



## ACS MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN

### No. 33 – May 2019

#### New! Book Discount Scheme for ACS members

As announced at the recent AGM, from 1 May 2019 the ACS is introducing a new 'voucher' scheme, entitling each member to a discount, once a year, on an order of books placed through ACS Sales. For the current year, the value of this voucher is £7.00.

Enclosed with this mailing is a detailed note explaining more about this scheme, and how it works. We would encourage all members to read this note, and to hang on to it in case you want to refer to it again in future.

May we remind you that your voucher can be used towards the cost of our past publications as well as new ones. So how about having a look at our complete catalogue in the ACS Shop (available from [www.acscricket.com](http://www.acscricket.com)), to see what takes your fancy?

#### Committee vacancy

At the AGM in March, the committee sadly bade farewell to Harriet Monkhouse, who had been a committee member since 1996 but who has decided to stand down to allow herself more time for her many other interests.

This means that there is now one vacancy on the committee. Such vacancies are usually filled by an election held early in the year, but the committee can also co-opt a member to fill a gap if the right person comes along. Are you interested in joining the committee and sharing the challenges of running a small but diverse organisation? Better still, are you able to bring professional experience that could help us to run the ACS for the best benefit of its members? If you are, please let the Secretary know **before the end of May**.

We would ask you to do this even if you have already given an informal indication that you might be interested in joining us. Thank you!

If you would like to find out a little more about what might be involved, then again, please contact the Secretary. He can be reached by email at [secretary@acscricket.com](mailto:secretary@acscricket.com)

#### Calling all authors!

We are always on the lookout for more new books that might be worthy of publication, either in print or online. The committee is taking steps to explore in more detail the sort of subjects that might be of interest for further volumes in our 'Lives in Cricket' and 'Cricket Witness' series. We are also interested in books that do not necessarily fall conveniently into one of those series, so long as they address an interesting aspect of cricket statistics or history (or a combination of the two).

If you are already doing some research with a view to preparing a book that you think might be of interest to ACS members and others – or even if you're just at the 'thinking about it' stage – please let us know, by contacting the Secretary at the address above. We cannot promise that we will accept all titles that are offered to us – as the Treasurer has explained at the last two AGMs; we are having to adopt a rather harder-nosed attitude to deciding on new publications than in the past. However, we can promise that all suggestions will be carefully considered, and well-written books on interesting subjects that look as though they will at least cover their costs will be likely to be supported.

In addition, do not forget that **grants are available** to contribute to the cost of your research. For more information on our grants procedure, please contact the Treasurer at [treasurer@acscricket.com](mailto:treasurer@acscricket.com)

#### Publications

We are pleased to announce that the previously-delayed publications *ACS International Cricket Year Book 2019* and the *ACS Overseas First-Class Annual 2018* are now available for purchase.

The first part of Derek Carlaw's mammoth *A to Z of Kent Cricketers* is now available for viewing in the research section of the ACS website. It provides detailed biographical information about the 524 cricketers who made their debuts for Kent in first-class or 'important' matches between 1806 and 1914. This superb resource, which is based on the results of more than ten years' research, has already been reviewed very favourably.

#### Committee Meeting Reports

**The fourth meeting of 2018/19** was held at the Space Centre, St Pancras, London, on Saturday 24 November. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay, Simon Sweetman and Garry Wallace.

The President, David Kendix, attended the committee to brief members on the ICC's plans to modify the classification of 50-over cricket between international teams and the ECB's thoughts on the appropriate statistical treatment of matches in the new limited-overs format, The Hundred.

ACS officers had met Jim Hindson of Cricket Archive and were told that steps to expand the ACS Online Records were to be taken over the next year.

Officers were actively exploring ways of increasing contact between the ACS and other groups of cricket lovers, including the cricket societies and the Cricket Memorabilia Society.

The committee approved in principle Peter Griffiths' proposal to upgrade the online shop, so that it would include facilities such as the ability to offer vouchers for members.

The Chairman, Keith Walmsley, reported that Jeremy Lonsdale's book on Yorkshire cricket in the late 19th century, *A Game Taken Seriously*, had reached a shortlist of five for the British Society of Sports History's Lord Aberdare Literary Prize, though it had not gone on to win.

Adam McKie reported on MCC's plans for an exhibition on women's cricket in 2020.

**The fifth meeting of 2018/19** was held at the Space Centre, St Pancras, London, on Saturday 26 January. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay, Harriet Monkhouse and Mark Rowe.

The committee had sent formal congratulations to former ACS Secretary Peter Wynne-Thomas, who had been awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year Honours.

Andrew Hignell reported on a proposal to use PCS Pro to provide a public online resource for county cricket, sponsored by the ECB. This would show a current scorecard, ball-by-ball scores, a video feed, statistics and records for each county match in progress; the ACS might be able to help by finding volunteers to work on the statistics and records section.

