

# BEYOND THE Boundaries

THE PCA MEMBERSHIP MAGAZINE FOR PLAYERS PAST & PRESENT

**BIG BIKE RIDE 2  
BACK ON THE ROAD  
FOR TEAM PCA**

**PCA AWARDS  
RUSHWORTH  
IS YOUR MAN**

**HAMZA  
SIDDIQUE  
ACTING UP**

**ANDREW STRAUSS  
LEADING FROM  
THE FRONT**



**"THE FIRST  
TWO DAYS OF  
CYCLING WERE  
VERY CHALLENGING  
WITH A LOT OF HILLS,  
BUT THE 100-MILE DAY WAS  
ONE OF THE BEST I'VE HAD -  
AND ULTIMATELY WE'RE  
SUPPORTING TWO  
FANTASTIC CAUSES"**

**DARREN GOUGH  
ON BBR2**

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#### EDITOR

JASON RATCLIFFE  
jratcliffe@thepca.co.uk

#### ART DIRECTOR

SAM BOWLES  
sam@bowlesassociates.com

#### FEATURES WRITER

PAUL BOLTON  
pbolton@thepca.co.uk

#### PCA CO-ORDINATOR

ALI PROSSER  
aprosser@thepca.co.uk

#### PDWP CO-ORDINATOR

IAN THOMAS  
ithomas@thepca.co.uk

#### CONTRIBUTORS

NICK DENNING  
VICKY ELWICK  
CHARLIE MULRAINE  
ALEX ROGERS  
LYNSEY WILLIAMS  
MATT WOOD

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

GETTY IMAGES  
PORTRAITCOLLECTIVE.COM

#### COVER IMAGE

ROB BURCHELL

#### DESIGN

BOWLESASSOCIATES

## FROM THE EDITOR

**W**elcome to another bumper edition of Beyond the Boundaries at the end of a busy summer.

Congratulations to England and their captain Alastair Cook on regaining the Ashes in a series that saw full houses at Cardiff, Lord's, Edgbaston, Trent Bridge and the Kia Oval.

The series was the first under the new coaching team of Trevor Bayliss and Paul Farbrace and was an early success for Andrew Strauss in his new role as Managing Director of England Cricket.

Andrew, a PCA member, has shared his thoughts on his appointment, the Ashes series and his plans for the future in an interview for Beyond the Boundaries in another View from the Top.

The Women's Ashes were regained by Australia but the series attracted unprecedented levels of public and media interest and further raised the profile of women's cricket in this country. England all-rounder Georgia Elwiss has given us a player's eye view of the summer in this issue.

It has been another busy summer for the PCA and the wide range of activities and services is covered here.

There have been two major fund-raising events in recent months with Big Bike Ride 2 and Cricket United Day at the Kia Oval both generating significant funds for the PCA Benevolent Fund, generously supported by Royal London.

More than 70 riders, including many past and present players, took part in Big Bike Ride 2 which covered more than 400 miles from Truro in Cornwall to the Kia Oval in just five days. The proceeds from the event will be shared with the Tom Maynard Trust with whom we work closely.

Although Big Bike Ride 2 is now over it is not too late for us to receive donations. Full details are on the PCA website.

The third Cricket United Day again saw the Benevolent Fund team up with the Lord's Taverners and Chance to Shine to raise funds and awareness of

the three cricketing charities. Each year the day has increased public participation and fundraising.

We were delighted that Jamie Hood, one of the recipients of Benevolent Fund help, was able to travel to the Oval and to generate positive publicity for the PCA's own charity. You can read Jamie's story and how we have also helped former Hampshire player Alan Wassell in these pages.

Keeping current players abreast of the latest developments in the game is part of the PCA's brief and this issue includes details of the new ECB Illicit Drug Programme, an alcohol awareness programme and the results of the latest player survey that we carried out into the domestic structure.

Our annual Past Players' Day at Cheltenham benefitted from great weather and good cricket. Around 120 past players gathered to enjoy each other's company and terrific hospitality. As you will see from the sheets within this posting, we're still trying to track down some members. I hope you can help us with this huge task.

The end of the season is tinged with sadness with players retiring or being released. Among those who have announced their retirement this year are Vikram Solanki, who was PCA Chairman from 2009-2103, Mike Yardy, who won a PCA Scholarship Award this year, and Stephen Peters, who was Northamptonshire's PCA representative for several years.

We wish them, and all other players leaving the game, all the very best for the future.

Transitioning out of cricket can be daunting but we hope that the Personal Development section of Beyond the Boundaries will again offer some useful practical assistance.

In this issue we look at Darren Maddy and Oliver Newby who have both forged successful careers outside of cricket, possible careers in insurance and as financial advisors and running your own coffee shop and wine bar as Kevin Latouf, the former Hampshire batsman has done.

Personal Development is not just for players as Ashley Giles, Lancashire's Director of Cricket reveals, and Ian Salisbury also discusses his heartening return to coaching with the England Physical Disability team.

The PCA are also saying goodbye to Angus Porter as our Chief Executive after five-and-a-half years, during which our Association has continued to expand its services and support for members. Angus has been a great role model in many ways and we all thank him for guiding and growing us over his tenure.

The nights are drawing in which means that winter is on the way. I hope you all enjoy the close season whether you are spending it in Abergavenny or Abu Dhabi, Port Elizabeth or Portsmouth.

Jason





## MEMBERS NEWS

# FALKLANDS CALLING

**Graeme Cessford** has swapped the leafy surroundings of Worcestershire's picturesque New Road ground for a very different landscape in the South Atlantic.

Cessford, 32, spent two years playing county cricket as a fast bowler on sabbatical from the Royal Air Force but he returned to active service after being released by Worcestershire at the end of the 2014 season.

Cessford was posted initially to RAF Spadeadam in Cumbria but since late August he has been working in the air traffic control tower of the Mount Pleasant airfield on the Falklands.

"One of our roles is to drive round the airfield scaring away the birds from the runway and fire off bird-scaring cartridges," he said.

"On a good day we have about eight aircraft movements, but they always seem to be around the same time as each other. It is also weather dependant as it can be sunny one minute then six inches of snow the next."

Before he was posted to the Falklands, Cessford had continued to play representative cricket for the RAF, which is where Worcestershire first spotted him.

"I spent the summer playing for the RAF, which is always good fun getting

back playing with a good bunch of lads," he said.

"We had our T20 tournament at Lord's where we won our first match against the Navy and were then narrowly defeated by the Army, who were the best team on the day.

"Due to my posting with the RAF being back up north I returned to play club cricket for Chester-le-Street in the North East Premier League.

"I played for them for seven seasons before I got the chance with Worcestershire so it was nice to go back."

Despite the disappointment of being released, Cessford enjoyed his stint with the county and the opportunity it gave him to play first-class cricket.

"I learnt a lot about myself over the two years I had at Worcestershire and I can be proud of what I have achieved," he said.

"To come into the game at 29 after dreaming of playing county cricket for years. I have to say a big thank you to the backroom staff at Worcestershire. I gave it my all. I ticked the box to say I have played."



GRAEME CESSFORD JOINS THE WELCOMING PARTY AT NEW ROAD AS THE RAF DELIVERED THE MATCH BALL FOR WORCESTERSHIRE'S CLASH WITH AUSTRALIA, IN 2013.

## HOGGARD MAKES A SPLASH

Matthew Hoggard, one of England's 2005 Ashes heroes, has been making a splash this year to raise money for Cricket Without Boundaries.

The former Yorkshire and Leicestershire swing bowler has taken part in open water swimming events in the Lake District, Suffolk, Manchester and Scotland to help the charity celebrate its 10th anniversary.

"I am delighted to have taken part in the Great Swim Series to help Cricket Without Boundaries continue



to grow the game in Africa and use it as a vehicle to deliver vital health messages.

"Cricket has given me so much over the years and it was great to be able to give something back."

Cricket Without Boundaries is a UK-based, volunteer-run charity which was founded by three friends, Andy Hobbs, Chris Kangis and Ed Williams who gave up their jobs to spend six months travelling from Cairo to Cape Town coaching cricket along the way.

## PORTER STEPS DOWN

Angus Porter has announced that he is to step down as Chief Executive of the PCA after five-and-a-half years in the role.

Porter joined the PCA in March 2010 having previously held leading positions at British Telecom, Abbey National and Thomas Cook.

"Angus has let us know that he feels it is time for him to move on. Whilst we are very sad to see him leave we are extremely grateful for the exceptional management, guidance and commitment he has given during his time with us," said PCA Chairman Mark Wallace.

"Angus joined us at a challenging time for the organisation and under his direction the PCA has steadied, developed and thrived.

"He is held in the highest regard not only at the PCA, but throughout the cricketing world and has led and initiated many developments to our benefit. Personally and on behalf of all the membership I would like to thank him most sincerely."

A recruitment process to find Porter's successor is underway and Odgers Berndtson, a leading international executive search firm, have been appointed to assist the PCA.



## GRADUATION DAY

Worcestershire seam bowler Graeme Whiles has graduated from Worcester University with a 2:1 degree in journalism and media studies with a little help from the PCA.

The 21-year-old Yorkshireman interviewed PCA Ambassador and former England fast bowler Steve Harmison, the Association's Social Media Executive Luke Reynolds and Communications Officer Paul Bolton for his dissertation on 'A Study Focusing on the Impact of Twitter on Cricketers and Journalists' Relationships.'

The interviews were facilitated by Lynsey Williams, one of the PCA's team of Personal Development and Welfare Managers and Whiles also interviewed Ed Kemp and Henry Cowen from All Out Cricket magazine, where he did some work experience.

"Without the help of all those guys there is no way I would have been able to complete this study and get a 2:1 at university," Whiles said.

"I owe so much to Lynsey Williams for her constant help and suggestions and for putting me in contact with players such as Steve Harmison that I would otherwise not have been able to reach."

## PCA TO SPONSOR CRICKET WRITERS

The PCA have agreed a sponsorship deal with the Cricket Writers' Club to help promote the MVP Rankings.

David Fulton, the former Kent captain, sends out regular MVP Rankings bulletins and was a key figure in securing the sponsorship deal with the Cricket Writers' Club.

As part of the arrangement the CWC have agreed to encourage their membership, which includes most national and regional cricket writers and broadcasters, to actively support and promote the MVP Rankings with regular mentions in copy and Tweets as well as using the data provided.

"The MVP Rankings have been running now since 2007 and are widely regarded by all in the game, most notably the players, to be an excellent benchmark of overall performance and contribution within the unique team environment," said Jason Ratcliffe, PCA Assistant Chief Executive.

"We've been able to create an overall winner each season, or winter period for England, but also to drill down competition by competition.

"We're really pleased to have teamed up with CWC and hope that in a sport which lends itself so well to statistics, they will add value to many a column inch, both on and off line."

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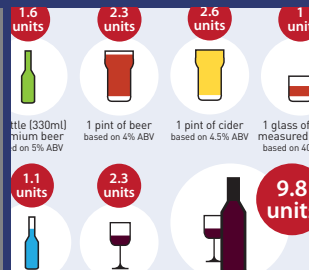
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# DOCTOR'S ORDERS

**Jim Cumbes**, the former Lancashire Chief Executive, has been awarded an honorary doctorate by Manchester Metropolitan University in recognition of more than 50 years of service to cricket and the North West region.



Cumbes left school with just four GCEs but his work as Chief Executive at Manchester, during which time Old Trafford was redeveloped, and a 20 season playing career, secured him the university's prestigious honour.

Cumbes was presented with his doctorate in business administration at a degree ceremony at Manchester's Bridgewater Hall.

"I was staggered. I didn't know what to say when I got the letter. If my school teachers had known they would have wondered what on earth was going on," Cumbes said.

"The citation said I was being awarded a doctorate in business administration for service to sport, the community and the region.

"We had the presentation ceremony at the degree ceremony for the students. There were about 500 'proper' degrees presented and then mine half-way through which was presented by the vice chancellor. I was there in the cap and

gown and it was a lovely ceremony.

"Once I had got over the shock of a letter coming and asking if I was prepared to accept it I thought it was great.

"I took my wife, son, daughter and surviving sister along. They were up in the balcony and they were all very proud."

Cumbes played for Lancashire from 1963 to 1971, for Surrey from 1968 to 1970 before he rejoined Lancashire for the 1971 season. He moved to Worcestershire in 1972 and ended his career with Warwickshire in 1982.

He then moved into the commercial department at Edgbaston and was Commercial Manager from 1984 to 1987, before joining Lancashire in a similar capacity and was Chief Executive at Old Trafford from 1998 to 2012.

He also played League football as a goalkeeper for Aston Villa, Tranmere Rovers, West Bromwich Albion and Southport.

## IT'S ALL IN THE NAME

Mark Frost, the former Surrey and Glamorgan seamer, has published his third novel under the pen name Jack Emson.

Frost was prevented from publishing under his own name because there is already a best-selling American novelist called Mark Frost, the author of 'Twin Peaks', so he had to find a pseudonym.

Combining his nickname from his playing nicknames and the middle of his grandfather, who survived the World War I battles of the Somme and Ypres, Frost came up with Jack Emson and he has written a trilogy of children's adventure stories.

The final part, 'Finding Eden', follows Frost's previous books 'The Four' and 'The Legacy' and takes the four youngsters to Egypt, Italy, the Grand Canyon and Las Vegas.

"They discover the dark forces behind the whole plot," said Frost, who has self-published the trilogy.

"I suppose it's bit like the product of the imaginations of Enid Blyton and Ian Fleming if they got together.

"The books are aimed at youngsters from ten years up, but the children in the books are two to three years older each time so that ages the readership a little bit more."

Frost always enjoyed writing and produced articles for Glamorgan's club magazine and match programmes while he was playing.

He started writing the first of his books while on a family holiday in France in 2007 and has taken around two years to write each of his novels.

"I have always enjoyed writing and I wrote articles and bios while I was playing and I have done other bits and pieces since," he said.

"I was keeping a diary and thought I had enough material to write a book. I started writing it on a family holiday to Paris and the Dordogne.

"I got the first draft done fairly quickly and I had some nice critical feedback to the first book which was very encouraging."

Frost is an author in his spare time but his day job is now a newly-created joint role with Glamorgan and Cricket Wales which includes running the Chance to Shine scheme in Wales and building community links across the principality.

"Based at the SWALEC Stadium, one of my roles will be to help Glamorgan and Cricket Wales work more collaboratively, particularly around the community and development side," Frost said.



## WESTFIELD FLIES SOUTH THIS WINTER

**Mervyn Westfield will help to educate cricketers in South Africa about the dangers of corruption in cricket during a six-day visit in November.**

The former Essex fast bowler was jailed for four months for his involvement in spot-fixing but has since played an important part in the PCA's anti-corruption campaign since he was released.

Westfield, who resumed playing club cricket with Frinton in Essex last year, has spoken to first year county

professionals at two PCA Rookie Camps and also accompanied PCA staff on a series of pre-season county visits last year.

Westfield will now talk about his experiences in South Africa where he will be accompanied by Jason Ratcliffe, the PCA's Assistant Chief Executive.

Westfield will speak to players from 11 franchises and provincial teams in Benoni, Johannesburg, Pretoria and Centurion as well as academy players and youth coaches.

"Both ECB and PCA have led the way on player education to fight anti-corruption in recent years and our

mandatory tutorials are testament to that. Mervyn's willingness to continue telling his first hand story, to warn of the dangers both personally and to the wider game further reflect this approach," Ratcliffe said.

"I'm sure our trip will be extremely worthwhile to all South African cricketers we will present to."

**View Mervyn Westfield talking about his experiences at: <http://www.thepca.co.uk/mervyn-westfield-tells-his-story-from-wanstead-to-belmarsh-270913.html>**



## LESSON PLAN FOR SEAMER HARRISON

Adam Harrison, the former Glamorgan seam bowler, has qualified as a teacher with help from the PCA.

Harrison has just completed a two year Post Graduate Certificate in Education from the University of South Wales in Caerleon which has been part-funded by the PCA.

Harrison has been training as a teacher at Coleg Gwent in Usk having completed his first degree in Sports Coaching at Cardiff Metropolitan University after a serious ankle injury forced him to retire from county cricket at the age of 22.

"When I finished cricket I wasn't really sure what I wanted to do, I hadn't really thought about it," Harrison said.

"I decided I wanted to go into the building trade so I did a two year building apprenticeship which the PCA also part-funded," Harrison said.

"It was during that time that I thought I wanted to get something more behind me which is when I decided to do a degree with a view to going into teaching.

"The PCA have been very supportive in providing funding for both my under graduate degree and also my PGCE."

## NEW SKILLS

Former Warwickshire slow left-armers Paul Best is spending a year teaching in Malaysia after he was forced to retire from county cricket because of a back injury.

Best, 24, announced his retirement just before the start of the season and travelled to Kuala Lumpur soon after where he obtained a Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, with the course part-funded by the PCA.

"I studied at the British Council in Kuala Lumpur. It was a one month intensive course where you started teaching from day one with a group of students," Best said.

"I taught a mix of students including many from the Middle East looking to study for academic progression. There were also some from the refugee centre, originally from places such as Iraq, Afghanistan and Myanmar.

"The plan at the moment is to teach English out here for a year and then explore some other options."



**Jim Troughton**, the former Warwickshire captain who is now fielding coach at Edgbaston, has swapped bat and ball for easel and pencil by using his artistic skills to illustrate a new children's book called 'The Legend of Morvidus - The Bear, the Bat and the Ragged Staff.'

Troughton, who captained Warwickshire to the County Championship in 2012, has worked with author Rachael Wong to produce The Legend of Morvidus, with all royalties from sales of the book being donated to support the Warwickshire Cricket Board in developing youth cricket across the region.

"Warwickshire have been a huge part of my life and the children who read The Legend of Morvidus will understand exactly why it is such a special club to so

many of us," Troughton said.

"Getting involved in the illustrations of the book has been fantastic and hopefully its publication will not only build a greater bond between youngsters and the club, but also encourage many to get involved in cricket."

The book includes a foreword from Warwickshire and England batsman Ian Bell and is available from the Shop at Edgbaston.

"Jim has put an enormous amount of time and effort into producing these wonderful illustrations and it has been great to work with him on this project. It will appeal to cricket fans of all ages and hopefully provide more cricketing opportunities for youngsters," Wong said.

"Morvidus was the ancient Lord of Warwickshire and King of Britain who gave us the famous Bear and Ragged Staff badge, which is worn proudly on the Warwickshire shirt today.

"The book is based on how a young boy finds the strength to overcome his nerves ahead of his first cricket match. However, after finding out more about the bravery shown by Morvidus, he goes on to excel."



## MEMBERS NEWS

# KEEPING WEST SUSSEX'S FURNISHINGS WELL GROOMED

Although it has been more than 35 years since he last played county cricket **Jerry Groome** still finds that being a former Sussex player continues to open doors for him in the business world.

