

## NEWSLETTER No. 251 - JANUARY 2005

### MEETINGS

#### 12 January 2005 – meeting

Tonight's speaker is **FRANK DUCKWORTH** co-designer of the Duckworth/Lewis scoring method. Devising the system as a university project, in association with Tony Lewis, a lecturer in the faculty of computer studies and mathematics at the University of the West of England, Bristol, he is a consultant statistician and editor of the monthly news magazine of the Royal Statistical Society. Now retired and living in Gloucestershire, he was formerly a statistical analyst in the nuclear power industry.

The Duckworth/Lewis system received its inaugural use in the second one-day international between Zimbabwe and England on 1 January 1997, prior to further implementation in the ICC Trophy in Kuala Lumpur in March and April of that year. The England and Wales Cricket Board had earlier adopted the system for all three domestic limited-overs competitions during the 1997 season. After a trial period of two years the Duckworth/Lewis method was adopted by the ICC on 1 September 2001, as the official "run-rule" in all one-day competitions in ICC Full, Associate and Affiliate member countries. It is also used in domestic competitions in these countries.

The Duckworth/Lewis system will also be introduced into club cricket in Hampshire in 2005 for limited-overs matches in the 1<sup>st</sup> Division (Gold League) of the Southern Premier league. It will therefore form a very topical subject for any umpires and officials present at tonight's meeting.

The system has not been without controversy but it's intricacies are gradually being more understood by the cricketing public. Mr. Duckworth's talk should therefore add to that understanding and the Society is pleased to welcome him.

N.B. Tony Lewis is now a lecturer in Quantitative Methods in Management in the Business School at Oxford Brookes University.

## **10 November 2004 – Report**

Peter Anderson, who will be retiring from his post of Chief Executive of Somerset CCC at the end of the coming summer, gave members a privileged insight of the workings of Somerset and of cricket management in general. He opened by stating that he felt other Counties would eventually follow Hampshire's lead from converting a Members Club to a plc. Somerset themselves were about to become a Provident Society.

He finished by touching upon the many current tensions in the game including agents, devolution to counties, financing of the recreational game v. first-class cricket, health and safety, employment law and Sport England and politics.

In between he gave his reminiscences on Somerset captains and players during his tenure as well as outlining plans to redevelop the ground at Taunton. The latter was an ambitious project, dependent upon a number of associated developments. If it came to fruition then Somerset would need to play on out-grounds whilst the works were being undertaken.

It was a fascinating evening, much enjoyed by those who made their way to the ambient meeting room at the Apollo (formerly the Ringway) Hotel. Members were warmly greeted by the hotel staff on their return to the Society's long-standing former venue in Basingstoke.

## **1 December 2004 – Report**

Lance Pierson grandly entertained members at their Annual Buffet Supper evening at The Rose Bowl with another rendition of verse and prose. As a sequel to his "Sticky Wickets" presentation of 2 years ago he named his programme "The Follow On". The first innings (half) of the evening included works by Society's own Imogen Grosberg, P.G. Wodehouse, Brian Johnston and Sir Paul Getty. After another fine meal and convivial conversation the second innings comprised that wonderfully humorous evocation of the Village Cricket Match from A.G. Macdonnell's England their England.

### **REMAINING WINTER PROGRAMME**

Confirmation that the dates, venues and speakers for the remainder of the Society's winter programme are as follows:-

**WEDNESDAY 9 FEBRUARY – PORTSMOUTH RUGBY CLUB (8PM) – VIC ISAACS**, 30 years as Hampshire's Scorer.

**WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH – APOLLO HOTEL, BASINGSTOKE (7.30PM) – Annual General Meeting**, followed by **PETER BOWLER**, former Derbyshire and Somerset opening batsman.

**WEDNESDAY 6 APRIL – ROSE BOWL (8PM) – DOUGLAS MILLER**, biographer of Glamorgan's Don Shepherd.

## NEW FOR HAMPSHIRE IN 2005

### (1) SEAN ERVINE

Hampshire have signed five players for next season.

One is Sean Ervine, the former Zimbabwean international. Of all the white players who have opted to leave their country because of the political situation (a few black cricketers have also left in recent years) to pursue careers elsewhere he is perhaps the one who had most to lose. He was the youngest to make the life-changing decision yet, in a fledgling international career, had already thrown down markers as a future force at the game's highest level.

