

THE HAMPSHIRE CRICKET SOCIETY

Patrons: John Woodcock Shaun Udal

NEWSLETTER No. 358 - DECEMBER 2016

The Society extends a very warm welcome to this evening's speaker, **JIM TROUGHTON**. He will have cause to remember fondly most of his matches against Hampshire. He scored three centuries against the County. He recorded his maiden century of 131 not out a few yards from where he will be standing tonight, in 2002. Wisden described it as "an innings of great elan". Cricket's bible commented that throughout the match he was the "only batsman to master an untrustworthy pitch" and that he played "with great freedom and maturity". He had made 63 in the first innings.

He also put together 103 at Edgbaston in 2006, when all the other batsmen were being teased mercilessly by Shane Warne. Finally, at Edgbaston in 2009, he made his highest score in first-class cricket of 223, sharing in a Warwickshire record fifth wicket stand of 335 with Tim Ambrose.

Though **JAMIE OLIVER TROUGHTON** was born in Camden, London, on 2 March 1979, he is a Warwickshire man through and through. He received his education at Trinity School, Leamington Spa and Birmingham University. His entry to the game was dramatic. After just one championship match in 2001, he passed 1000 runs in his first full season in the following year. His attractive left-hand batting captured the imagination. He was always a batsman with a sense of adventure and a willingness to go for his shots. He was awarded his county cap and played in his first Lord's final as Warwickshire beat Essex to win the last Benson and Hedges Cup. He made two important contributions to his side's victory, scoring 37 and running out the dangerous Graham Napier. He went on to play in three further finals at Lord's, finishing on the winning side again in the CB40 in 2010. In his two other appearances, in the C&G and CB40 finals in 2005 and 2012 respectively, Warwickshire were, of course, defeated on both occasions by Hampshire.

After scoring three centuries in consecutive matches at Edgbaston in 2003, he was selected for England's one-day international side. He played in six matches against Pakistan and South Africa but never looked wholly comfortable and struggled to find his rhythm again when he returned to county cricket.

He played in two championship winning sides in 2004 and 2012, when he was captain. He had led the side when Ian Westwood stepped aside in the middle of the previous season. Always known as an affable character, Wisden commented that his "understated captaincy hid a ruthless streak". In 2011, Warwickshire were just pipped for the title by Lancashire. But for an extraordinary match against Hampshire at Edgbaston, when Warwickshire led by 109 on first innings, his side would have won the title. Chris Woakes' match figures of 10 – 123 (7-20 and 3-103) and 87 runs (64 and unbeaten 23) were trumped by James Vince's 145 and James Tomlinson's four for 113 in the final two innings. Hampshire eventually ran out winners by 209

runs. It is quite uncanny how the two Counties have played so many notable encounters against each other.

A degenerative back problem led to his early retirement from the game in 2014. Nevertheless, he had achieved much: two Championship titles, four Lord's Cup Finals, international cricket, as well as 8,491 runs (avge 35.67), 19 centuries, 88 catches and 22 wickets with his occasional slow left-arm bowling. He scored a further 5,304 runs and took 31 wickets in List A and t20 matches.

He was a splendid fielder and since his retirement, he has been Warwickshire's fielding coach. Away from the game, his artistic nature has manifested itself with work as an illustrator of a children's book *The Legend of Morvidus, The Bear, the Bat and the Ragged Staff*, written by Rachel Weng (pub 2015).

During his career, he was understandably referred to by journalists as being a member of a family who were an acting dynasty. His grandfather, Patrick Troughton, was a memorable Dr. Who in the 1960s. His younger brother, Sam, has worked with distinction with the Royal Shakespeare Company and at the National Theatre. His cousin is Harry Melling who was in the Harry Potter films. Cricket, though, was also in his genes. His great grandfather – Henry Crichton - played two matches for Warwickshire in 1908, one of which, perhaps inevitably, was against Hampshire.

MEETINGS IN 2017

**WEDNESDAY 4 JANUARY 2017 AT 8PM
THE AGEAS BOWL**

DAVID SMITH

Warwickshire and Chief Executive of Leicester and Northamptonshire

**WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2017 AT 2PM
TEST VALLEY GOLF CLUB**

MARTIN HOWE

Biographer of Norman Yardley, Yorkshire and England Captain

**WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH 2017
TEST VALLEY GOLF CLUB**

**7PM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING followed at
8PM BY TONY BORRINGTON
Derbyshire**

**WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH 2017 AT 8PM
THE AGEAS BOWL**

**DARREN BICKNELL
Nottinghamshire**

© Copyright Alan Edwards 2016 (NewsletterEditor@HantsCricSoc.org.uk)