

THE HAMPSHIRE CRICKET SOCIETY

SPEAKERS 2017/2018

This winter's programme of speakers is another exciting one, comprising of three former Hampshire players, two ex England cricketers, a well respected author and an authority on Gloucestershire cricket. A speaker is still being arranged for the early March meeting. 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 4 OCTOBER 2017 at THE AGEAS BOWL (8pm)

Members will remember **KEVIN EMERY**, who remains one of the most enigmatic of all Hampshire cricketers. He enjoyed a successful debut season in 1982, when he took 83 wickets and was selected for England B. He seemed to have the world at his feet. However, he then faded from the scene during the following season. In what is sure to be an interesting evening, he will no doubt reveal the reasons why. He played for Wiltshire from 1978-1993.

WEDNESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2017 at TEST VALLEY GOLF CLUB (8pm)

Simon YOUNG is the prime mover in a group called the 1864 Collective, whose aim is to enable and enhance, and in some cases transform, the lives of disadvantaged people, including those with dementia, through watching and playing cricket. Simon has been responsible for ground-breaking work in liaison with families, carers, and various care group and community organisations in giving people with dementia an opportunity to spend a day at the Ageas Bowl to watch the cricket in a supportive environment. A more recent development is the extension of the initiative to some of the leading non-league football clubs in Hampshire. The scheme has been featured in The Cricket Paper, as well as being nominated for national awards. Other Counties, eg Leicestershire, are also introducing such schemes. Simon will therefore be able to give members a unique and informed insight of fast developing inspiring work. He is a Sports Chaplain, and the most enthusiastic and erudite of speakers.

WEDNESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2017 at TEST VALLEY GOLF CLUB (2pm)

ALAN BUTCHER was one of the most prolific opening batsmen in the country over a period of 20 years. In a career with Surrey (1972-1986) and Glamorgan (1987-1992) he scored 22667 runs, including 46 centuries. He was selected for one test for England against India in 1979, and was a *Wisden Cricketer of the Year* in 1991. He then became coach with Essex and Surrey, and 2010, Zimbabwe. He described his experiences in the latter role in the much acclaimed book *The Good Murungu: A Cricket Tale of the Unexpected*. His sons, Mark and Gary, also played first-class cricket. Mark, of course, went on to become an England test regular.

WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER 2017 at the AGEAS BOWL (7pm)

ANNUAL DINNER, at which the guest speaker will be the former Surrey and England off-spin bowler, **PAT POCOCK**. Always known as "Percy", he was one of the best spin bowlers of his generation, who always conveyed a great sense of enjoyment. In a long career with Surrey from 1964-1986, he took 1607 wickets, which included a world record spell of 7 wickets in 11 balls against Sussex at Eastbourne in 1972. In his 25 tests from 1967-68 to 1984-85 he claimed 67 wickets. He has just completed his term as Surrey's President. It is sure to be an entertaining evening.

WEDNESDAY 3 JANUARY 2018 at the Ageas Bowl (8pm)

MARK GARAWAY played four matches for Hampshire between 1996-1999. A wicket-keeper, he was unfortunate in that his career coincided with that of Adi Aymes. Since his playing days, however, he has amassed an impressive coaching CV, having been first team coach at Somerset, England team analyst and assistant coach, and High Performance Director for Ireland. He is now Director of Coaching at Millfield School.

WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2018 at TEST VALLEY GOLF CLUB (2pm)

KEN BURNEY is an authority on Gloucestershire cricket. When he first addressed the Society in March 2016, his subject was WG Grace. It was an enthralling evening, enhanced by his collection of Grace memorabilia. His talk at this meeting will be on **WALLY HAMMOND**, whom many consider to be on a par with Sir Jack Hobbs as England's greatest ever batsman. Stories of Hammond's prowess as a cricketer – he was also perhaps the finest of all slip fielders, as well as a formidable, though reluctant, fast medium bowler – are legion. His performances were extraordinary.

WEDNESDAY 7 MARCH 2018 at TEST VALLEY GOLF CLUB (8pm)

Some of the members of the hugely successful **SOUTHERN VIPERS** side will be coming to this meeting. The Vipers have increased the profile of women's cricket significantly and, in 2017, have had a bearing on the Hampshire County side gaining promotion to the 1st division for the first time. An interesting and informative meeting is assured.

WEDNESDAY 28 MARCH 2018 at THE AGEAS BOWL (8pm)

ADI AYMES graduated to the first-class game via village cricket. He played for his club, Hursley Park, in the National Village Championship at Lord's in 1984. In a Hampshire career from 1987-2002, he scored 7338 runs and claimed 560 dismissals. The substantive part of his career was in four-day cricket. He was passionately proud to be a professional cricketer, who set himself demanding standards. As a batsman, he was always at his best in a crisis; few Hampshire batsmen have ever sold their wicket so dearly. Since leaving the game, he has worked in various management and coaching roles in senior non-league football in Hampshire, latterly with Havant and Waterlooville.

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