

ACS MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN NO 20 - AUGUST 2014



ACS Records website

A message from John Bryant:

'On behalf of the ACS, I am pleased to announce a major extension of ACS Cricket Records. It now includes records for List A, One-Day Internationals, T20, and T20 Internationals; in addition of course to the Test and first-class records that were already available. The site is free to use and open to everyone. It can be accessed via the ACS home page. Although this is a major stage in the development of the site, it is not the end of the process. The next step is to look again at some of the records that we were not able to include from the outset because of technical issues. After that we shall turn to the valuable ideas that have been put forward for additional records (and we remain very much open to further suggestions about this). I hope you enjoy the site.'

London Meeting

The Committee has decided not to hold a London meeting this year. This reflects difficulty in finding speakers, plus a reduction in attendance in the last couple of years.

However, we remain interested in organising members' events, whether in London or elsewhere, if there is sufficient interest and if suitable speakers can be arranged. We therefore welcome suggestions from members; and any assistance that members can offer with arranging speakers will be especially welcome.

Please contact the Secretary with any suggestions, or offers of assistance.

Promotion of external material through ACS Online Group

The Online Group is one of the channels used by the ACS to promote and publicise activities, publications and initiatives undertaken by the ACS itself.

The question has been raised of whether members taking part in the Group may use it in a similar way for activities, publications and initiatives originating outside the ACS. The ACS Committee has agreed the following policy about this:

There is no general ban preventing members from using this Group for promotion or publicity. This applies whether the member is personally involved in the subject of the promotion, or is simply drawing attention to it as an interested third party. No distinction need be drawn between commercial and non-profit promotions, and in the case of a commercial promotion, there is no bar simply because the member stands to gain personally if the promotion is successful.

There are some constraints, however. The subject of the promotion should be something likely to be of specific interest to members of this group in their capacity as ACS members: that is, persons with a serious interest in cricket, especially its statistical or historical aspects.

Even if the subject of the promotion qualifies under point 1 above, the promotion should not be importunate or persistent. A brief email note is perfectly acceptable: constant or frequent repetition would not be.

The following guidelines are to assist in the application of point 1 above:

- The subject of the promotion should be aimed at a specialised historical or statistical cricketing market rather than a broad or general one. Thus, a ghost-written "autobiography" of a current player, designed to cash in on his possibly-fleeting fame, would not be acceptable. This would apply even in the unlikely event that it contained an accurate and interesting statistical appendix, because this, although a positive feature in itself, would not be the main thrust of the book. On the other hand, a more scholarly, well-researched biography of a player would be acceptable.
- The normal expectation is that the subject of the promotion will be essentially of a statistical or historical bent. But this is not an absolute requirement: if someone, for instance, used the Group to draw attention to a learned scientific treatise on the aerodynamics of a swinging cricket ball, that would qualify because although it is not historical and is not statistical in the sense we usually understand the term, it passes the "serious interest" test.

- The statistical side of the ACS is without any restriction regarding time: statistical material is in scope whether it relates to the eighteenth century or the present day.
- Where the subject matter is historical rather than statistical in nature, the test is a matter of judgment: there is no specific definition of when "history" stops for ACS purposes. At one time the end of World War 2 served as an informal cut-off but that is now clearly too long ago: the Packer Affair, for instance, or the cricket and politics surrounding sanctions-busting tours to apartheid South Africa, are definitely "history" rather than "current affairs". A reasonable rule of thumb is that something is "history" if it is far enough back not to involve the careers of any current players.
- Any promotion should be reasonably well-targeted: that is, it should be written specifically with this Group in mind or, if not, then it should be of a general tone, character and content that is suited to this Group. It would not be appropriate to promote a flyer advertising a long list of publications of general interest, for instance, even if there were a smattering of historical or statistical cricketing items among all the other material.
- Material may still be acceptable even if it has no specific link to cricket at all. For instance, information about an on-line newspaper archive or a source of census returns would be potentially very helpful for research into cricket history or the personal details of old players. But the onus is on the member posting about this sort of material to explain why it is relevant to the Group (where this is not obvious).

The overriding test is to consider, before posting anything promotional, how it is likely to be received by members of the Group: whether they are likely to think that it is useful or interesting, or at least that it might be welcome to some members of the Group if not to all.

Committee Vacancy - 15th November Deadline

A reminder that any member wishing to stand for election to the committee must submit their nomination by 15 November 2014. Please send, in writing, any nomination – together with names and signatures of a proposer and a seconder – to ACS Nominations, 12 Russell Grove, London, NW7 3QX. Please note that your proposer and seconder should also be current members of the Association. The committee would be particularly happy to hear from anyone who has a special interest/expertise, or who would like to edit one or more of the Association's publications.

Committee Meeting Report (excluding items mentioned elsewhere)

The third meeting of 2014/15 was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 12 July. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay.

With Limlow planning to cease running ACS Sales in 2015, the committee decided to split the sale and storage of individual ACS publications from the quarterly mailing of the Journal and Membership Bulletin, and considered applications and quotes for both jobs.

It was agreed that the ACS should sponsor a one-year MA studentship at Royal Holloway (University of London) in 2015/16, to research the changing role of women's cricket in the 20th century, specifically the interwar period.

The Chairman was delighted to report that Mark Rowe had agreed to take on responsibility for editing the Lives in Cricket series.

The committee were pleased to hear that, after protests from various bodies including the ACS, PA had resumed sending reporters to cover county matches, with a subsidy from the ECB.

The dates for the next committee meetings are 13 September, 6 December, 17 January and 28 March. Any member wishing to raise any matter should contact the Secretary.

Membership Update

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Mr A.Adie	Aberdeen, Scotland	Master S.Khan	Karachi, Pakistan
Mr K.G.Brown	Roath, Wales	Mr R.Knott	Clevedon, Somerset
Mr M.R.Bryant	Creswell, Derbyshire	Mr M.Pulford	Ilkley, West Yorkshire
Mr P.Dhole	Kolkata, India	Mr B.Snaith	Anslow, Staffordshire
Mr R.C.Evans	Kenton, Middlesex		

We require a change of address from the following member:

Mr D.G.Wyte formerly of Hornsey, London