



## ACS MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN

No. 40 – August 2021

### Peter Wynne-Thomas BEM 1934–2021

The Association was deeply saddened to hear of the recent death of our dear friend Peter Wynne-Thomas, who served the Association and its members from our foundation in 1973, and was our Secretary for 32 years.

An opportunity for members to offer their tributes to Peter will be given at a virtual meeting on 25 September. More is said of this below.

### Virtual members' meeting to be held on 25 September

A virtual meeting of members is to be held on Saturday 25 September at 10.30 (BST). The meeting will begin as a formal Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association, called for the purpose of considering and, if agreed, adopting the complete new set of Rules of the Association as set out in the separate booklet that is enclosed with the current members' mailing.

In accordance with the current Rules of the Association, formal notice of the Extraordinary General Meeting is given separately below.

When the business of the EGM has been completed and the EGM has been closed, the virtual meeting will continue as a separate session in memory of our late friend Peter Wynne-Thomas, with tributes and memories from members of the committee, from ordinary members of the Association, and from others who knew and worked with Peter.

Any members wishing to contribute their own memories to this tribute session are asked to contact the Secretary as soon as possible, please.

The committee hopes to arrange a further virtual members' meeting before the end of the year. Further details will be notified to members in due course.

### Notice of Extraordinary General Meeting

An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the members of the Association will be held virtually via Zoom on Saturday 25 September 2021, beginning at 10.30 am (BST). The purpose of the meeting will be to consider and, if approved, adopt the revision to the Association's Rules as circulated to members in August 2021.

Members wishing to attend the EGM are asked to confirm their attendance by sending an email to the Secretary ([secretary@acscricket.com](mailto:secretary@acscricket.com)) by Saturday 18 September 2021. This will enable further information on voting at the EGM, as well as log-in details, to be sent out ahead of the meeting.

Please send by letter or email, also by 18 September, any questions regarding the proposed revision to the Rules that you would like to be raised at the meeting.

**Andrew Hignell – Hon Secretary**

### Committee elections

Nominations from members who wish to stand for election to the ACS General Committee must be received no later than 15 November 2021. Four committee places will be up for election at the 2022 AGM, and a ballot will be held if more than four people put themselves forward.

The committee now meets regularly via Zoom, enabling those from outside the UK to participate fully in its meetings. So please do not let distance discourage you from putting yourself forward. Nominations should be sent, either in writing or in a signed scanned letter, to the Secretary, Andrew Hignell, at 41 Ramsons Way, St Fagan's, Cardiff CF5 4QY, UK, or by email to [secretary@acscricket.com](mailto:secretary@acscricket.com). They must include the names and signatures of a proposer and seconder, who must also be current members of the ACS.

### ACS Digital Membership

In the May 2021 Bulletin members were provided with full details of the digital membership option that will be available for the 2021/22 membership year. For those members who may be interested in participating, some of the key points are listed below:

- **Members wishing to change to the digital option should notify the Membership Secretary by email or by post no later than 30 September 2021.**
- The digital option will be applicable for a complete subscription year. Members are at liberty to revert from digital membership back to regular membership for the following membership year if they wish to do so.
- There will be a common global subscription rate for digital membership of £25. The £2 incentive for payment of annual subscriptions by direct debit will remain for all classes of membership (other than Junior membership), so digital members paying by direct debit will pay a reduced global rate of £23.
- Members who wish to start receiving electronic versions of the quarterly mailings immediately (effective for the November 2021 mailing) in place of hard copies are entitled to request this option from the Membership Secretary right away. Please note, though, that there can be no reduction in subscription rates until the next membership year, which begins in December 2021.

Members are encouraged to contact the Membership Secretary if they have any further questions regarding digital membership.

### Annual Book Discount Scheme ('Voucher') for ACS publications

Members are reminded that the voucher code **value21** for the current year will only be usable until 30 November 2021, and the voucher entitlement for 2020/21 will then expire. The £8 value of this year's voucher cannot be carried forward beyond 30 November, so members who have not already done so are encouraged to use their 2020/21 voucher as soon as possible.

We hope that the value of this voucher will encourage more members to make use of it to buy ACS publications.

### Special Offer for David Frith's "Paddington Boy"

Following the well-received An Evening with David Frith in June, the publishers of his autobiography *Paddington Boy* have extended a special offer to ACS members.

