HAMPSHIRE CRICKET SOCIETY

Patrons: John Woodcock Shaun Udal James Tomlinson

NEWSLETTER No. 379 – March 2019 (1)

MEETINGS

NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 27 MARCH 2019

The final meeting of the winter, at the Ageas Bowl, and at which the speaker is the former England player, CHRIS LEWIS, will start at 8.30 pm (instead of 8pm) to enable members of the Society to attend the Hampshire members' AGM beforehand on the same evening.

DAY AT THE CRICKET

The Society's Day at the Cricket, now an annual feature of our programme, will be held on Saturday 13 July, which is the first day of the Championship match against Kent.

<u>Wednesday 6 March 2019 – Meeting</u>

The Society is delighted to welcome **CHARLOTTE EDWARDS** to this evening's meeting. Since the first Women's Test in Brisbane in December 1934, England have produced a number of players who have entered the national consciousness (even if the public would not normally have recognised them). In the 1930s, there was Myrtle Maclagan, Molly Hide and Mary Duggan. There was then a gap until the 1960s when Rachael Heyhoe Flint became an iconic figure. Her career overlapped with that of Enid Bakewell, still England's best all-rounder, in the next decade. Apart possibly from Flint, none enjoyed a higher profile than this evening's speaker. For the best part of two decades Charlotte Edwards was the English game's most emblematic figure: an inspiration to every budding young woman cricketer throughout the land. We know from the appearance of Charlie Wright and Emily Windsor last year that she was the cricketer that all young girls aspired to be. Midway through her long twenty-year international career, her profile was undoubtedly aided by the advent of professionalism, and television, in women's cricket, but, despite the constant glare of publicity, she always attracted positive comments.

Our speaker became synonymous with the game and, through her achievements, lifted its standing. It began to attract a wide audience. It was recognised as the same game as that played by men. Even today, some two years after her retirement, Charlotte Edwards remains the most instantly recognisable figure in the sport.

CHARLOTTE MARIE EDWARDS was born in Huntingdon on 17 December 1979. Brought up on a farm, her family were steeped in cricket and she carried on the family tradition. She captained her secondary school team and the Huntingdonshire boys team Under-17 level. Not surprisingly, she was the only girl.

She was selected for the England Women Under-19 team at the tender age of 12. By 1996, aged 16, she was in the England test side; the youngest debutant at the time. She plundered a century off only 118 balls against the touring South Africans, followed by a then record ODI innings of 173 not out in India in the World Cup against Ireland. Apart from time out of the game in 2000/01 through a cruciate ligament injury, she continued to score prolifically until her enforced retirement from the England set-up in 2016. She was well travelled, having played in all the major nations (except Pakistan) and with MCC to Canada and the United States in 2016. She then devoted time to help establish women's cricket in Hampshire, having previously played county cricket for Kent.

Charlotte Edwards' achievements are simply mind boggling. Her statistical legacy is also immense. Her aggregate of 1645 runs (avge. 45.69) in 22 Tests has been exceeded only by Janet Britten for England; her 5992 runs in 191 ODIs is unparalleled by an English woman and exceeded only by India's Mithali Raj. Her aggregate of 2605 runs in 95 T20 matches is also an England record. In all international cricket she struck 13 centuries and 67 fifties. Cricket Archive lists her as scoring 21,860 runs (including 42 hundreds and 117 half-centuries) in all formats of the game, as well as taking 205 wickets with her leg spin bowling, and holding 187 catches. Her highest score was 199 not out for Diamonds against Sapphires in a "Super Fours" 50 over match at Uppingham School in 2006.

As a captain, she was a serial winner. She led England to victory in three Ashes series and in 2009 she captained England in two successful World Cups for which she became the ICC Woman's Player of the Year. On the domestic scene she captained the Southern Vipers in their successful inaugural Kia Super League Tournament in 2016, and Hampshire to their 50 over County Championship last summer in their first ever season in the top flight.

Our speaker was awarded the MBE in 2009 and CBE in 2014. She was the second woman cricketer (after Claire Taylor in 2009) to be nominated as one of Wisden's Cricketers of the Year, in 2009. Her standing in the game is such that she sits on the MCC World Cricket Committee. She is currently Hampshire Cricket's Women's Director.

The Society is extremely grateful that Charlotte Edwards has taken time out from her busy schedule to be with us this evening.

WOMEN, MEN and CRICKET

'Is she scoring?'
'Can she score?'
'Does she make mistakes?'
'Does she use coloured pencils?'
My wife had said to me that she would like to score a cricket match, so I bought her a scorebook for her birthday. The above comments are a random selection of those made by mainly older, patronising, male spectators on the first day my wife opened her scorebook at the Ageas Bowl. She commendably kept her silence since the comments were not addressed to her, but to the world at large. Charlotte Edwards'

talk to the Society led me to reflect upon male attitudes to women in the history of cricket.

