

ACS MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN NO 13 - JUNE 2012



Minor Counties Championship Match Scores Project

Now that Tony Webb has stood down as Project Coordinator, the team involved in this project are seeking extra pairs of hands to assist in the production of authoritative match scores for the period until 1914. A dozen high-quality annuals have already been published and the team are now about to embark on a volume for 1907.

Amongst the tasks with which the team are seeking assistance are:

- Visits to Colindale or local libraries/record offices/local studies to check scores in newspapers
- Writing biographies for notable Minor County players and administrators at their retirement or upon reaching a milestone for their county
- The summary County Page for each team
- Checking statistical summaries for the season
- Proof reading of the annuals

Do you have an interest in a particular Minor County? While we do have most counties covered, there are still some gaps. Would you be able to help with any of the above items?

If you would like to get involved with this project, even in a small way, please contact Julian Lawton Smith on 01865 768258 or email at lawtonsmith@supanet.com.

Future meetings

The 2013 AGM will be held at the County Ground in Derby on Saturday 23 March. Further details will follow in subsequent mailings.

To mark the 40th anniversary of the Association, some members suggested a return to Edgbaston, a regular venue for the first half of our existence. This was investigated, but having compared the respective costs, the committee felt that the arrangements at Derby, including discounted overnight accommodation at the adjacent hotel, still offered excellent value for money.

It is hoped to hold a meeting in London in early November at the same venue as in recent years. The date will be confirmed as soon as a guest speaker has been secured and members notified through the bulletin, website and email forum.

Digitised journals

We are delighted to announce that the project to digitise past issues of The Cricket Statistician, making them available on the ACS website and through CricketArchive, has now been completed. Thanks to the initiative and efforts of Pete Griffiths, the first 144 issues covering the period 1973-2008 can now be accessed at <http://stats.acscricket.com/journals>. Later editions will be added three years in arrears, keeping more recent issues exclusively in paper form for members.

Paypal

Overseas members are reminded that the Association can now accept payments for annual subscriptions or for publications through Paypal. In some cases, this may prove to be a more efficient and cost effective way of making payments. Please visit the ACS shop on our website. If you have any difficulties completing an order with Paypal, please contact sales@acscricket.com providing as much detail as possible and they will try to assist you.

Committee Meeting reports

The fifth meeting of 2011/12 was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 3 December. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay, Andrew Hignell and Simon Sweetman.

The committee heard that HMRC had accepted ACS membership subscriptions should be zero-rated for VAT, and this would be backdated for four years. A refund of £7,000 had been received, and there should be a further saving of £1,700 for the current year. The money would be used to halve a proposed rise in the subscription rate, which had been frozen for ten years.

The members' meeting with Frank Duckworth and Tony Lewis the previous weekend had been a success.

Copies of Peter Wynne-Thomas' Cricket Historians had now arrived, and arrangements had been made for a ballot for the de luxe edition if it was oversubscribed.

A sale of surplus stock was under way.

An editor was still being sought for the Minor Counties series after Tony Webb stepped down.

A project to digitise past issues of The Cricket Statistician and make them available on the ACS website and through CricketArchive was approved.

The sixth meeting of 2011/12 was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 28 January. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay and Harriet Monkhouse.

The Treasurer reported that the Association made a £4,300 surplus on its operations in the year ending 30 November 2011, but this was entirely attributable to a substantial refund of VAT payments from HMRC. The committee agreed to recommend to the AGM that subscriptions for the year 2012/13 should be increased, with that for adult UK membership rising from £16 to £18, the first increase since 2002.

Sales of many ACS publications had been buoyant in the preceding quarter. The de luxe edition of Peter Wynne-Thomas' Cricket Historians had been oversubscribed, a 'double-blind' ballot had been held, and copies were being sent out to successful participants. A sale of surplus stock had disposed of almost 1,200 items. In addition to the Journal, some 18 publications would be issued over the next 12 months, including scores for first-class matches in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe in 2006/07, filling a gap in the market.

In response to an ECB enquiry, it was agreed to confirm the ACS stance that balls faced by a batsman should include no-balls but not wides.

The arrangements for the AGM at Derby on 31 March 2012 were finalised, including the selection of the winner of the new Don Ambrose Memorial Award.

The first meeting of 2012/13 was held at the Gateway Centre, Derby, on Saturday 31 March after the AGM. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay and Andrew Hignell.

