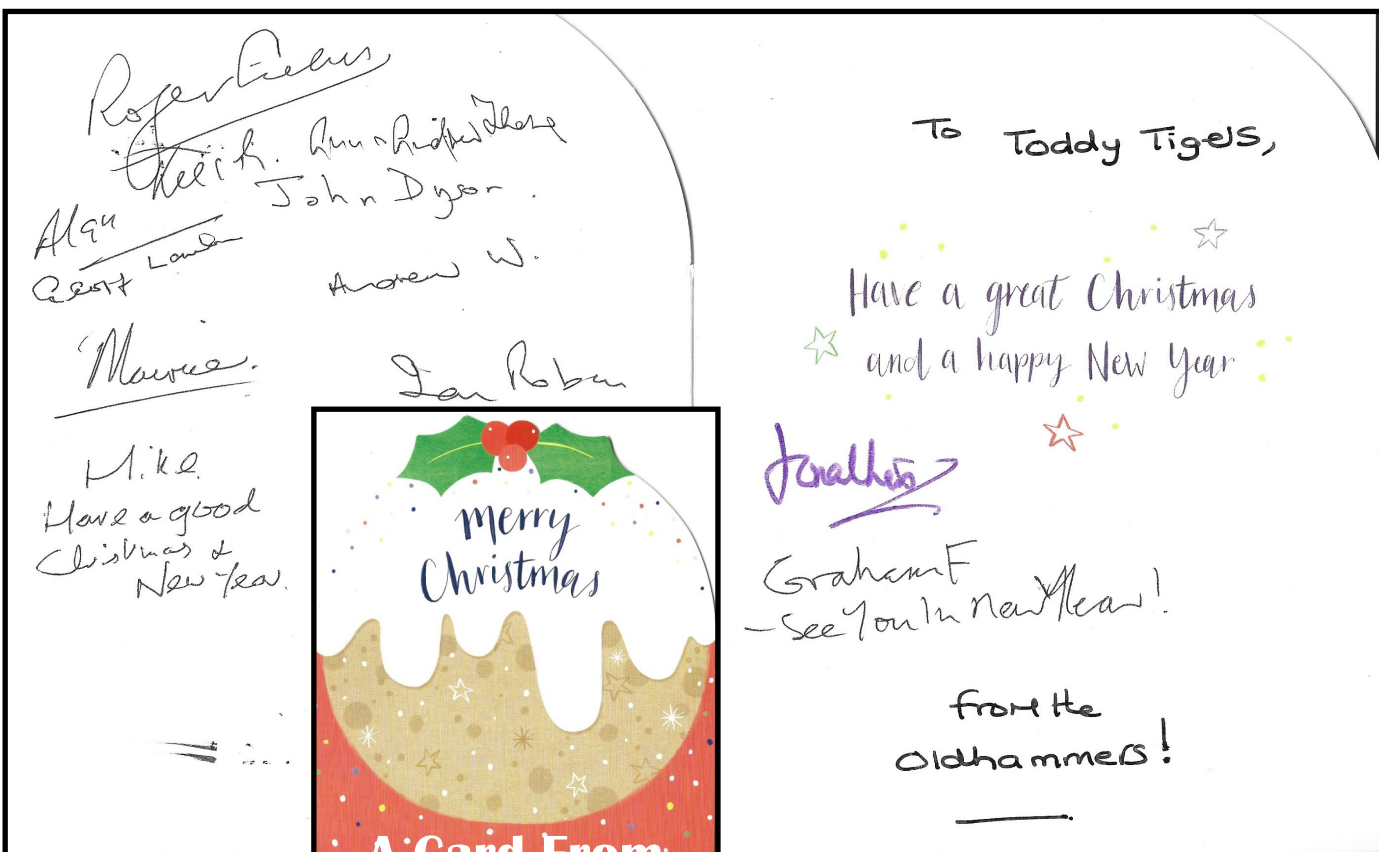
Friendship blooms with every run,
Underneath the warming sun,
In U3A, we find our cheer,
Playing cricket, year by year.

With every match, our bonds grow tight,
In friendly banter, pure delight,
We share our stories, old and new,
In U3A, our hearts renew.

The gentle breeze, the field so green,
A perfect day, a perfect scene,
With every step, we find our pace,
In walking cricket, there's no race.

So, here's to us, the team so grand,
With bat and ball, we take our stand,
In U3A, we find our way,
Together, we embrace the day.

Richard was planning to read his newest poem, but he had flu so could not be with us. We therefore commissioned a poem and Derek was going to read it but time over took us and so it was left out of the event, so it is reproduced here.



A Card From Oldham

The Oldham team very kindly sent us Christmas card which is reproduced above.

Playing Dates for 2025

The first session of the month will be for improving our skills, with a short game to practice our batting bowling, and fielding, Also, think about trying something new - over arm rather than under arm bowling or some more considered batting strokes. This session will also be for games against other teams. Remember that we get this session at no cost.

Games will be held at the TLC or from late April/Early May onwards will be played at the TLC, if the weather allows if not, at the TLC.

9th January 2 pm to 4 pm

23rd January 2 pm to 4 pm

6th February 2 pm to 4 pm

Ladies only game against
Wakefield

13th February 2 pm to 4 pm

27th February 2 pm to 4 pm

6th March 2 pm to 4 pm

Game against Rotherham

13th March 2 pm to 4 pm

27th March 2 pm to 4 pm

Game against Lancashire

3rd April 2 pm to 4 pm

Game against Leeds

10th April 2 pm to 4 pm

24th April 2 pm to 4 pm

1st May 2 pm to 4 pm

8th May 2 pm to 4 pm

5th June 2 pm to 4 pm

12th June 2 pm to 4 pm

26th June 2 pm to 4 pm

3rd July 2 pm to 4 pm

10th July 2 pm to 4 pm

24th July 2 pm to 4 pm

7th August 2 pm to 4 pm

14th August 2 pm to 4 pm

28th August 2 pm to 4 pm

4th September 2 pm to 4 pm

11th September 2 pm to 4 pm

25th September 2 pm to 4 pm

2nd October 2 pm to 4 pm

9th October 2 pm to 4 pm

6th November 2 pm to 4 pm

13th November 2 pm to 4 pm

20th November 2 pm to 4 pm

11th December 2 pm to 4 pm