

THE HAMPSHIRE CRICKET SOCIETY

Patrons: John Woodcock Frank Bailey Shaun Udal

NEWSLETTER No. 305 – JANUARY 2011

Wednesday 12 January 2011 – Meeting

As celebrated in the 2011 edition of the Hampshire Handbook, this year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the County winning their first Championship. It was an exciting three-horse race with Yorkshire, Middlesex and Hampshire all topping the table at some stage. Notwithstanding an equally riveting Ashes series that summer, the race for the crown received extensive coverage in the newspapers.

Several column inches were also consumed on tonight's speaker. **PETER PARFITT** enjoyed a marvellous season, eventually scoring over 2000 runs, including eight centuries, and there was continual speculation on whether the England selectors would award him a Test cap. In the event he had to await until the ensuing winter tour of Pakistan and India to make his Test debut, against India at Eden Gardens, Calcutta. After three quiet Tests – two in India and one in Pakistan – he made an accomplished 111 in 293 minutes in the final Test of a long tour in Karachi, sharing a fourth wicket partnership of 188 with his captain, Ted Dexter (205). On his return home, he dominated the Pakistani attack, scoring three centuries as England's bowlers inflicted a four-nil drubbing. Only rain at Trent Bridge prevented a whitewash. Peter Parfitt seemed to have the world at his feet.

He was an automatic choice for the tour of Australia and New Zealand in the following winter. Though making a fluent 80 in the first Test at Brisbane and top-scoring with 28 in the second innings batting debacle at Sydney, he endured a difficult time due to injury and being shuffled up and down the order in state games. It was only when the team reached New Zealand that he found form with 131 not out in the first Test at Auckland, in which he shared a sixth wicket stand of 240 with Barry Knight (125).

However, his performances against Australia mitigated against his inclusion for the Test series against the West Indies in 1963, but he toured India in 1963-64, scoring 121 on a soporific wicket at Kanpur, retained his place for the Australians visit in the following summer and enjoyed a consistent sequence in South Africa in 1964 – 65, where he made 240 runs (avge. 49.00), including a meritorious 122 not out in five and a half hours at Johannesburg. He shepherded the tail in pursuit of South Africa's first innings total of 390. In the end, England fell just short on 384. Writing in Playfair Cricket Monthly, Ron Roberts wrote that "he played many fine strokes, bat and pad in close accord". He also constructed another excellent innings against South Africa in "Pollock's match" at Trent Bridge in 1965, when he took on the opposition bowlers virtually single-handedly in the second innings as he made 86 out of 166 whilst he was at the wicket.

He was a regular choice for overseas tours – he toured Australia again in 1965-66 - but never quite nailed a regular place for home Tests. He was unfortunate that, at his peak, his career coincided with a period in which England possessed what can now be seen as a golden age of middle-order batsmen of very differing styles. At the start of his career, Ted Dexter, Peter May, Ken Barrington and Colin Cowdrey were automatic choices. Then Tom Graveney enjoyed a latent renaissance in tandem with Basil D'Olivera. Among his other rivals with whom he contested a regular place were M.J.K. Smith and Brian Close.

Even so, in his last season in 1972, the England selectors turned to him in an hour of need against the threat of Dennis Lillee and Bob Massie (after the latter had confounded the England batsmen at Lord's). He responded splendidly as he engaged in a match saving partnership with Brian Luckhurst at Trent Bridge and then made 51 and 18 in the final Test at The Oval. After a century in the following County fixture at Derby he signed off with 78 and 52 three matches later. He therefore left the game with still much left in his locker.

In 35 Tests he amassed 1882 runs (avge.40.81), took 12 wickets with his serviceable off-spin bowling and held 42 catches. To demonstrate his quality and temperament his Test average was over four and a half points higher than his overall career average (36.28).

Peter Parfitt was a cricketer with appeal. He possessed personality in spades. His extrovert character was conveyed to the onlooker. Of medium build, fair-haired, left-handed, with a full range of strokes, he made his runs attractively and always kept the scoreboard moving. He was also a splendid fielder, especially at slip.

He was a Middlesex titan. Only eight men have scored more than his 21302 runs for the County; only six bettered his 46 centuries. His tally of catches (453) has only been exceeded by Patsy Hendren and Clive Radley. He always did well at Trent Bridge and he amassed his only double century against Nottinghamshire there – 200 not out in 1964. He also captained the County between 1968 and 1970.

PETER HOWARD PARFITT was born in Billingford, Norfolk, on 8 December 1936 and was educated at King Edward VI School, Kings Lynn, and Fakenham Grammar School. He was a natural athlete who excelled in all sports before concentrating on cricket. He gained his Norfolk cap whilst still at school, and made his County baptism, aged 19, in 1956. After two years National Service, his progress was swift. He made 1300 runs on his reappearance in county cricket in 1959, was capped in 1960, nominated Young Cricketer of the Year after his stellar season in 1961, and was selected one of Wisden's Cricketers of the Year following his performances against the Pakistanis in 1962. He reached his thousand runs in fourteen consecutive seasons until his retirement. Latterly he has been President of Middlesex.