Groome, now 60, worked in the family upholstery business from an early age and continued to do so while he played for Sussex in the mid-1970s. He took over the running of the business when his father Terry retired and is still a recognisable figure in West Sussex.

"During the winter months between 1974 and 1978 when I wasn't playing cricket, I went back to working with my father in the business. A lot of people in the Bognor Regis and Chichester area would remember me from that time and in fact I now find I'm doing repeat work for some of those original customers from all those years ago," Groome said

"When you go into people's houses it's very different from them walking into a shop. Somehow it gives them a feeling of more security and I think customers like to see a face they feel they know and can talk to.

"They offer you a cup of tea, or talk about their garden, pets or grandchildren and then I hear those immortal words: 'I understand you played a bit of cricket'. This then leads on to hearing how their husband, father, son or grandson plays and suddenly we're all chatting about common ground which makes them feel comfortable and relaxed before I've even started to talk about business".

Although many businesses suffered



"THEY OFFER YOU A CUP OF TEA, OR TALK ABOUT THEIR GRANDCHILDREN AND THEN I HEAR THOSE IMMORTAL WORDS: 'I UNDERSTAND YOU PLAYED A BIT OF CRICKET'"

during the recession upholstery was not one of them and Groome believes that increased use of modern media such as the internet has boosted his trade.

"The internet has made purchasing so much easier and because people aren't moving house so much, they spend money on interiors, conservatories and redecorating and can research so much at just a push of a button. I often have new customers from just my website and over the last few years my business seems to have gone from strength to strength," he said.

Groome retains a keen interest in cricket and is a regular attendee at PCA Past Player Days. He remains close friends with many of his former county team mates such as John Snow and Peter Graves who, with Groome's

family, helped him to recover from a life-changing illness a few years ago.

"I had encephalitis and was in intensive care on a life support machine," he said.

"Twice my wife, Tsai, was told I had half an hour to live and I wouldn't be here today telling this story if it hadn't been for her. The love and support of my daughter, Victoria, and my grandsons and Peter Graves helped me through that very traumatic time when my recovery period was very long and slow. Life changed very much for me and I certainly look at it in a different way now".

Visit [www.jerrygroome-upholstery.co.uk](http://www.jerrygroome-upholstery.co.uk) to see Jerry's work  
Email [jerrygroome@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jerrygroome@yahoo.co.uk) or call 07831 852 851

## AGENT SMITH

David Smith, the former Warwickshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire batsman, has become a gamekeeper turned poacher having set up as an agent.

Smith, who stepped down as Northamptonshire's Chief Executive last winter, has passed the necessary ECB examination to become an accredited agent and has now established Talent Sport Ltd.

"I suppose it's a bit ironic because I was on the ECB working party that was set up to look at ways of regulating agents," Smith said.

"Having set up a rigorous accreditation procedure I had to take the exam and I did find it quite challenging which was good to see.

"I have been asked by a number of young players if I can help them. Having sat on the committee at a Test match ground – Warwickshire – for ten years, worked for a commercial PLC company and been a county chief executive for six or seven years I feel that I have got valuable experience."

## SPORTING CHANCE

Richard Johnson, the former Warwickshire and Derbyshire wicketkeeper, is to study for a sports science degree at RMIT University in Melbourne.

Johnson began the season as Warwickshire's Assistant Strength and Conditioning Coach but left for Australia after being offered a place at RMIT which has a reputation for being one of the best in the world for sports science.

"I believe that with a degree from RMIT, and the other opportunities I will have in S&C working within different sports in Australia, I can really excel and eventually end up with a job in a range of sports, not just cricket," Johnson said.

"It was such a tough decision, the biggest reason being of how much I love Warwickshire and everyone involved at the club. It's my home.

"Dougie Brown, the back room staff and the team there are one of a kind. For a long time my mind and decision was going round in circles and I didn't really know what to do.

"However, I was so fortunate that I had the opportunity to speak to some extremely experienced people in the industry. Chris Armstrong, Warwickshire's S&C coach, and Gerhard Mostert, the physio, were incredible for me."

Visa complications meant that Johnson had to spend three months working on a farm in Australia before he could obtain the necessary paperwork to allow him to start studying in the country.



## FRIENDS RALLY ROUND MUNDEN

Friends of David Munden raised more than £15,000 from a testimonial evening arranged to help the former Leicestershire and Young England player.

Munden played Second XI cricket for Leicestershire from 1975 to 1981 and had several seasons on the staff at his domestic county before becoming a well-known cricket photographer.

But he was forced to retire from photography when he was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease and his wife Sue has now given up her job as a teacher to care for him.

Friends including Phil Bainbridge, the former Gloucestershire and Durham all-rounder, organised the testimonial event at Leicestershire's Grace Road headquarters.

The money raised will help send Munden and his wife on a cruise but around £6,000 will be donated to the Parkinson's charity at Munden's request. A further £1,000 was raised by former team-mate Andy Ward who took part in a black tie amateur boxing event at the age of 53.

The testimonial evening was attended by David Gower, who flew in by helicopter from Chester-le-Street where he was working for Sky Sports, Mike Gatting and Tim Munton, as well as old photographic colleague Patrick Eagar.

Munden, 57, toured the West Indies with England Young Cricketers in 1976 in a side that included Gower, Gatting and Bainbridge as well as Chris Cowdrey Paul Allott, Bill Athey and Ian Gould.

## BARKER GAINS VALUABLE EXPERIENCE

Keith Barker, the Warwickshire left arm swing bowler, has cut his teeth as a coach with Birmingham University.

Barker used some of his free time during the winter months to coach the students and give him experience that proved helpful in qualifying as an ECB Level Three coach.

"I knew one of the lads who was at the university and he spoke a lecturer to ask if it would be possible for me to do some coaching. They said they would be happy for me to do so and it went from there," Barker said.

"I have a bit of spare time in the winter so I help out when I can and it has been good experience for me.

"You don't have anyone else to help you so you have to go with what you know. But it's also helped me as a player.

"It helps you to have a more open mind to different ideas and to keep yourself in check. You look at things from outside in rather than looking at it yourself and at ways that you can improve."

Barker was wholly-funded by the PCA for his ECB Level Three coach education course.



# COUNTY PLAYERS ENJOY SKY SPORTS NEWS TASTER DAY

Four county cricketers were given a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at Sky Sports News HQ during a Taster Day at their studios in Osterley.

Warwickshire batsman Laurie Evans, Yorkshire seamer Jack Brooks, Essex left-arm seamer Reece Topley and Glamorgan batsman Jeremy Lawlor enjoyed an insight into the planning, news-gathering, production and presentation processes.

The busy Taster Day was co-ordinated by David Townsend, one of the PCA's six-strong team of Personal Development Managers, and David Fulton, the former Kent batsman and captain, who works as a reporter for the channel and presenter for Sky Sports.

"The day was a wonderful opportunity for players interested in pursuing a career in the media to get an idea of the amount of work that goes into putting Sky Sports News to air," Townsend said.

"Sky were kind enough to offer our players a behind-the-scenes look at their whole operation, and it was fascinating to see the different components that go into creating a 24 hour sports news channel.

**"IT WAS FASCINATING TO SEE THE DIFFERENT COMPONENTS THAT GO INTO CREATING A 24 HOUR SPORTS NEWS CHANNEL"**

"Experiences like this are invaluable in terms of giving players a taste of what it would be like to work in the media and the PCA are extremely grateful to Sky Sports News for providing this opportunity. We look forward to working closely with them in the future."

The visit, which was organised by Sky administrator Victoria Louch, began with the players sitting in on the daily production meeting at which the sports news schedule for the day was discussed.

The players also visited different departments – digital, planning, production and news desk – to understand how each of them works and how Sky Sports News bulletins are planned and produced.

The county quartet were shown how graphics are compiled including the in-studio news wall and the touch screen that Sky Sports News use to provide, for example, up-to-date information on county cricket.

They saw how the news desk dealt with a busy schedule of breaking sports news stories and sat in the gallery to see channel being put to air.

The day ended with a 30-minute question and answer session with presenters Kirsty Gallacher and Rob Wotton and recruitment partner Georgia Kemp.



## ROBINSON'S PRAISE

Mark Robinson, Sussex's Professional Cricket Manager, has praised the contribution that the PCA have made in helping Ollie Robinson and Peter Burgoyne to secure first team opportunities with the South Coast county.

All-rounder Robinson and off-spinner Burgoyne were released by Yorkshire and Derbyshire respectively midway through the 2014 season but have been given second chances by Sussex.

Both were recommended to Sussex by Jason Ratcliffe, the Assistant Chief Executive of the PCA, and have gone some way to repaying the faith shown in them.

"We pride ourselves on our atmosphere and we pride ourselves on trying to make the best out of everybody. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't," Robinson said.

"We believe everybody deserves an opportunity to be the person they want to be.

"The PCA are brilliant. As I'm sure every club does, you try to work with people and try and support players."

Ollie Robinson and Burgoyne are among more than 300 players who have benefited from contract advice from Ratcliffe over the last four years.

**The PCA offer a free contract negotiator service to players helping them to make the right choices and secure a fair deal without having to pay for an agent.**

## LOVE THAT

Former Durham left arm spinner Max Morley won the dating reality TV show 'Love Island'.

The Yorkshireman, who made one Twenty20 appearance for Durham against Lancashire at Chester-le-Street two years ago, won the first prize of £50,000 with Jessica Hayes, a model from Gloucestershire.

The couple received most votes from the public to win the ITV2 show which was revived this year after a nine year absence.

After host Caroline Flack announced them as winners the couple were asked to separately choose between 'love' or 'money' after being handed secret envelopes. Both of them opted for 'love', which meant they had the prize money to share.

Away from cricket Morley, 22, works as a stonemason in the family business near Huddersfield.



CHRIS SCHOFIELD BACK IN ACTION IN BOLTON, AND AS A YOUNG PLAYER AT YORKSHIRE

## SCHOFIELD COMPLETES IRON MAN CHALLENGE

**C**hris Schofield, the former Yorkshire batsman and a recipient of PCA Benevolent Fund funding, has completed his first Iron Man Challenge.

Schofield, who played one first-class match for Yorkshire in 1996 and for England Under-19s, completed the gruelling three discipline challenge in Bolton in just under 13 hours and finished 591st out of an entry of 2,500.

The contest required Schofield to cycle 112 miles, run a marathon and swim 2.4 miles outdoors even though he was unable to swim until last summer.

Having taught himself to swim, Schofield then spent 40 weeks in training to prepare for the event.

"The Challenge was based around Bolton and finished at Bolton Wanderers football ground," Schofield said.

"It was a massive event with 2,500 competitors entered. I had never even done a triathlon before, I just fancied a day out.

"It was a bit of a personal challenge. I fractured my skull about 11 years ago, lost my hearing, suffered a bit of depression and felt down.

"I was searching really and I was inspired by these Iron Men and I thought I would give it a go."

Schofield's fractured skull was suffered when he fell from an icy roof. As a result of his injuries he lost 20 per cent of the hearing in his left ear and 80 per cent in his right.

Thanks to the support of the PCA Benevolent Fund, Schofield was able to purchase specialist hearing aids.

"The PCA were very helpful and my hearing has improved. I only need to wear one hearing aid at the moment," he said.

The damage to his inner ear affected Schofield's balance and caused difficulties when he first attempted a playing comeback for Hoylandswaine in the Huddersfield League.

Schofield, 39, is now aiming to play again and, having given up his job as a postman in Penistone, is forging a career as a coach for the Yorkshire Cricket Board and for Andrew Gale's Pro Coach company.

"The Iron Man has given me confidence. I have got the buzz back again so it's done some good for me," Schofield said.

"Getting out running has helped me feel healthy and fit."

## GILES FAMILY KEEN TO HELP

Ashley Giles, the Lancashire Director of Cricket and former England spinner, and his wife Stine, have launched a trust fund to help brain tumour research.

Stine underwent major surgery after she was diagnosed with a brain tumour in 2006 and became one of the first people in the UK to have pioneering radiation treatment when two more tumours were discovered three years ago.

Having successfully organised a fund-raising dinner for the Brain Tumour Charity last year it was decided to set up the Giles Trust to support the pioneering work of Professor Garth Cruickshank at the Queen

Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham.

"Obviously it's a cause that is close to our hearts because of Stine's struggles with it," Giles said.

"Last year we held an event and supported the Brain Tumour Charity. The reason we set the trust up was, as much as anything, to have more control about where that money goes and how it spent,

"Stine was very keen to support Professor Cruickshank who operated on her and who is doing all sorts of research around the world

"The only way to do that was to set up a trust. Stine drives it and she has a good committee around her. I am there to support it wherever I can."

Giles's involvement in the trust should also help to raise awareness of brain tumours which are a major and indiscriminate killer.

"It's the biggest killer in under 40s which most people would not realise," he said.

"Stine had an unbelievably long operation the first time. The second time she

had a pioneering form of radiotherapy which locates the tumour perfectly and works around very sensitive parts of the brain.

It's pinpoint accurate treatment radiation which they would not have been able to do five years ago."

[www.qehb.org/thegilestrust](http://www.qehb.org/thegilestrust)



# CATCH UP WITH: HAMZA SIDDIQUE

**F**ormer Derbyshire batsman Hamza Siddique is forging a new career as an actor. The 24-year-old, who had two seasons on Derbyshire's staff and played three first-class matches for Cardiff

MCCU, is currently completing a one-year Masters degree in acting at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London.

Siddique's course has been part-funded by the PCA as part of the Association's Personal Development and Welfare Programme educational funding.

The PCA have also part-funded a short film 'Glow' which Siddique and three other students have written and filmed as part of their final assignment.

Siddique stars in the film as Elijah, who is taken to see the Northern Lights by his friends after he has been diagnosed with a brain tumour.

"Ultimately this project is going to be shown at festivals and going to be a massive kick-start to our careers as actors," Siddique said.

"The PCA's willingness to help out with the funding was a massive help to us and we are very appreciative of their support."

Siddique studied philosophy and theology at Cardiff and only decided to switch to acting after he was released by Derbyshire three years ago.

"From the age of nine all I had wanted to do was to play cricket. I got contracted to Derbyshire at 19 and it was amazing," he said.

"But I did feel there was a gap in my life and, for one reason and another, I felt that I needed to try something else.

"I studied philosophy and theology at Cardiff and played on the MCCU scheme there but I started thinking that I would



**"I HAD NEVER DONE DRAMA AT SCHOOL OR ACTED SO I HAD NO IDEA WHAT IT MEANT TO GET INTO ONE OF THESE DRAMA SCHOOLS – TO ME IT WAS: 'WOW, THIS IS DIFFERENT TO FACING 90MPH BALLS COMING AT MY HEAD'"**

really like to give this media thing a go.

"I decided to give it a really good crack. I stopped playing cricket for a while to give acting a go. The whole thing was pretty alien to me. I locked myself in my room, put my cricket stuff away and learned some Shakespeare monologues and some more contemporary pieces and auditioned to a number of drama schools

"I had never done drama at school or acted so I had no idea what it meant to get into one of these drama schools To me it was: 'wow, this is different to facing 90mph balls coming at my head.'"

Siddique opted for a place at Central, an acting school that includes Kit Harrington (Game of Thrones), Riz Ahmed (Four Lions) and Andrew Garfield (Spiderman) among its recent alumni.

Although he initially struggled with aspects of acting, Siddique has

found that his experiences in professional cricket have helped him in his new career.

"Starting drama school was something bizarre to me because whatever emotions you have been taught to shut off in front of people you have to get rid of. There were times in class when I struggled with that early on.

"To have to portray emotions to people in a classroom I found really tough but the dedication, the commitment and the work is absolutely comparable to that of professional sport. If you do not put in the hours you will not get the best out of it.

"But I feel like I am a step ahead going into it, because of cricket. Because of what I learnt in a team environment and the pressure of going out to bat on my first-class debut for Cardiff MCCU I have no qualms about going out and pretending to be someone else."



**1• WE MUST ADDRESS THE PLAYING AND TRAVEL CHALLENGES INHERENT IN THE CURRENT DOMESTIC SCHEDULE. A REDUCTION IN THE VOLUME OF CRICKET IS PROBABLY NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THIS.**

**2• WE MUST RESPECT THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP AS OUR PREMIER DOMESTIC COMPETITION, AND ONLY CHANGE THE FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION IF THE PRIZE IS A SIGNIFICANTLY BETTER OVERALL SCHEDULE.**

**3• WHILST RECOGNISING THE COMMERCIAL AND SCHEDULING CHALLENGES OF DOING SO, FROM A CRICKETING PERSPECTIVE, THE T20 COMPETITION SHOULD REVERT TO BEING PLAYED IN A BLOCK – AND IT WILL SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE PRODUCT IF ENGLAND AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS FEATURE MORE REGULARLY THAN CURRENTLY.**

**An overwhelming majority of professional cricketers in England and Wales believe that Test cricket remains the pinnacle of the sport and that the LV= County Championship is still the most important of the three domestic competitions.**

Those conclusions are among the findings of the latest PCA Player Survey of current contracted players conducted earlier this year.

The players responded to the survey which was designed principally to understand player views on the current domestic schedule, and also to assess if views expressed in past surveys are changing.

The survey shows that as many as 98.3% of players remain of the view that Test cricket is the pinnacle of the sport, but, many acknowledge that things are changing.

There is a recognition that white ball cricket is growing in importance relative to Test cricket with 73.8% of the survey respondents stating that they strongly agree/agree that there is a need to address the balance of our domestic programme accordingly.

Views about the relative importance of the different formats of the game are consistent with previous studies with 85.2% of players ranking the LV= County Championship as highly important and 14.4% as important.

The NatWest T20 Blast is ranked second (65.1% highly important, 33.2% as important) and the The Royal London One Day Cup third (14.4% highly important, 55.5% as important).

The survey also suggests that the current domestic playing schedule is not at all popular, with the two primary issues being the constant switching between red and white ball cricket, and workload (both playing and travelling), with 87.3% of players strongly agreeing/agreeing that a reduction in the volume of cricket would improve the quality of performances.

