



The Association of Cricket Statisticians and Historians

MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN No.22 - AUGUST 2015

An Apology

Many of you will have noticed that the Membership Bulletin was missing from the quarterly membership mailing in May. The Committee would like to apologise to members for this omission; we have now improved checking procedures to make sure future mailings go to plan.

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 shape of Keith Walmsley.

ACS Sales

We very much regret the long 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 spring 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 on-line records section at stats.acscricket.com/records.html. Many thanks are due for the massive effort it took him to set this up. Users need have no fear, however, 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 still be directed to records@acscricket.com. He hopes to arrange for more items to be added before too long, so please do keep checking the website to see what's new!

Digitisation of Cricket

The scanning of *Cricket: A Weekly Record* is now complete. The final digital version will be placed on the website, where there will eventually be a fee for access. An official launch is planned for 1 August, with access free until the end of September. Provided this trial period goes ahead without major glitches, charging will start on 1 October.

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, at its recent meeting, agreed to set up a project to do something similar 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 and anyone willing to help is encouraged to contact him at 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 has 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 who is able to provide biographical details or any other assistance. Offers should be directed to pgriffiths@cricketarchive.com.

Cricket Witness

A reminder that at their September meeting the Association's committee agreed to introduce a new series called Cricket Witness which will look at a variety of historical themes – both ancient and modern. A number of topics for this new series have been suggested: outstanding/successful county teams; decades; prolific opening partnerships; great wicket-keepers, 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 for a title was introduced at the recent 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, and this was considered a topic of some interest in itself. However, as far as the present series is concerned, enthusiasm was also expressed for the idea of interviewing any surviving pre-war cricketers while it is still possible. Are there 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 possible theme, please contact the Secretary on secretary@acscricket.com

Members' Advertising Flyers

The arrangements for including members' advertising flyers in the quarterly mailings have been changed. Members are asked to contact the Hon. Treasurer, who will issue an invoice. Once payment has been received, the member will be asked to forward the flyers to the mailing firm. Mailings are despatched in the first full week of February, May, August and November, so flyers need to be in the hands of the mailing firm by the end of the preceding week.

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; the deadline for applications was in January.

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.

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 second meeting of 2015-16 was held at the Space Centre, London, on Saturday 20 June. Apologies were received from Ric Finlay, Keith Gerrish and Harriet Monkhouse.

Following Keith Gerrish's decision to stand down as Treasurer in March 2016, for personal reasons, the committee discussed the role of Treasurer and the process for appointing a new one to serve the remainder of Mr Gerrish's term.

It was agreed that, from 2016, ACS officers required to present reports at the AGM should be entitled to travelling expenses.

The committee debated how to define women's cricket for the purposes of a new women's

section in the ACS Online Cricket Records, and whether it should include women's performances in mixed games.

The dates for the next committee meetings are 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 S.E.Challis of Cowfold, East Sussex
Mr D.H.J.Cooke of Chalfont St. Giles, Buckinghamshire
Mr M.Crump of Haywards Heath, West Sussex
Mr J.Curran of Muswellbrook, Australia
Mr S.Dolman of Moodiesburn, North Lanarkshire
Mrs J.J.Griffiths of Screddington, Lincolnshire
Mr R.Hatton of Cardiff, Wales
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 D.J.A.Sherwood of Hove, East Sussex
Mr B.M.Tester of Lindfield, West Sussex
Mr R.Ulyate of Roodepoort, South Africa
Mr G.Wellsted of Caldy, Merseyside
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 death of the following members for whom we offer our condolences to their family and friends:

Mr E.L.Appleby, late of Keswick, Cumbria
Mr M.P.Ashton, late of Barry, South Glamorgan
Mr G.M.du Sautoy, late of Allestree, Derbyshire
Mr K.Hudson, late of Prestatyn, Denbighshire
Mr G.R.Robinson, late of Hornchurch, Essex
Mr R.C.Robinson, late of Dulwich, London
Mr J.H.Thomas, late of Llandovery, Carmarthenshire
Mr K.M.Williams, late of Sandwich, Kent
Mr S.B.Williams, late of Bournemouth, Dorset
Mr M.J.Wood, late of Sevenoaks, Kent
Mr H.G.V.Woodbridge, late of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire