

HAMPSHIRE CRICKET SOCIETY

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HAMPSHIRE'S SEASON (2)

It is scarcely credible that Hampshire did not play a Championship match between 14 July and 30 August, a period of almost seven weeks. Indeed, they played only two four-day matches between 20 May and 6 June, and then none at all until 4 July. The group matches in the new County Championship format are therefore a very distant memory. Newsletter no. 401 reported on the first four matches of the season. This Newsletter covers the remaining group matches.

SOMERSET at The Ageas Bowl 6-9 May. Lost by 10 wickets.

Another Hampshire first innings batting collapse. Somerset won the toss, elected to field and then bowled out the County for just 79 in 40.3 overs. Only Joe Weatherley (20 in 91 minutes) resisted for long. Hampshire made early inroads, and took three wickets before Somerset passed their meagre total. However, a long vigil of over four hours by Tom Abell (64) and an aggressive 74 by Craig Overton took their side to 336 – a lead of 257. Keith Barker (four for 67), in his first outing of the season, was Hampshire's best bowler. Kyle Abbott (3 – 88) also showed signs that he was rediscovering his rhythm. After a promising start, a middle-order collapse, generated by Overton, meant that Hampshire had to bat out time to save the match. James Vince (42) resisted for two and three quarter hours. Felix Organ (7), also making his first season appearance and Barker (52 not out) both batted for two hours in a ninth wicket stand of 64. Eventually, Hampshire totalled 258; Somerset won off the first ball in the last innings.

Hampshire had not taken any batting bonus points from their last two matches; it seemed it would now take a considerable effort for them to remain in contention for the Championship. After their surprise defeat by group leaders, Gloucestershire, Somerset climbed above Hampshire to sit in second place.

Elsewhere, Gloucestershire defeated Middlesex at Lord's by seven wickets at Lord's to maintain their hold on the group. Their new coaching team of Ian Harvey and Mark Alleyne, who were both so influential in Gloucestershire's great one-day successes at the turn of the Millennium, seem to be recreating their special alchemy at Bristol. The surprise result of the round was Essex's innings defeat at Trent Bridge. In the past few seasons, they have found a way of overcoming adversity, but Luke Fletcher's six for 24 as they fell to 99 in their first innings, and Steve Mullaney (117) firmly closed the door to such aspirations. Significantly, perhaps, the formidable bowling trio of Jamie Porter, Peter Siddle and Simon Harmer (who was little used) were kept at bay. Essex's best bowler was Zimbabwean-born Shane Snater (seven for 98).

MIDDLESEX at Lord's 15-17 May. Won by seven wickets

Hampshire returned to winnings ways, though not without a repetition of their fragile top order batting difficulties. The positive feature was that Kyle Abbott fully recaptured his rhythm and returned to form. He (six for 44) and Mohammad Abbas (three for 46) bowled out Middlesex for 172. James Vince who won the toss and elected to field must have felt that his decision was justified. The only batsman to make headway was, significantly in the light of future events, Nick Gubbins (51) in a watchful stay of three and a half hours.

But Hampshire found batting just as problematical, and subsided to 73 for six. Though Vince battled three hours for 62, Hampshire were still some way behind Middlesex upon his dismissal. It was now that Keith Barker took charge. The strongly built left hander eased Hampshire into the lead, though the ninth wicket fell at 177. On reaching a well earned half century, he decided to take out the long handle. He took advantage of the short boundary to strike four sixes. Having taken 97 balls for his fifty, he then plundered 34 runs off just 19 balls. His innings of 84 had psychologically turned the match in Hampshire's favour. The County eventually totalled 208.

When Middlesex batted again, Abbott (five for 41) and Abbas (three for 24) repeated their first innings demolition. They struck at regular intervals with the result that Middlesex were bowled out for 101 in only 29.5 overs.

By now, the match was well into the third afternoon. Localised heavy rain showers were falling all over London. Wet weather was forecast for the entire fourth day. Thankfully, Lord's was spared though the skies were ominous. Hampshire duly reached their target of 66 in the gloom. Sam Northeast put the issue beyond doubt with four calculating boundaries in an unbeaten cameo of 18.

