

# ACS MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN NO 12 - DECEMBER 2011



## London Meeting

This year's ACS London meeting was held on 26 November at the Yorkshire Grey public house in Holborn. It was attended by around 40 members in addition to Frank Duckworth and Tony Lewis, creators of the eponymous method for generating adjusted targets in interrupted limited-overs matches.

After an excellent sandwich lunch provided by the Yorkshire Grey, David Kendix introduced our guest speakers. Frank and Tony delivered an informative and entertaining presentation, describing the perverse results sometimes generated by earlier rules based on faster scoring rate and outlining, with worked examples, their alternative approach based on the concept of the "run-scoring resources" of a batting side, i.e. the number of wickets and overs available before the innings comes to an end. They talked about the evolution of their method and their efforts to secure its acceptance by the cricket authorities.

The need for a better way of adjusting targets had become acute after a number of high-profile problems with earlier approaches, including most notably the 1992 World Cup semi-final when, after a brief interruption, South Africa's target changed from 22 runs from 13 balls to the same 22 runs but from just one ball. Following this fiasco, a number of alternatives were suggested and Duckworth/Lewis had its first official application on New Year's Day, 1997, during England's tour of Zimbabwe. It was used in English domestic cricket in 1997 and from that point secured rapid acceptance, now being used in all international limited-overs matches and in most domestic competitions throughout the world.

During the Q&A session that followed the formal presentation, Frank and Tony stressed the applicability of their method to all types of limited-overs cricket, including of course T20. They also talked about the impact of PowerPlays and similar innovations. Questions continued so long that the usual discussion of ACS matters was unfortunately crowded out but as the meeting was closed by ACS Chairman Roger Moulton (who had earlier admitted his struggles with O-level maths), all seemed pleased with a thoroughly enjoyable gathering.

## **Stock Clearance Sale**

ACS Sales has run out of space. We have huge numbers of past publications that have accumulated over the years and now need to go to make way for newer materials. Therefore, all but a handful of each older title will soon be thrown away, or rather sent for recycling. Just before we do this, we are giving members one last chance to acquire these books at prices which, in most cases, cover little more than the cost of postage and packaging within the UK. For overseas orders, a higher than usual uplift to the postage is required; £5 for any orders up to £10 and 50% for orders over £10.

Newer members may discover a whole range of titles unfamiliar to them, with a wealth of historical or statistical research, giving them a chance to build their library at negligible cost.

Please look at the enclosed stock clearance flyer and see if there are any books you would like at prices that won't be repeated, simply because the stock will no longer exist. The deadline for receipt of orders is 31 January 2012, at which point all unsold items will be destroyed.

Please note also that orders can only be made using the enclosed order form; they are not being sold through our online shop at [acscricket.com](http://acscricket.com). More recent titles, not part of the stock clearance, remain available online.

## **Cricket's Historians - DeLuxe Edition**

As mentioned in the previous membership bulletin, for the first time the ACS is producing two versions of a publication, a standard edition and a deluxe limited edition. Please see the enclosed new publication flyer for details of this opportunity to acquire what we expect to become a collectors' item.

In order to give all members an equal opportunity to subscribe for the deluxe edition, regardless of when they receive this mailing, special arrangements have been put in place. No orders will be fulfilled until Friday 6 January. On that date, if the book is over-subscribed, a ballot will be held. (Anyone ordering multiple copies will be entered into the ballot the corresponding number of times.) If there are fewer orders than available copies, they will all be despatched on or shortly after that date, with further orders being accepted in the usual way.

Those ordering the deluxe edition along with other books will have their remaining order fulfilled immediately as usual – they will not need to wait until January for other titles.

Please note that the order form asks what arrangements should be followed, with regard to your payment, should you miss out in any ballot. Please delete the options as appropriate.

## **2012 Annual General Meeting**

The AGM will take place at the County Ground, Derby on Saturday 31 March. Further details about the timings and a booking form for the Annual Lunch will follow in the next mailing. It is hoped that, as in 2011, reduced price accommodation will be available in the Days Inn Hotel adjacent to the cricket ground, plus an informal gathering of members and an evening meal on the evening of Friday 30 March.