Roger Moulton was re-elected as Chairman.

Julian Lawton Smith and Tony Percival attended the first part of the meeting to discuss the future of the Minor Counties scores project now that Tony Webb had stepped down. It was hoped that his work could be split between members of the project, though more volunteers were needed.

The committee agreed that the next edition of the Overseas First-Class Annual would be published only if there were sufficient advance orders to ensure it would break even; all previous purchasers would be contacted and invited to order.

All copies of The Cricket Statistician apart from those of the past three years had now been digitised so that they could be read online.

It was agreed to reprint Peter Wynne-Thomas' Cricket's Historians.

The second meeting of 2012/13 was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 14 April. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay, Roger Gibbons and Andrew Hignell.

It was agreed to set the afternoon of every September committee meeting aside for the discussion of long-term ACS strategy, such as book pricing and sales strategy, relations with other bodies, how to attract younger members, and paper versus online publication.

Robert Brooke's F.R.Foster: The Fields Were Sudden Bare had been shortlisted for the MCC/Cricket Society Book of the Year, and ACS representatives would attend the award ceremony at Lord's on 16 April.

Possible ways forward for the County A–Z series were considered, including publication online instead of on paper because of the large amount of research involved.

The committee discussed possible ways to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the ACS in 2013.

The dates for the next committee meetings are 7 July, 22 September and 1 December. Any member wishing to raise any matter should contact the Secretary.

Membership Update

Members' Ties are now available from ACS Sales at £10 each (plus postage and packing).

We extend a warm welcome to the following 42 new members:

Mr B.Bahkt	Lahore, Pakistan	Mr M.H.L. Morris	Banbury, Oxfordshire
Mr A.Baird	Ayr, South Ayrshire	Mrs J.K.Moulton	Hurstpierpoint, Sussex
Mr J.R.Baldwin	Rookley, Isle of Wight	Mr P.Perry	Banbury, Oxfordshire
Mr M.C.Barnett	Sidmouth, Devon	Mr J.Pitt	Fairford, Gloucestershire
Mr C.I.Beech	Crowborough, East Sussex	Mr R.Popplewell	Cheltenham, Gloucs
Mr J.B.Box	Bengeo, Hertfordshire	Mr M.J.Rayner	Leamington Spa, Warks
Mr I.J.Darbyshire	Doseley, Shropshire	Mr M.J.Savage	Upper Harlestone, Northants
Prof P.Davies	Shelley, West Yorkshire	Mr N.Simpson	Broughton, Lincolnshire
Mr G.Dawson	London NW1	Mr I.M.Skidmore	Eastney, Hampshire
Mr P.Garwood	Bristol	Sir J.Sparrow	Padbury, Buckinghamshire
Ms A.Grafton	New York City, USA	Dr H.Spencer	London NW1
Mr K.Gregory	Yeovil, Somerset	Mr T.P.Stanley	East Ham, London E6
Mr R.J.C.Harvey	Nettley Abbey, Hampshire	Mr J.Stanyer	Exeter, Devon
Mr N.A.Hathway	London NW3	Mr C.Stirling	Paisley, Renfrewshire
Mr R.Hathway	Bathford, Somerset	Mr S.Ward	Bircotes, South Yorkshire
Mr P.Hendry	Spalding, Lincolnshire	Mr M.D.Warner	Warwick
Mr A.Hyde	Over, Cambridgeshire	Mr R.J.West	Buckden, Cambridgeshire
Mr M.Iqbal	Cobham, Surrey	Mr J.Winn	Little Ouseburn, North Yorks
Mr J.Keane	Didsbury, Manchester	Dr D.Woodhouse	London W1
Mr M.Lofthouse	Dalbeattie, Dumfries & Galloway	Dr D.Woods	Ironbridge, Shropshire
Mr M.A.Loveday	London SW3		
Mr R.K.Morgan	Radyr, Cardiff		

We require a change of address from the following members:

P.T.Cresswell	formerly of East Harling, Norfolk	Mr J.Stayner	formerly of Exeter, Devon
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We regret to announce the death of the following members:

Mr I.G.Hogbin	formerly of Crofton, Yorks	Mr M.C.F.Witcomb	formerly of Cheam, Surrey
Mr H.G.Wilson	formerly of Chelford, Cheshire		