After a nervous Test debut at Lord's, he scored 34 in another innings defeat at Chester-le-Street's Riverside. However, although Zimbabwe were outplayed yet again when they toured Australia the following winter, he enjoyed a fine all-round match in the first Test at Perth. In the face of Matthew Hayden's onslaught, as he brutally clubbed his way to the then record Test score of 380, Ervine stuck manfully to his task to take four of the six wickets to fall for 146 runs. He went on to strike 53 in Zimbabwe's second innings.

He missed the two home Tests against the West Indies because of injury but, restored to the side for the next series against Bangladesh, he batted brilliantly in the first Test at Harare, making 86 and 74. John Ward, writing in *The Wisden Cricketer*, commented that his "powerful upright driving, especially through the covers, reminded some of the young Graeme Pollock". Praise indeed. Ironically, it was the last occasion he batted in Test cricket. In the ensuing rain-ruined encounter at Bulawayo, when only one and a half days play was possible, he did not reach the crease.

**SEAN MICHAEL ERVINE** was born in Harare on 6 December 1982. A left-handed batsman and right-arm medium pace bowler he made his first-class debut, as captain, for the Zimbabwe Academy side in 2000-01. In the following winter he made his international bow in one-day cricket against England at Bulawayo. He widened his experience by touring Bangladesh, Sri Lanka (twice), Sharjah (twice), England, South Africa (for the World Cup) and Australia before emigrating to the latter country last summer.

He and former Hampshire favourite Heath Streak engaged in a glorious display of batting fireworks when Zimbabwe played New Zealand at Bloenfontein in the last World Cup. The pair piled on an improbable and thrilling 62 off the last 3 overs. Ervine is an aggressive batsman and a fine striker of a ball and this innings exemplified his natural approach to the game. He registered his only century in international cricket with a very fine 100 against India at Adelaide a year ago. He and Stuart Carlisle (109) put on 202 for the fourth wicket. However, no other man made more than 12 and, inexcusably, Zimbabwe fell 3 runs short with 4 wickets in hand.

On the evidence to date it would seem that batting is his strongest suit. He has four first-class centuries to his credit, all in first-class cricket in Zimbabwe. Of his

bowling, David Houghton, in the Nat. West Series wrote he “bowls out of the back of the hand and has a good change of pace”.

He played twice at the Rose Bowl in the same year, once against Hampshire and, on the other occasion, against South Africa. He will therefore have some familiarity with the ground.

He emigrated to Western Australia with reportedly a state contract and ambitions to play for Australia. However, perhaps worryingly for Hampshire, he has been unable to obtain a place in that state’s teams for the Pura Cup and one-day side. He will therefore come to Hampshire somewhat ring-rusty from first-class cricket.

Biographical notes of the other four players will appear in forthcoming Newsletters.

### SEAN ERVINE – CAREER DETAILS

#### Batting and Fielding

	M.	I.	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	50	Ct
First-Class Cricket	30	48	6	1510	126	35.95	4	8	36
Test Cricket	5	8	0	261	86	32.62	-	3	7
Internationals	42	34	7	698	100	25.85	1	2	5

#### Bowling

	O	M	Runs	Wkts	Avge	5wI	Best
First-Class	572.3	103	2191	55	39.83	2	6-82
Test Cricket	95	18	388	9	43.11	-	4-146
Internationals	274.5	10	1561	41	38.07	-	3-29

### C.B. LLEWELLYN

#### South Africa’s first black cricketer?

There has long been speculation about whether Charles Llewellyn was South Africa’s first black cricketer. It was alleged that he suffered racial abuse from J.H. Sinclair on South Africa’s tour to Australia in 1910-11 because of the colour of his skin. Photographic evidence is inconclusive. In some Hampshire team photographs he looks of European origin; in others not. Any suggestion that he was coloured was vehemently dismissed by his daughter in a letter to *The Cricketer* in March 1976, who claimed her grandfather was born in Bootle, Lancashire, of Welsh descent and her grandmother in Essex.

However, an article in the Winter edition of *The Cricket Statistician*, the journal of the Association of Cricket Statisticians and Historians, indicates that Llewellyn was of

mixed race origin. The author, Christopher Merrett, has confirmed that his birthplace (Pietermaritzburg) and date of birth (29 September 1876) are as per cricket's reference books. His father, Thomas Buck Llewellyn was, however, born in Pembroke, Wales, in August 1845. Throughout his career Llewellyn was, of course, known as "Buck". Merrett's researches reveal his mother was born Ann Elizabeth Rich in 1845 at Jamestown, St. Helena. St. Helenans were economic migrants to the Cape from the 1830's, and were subtly discriminated against in Natal from the start of the last century. A form of apartheid existed in South Africa long before the Nationalist Party came to power in 1948 who codified it and made it far more brutally repressive.