Derek Carlaw's A to Z of Kent Cricketers had now been set by Peter Griffiths and would soon be placed on the ACS website in pdf format.

The committee agreed to review the current contract with City Press Leeds to reflect changes in the workload required in handling ACS stock and processing sales.

Royal Holloway (University of London) had agreed that the ACS money left over from sponsoring Adam McKie's research on women's cricket could be used to support the MCC exhibition on women's cricket in 2020, which Mr McKie was helping to organise.

**The first meeting of 2019/20** was held at the Space Centre, St Pancras, London, on Saturday 30 March. Apologies were received from Andrew Hignell (Secretary), Ric Finlay and Mark Rowe.

The Committee assigned roles for 2019/20, including the re-election of Keith Walmsley as Chairman for a further year.

The Committee received the report of a visit paid on 8 March by Garry Wallace (Treasurer) and John Bryant to City Press Leeds (CPL), to discuss various aspects of CPL's work with the Association in printing most of its books and running the sales and distribution. The Committee agreed the terms of a new three-year agreement with CPL for handling sales, and reviewed a number of technical issues about book production.

The Committee finalized details of the voucher scheme, which is to replace the free book, and agreed the terms of a leaflet to go out with the May mailing explaining details of the scheme.

There was discussion about the possibility of reducing the frequency of the Journal to three issues annually instead of four, although if this proposal were adopted the number of pages in each issue would be increased so that the overall value to members would be maintained. The saving in costs (about £2000) could be used to provide improved benefits to members. The Committee agreed to maintain the current frequency of the Journal for the present, but to keep the idea under review and to refer to it in the Committee summary so that members are aware that it is under consideration.

The Committee considered the forthcoming programme of publications, noting that fewer members are coming forward with proposals for biographies.

Following the retirement of Harriet Monkhouse, it was noted that there is a vacancy on the Committee; it was agreed that this should be the subject of a notice in the Membership Bulletin.

The dates for forthcoming Committee meetings are 22 June, 28 September, 30 November, 25 January and 28 March. **The 2020 AGM will be on 21 March.** Any member wishing to raise any matter should contact the Secretary.

## ACS Sales agreement with City Press Leeds

ACS first started working on an interim basis with City Press Leeds (CPL) in July 2016 when CPL took over the stock of ACS publications. In April 2017, ACS entered into a two-year agreement with CPL to undertake the full ACS sales function including the management of customer orders and despatches, stock control of ACS publications and recording of sales transactions. One result of this partnership has been an improvement in delivery times and a quick response to customer queries, which we hope has improved the overall customer experience.

We are now pleased to report that ACS has recently signed a new three-year agreement with CPL whereby CPL will continue to manage ACS sales, distribution and stock control functions on behalf of ACS.

CPL are a key partner in typesetting and printing of ACS publications in addition to their work supporting the ACS sales functions.

## Direct Debits

As part of its efforts to improve administrative efficiency and reduce costs the Committee has over the past three years consistently promoted the benefits of members paying their annual subscriptions by direct debit. This is a win-win for both parties - the member saves £2 on their subscription rate, avoids postage costs and meets the due date for payment; the Association receives subscriptions on time, at a very minimal cost and without the need to undertake time-consuming follow-up. The Committee is highly appreciative of the extremely strong support that members have given to this initiative such that, for the current ACS year, over 54% of members now use the direct debit process. We would encourage other ACS members who have not yet embraced the direct debit option to consider doing so. Direct debit forms can be downloaded from the ACS website or can be requested from the Membership Secretary, Huw Nathan.

A further 6% of members resident in Australia and New Zealand utilise the coordination services of our Australian wholesale distributor, Roger Page, for paying their subscriptions. This arrangement is efficient for both the member and for ACS. For any Australasian member who would like to consider this possibility we would be pleased to put you in touch with Roger.

## Membership Update

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Michael Arrowsmith, Charlie Bryant, Gerald Butler, Terry Crump, Sam Dyer, Kevin Gibson, David Glynn, Chris Golding, David Harper, Sam Juthani, Duncan Mackay, Will Milburn, Tim Morgan-Fletcher, Derek Noakes, Tim Seys, Jack Taylor, James Thomson, David Tran, James Whiteley and Christopher Williams .

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

Stephen Allanson, Thomas Mulholland and Peter Tinsley.

## How to contact the ACS

**Journal enquiries** to the Journal Editor Simon Sweetman

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Telephone +44 (0)7779 324769

**Publications and Sales enquiries** to the Sales Officer John Anderson

Email [sales@acscricket.com](mailto:sales@acscricket.com)

Telephone +44 (0)113 278 4286

**Website enquiries** to the Webmaster Harriet Monkhouse

Email [webmaster@acscricket.com](mailto:webmaster@acscricket.com)

**General enquiries** to the Secretary Andrew Hignell

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