

ACS MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN NO 19 - MAY 2014



ACS Records website

This was officially launched on 1 May 2014. As discussed at the AGM, the ACS Records website currently covers first-class and Test cricket, but will be extended to include limited-overs (List A and T20, both domestic and international). Not only is its depth of coverage greater than other similar records sections, it also uniquely allows readers to reorder key lists according to criteria. The site is accessed by a link on the home page of the main ACS website.

CricketArchive

While on the subject of records, please note you should send any additions or corrections to scorecards, player details, etc to scores@cricketarchive.com

2015 AGM

Members may wish to make an early note of the next AGM, which will once again take place at the County Ground, Derby, on Saturday 21 March 2015. Alternative venues for the future will be considered at the September committee meeting.

London Meeting

27 members gathered at the Yorkshire Grey pub in Holborn for the London Meeting on the afternoon of Saturday 23 November. Following a buffet lunch, a lively debate was conducted on the motion 'This Association believes that the Spirit of Cricket was and remains an artificial class-based creation'.

Opening the batting in support of the motion was Simon Sweetman, who pointed out that the 'Spirit of Cricket' as a codified entity had been devised by an Oxbridge elite, including Lord Cowdrey and Ted Dexter. For Simon, it summed up the traditional attitude of the aristocracy towards professional cricketers, and suggested that they still needed to be kept in line. He cited several historical

examples of very unsportsmanlike behaviour by the upper crust as evidence that 'the spirit of cricket' had never been a concept that was universally adhered to.

Opposing the motion was Douglas Miller, who spoke eloquently of the reasoning behind the current preamble to the Laws, and the fact that the way the game is played nowadays is mirrored by changes in society. As an umpire himself, he was a firm believer in reminding the captains before a match of their responsibilities to play the game in the right spirit, and he saw no harm in this philosophy being put in writing.

A vote was taken, with a narrow majority in favour, but after considerable friendly argument, centred especially on the Stuart Broad incident during the summer's Ashes, the opposition camp saw the verdict reversed following the summing-up speeches. David Kendix, who kindly chaired the proceedings, then brought the meeting to a close.

Research Grants

Congratulations go to Tony Percival, whose application for a research grant has been approved by the grants subcommittee. Tony will use the funds to help him compile his volume on Wiltshire cricketers. This serves as a timely reminder to all that grants of up to £750 are still available to help members with the cost of conducting original research that leads to material worthy of publication by the ACS. Please contact the Secretary (secretary@acscricket.com) for further details.

Committee Meeting Report (excluding items mentioned elsewhere)

The fourth meeting of 2013/14 was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 7 December. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay.

The London Meeting on 23 November had featured a closely-argued debate on the relevance of the Spirit of Cricket, though attendance had been lower than usual.

The committee discussed possible sponsorship of a joint research project with a university and how the Association might benefit from the results.

Simon Sweetman reported progress on a publication examining the effects of the imminent Great War on the 1914 season.

Progress on the new record section on the website had been delayed by John Bryant's work on the *Overseas First-Class Annual*, but he hoped to have it ready for launch soon.

Both the International Cricket Council and the Association of County Cricket Scorers had sought ACS advice on whether to include wides when recording the duration of partnerships (as opposed to individual innings) by deliveries; the committee felt wides should be counted.

The fifth meeting of 2013/14 was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 18 January. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay, Harriet Monkhouse and Mark Rowe.

The Secretary reported developments on a possible joint project with Royal Holloway (University of London); the creation of a digital cricket history database, which would be available to ACS members, was favoured.

John Bryant said that the first-class and Test sections of the online records site were essentially ready; he hoped it would be launched by the AGM, or if not that it could be demonstrated there.

It was agreed to explore the possibility of digitising the magazine *Cricket* (1882–1914) and making it available via a paid-for website.

The Chairman thanked David Kendix, who would leave the committee at the AGM, for his services and wise counsel over the past nine years, especially during his three years as Chairman.