My research highlighted the importance of women's cricket in history and I offer a few salient facts.

The first recorded women's cricket match was played at Guildford between the Eleven Maids of Bramley and the Eleven Maids of Hambledon as early as 1745. It is now thought that Hambledon concerned is the village in Surrey rather than its more famous namesake in Hampshire.

In October 1811, two noblemen made a match for 500 guineas per side, between teams from Hampshire and Surrey. The occasion was captured by Thomas Rowlandson in a well known painting which portrays the women in rather racey, unflattering, attire. The work would indisputably be termed sexist today, but it undoubtedly reflected the social mores and attitudes of the male dominated society at the time.

Legend has it that overarm bowling was 'invented' by Christine Willes, in order to avoid becoming ensnared in her skirts when bowling to her brother, John, in a barn. He subsequently adopted this style in his professional career.

Martha Grace was known as the 'Mother of Cricket' with three of her sons, E.M., G.F. and the immortal W.G., whom she coached as children, playing in the first Ashes test in England at The Oval in 1880.

Rumour has it that women played cricket at Headingley before men!

The first player to score a century and take ten wickets in a test match, was Betty Wilson of Australia in the 1957/58 series against England. The first player to score a double century in a one day international was also an Australian, Belinda Clarke in the 1997 World Cup.

Cricket's first global event was the Women's World Cup in 1973.

It would be true to say that women have always had to fight for their rightful status in cricket. On their first test tour of Australia in 1934, the England women's team had to pay their own expenses. The matches were certainly popular, there was an average of 4500 spectators for each of the three days of the Sydney test match. When the Australian women's team visited England in 1937, the home players had to raise £1150 towards their opponents' expenses. The final match of that tour drew 10,000 spectators to the game played at Mitcham Green.

In 1930, 25% (1387) of Lancashire County Cricket Club members were female, yet were barred from becoming full members or entering the pavilion.

England women played their first test match at Lords in 1976, but only after Middlesex failed to qualify for the quarterfinals in the one-day cup competition, leaving an available date.

As late as 1996, Charlotte Edwards had to pay for her own blazer and cap on her debut for England.

Women were finally admitted to membership of the M.C.C. on the third vote in 1998, the second vote being instigated by Colin Ingleby-Mackenzie. His successor as M.C.C. President, Tony Lewis, rebutted the allegation that the decision was motivated by a desire to obtain lottery funding, which had previously been denied them.

However, there has been a comprehensive change in recent years with national cricket boards taking on responsibility for running women's cricket, live television coverage, sponsorship and professionalism at the top level. Women's cricket is now readily accepted by all generations.

Isabelle Duncan and Isabelle Westbury are familiar and accomplished commentators on the county circuit, Alison Mitchell and Ebony Rainford-Brent are regular contributors to Test Match Special and Emily Windsor has brought a welcome breath of fresh air to cricket commentaries on Radio Solent.

Significantly, in 2009 Claire Taylor was the first woman to be named as one of Wisden's Five Cricketers of the Year. Scyld Berry, the editor, said that not to recognise her achievements would have been 'a sin of omission, an act of prejudice'.

(Editor's Note: In growing recognition of the place of Women's Cricket in the mainstream calendar, Claire Taylor and Charlotte Edwards were joined by Heather Knight, Anya Shrubsole and Natalie Scivier in the 2018 edition of Wisden).

A further sign of the change in attitudes became apparent in January 2016 when Chris Gayle made a pass at a female journalist, Meg McLaughlin, on live television. At first, it was dismissed as banter but the Australian public took issue with his behaviour. He was soon the subject of criticism from his peers, fined by his franchise and reprimanded by Cricket Australia. He has not found another franchise since the incident.

If progress towards equality stalls, we should remember that women are more than capable of making their voices heard. On April 11th 1913, suffragettes reputedly burnt down the pavilion at The Nevil Ground in Tunbridge Wells, as part of their campaign against male-dominated sporting institutions. It probably did not help that one of the officials was quoted as saying that 'It was not true that women were banned from the pavilion, who do you think makes the teas?'

Acknowledgements: 'Skirting the Boundary' Isabelle Duncan
Cricket and Sexism by Tanya Aldred , Wisden Cricketers Almanack 2018

Sticky Wicket

Dave Allen writes on the NEW HAMPSHIRE CRICKET HERITAGE Ltd

In the days of Hampshire County Cricket Club, the elected committee that ran everything had a Museum Sub-Committee. When we moved to the Ageas Bowl and became a plc, history was mostly in the hands of Neil Jenkinson and me, with titles like Hon Curator or Hon Archivist, sometimes working with an informal committee, and reporting to the Members' Committee.