**4• THE 50 OVER COMPETITION IS SEEN AS LESS IMPORTANT AND OF LOWER QUALITY THAN THE OTHER COMPETITIONS, AND THE CRICKETING ARGUMENTS FOR RETAINING THE COMPETITION IN ITS CURRENT FORM ARE CORRESPONDINGLY WEAK, ALTHOUGH THE LORD'S FINAL REMAINS A MAJOR ATTRACTION TO PLAYERS.**

**5• WE MUST RECOGNISE THAT WHILE A KEY GOAL OF DOMESTIC CRICKET IS TO CREATE CRICKETERS OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARD, IT MUST ALSO BE RESPECTED AS HAVING GREAT VALUE IN ITS OWN RIGHT.**

**ANY CHANGES WE MAKE MUST CONSIDER THE LONG-TERM IMPACTS ON THE HEALTH OF OUR DOMESTIC GAME, AND MEASURES SUCH AS AGE-RELATED PERFORMANCE-RELATED FEE PAYMENTS, WHICH HAVE COMPROMISED THE QUALITY OF THE DOMESTIC PRODUCT WITHOUT YIELDING ANY OF THE PROMISED BENEFITS FOR THE ENGLAND TEAM, SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN.**

**6• IF A MEANINGFUL REDUCTION IN THE VOLUME OF CRICKET IS ACHIEVED FOR ALL OF THE DESIRED REASONS, ECB MUST ENSURE THAT MEASURES ARE IN PLACE TO PREVENT COUNTIES FROM CREATING NEW FIXTURES TO REPLACE ANY THAT ARE REMOVED.**



## OBITUARIES

### JAMIE BISHOP

The former Glamorgan batsman/wicketkeeper, who played alongside Adrian Dale, Robert Croft and David Hemp for Welsh Schools and was a heavy run scorer for Pontarddulais in club cricket, died suddenly aged 44.

He had several seasons on Glamorgan's staff but made only one first-class appearance - against Oxford University in The Parks in June 1992, where he made an unbeaten 51.

He also played for Wales against the West Indians at Christ College in 1991.

### MAURICE FENNER

The former Kent wicketkeeper and secretary, whose father George also played for Kent, has died aged 86.

He made his first-class debut 1949 and continued to play county cricket while serving in the RAF. He scored 708 first-class runs with a highest score of 77 against Notts in 1961, held 47 catches and made 13 stumpings. He later served Kent as secretary between 1977 and 1982.

### LORD HUGH GRIFFITHS

In his first season, the promising fast-bowler figured four times in Glamorgan's County Championship-winning side of 1948.

The majority of Griffiths' first-class career was spent with Cambridge University, for whom he took three five wicket hauls, the best being 6-129 against Lancashire on debut. He also took four wickets on his Glamorgan debut against Kent later that summer.

Griffiths played for Charterhouse School before distinguished war service with the Welsh Guards. He was awarded a Military Cross for disabling a Panther tank during the German advance in 1944.

After being demobilised he went to St John's College, Cambridge where he read law. He subsequently read for the bar and was called at the Inner Temple in 1949. During his legal career Griffiths became a High Court Judge, was knighted in 1971 and elevated to a Law Lord in 1985. The former MCC President also captained the Royal and Ancient Golf Club in 1993. He died aged 91.

### IAN CAMPBELL

Former Kent batsman Ian Campbell has died in New Zealand aged 87. He was denied a chance to impress in his only appearance for Kent, against Middlesex at Lord's in 1946, because the first three in the order all made centuries.

Campbell made nought out in his only visit to the crease and did not play county cricket again. However, he represented Combined Services against the South Africans at Portsmouth in 1947 and played for Oxford from 1949 to 1951.

A talented all-round sportsman, he played hockey for Oxford University and England and rugby union for Kent and London Counties.

### DAVID BLAKE

David Blake, the former Hampshire wicketkeeper/batsman, has died at the age of 90.

The younger brother of John Blake, who played for Hampshire and Cambridge University, was a left-handed batsman who made his first-class debut for Hampshire in 1949.

He went on to make 50 appearances over the next nine years and played 23 more first-class matches as an amateur for an assortment of teams including MCC, Free Foresters and EW Swanton's XI, with whom he toured the West Indies in 1956.

Blake's first-class aggregate of 2,909 runs included two centuries, both of them exactly 100.

### TED LESTER

Yorkshire's oldest capped player has died in his hometown of Scarborough, aged 92. He played from 1945 until 1956 and later served the county as first-team scorer for 31 years.

He scored 10,616 runs in 228 first-class matches and his 24 centuries included a career-best 186 against Warwickshire in 1949. In 1947 he was third in the national averages behind Denis Compton and Bill Edrich.

Although later troubled by a foot problem, Yorkshire retained him as their Second XI captain. He then took over as scorer, a role he continued to hold until he retired.

## BARRIE MEYER

Barrie Meyer, the former Gloucestershire wicketkeeper and Test umpire, has died in South Africa aged 83.

Meyer was a talented all-round sportsman who played professional football for the two Bristol clubs, City and Rovers, as well as Plymouth Argyle, Newport County and Hereford United.

His 40 year career in cricket began almost by accident as he joined Gloucestershire as a member of the groundstaff to keep him busy between football seasons.

Meyer soon discovered that he was a natural wicketkeeper and, having established himself in Gloucestershire's first team, he stayed there for 15 years, making 406

first-class appearances between 1957 and 1971.

He held 707 catches and made 119 stumpings but his record as a lower order batsman was moderate, with 5,371 runs and 11 half centuries. He reached his highest score of 63 three times.

Meyer made his debut against Essex at Romford and played his last match against Sussex at Bristol.

He joined the first-class umpires list in 1973 and took a little while to establish himself. But he was liked and respected by players as a reliable and unfussy umpire who made few mistakes.

Meyer umpired in 26 Tests between 1978 and 1993 including the 1981 Ashes classic at Headingley.



He also stood in 23 One Day Internationals including the World Cup finals of 1979 and 1983.

Meyer retired from umpiring in 1997 and settled in South Africa where he had spent his winters coaching.

## FRED RIDGWAY

Fred Ridgway, the former Kent and England seamer, has died aged 92. At the time of his death Ridgway was England's second-oldest surviving Test player after Don Smith.

Ridgway took more than 1,000 first-class wickets in a 16 season career between 1946 and 1961 which included five Test appearances on England's tour to India, Pakistan and Ceylon in 1951/52.

Ridgway took 41 wickets on the tour but only seven in the Tests with four of them coming in India's first innings of the drawn third Test in Calcutta. The series was shared 1-1 but India won their first ever Test in Madras.

But Ridgway enjoyed more success at county level after he made his debut for Kent against Lancashire at Maidstone in 1946.

Stockport-born Ridgway was awarded his county cap in 1947 and took 109 wickets, his most productive season, in 1949.

His career haul of 1,069 first-class wickets included 41 five wicket hauls with ten wickets in a match on six occasions. His best figures of eight for 39 were taken against Nottinghamshire at Dover in 1950 when he added three more wickets in the second innings.

Ridgway took four wickets in four balls in Derbyshire's first innings at Folkestone in 1951 where he dismissed Alan Revill, John Kelly, Dusty Rhodes and Cliff Gladwin.

Ridgway, a useful lower order batsman, also scored 4,081 runs in 341 first-class matches with nine half centuries and a highest score of 94 against Cambridge University at Folkestone in 1953.

## PHILIP HODGSON

The former Yorkshire and Combined Services opening bowler, has died at the age of 79.

He played 13 first-class matches for Yorkshire between 1954 and 1956 and four more for the Combined Services while serving in the RAF.

His finest hour came against Sussex at Hove in 1954 when he shared the new ball with Fred Trueman and took 5-41, his best first-class figures.

# BRIAN CLOSE

**Former England, Yorkshire and Somerset captain Brian Close was the youngest man ever to play Test cricket for England when was selected to play against New Zealand in 1949 and was 45 when he made his final Test appearance against the West Indies at Old Trafford in 1976.**

Close played first-class cricket from 1949 to 1977 during which he led Yorkshire to four County Championship titles and captained England to six wins and a draw in his seven Tests in charge.

He ended his career with Somerset where he was responsible for moulding them into a successful team in the late 1970s and 1980s and he was an influential figure the emergence of Ian Botham and Viv Richards.

Close established a reputation as a fearsome opponent and a fearless close-to-the-wicket catcher and batsman which explains why the England selectors recalled him to face the rampant West Indies pace bowlers in 1976.

Close scored almost 35,000 first-class runs including 52 centuries with a highest of 198 against Surrey at The Oval in 1960.

He also took more than 1,100 wickets with his combination of off spin and seam and held 813 catches.

Close was also a talented footballer who played youth internationals for England while he was on the books of Leeds United. He also played for Arsenal and Bradford City.

Close made his first-class debut against Cambridge University in 1949 and took five for 58 and scored 88 against Essex in only his fifth match and scored 88.

An impressive display for the Players v the Gentlemen at Lord's secured Close selection for the third Test against New Zealand where he took the wicket of Merv Wallace but was dismissed for a third ball duck in his only innings.

Close completed the double of 1,000 runs and 100 wickets in his debut season, the youngest player to achieve the feat. Close also did the double in 1952 and scored 1,000 runs in a season on 18 more occasions.

Despite his success at county level, Close played only 22 Tests, a record partly explained by run-ins with authority and a serious knee injury which ended his footballing career in 1953.

Close served as senior professional under Ronnie Burnet and Vic Wilson when Yorkshire won three



championships between 1959 and 1962 and took over as captain for the 1963 season.

Yorkshire won the championship in Close's first season in charge and he was named as one of the five Wisden Cricketers of the Year in 1964.

Yorkshire won three more championships under Close who was appointed England captain in 1966 after they had lost the home series against the West Indies.

England won their first match under Close by an innings who then led them to series wins over India and Pakistan in 1967.

But Close's reign ended in controversy when he was accused of time-wasting and berating a spectator in a championship match against Warwickshire at Edgbaston.

He was sacked as Yorkshire's captain after he had allegedly insulted Lancashire's president at Old Trafford in 1970 and departed for Somerset where he had one season in the ranks before he was appointed captain.

After he retired from county cricket, Close played for Todmorden in the Lancashire League and returned to Yorkshire in 1984 as a member of the committee.

He continued to make regular appearances in the Scarborough Festival and made his final first-class appearance at the age of 55 in his own XI against New Zealand.



## OBITUARIES



### BOB APPELYARD

Bob Appleyard, who overcame personal tragedy and serious illness to enjoy success with Yorkshire and England in the 1950s, has died aged 90.

As a promising youngster, Appleyard spent 11 months in hospital with tuberculosis but his success in league cricket after he had recovered from his illness brought him to Yorkshire's attention.

He did not make his first-class debut until he was 26 but Appleyard enjoyed spectacular success in 1951 when he took 200 wickets.

He was struck down with pleurisy early in the 1952 season, missed the whole of 1953 and was not expected to play cricket again.

But he made a successful return in 1954 when he took 154 wickets and made his Test debut against Pakistan at Trent Bridge where he took five for 51 in the first innings.

A knee injury ruled Appleyard out for the second half of the 1955 season, but he reclaimed his Test place in 1956 and took 112 wickets.

His playing career ended after the 1958 season, after which Appleyard enjoyed a successful career in business rep-working for the British Printing Corporation.

Appleyard campaigned vigorously to bring county cricket back to Bradford's Park Avenue ground, served Yorkshire as President and was awarded the MBE for services to cricket in 2007.

### JIM BRAILSFORD

The former Derbyshire opening batsman and Vice-Chairman, has died in Chesterfield aged 81. He served the county from 1951 until 1958 but first-team opportunities were restricted to just three, all in his final season.

Notably, Brailsford claimed a wicket with his first ball in first-class cricket, against Sussex at Derby, when he had England captain Ted Dexter caught.

A former President of Chesterfield Cricket Lovers, he also retained close links with the county club and joined the committee in 1975.

### BILL FOORD

The former Yorkshire pace bowler, who had a successful stint in county cricket from 1947 to 1953 before opting for a career in teaching, has died at his home in Scarborough aged 91.

A new-ball partner of Fred Trueman, he took 128 wickets in 51 matches. His best season was his last - 1953 - in which he took 62 wickets including his career-best 6-63

He played club cricket for Scarborough for 30 years and afterwards took up coaching, running his own scholarship scheme in the coastal resort.

### PHILIP WHITCOMBE

The former Middlesex and Oxford University pace bowler has died in Surrey aged 92. A pupil at Winchester College, he won three Blues for Oxford between 1947 and 1949 and took a career-best 7-51 in the 1948 Varsity match.

His performances for Oxford led to him making three appearances for Middlesex. After his debut against Yorkshire at Bradford, he played against the Australians at Lord's, where he had Bill Brown lbw and Don Bradman caught at short fine leg in front of a large crowd that included the King and Queen.



### MIKE TURNER

The former Leicestershire player and secretary/manager has died in Leicester aged 80.

He made only 10 first-class appearances in a nine-year career at Grace Road after joining the county from school in 1951 but made his mark at an administrator.

Turner was only 25 when he was appointed county secretary and in 1969, he was given the role of secretary/manager with a wide-ranging brief that, in effect, made him county cricket's first chief executive. He was a cricketing visionary who played a major part in the introduction of one-day cricket.

Under his leadership Grace Road was redeveloped into a modern county ground and playing fortunes were transformed when Ray Illingworth arrived from Yorkshire as captain in the early 1970s. They won their first County Championship in 1975 and also became a major force in one-day cricket winning five trophies between 1972 and 1976.

Turner's outstanding contribution to Leicestershire was acknowledged when the county named the indoor centre at Grace Road after him and he was awarded a benefit in 1985.

He acted as an advisor to clubs around the country on facilities and funding and his involvement in the game, spanning more than 60 years, was recognised with the award of an MBE in 1994.

### JOHN DEWES

The former England, Middlesex and Cambridge University left-handed batsman has died aged 88.

He represented Public Schools in war time matches at Lord's and earned selection for an England XI in the Victory Test against Australia at Lord's in 1945, his first-class debut.

Dewes then did National Service in the Navy and represented the

Combined Services in 1946 and 1947. He went to St John's College, Cambridge and his excellent form for the university and Middlesex in 1948 led to a Test debut against Australia at Lord's. Although he struggled in both innings he was on the field when Don Bradman made his final Test appearance.

He made only four more Test appearances, two against the West Indies in 1950 and two in Australia

the following winter. He made one half-century - 67 in the second innings against the West Indies.

Dewes was more prolific at county and university level and scored more than 8,500 first-class runs in 137 matches. His highest score of 212 was for Cambridge against Sussex in 1950, a summer in which he scored 2,432 runs and finished third in the national averages. He left cricket to become a teacher.

# CLIVE RICE

**The inspirational former captain and manager of Nottinghamshire has died aged 66 from complications following a brain tumour operation.**

One of the finest all-rounders produced by South Africa, he was denied a Test career because he was in his prime during the anti-apartheid period. He represented his country just three times - captaining them in one-day internationals in India when the ban was lifted.

Instead, he devoted much of his career to reviving the fortunes of Notts from 1975 until 1987 and was one of the dominant characters in the English game during the Eighties. He captained them to their first County Championship success for 52 years in 1981, and again in his farewell season of 1987.

And although a neck injury prevented him from bowling for many years, he is still rated alongside the likes of Sir Ian Botham, Imran Khan and Kapil Dev as one of the world's great all-rounders.

His passion for playing entertaining cricket led to the introduction of "results" pitches at Trent Bridge - much to the delight of Richard Hadlee - and that was to have a long-term influence on the English game.

Rice was named Wisden Cricketer of the Year in 1981 and ended his playing career with 26,331 first-class runs at an average of 40.95 and 930 wickets at 22.49.



INDIA CAPTAIN MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN GIVES SOUTH AFRICA CAPTAIN CLIVE RICE A WARM WELCOME AHEAD OF THE TWO GREAT CRICKETING NATIONS FIRST EVER ODI MEETING AS SOUTH AFRICA EMERGED FROM THE APARTHEID WILDERNESS, EDEN GARDENS, 1991; RICE WITH MOTHER THERESA DURING THE SAME TOUR

## BILL DAVIDSON

The Rev Bill Davidson, who won Oxford Blues in the 1947 and 1948 and made four Championship appearances for Sussex, has died aged 95.

The wicketkeeper held 34 catches and made six stumpings in his 22 first-class matches, with his highest score of 31 coming in his final appearance for the MCC against Oxford University at Lord's in 1956.

Davidson went to King's College, London to train for ordination and joined

the Army at the outbreak of war, even though he was exempt from military service. He was commissioned into the Gordon Highlanders and saw active service in Burma, India and Malaya.

## DAVID FLETCHER

David Fletcher, an under-rated member of the Surrey team that won seven consecutive Championship titles between 1952 and 1958, died aged 90.

The top-order batsman made his

first-class debut in 1946, and broke through the following summer when he scored four centuries. His best season's aggregate - 1,960 in 1952 - coincided with Surrey's domination of the Championship in the 1950s.

He topped 1,000 runs in three more seasons and scored almost 14,500 runs including 22 centuries with a highest of 194 against Notts at Trent Bridge in 1947.

## RUSSELL WOOD

Better known as 'Rusty', the former Gloucestershire wicketkeeper/batsman played eight first-class games between 1950 and 1951, has died aged 85.

He made 48, his highest first-class score, in his debut against Cambridge University but as his career overlapped with that of Andy Wilson, he had few opportunities to play as a wicketkeeper. He was, however, selected as a specialist batsman for five Championship matches in 1951.



## MEMBERS NEWS

# DRIVING FORCE

Working at Silverstone is a dream job for a petrolhead and **Luke Evans**, the former Durham and Northamptonshire seamer, has landed one.

Evans, 28, now works as Assistant Club Secretary of the British Racing Drivers' Club, which is based at the Northamptonshire circuit, where he has a wide-ranging job description.

"We have a small team whose daily function is to run a private members' club for around 850 of the most successful and influential racing drivers from Great Britain and the Commonwealth," Evans said.

"There are strict criteria for membership, which explains why the numbers are so small. Other professionals within the sport, such as team owners and others who have made significant contributions to motor sport, can also be invited to become associate members of the BRDC.

"My remit is very broad and it includes maintenance of club areas at the circuit which involves the management of internal and external personnel, management of website and social media content, the delivery of hospitality benefits for our commercial partners and the running of the

club's merchandise offering with monthly performance reporting to the finance department.

"We also have a young driver initiative called BRDC Rising Stars, designed to find the next generation of BRDC members, and I run the office administration.

"That's one of the areas of the job that I find particularly satisfying. I am working with guys aged from 15 to 24 who are extremely talented.

"Having been a professional sportsman myself I can empathise with what they are going through. Admittedly it's a different sporting background that I have come from but there are similarities with the way they have to conduct themselves, seek opportunities, organise themselves as competitors and sell themselves as a professional sporting assets.

"It's very varied and I am kept on my toes. I am just trying to absorb as much as I can at this stage."

Evans was released by Northamptonshire at the end of 2013 but landed the job at Silverstone early in 2014 after a cricketing contact alerted him to the vacancy.

"Credit where credit's due, one of my former coaches at Northants made me aware of the opportunity through connections he had and suggested that I send in my CV," Evans said.

"I did just that with the help of Charlie



LUKE EVANS HAS SWAPPED FAST BOWLING FOR LIFE IN THE FAST LANE AT SILVERSTONE

Mulraine from the PCA, got an interview and things went from there. I was quite surprised to be offered the job as it was my first stab at a proper job opportunity.