The author's researches show that his parents were married on 15 February 1877, almost six months after his birth. Llewellyn appears to have been one of five brothers but the article does not state when the others were born. The article then goes on to state that prior to leaving South Africa in 1898 to make his way as a professional cricketer, "he was employed by the father of the cricketer Herby Taylor in Durban as a Coloured clerk, although there is no evidence that he ever played cricket within that community".

South African selectors were ambivalent about Hampshire's first overseas star, not only because of his racial origins but because he was a professional cricketer. He tried to play for Transvaal in 1903/04 but was apparently debarred by the South African Cricket Association on the latter grounds.

However, it must be remembered that he was selected in the England squad to play Australia at Edgbaston in 1902 and that also probably counted against him. The team that eventually took the field in that match is often regarded as the finest ever to play for England. He was very successful for South Africa (25 wickets avge. 17.92) when Monty Noble's team stopped off en route to Australia for three Tests on their way home from the pulsating 1902 series and he did not play for his native country again until their tour of Australia in 1910-11. In the meantime, though, South Africa were very well blessed by a distinguished quartet of leg spin and googly bowlers in Shwarz, Pegler, White and Faulkner. He also struggled for form in a poor Hampshire side after 1902. It was not until the blossoming of Jack Newman in 1910, his last season with Hampshire, that he enjoyed a renaissance. The pair took 299 wickets of the 414 wickets that fell to Hampshire bowlers that summer.

Llewellyn left Hampshire to enjoy a long career in league cricket which lasted until he was 62 years old in 1938. He returned to first-class cricket in 1912 when he played for South Africa in the ill-fated Triangular Tournament during which he made 75 against England at Lord's.

### 1000 RUNS IN A SEASON 1993-2004

In the last Newsletter, the editor listed those players who had taken more than 50 wickets in a season for Hampshire since the full implementation of four-day cricket in 1993. The following is a parallel listing of those men who have made more than 1000 runs in a season for the County over the same period.

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	50
1993 V.P.Terry	19	33	2	1469	174	47.38	4	7
1993 D.I.Gower	16	28	1	1136	153	42.07	4	5
1994 R.A.Smith	14	25	0	1143	162	45.72	5	3
1994 M.C.J.Nicholas	19	32	6	1182	145	45.46	3	5
1994 V.P.Terry	19	34	1	1286	164	38.96	5	2
1995 M.C.J.Nicholas	19	33	3	1210	147	40.33	4	4
1995 V.P.Terry	20	35	2	1012	170	30.66	2	3
1996 R.A.Smith	17	31	2	1396	179	48.13	3	8
1996 J.S.Laney	17	30	0	1163	112	38.76	4	5
1997 M.L.Hayden	17	30	3	1446	235*	53.55	4	7
1998 G.W.White	19	31	2	1211	156	41.75	4	5
1999 R.A.Smith	18	29	3	1110	96	42.69	-	10
1999 D.A.Kenway	19	31	6	1055	102	42.20	1	7
1999 W.S.Kendall	19	32	2	1186	201	39.53	2	7
2000 W.S.Kendall	18	31	3	1156	161	41.28	3	5
2001 N.C.Johnson	17	27	3	1073	105*	44.70	2	8
2003 S.M.Katich	13	22	3	1143	143*	60.15	4	6

### MORE ON HAMPSHIRE CRICKET IN 1943

When researching the piece on Keith Miller in the November Newsletter the editor found that cricket was thriving in South Hampshire during 1943. League matches were played in Southampton's Parks on every Saturday during the summer. The Winchester College ground also hosted a number of games. Lionel Tennyson and Charles Knott were often star attractions though his Lordship never reached double figures. When playing for Southampton Touring Club against Winchester College in mid-June Knott performed an unusual hat-trick in that each batsman was caught by the same fielder in the same position.

Hampshire's match of the season was one against an Empire XI at Northlands Road on 7 August. The County won easily by 9 wickets with Lofty Herman taking 5 for 35 and Squadron Leader P.A. Mackenzie scoring 68. Such was Mackenzie's innate talent that he was earlier selected for an England XI against a West Indies XI at Lord's. Before a crowd of 20,000 Mackenzie took the field with Alec Bedser, the Compton brothers, Jack Robertson, Bill Edrich, Les Ames and the youthful Trevor Bailey.