LEICESTERSHIRE at The Ageas Bowl 19-22 May. Match drawn

Returning to The Ageas Bowl after a 20 month absence, Hampshire's members were greeted by the most inhospitable weather imaginable. Torrential rain, a first day thunderstorm, including lightning, and biting gale and sometimes storm, force winds throughout, curtailed play substantially on all four days. Only 123.5 overs were bowled. After losing the toss, Hampshire batted first and made a creditable 233 in an innings that eventually finished twenty minutes into the third day. Ian Holland made a very fine 82, becoming the first Hampshire batsman to pass 500 runs for the season in the process. Kyle Abbott and Mohammad Abbas quickly reduced Leicestershire to 17 for five but the ever prevalent rain fell half an hour before lunch preventing any further play. On the final day, the ground was so soaked that the match could not resume until two o'clock. Leicestershire were eventually dismissed for 84 (Abbott six for 47; Abbas three for 19) thereby evading the follow on by just one run. In a bold gesture, James Vince forfeited the Hampshire second innings, thereby giving his side 22 overs to bowl out Leicestershire again. However, there was no encore of the first innings collapse as the latter crawled to 26 for one in 17 overs before the sides agreed to call it a day.

The highlights in the other matches in the round were provided by three veterans. The scribes are now searching for new superlatives to describe Darren Stevens'

exploits. With Kent on the verge of being bowled out by Glamorgan, he struck 190 in 187 minutes in an innings which included 15 sixes. Moreover, his dominance was such that in a ninth wicket stand of 166, his partner, the normally aggressive Miguel Cummins, contributed just one run! No man has ever monopolised a ninth wicket partnership so extensively.

At Derby, the evergreen Chris Rushworth became Durham's highest first-class wicket taker, as well as claiming his 500th dismissal in Championship cricket. Nottinghamshire's Luke Fletcher, enjoying a purple patch, took ten wickets in the match (seven for 37 and three for 20) as his team recorded a second consecutive innings victory at Worcester.

SOMERSET at Taunton 3-6 June. Match drawn.

This match promised much. Both sides were challenging for a top two place and hence a slot in the mini first division at the end of the season. Keith Barker hustled out four of the Somerset top order as they collapsed to 43 for five. He returned for a second spell to dismiss Tom Banton (45) and opener Steven Davies (47). The score now stood at 113 for seven. James Vince's decision to field looked as if it would pay dividends again. However, it was to prove the high water mark for Hampshire. The dangerous Lewis Gregory (107) and Roelof van der Merwe (88) then added 171 for the eighth wicket to turn the game. After the last two wickets had fallen for another 76 runs, Hampshire were facing a total of 360. Barker's final figures were six for 72. Somerset had extracted revenge of sorts on Kyle Abbott who had torpedoed their Championship challenge in that never-to-be-forgotten match at the Ageas Bowl towards the end of the 2019 season. He conceded 132 runs in 24 overs; his only reward was the wicket of Gregory.

Predictably, Hampshire collapsed to 31 for three. Sam Northeast in his final match for Hampshire, steadied the ship with a typically hard fought 67, but it was Lewis McManus' 91, aided by Barker (33) and Felix Organ (26), who eventually took Hampshire to 311.

Somerset, pressing home their advantage, then scored at four an over as they skated to 323 for six by the close of the third day. With a lead of 372, an overnight declaration was predicted. However, the home side chose to bat on. Though rain was forecast, it seemed a strange decision. Perhaps Somerset did not want to risk defeat under any circumstances. They went on to declare at 409 for seven (Gordon Bartlett 100, Tom Abell 98, Davies 82 and Banton 51 not out). Hampshire were 88 for two, both wickets falling to Gregory, when the rains eventually arrived.

SURREY at The Ageas Bowl 4-7 July. Match drawn

This match, for those who have watched county cricket for any length of time, was by common consent, one of the most memorable they had ever seen. *Sticky Wicket's report of the match appears later in this Newsletter.*

GLOUCESTERSHIRE at Cheltenham 11-14 July. Won by 7 wickets.

This encounter was in the winner takes all category. The team that won would qualify as runner-up in the group for the end of season first division; the loser would play in the second tier. Somerset were virtually assured of winning the group.

