

THE HAMPSHIRE CRICKET SOCIETY

Patrons: John Woodcock Shaun Udal James Tomlinson

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NEW ROLE FOR JAMES TOMLINSON

Our new Patron, James Tomlinson, has been appointed Hampshire Cricket Player Development Manager. The club's website states that "in this role, he will be responsible for both managing and delivering the player pathway whilst also overseeing all boys County age group sides and Regional Performance Centres". The Society wishes him every success in what seems a very large and challenging role. He will no doubt be relishing it.

T10 CRICKET

Cricket continued on its inexorable dumbing down path with the staging of the inaugural international t10 tournament in the UAE in December. Among those taking part were **Liam Dawson and Shahid Afridi** (both for Pakhtoons) and **Rilee Roussow** (Maratha Arabians). Both of their respective sides reached the semi-final. All the Hampshire players enjoyed their moment. Afridi performed the hat-trick when the above two sides met, and was nominated man of the match. His first victim was Roussow (followed by Dwayne Bravo and Virender Sehwag). Roussow went on to win two man of the match awards, and Dawson one.

The six team tournament was won by Kerala Kings, who defeated Punjabi Legends in the final. The former's match winners in that game were the Middlesex duo of Paul Stirling and Eoin Morgan.

The competition was adjudged a success. The participants were enthusiastic. It seems sure to be repeated. It is certain to spawn similar competitions elsewhere in the world. If this is the case, then will the ECB t20 tournament scheduled to be held in 2020 already be "old hat" when it is played? Would it be better for them to change the format to t10? It would benefit both county cricket and test cricket if they did so. The tournament would be played over a shorter timeframe and leave more time for the established game.

MEETINGS

Wednesday 7 February 2018-Meeting

This afternoon's speaker is **KEN BURNEY**, to whom the Society extends a warm welcome. Members will recall his previous visit to the Society in March 2016, when he gave an informative and entertaining address on WG Grace. His subject today will be another Gloucestershire "immortal", **Wally Hammond**. As he did on Grace, Ken Burney will be bringing along some memorabilia on his subject.

Wednesday 3 January 2018-Report

Mark Garaway talked to a powerpoint presentation entitled "Standing on the Shoulders of Giants". His audience was in rapt attention for some 90 minutes as he talked about growing up on the Isle of Wight, his playing career with Hampshire, and then his extensive and varied coaching experience thereafter. Only a book would really do justice to the breadth and range of his talk.

He paid tribute to his father. As a non league footballer, he once scored 55 goals in a season for Cheltenham Town in their pre football league days. When he moved to the island, he and John Hilsum established a nursery at Ventnor CC that supplied a large number of cricketers to the county game in the current millennium. When his father moved to Somerset, and John Hilsum died, that supply line ceased. Ventnor's remarkable rise from the bottom division of the Hampshire League to the top division of the Southern League in 17 years was also halted.

All through his life, our speaker has observed, learnt, and absorbed a huge and varied number of influences. Coaching in South Africa for five years increased his independence. He met Bob Woolmer who opened his eyes in terms of disturbing conventional thinking. At Hampshire, Barry Reed, Tim Tremlett, Robin Smith, Mark Nicholas, Malcolm Marshall and Adi Aymes taught him much, not only about cricket but the psychological aspects of the game.

He made the decision to retire as a player immediately after he heard Malcolm Marshall had died. He had taken his Level 3 coaching examination at the age of 26. In his group were Graham Gooch and Mike Gatting. He was conscious in his early years as a coach that he had played less first-class cricket than most of his contemporaries. Because Tony Middleton was such a good coach he perceived he would need to look outside Hampshire to further his career. He therefore moved to Somerset, where he worked with the Academy. Within two years, Somerset were 2nd XI Champions. Another of his achievements was to encourage Jos Butler to keep wicket. Kevin Shine was also working there at the same time. He then became first team coach. The first three months were difficult as the club had no designated captain. Graeme Smith then arrived to transform the club. He thought Smith was the best leader of them all, exemplified by his captaining South Africa 108 times when he rarely, if ever, had a full say in the composition of the side. Our speaker was very proud of what he achieved at Somerset. The average age of the side was reduced from 32 to 25; they beat Australia in a 1-day game; Somerset became t20 champions; they won the Spirit of Cricket Award; and, through the entertaining cricket they played, he helped turn a loss of £180k into a profit of £27k. Two other pertinent points he made was that it was essential to get the groundsman "on side" and that Somerset were intrinsically linked to Taunton the town, and all that it implied regarding community.

He then became part of the England set-up. Whilst there, he was able to observe the different coaching/management styles of Duncan Fletcher, Peter Moores and Andy Flower. Michael Vaughan was an excellent man manager. He gave fly-on-the-wall insights of the personalities and characters of the team members and their interaction with the coaches.

