



# THE HAMPSHIRE CRICKET SOCIETY



**Patrons: Shaun Udal James Tomlinson Kevan James**

**Website: <http://www.hantscricsoc.org.uk>**

## Notes on Speakers 2023-2024

### WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2023

#### **ROBBIE JAMES ON SHANE WARNE**

Robbie James is the announcer at the Ageas Bowl. He earned the plaudits at the start of the summer for an acclaimed and memorable podcast on Shane Warne, on whom he will be talking. He has worked for various BBC Radio Stations, both nationally and locally.

### WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2023

**PATRICK MURPHY** was one of the most instantly recognisable voices on BBC Radio Sports programmes for several years. He possessed the priceless gift of empathising with his subjects. He covered twelve England Cricket Tours. He has written over forty books and has collaborated with, among others, Imran Khan, Wasim Akram, Allan Donald, Viv Richards and Graham Gooch. He has also written informed biographies of Brian Clough and Ian Botham, as well as a well-researched book on those cricketers who scored over a hundred centuries. His work on Warwickshire's highly successful side of 2004 when they were County Champions, Benson & Hedges Cup winners and Sunday League Champions, received particular praise.

### WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2023

**ANDY MURTAGH** is a man who has enjoyed three distinct careers. Whilst reading English at Southampton University he joined Hampshire's playing staff and went on to become a member of the side that won the County Championship in 1973 and the John Player League in 1975. In 1980 he joined the staff at Malvern College where he taught English, ran the cricket and became a Housemaster for 18 years. He served on the Committee with Worcestershire CCC for a while. He then carved out a highly successful career as a cricket biographer. His subjects have been George Chesterton, who was a former Worcestershire Captain and colleague at Malvern College, Tom Graveney, Colin Cowdrey and his Hampshire team mates, John Holder and Barry Richards. He has a distinctive, breezy, analytical style of writing and all of his books have been exceedingly enjoyable.

### WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2023

**FRED RUMSEY** is almost certainly the fastest left-arm bowler ever to play for England. Born within the sound of Bow Bells, he started in the glove business, but then took a major drop in salary to become a professional cricketer with Worcestershire and then Somerset. Independently minded, he took it upon himself to persuade his fellow cricketers that they should form a union, the product of which is the influential and highly successful Professional Cricketers' Association. He was a pioneer of public relations in cricket, working for some years for Derbyshire, and for whom he briefly played on Sundays. He has also run his own travel company and created a long-lasting Cricket Festival in Barbados. His autobiography *Sense of Humour, Sense of Justice*, captured his personality perfectly.

He will be interviewed by **STEPHEN CHALKE**, publisher of Fred Rumsey's autobiography. Stephen needs little introduction. He has addressed the Society on more occasions than any other speaker.



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His works, whether as author or publisher, revolutionised cricket writing over a period of some thirty years. He is now Chairman of the Cricket Societies Association.

## **WEDNESDAY 10 JANUARY 2024**

**James Taylor** played for Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and England. Due to a serious heart condition, he had to retire from cricket but since then he has been a Test Match Special summariser, written his autobiography, become a coach and appointed as an England selector.

## **WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2024**

**SIMON MANN** is best known as a well-respected and longstanding member of The Test Match Special Team. He has also commentated on the Indian Premier League and several of the International One-Day Competitions. He supports Gloucestershire and Bristol City.

## **WEDNESDAY 13 MARCH 2024**

**DEREK PRINGLE** was an integral part of the side which was the most successful in Essex's history. He also played for an England team which, according to the cover of his book *Pushing the Boundaries: Cricket in the Eighties; Playing Home and Away*, was capable of extreme highs and lows. He made 30 Test appearances and also played in 44 One Day Internationals, including the World Cup Final in 1992. He will almost certainly be the last man to be chosen for England whilst at university. He is now a journalist whose work is in the must-read category. His autobiography, mentioned above, is one of the most enjoyable published in recent years.

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