As in the previous meeting between the two sides at the Ageas Bowl in April, Hampshire held the upper hand throughout. On that occasion, the Gloucestershire last wicket pair thwarted Hampshire's bowlers for the final 80 minutes to secure a draw. This match was equally engrossing, and a near duplication. The Price brothers - Ollie and Tom, both fledglings, occupied the crease for over an hour on the fourth afternoon, with overs running out. A freak dismissal then gave Hampshire the opening they were seeking. Ollie Price swept a rare long hop from Mason Crane, but the ball hit Tom Alsop fielding at short leg and rebounded to Tom Prest at leg slip. As he had done so often in 2021, Brad Wheal made short work of the two remaining batsmen. Needing 56 to win, Hampshire galloped to victory in 10.3 overs.

Hampshire owed their dominance to a fine all-round bowling performance – de Grandhomme in particular excelling with four wickets in the first innings – and the batting of Nick Gubbins (137 not out). The left-handed Gubbins had been recruited by the County after the enigmatic departure of Sam Northeast to Yorkshire. In Gubbins' case, *The Cricketer* magazine alleged that Middlesex were happy to release him because of their financial position. After starting very slowly – he was virtually strokeless for the first half hour as he gauged the pace and bounce of the pitch – he gradually expanded his stroke range. It was a most mature innings over a shade under six hours, during which he added 129 with Lewis McManus (39) and 97 with the ubiquitous Keith Barker (31). What a valuable season he has enjoyed! Captain Kyle Abbott declared with the Hampshire score on 486 for seven, a lead of 257, with over four sessions remaining.

Gloucestershire closed the third day on 107 for three, two wickets falling to Crane. On the last day, Tom Lacey went on to 118 before falling to the part time off spin of Joe Weatherley, thus setting the scene for the Price brothers' rearguard.

In the final analysis, Hampshire deserved their promotion. Despite their top-order batting inconsistencies, they had won four of their ten matches, and came preciously close to winning three others. They were outplayed only by Surrey at The Oval, when the team were almost certainly suffering a psychological hangover, and fatigue, after their endeavours in the home match against Gloucestershire, and Somerset in both matches.

REMAINING CHAMPIONSHIP FIXTURES

In case members have not seen the schedule, Hampshire's remaining fixtures in the County Championship are as follows:

30 August-2 September	Yorkshire at The Ageas Bowl
5-8 September	Warwickshire at Edgbaston
12-15 September	Nottinghamshire at The Ageas Bowl
21-24 September	Lancashire at Old Trafford

The current points table in Division 1 for the final stages of the County Championship is as follows:-

Warwickshire	21
Somerset	18.5
Lancashire	16.5
Hampshire	8.5
Nottinghamshire	5
Yorkshire	4.5

Hampshire v Surrey July 4-7 2021

By Sticky Wicket

This match had everything a cricket follower could want, apart from a positive result and prolonged sunshine. Hampshire's earlier four-day fixture versus Leicestershire, eagerly anticipated after lockdown, had been a miserable, cold, damp, rain-sodden affair. I attended the first day wearing amongst other clothing, a thermal T-shirt and long johns. They did little to keep out the cold. It was not cricket weather nor were the following three days; they had 'Stay at Home' written all over them.

Surely July would be different. When Surrey won the toss and invited Hampshire to bat first, many of the home supporters must have feared the worst against a strong bowling attack bolstered by the inclusion of Kyle Jamieson, fresh from his performance in the final of the International Test Match Series for New Zealand. Hampshire supporters have experienced many dire batting performances from their side before lunch on the first day of a county match this season.

Surprisingly, Hampshire lost only one wicket before the interval, a good, workmanlike session. Jamieson bowled six overs before leaving the field, thankfully not to be seen again until he batted. Wickets fell regularly in the afternoon session. Alsop looked at his bat having been given out leg before wicket, Gubbins flashed a cut once too often, Vince left the field convinced that he was unfairly given out and the ever-steady Holland joined them just before tea after completing a solid half century. As far as the batting was concerned, normal service had been resumed.

Hampshire's New Zealand recruit, the mighty Colin de Grandhomme made things look much easier in a partnership of 61 runs with Lewis McManus, Keith Barker did not look like troubling the scorers whilst Felix Organ seemed to concentrate so intently on keeping his wicket that he forgot about scoring runs. The forecast showers ended play early after 75 overs with the home team on 229 for 7 wickets, a typically dour county cricket day on a slow pitch, neither side taking control.