Over the past couple of years that work has been carried out mainly by Richard Griffiths and Stephen Saunders who have both done a fine job, somewhat constrained because they live respectively in Yorkshire and Kent! So, towards the end of last season Terry Crump took over as Chairman of the newly designated Hampshire Cricket Heritage Ltd with Richard, Stephen and Mike Lashley from the plc as Directors. I have an advisory role am now known as the Historian.

The creation of a limited company allows us to exercise control over the broad range of historic artefacts, whether they are on display at the ground, on show at temporary exhibitions and events or kept in the Archive at the ground, where we also have a library which is *principally* about Hampshire cricket, but includes a complete run of post-war *Wisdens* and key publications about the history of cricket.

Part of the Heritage tasks fulfilled by HCH Ltd will be to raise funds to maintain our present collection and to add to it as necessary. To this end, funds raised at Members' Day and Life Members' Day will go towards funding the work of HCH Ltd. In addition, HCH Ltd, through Terry, is now working with Keith Wheatley in the organisation required to arrange Hampshire Cricket Past Players' Day, which Hampshire Cricket have hosted for many years.

We live in hope of course of one day having a 'museum' of some kind, to display more of the artefacts, but in the meantime, we continue to use display spaces wherever available – this season for example there is a new tribute to Mike Barnard on display in one of the cabinets in the Robin Smith suite. We are also contributing to a couple of events in the World Cup visits Hampshire in February. On the Sunday it is travelling back in time to Broadhalfpenny Down, Hambledon where Stephen and I have arranged a display of artefacts about previous World Cups and the great days of the 18th Century at Hambledon. On the following morning, I will be participating in the trophy's arrival at our most modern of grounds with some stories about World Cups with particular relevance to Hampshire – and a surprising link to the World Cup triumph of Moore, Charlton, Ball and the others.

These events are enjoyable because we can display some of the artefacts that otherwise stay hidden away – and tell the stories linked to them. We are also particularly keen to make increasing use of new technologies, both for display and archival purposes. For example, for some years I have been developing a digital archive of photographs – particularly individual portraits and team pictures, and we now have a pretty comprehensive collection. In addition, I run a Blog, Hampshire Cricket History, but there is always the worry that digital resources might not survive the frequent technological revolutions (VHS tapes anyone?) so we make sure that the real objects are stored carefully.

For the same reason, for some years, we have taken care to commit to print – we have quite a collection of books that go back beyond a century so we hope that publications like *150 Not Out* or last year's A-Z of all our players since formation in September 1863 will survive for future generations, and in both cases, will invite updating – we probably won't be around for *200 Not Out!*

NEWS OF HAMPSHIRE PLAYERS DURING THE WINTER

Since the start of this year, **James Vince** has played t20 cricket for Auckland in New Zealand, for Sydney Sixers in the Australian KFC Big Bash, and for Multan Sultans in the HBL Pakistan Super League in Sharjah and Dubai. He was drafted by the Sydney franchise as a replacement for Joe Denly, when the Kent batsman joined the England team in the West Indies. Vince was particularly successful in Australia. With scores of 75, 74 not out, and 43 not out as his team reached the semi-finals, in which they were then defeated by Melbourne Renegades, who then went on to win the Competition. The Hampshire captain then jetted off to play for Multan Sultans. Unfortunately, he was dismissed first ball in his first match against Peshawar Zalmi, for whom Liam Dawson was playing.

Liam Dawson has also been playing t20 cricket. He turned out for Comilla Victorians in the Bangladesh Premier League, before appearing for Peshawar Zalmi (above), for whom he was primarily selected as a middle-order batsman, where he did well, rather than as a bowler.

Rilee Rossouw also played for Quetta Gladiators in the latter competition. His one innings of note in four matches was 67 not out against Multan Sultans in Sharjah, before Vince's arrival..

Joe Weatherley has been playing grade cricket in Melbourne.

NEW ASSISTANT COACHES

Hampshire have completed their new coaching structure by recruiting **JIMMY ADAMS** and **ALFONSO THOMAS** as Assistant Coaches. The former is therefore continuing his long association with the Club.

Born in Cape Town on 9 February 1977, Alfonso Clive Thomas enjoyed a productive career in his native country as an all-rounder, before playing county cricket for Warwickshire and Somerset. He was particularly successful in the West Country, where he also acquired a formidable reputation as a "death bowler" in limited overs and t20 cricket. Such was his reputation in t20 cricket, he was signed by Adelaide Strikers in the inaugural BBL in 2011/12, before joining Perth Scorchers in the following winter. Immediately prior to joining Hampshire, he spent a year as a bowling coach for the West Indies.

In a first-class career from 1998/99 until 2015, he scored 4130 runs (avge. 23.07), including two centuries, and took 547 wickets (avge.26.34). Interestingly, his highest score in the Championship was against Hampshire: 94 at Taunton in 2011. Hampshire won that match by an innings and 61 runs, with his now fellow coach scoring 207, during which he (Adams) and Michael Carberry, posted a Hampshire record second wicket partnership of 373.