

help to give them experience of working with the committee in advance of other opportunities to join the Committee arising. The Committee also discussed the falling sales of ACS publications and agreed to look into 'print-on-demand' options and subscription editions in order to reduce the risk of printing more copies of books than could be sold.

The fourth General Committee meeting of 2024/25 took place on Friday 24 May 2024 on a virtual basis. The Committee welcomed John Winnifrith to the committee and also agreed to co-opt another of the applicants, Derek Noakes, to a further committee vacancy, in place of Chris Overson, who has stepped down. The committee recorded its thanks to Mr Overson for all his contributions to the committee over recent years. A discussion was held on the results of the recent members' survey. The committee thanked those who had responded. Overall, the replies indicated pleasing levels of satisfaction with many aspects of the Association's activities, but had also generated a number of suggestions for ways in which the Association might develop. A fuller analysis of the survey will appear in the Journal and the results will feed into the committee's strategic thinking later in the year. The committee also received updates on recent auctions and progress with future publications.



ACS MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN

No.49 – August 2024

Administration of ACS Auctions

Over the past few years, auctions have played a more prominent part in the activities of the ACS. The July 2021 auction of the John Wilkinson bequest was followed in July 2023 by the extremely comprehensive auction of material from the Tony Webb collection, and in recent months several further auctions have taken place. The storage and distribution activities related to the initial auctions were administered by the ACS Sales team at City Press Leeds (CPL).

The management of CPL recently advised ACS that this auction-related activity was considered to be beyond their "core business" and they requested to be relieved of further involvement in ACS auctions. ACS have agreed. CPL deserve immense credit and the thanks of the ACS for their flexibility and efforts in supporting ACS auctions over the past three years.

To ensure continuity of the ACS auction business, we have already identified and engaged an alternative business partner to handle this activity in future. The selected supplier is York Publishing Services (YPS) based in York, England. YPS are an accredited Customer Order Fulfilment operator, with material storage capacity, handling equipment and staff to manage the logistics of the book ordering and delivery business. YPS successfully handled Auctions 6, 7 and 8 held during the past three months and will continue to perform this function on behalf of the ACS. Invoices for auction sales now show the YPS address and the contact phone number for Paul Saville who is the logistics coordinator at YPS. Members with any queries about auction consignment deliveries should contact this number and not CPL.

CPL will continue to provide the storage and distribution service for ACS publications, as they have done for the past seven years.

Auction Thanks

As part of the process of moving our auction business from CPL to YPS, books and other items that were already at Leeds in connection with current or future auctions were moved to York early in June. Two locally-based members, Steven Draper and Richard Geldard, carried out this task for us, and in token of our appreciation of their efforts, the committee has made an ex-gratia award of £30-worth of books to each of them. Thank you, Steven and Richard!

ACS Event – Saturday 12 October 2024

The ACS is holding an in-person event at the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, London SE1 8UJ, just by Waterloo Station, on Saturday 12 October. The aim is to give members the chance to meet and discuss matters relating to cricket's history and statistics. There will be a series of presentations and discussions organised for the day from eminent members of the ACS and outside speakers. The exact schedule will evolve over the next few months but ACS luminaries such as Jeremy Lonsdale and Keith Walmsley have already committed to contributing to different parts of the day.

It is likely that the event will run from 10.00am until 4.00pm with a buffet lunch being provided. There will be a small charge made for tickets and these will be on sale from the end of July onwards.

For more details contact Huw Nathan, Membership Secretary, at membership@acscricket.com

ACS Membership Renewal 2024/25

In these inflationary times members are reminded that the ACS offers digital membership at a reduced global rate of £25 per annum, compared to the regular rate of £29 (UK and Europe) and £34 (Rest of the World) to those who are willing to receive all our regular quarterly papers, including the Journal, in digital format only. Overseas members in particular may appreciate receiving the Journal and other material on the first day of each sales quarter, rather than possibly waiting two or three weeks through the postal system.

To date 105 members representing 13.3% of the total ACS membership have taken up the option of digital membership. A further £2 can be saved if the subscription is paid by direct debit, reducing the effective cost of membership to £23. Anyone interested in making the change to digital membership for the forthcoming membership year should contact the Membership Secretary (membership@acscricket.com) before 30 September 2024, so that arrangements can be put in place in a timely manner.

Membership Update

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members: Chris Bereaux, Raqeeb Bhuyan, Pranab Chatterjee and Om Sharma.

The Association extends its deepest sympathy to the bereaved families of the recently-deceased members Martin Bevan and Graham Searle.

Committee meeting reports

The second General Committee meeting of 2024/25 took place on Saturday 23 March 2024 on a virtual basis. The Committee spent much of the meeting discussing how to expand the membership of the Association in both the UK and elsewhere, especially in those countries such as India, where the game is particularly popular. The committee confirmed that it would issue a survey to existing members in May to find out more about their interests. It also agreed to establish an ACS Substack blog, which would be used to post past Journal articles but would also be a way of publishing articles on contemporary cricket subjects from members and non-members. The committee agreed further arrangements for a project to develop a comprehensive bibliography of cricket publications, and heard an update on current issues with the successful programme of book auctions.

The third General Committee meeting of 2024/25 took place on Saturday 27 April 2024 on a virtual basis. The Committee discussed the applications for co-option to the committee and agreed to co-opt John Winnifrith. The committee thanked all the applicants for putting themselves forward, and agreed to write to the unsuccessful candidates to invite them to play a shadow role on ongoing ACS projects. This would