My organisational skills took a knock the next day. A family trip to the Weald and Downland Museum was planned without me consulting the diary. Felix Organ came to life and even outscored de Grandhomme, making 67 runs out of a partnership of

127. After Kyle Abbott fell cheaply, Brad Wheal made his highest county score of 45 runs as he and de Grandhomme put Surrey to the sword with a partnership of 114 runs for the 10th wicket. The last three wickets put on 267 runs as Hampshire's innings ended on 488, with de Grandhomme unbeaten on 174, his best first class score, and a record for a Hampshire debutant. As the day unfolded, it became increasingly apparent that I had chosen the wrong day for a family outing as Hampshire reduced Surrey to 42 for 4 wickets by the close of play. Barker bowled a miserly 10 overs and took 3 cheap wickets to put the home side well on top, on a day full of highs for Hampshire and corresponding lows for Surrey. What a day's cricket I had missed!

There was torrential rain overnight so it was no surprise that play was delayed next morning, even though the sun was shining brightly. Being an optimist, I watched the ground staff work hard to prepare the ground for a 1.10pm start. Sod's law meant that the rain returned at 1.08pm! The shower was brief and I anticipated a short delay, but just before 2 o'clock, a nearby spectator said that his rain app. predicted heavy rainfall in two minutes. His app. was extremely accurate and it poured down. I have been to the Ageas Bowl often enough to be able to gauge the likely length of a delay and judged it likely to be about three hours. Like many other spectators, I decided to return home.

When play resumed at 5 o'clock, I tuned into the live stream at home and watched in some surprise as the mighty Surrey collapsed to 72 all out. As if that was not bad enough, they lost a further 2 wickets for just 6 runs before the close. I was left wondering whether I had made the correct decision.

Day four, a good weather forecast and hopes of a Hampshire victory over our rich rivals. Those hopes were raised even more when Amar Verdi, having scored 3 runs from 27 balls, departed with only one more run added to the score. However, I had reckoned without Hashim Amla, who was still in single figures at lunchtime. With Ryan Patel, who made 16, Amla added 21 runs in 29 overs, speeded up with Jamie Smith in a partnership of 30 runs in 16 overs, followed by 27 runs with Ben Geddes in another 16 overs. It was slow going but totally engrossing as he began to extinguish Hampshire's hope of victory.

My fellow watcher departed at teatime being unable to stand another minute of this rear-guard action and, in particular, Amla's obstinacy and steadfastness. I was becoming more and more fascinated by his performance, a mammoth effort of concentration and self-denial. Scoring runs was immaterial; his only concern was protecting his wicket. Another 10 runs in 10 overs with Jordan Clark, 19 runs in 9 overs with Jamie Overton and the finale, 6 runs in 9 overs in partnership with Rikki Clarke to make the game safe for Surrey.

Amla's concentration was unwavering, he had faced 278 balls for his 37 runs. Twenty runs came from 5 boundaries, his other 17 runs were scored off 273 balls, a

run rate of 6.2 per 100 balls. Keith Barker bowled 22 overs conceding just 9 runs and Kyle Abbott 24 overs for 19 runs.

Hampshire must have rued leaving out leg spinner Mason Crane. With Liam Dawson on England duty, they lacked the variety of bowling to win a match against a determined team on the fourth day of the match.

However, hats off to Amla for his 'blockathon'.

Editor's Note: In The Cricket Society News Bulletin for September 2021, Peter Hardy dissected Amla's innings in some detail. He mentioned that Amla achieved the record of facing the most balls in an innings in first-class history for a batsman who scored below 40 runs. He beat the previous record, held by none other than Trevor Bailey, by one ball. "The Boil" frustrated Lindwall, Miller, Davidson, Archer and Benaud for 277 balls when making 38 in the Ashes Test at Leeds in 1953.

Amla's run rate was 13.3 per hundred balls. Mr. Hardy pointed out that in the match against Somerset at The Ageas Bowl this season, **FELIX ORGAN** made 7 off 108 balls – run rate of 6.48 per 100 balls – as, with Keith Barker, he just failed to prevent a Hampshire loss.

T20 VITALITY BLAST

At the halfway stage of the group matches in this year's Vitality Blast, it seemed inconceivable that Hampshire would qualify for Finals Day. All those early matches were required to be played away as the Ageas Bowl had received the honour of hosting the World Test Championship between India and New Zealand. (It turned out to be a match befitting its status).