He mentioned earlier that he had coached Alastair Cook when he was with England Under 15s. At that time, it was evident that he possessed a good cricket brain, had plenty of heart and was stubborn. He added power to his strokeplay when he was older.

After England, he went to Ireland, though the terms of his severance from the former meant that he was unable to work for nine months. He partly filled the time gap by playing club cricket for Chard. It was the first time he had picked up a bat in 14 years. Whilst in Ireland, he was very successful in increasing professionalism and the budget, through working closely with sports organisations, sponsors and the governing body.

He always wanted to return to England, however. Though his main job is Director of Cricket at Millfield, he has a substantial coaching portfolio in other sports during downtime there. Some years earlier, he worked with the goalkeeping coaching at Newcastle United, where Sir Bobby Robson, then manager, was a huge cricket lover. He has also worked with Arsene Wenger and former England rugby union coach Stuart Lancaster (now at Leinster in Ireland). Gordon Lord has often proved a valuable mentor. He is now working on a consultancy basis with Exeter Chiefs, who he regards as having the best culture he has ever worked with. The Aviva Premiership Champions have come into a lot of money but have used it sensibly. There is a great loyalty with the club; some staff have been with them for several years. They are a focal point for rugby union in the South West having developed a number of nursery clubs. He also enjoys support from sports coaches in other fields, including rowing and hockey. He coaches in the school holidays with Andrew Strauss and Will Greenwood, the ex-England rugby union player. He also performs charity fund raising activities for four organisations, including Help for Heroes and the Tom Maynard Foundation, which brings in some £500,000 pa.

Mark Garaway has indeed stood on the shoulders of giants and in the process carved out one of the most interesting, stimulating, inspirational and varied sporting careers.

FORMER HAMPSHIRE PLAYERS COACHING AT INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

A supplement to the December 2017 edition of *The Cricketer* revealed the following former Hampshire players coaching at Independent Schools:-

Jon Ayling	Cricket professional, Dauntsey's School, Devizes
John Crawley	Director of Cricket, Oundle School, Northants
Simon Francis	Director of Cricket/Professional, Warwick School
Mark Garaway	Director of Cricket, Millfield School
Joe Gatting	Cricket professional, Norwich School
Neil Johnson	Cricket professional, Oakham School, Rutland
Raj Maru	Cricket professional, Lancing College
Johann Myburgh	Cricket professional, Framlingham College, Suffolk
Giles White	Cricket professional, Winchester College
Julian Wood	Director of Cricket, Bradfield College, Reading

The Director of Cricket at Winchester College is Paul Gover (Hampshire 2nd XI, Hampshire Cricket Board and Havant).

WALLY HAMMOND v HAMPSHIRE

Wally Hammond's record against Hampshire was paradoxical. Viewed by many as the greatest of all English batsmen, his average (37.52) against Hampshire was his lowest against the Counties. The above figure is set against a career average of 57.06, and 58.46 for test cricket. Though Alec Kennedy dismissed him on nine occasions, no particular Hampshire bowler was his nemesis. His wicket was shared around.

He scored only three centuries against the County, but they all demonstrated his remarkable gifts:

192 at Southampton in 1927

This innings was notable for his reaching 1000 runs for the season on 28 May. He still needed 164 to reach the target at the start of the first day. He made light of the task by scoring his runs out of 227 in only 148 minutes. He made his first 100 runs in 87 minutes, and went on to hit six sixes and 27 fours. Kennedy later recalled: "You would have thought that Wally was playing at the Scarborough Festival in September. Mind you, we had only ourselves to blame. We missed him five times". Hammond had not played any cricket in 1926 due to a serious illness. His great Australian rival, Don Bradman, went on to emulate his feat by twice scoring his 1000th run for the season at the County Ground before the end of May, in 1930 and 1938.

112 at Bristol in 1937

Hampshire's captain, RH Moore, won the toss and asked Gloucestershire to bat on a rain affected wicket. Hammond brought all his mastery to bear. He reached his century in three hours and batted for 218 minutes in all. He hit one six and 11 fours. It was his ninth century of the season (on 7 July), and his third consecutive hundred. Tom Goddard (14-146 match) ensured Hammond's effort was not wasted as Gloucestershire ran out winners by 57 runs. Only two other batsmen – Jack Crapp (51) and John Arnold (55) – reached a half century in the match.

112 at Portsmouth in 1938

Hampshire set Gloucestershire 383 to win, a formidable target in those days. However, Hammond made them fight all the way, as he shared in century partnerships for both the third and fourth wickets. He attained his century out of 174 in 185 minutes, and eventually batted for 175 minutes (one six and 12 fours). Hampshire won by 30 runs, off the penultimate ball.

Hammond's contemporaries often said that, when he put his mind to it, he was a world class all-rounder. If his performances against Hampshire with the bat were surprisingly low key, his bowling was the complete reverse. His tally of wickets (60) and average (21.18) were his best against any County.