"I have always been a petrolhead so to work at Silverstone was ideal. I have already experienced two F1 Grand Prix and two MotoGPs. For large events like these, it is truly a team effort and we all share various event planning and management responsibilities.

"It's a fantastic insight into what it takes to manage a large facility. It's a huge site which the BDRC owns and operates through its wholly owned subsidiary company, Silverstone Circuits Limited.

"The anticipation of a large event and trying to pre-empt issues certainly keeps the adrenaline flowing. The hours are long but the rewards are there."

The hours are particularly long for Evans when Silverstone hosts the British Grand Prix which gives him little opportunity to watch the action on the track.

"I'm pretty much on site 24/7 from Thursday morning to Sunday night during the Grand Prix, but that's the nature of the beast."

## GIDMAN'S RECRUITING

Worcestershire all-rounder Alex Gidman has demonstrated the value of networking and building contacts by setting up his own recruitment company, specialising in placing ex-professional sports people in the commercial world.

Gidman has launched Gidman & Co having spent time talking with senior business leaders across the UK and the City of London.

"It's funny, at one point I was actually offered a job in the City. The hiring Director told me that my standing in the

professional sports world and life experiences were huge assets in the commercial world," Gidman said.

"I used that experience to speak with various business leaders and people across the UK and in the City, and found that a couple had actually recruited ex-professional sports people who proved very



valuable in terms of the skills and different characteristics they had brought to their businesses."

Gidman, who joined Worcestershire from Gloucestershire last year, still intends to continue playing cricket but hopes establishing the recruitment company now will help him to make a smooth transition to a working life away from the game.

"It's something I thought about during many hours standing at first slip day dreaming. I started to contemplate life after cricket to a degree," he said.

"I have always been a bit of an ideas man and the recruitment side of things was

something that I kept going back to.

"The fear of what might happen during that transition period, which I am still going to go through, is what led to turning a dream into reality.

"I have found that by building and talking with my network of contacts there is a wealth of advice out there. You just need to listen. My business is infinitely better as a result of listening and more importantly taking the advice of others in the business world.

"Having this experience in my business has been unbelievable, we have a small team helping now who will hopefully ensure the business is a success."

## SILVER FIRM

New Zealand captains past and present, Stephen Fleming and Brendon McCullum, have helped to establish CricHQ, a digital platform for cricket, which recently secured US\$10 million funding from Singapore-based private equity firm Tembusu Partners to expand its global operations.

Fleming, the former Nottinghamshire captain, and McCullum, who played for Warwickshire in this season's NatWest T20 Blast, are both founding directors and ambassadors of the company.

CricHQ aims to replace paper-based cricket administration with a digital-based system with an app that includes real-time scoring and performance insights.



CricHQ have already forged partnerships with 10 first-class and Minor counties and the system was also used for some PCA England Masters matches during the season.

"CricHQ has helped governing bodies achieve their strategic objectives of growing the game, identifying future talent and unlocking value in their cricketing jurisdiction," said Gus McKay, the former Zimbabwe all-rounder and ex-Sussex Chief Executive, now CricHQ's Managing Director of Europe, Americas and Africa.

"The uniqueness of CricHQ is it delivers benefits to administrators, coaches and scorers whilst increasing player and fan engagement on a digital platform built for cricket."

## MINOR COUNTIES

Gary Pratt led Cumberland to only the third Minor Counties Championship in their history, 10 years after he emerged as an unlikely Ashes hero.

Pratt, then a Durham batsman, helped Michael Vaughan's side win the 2005 Ashes with an important run out of Ricky Ponting.

Pratt is still enjoying his cricket and collected the trophy after Cumberland trounced Oxfordshire by 10 wickets inside two days in the final at Carlisle.

"It was a fantastic team performance from a very close-knit team who have played exceptional cricket," Pratt said.

"We won the trophy in 2012 and then set our sights on the Championship so to achieve this is a great feeling."

Seamer Richard Gleeson, who made his first-class debut for Northamptonshire against Australia in August, took three wickets in each Oxfordshire innings and won the Man of the Match Award.



## TAUNTON TUTOR

**Arul Suppiah**, the former Somerset batsman, has qualified as a teacher two years after his playing career was ended by a chronic knee injury.

Suppiah has worked as Director of Cricket at Queen's College in Taunton since January 2014 and he has now obtained a Post Graduate Certificate in Education from Buckinghamshire University.

Ian Thomas, one of the PCA's six-strong team of Personal Development and Welfare Managers, helped Suppiah to find his first teaching job after he was forced to retire from cricket and the two have remained in close contact.

"Ian has been brilliant. When I had to retire we sat down and put together a plan to get the best opportunity for me," Suppiah said.

"He helped me to get my CV out there and then it was a

case of knocking on the doors of local schools to see if they had an opportunity. Luckily, there was one at Queen's.

"Speaking as an ex-player, I think it's vitally important to have that channel that the PDMs provide to help the transition from cricket. The PCA do a tremendous job, not just in helping ex-players into work but the whole package."

Suppiah still has to complete a probationary year as a newly-qualified teacher at Queen's but he is enjoying his new role.

"It's a very friendly school and I am enjoying the job," he said. "It's quite different to playing but it's a good challenge and I am still involved in cricket which is the main thing."

## TMS DUO STAND UP

Former England players and now Test Match Special colleagues Geoffrey Boycott and Jonathan Agnew have been helping the PCA Benevolent Fund this year.

The pair have taken their popular 'An Evening with Boycott and Aggers' show around the country and they have had collections for the Benevolent Fund at each of the theatres they have visited.

The latest tour began in Nottingham in June and continued throughout the Ashes summer before ending in Watford in late September.

The show also played to packed houses in Manchester, Birmingham, Leicester, Liverpool, Harrogate, Canterbury and Bath.

The PCA Benevolent Fund is grateful to Boycott and Aggers and all those who contributed for their generosity.

## NEW NIGHTLIFE APP NOW LIVE

Ed Young, the former Gloucestershire batsman and slow left arm, has developed a new nightlife app which helps users find nearby bars and to know what the real-time vibe is there.

WhatBar is now available to download on Android and Apple iPhone and provides live data of what is happening out and about.

"I set up the business myself and I use a freelance company to make the app because I don't have the skills to do the programming," Young said.

"But I formulated the idea and I know from my experiences of playing cricket that, when people go to a new town or city, it's not easy to find out the places to go and what the atmosphere is like in them.

"WhatBar is a community-driven app that allows users to contribute up-to-date information through a quick simple reporting system, and automatically updates the live data which keeps the app in real time.

"So when they are on their phones in a bar they can report what's going on and let others know - that helps them make a decision about where they want to have a drink.

"It's early days for WhatBar. I have much bigger plans for it, but I want it to be THE nightlife app."

Young, who left Gloucestershire two years ago, is playing Minor Counties cricket for Wiltshire and has helped his club side, Potterne, to promotion in the West of England Premier League.



# NAMES UP IN LIGHTS

FORMER CALL CENTRE WORKER **CHRIS RUSHWORTH** IS VOTED PCA PLAYER OF THE YEAR WITH **TOM CURRAN** TAKING THE YOUNG PLAYER AWARD AND **ANYA SHRUBSOLE** AND **STUART BROAD** THE INTERNATIONAL PRIZES.

**C**hris Rushworth's remarkable journey from Durham reject to esteemed county professional, via working in a call centre and selling satellite dishes, was completed when he was voted Player of the Year at the PCA Awards evening at London's Tobacco Dock. The 29 year-old seamer collected the coveted Reg Hayter Cup after his 83 first-class wickets, a Durham record, won the admiration and recognition of his fellow county professionals. Rushworth also collected a £10,000 cheque for winning the PCA County MVP as well as being named in the PCA Team of the Year.

Collecting his prizes in front of an 800 – strong audience, including players, sponsors and guests at the glittering end-of-season awards ceremony, cricket's equivalent of the Oscars, would have been unimaginable when Rushworth was released by Durham at the end of the 2006 season.

There followed three years in the cricketing wilderness during which Rushworth found menial jobs to help pay the bills before he was given a second chance by Durham in 2010.

It was Simon Brown, the former Durham and England seamer, who recommended to Durham coach Jon Lewis that Rushworth might be worth a second look.

"Chubs [Brown] was at Sunderland at the time, and he was quite good friends with Jon, and they asked me to go and do a bit of practice with the lads. At the time I was doing some insurance work in a call centre or something like that, so I would be doing the practice on days off really," Rushworth said.

"Then two weeks before the start of the 2010 season I got a call off Geoff Cook saying that they'd been impressed by me in the nets and would I like to come back on

trial. It meant giving up the job I had with no certainty of anything coming of it, but I still snapped their hands off. I had a month's trial, and then Geoff said there's a two-year contract for you.

"But I only played one Championship game in 2011 – against Hampshire, I remember it well. Otherwise I just didn't get picked. Callum Thorp was around, and I suppose I was seen as his replacement.

"It was when Paul Collingwood came in as

captain in 2012 that things changed a little bit. Knowing that he believed in me made me believe in myself a bit more. I guess I've just got to know my skills a lot better, and whereas I used to try too hard, now I know it's better if I just relax and enjoy myself. To end the season with an award voted for by my peers is unbelievable really."

For Tom Curran, the winner of the John Arlott Cup for the PCA Young Player Award, the route into county cricket could not have been more different.

Curran was born and raised in Cape Town, the son of the late Kevin Curran, the former Gloucestershire, Northamptonshire and Zimbabwe all-rounder.

He was spotted by former Surrey captain Ian Greig who recommended Curran to his former county and his rapid progress through the ranks culminated a successful season in which Surrey won the LV= County Championship Division Two title and were runners-up in the Royal London One Day Cup.

Curran took 76 championship wickets and formed an effective new ball partnership with his younger brother Sam.

"We have played a lot of garden cricket games over the years. Bowling with Sam [for Surrey] is a bit like that, it's just a bit more intense," Curran said.

After an injury-hit 2014 season, Curran went into the 2015 campaign aiming to break into Surrey's first team. He did that successfully and secured a place on England's Performance Programme for the winter.

"I came into the season trying to secure my place in the first team. The next thing I knew I had taken a few wickets – it all happened very quickly – and now I am standing here with the PCA Young Player Award," he said.

"I'm very humbled and extremely proud



CHRIS RUSHWORTH CELEBRATED A MAGNIFICENT SEASON FOR DURHAM BY CLAIMING 'THE PLAYERS' PLAYER OF THE YEAR' AWARD FOR 2015



**pca**  
**awards**  
in association with **ECB**

**REG HAYTER CUP FOR THE  
PCA PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
**CHRIS RUSHWORTH**  
(DURHAM)

**JOHN ARLOTT CUP FOR  
THE PCA YOUNG PLAYER  
OF THE YEAR**  
**TOM CURRAN (SURREY)**

**INVESTEC TEST PLAYER  
OF THE SUMMER**  
**STUART BROAD**  
(ENGLAND)

**WAITROSE WOMEN'S  
PLAYER OF THE SUMMER**  
**ANYA SHRUBSOLE**  
(ENGLAND)

**SKY SPORTS SIXES AWARD**  
**ROSS WHITELEY**  
(WORCESTERSHIRE)

**ROYAL LONDON ONE DAY  
CUP PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
**MICHAEL KLINGER**  
(GLOUCESTERSHIRE)

**NATWEST T20 BLAST  
PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
**MICHAEL KLINGER**  
(GLOUCESTERSHIRE)

**PCA SPECIAL MERIT  
AWARD SPONSORED BY  
LYCAMOBILE**  
**JIM CUMBES**

**ECB SPECIAL AWARD**  
**LORD BILL MORRIS**

**OVERALL PCA  
COUNTY MVP**  
**CHRIS RUSHWORTH**  
(DURHAM)

**PCA ENGLAND  
MASTERS MVP**  
**USMAN AFZAAL**

**HAROLD GOLDBLATT  
AWARD FOR THE PCA  
UMPIRE OF THE YEAR**  
**MICHAEL GOUGH**

**PCA TEAM OF THE YEAR**  
**ALASTAIR COOK ©**  
**ALEX HALES**  
**JOE ROOT**  
**SAM NORTHEAST**  
**LUKE WRIGHT**  
**BEN STOKES**  
**ALEX DAVIES**  
**STUART BROAD**  
**MATT COLES**  
**JEETAN PATEL**  
**CHRIS RUSHWORTH**



## PCA AWARDS

and grateful to the other cricketers for voting for me. I am just happy to receive this on a great occasion celebrating another fantastic year of English cricket.”

Curran may be new to awards ceremonies but Stuart Broad has been there many times before. The pace bowler helped England to retain the Ashes by taking eight for 15 at Trent Bridge and capped his summer by winning the Investec Test Match Player of the Year Award.

“It’s a lovely award. With my dad having played for England and growing up with Test cricket it has always been the pinnacle of the game for me,” Broad said.

“To win the Test Match Player of the Year Award is a special achievement for me. Cricket sounds like an individual sport but you can’t do anything without your team-mates. The guys who set the scoreboard up, the guys who take the catches and give you scoreboard pressure to bowl at is what it’s all about.

“It’s been a pleasure to play with the guys this summer. I think everyone has enjoyed

the youthful approach, the fearless approach and the positive approach. Long may that continue because it’s been really enjoyable to play in.”

England Women relinquished their Ashes to Australia during a series that was again decided by points awarded over the three formats of the game.

Somerset seamer Anya Shrubsole impressed in the Test at Canterbury and was voted Waitrose Women’s Player of the Summer by her fellow players.

“Obviously it’s a massive achievement for me particularly as it is voted for by my team-mates, that makes it that extra bit special,” Shrubsole said.

“I’m really pleased to have won the award but disappointed that we relinquished the Ashes to the Aussies.”

Michael Klinger of Gloucestershire won both the Royal London One Day Cup and NatWest T20 Blast Player of the Year Awards but was unable to attend as he was back in Australia preparing for Western Australia’s domestic season.

Ross Whiteley won the Sky Sports Sixes Award after he was nominated by the sponsors following a three-way tie with Somerset’s Chris Gayle and Sussex’s Luke Wright on 29 sixes each in the NatWest T20 Blast. Whiteley struck 11 of his sixes in his 35-ball 91 in a televised match against Yorkshire at Headingley.

That innings helped to secure Whiteley a place in the England Lions squad for their T20 series against Pakistan A in December.

“The Lions call was a bonus. There was a little bit of talk about potentially being involved in that. It was a big surprise but I’m very excited about going out there and working with the guys involved,” Whiteley said.

Former Durham batsman Michael Gough was voted PCA Umpire of the Year, former England batsman Usman Afzaal was the PCA England Masters MVP and Jim Cumbes, the former Lancashire seamer and Chief Executive, received the PCA Special Merit Award, sponsored by Lycamobile, for more than 50 years’ service to the game.



RECENTLY RETIRED ASHES WINNER GERAINT JONES WITH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE’S SAMIT PATEL; ROSS WHITELEY WAS NAMED SKY SPORTS SIXES WINNER; WINSTON DAVIS JOINED ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE JASON RATCLIFFE AS A SPECIAL GUEST OF THE PCA AT TOBACCO DOCK





## CUMBES DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE PCA SPECIAL MERIT AWARD

Jim Cumbes' 50 year career in professional cricket, which included 20 seasons as a player and 14 as Lancashire's Chief Executive, was recognised with the PCA Special Merit Award, sponsored by Lycamobile.

Cumbes had two spells with Lancashire and one each with Surrey, Worcestershire and Warwickshire during a long county career which he also combined with playing professional football as a goalkeeper for Aston Villa, Tranmere Rovers, West Bromwich Albion and Southport.

He then became a popular figure in cricket administration, starting

in Warwickshire's marketing department and ending in the Lancashire hot seat where he was responsible for driving through the major redevelopment of Old Trafford before he retired in 2012.

"I enjoyed my playing days and I was fortunate enough to play against some of the best players in the world - Garry Sobers, Barry Richards, Viv Richards - people that you really looked up to," Cumbes said.

"But the development of Old Trafford was a big thing for me. It took us a long time to get it through with lots of planning challenges, so that was very satisfying."

## MVP STATS DON'T LIE...

Durham's dynamic seamer **Chris Rushworth** came away from the PCA Awards laden with accolades.

Chris Rushworth was voted PCA Player of the Year by his fellow professionals and also took the MVP County Player Award after a prolific season in which he took a Durham record 83 first-class wickets. Rushworth's efforts also secured a place in the PCA Team of the Year.

"To win one award is nice, to win two is very special. To be included in the Team of the Year as well is a nice little bonus," Rushworth said.

"To have your efforts recognised in this way is very special and the proudest moment of my career, 100 per cent.

"You try your best against these blokes week in and week out and to get an acknowledgement from them of how well you have done is a massive achievement. I couldn't be prouder."

Rushworth backed up a successful season in 2014, in which he gave up alcohol for 12

months, with an even better one this year.

"Last year was a good year. The non-alcohol stuff for charity did help. This year I guess it's just a case of knowing my game 100 per cent, knowing that my strengths are and just enjoying bowling and being hungry for taking wickets," said.

"Last year was a big eye-opener and I realised how much of an affect drink can have on you. I have carried that through this year. I have tried not to have too many beers during a game, especially after a day bowling. It must be paying dividends because the wickets keep coming."

Winning the Reg Hayter Cup rounded off a rags-to-riches story for Rushworth who was released by Durham in 2006 but who fought his way back onto the county staff having worked in a call centre and as a satellite dish salesman.

"I couldn't have envisaged this back then. To get released and go back to normal life makes you realise how much you want to be a professional cricketer," Rushworth said.

"The goal was to get back into a county and do well. Things have gone from strength to strength and to be here with a few trophies at the PCA Awards, I couldn't ask for any more."





# OPENING GAMBIT

**ANDREW STRAUSS** WAS A WINNER DURING HIS 100 TEST CAREER AND THE EARLY INDICATIONS ARE THAT HE WILL BE THE SAME IN HIS NEW ROLE AS MANAGING DIRECTOR OF ENGLAND CRICKET. HE DISCUSSED THE CHALLENGES OF HIS NEW JOB WITH PAUL BOLTON.

Andrew Strauss, who captained England to back-to-back Ashes series wins in 2009 and 2010/11, gave up his job as a commentator with Sky Sports to take a key post in the England and Wales Cricket Board following the departure of Paul Downton in April.

At the time English cricket was at a low ebb after a disappointing World Cup campaign and defeat in the Test series in the West Indies but the picture looks much healthier six months on.

The Ashes were regained in an emphatic manner under new head coach Trevor Bayliss – Strauss's first major appointment – and plans are already being drawn up to improve England's white ball form ahead of the 2017 ICC Champions Trophy and 2019 World Cup, both of which will be staged in England.

"I think in reality there were a lot of reasons not to take the job, especially where English cricket was six months or so ago," Strauss said.