By the time Hampshire commenced their home programme towards the end of June, they had only defeated Essex at Chelmsford, as well as gaining a further point when their match against Surrey at The Oval was abandoned without a ball being bowled. The return to home territory was greeted by another abandoned match against Middlesex; they then lost to Surrey. Their grip on the competition seemed tenuous at best. However, James Vince's team then won all their remaining five matches. Joe Weatherley, the precocious Tom Prest (see below), and Lewis McManus all scored half centuries. James Vince made 63 before a resplendent 102 off 59 balls against Sussex. All the bowlers played their part. Hampshire began their final match against Glamorgan still with an outside chance of qualifying for the quarter-final final. What then occurred will be remembered for a very long time (yes, t20 matches can evoke memories). Glamorgan ran up an imposing 184. Hampshire needed to pass that total in 14 overs to secure fourth place on run rate, a daunting prospect. Yet, they did so. Vince (39) and D'Arcy Short (69) plundered 101 for the first wicket in 7.2 overs. The latter's previous contributions had been limited to his tidy left-arm chinamen, a very rare sight these days. A minor collapse then ensued before Weatherley struck a whirlwind 43 off just 13 balls (three fours and four sixes) as Hampshire achieved their goal in 13 overs.

The televised quarter-final tie, away to Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge, encapsulated all the facets which Hampshire had displayed in those matches before beforehand. They were restricted to 125 for nine; only Pest (44) and Fuller (30) made any headway. Nottinghamshire then raced away to 66 for the loss of one wicket. Surely the game was up. But the pitch was never easy to bat. Man of the match Liam Dawson (three for 24), Mason Crane (one for 26), and Scott Currie (two for 16) then imposed a stranglehold on the Notts batting. They fell away to 109 for 9, still needing 17 off 13 balls. Matt Carter then clattered two sixes. Notts were surely now going to win. But, as he had done so often in the previous weeks, Brad Wheal sealed victory when Dane Paterson edged to McManus. Hampshire had won by two runs. The players engulfed each other in unrestrained celebration. The editor's iPhone also proceeded to go into ping overdrive!

TOM PREST

On 11th and 12th May, Tom Prest, barely aged 18, made the highest individual score in Hampshire's 2nd XI history when he scored 303 against Sussex Seconds on The Ageas Bowl nursery ground. He opened the innings and batted for nearly nine hours (530 minutes), faced 414 balls and struck 36 fours and one six. By any yardstick, these are quite staggering statistics for any batsman, let alone for one so young. Moreover, earlier in the morning on which he embarked on his innings, he had sat a three-hour A level geography examination.

THOMAS JAMES PREST was born in Wimborne on 24 March 2003, and attended the nearby Canford School. Canford has, of course, a number of Hampshire connections. Derek Shackleton coached there and Jimmy Adams was one of Prest's predecessors. A right-handed batsman, his early performances indicate a rare, precocious, talent. He made 13 and 84 in his sole match for Dorset against Berkshire at Wargrave, in the Minor Counties Championship, in 2019, aged 16. In the same year, he made his 2nd XI debut, when he batted at 10 in the order. He played in three matches that season and never appeared at all in last year's COVID summer when no 2nd XI matches were played. When he next played for the Seconds in June of this year, he opened the innings and made 51 not out against Middlesex at The Ageas Bowl.

Not surprisingly, after his triple century, he was promoted to Hampshire's first team squad for the t20 Blast. He made his County bow at Taunton, when he was dismissed for a single, and then scored a somewhat nervous, skittish, 20 against Surrey on his home debut. However, it was Hampshire's top score. In the next match against Gloucestershire, he held the Hampshire innings together after the early dismissal of his captain James Vince, and overseas signing, the Australian D'Arcy Short, making an unbeaten 59 off 41 balls. It was the manner of his run making that captured the eye. Despite the Hampshire innings being balanced on a knife edge throughout, he looked to score at every opportunity. He continually hit the ball into the gaps, despite constant field changes as the Glosters sought to curb his run scoring. Also, it was an innings full of invention. Reverse sweeps, the ramp, the uppercut, backing away to leg to hit the ball through the off side, and vice versa, as well as conventional shot making; he seemed to have a solution to score off every ball, no matter in which direction and length it was bowled. And the shots were made with absolute certainty. In a historical context, we were watching the complete

modern batsman, at least in white ball cricket, at work. It was a virtuoso performance; in his third senior match and at the age of 18. His horizons seem limitless.