He claimed five wickets in an innings on three occasions. In all three matches, he showed his substantial all-round prowess:-

6-59 at Southampton in 1923

After making second top score of 52 in Gloucestershire's first innings, he then opened the bowling when Hampshire batted. He took the first six wickets to fall. However, rain interfered with play continually and there was no cricket on the third day.

5-46 at Southampton in 1928

Hammond's all-round display in this match was peerless. He bowled (25 overs) unchanged with Reg Sinfield (5-62 in 24.4 overs) in Hampshire's first innings, and took four for 89 in 36 overs in the second. He also made 64 and 65 not out, his second innings knock taking Gloucestershire to a seven wicket victory.

5-30 at Southampton in 1937

After scoring 71 and 56, he bowled unchanged with Charles Barnett in Hampshire's second innings. The pair, both more renowned as punishing batsmen, bowled out Hampshire for 74 in only 22.4 overs as Gloucestershire recorded a mammoth win by 297 runs. Barnett claimed five for 40. After overnight rain, their captain, Basil Allen, had declared, leaving Hampshire to bat on a difficult wicket. Goddard was not even required to turn his arm over.

HAMPSHIRE PLAYERS IN THE WINTER

Mason Crane and **Liam Dawson** have been included in the England Lions squads for two distinct groups of matches in the West Indies in February and March. Crane is in the squad for three four-day matches against West Indies A in Jamaica and Antigua. He will leave the Lions tour to join the England squad for the two tests in New Zealand in March and April. Dawson is in the squad for a three match one-day series, also against West Indies A, in Antigua.

James Vince and **Mason Crane** have retained their place in the England squad for the forthcoming test series in New Zealand in March and April. Unfortunately, Vince was unable to reproduce his Brisbane and Adelaide form in the last two Ashes tests. However, until his dismissal, he always looked comfortable. In The Times, Michael Atherton has commented in Vince's case that there is a "test cricketer in there somewhere". Thankfully, the selectors have agreed and given him another opportunity. It seems his main problem is still with concentration. When he is going well, he looks the best batsman in the England side, except perhaps Joe Root. Let us hope that he doesn't become another Mark Ramprakash, or even Tom Graveney. The latter was another batsman who could charm with his glorious cover driving, but was regarded as unreliable for some years. Vince scored 242 runs (avge. 26.88) in the recent series.

Incidentally, Michael Carberry scored 281 runs (avge. 28.10) in the Ashes series in 2013/14, when he ran into Mitchell Johnson in full cry. Given Johnson probably bowled as fast as any man in history on that tour, Carberry was most unlucky never to play for England again.

Vince has also been recalled to England's t20 squad for the three match series in Australia. It seems obtuse that he was ever dropped, such has been his consistency in the county t20 competition for several years. After the Ashes series, Vince has been playing for Sydney Thunder in Australia's BBL.

Mason Crane returned the unflattering figures of 48-3-193-1 on his test debut in Sydney. His runs conceded were a record for an England bowler on debut in test cricket. However, he impressed many, and any criticism was muted. His enthusiasm never flagged. He certainly earned the praise of the Australians. Most referred to the fact that a young blond-haired leg-spinner by the name of Shane Warne took 1-150 on his debut, also at Sydney in 1992.

HAMPSHIRE IN THE WEST INDIES

Hampshire are taking part in the West Indies' domestic 50-over competition, starting on February 1st. They will play each team in their group twice: Barbados Pride, who are the reigning champions, Trinidad and Tobago, Windward islands and Combined Campuses and Colleges. *The Cricketer* state that their group looks to be the more competitive. Kent have been invited to play in the other half of the draw. The top two in each group will form the semi-finalists.

This will be Hampshire's second appearance in a West Indian domestic competition. In January 2011, they participated in the Caribbean Twenty20 tournament and reached the final, in which they were defeated by Trinidad and Tobago.

MARINERS AT THE AGEAS BOWL?

According to the February edition of *The Cricketer*, in the event of the Ageas Bowl playing host to one of the new t20 franchises in 2020, the team playing there will be known as Mariners. Given the rivalry between Southampton and Portsmouth, the name, which encapsulates a primary business activity of both cities, seems to be a sensible compromise. The county of Hampshire is like Australia in that the majority of the population near to the coast. Inland Hampshire has always been a poor relation in sporting terms. It is difficult to see that situation changing.

BRIAN RAVENHALL

The Society's former treasurer, Brian Ravenhall, died in January. He was a Hampshire Life Member and a regular attender of matches at The Ageas Bowl. He was also a loyal member of the Portsmouth and South East Hampshire Supporters Association, for whom he also acted as treasurer. As an umpire and scorer, he was a great supporter of Waterlooville CC for many years.

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