"Ultimately it was an emotional call to apply. I may be given an opportunity to make a mark on English cricket and leave it in a better place and lead it in a better direction.

"That is a hard thing to turn down. If I had turned it down, I think that I would have regretted it forever.

"It's great to be involved. I am really excited about the future and we have a lot to be excited about on the pitch and off it. I'm feeling as motivated now as ever."

Strauss admits that he is still finding his feet in a wide-ranging job but his experience of captaining England has helped him to settle into his new role.



ANDREW STRAUSS APPOINTED TREVOR BAYLISS AS HEAD COACH AT THE START OF THE 2015 SUMMER, AND WITHIN SIX MONTHS ENGLAND HAD REGAINED THE ASHES

**"YOU HAVE GOT TO PUT YOUR TRUST IN PEOPLE BUT BE PREPARED TO TAKE DECISIONS WHEN THEY NEED TO BE TAKEN"**



"The England captaincy has helped me in this role. It's a leadership position and it's a management position as well," Strauss said

"While I was England captain I had an introduction to some of the broader areas around the England team, not just on the pitch. This is an extension of that in many ways.

"I have tried to use the same simple philosophy around leadership that I did in the England team. I do believe that you have got to get out of people's way and allow them to do their jobs.

"You can't be too micro-managing and hands-on. You have got to put your trust in people but be prepared to take decisions when they need to be taken and have a clear framework in your own mind how you go about that.

"Ultimately this job is the same as any job out there. It's all about people. If you treat people well and

you respect them that goes quite a long way to getting the best out of them down the track."

Ultimately Strauss will be judged on England's results so a successful Ashes summer was a good way for him to ease himself into his new role.

"Like any job it takes a little time to appreciate and understand what the job entails on a day-to-day basis," he said

"Even though I had quite a bit to do with Hugh Morris when he was in this job during my time as England captain there was still not a full appreciation of all the different things he did. It takes time to understand some of the nuts and bolts of it.

"But it has been a fascinating learning experience in the first three months and also hugely satisfying.

"You always wonder when you are on the pitch whether you will get as much satisfaction out of winning when

THE FORMER ENGLAND CAPTAIN WAS PROLIFIC WITH THE BAT, AVERAGING 40.91 IN HIS 100 TEST MATCHES

you are not playing but I can definitely say that you do.

"At the start of this summer there was a fairly pessimistic view of our chances, not just in the Ashes but in the summer generally with the Tests and ODI series against New Zealand as well. The guys have done fantastically well, the support staff have done a brilliant job too and it feels like we are moving in the right direction.

"My job is more of a medium to long term strategy role so I shouldn't get waylaid by whether we win or lose in the short term. My focus is more 2017, 2018 and obviously 2019 when it's the Ashes and World Cup over here.

"But it does make you feel happy and proud of the guys when they play as they have during this summer. Not just winning or losing but the way they have gone about their business as well."

With the World Cup in mind, Strauss



## FROM THE TOP



intends to focus attention on improving England's white ball cricket, an area he feels has been neglected in recent years.

Bayliss's success in the shorter forms of the game in Australia and the IPL was one of the reasons Strauss wanted the former New South Wales coach to succeed Peter Moores.

"It's never an easy thing when, firstly, you have to let a coach go and, secondly, to appoint a new coach. You are always running the risk of whether his philosophy gels well with that of the captain and players," Strauss said.

"What really reassured me about Trevor is that, number one, the huge success he has had in a number of different places and different cultures. You can only surmise from that he is very good at fitting in and building relationships with people.

"Number two, he has had success in short form cricket which is an area that we need to move forward if we are going to have a meaningful change of direction in that regard.

"Our performances in the World Cup for 20 years have been awful really and we need to be prepared to think quite

radically if we want to move forward in those forms of the game.

"If we don't focus on them now we never will. It's an exciting time for me. There are a lot of things that we can do, not just to improve our performances but our game-wise focus, on one day cricket and there is a fairly strong support for the idea of doing things differently in that regard.

"In some ways that's due to the way we played in the World Cup, but I think people recognise that we have not given it due care and attention for the last decade or so."

After an Ashes series win, England's Test cricket would seem to be in better shape but Strauss believes that there are still challenges to be met there.

"Winning away from home in Test cricket is a massive issue for us, and for all sides around the world actually.

**"PLAYERS  
HAVE NEVER HAD  
BETTER SUPPORT  
THAN THEY HAVE NOW  
AND THAT'S A GREAT  
TESTAMENT TO THE  
PCA AND THE JOB  
THEY HAVE  
DONE"**

We have to think about how we can make improvements in that regard," he said.

"There are all sorts of things for me to look at. It's a pretty broad role, you are not just looking at the England team itself. You are looking at the player development side and that means Loughborough, county academies and then there is the broader ECB strategy that is taking shape as well.

"There is quite a lot on because it's quite a varied role but I am finding it all very interesting.

"The first six months in any new job you are trying to delve beneath the surface and understand the various areas and aspects of the role.

"I have spent a lot of time at Loughborough with the guys up there. I've attended selection meetings and had a reasonable amount of time around the Test matches and one-dayers.

"I speak a lot with Trevor Bayliss and Paul Farbrace and the two captains as well so there is quite a lot of travel involved.

"I'm also trying to get round the counties and meet up with the county coaches and directors of cricket to see what is on their to-do lists and the issues and challenges they face. It's been a busy summer and I've got a busy winter ahead as well."

Although Strauss is now employed by the ECB he is also a member of the PCA, as a past player, and is appreciative of the support he received from the Association during his playing career.

"The PCA were hugely supportive of me when I was England captain and of the players generally," he said.

"I think the PCA have become more and more influential over time as well.

"The players have never had better support than they have now and that's a great testament to everyone at the PCA and the job they have done.

"I think there a number of areas where the ECB and PCA can work better together as well and that is something I want to explore more.

"We are very lucky to have such a strong and mindful organisation that is representing not just the players' interests today but also being involved in some of the bigger picture stuff, helping to ensure that cricket continues to prosper and grow."

# WELCOME FROM YOUR PDWP TEAM



The Professional Cricketers' Association is extremely proud of the various ways in which it can support its members. Players are now better supported than ever before to deal with and prepare for anything life throws at them. This is something we all should be extremely grateful for, and we are indebted to those players who founded the association nearly 50 years ago. We really have come a long way quickly to meet the needs of our current, past and future members.

For many the first port of call is one of the PCA's six-strong team of Personal Development and Welfare Managers that work with the 18 first-class counties, offering a range of services including winter workshops, work experience and one-to-one career planning to just name a few.

The Personal Development and Welfare Programme (PDWP) is a personalised support service which recognises that cricket is likely to be the main focus in a player's life. Trained Personal Development Managers provide players with guidance on how to maximise their cricketing focus whilst also fulfilling their other important commitments such as education, career, family and friendships. The aim of the PDM is to work closely with cricketers, coaches and support staff as part of an integrated team so as to minimise potential concerns, conflicts and distractions, all of which can be detrimental to a player's performance, and at worst, may end a career prematurely.

For some players the link to someone independent and confidential can be underestimated, in what is a ruthless and competitive field of work. Whatever the PCA's support is to you, be sure to use it and get the best out of the association for yourself and your future.

As we continue to encourage all playing membership to prepare and use time wisely, we see encouraging levels of buy-in, with around 82% of current players having a personal development plan alongside playing. Last winter over 200 players attended a PCA winter development workshop, in a variety of subjects. These figures continue to grow from previous years.

However big or small the plan for yourself this winter may be, the key to success will be looking back and knowing you have achieved something for yourself and future direction.

Best wishes for the winter,  
Ian Thomas and the PDM Team



## YOUR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGERS

### IAN THOMAS

Having experienced the ups and downs of playing county cricket, I found myself amazed by the insecurities during a player's career. Planning for the inevitable change of a career while playing will always be part of the life of a cricketer. I feel the Programme helps players with the insecurity of cricket and makes personal development a healthy thing to do alongside cricket, allowing for a smoother transition out of the game when needed. Most importantly, it takes away the stress while concentrating on cricket performance.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR:  
GLAMORGAN,  
SOMERSET,  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE  
07920 575 578  
ithomas@thepca.co.uk

### LYNSEY WILLIAMS

I am passionate about the impartial role PDW plays in supporting players to achieve their aspirations both on and off the field. I believe in the importance of encouraging players to create, identify and seize opportunities when and where they can to better themselves as players and people, and in supporting individuals to become better prepared for and better able to manage the wide range of challenges they are likely to face at different stages of their playing career and beyond.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR:  
WORCESTERSHIRE,  
WARWICKSHIRE  
07990 883 971  
williams@thepca.co.uk

### MATT WOOD

The transitions from elite sport to so-called 'normal life' must not be underestimated. The PDW programme is crucial in helping players through challenging times, both during and after their career. Elite sport can be a lonely place at times and it is important that the players know we are there to help and support them on and off the pitch. I feel passionately about this role and, as a former player, can truly understand its importance and value.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR:  
YORKSHIRE,  
LANCASHIRE,  
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
07826 535 783  
mwood@thepca.co.uk

### PHIL DICKS

I have been with Durham in one capacity or another since their minor county days. Now they are an established first-class county, I'm enjoying the challenge of helping the club and the individual players to fulfil their potential. I combine my roles of video analysis and PDW work to support players from academy to the pro staff.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR:  
DURHAM  
07703 477 195  
phildicks@me.com

### CHARLIE MULRAINE

Having played both cricket and rugby professionally, I am well aware of how uncertainty about the future can have a negative impact on performance on the field. Planning for the future isn't just about security for life after sport - many players have said doing this has actually helped them enjoy their cricket more. Knowing how to 'sell' your skills and experience, to build networks and to get on with people are key tools for continuing your success beyond the game.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR:  
LEICESTERSHIRE,  
DERBYSHIRE,  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
07867 619 201  
cmulraine@thepca.co.uk

### NICK DENNING

Understanding the need for players to have one eye on what is coming next in their lives is essential. Having had a number of experiences in different industries as an employee and self-employed person, and having felt the highs and lows of the transition from playing to working, I am confident I can help players prepare for the 'real world' from an impartial and knowledgeable viewpoint.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR:  
HAMPSHIRE,  
SURREY, SUSSEX,  
MCC YCS  
07785 619 443  
ndenning@thepca.co.uk

### DAVID TOWNSEND

Professional sport can be a tough place with the pressure of performance and uncertainty about the future. I see my role as assisting each player in working out the best path forward for themselves, both in terms of thinking about the future and developing a plan to help make that eventual transition a smooth one. There is no right or wrong way to do this. The key is that you are relaxed enough off the field to be able to perform at your best, while laying down some foundations for life after cricket.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR:  
MIDDLESEX,  
ESSEX, KENT  
07867 459202  
dtownsend@thepca.co.uk



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ONE YEAR ON...

# TRANSFORMERS

The career of a professional cricketer is a short one but moving on is easier if you have a positive attitude, as **Darren Maddy** and **Oliver Newby** have discovered.

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## DARREN MADDY

I HAVE BEEN WORKING AS MASTER IN CHARGE OF CRICKET AT SOLIHULL SCHOOL SINCE I RETIRED FROM PLAYING AT THE END OF THE 2013 SEASON.

I'd realised some time before my career ended that I would need to find another career to go into and so I trained as a fitness instructor and had started to qualify as a strength and conditioning coach.

When I retired I had three job offers, one as an S&C coach with a first-class county, and the other two coaching jobs at schools.

I chose Solihull and it has been an interesting and enjoyable couple of years.

It was quite daunting at first, doing something very different to what you had done for 23 years. In school you have to deal with a wide age range and only a small minority of them want to become a professional cricketer. The majority play cricket because it's part of their PE curriculum in the summer months.

The job is varied and includes helping the groundsmen put on the covers, ordering teas and lunches, being drinks carrier for the various teams and acting as scorer and umpire on occasions.

There are occasions when you are coaching 50 kids, with assistance from other teachers and coaches, and that can be quite challenging. It's the total

opposite of what I experienced in my professional career where all I had to do was think about myself and my own game.

Everything is done for you in professional cricket but now I have to provide for everybody else. It's been enjoyable and I am loving the cricket aspect within school life.

The frustrating part is that the summer term is only 10-12 weeks long so for the other 28 weeks of the school year I coach rugby and hockey. My role has also broadened beyond just being a cricket coach and I am now head of S&C at the school. I work with all the sports teams to get their fitness levels up and I'm also in charge of sports scholarship programme, so I am involved in scouting and talent ID.

My role has really become more of everything else other than cricket. Cricket plays a small part in my life and that is where the biggest challenge has developed.

I still play cricket for Berkswell in the Birmingham League and for the PCA England Masters and Lashings which is good fun.

There have been times when I have wondered whether I retired too early. But I take satisfaction from the fact

**"My role has broadened beyond just being a cricket coach [at Solihull School] and I am now head of S&C at the school. I work with all the sports teams to get their fitness levels up"**

DARREN MADDY

that my career came to an end through age and longevity rather than having it taken away from me early through injury or lack of form.

## OLIVER NEWBY

I'M NOW WORKING FOR A FRIEND, PAUL HARGREAVES, IN HIS INTERIORS AND EXTENSIONS COMPANY. WE DO THINGS LIKE WALLING, PLUMBING AND TILING - THE ONLY THING WE DON'T TOUCH IS ELECTRICS.

I'd always been quite handy building things and I dropped lucky when Paul, who I've known since we were 15, asked if I'd like to come and learn a trade with him. We are based in the Ribble Valley but we do go further afield, wherever the work is.

In my last year with Lancashire I was getting a bit disheartened with cricket and I started to look at things outside of the game.

I did some taster work with Warren Hegg in the marketing department at Lancashire which I enjoyed but it wasn't really my scene. I've always been creative and I couldn't really see myself putting on a suit every day.

I was privileged to play cricket for a living for 10-11 years but I knew that there was no end game with cricket. I always realised that at some stage



I was going to have to do something else.

Had I known at 19 or 20 what I know now I would have signed up for some taster courses and tried to get an apprenticeship and used the time that we get off in the winter to do a job, such as fitting kitchens or overseeing house renovations.

One of the reasons for going into this line of work is that I want to buy properties and do them up. The easiest way is to do the work yourself instead of paying someone else to do it.

I'm still involved in cricket as player/coach at Westhoughton but I haven't really missed the professional game to be honest.

For the last three years of my career I became a bit disheartened with the politics of team selection and things like that. I got more and more withdrawn from it so I found it quite easy to start a new challenge and I haven't struggled with the transition at all.

**"Had I known at 19 or 20 what I know now I would have done some taster courses and tried to get an apprenticeship and used the time that we get off in the winter to do some job, such as fitting kitchens or overseeing house renovations"**

OLIVER NEWBY



# WINTER IS COMING

Cricketers these days need to keep themselves fit and focussed all the year round but for the majority, the winter months do offer the chance to spend time making plans for the future. Here's what five players have lined up.

COMPILED BY IAN THOMAS

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## JONATHON WEBB

WARWICKSHIRE CCC

"My intention over the winter is to utilise my Graphic Design degree and gain more experience in the creative industry. Planning started early in the season with the help of Lynsey Williams working on my CV resume and pinpointing where and with whom I would like to work. Having been injured for nearly two months I spent three weeks with the commercial team at Edgbaston, in particular the marketing department. A contact from there has led to me having an opportunity to get some paid work throughout October with Class Creative, a web design and branding agency based in the centre of Birmingham."



## BILLY GODLEMAN

DERBYSHIRE CCC

"I've decided to enrol on two courses to run alongside my cricket commitments. Firstly, after completing my Level 2 coaching, I am progressing onto Level 3. I'm keen to gain a deeper understanding of all aspects of coaching, as well as getting an opportunity to coach in the performance space of age group/academy set-ups, in both 1-2-1 and team roles. I believe that will enhance my coaching capabilities, give me a stronger indication whether I'd like to pursue coaching after playing and also encourage the development of my personal game as a player. I'm also taking an introductory course in counselling. My own experience and observations in counselling have created a strong curiosity to learn more about the various types. I feel studying in detail the key skills used in the counselling process could be of benefit in a number of contexts in my life - now and in the future. Fatherhood, leadership positions at work and my relationship with myself to name a few."



## WHAT I'M DOING THIS WINTER

### **SAM WOOD** NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CCC

"I'm determined to add to my skills set this winter, both in cricket and in personal development. I have organised myself to work with a joiner a couple of days a week and I'm really looking forward to that. It will give me chance to see what else is out there. I haven't decided yet which trade could be for me in the future so working in the environment and seeing it up close will be a great learning curve. I like the idea of renovating houses so it will be great to get some experience and some extra income will be useful for the winter months. Managing my time with training and working will be a new challenge in the off-season. My hope is that keeping active and pushing myself will have a positive effect on my future both in the game and to develop me as a person."



### **CHRIS LIDDLE** SUSSEX CCC

"I have a fairly busy winter planned. I'm enrolled on the Level 3 course starting at the end of the summer as coaching is a route I've identified would suit me well. I also have an interest in covering other areas and will be linking up with Hayes Recruitment in London to spend some time getting to know that industry. I have an idea for a recruitment business and would like to know the ins and outs of how it works. I was also introduced to the idea of financial planning through the PCA's link with St. James' Place and will be attending a fact-finding meeting in London, which has been set up for cricketers, so we can find out what St. James' Place is all about. Finally, the second half of my winter will be spent in Hong Kong. I went out there last year and got some good experience with coaching – hence my desire to do the Level 3 - and also an opportunity to play some cricket outside rather than training indoors."



### **JAIK MICKLEBURGH** ESSEX CCC

"I've decided it's time to start looking at getting a qualification that could help me in life after cricket - but I'm lucky enough to have the option to play Grade cricket in Sydney for the majority of the winter. Last season I played with the North Sydney club and have been offered the opportunity to link up with them again. There's no doubt that the chance to play in a tough competition on the other side of the world has been beneficial for my game and I'm looking forward to joining up with them in the autumn. Before that though, I wanted to gain a qualification as a barista and after chatting to my PDM David Townsend, I have enrolled on a two-day course that will teach me the skills of running a coffee shop. It is a short course, but one that I think will give me another string to my bow when my career ends."



# RECOGNISING A WEALTH OF OPPORTUNITY

The transition into a new career in wealth management is made easier for cricketers by an innovative training scheme

**P**rofessional sports people train extensively for years. In many cases, it consumes the majority of their young lives, often causing them to make huge personal sacrifices to pursue their dreams of glory.

These may include making massive financial sacrifices, moving away from family to train full-time in academies, calling time on their academic studies and sacrificing personal or romantic relationships. For many, retirement is a concept they do not wish to think about in great detail. However, all athletes' careers will eventually come to a close, whether this is through age, injury or exhaustion.

What happens to them once they leave the days filled with rigorous training, the extensive time spent travelling and the buzz and adrenaline of competing? They have to make the transition to change career.