If members order directly from his publisher using the form <http://cricmash.com/order-form-paddo-boy> a discounted price is available for members who quote **ACS** in the Additional Details section. The prices include postage for the following countries:

- United Kingdom £14
- European Union €16
- Australia \$22
- Canada \$21
- United States of America \$17

Any additional enquiries should be directed to Adrian Runswick [adrian@cricmash.com](mailto:adrian@cricmash.com)

## The Neville Cardus Archive

There is a highly respected Neville Cardus Archive newsletter, which is available from its archivist Rev Malcolm Lorimer. Further details are available by email [maxcricket@btinternet.com](mailto:maxcricket@btinternet.com)

## Committee Meeting Reports

**The second General Committee meeting of 2021/22 took place on a virtual basis on Wednesday 5 May.** Following the Committee's appeal for help, it decided to ask Peter Hardy to join as a co-opted member after two individuals expressed an interest in the role. Strong cases were made for both members and it wished to thank them for their offers of assistance. It was also updated on its appeal for volunteers in the areas of marketing, website management, social media and proofreading.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the possibility of creating an interactive database, which would provide the Association with original statistical content for social media and potentially appeal to a younger audience. It was agreed that a Development sub-group would be formed to explore this matter, led by Ric Finlay, as well as a separate Records sub-group overseen by Keith Walmsley.

The Treasurer reported that he expected a smaller surplus in the 2021/22 financial year due to declining membership and decreased publication sales.

The Committee agreed the latest round of recommendations made by the Statistics Logistics sub-group, including the status of The Hundred. It also agreed a Style Guide amendment concerning the use of offensive or derogatory language, and explored comparative typesetting and printing costs by alternative publishers for future publications.

Finally, the Committee discussed the bequest of the late Mr Peter Wilkinson of Cheadle, Cheshire. Steps were agreed on how to deal with the bequest, with the hope of agreeing a blueprint for future instances, and Peter Griffiths was thanked for his efforts in dealing with this matter.

**The third General Committee meeting of 2021/22 took place on a virtual basis on Saturday 12 June.** It warmly welcomed Peter Hardy on to the committee and thanked him for volunteering in the role.

A lengthy discussion took place related to the disposal of the bequest to the Association by the late Peter Wilkinson of a large collection of books and other documents, plus memorabilia. The sale of this material had been overseen by the Executive Committee, and the Chair noted that the exercise (which was not yet complete) had been very beneficial to the Association and he was extremely grateful for the voluntary input that allowed this to take place. The Treasurer anticipated that proceeds from the sale would be likely to exceed £4,000 once fully completed later in the year. The committee discussed various aspects of the process that went well, and areas that could be improved upon, including a complaint received from one member. It agreed that a pragmatic approach to future bequests would be adopted, and that it would draft a policy statement on the matter that, once accepted, would feature online and in the ACS bulletin. The merits of establishing a members' 'Exchange and Mart' were also considered and it was agreed to continue exploring this idea.

The Treasurer reported that strong sales in May had helped the Association reach record low levels of stock, but nonetheless current holdings represented over £35,000 of forgone revenue. Consequently, the committee agreed several proposals put forward by the Treasurer in order to further reduce the Association's aged stock.

The committee discussed the progress of its various sub-groups, including plans for a web-based interactive database (Development and Records sub-groups), positive developments related to statistical aspects of The Hundred (Statistics Logistics sub-group), and a substantial expansion of the records section of the website dealing with Women's Test Cricket (Records sub-group). It also agreed to form a Website sub-group.

**The fourth General Committee meeting of 2021/22 took place on a virtual basis on Saturday 17 July.** It was with great sadness that the Chair reported to have received news of the death of Peter Wynne-Thomas, BEM (1934-2021). A moment of silence was held prior to the start of the meeting.

The committee was updated on the financial position of the Peter Wilkinson bequest and agreed a proposal by the Treasurer and Mr Griffiths on how to sell the approximately 240 scorecards from the bequest, implementing lessons learned from the previous auction. It agreed to work towards a policy statement regarding bequests.

Mr Walmsley informed the committee of comments he had received regarding the proposed revision to the Rules of the Association, and a few small amendments were agreed upon. The committee consequently formally endorsed the revised Rules of the Association and recommended them for approval at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association, which was agreed to be held virtually on Saturday 25 September at 10.30am BST. It was decided that following the EGM a virtual members meeting would be held, which would take the form of a tribute to Mr Wynne-Thomas. A temporary sub-group was formed to consider the matter, while a special edition of the journal dedicated to Mr Wynne-Thomas was also discussed.

The Treasurer circulated data and a report on major ACS statistical series that had been published over the previous five years, in preparation for the committee's strategy meeting in September. The report explained that sales of these series had experienced a gradual but consistent downward trend, and the committee was urged to consider the future of these publications.

Updates were heard from its various sub-groups, including improvements to the records section of the website (Records sub-group), statistical considerations regarding The Hundred, including the development of a 'Batting Impact' metric (Statistics Logistics sub-group), and increasing numbers of volunteers willing to tweet for the Association (Social Media sub-group). As was routine, it also debated various proposals for new publications and heard updates on forthcoming and future publications.

The next meetings will take place on 10 August, 10 September, 11 September, 16 October, 20 November and 18 December.

## Membership Update

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Shaaon Bhattacharya, Iftekhar Khan, Richard O'Hagan and Harshil Shah.

The Association extends its deepest sympathy to the bereaved families of the recently deceased members:

Johnny Bruce, James Cook, Murray Hedgcock, David Missen, Don Rogers and Peter Wynne-Thomas.