When he left the game he earned a formidable reputation as an after dinner speaker as well as working in corporate entertainment and managing a pub on the North Yorkshire moors, before returning to live in his native Norfolk.

The Society is honoured to welcome such a distinguished cricketer to this evening's meeting.

Wednesday 17 November 2010 – Report

Keith Booth entertained his audience with a most enlightening account of the life of Ernest Hayes, Surrey's prolific middle-order batsman in cricket's Golden Age. He had written a book on Hayes' life as part of the Association of Cricket Statisticians Lives in Cricket series, based on four scrapbooks kept by his subject, covering his entire career from his schooldays to his employment as a coach. The address was not just confined to statistics. It contained many social commentaries about the era in which Hayes played, from his own upbringing (his father was a master draper), the relationship between amateurs and professionals and coaching in South Africa where even in the late 1890's an apartheid structure was in place.

Hayes was born in Peckham on 6 November 1876. He made his Surrey debut against the touring Australians in 1896, scoring 62. His performance prompted a collection which realised the then princely sum of £11. He did not gain a regular place until 1899 when he made over 1000 runs, a feat he was to repeat in every season until World War I. Though scoring prolifically in county cricket, as illustrated by his career aggregate of 27318 runs (avge. 32.21) and 48 centuries, his rather rugged style was not suited to Test cricket. His 5 Tests realised only 86 runs (avge. 10.75). His highest score was 276 against Hampshire at The Oval in 1909, during which he added 371 for the second wicket with Jack Hobbs (see below). His benefit match in 1900 was completely washed out, though he had taken the precaution of insuring the event. In the event Surrey granted him another game later in the season. He visited South Africa, the West Indies, Australia and India. He virtually made his way around South Africa and India under his own steam as a tourist.

He served in the Army in World War I, during which he was Mentioned in Despatches, and was awarded the MBE in 1919. However, his scrapbooks barely mention his service record; as with many men who served in the trenches, his experiences were a closed book. He played one season as Surrey's captain, as an amateur, in 1919. Upon leaving county cricket he coached at Winchester College, opened a sports shop and designed a score book as well as coaching at Leicestershire from 1923 to 1928 and returning to The Oval in that capacity from 1929 to 1934. He played 5 matches for Leicestershire at the age of 49. He was still canny enough to make 99 on his debut, the innings unfortunately ending with his being run out. After his final departure from The Oval he took over a pub in Dulwich where he died suddenly on 2 December 1953.

Keith Booth brought to life his subject, who was unknown to many of his audience at the start of the evening. That certainly was not the case by the end.

Editor's Note: The match referred to above in which Hayes made 276 was a noteworthy one. It marked C.B. Fry's debut for Hampshire. He top scored in both innings with 42 and 60. Despite the presence of Philip Mead (2 and 29) he played a lone hand as the County were crushed by a record innings and 468 runs. Mead (4-179) slow left-arm, and George Brown (2-116) opened Hampshire's bowling. Hampshire's two other wicket-takers were Jack Newman (2-133) and wicket-keeper Jimmy Stone (1-77 in 8 overs). The latter's wicket was, though, the prized one of Jack Hobbs (205). Given Hobbs' reputation of giving his wicket to a deserving bowler, did he surrender it on purpose? It was the only wicket of Stone's career. Surrey's total of 742 is still the highest against Hampshire, as is the partnership for the second wicket between Hobbs and Hayes.

Wednesday 1 December 2010 – Report

Peter Bowler's address was as entertaining as any in the Society's history. Laced with self-deprecating humour he took his audience through his career. Whilst in the Tasmanian squad, he coached a young 8 year old who possessed the most precocious talent. The boy was, of course, Ricky Ponting. In our speaker's last season, the pair batted together in a second wicket partnership of 210 in quick time against Glamorgan. It was the most memorable moment in Peter Bowler's career.

He also recalled his bruising encounters with the great fast bowlers of his career, particularly Courtney Walsh, Allan Donald and Andrew Flintoff – all of whom inflicted facial injuries – as well as Molcolm Marshall and Devon Malcolm. He also touched upon some of the traits of various players with whom he played for his three Counties. At the end of a splendidly memorable evening, Peter Bowler hurried off at the end of the meal to warm acclaim to make the journey home to Taunton by car just as the blizzard that enveloped Hampshire during the night began to cover the ground.

RETIREMENT OF SHAUN UDAL

Our newest Patron, Shaun Udal, announced his retirement from first-class cricket in October. After leaving Hampshire in 2007, when he originally intended to retire, he spent three productive years, mainly as captain, with Middlesex. The pinnacle, of course, was to lead Middlesex to their Twenty20 triumph at the Rose Bowl in 2008. Such was his affinity with the format, that he was named in England's preliminary squad for the World Twenty20 in 2009.

Shaun Udal spent 22 years in the game, during which he took 822 wickets (avge.32.47) in first-class cricket, and a further 458 wickets (avge.30.19) in List A matches. With the bat he made 7931 runs (avge. 22.59) as well as a further 2966 runs (avge.16.29). This highly popular cricketer can thus look back on a highly successful career that incorporated 4 Tests, including a famous match-winning performance of 4 for 14 at Mumbai in March 2006, 11 one-day internationals, 3 Lord's Finals for Hampshire, in which he finished on the winning side on each occasion, captaining the County to success in the

C&G Final in 2005, as well as over 10,000 runs and 1000 wickets in all cricket, and, as mentioned above, a trophy-winning captaincy for Middlesex. Quite a CV!