The St. James's Place Academy was created with the aim of providing a UK-wide development programme for outstanding second careerists, rather than university graduates, who have no previous experience

of giving personal financial advice on Wealth management, to train to become fully qualified professional Wealth managers and build their own businesses.

Chris Benham, who spent nine years as a professional cricketer, is now a Partner at St. James's Place and said: "Although we have taken many ex-professional sports people through our doors and trained them to become fully qualified Wealth Managers, running their own businesses, many others still don't know this opportunity exists.

"I know how demanding it is to be a professional sportsperson and how easy it is to forget about life after sport. But if you want the freedom to build your own business and interact with all types of people, having a positive impact on their lives now and in the future, then I would strongly urge you to consider wealth management as a career option once you finish your sporting career.

"I owe a huge amount of gratitude to St. James's Place Academy for giving me the opportunity to begin my career as a Wealth Manager, and the continued support I

receive from a FTSE 100 company is extremely encouraging."

A rigorous selection process ensures only the most talented and able people are invited to join the Academy programme, which offers a demanding, and comprehensive training and development syllabus and ultimately leads to successful graduation to the St. James's Place Partnership.

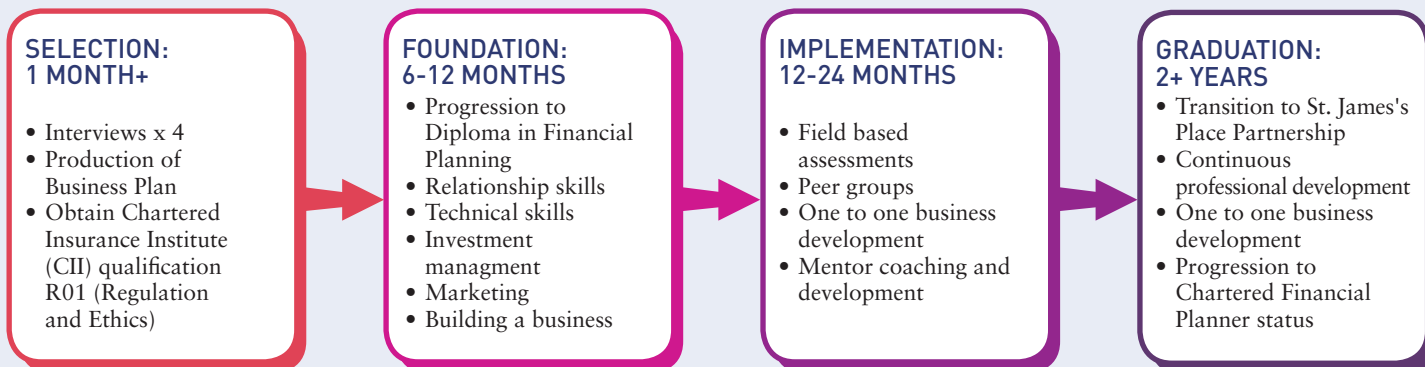
## LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The programme provides a modular approach to becoming a professional wealth adviser. It focuses on four key areas:

- 1 The attainment of the required professional qualifications, enabling you to provide relevant and expert advice to address your clients' financial needs
- 2 Thorough training on every aspect of the St. James's Place Wealth Management service proposition
- 3 The acquisition of business management skills and knowledge, which will prepare you for setting up, managing and developing a successful and growing wealth management practice in the UK. This will include:
  - Marketing, client acquisition and client management skills
  - Developing professional and business relationships
  - Business planning and financial modelling
  - Training on the St. James's Place technology and business support platform
  - Legal and regulatory requirements
- 4 The acquisition of advisory skills, which will enable you to determine client needs and provide relevant and expert financial solutions. This will include:
  - A thorough grounding in all aspects of financial planning and advice provision
  - Discussion, questioning and negotiating skills
  - Research, information provision and recommendation skills
  - Maintaining client records, technical and compliance requirements
  - Managing your time and resources effectively

James Grindal, an ex-professional rugby player for 15 years, currently studying with the Academy says "within three months of retiring, I began my journey with the St. James's Place Academy. Now, nearly one year in, I am not only diploma level qualified, with the ongoing support network within St. James's Place, I am successfully building my own Wealth Management business. It has been a smooth transition".

## THE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



## PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

The Academy programme is designed to enable individuals to become qualified financial advisers by attaining the 'Chartered Insurance Institute Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning' professional qualification. The Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning is designed for both new entrants and experienced advisers seeking to meet the requirements of the Retail Distribution Review (RDR). There are no prior learning requirements. This is a modular qualification based on six formal examinations:

- R01: Financial Services, Regulation and Ethics (20 credits)
- R02: Investment Principles and Risk (20 credits)
- R03: Personal Taxation (10 credits)
- R04: Pensions and Retirement Planning (10 credits)
- R05: Financial Protection (10 credits)
- R06: Financial Planning Practice (30 credits)

To complete this professional qualification, individuals need to pass all six units and obtain 100 credits. R01-R05 are computer-based exams consisting of multiple choice questions, and R06 is a written exam.

St. James's Place has built a learning support programme that gives candidates the best opportunity to achieve this professional qualification in the shortest possible time.

## WHAT QUALITIES MAKE PROFESSIONAL SPORTS PEOPLE INTERESTING FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY?

Individuals are required to have the necessary personal attributes, characteristics and potential to start and run their own business, being self-motivated and dedicated to gaining the knowledge, skills and expertise required to deliver a world-class Wealth management service to clients.

Through years of experience, St. James's Place knows many of the personal attributes

required to be a successful Wealth manager are aligned to those who have dedicated their time to professional sport; determination, competitiveness, ambition and focus.

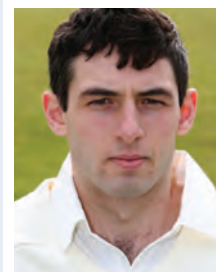
"St. James's Place will back you if you want to achieve, and everything is geared to support those who have ambition and ability. I found they understand the 'winning mentality' present in successful sports people. You will not be reinventing the wheel - you will be standing on the shoulders of giants. Joining St. James's Place was the best decision I ever made," said John Morrison, ex-Bath and England international rugby player. He is now a Senior Partner at St. James's Place.

There are no tuition fees for training through the Academy, and in recognition that in the early stages of the programme Academy Partners will not be advising clients, financial support is available. For example, for the first six months each successful joiner to the programme is given a monthly salary of £1,000.

Visit [www.sjpacademy.co.uk](http://www.sjpacademy.co.uk) to find out what steps to take next. The site has videos and biographies of the Academy Partners currently on the programme. If you are interested in meeting for an initial interview you should submit a copy of your CV to your Personal Development Manager. We will review it with a view to arranging a date for a face-to-face meeting.

## ST. JAMES'S PLACE

The St. James's Place Wealth Management Group offers a comprehensive range of wealth management services to individuals and businesses. A FTSE 100 company with £55.5 billion funds under management, they are well established as one of the UK's leading wealth management organisations.



## MIKE REED, GLAMORGAN

I was given a referral to St. James's Place from one of my girlfriend's clients who is a Senior Partner in the company. She said it was unlike any other company out there

because they offered an academy training programme for people with no previous financial advice experience and coming from differing backgrounds.

St. James's Place also believes that the qualities you learn from being a professional sportsman could be replicated in a career giving face-to-face financial advice.

Where St. James's Place has an advantage over other companies is that it is not a bank. If you go into high street banks these days you can't get the same level of financial advice that you used to. A lot of financial services have been commoditised, but there is still a huge need out there for face-to-face financial advice.

I've always had an interest in financial markets. I've had my own share portfolio for years and I'd already earmarked this as a career before I was forced to retire from cricket because of a knee injury. I'd already started taking some of the exams.

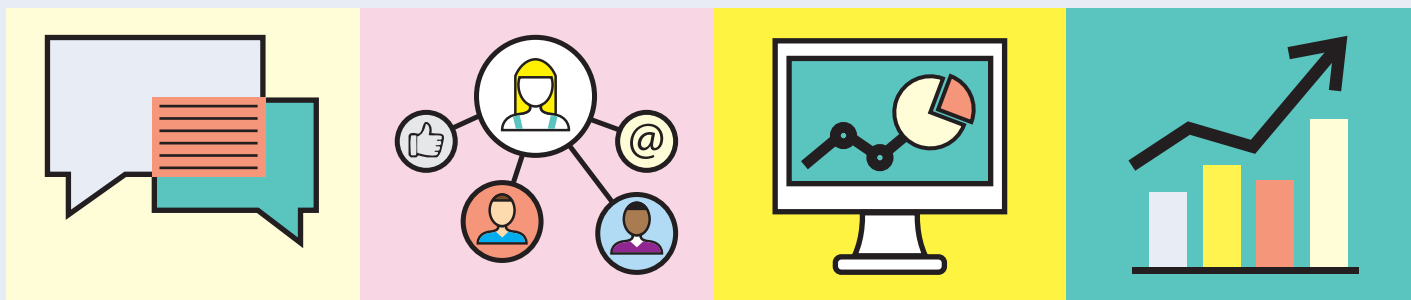
The main reason why I chose St. James's Place over going into the city or a career in banking is that you have the support of a FTSE 100 company but you are self-employed and have the autonomy to do things your way.

As a cricketer you are part of a team environment but you also have a lot of individual responsibility.

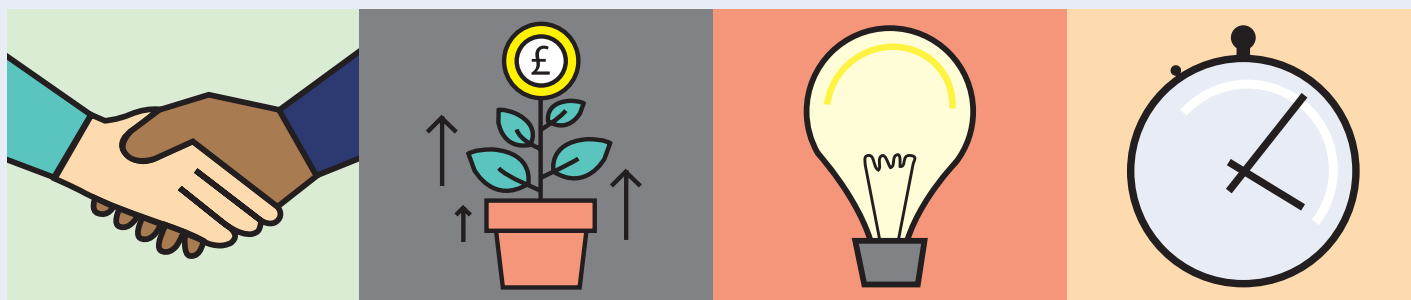
A lot of the skills, especially the mental side of things, are similar to cricket. Working for yourself and being self-employed present some challenges similar to standing at the end of your mark and running in to bowl at international batsman. That creates a lot of challenges as well.

Being able to think on your feet is important. There are certainly a lot of transferable skills from cricket into what I am doing now. There is a big cross over between the two.





# BECOME A BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER



### WHAT IS A BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER?

Business Development Managers work to improve an organisation's market position and achieve financial growth. They define long-term organisational strategic goals, build key customer relationships, identify business opportunities, negotiate and close business deals and maintain extensive knowledge of current market conditions. Business Development Managers work in a senior sales position within the company. It is their job to work with the internal team, marketing staff, and other managers to increase sales opportunities and thereby maximise revenue for their organisation. To achieve that, they need to find potential new customers, present to them, ultimately convert them into clients, and continue to grow business in the future. Business Development Managers will also help manage existing clients and ensure they stay satisfied and positive. They call on clients, often being required to make presentations on solutions and services that meet or predict their clients' future needs.

### WHO WOULD SUIT THIS ROLE?

This is certainly a role that has been taken up by sportsmen and women in the past. Successful people in this field have found

that their personal skills are equally if not more essential than any formal qualifications they have earned. That is why people who come from a sporting career can enter this industry category with confidence at any age.

It is important for the person to have an understanding about the products and the market and industry in which they chose to operate in. A background in finance and marketing would help although those skills can easily be developed while doing the role.

### KEY SKILLS

This is where successful candidates can use the transferable skills they have developed through professional sport. Formal qualifications in Maths and English are important, as could be qualifications in finance and marketing. As well as having self-confidence and a positive attitude here are some other key qualities that are essential to be successful in this role.

- Good people skills - Must be comfortable meeting people and building relationships.
- Good Rapport - The ability to be flexible and understand the needs of others
- Public speaking - The ability to speak and present to large or small groups.
- IT skills - Be able to use Microsoft office and make power point presentations.

- Good Networking - Getting out there and meeting new people and being comfortable
- Time Management - You will need to be able to manage your own diary and management of your territory.

You will also require a business mind-set and have the ability to close a deal. A healthy approach to negotiations can also allow your competitive instincts to develop beyond the sporting arena.

The role will require you to be flexible and will include working some evenings and long hours. A starting salary of £22k can be expected with no previous experience. If you enter this sector with a degree or equivalent you can expect a starting salary of £35k-plus. In-house and on the job training is usual in this role and as your skills and capabilities shine you can expect to earn £50k-plus, with additional bonus structures and benefits such as a company car, healthcare and a pension plan. With companies constantly looking to expand and grow its market share there is a fantastic opportunity to make a second career as a business development manager and retain some of the lifestyle professional sport has allowed you to enjoy. To see what jobs are currently out there, click...  
[www.hays.co.uk](http://www.hays.co.uk) | [www.totaljobs.com](http://www.totaljobs.com)

# SECURE A FUTURE IN THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY

## What exactly is insurance?

Insurance is a form of risk management in which the insured transfers the cost of potential loss to another entity in exchange for monetary compensation known as the premium. Insurance allows individuals, businesses and other entities to protect themselves against significant potential losses and financial hardship at a reasonably affordable rate.

Insurance is appropriate when you want to protect against a significant monetary loss. Take life insurance as an example. If you are the primary breadwinner in your home, the loss of income that your family would experience as a result of our premature death is considered a significant loss and hardship that you should protect them against. It would be very difficult for your family to replace your income, so the monthly premiums ensure that if you die, your income will be replaced by the insured amount. The same principle applies to many other forms of insurance. If the potential loss will have a detrimental effect on the person or entity, insurance makes sense.

## How does insurance work?

Insurance works by pooling risk. What does that mean? It simply means that a large group of people who want to insure against a particular loss pay their premiums into what we will call the insurance bucket,

or pool. Because the number of insured individuals is so large, insurance companies can use statistical analysis to project what their actual losses will be within the given class. They know that not all insured individuals will suffer losses at the same time or at all. This allows the insurance companies to operate profitably and at the same time pay for claims that may arise. For instance, most people have auto insurance but only a few actually get into an accident. You pay for the probability of the loss and for the protection that you will be paid for losses in the event they occur.

## What types of insurance are there?

The most familiar types that people are aware of are private health, life and critical illness, personal and public liability, travel.

Some less familiar and more specialised areas are professional, property (residential and commercial), marine, aviation and transportation.

## What kind of jobs are there in insurance?

Roles in insurance range from general customer services and tele-sales to more specialised and highly qualified roles in underwriting and actuarial work which require specific qualifications.

Specific job focus on business development in insurance: A recent advertisement for a Business Development Manager required the following experience, skills and attributes:

- A track record of selling successfully
- Comprehensive knowledge of the functions supporting the customer journey from quotation stage through to inception, customer management, claims and renewals.
- Previous experience of selling data, risk, and fraud solutions in the sector an advantage.
- Ability to communicate at all levels including executive, senior management, operational, IT, and procurement.
- The employee must be happy to work both in the office and remotely.
- Excellent communication and presentation skills, both written and verbal.
- Strong negotiating and influencing skills.
- Good self-motivator, must be able to work on own initiative.
- Professional in appearance, manner and business methodology.
- Ability to work effectively under pressure.

Any cricketer looking for a business development role will be able to identify strongly with many of these personal requirements and can therefore consider this type of role (in any industry) as a real possibility.



**MICHAEL POWELL**  
GLAMORGAN AND KENT

I have worked for Thomas Carroll Group, the largest insurance brokers in Wales, since I left Kent two years ago. It's a varied business which includes commercial insurance, pensions and investments, private clients and we also have our own health and safety arm.

Last year we were voted Broker of the Decade at the British Insurance Awards at the Albert Hall, which was a very proud moment for everyone in the company.

I got to know the Chairman of the company, John Moore, who is highly-regarded in South Wales and also in the cricket community. He has been a strong supporter of Glamorgan beneficiaries and when I had a benefit in 2011 I got to know him better. We had a conversation about the possibility of me joining the company when I finished playing cricket.

My training is on-going. There are always new things to learn but the company is very supportive. They encourage you to be as highly-qualified as you possibly can.



**IAN SAXELBY**  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

I had to come out of the game sooner than expected in 2014 because of a knee injury. My family background is in farming but I had been – and still am – doing a mathematics degree with the Open University and I initially looked at trying to go into the financial services sector.

I had a few interviews with financial advisor companies but I also saw a couple of insurance brokers as well through a recruitment company.

I was interviewed by Lockton, a top ten broker worldwide, and I think they saw an opportunity to develop me and I saw it as one to grab with both hands coming from someone with no experience into such a prestigious company.



# CHOOSE LIFE

FORMER ENGLAND ALL-ROUNDER  
VOWS TO HELP EDUCATE PLAYERS TO  
AVOID THE MISTAKES HE MADE

**C**hris Lewis, the former England all-rounder, is committed to helping the PCA to educate players into not making the mistakes that led to him being jailed for drugs smuggling.

Lewis enjoyed a successful county career with Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Surrey and played in 32 Tests and 53 One Day Internationals in an England career that lasted eight years.

But Lewis retired from county cricket in 2000 with no clear plan of what he would do after his playing days were over. Within a year of attempting a T20 comeback with Surrey in 2008 he had been jailed for 13 years after he was found guilty at Croydon Crown Court of smuggling liquid cocaine hidden in fruit juice tins into England from St Lucia.

Lewis has now been released from prison and is keen that other cricketers should learn from his traumatic experience. Lewis will speak to first year county professionals at next year's PCA Rookie Camp and also join the PCA team on the Association's programme of pre-season county visits.

"It's actually nice to be back and by back I don't mean being outside I mean back by being me. You would think that perhaps I would be apprehensive. I am excited," said Lewis ahead of his release.

"Keep cricket fun. You learn more when you are having fun, you play better when you are having fun. The stuff that may take away your smile just isn't as important as it seems now.

"Take the advice that is available now through the PCA. There have been enough people who have gone through this journey that there is decent advice for young cricketers to take care of their money, to take care of the things that they need to take care of themselves but most of all to have fun. You don't know how far you can go. The world's your oyster.

