

ACS MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN NO 7 - JUNE 2010



Reports of Committee Meetings

27 March 2010

The first meeting of 2010/11 was held at the Gateway Centre, Derby, on Saturday, 27 March after the AGM. All current committee members attended, Ric Finlay having travelled from Tasmania. Peter Wynne-Thomas and Peter Griffiths also attended the first part of the meeting.

David Kendix was re-elected Chairman for the coming year.

Mr Wynne-Thomas outlined a proposed history of cricket statisticians and historians covering more than two centuries. It was hoped to publish this in 2011.

Peter Griffiths discussed his work as Publication Production Manager, highlighting the need for improvements in proof-reading and for submissions to him to meet agreed timescales.

Committee members agreed to write updated pages covering all areas of the new ACS website.

Howard Clayton, the England Under-19 and Leeds/Bradford UCCE scorer, was appointed editor of the Second Eleven Annual, to take over from Keith Gerrish during the 2010 season.

The London Meeting with MCC Secretary Keith Bradshaw had been a success, but overcrowded. Consideration was given to finding a larger venue for the future.

10 April 2010

The second meeting of 2010/11 was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday, 10 April. Apologies were received from the Secretary, Andrew Hignell.

Work was progressing on the upgrade of the ACS website, which should be ready for its relaunch within a couple of months.

The committee discussed issues of business risks and personal indemnity as raised at the AGM, and decided to reduce the Association's potential exposure by tightening its guidelines to guard against copyright infringement and other legal risks.

John Bryant outlined progress on the book of 18th-century scores, for which MCC had offered illustrations, and a possible follow-up on 18th-century grounds. Keith Walmsley had offered to edit a book of SACBOC scores, and Roy Morgan to work on a book of ICC Intercontinental Cup scores.

The AGM at Derby was agreed to have been a success logistically, and returning there for the 2011 AGM was under consideration. Plans were made for a further members' meeting in London in November.

The dates for the next committee meetings are 10 July and 25 September. Any member wishing to raise any matter should contact the Secretary.

LONDON MEETING – 20 February 2010

48 members of the Association gathered from 12 noon in the upstairs function room of 'The Yorkshire Grey', off Grays Inn Road in central London. After a buffet lunch, John Bryant welcomed everyone to the first London meeting for several years, before David Kendix introduced Keith Bradshaw, the Chief Executive of MCC who was the main speaker. Keith, who had been a contemporary in Australian cricket with the likes of Steve Waugh, Allan Border and David Boon, spoke initially about his experiences of playing for Tasmania, and his twin ambitions of wearing a 'baggy green' and playing for Australia at Lord's. Whilst he never achieved either as a player, he has now realised his dream of working at what he described as 'one of the most wonderful places on the Earth'.

Keith, in response to a series of probing questions from David, spoke about his job interview with MCC, his early days at Lord's and his views on the role of MCC in the governance of the world game, as well as its role within English cricket. He spoke eloquently about the plans for the development of Lord's, the trial with pink balls, the possibility of day-night Test cricket, hosting neutral Tests at Lord's and the allocation of Test matches.

He then answered a number of questions from the audience which amongst other things covered the balance between Twenty20, four-day and Test cricket, elite players preferring to play in Twenty20 competitions rather than Test matches, the Spirit of Cricket, the missionary work of MCC, the need for a Test cricket championship, the long-term future of 50-overs cricket, ticket incentives, and cricket in state schools.

After a short interval, the second part of the meeting involved an informal Q&A session with various members of the committee. A number of issues were raised, in particular the supplement for the List A book. From a show of hands, a majority of those attending the meeting supported the committee's decision to make the supplement available on request, rather than sending a supplement to all members and incurring further additional costs.

Another question was raised about the status of certain matches, especially the 'Test' match between Australia and an ICC XI. David Kendix reassured everyone that the ACS did have a voice within the ICC over the classification of all matches, including List A games. Further matters raised included the ACS website, scorecard-based publications, an appeal for a new Editor of the Second Eleven Annual, the resurrection of the 1846 Project, the availability of research grants and an updated members tie.

The meeting closed at 4pm, with David Kendix formally thanking John Bryant for his efforts in arranging such a successful meeting.

Website

After an extremely long and painful gestation period, our new website is nearly ready for launch. We will send an email on the great day to those for whom we have addresses. As well as becoming a suitable marketing vehicle for our activities, it will also allow members to buy our publications online. Of course this will be as well as, not instead of, all the current ways that are available. We will never forget that many members are not email or internet users and will continue to want to order by post.

The website will in due course have an enhanced Members Area, where we will be happy to place research that might not, for whatever reason, fit in *The Cricket Statistician*. It will also contain announcements of upcoming membership events and publications. Inevitably, the website's long-term success will ultimately depend on the use that members choose to make of it.

Founder Members

We would like to congratulate the 13 founder members (from the 30 who attended the inaugural meeting on 3 March 1973 at Edgbaston) who are still with the Association today. They are:

PC Banham, CJ Bartlett, RW Brooke, DR Gallagher, PR Handford, BJ Heald, DA Lambert, GL Prior, NW Rogers, MG Taylor, AJ Webb, RD Wilkinson and P Wynne-Thomas.

Committee Vacancy

There remains a vacancy on the Committee, and the Committee would like to co-opt somebody who can give some thought to marketing, which remains an area where we feel we are weak. Will anybody who believes they can help please contact the Chairman.

Free Book for 2010

We are pleased to offer you Douglas Miller's book on Jack Bond, the latest publication in the Lives in Cricket series.

Membership Update

We extend a warm welcome to the following 14 new members:

Prof G.S.Burgess, Alsager, Staffordshire
Mr R.J.Cousins, Amersham, Buckinghamshire
Mr J.Eyes, Wadsley, South Yorkshire
Mr F.C.German, Herne Hill, London
Miss C.Hewitson, St John's Wood, London
Mr M.Hopton, Great Chesterford, Essex
Mr R.M.Horn, Lightcliffe, West Yorkshire

Mr A.D.Lamber, Doncaster, Australia
Miss S.V.J.Nathan, Haywards Heath, Sussex
Mr C.R.Pindar, Stafford, Staffordshire
Mr I.A.Rauch, Chartham, Kent
Mr G.R.Robinson, Hornchurch, Essex
Mr P.Andrew Smith, Ripponden, West Yorkshire
Mr J. Varma, Mumbai, India