All members of the Society are sure to wish Shaun Udal every success in his future career.

TEST CRICKETERS TO ADDRESS THE SOCIETY

ENGLAND (41)

Hubert Doggart	Feb.1980	Dennis Amiss	March 1996
Jack Robertson	April 1980	Godfrey Evans	Sept. 1996
George Mann	April 1981	Robin Smith	Oct. 1996
Maurice Tremlett	Oct. 1981	Graham Gooch	1997
Micky Stewart	Nov. 1982	Roland Butcher	Feb. 1997
Alec Bedser	April 1984	David Gower	Sept. 1997
Alan(A.C.)Smith	Feb. 1986	Derek Shackleton	Dec. 1997
Bob Cottam	Oct. 1986	Tom Graveney	Dec. 2000
Alan Oakman	Feb. 1988	John Stephenson	Oct. 2001
Roley Jenkins	Oct. 1988	Shaun Udal	Sept. 2002
Keith Andrew	Apr.. 1989	Gladstone Small	Nov. 2002
Mike Denness	Nov. 1989	David 'Butch' White	Dec. 2003
Jim Parks	Feb. 1990	Alan Mullally	Sept. 2005
Chris Smith	Nov. 1990	John Crawley	Oct. 2005
Norman Gifford	Nov. 1991	Neil Mallender	Nov. 2005
Doug Insole	Nov. 1992	Peter Walker	Jan. 2007
John Jameson	April 1993	Angus Fraser	Dec. 2009
Derek Underwood	Jan. 1994	Geoff Cope	Oct. 2010
Paul Terry	Oct. 1994	Peter Parfitt	Jan. 2011
Derek Randall	Nov. 1994		
David Steele	Dec. 1995		
Peter Willey	Jan. 1996		

AUSTRALIA (3)

Paul Sheahan	Sept. 1978
John Inverarity	May 1988
David Gilbert	Jan. 1998

SOUTH AFRICA (3)

Barry Richards	
(Coaching Session)	May 1977
Eddie Barlow	Sept. 1986
Jimmy Cook	Sept. 2001

WEST INDIES (5)

Roy Marshall	Oct. 1986
John Shepherd	Feb. 1994
Malcolm Marshall	Sept. 1998
Vanburn Holder	Oct. 2000
Ron Headley	Oct. 2002

ZIMBABWE (1)

Henry Olonga	Dec. 2008
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JOHANN MYBURGH

Johann Myburgh has joined Hampshire for the 2011 season, starting with their trip to the Caribbean T20 tournament in January. It is a most intriguing signing.

JOHANNES GERHADUS MYBURGH was born in Pretoria, South Africa on 22 October 1980. A right-handed batsman and off-break bowler, he was a schoolboy prodigy in his home city. He played in four "Tests" for South Africa Under 19's, touring Pakistan in 1999 and Sri Lanka, for the ICC Under 19 World Cup, in 2000. Among his team mates were Graeme Smith, Jonathan Trott and Jacques Rudolph.

He made a dramatic entry into first-class cricket in 1997/98. In his third match, he broke Graeme Pollock's record for being the youngest South African to score a double century when he made 203 for Northerns B against Easterns in the UCB Bowl competition at Pretoria. He was then only 19 years 4 months old. That innings was made as an opening batsman but he now plays mainly in the middle order.

Though he was promoted to the Northerns first team in 1999/00, it was not until he was in his mid-twenties in 2004/05 that he started to fulfil the promise of his youth. At the start of that season he scored two centuries in successive matches and then in the next, made 115 and 127 not out for Northerns against KwaZulu-Natal at Kingsmead, Durban. He also scored prolifically in the following season with 808 runs (avge.80.80), his best season to date.

Nevertheless, he was unable to gain a place in the Titans franchise to play first-class cricket at the highest level in South Africa after 2004/05. Following just two matches for Northerns in 2006/07, he decided his future lay elsewhere and emigrated to New Zealand. His aim was to play Test cricket after serving the three year qualification period. In three seasons there, playing for Canterbury, he was extremely successful, racking up 2172 runs, averaging 51.71, and scoring 7 centuries. He was Canterbury's Player of the Year in 2008/09.

He then decided it was time for a further career. Though eligible to play for New Zealand after the 2011 World Cup, he turned down a contract with Auckland in pursuit of a career in England. He has therefore not played any first-class cricket this winter hitherto, and would appear to have forfeited his chances of playing Test cricket for New Zealand.

In seventy-three first-class matches, he has scored 5180 runs (avge. 45.43), compiled thirteen centuries and held fifty catches. He has recorded one List A hundred - 112 for Canterbury against Auckland at Village Green, Christchurch in December 2009.

He has taken 30 wickets (avge.44.20). His best bowling figures are 4 for 56 against Northern District at Hamilton in 2008/09.