"The PCA have been extremely supportive right from the beginning of this situation let's say. They have been extremely helpful and certainly, going ahead, I would like to become a part of that whether it's giving advice or whether it's just tugging on the grey matter to find out what happened at this particular time. If any of that can help any young player going ahead I am in. I am in 100 per cent."

Lewis worked for the local council in Nottingham and was also involved with coaching in Slough when he retired in 2000 but admitted he became afraid of what the future held and he ended up making poor decisions that led to him being jailed.

"You are playing cricket, perhaps even hoping to get back into the England team, and within the space of a few months it's actually all over. There wasn't a great deal of information around [then] for young players about what they should be doing or trying to do. Yes, you heard the stories about having to plan for your future because cricket doesn't last forever but what does that mean?

"At the time I thought that planning was taking out a pension or taking out a life insurance which are things that I actually did. Standing here now you know planning is a lot more and it takes a lot more time and effort.

"I left in a huff so the idea of missing cricket just didn't happen. At the time I left I wanted to leave because it wasn't a happy environment. I worked for the council in Nottingham, I did a bit of stuff with coaching in Slough. We had a bit of a cricket academy. You try different things to try to generate cash. You are not talking about the same level of cash as when you played. You are talking about a level of cash that, now you are living a normal life, to sort that out. Coming back to play T20 for Surrey, that didn't work and at the same time the old hips played up.

"I had spent a bit of money. I had



FORMER ENGLAND CRICKETER CHRIS LEWIS IS WORKING WITH THE PCA TO HELP ENSURE CURRENT PLAYERS MAKE THE RIGHT LIFE CHOICES AND HAVE FIRM PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

been away to Australia to train to try to get fit to come back to do the Twenty20 so money had been spent and nothing had been earned. I became afraid of what the future held and at that point the thinking actually went awry. I thought about things and made choices that I shouldn't have made - I should say sorry because they were the wrong choices."

Lewis admitted that being jailed came as a surprise and he has struggled to cope with the mental demands of prison life.

"I have had six years in jail. Until recently I would still wake up and look around and think: 'wow, you are in jail' because that wasn't part of the plan. I never saw that coming. The thought of going to jail didn't even occur to me because in most of my life I had never imagined doing anything that would actually get me in that situation. Spending all your life at liberty and all of a sudden you are not. Jail on a physical level generally speaking hasn't been hard. Jail time for most is what you do with your mind. It is a really hard mental exercise to stop yourself from thinking negatively so it's a constant mental battle trying to find positive cues on a daily basis because 24 hours a day you are a prisoner so essentially you are in your cell you are almost in a goldfish tank."

Jason Ratcliffe, assistant Chief Executive of the PCA, has remained in contact with Lewis throughout his time in prison and hopes that Lewis's willingness to speak about his experiences will help current county players.

"Whilst we can't ever condone the trouble Chris got himself into, it's our duty to help our members wherever we can. Chris has always been a popular man and has paid the penalty for his crime," Ratcliffe said.

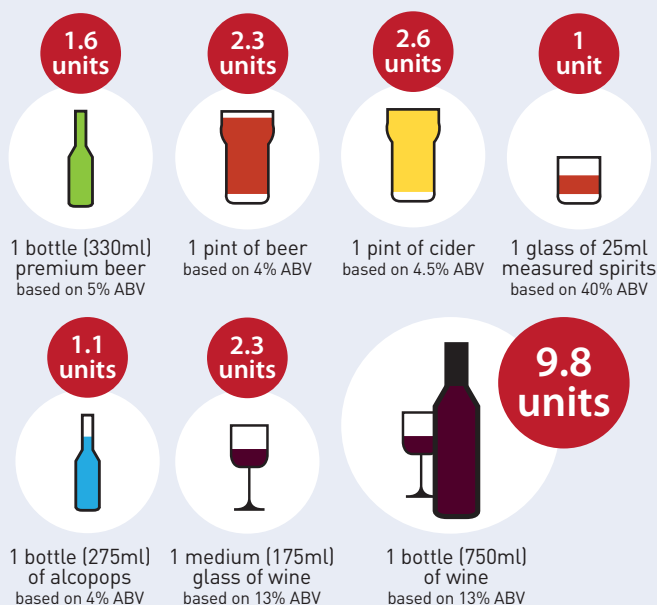
"However, it's time to move forward and his story will prove to be a strong message for all current and future professional cricketers. PCA/ECB have a robust personal development programme, (PDWP) which has been steadily developing since 2000 and therefore the opportunities to be fully prepared for life after cricket are multiple.

# KNOW YOUR LIMITS

It's important to understand the effects of alcohol and manage consumption; unwanted mistakes can happen as a result of over consuming.

## ALCOHOL INTAKE FACTS AS A MALE

- More than 9 million people in the UK drink more than the recommended daily limits
- According to government guidance, men should drink no more than 3-4 units a day (around a pint and half a day)
- 6% of men in the UK are at risk drinkers, consuming more than 51 units a week.
- A quarter (26%) of deaths in men aged 16-24 are attributed to alcohol consumption.
- Men are twice as likely to abuse or become dependent on alcohol.
- Alcohol is known to affect the production of sperm and limit chances of conceiving
- Alcohol consumption has been linked to male impotence
- Alcohol contains high and quick calorie consumption (around 1000 calories for 4 pints of cider)
- Alcohol is a causal factor in more than 60 medical conditions, including: mouth, throat, stomach, liver and breast cancers; high blood pressure, cirrhosis of the liver; and depression



## TOP TIPS TO KEEPING CONTROL

1. Keep track of what you're drinking
2. Consume a glass of water between each alcoholic drink
3. Know your strength (read the volume strength of your drinks)
4. Have alcohol free days
5. On average, alcohol leaves the body at the rate of one hour per unit consumed
6. Plan ahead on your nights out. Arrange suitable transport, if you are going to drink

## Indication of how alcoholic drinks can affect adult males

BODY WEIGHT (LBS)	NUMBER OF DRINKS									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
100	.043	.087	.130	.174	.217	.261	.304	.348	.391	.435
125	.034	.069	.103	.139	.173	.209	.242	.278	.312	.346
150	.029	.058	.087	.116	.145	.174	.203	.232	.261	.290
175	.025	.050	.075	.100	.125	.150	.175	.200	.225	.250
200	.022	.043	.065	.087	.108	.130	.152	.174	.195	.217
225	.019	.039	.058	.078	.097	.117	.136	.156	.175	.198
250	.017	.035	.052	.070	.087	.105	.122	.139	.156	.173
200	.022	.043	.065	.087	.108	.130	.152	.174	.195	.217
225	.019	.039	.058	.078	.097	.117	.136	.156	.175	.198
250	.017	.035	.052	.070	.087	.105	.122	.139	.156	.173

Red indicates the levels BELOW the legal limit (This chart is only a guide and can depend on strengths of individual drinks)

## BE IN THE KNOW

Understanding Blood Alcohol Content is key to understanding how alcohol affects your body and the danger zones of alcohol poisoning. BAC measures the ratio of alcohol in the blood. So, a BAC of .10 means one part alcohol for every 1000 parts of blood.

## THE LEGAL DRIVE LIMIT IN ENGLAND AND WALES

The alcohol limit for drivers is 80 milligram's of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood, 35 microgram's per 100 millilitres of breath or 107 milligram's per 100 millilitres of urine. In most other European countries, the limit is less, usually 50 milligram's per 100 millilitres of blood (3).



THE  
APPLICATION  
PROCESS  
FOR THE 2016  
AWARDS IS  
NOW OPEN

# PCA PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS '16

### THE AWARD WILL HAVE THREE CATEGORIES FOR THE WINNERS:

- The Personal Development Newcomer Award (for players making their first achievements in personal development)
- The Past Player Personal development Award
- The Current Player Personal Development Award

The winners will take home a significant financial reward that can be used towards the cost of their personal development. Examples that the award could be used for include: costs incurred, resource costs or course fees.

### JUDGING CRITERIA:

The judging panel will assess the shortlisted candidates on various criteria

- Development course/s undertaken and qualifications attained
- Cricketing development - where relevant
- Work placement/s undertaken
- Community work undertaken
- Willingness to embrace charitable initiatives
- How they would use the additional scholarship award

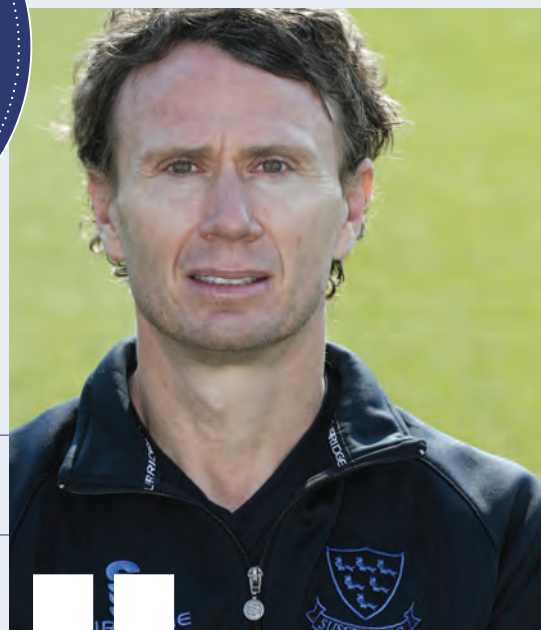
### WHAT CONSTITUTES PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT?

Examples of Personal Development in the last 12 months could include: personal or professional development course/s undertaken and learning/formal qualifications gained, cricketing development (where relevant), work placement(s) undertaken, and involvement in charity or community based work. However, the PCA recognise the broad and individual nature of Personal Development so speak to your regional Personal Development Manager if unsure whether your efforts qualify.

Last year Derbyshire wicketkeeper Tom Poynton, Somerset batsman James Hildreth, Gloucestershire seamer Liam Norwell, Sussex pair Mike Yardy and Mark Davis and the former Warwickshire off-spinner Maurice Holmes were the winners of the Professional Cricketers' Association Personal Development Scholarships.

### SUBMISSION DETAILS AND DEADLINE:

Applications and CV's should be emailed to PCA National Lead for Personal Development & Welfare, Ian Thomas: [ithomas@thepca.co.uk](mailto:ithomas@thepca.co.uk)  
by Friday 27th November 2015



“Completing my MBA in Sports Management at Loughborough University, and passing with a distinction, has given me so much confidence in my ability. When you don't have anything behind you, you possibly think: can I do something else after cricket? If I stopped coaching, can I excel in a different career?”

MARK DAVIS,  
2014 PAST PLAYERS  
PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT  
AWARD WINNER

# STAY CLEAN, BE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE

A new illicit drugs programme has been introduced in England and Wales developed by the PCA, ECB and First-Class Counties.

The programme is distinct from the anti-doping policy and covers the use of what are sometimes termed recreational drugs such as cannabis and cocaine.

These drugs are illegal and can certainly harm your health. As a professional cricketer you are a role model for young cricket fans and society in general.

In line with other major sports cricket has introduced a programme designed to ensure that its players are clean and the PCA has supported the introduction of compulsory tests.

The programme that has been developed aims to ensure that we provide an appropriate duty of care to our players.

It identifies players who have drug-related issues and then provides support, advice and medical treatment if necessary.

The tests are completely separate from those carried out by the anti-doping programme. They are controlled by the ECB but are carried out by an independent agency.

Because of their importance, avoiding or refusing to provide a sample will be treated in the same way as a failed test.

You will be asked to give a hair sample from the head of which 3cm will be tested for a wide range of drugs.

Because drug traces stay in hair follicles for extended periods, analysis will reveal signs of drug use dating back three months from the date of the test.

If insufficient head hair is available then chest or arm pit hair

can also be used. As this grows slower than hair on the head a history of up to three months per centimetre of hair will be revealed.

The collection of the hair sample takes about 15 minutes and you may be tested in or out of season. On average you can expect to be tested about twice a year but an important feature of the testing regime is its unpredictability.

In the event of a first positive test you will be required to attend an interview with the ECB Medical Officer to determine any appropriate treatment and counselling.

Your club doctor will also be involved but, unless the Medical Officer believes your health and well-being are at significant risk no one else within your club will be told. Although you can expect to receive follow-up tests looking for signs of continuing drug use.

In the event of a second positive test the disciplinary process kicks in. At this point your county CEO and the Chief Executive of the PCA will be informed. You will be suspended for all cricket for 21 days and fined five per cent of your annual salary. You must also commit to a programme of education, counselling and treatment.

If a third test is positive you will be given at least a one year suspension from all cricket and failing a fourth test will invoke a three year ban.

You can view the ECB Illicit Drugs Programme on the PCA website: [www.thepca.co.uk/anti\\_doping\\_programme.html](http://www.thepca.co.uk/anti_doping_programme.html)

## The PCA Confidential Helpline has been set up for players who would like to talk to a professional counsellor and therapist in absolute confidence.

If you are struggling with a personal problem such as drink, drugs or gambling dependency, family issues, bereavement, depression or anything else that may be affecting your game and your life in general, help is just a phone call away.

The service offers free confidential help and support when and where you need it with support from experienced, professional counsellors and therapists and life coaches who understand the pressures of your profession.

The helpline doesn't have to be the first port of call. You could chat to a PCA employee or colleague and be put directly in touch with help. If you're in real danger, then we'll have somebody with you within hours.

The first call is just the start. Face-to-face meetings as close to your home, or at home, will follow as soon as a need is ascertained.

Don't delay a call. There is no such thing as a time waster with this service.

"The PCA Confidential Hotline is funded by the PCA Benevolent Fund and is a free 24 hours-a-day service designed to help players and their immediate dependants, whether past or present, who are struggling with a personal problem," said Jason Ratcliffe, PCA Chief Executive

"The service is run in partnership with LPP Consulting who are experts in mental well-being and people performance.

"David Raines, the Helpline co-ordinator, is an important point of contact and he can help PCA members in need to access speedily professional expert help and advice."

**The Professional Cricketers' Confidential Helpline is endorsed and supported by the PCA and the ECB and set up specifically for the benefit of professional cricketers past and present.**

Call the confidential helpline on:  
0844 800 6873 (UK CALLS)  
+44 (0) 1373 858080 (INTERNATIONAL)  
or speak to our Confidential Helpline  
Co-ordinator, David Raines on  
07711 018440 or email [draines@thepca.co.uk](mailto:draines@thepca.co.uk)



# YOU MIGHT ONLY NEED TO SAVE FOR RETIREMENT FOR 10 YEARS, BUT START EARLY

The headline might sound a bit flippant, but it has been shown that saving for the 10 years before you are 30 could mean you end up with more cash for retirement than if you save for the 40 years before you are 70. **Oliver Chew** of FF&P Wealth Planning shares his opinion.

YOU MIGHT NOT THINK YOU HAVE MUCH SPARE MONEY IN YOUR EARLY WORKING YEARS - BUT ANYTHING YOU CAN SAVE NOW WILL GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS A MORE COMFORTABLE RETIREMENT

If you are already past 30, cheesy as it sounds it is never too early to start making provision for the future, so the principles still apply. And if you are way past 30 then maybe give this article to your children, or even grandchildren...

So how is it possible?

The answer is "compound interest".

Compound interest is the additional return you make on the natural income and gains from your investments – in other words you earn income on the income.

By starting a 10 year savings programme early, i.e. at the start of your twenties, the additional 10 years of growth and the compound interest can produce a bigger eventual pot of cash than adding to your savings for 40 years from your early thirties. The obvious caveat being that you should choose your investments carefully (i.e. so that you actually achieve a positive return).

The example we have created looks at two savers who each contributed £2,500 per year to a pension, and the calculations assume investment growth of 7% per year (note that this is an ambitious target and would require a significant degree of risk to be taken; this will not be appropriate for everyone).

The first saver, let's call him Alastair, started saving at 21 and stopped at 30. He would have a pension fund worth approximately £553,000 by the age of 70. This assumes that no further contributions were made from age 30 but that the fund carried on growing at 7% a year, with these gains reinvested in the pension.

The second saver, let's call him Freddie, starts at 31 and carries on contributing until the age of 70. He ends up with a fund worth approximately £534,000, again assuming 7% annual growth.

Alastair has given up £25,000 of his earnings to build his retirement pot, and Freddie has put £100,000 away, whilst still achieving a lesser result. Obviously, if Alastair kept on adding to his savings, as would probably be sensible, the result would be even more impressive.

This example clearly highlights the benefits of saving in your early working years. Whilst you might not think you have much spare money after all your expenses go out every month, anything you (or the younger generations of your family) can save on a regular basis now will go a long way towards a more comfortable retirement, leaving you more time to do the things you enjoy.

*Disclaimer: FF&P Wealth Planning is not providing advice or any type of product recommendation. Saving and investing will not be appropriate for everyone, and you should seek specialist advice where necessary. A good starting point might be the independent financial information website [www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk](http://www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk)*

**FF&P**  
FLEMING FAMILY AND PARTNERS

# STAYING PRIVATE IN THE INFORMATION AGE



How private is private in this day and age? We live in an information age where we expect things to be available at our fingertips, it is not quite so convenient however, when the available information includes your personal information.

If you have a Wikipedia page or a CricInfo profile then your date of birth is online, plus your full legal name and references to any news stories, good or bad, that have been written about you in the past.

From there it is a short step to more personal information. If you are registered to vote then you are on the electoral roll - the register of all voters and their addresses. If you didn't tick the box on the electoral registration form saying that you do not want to be on the "edited register" then your name and address will be available on the commercially available register which can be sold to marketers. Effectively this means that, if you type your name into Google plus the words "192.com", you'll see that your name and address is available for anyone who wants to find it.

The price of a public profile, whether you're a player or an ex-player, is that details of who

your friends, family, spouse or other nearest and dearest are is often available online. Armed with this information, and a good understanding of social media, it is surprising how much personal information can be gleaned from the Twitter, Instagram, Facebook or other social media pages of you, your friends and your family.

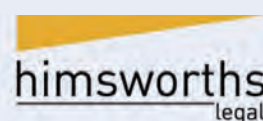
We recently performed an audit for PCA Chairman Mark Wallace, focusing on the private information that is available in the public domain relating to Mark and, of course, we're advising Mark on how the information can be removed. Mark commented: "I'm pretty careful about how I use social media and try and limit it mostly to professional and cricket content but it's surprising how easy it is to find personal info about me and my family. What was most shocking was seeing my home address available online".

We advise everyone, particularly those with a public profile, to do an audit. A simple Google search to understand what information is available about you is a good start. Some of the information which might make you feel uncomfortable can be removed. A simple request to your local electoral registration body plus a request to 192.com can often deal with the problem of your address being online.

Taking care on your own social media, and making sure that those close to you take care too, is an obvious and easy step to make. Facebook's privacy terms are often changing, it is often a good idea to login to your profile and spend some time making sure that your account is as secure and private as possible. Facebook now offers users a Privacy Checkup which is explained in more detail in Facebook's help topics. As Facebook put it: "The Privacy Checkup will help you review who sees your posts, your settings for apps you've logged into with Facebook and who can see info from your profile like your phone number and email address".

