

ACS MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN NO 1 - SEPTEMBER 2008



Chairman's notes

Welcome to the first edition of the ACS members' bulletin, or rather the first occasion on which membership matters are covered outside the pages of our journal, *The Cricket Statistician*. Any changes to long-standing arrangements inevitably cause concern to some people, so I should begin by explaining why we have pursued this most amicable divorce.

Communication should be as topical as possible. The copy deadline for the journal is much earlier than for a stand alone bulletin. Indeed there are items below that could not have been included in the current journal and so would have waited a further three months to be seen by all members. It also helps the journal editor not to have an unknown amount of committee material delivered at the last minute, with the need to edit or defer publication of members' articles.

You will see below a formal notice from our Secretary inviting nominations for the Committee. This year is rather different insofar as there will be at least two vacancies. Our former chairman Douglas Miller will retire not out at the next AGM. The other vacancy follows the resignation of Richard Isaacs, who found that his permanent and worldwide travel routine as a Sky Sports scorer did not leave enough time for him to attend Committee meetings nor carry out his various committee duties. We thank Richard for his 2½ years' service and are pleased that he will still remain an enthusiastic member. What this means of course is that there is every chance to join the committee without feeling that by doing so you are evicting someone else.

So what attributes should a prospective committee member possess? Ideally, a willingness to attend at least a majority of committee meetings; there are six a year, normally held on Saturdays in central London. But we also need expertise beyond an awesome knowledge of cricket statistics or history. So if through your business or personal life, you have some skills that you suspect may be of value to us, please consider standing.

One area where we are desperately keen for help is with our website. To have any realistic prospect of attracting a new generation of members or of selling a reasonable number of publications to non-members, we need to have a website that can sell membership and books online and that has a content that interests passing traffic. It is not realistic to seek a webmaster who can do everything. Instead, we appeal for members with the time and ability to help us with any aspects of our website, be it content, design or setting up a retailing capability. Please contact the Secretary if you can help.

David Kendix

Former Chairman's Notes

During my last year on the committee, I am undertaking some of the duties of a Marketing Manager. We had hoped for a longer-term volunteer to come forward to help sell some of our publications into appropriate sections of the book trade and county shops. However, very sadly, the flyer in last quarter's Journal produced a nil response, whereas its predecessor looking for proof-readers found 25 interested members. I am still hoping that there may be a member prepared to undertake at least some of the duties of a Marketing Manager, perhaps simply covering their local region. My telephone number is 01844 343206. I await a few calls!

We are launching various initiatives to attract new members and to this end we have produced a new recruitment leaflet featuring a message from our President. All members will have received a copy of this leaflet in this mailing and I hope you will take it as a challenge to find at least one fellow cricket enthusiast who may be persuaded to join. Anyone joining at this time of year enjoys the benefits of membership through to December 2009.

I am sure there are many members who could make constructive use of a few dozen leaflets, or indeed a few hundred! I am thinking of those who may be going on supporters' tours to India or the West Indies or those who may hold office (or influence) in local cricket lovers' societies, where there might be the chance of a mailing or of putting leaflets on the seats at a meeting. And when next summer comes round, you could always carry a few in your bag when joining the faithful at your local county ground.

If you would like a supply of leaflets please get in touch with ACS Sales by telephone, letter or e-mail at the usual address.

Douglas Miller

Secretary's notes

2009 is an historic year for English, and Welsh, cricket with the staging of the 1st power Ashes Test at Glamorgan's headquarters in Cardiff. It is therefore very fitting that the 2009 AGM of the Association will be held at The SWALEC Stadium on Saturday, March 28th. The meeting will be held in the Morgan Cole Lounge, a spacious business facility within the new pavilion at the Cardiff ground, before members of the Association have their annual lunch in the Pavilion Members' Lounge – a pitch-facing function suite giving superb views over the Stadium.

During the afternoon, a brief presentation will be made about the development of the ground, and the creation of the UK's newest Test venue, before we take a guided tour of the facilities, giving ACS members (plus their spouses/partners and any invited friends) an exclusive look behind-the-scenes including the Pavilion and Media Centre. We hope many members will want to take this opportunity to join us. A subsequent bulletin will give details about hotel accommodation near the Cardiff ground and the possibility of specially discounted rates for ACS members.

Places are still available for the ACS meeting at Huddersfield University on Saturday, October 25. This meeting will focus on the pioneering work of the Cricket Heritage Project - an innovative project being undertaken by Dr. Peter Davies, with financial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund. During the course of the past four years, Dr. Davies and his colleagues have been collating the history of cricket clubs in the Calderdale and Kirklees area, and the meeting will present a resumé of their excellent work. Amongst the presentations will be talks on cricket in 19th century West Riding, Todmorden C.C., the link between cricket and churches in Calderdale and the role of women in cricket in Brighouse.

The Meeting will take place in the Castle Hill Suite, and the cost of attending this function is just £5 – members can also book lunch in a nearby pub (for an additional £5-£10) or bring their own sandwiches. To book places, please use the booking form sent out with the last Journal, or contact the Secretary by post.

Finally, please note that anyone wishing to stand for the committee should send a suitably proposed and seconded nomination to the Secretary by 30th November.

Andrew Hignell

Summary of Committee Meetings

The third meeting of 2008-09 was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday, 21 June. Apologies were received from the Treasurer, Roger Gibbons, Richard Isaacs, Douglas Miller, Ric Finlay, and Simon Sweetman, who had been prevented from reaching the first meeting since his co-option by the cancellation of his trains. The committee discussed revisions to its Working Practices, and new guidelines on providing complimentary copies of books to those providing material help to the author.

The proposal for a first-class match scores annual was considered again, with questions raised on its commercial viability; it was decided to investigate the practicality of adding informative footnotes. A working party was asked to settle on a final version of the eighteenth-century match list for publication.

It was agreed in principle that the ACS should offer an online shop and online payment of subscriptions via the website.

The Secretary offered Glamorgan's SWALEC Stadium in Cardiff as a venue for the AGM on 28th March 2009. The ACS had been asked to provide speakers for an ICC Cricket History Conference at Oxford in July 2009. The date for the next committee meeting is 6th September.

Harriet Monkhouse

Members' Messages

We welcome the following new members

Mr K Behagg from Dunmow, Essex

Mr O Coddington from Whitbourne, Worcestershire

Mr N Croucher from Barnet, Hertfordshire

Mr S G de Clermont from Alfriston, East Sussex

Mr B E Price from Fulham, London SW6

We require current addresses for Mr J R Lodge and Mr I T Shepherd. Please contact the membership secretary if you can help.

Ray Gobel (01243 551439) has surplus West Indian cricket magazines for sale.

Alan Jackson at alanjackson62@hotmail.co.uk or 71 Hill Top Estate, Heckmondwike, West Yorkshire, WF16 0ED (01924 500891) is looking for ACS Journal No.92 Winter 1995 to have a complete run.

If you have any messages that you would like to have included in the next bulletin, please contact the editor of the Cricket Statistician. All key ACS contact details can be found there.