



His accomplishment at Mean Lane is documented on the above scoresheet which was produced especially for the occasion. 1938 also saw MCC claim their first ever Hinchcliffe Cup triumph and it is surely performances of this calibre that helped the side claim that title.

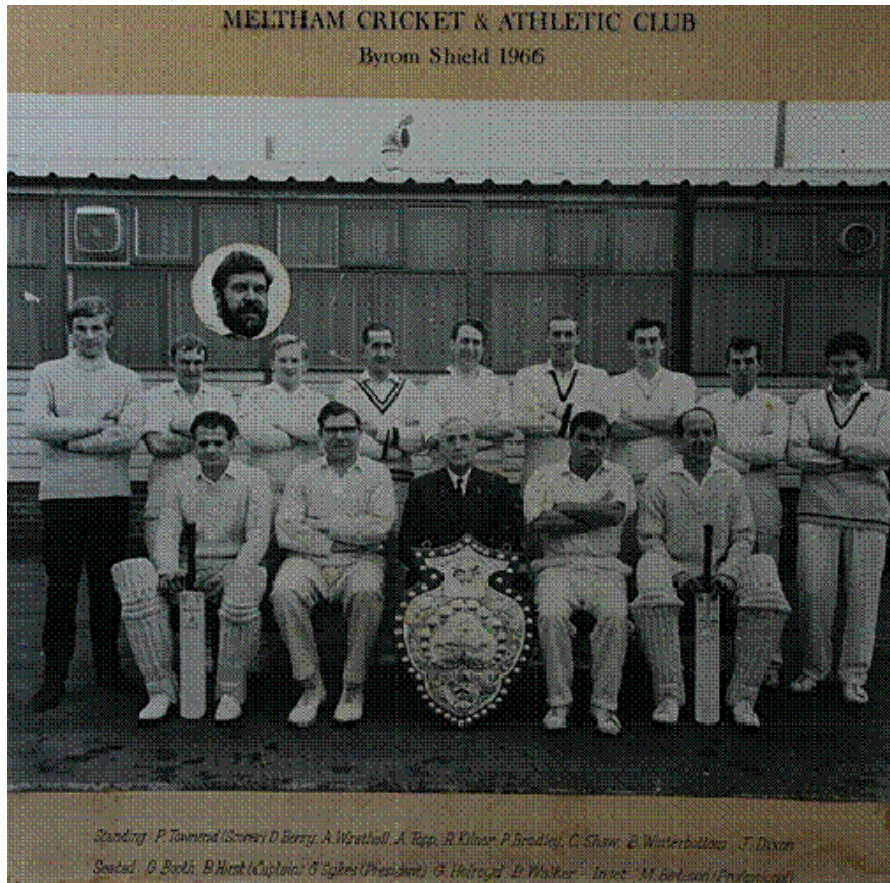
### **Alfred Topp**

Alfred Topp's achievements for Meltham are also of the highest order. In a period of over 15 years at Meltham, the former professional cricketer took more than 1,000 wickets for the club. The first landmark on the way to the phenomenal achievement came in 1958. After helping the side to its second Hinchcliffe Cup win in 1957, Topp claimed his 500<sup>th</sup> wicket for the club. At the time, this was a fantastic accomplishment and as such was given a special award in recognition of the feat - see below.



Present at the special event were, from left to right, club captain Ray Kilner, club president and now club historian Dennis Schofield, councillor J. Steel, and club secretary D. Naylor. Presenting the award to Topp is B. Ridley, the umpire who raised his finger to give Topp his 500<sup>th</sup> wicket. However, little did they know then that Topp was only halfway to his ultimate goal of 1,000 wickets for Meltham.

It took the great man seven more years to reach his target and he finally took his 1,000<sup>th</sup> wicket on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May 1965. His only wicket in a league match against Linthwaite was batsman L. Robinson, plum lbw for that magic 1000. By doing so he joined an elite group of only three men to have taken a four-figure haul of wickets - the others being fellow Huddersfield professional Walter Hedford and Broad Oak Cricket Club's Harry Hinchcliffe. It is no coincidence that Alfred Topp's wicket-taking prowess aided the club to two more major honours in the 1960s, those being the Sykes Cup in 1965 and the Byrom Shield in 1966 - see below.



## Paul Booth

Thirdly in this list of outstanding bowlers is modern club favourite Paul Booth. In fact, his claim to fame is a rare one. He is the only player to have achieved it in the entire history of Meltham Cricket Club and the Huddersfield and District Cricket league. 1999 saw Booth – an orthodox slow left-artermer - become the first player in the history of the league to claim a hat-trick of successive league bowling prizes, and only the second Meltham player since Dilip Doshi in 1973 to win the award.

In a career that took him to Yorkshire and Warwickshire, Booth has become something of a Meltham legend. Booth also won the Jack Gledhill all-rounders trophy in '92, '97 and '99. It was also this all-round ability that helped Meltham claim 12 major titles in his time at the club – and that includes four league championships and five Sykes Cup wins.