The first meeting of 2014/15 was held at the Gateway Centre, Derby, on Saturday 22 March. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay and Keith Gerrish.

Giles Phillips and Mark Rowe were welcomed to their first committee meeting. Roger Moulton was re-elected as Chairman, and John Bryant was co-opted to the committee, to serve until the 2016 AGM. Committee duties and other non-committee roles were assigned for the coming year.

It was agreed to renew Limlow's contract to handle ACS sales for a further year.

The second meeting of 2014/15 was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 12 April. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay, Keith Gerrish, Roger Moulton and Mark Rowe. In Mr Moulton's absence, Andrew Hignell chaired the meeting.

Mr Hignell reported on further talks with Royal Holloway (University of London) on a possible joint research project; the history of women's cricket had been suggested as a subject. The committee also discussed whether the ACS might publish a women's cricket annual.

John Bryant reported that the online Records section should be launched shortly.

The committee expressed concern at shortcomings in PA's coverage of county cricket since they decided to stop sending reporters to matches.

The committee considered the need to find someone to handle ACS Sales when Limlow stepped down from the job.

The dates for the next committee meetings are 12 July, 13 September, 6 December and 17 January. Any member wishing to raise any matter should contact the Secretary.

Membership Update

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Mr C.R.Bennett	Northridge, USA	Mr K.Mein	London N21
Mr I.Besant	Bedford	Mr I.D.Mills	Durham
Mr W.Bradford	Baulkham Hills, Australia	Mr P.Moon	Colombo, Sri Lanka
Mr T.Bradley	Milton Damerel, Devon	Mr C.D.Morris	Cleethorpes, Lincolnshire
Mr T.Brighthouse	Headington, Oxfordshire	Mr J.Myles	London SE11
Mr C.H.Burgess	West Molesey, Surrey	Mr C.Pocock	Ipswich, Australia
Mr P.E.Catchpole	Hillingdon, Middlesex	Mr M.Pullon	St Hilary, Wales
Mr J.G.Chapman	Hebburn, Tyne and Wear	Mrs L.M.Rhodes	Lindford, Hampshire
Mr P.Coldicott	Wickford, Essex	Mr J.A.J.Roderick	Exton, Devon
Mr R.S.Davies	Chagford, Devon	Mr S.W.T.Rogers	Luton, Bedfordshire
Mr M.J.Forbes	Thorngumbald, Yorkshire	Mr A.K.Seetharaman	
Mr A.Gault	Cheam, Surrey		Hemel Hempstead, Herts
Mr S.J.M.Gibb	Studham, Bedfordshire	Mr C.P.Smith	Sale, Greater Manchester
Mr N.R.Gomm	Brundall, Norfolk	Mr H.T.Stafford	London SW15
Mr P.M.Gregory	London SW3	Mr D.Vishwanathan	Levittown, U.S.A.
Mrs J.C.Harris	Cuxton, Kent	Mr J.B.Wakefield	Richmond, Surrey
Mr P.M.Horne	Cottingham, East Yorkshire	Mr J.Whipp	Eastbourne, East Sussex
Mr P.R.Jenkins	Pennington, Hampshire	Mr C.G.Wildish	Enfield, Middlesex
Mr A.P.Jones	Eastbourne, East Sussex	Mr I.Winch	Hastings, East Sussex
Mr C.L.Keywood	Grimsby, Lincolnshire	Dr J.Wyatt	Truro, Cornwall
Mr P.Lewis	Loughborough, Leics	Mr D.Young	Oxford
Mr M.A.Lowrie	Rutherglen, Scotland	Mr D.B.Young	Knutsford, Cheshire

We require a change of address from the following member:

Mr D.G.Wayte formerly of Hornsey, London

We regret to announce the death of the following members:

Mr P.A.Martin	Hadlow, Kent	Mr G McPhee	Sunbury, Australia
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