

# **ACS MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN**

## **NO 22 - MAY 2015**



### **Committee Matters**

Roger Moulton has stepped down as chairman after four eventful years at the helm. The committee are very thankful for his untiring efforts, and are pleased to announce the election of John Bryant as his successor. Roger remains on the committee, which has recently been augmented by a shrewd off-season signing in the handsome shape of Keith Walmsley.

### **ACS Sales**

We very much regret the delay in posting orders from ACS Sales since the beginning of February. This was due to a breakdown of the franking machine, which took a long time to resolve, and the late arrival of three of the four titles. We now have a new franking machine and all orders have been despatched.

### **ACS Online Cricket Records**

John Bryant has stepped down as co-ordinator of the online records at [stats.acscricket.com/records.html](http://stats.acscricket.com/records.html). Many thanks are due for his massive efforts in setting this up. Users need have no fear, as his successor is Keith Walmsley, a safe pair of hands if ever there was one. He will be very pleased to receive suggestions, comments and queries about the records section, which should be directed to [records@acscricket.com](mailto:records@acscricket.com). He hopes to arrange for more items to be added before too long, so please keep checking the website to see what's new!

### **Digitisation of *Cricket***

By the time this bulletin goes out, the scanning of *Cricket: A Weekly Record* should be well on the way to completion. The final digital version will be placed on the website, where a fee will be charged for access after a free trial period to sort out glitches.

## **Women's Cricket**

One of the prime aims of the Association when it was set up was to produce a definitive list of first-class matches. Following discussion at the AGM, the committee agreed to set up a similar project for women's cricket. The aim is to produce a definitive list of major women's matches worldwide so that statisticians can produce averages based on the same set of matches. As with first-class cricket, many matches will be 'obvious' but others, particularly in the early days, will require individual scrutiny. Peter Griffiths will co-ordinate this project; anyone willing to help is encouraged to contact him at [pgriffiths@cricketarchive.com](mailto:pgriffiths@cricketarchive.com).

## **Oxford University Cricketers**

Further to this year's AGM, at which members voted decisively in favour of publishing this long-delayed work within 18 months (despite uncertainty about Oxford's continuing first-class status), the committee have agreed a provisional release date of November 2016. Peter Griffiths will also be editor of this volume, and would be delighted to hear from anyone able to provide biographical details or other assistance; please contact [pgriffiths@cricketarchive.com](mailto:pgriffiths@cricketarchive.com).

## **Cricket Witness**

A reminder that, in September, the Association's committee agreed to introduce a new series called Cricket Witness which will look at a variety of historical themes, ancient and modern. A number of topics for this new series have been suggested: outstanding/successful county teams; decades; prolific opening partnerships; great wicketkeepers, short legs or cover fielders; opening bowling partnerships; spin pairings; a series of outstanding or dramatic matches at a particular ground (e.g. a festival ground); or a selection of great players (from a club, a League, a decade, or those born at a particular place). The above list is far from comprehensive, and all ideas will be considered on their merits.

One intriguing possibility was introduced at the AGM by Robert Brooke, who was researching living cricketers who played in at least one first-class match before the Second World War. Robert raised the thorny issue of when exactly the conflict is deemed to have started in different countries, a topic of some interest in itself. Enthusiasm was also expressed for the idea of interviewing any surviving pre-war cricketers while still possible. Are any members interested in such a challenge?

If so, or if anyone would like to offer another title – or manuscript – for this series, or has ideas for a theme, contact the Secretary at [secretary@acscricket.com](mailto:secretary@acscricket.com).

## **Committee Meeting Reports** (excluding items mentioned elsewhere)

**The fifth meeting of 2014/15** was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 6 December. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay, Mark Rowe and Simon Sweetman.

In the forthcoming elections, Andrew Hignell had been renominated as Secretary, and Roger Moulton, Huw Nathan and Mark Rowe as general committee members. No further nominations had been received, and one vacancy remained. Ways of enabling committee members to contribute without travelling to London, such as Skype meetings, were discussed.

There had been more than a dozen responses to an advertisement for a one-year studentship at Royal Holloway (University of London), sponsored by the ACS in 2015/16, to research 20th-century women's cricket.

Various questions relating to long-term publications strategy and the future of certain series were identified; members were to be consulted through a questionnaire before further discussion in 2015.

The committee considered how the ACS might establish links with county museums and other cricket museums across the UK.

**The sixth meeting of 2014/15** was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 17 January. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay, Keith Gerrish, Harriet Monkhouse, Giles Phillips and Mark Rowe.

The ACS Sales contract with Neil Beck had been signed, and he was due to take over from the retiring Limlow team in mid-February.

The Secretary and academics from Royal Holloway (University of London) would be interviewing applicants in February for a one-year studentship in 2015/16, sponsored by the ACS, to research 20th-century women's cricket. Dr Stella Moss of RHUL would speak about the research partnership at the AGM, when former England player Enid Bakewell would be a special guest.

After a discussion of different book binding methods and costs, it was agreed to move from Perfect binding to the more robust PURR method when possible.

Roger Moulton confirmed that he did not intend to seek re-election as Chairman after the AGM; he was warmly thanked by the committee for his services over the past four years.

**The first meeting of 2015/16** was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 28 March. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay, Keith Gerrish and Mark Rowe.

The Secretary reported that Adam McKie had been selected as the ACS's sponsored student at Royal Holloway (University of London), and that he would be researching women's cricket between the wars in 2015/16.

Neil Beck had taken over ACS Sales, but the despatch of the latest publications had been delayed because of their late arrival from the printers and a broken franking machine; this should be resolved in the next week.

The committee had been dissatisfied with the Marquee at Derby as an AGM venue, after Derbyshire had substituted it for the Gateway Centre at very short notice; a return to Derby would be conditional on being guaranteed the Gateway Centre or Lund Pavilion. Despite the Marquee's shortcomings, Enid Bakewell's visit in the afternoon was considered a great success.

The dates for the next committee meetings are 20 June, 26 September, 5 December, 16 January and 2 April. Any member wishing to raise any matter should contact the Secretary.

## Membership Update

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Master O.Abid of Karachi, Pakistan  
Dr M.J.Barlow of Lakenham, Suffolk  
Mr M.Bell of Sheffield, South Yorkshire  
Mr T.Blatt of Reigate, Surrey  
Mr D.H.J.Cooke of Chalfont St Giles, Bucks  
Mr M.Crump of Haywards Heath, West Sussex  
Mrs J.J.Griffiths of Scredington, Lincolnshire

Ms T.Hill of Mount Wellington, New Zealand  
Mr J.Knight of Branston, Staffordshire  
Mr A.P.McKie of Romford, Essex  
Mr T.P.Mead of Darley Hillside, Derbyshire  
Mr D.R.Reed of Brentwood, Essex  
Mr S.Reeves of Sheffield, South Yorkshire  
Mr G.Wilcock of Mirfield, South Yorkshire

We require a change of address from the following members:

Mr J.Harrison formerly of Swarland, Northumberland    Mr D.G.Wayte formerly of Hornsey, London

We regret to announce the deaths of the following members:

Mr M.P.Ashton, late of Barry, South Glamorgan  
Mr G.M.du Sautoy, late of Allestree, Derbyshire  
Mr G.R.Robinson, late of Hornchurch, Essex  
Mr R.C.Robinson, late of Dulwich, London

Mr J.H.Thomas, late of Llandoverly,  
Carmarthenshire  
Mr S.B.Williams, late of Bournemouth, Dorset  
Mr M.J.Wood, late of Sevenoaks, Kent