

McCANN & ALLEN (2025): QUERIES AND ALTERATIONS (1)

Implementing the changes below would result in two deletions from the numbered match list: [6] & [160]. This is easy enough to effect but in any future publication would require significant changes to the match number index; Richard Nyren for example would require 59 amendments, John Small (sen.) many more than that.

[6]: 26 July 1745: Maids of Bramley v Maids of Hambledon at Gosden Common near Guildford

This is included by McCann with references to the *Derbyshire Mercury* and *Stamford Mercury*. In my commentary I suggested "Omit?" on the basis that it has increasingly been recognised as the 'other' Hambledon in Surrey. I had included it in the Chronological List however, and having done so, compiled an index based on match numbers, so I left it there. In any revised list it will be deleted.

[18] 14 May 1760: Port Meadow

McCann records three consecutive events at Port Meadow derived from "John Woodford's Diary". RH notes these entries are actually from the diary of the Revd. James Woodforde when he was at Oxford (there is another entry when he gives up the cricket club because it meets on his dancing day!) As recorded (p 298) Port Meadow is in Oxford so the case for including [18] is that Winchester is one of the teams. The two other entries (no numbers) 29 April and 2 June appear to have no Hampshire connection and can be deleted.

[120] 30 May 1775: Titchfield Common

(HW) The date of this match should go forward a week to 6 June. Its announcement, in the *Hampshire Chronicle* of 29 May, says that it is to take place on the second day of a three-day programme of athletics and cricket events on Titchfield Common, due to commence 'on Whit-Monday'. HW adds "Whit Week would be a natural time for such a quite large-scale public games festival, and also I am pretty sure that were it to have happened the previous week, the Chronicle would have said something like 'On this day...'. In 1775, Whit Monday and Tuesday were on 6th and 7th June".

[144]: 22 June 1776: Durley v Itchen Ferry at Peartree Green

Is listed in McCann's main part of the book. I suggested also adding

[160]: June 1776: Durley v Itchen Ferry at Peartree Green

and included it in the Chronological List but it is the same match, so number 160 should be deleted from both the Commentaries and the Chronological List.

[304] 25 June 1787: Hambledon v Farnham

(UNCLEAR NOTE?)

My Commentary suggests McCann's entry is unclear. HW addresses complications with the British Newspaper Archive's versions of the *Reading Mercury*, mid-June to early July 1787:

18 June (No. 1326) - apparently not digitised

25 June (No. 1327)* - has to be accessed by clicking/searching (counter-intuitively) for the 18 June issue - checking the page one masthead will prove which issue is being looked at

2 July (No. 1328) - accessed both via the procedure noted above (searching this time under 25 June), and also (back to normal) under its own issue date. This means that it's not really the case that the 25 June issue refers to the match as being played 'on Wednesday last'.

(Further) page 3 of the 25 June issue* (the BNA's 'so-called' 18 June edition) announces that "On Tuesday next the 26th instant", the Odiham v Alresford match will start on Odiham Down at 9 a.m. (referring to Match 305, below).

[305] 26, 27 June 1787: Odiham Club v Alresford Club

McCann's entry cites Waghorn, *the Morning Herald* and *Salisbury Journal* with some confusion about the day and date as follows: the Waghorn reference says Wednesday June 26th; *the Morning Herald* says Wednesday the 27th. Then Waghorn refers to Monday July 8th, whereas *the Salisbury Journal* has Monday July the 9th. Searching calendars online, Wednesday 27th and Monday 9th appear correct:

<https://print-a-calendar.com/june-1787>

<https://clas12-docdb.jlab.org/cgi-bin/DocDB/public/ShowCalendar?year=1787&month=6>

[406]: 16, 17 & 18 July 1795: Hampshire v Surrey at Windmill Down (ADD?)

(JB) This match never happened and a number of elements in the entry are incorrect. There was however a three-day match on Windmill Down beginning four days later (20 July) which is in *Scores and Biographies*. It is listed there between the XIs of the Earl of Winchilsea and R Leigh Esq. The former's side certainly includes 10 men who played for Surrey and the latter 10 for Hampshire (the exceptions appear to be Thomas Scott and Henry Tufton). McCann does not list this slightly later game but it is on Cricket Archive and in the *Great Cricket Matches* so now becomes the 'new' match number **406**. McCann does list a game between the same two sides on Stoke Down from 23 July but while the names Winchilsea and Leigh are retained by Bryant in the *Great Cricket Matches*, McCann, citing *Hampshire Telegraph* (etc.), labels it Hampshire v All England. JB notes that team names of this period are "notoriously fluid" adding there are notes on this subject in the *Great Cricket Matches* (Bryant ACS) pp 22-23.

[314] 5 September 1787: A Gentleman of Eton and his servant v Two Excise Officers at Southampton

(HW) Correction: the Winder (3) & Heather (23) first innings total should be 26 not 25

[444] 1798 One-arm v One-leg Sailors at Stokes Bay, Gosport

(HW) An oil painting of this match is reproduced (conveying a good impression of the various buildings beyond the actual field) in Jeremiah Colman's *The Noble Game of Cricket* (1941). In the preface, the result and winning margin are said to be a win for the One-Leg Sailors by 103 runs. The location is given as Alverstoke, which includes Stokes Bay.

Additional Information:

Goulstone (2023) records the mention of a cricket field in Petersfield (12.12.1765)

OP has suggested noting pubs/inns with cricketing names – there are of course the tales of the Hut (Bat & Ball) and Richard Nyren's moving from there into the village of Hambledon at the George Inn. OP adds: References to The Cricketers Pub in Winchester can be found in The Universal British Directory 1792 for Winchester where William Newman is described as a victualler (Cricketers). There is also a reference to the pub in *The Times* of 23 June 1790, whereby it is listed as a pub (among many) which will receive freeholders willing to vote (or euphemistically 'in our interest') for two candidates. Interestingly one of the candidates is J.C. Jervoise, who I think was a member of the Hambledon Club (DA: *Yes, listed in Ashley-Cooper (151); President of HC 1782*)

OP suggests "of more interest" might be "the diaries of the composer and diarist John Marsh", to which I have not referred. He lived mainly in Chichester but also for a time in Gosport and in his Sussex book, McCann describes him as one of a number of diarists who "were not cricketers nor even cricket enthusiasts" but observers and recorders of local scenes that included cricket. OP adds "from a brief scan of the diaries, I note him playing cricket in the 1770s in (or near) Gosport, and occasionally on Minshon Hill near Romsey:

(https://gazetteer.org.uk/place/Minchin_Hill,_Hampshire_234557)

OP continues: "There is an interesting reference to a shortage of suitable players for cricket in Romsey in c.1770 (presumably fixed somewhat later in the decade), which offers an insight into the game's lack of spread into Hampshire from the coast/parts bordering Sussex and Surrey. Elsewhere he also mentions a shortage of cricket players in Salisbury and Marsh. He goes to a match between Hampshire and Kent (1781-1783) in Kent, which he describes as an annual fixture and mentions the great James Aylward. (*Probably in McCann/Allen, Matches [219]; [236]; [238]; [260]*)

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