He made his first-class debut in “Amla’s” match against Surrey at the Ageas Bowl, as a full substitute for James Vince, when the latter was called away to play for a Covid-hit England in the one-day series against Pakistan. (And didn’t he do well)! He batted for the first time against Gloucestershire at Cheltenham; he demonstrated he could adapt his game by making 18 off 83 balls, as Hampshire sought to rebuild their innings.

TRIPLE CENTURIES IN SECOND XI CRICKET

There have been four previous triple centurions in the history of 2nd XI cricket for the first-class Counties:

322	Marcus Trescothick	Somerset v Warwickshire	Taunton	1997
306*	Patrick McKeown	Lancashire v Gloucs	Bristol	1998
303*	Will Jefferson	Essex v MCC YC	Billericay	2005
300	Chris Taylor	Gloucestershire v Somerset	Taunton	1999

All except McKeown enjoyed long careers in the game.

The previous highest innings for Hampshire 2nd XI was 251 by Matthew Keech against Glamorgan at Usk in 1995.

A UNIQUE OPENING PAIR

When Ian Holland and Cameron Steel walked to the wicket at Taunton on 3 June to open the Hampshire innings in their Championship match against Somerset, they created a new entry in the County’s history, and perhaps for all first-class cricket in the major Test playing countries.

Both men were born in the United States: Holland in Wisconsin and Steel in San Francisco. To reinforce the novelty of their pairing, both attended Secondary School in Australia: Holland in Melbourne, and Steel in Perth. In Hampshire’s only innings, they put on 15.

CAMERON STEEL joined Hampshire on loan from Durham in April. His appearance at Taunton proved to be his only one for Hampshire’s first team. He scored 15. He later played four matches for Surrey in the Royal London Cup, predominantly as a leg-break bowler.

MORE ON PRINCE PHILIP'S HAMPSHIRE CONNECTIONS

On 27 June 1957, the Surrey and Hampshire teams were presented to The Queen and Prince Philip at Guildford, as part of the 700th anniversary celebrations marking King Henry III's granting a Royal Charter to the town. The occurrence was famously preceded by some bizarre cricket. The Queen was programmed to meet the players at tea on the second day. However, Surrey had won the match by an innings by three o'clock. After a quick discussion, the teams staged a "beer match" to make sure some cricket was still going on. Despite the more light-hearted approach, Hampshire, batting first, still lost wickets in a clatter and, to slow down the collapse, Peter May resorted to using the part-time bowling of Ken Barrington (who, in fact, was a more than useful leg-spinner) and Micky Stewart. According to the latter, the move did not meet with royal approval. Prince Philip wanted to see some proper bowling!

Eighteen years later, Prince Philip nominated former Hampshire captain, Cecil Paris, to succeed him as President of MCC from 1 October 1975. Paris skippered Hampshire in 1938, and had been Chairman of the then Test and County Cricket Board since its inception in 1969.

SCORES OF THE ABOVE MATCH AT GUILDFORD

Hampshire 66 (Peter Loader 7-36) and 108 (Jim Laker 5-46; Loader 4-34).

Surrey 247-4d (Tom Clark 82, Peter May 56, Barrington 40 not out).

Surrey won by an innings and 73 runs.

Loader and Alec Bedser (3-26) bowled unchanged throughout the 100-minute first innings, in which Alan Rayment (12) and Mike Barnard (13) were the only Hampshire batsmen to reach double figures. The Hampshire Handbook recorded that "Loader was almost unplayable in the heavy atmosphere but strangely the ball turned after lunch". May declared at Surrey's overnight score. Hampshire started their second innings well. The score reached 30 without loss, but then Laker took three wickets in 11 balls. Hampshire faced an uphill struggle thereafter. Only Colin Ingleby-Mackenzie (35) made any progress. Loader returned to dismiss him, before ruthlessly despatching the tail. Hampshire's lost their last five wickets for six runs.

A month later, the Surrey fast bowler was selected for England against the West Indies at Headingley, and achieved the hat-trick by dismissing John Goddard, Sonny Ramadhin and Roy Gilchrist to end the tourists' first innings. John Arlott was commentating at the time. His commentary was recorded for posterity in the BBC's Radio Collection: John Arlott-The Voice of Cricket (Classic commentaries from the game's most authoritative voice). Loader's figures of six for 36 in that innings were to remain a career best in test cricket.