

HAMPSHIRE CRICKET SOCIETY SPEAKERS 2016/17

This winter's programme of speakers is an exciting one, comprising of six current or former players and two authors on interesting subjects. There will be four meetings at both the Ageas Bowl and Test Valley Golf Club. The latter will host two afternoon meetings starting at 2pm.

WEDNESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2016 at THE AGEAS BOWL (8pm)

DON TOPLEY has become a familiar presence around the Ageas Bowl this summer. He played for Essex as a right-arm fast-medium bowler between 1985-1994. His was a career laced with incident which should produce stories aplenty. He is, of course, the father of Reece, who joined Hampshire at the start of the season.

WEDNESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2016 at TEST VALLEY GOLF CLUB (8pm)

SEAN ERVINE, Hampshire's 2016 Beneficiary, needs little introduction. He has gained more medals in one-day and t20 cricket, and made more Lord's cup final appearances than any other Hampshire player. His feats in those competitions have already become the stuff of legend. He has always been at his best in adversity whilst remaining the most watchable of batsmen because of his clean hitting and penchant for hitting sixes.

WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2016 at TEST VALLEY GOLF CLUB (2pm)

DEAN ALLEN is the author of the book *Empire, War and Cricket in South Africa: Logan of Matjiesfontein*. It tells the story of how James Logan was influential in developing cricket in South Africa whilst that country was approaching war with the British Empire at the turn of the 20th century. Mr Allen's address earned the plaudits of the Dorset Cricket Society last winter.

WEDNESDAY 7 DECEMBER 2016 at THE AGEAS BOWL (7pm)

ANNUAL DINNER, at which the guest speaker will be **JIM TROUGHTON**. He enjoyed a successful career as an attacking left-handed batsman for Warwickshire from 2001-2014. He led his club to the County Championship in 2012; in the previous season they finished as runners-up, being pipped on the final day of the season. He played for England in six ODIs. He is, of course, a member of a family who have created an acting dynasty. His grandfather, Patrick, was a notable Dr Who in the 1960s and his father, David, is a Shakespearean actor. Jim Troughton himself has earned a reputation as an entertaining speaker.

WEDNESDAY 4 JANUARY 2017 at THE AGEAS BOWL (8pm)

DAVID SMITH was another Warwickshire batsman. Right-handed, he often opened the innings with Dennis Amiss in a career from 1973-1985. He has since built a career in cricket management, including spells as Chief Executive for Leicestershire (2008-2010) and Northamptonshire (2011-2014), as well as holding posts with the ECB. Speakers from Warwickshire have always been most accomplished, and his wide ranging experience should provide the ingredients for an interesting talk.

WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2017 at TEST VALLEY GOLF CLUB (2pm)

MARTIN HOWE is the author of the book *Norman Yardley: Yorkshire's Gentleman Cricketer*. Yardley captained England against Bradman's "Invincibles" in 1948, and

led a fractious Yorkshire side with some very strong characters. Mr. Howe hopes that Yardley's twin sons will accompany him. Speakers on Yorkshire cricket have been few and far between in the Society's history and so an absorbing evening is in store.

WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH 2017 at TEST VALLEY GOLF CLUB (7pm)

TONY BORRINGTON is another speaker who has been highly recommended by other Cricket Societies. He played for Derbyshire as a right-handed batsman from 1971-1980. After leaving the game, he became a schoolmaster. As with Yorkshire, Derbyshire cricket has received relatively little coverage at Society meetings over the years and so it is sure to be an enlightening evening. The Society's AGM will precede the meeting.

WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH 2017 at THE AGEAS BOWL (8pm)

DARREN BICKNELL was a prolific left-handed opening batsman for Surrey (1987-1999) and Nottinghamshire (2000-2006). He is now coach at Oakham School and Chief Executive of a charitable organisation which aims to provide cricket and other sporting activities for young people. He is also a most proficient golfer. His brother is, of course, Martin Bicknell, who played with much distinction for Surrey as an opening bowler and also won test caps for England.

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