



ACS MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN

No. 25 – August 2016

Two important developments regarding the Online Records site

(1) Registration no longer required

A number of members and others have had difficulties in the past in registering to see the ACS Online Records site. In response to these concerns, the Committee has decided that there should no longer be a requirement to register before you can see the site, and all being well that requirement will have been lifted by the time this Bulletin appears.

The Records site is a comprehensive and constantly-updated listing of all major records in all forms of cricket (Test, ODI, T20 Internationals, List A cricket, other T20 cricket, women's cricket, and minor cricket). It is freely available to be seen by everybody, members and non-members alike. If you haven't used it in the past, or have done so but have been unable to access it more recently because of difficulties with registration, please take a look at it now by going to the Association's website (www.acscricket.com) and clicking on 'Cricket Records' – and please encourage friends and acquaintances to use it too!

(2) Checking of records

The Committee has taken note of some concerns raised at the recent AGM regarding the accuracy of some of the records on the site. Whilst we cannot undertake to verify every single item throughout the entire site, we invite anyone who spots a specific record on the site that they think might not be accurate, or which looks improbable or questionable, to let us know. Where possible we will check individual queries raised with us in this way, and if we find an error we will notify CricketArchive (from whom the data on the Records site derives).

Where there are more general issues about the reliability of a particular list of records – for example, lists of the 'youngest' and 'oldest' players to perform some feat, when players' ages cannot always be verified – we propose to add 'health warnings' at the top of the list concerned. These will alert users to the possibility that the information shown, although the best available, cannot be relied on 100%.

The address for raising queries about individual items or lists on the Records site, or for any suggestions for improvements or additions to the site, or for any other comments about it, is records@acscricket.com

Notifying new biographical and statistical information

The number of items on the recently-introduced site for recording newly-discovered biographical information about cricketers has now passed 200. It may be helpful to members to have a reminder of how they should give notice of any new biographical or statistical information that they may come across.

- Details of any necessary amendments to scorecards should be sent to scores@cricketarchive.com
- News of the recent death of any cricketer should also be notified to scores@cricketarchive.com
- New information regarding the recent death of a cricketer – such as a more accurate date or place of his or her death than is currently recorded – should again be sent to scores@cricketarchive.com. If you discover this sort of information about a cricketer whose death was more than about a year ago, then please notify it to newinfo@acscricket.com
- Any other biographical information about a cricketer which differs from, or adds to, that already shown in CricketArchive – including such details as batting or bowling styles, or the cricketer's family relationships to other players, as well as information relating to their birth or death – should also be sent to newinfo@acscricket.com

In all cases, we ask, please, that you include details of the source of the new information that you have discovered.

Cricket Witness

Cricket Witness is a new series which will look at a variety of historical themes – both ancient and modern. A number of topics have been suggested: outstanding/successful county teams; decades; prolific opening partnerships; great wicket-keepers, short-legs or cover fielders; opening bowling partnerships; spin pairings; a series of outstanding or dramatic matches at a particular ground (e.g. a festival ground) or a selection of great players (from a club, a League, a decade, or those born at a particular place). The above list is far from comprehensive, and all ideas will be considered on their merits. Several titles are already in the pipeline. If anyone would like to offer another title – or manuscript – for this series, or has ideas for a possible theme, please contact the Secretary on secretary@acscricket.com

A Call for Editors

Given the ever-increasing number and variety of ACS publications, there are several book projects that currently lack an editor. The following are of particular significance:

- **Women's Cricket Annual** – It is intended that this will cover the 2016 season, and will be published in the spring of 2017 at the latest, but the will not happen unless an editor can be found. Anyone interested in performing this role, or who would like to offer their services in some other capacity, should please contact Simon Sweetman on editor@acscricket.com.
- **Gentlemen v Players** – Eric Midwinter is hoping to write a volume on the social significance of this fixture, and it should prove an invaluable addition to cricket's literature. Anyone wishing to edit the book should contact Andrew Hignell on secretary@acscricket.com, and this is also the address if members wish to put their names forward for editing duties more generally.

Committee Meeting Report (excluding items mentioned elsewhere):

The second meeting of 2016/17 was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 11 June. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay, Mark Rowe and Garry Wallace.

The committee considered the proposals of the new Treasurer, Garry Wallace, on corporate governance, financial planning, electronic business and the Treasurer's role. The general principles were agreed to be sensible and constructive; the specific detail would be discussed further in September.

Health issues meant that Neil Beck was unlikely to be able to manage ACS Sales for much longer; alternative solutions were discussed.

The committee were pleased to hear that Adam McKie, the student at Royal Holloway whose research into women's cricket between the wars had been sponsored by the ACS, was to be sponsored by another body to research women's sport in the same period. He hoped to publish his work on women's cricket through the ACS once it had been approved by the university.

The committee agreed to remove the requirement for users of the ACS Online Records to register. Two-thirds of the registered users were not ACS members; they would be asked if they would like to join. Users should also be encouraged to report possible errors in the records.

The dates for the next committee meetings are 24 September, 3 December, 14 January, 25 March and 10 June. Any member wishing to raise any matter should contact the Secretary.

Membership Update

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Mr A.K.Carter of Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire

Mr A.R.H.Clarke of Croxley Green, Hertfordshire

Mr S.Hill of Caythorpe, Nottinghamshire

We regret to announce the death of the following members for whom we offer our condolences to their family and friends:

Mr N.W.Lenton, late of Purley, Surrey

Mr A.G.Moore, late of Gnosall, Staffordshire