## Lives in Cricket

Keen-eyed readers will notice that new issues in the Association's regular series are being typeset by City Press of Leeds rather than by Limlow Books, following Pete Griffiths' decision to step down as the series typesetter. We owe special thanks to Pete for his attention to the detail of typesetting; he has played an important part in establishing the 'look' of the series over its first 20 issues. City Press, who also print the series, have been appointed after a tendering process.

Though typesetting and printing are, of course, commercial transactions, much of the business of producing the series still lies in the hands of volunteers. Their contribution varies from issue to issue. In the five books the Association published in 2011 this has, among other things, taken the form of pictures, statistical advice, information from 'local experts', proofreading, and indexing. Without their input, the series would quite simply not exist; authors and editors owe much to their help. Helpers in the form of authors, editors or in these other ways are always welcomed; please make yourself known to [livesincricket@acscricket.com](mailto:livesincricket@acscricket.com)

The series is now in its fourth year, but has at last started to attract the regular attention of 'outside' reviewers. Rob Brooke's book on Frank Foster, *The Fields Were Sudden Bare*, has been particularly well received. The committee hopes that the two latest offerings, from established writers Keith Booth on Walter Read and Andrew Hignell on Jack Mercer, will bring pleasure to readers and satisfy critics.

For 2012, the committee has agreed to publish seven books in the series, two issues in almost every quarter, a 'big ask' in cricket vernacular. The subjects to be covered in the next 12 months are diverse. They include Edgar Willsher, Tom Richardson (in the centenary of his death), 'Hex' Hesketh-Prichard (who introduced sniping into the trenches of Flanders), Charles Llewellyn of South Africa, and perhaps an Australian or two. Keith Walmsley will be writing on *Brief Candles*, 'one-match wonders' who have led extraordinary lives away from the game. We are starting to line up books for 2013.

## Subscription Reminder

Your annual Membership Subscription became due on 1 December 2011 and runs for one year until 30 November 2012. It remains at £16 in the UK and £20 Overseas (with a junior rate of £9 for members below the age of 18). If you have not already renewed, please complete and return the form (which is included within your mailing) with a cheque payable to 'ACS'. Renewals can also be made using PayPal through the ACS Shop.

If you are not intending to renew, will you please return the form, so we can amend our records. If your subscription remains unpaid on 1 March 2012, your membership will lapse with immediate effect.

## Committee Meeting Report

(Excluding items already covered elsewhere in this bulletin)

The fourth meeting of 2011/12 was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 24 September. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay and David Jeater.

The committee received and accepted a proposal from CricketArchive to digitise back copies of the ACS Journal, to be available via the website, with a searchable index.

It was agreed to renew the contract with Limlow, covering ACS sales and mailings, for a further two years from 2012.

The committee expressed sadness at the news that illness would force Tony Webb to step down as editor of the *Minor Counties* series.

It was agreed that committee members whose travelling expenses within the UK were not adequately reflected by the current rate of 15p a mile could submit receipts for their actual travel for the Treasurer to consider.

The dates for the next committee meetings are 3 December and 28 January. Any member wishing to raise any matter should contact the Secretary.

## Membership Update

We extend a warm welcome to the following 17 new members:

Mr A.Baird	Ayr, South Ayrshire	Mr J.Pitt	Fairford, Gloucestershire
Mr M.C.Barnett	Sidmouth, Devon	Sir J.Sparrow	Padbury, Buckinghamshire
Mr C.Burt	Milton Keynes, Bucks	Dr H.Spencer	London NW1
Prof P.Davies	Shelley, West Yorkshire	Mr R.W.Thomas	Wandsworth, London
Mr G.Dawson	London NW1	Mr N.Tudball	St John's Wood, London
Mr P.H.Jolly	Woodbridge, Suffolk	Mr S.Ward	Bircotes, South Yorkshire
Mr C.Law	Harrogate, North Yorkshire	Mr S.Williams	Boscombe, Dorset
Mr A.D.Penfold	South Croydon, Surrey	Mr J.D.W.Wright	Codicote, Hertfordshire
Mr P.G.Phipp	Bath, Somerset		

We require a change of address from the following two members:

Mr H.N.Chant	formerly of Horsforth, West Yorkshire	Mr P.T.Cresswell	formerly of East Harling, Norfolk
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We regret to announce the death of the following member:

Mr D.Richmond	late of Wallasey, Cheshire
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