And what about information that is online without your consent? Where information is genuinely private, or is a breach of your copyright (such as photographs taken by you) or is false and damaging, then there are often simple steps that can be taken to have the information removed. If in doubt then contact us, either directly or through the PCA, and we can help.

Speak to Matt Himsworth on 07799 66 0355 or 01727 800237





# BEAR NECESSITY

## ASHLEY GILES SHOWS THE BENEFITS OF PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT ON GROUND-BREAKING SPORTS DIRECTORSHIP COURSE

You are never too old to start a Personal Development Programme as Lancashire's Director of Cricket Ashley Giles can vouch.

Giles left school in Surrey with two A Levels and with no career plan other than to be a professional cricketer. He had to move to Warwickshire to achieve his ambition but then enjoyed a successful domestic and international career before he made the smooth transition into coaching.

The former England left-arm spinner guided Warwickshire to the County Championship in 2012 and was then recruited by the ECB as England's limited overs coach.

It was only when he lost that job as part of a coaching restructure in April 2014 that Giles had to think about the possibility of working outside of cricket for the first time and he enrolled for a new Masters degree in Sports Directorship at Manchester Metropolitan University.

Giles began the two year course in September 2014, shortly before Lancashire offered him the chance to return to cricket coaching and he is able to look back on his first year as a mature student with satisfaction.

"When I did retire from playing there was a period when I didn't know whether I was going to go into coaching," Giles said.

"Leadership and management have always interested me and I was looking at whether I could possibly transfer those into the business world.

"In the end nothing came of that because I went straight into management. But that in itself has been an education for me just in leadership, whether it be cricket or managing structures and people. You don't always get it right but it's something that has always interested me,

"Coming out of the England job I did feel exposed. As a cricket coach there are only so many jobs and you are at the hands of your bosses and the market. I wanted to make sure that I could possibly give myself other opportunities,

"Besides that the Masters course is an exciting one. A sport director's position is one that is going to become more and more popular and more and more used by big sporting organisations."

Giles has two familiar faces on the Manchester course in Mark Chilton, the former Lancashire captain who is now part of the county's coaching team, and David Parsons, the ECB's Performance Director.

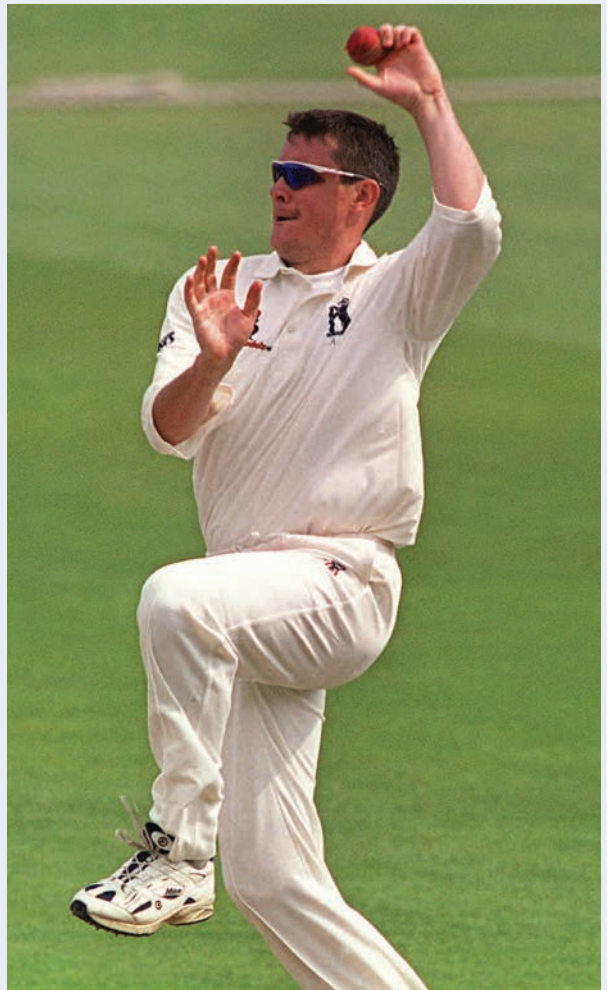
The other students are from a mixture of sporting and business backgrounds but all, like Giles, combine day jobs with academic study.

"There is a lot of reference and academic research so you are getting the academic side and the theory to back up what we do and maybe what we do in the future," he said.

"I did A Levels at school although I didn't do them well. Perhaps attempted A Levels would be a better description. I took four and got Geography and General Studies so I failed Maths and I failed Economics. I just wasn't there because I was off playing cricket those two summers.

"It has been a huge challenge to go back and do these assignments but it does make you think differently.

"When you do assignments you sometimes think you just write it down and forget about it but I have found that a lot of it does go



ASHLEY GILES MADE A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO HIS ADOPTED COUNTY AS A PLAYER, BEFORE GUIDING WARWICKSHIRE TO THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP IN 2012

in and you can use the information again. It has given me a much greater understanding and also an understanding of myself to an extent.

"It's quite hard in some respects but being away from home has helped. At the moment every game is an away game for me so I've been spending a lot of time in hotels on my own so I have managed to find time to do the course work.

"There are 24 in our cohort and we split into four learning groups and we use WhatsApp to communicate with each other in the times when we are not on site.

"We have all got a job that we are trying to hold down as well as doing the academic work."

The Masters course has given Giles a greater appreciation of the importance of Personal Development, not just for himself but also his players and he is supportive of the PCA Personal

Development and Welfare Programme.

"I think we should encourage our players more and more to get out and learn new things and get themselves around and meet new people," Giles said.

"Apart from learning new skills you never quite know who you are going to meet and where that might lead.

"In the pre-Christmas period I am very flexible about the guys doing other things to develop themselves. The one thing we insist on is that they maintain their level of fitness and they get enough gym time, in but they can do that away from the ground.

"Even last year just after I started at Lancashire I was blocking people coming to the ground until we reported back in November. If you are always here you can get stale, one year rolls into the next. These guys have lives, wives and girlfriends and they need to spend time there as well.

"There is a flexibility this year for players whether it's to go on a course or to go abroad. Most of them have a lot of flexible time anyway. The coaches are probably around most of all. The programme before Christmas will give guys the opportunity to come in and do individual sessions but there will be plenty of time to do other stuff.

"If it's a Level Three coaching course that needs three days away there is no way on earth that I am going to block that. Its crucial personal development. If time is needed away I have got no problem with that at all.

"The players have already done a lot

of work with Matthew Wood, our PCA Personal Development Manager. Luke Procter is doing a barber's course and the whole squad did a cookery class earlier this year. All those things are great.

"I recently did a presentation as part of my Masters to the second cohort who have just started. After a year of the course I look at the different people I have met, the connections I have made and the advances that I have made in my knowledge of management and leadership.

"It's a lesson to us all that you are never too old to learn new skills. I am 42 now and have left it a bit late, but these guys should get out there. I have been one of the lucky ones who have been in cricket for 20 odds years now but it doesn't happen for everyone.

"I had no idea what I would have done if I had not played cricket and that's quite scary really. I consider myself extremely lucky and look back and think blimey: I wasn't prepared for anything but cricket. I had put all my eggs were in one basket.

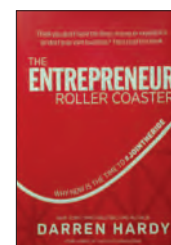
"It's a pretty cut throat business and guys should be prepared for something else. There are times as a coach and manager of professional cricketers when you want them to focus on their cricket but we have to be more and more aware that is precarious business now.

"In the old days a lot players played for 15 -20 years but that doesn't happen so often now, so learning skills outside the game or from within the game is really important."



ASHLEY GILES IN AFRICA RAISING MONEY FOR THE PCA BENEVOLENT FUND; BACK IN ENGLAND KIT IN HIS ROLE AS ENGLAND ONE-DAY COACH

If you get a chance to start reading more during the winter months here are a few good titles recommended by PDM Matt Wood.



## THE ENTREPRENEUR ROLLERCOASTER

by By Darren Hardy

★★★★★

The unexpected and sometimes terrifying emotional roller coaster an entrepreneur experiences is the greatest factor in why most quit and ultimately fail. Hardy's book can help anyone who has always wanted to be an entrepreneur but never knew where to begin - or what to expect. You will learn strategies of the most successful people on the planet, covering four essential skills: Sales, Recruiting, Leadership and Productivity.



## THE TALENT CODE

by Daniel Coyle

★★★★★

Coyle considers talent in work in venues as diverse as a music school in Dallas and a tennis academy in Moscow to demonstrate how the wiring of our brains can be transformed by the way we approach particular tasks. He explains what is really going on and when apparently unremarkable people make a major leap forward, and why some teaching methods are so much more effective than others. Above all, he shows how all of us can achieve our full potential if we set about training our brains in the right way.





# CAFÉ SOCIETY

Former Hampshire batsman **Kevin Latouf** and England rugby captain **Chris Robshaw** are now business partners in a coffee shop and wine bar.



Kevin Latouf's passion for wine has helped the former Hampshire batsman to forge a new career with England rugby union captain Chris Robshaw.

Latouf and Robshaw have been friends since they started at Millfield School as 13-year-olds and they are now business partners in Black White Red, a coffee shop and wine bar in Winchester.

"After I finished playing cricket I opened up a place called JCs and Chris used to come down quite a bit," Latouf said

"I told him that I had another idea for a coffee shop and wine bar but lifting it up another level. Chris jumped on board and said he would love to get involved and that's how it came about."

Robshaw's rugby commitments with England and Harlequins limit the amount of time that he can spend at Black White Red so Latouf is in charge of the day-to-day running of the business.

"I do all the day to day running of the place and try to grow the business but Chris is involved in every decision that we make," Latouf said.

"Due to his rugby commitments Chris can't be here all the time. But it's a great thing for him to get away from rugby when he comes down here. It's something he is very interested in.

"He has always had an interest in food and coffee so it's nice for him to have a release from the pressures of playing international sport."

It took Latouf a little time to decide what direction to take after his county career ended in 2008 but he eventually settled on a career in the wine business.

"For me it was always about being proactive. I wasn't exactly sure what I wanted to do when I left Hampshire so I tried everything under the sun from sports PR, to marketing, branding and design. I did two weeks internships at these places just to get a feel for what I thought I

might like," Latouf said.

"In the end the things I thought I would enjoy I actually didn't. It was always trying to find the thing that was as close to giving you the buzz you had playing sport.

"I love wine and I found that the most interesting thing. I didn't necessarily think there was a career in it but, the more I looked into it, I found that there was."

Latouf is now in his fourth year of studying for his Wine and Spirit Education Trust qualification and has also set up his own online wine business.

"In Black White Red we specialise in high end coffee and our wines are all organic from interesting wine makers and producers. It's not run-of-the-mill and it's not wine you would find in the supermarket," Latouf said.

"Wine is my real passion and it's what I was still studying while I was still playing and I have set up another wine business, The Wine Butler, which is an online members club specialising in organic natural wines."

Although Latouf works long hours he would recommend the coffee shop and wine bar business as a prospective career for other cricketers.

"You are your own boss which is nice and for the most part you are in control what goes on," he said.

"As sportsmen in a team the control probably isn't in your hands. It's someone else who selects you so it's nice to have a bit more control of your future which I like.

It's one of those things where you get out what you put into it. It's not easy and you work seven days-a-week opening to close. Because it's your business it never leaves your mind. It's not nine-to-five here and you don't clock off for the weekend.

If you do manage to get away there is always a phone call or an email that you have to deal with. It's all consuming but it does keep you active."

### Are you looking to start your own business? The PCA's Business Start-Up Mentor Geoff Davies is awaiting your call.

Setting up a business is never easy. For those who have travelled the path to a degree at university or involved themselves with the family legacy from an early age, it is a continual drive to learn

from mistakes and find the right formula to maintain success. For the player leaving the game and looking to start out on their own, it is as daunting as any new-ball spell.

To help with the challenges that a lack of knowledge in this area inevitably brings, the PCA have been lucky enough to find a willing ally in Geoff Davies. A partner at renowned Chartered Accountants, Dyke Yaxley, for many years, he has acted as a sounding board for county cricketers who have been looking at setting up businesses for the future.

Davies is not new to the PCA, having first become involved back in 1997, when former CEO Richard Bevan asked for assistance with the financial management of an organisation that was rapidly evolving.

He takes up the story: "I have seen the PCA grow enormously. When I was first involved it was a case of supporting the membership through an annual grant from the ECB. Today it has much greater reach and offers the players support in so many areas."

Cricketers now earn a great deal more than their counterparts of the Eighties and Nineties. For some, in other sports, this has proved difficult to handle with the advent of extra time on their hands and mobile phones that create betting options that don't even involve leaving the sofa.

Davies has seen the change in lifestyle and has tried to offer advice accordingly. He added: "I have spoken to a number of players about general financial

# START UP / ADVICE



management in terms of how to protect their income and build for the future, but several have also sought advice on setting up a business and the best way to structure it. As in other sports, cricketers generally have the skills associated with those in business and are focussed individuals that are able to understand the importance of leadership, teamwork, tactics and the ability to take lessons from defeat and use them to improve performance."

It is not just cricketers nearing the end of their career that have need of guidance. Davies is only too aware of the importance of younger players entering the game starting to think about what they are going to do with salaries that are often way ahead of people of their own age who have started work on the bottom rung of the corporate ladder.

He explained: "Many of the individuals I've been asked to assist over the years have

been those who have retired from the game and have developed financial problems by over-borrowing when they have been able to easily afford such borrowings and, as earnings have fallen, have borrowed further, through expensive unsecured loans and credit cards. That, of course, only exacerbates the problem and can lead to serious financial issues."

The advice is crucial, but not as important as the decision to seek it. With people like Geoff Davies making themselves available to offer years of experience to anyone wanting to start securing their future, the PCA are in good hands.

If you are interested in seeking support and guidance on developing a business idea, contact your regional PDM who will arrange for a consultation with Geoff Davies, the PCA assigned mentor for starting up a business.





# THE TIME IS NOW

I've reached my mid-twenties now and have decided that I'd like to use my off-seasons better to prepare for my future outside of the game. I've managed to research a couple of work placement options which really interest me, but with our winter schedule looking quite intense from November onwards, I'm not sure how I'm going to find the time to fit anything in around working on my game. I know I should speak to the coaches about this but I'm worried about giving the impression that I'm not 100% focused on my cricket - will this be held against me?"

### PDM RESPONSE

This is a predicament for players in the modern age of professional cricket. In years gone by, players went off to do other jobs in the winter. Due to contracts being six months and the need to earn a winter income, players were exposed to other industries, environments and learning opportunities. The learning and development for those individuals has no doubt served them well in their transitions and long after their playing careers ceased.

The playing culture of today's professional, presents different challenges. The PCA actively encourage players to engage in development opportunities. We recognise that it is a key responsibility that we support players and clubs achieve a development culture and lifestyle.

On occasions we do see some players use clubs training schedules and requirements as an excuse to not challenge their personal development. It really shouldn't be, as a personal development plan for a winter, can be as small or as big as you want to make it.

With cricket being the number one priority, dual aspirations can present many challenges and frustrations for players alongside the scheduling of winter training

programmes. The holistic development of a player should always have a place and be of importance to both the individual and the club.

The need to want to progress personal goals alongside cricket goals can be achieved with some of these key principles being established:

- **GOOD COMMUNICATION**  
Between club, coaches and work placement employer
- **HONESTY AND OPENNESS**  
Share your goals and feelings with the club and coaches at meetings
- **TIME MANAGEMENT**  
Using time effectively, to do training sessions and cover all requirements often earns players the right for supportive freedom to take on dual aspirations
- **FLEXIBILITY**  
This being from both the coaches and support staff, as well as the work placement and player concerned

Very rarely do we now hear of a coach in cricket who does not believe players can benefit from developing themselves as a person, as well as a cricketer. The evidence across all sports is that athletes developing

**With cricket being the number one priority, dual aspirations can present many challenges and frustrations for players alongside the scheduling of winter training programmes.**

themselves presents supporting evidence to the obvious performance based benefits. More specifically to cricket, we have produced the below supporting evidence from our last PCA player survey:

- 79% of players are concerned about retirement from playing professional cricket
- 65% believe engaging in personal development has added to their personal self confidence
- 64% believe engaging in personal development can provide a greater sense of perspective on performance based anxiety
- 69% believe that engaging in personal development can improve their playing performance

# DESIGNER TRIO

**T**hree Worcestershire players were given the opportunity to display their creative flair outside of cricket after spending time on work experience placements with one of the club's partners.

Chris Russell, Shaaq Choudry and Gareth Andrew all spent time working in the offices of Beard, a Worcester-based branding and design company who are Worcestershire's official creative design partners.

The three cricketers were given plenty of opportunity to work collaboratively with Beard's small team of full-time staff with paceman Russell and slow left-artermer Choudry using their graphic design skills and all-rounder Andrew working on marketing and PR.

So successful was the work experience that all three are now studying for qualifications which they hope will help them in careers outside of cricket. Russell, who studied graphic design at A Level, is now doing an online degree in visual communications at the Open College of Arts, Choudry, who already has a degree in ICT, is studying for a degree in graphic design with the Interactive Design Institute and Andrew is completing a Chartered Institute of Marketing certificate.

"I loved it every time I went in to the office. I was excited to go in and I never thought that would be the case," Russell said.

"I massively think it's what next for me whenever cricket may finish. The good thing was that you can do the work anywhere as long as you have your computer. You don't have to go into work and do it. I have got a desk at home and I have got everything I need on my computer."

For Choudry, who was released by Worcestershire at the end of the season, the work experience gave him a diversion from playing and training and a different perspective on his cricket.

"The biggest help for me was getting away from the cricket. It gives you a distraction. If you don't have that you think about cricket all the time," he said.

"It almost got me thinking about



RUSSELL



CHoudry



ANDREW

whether I wanted to carry on playing cricket. I looked at it and thought I really enjoy the graphic design work. It's hands-on and quite creative which I enjoy. If you get a job in that field it gives you stability and another career aspect."

Andrew, whose contract was not renewed by Worcestershire, had considered going to university to study sports science before he began his county career with Somerset. The experience of working in the Beard office has now persuaded him that his future career will be in marketing.

"It's been perfect timing really. I've had the opportunity to marry studying and work experience at the same time. Those are the two things you want when you are looking at setting up yourself after cricket," Andrew said.

"Beard were very accommodating with myself. I worked for three weeks and then came in and did work ad hoc when we had time off from training."



## DAVID LLOYD'S PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

I was absolutely flabbergasted to be invited to become PCA President and it has been a great honour to serve an organisation that I have a long association with.

In those dark days we were wary of being seen as shop stewards and rebellious by the Test and County Cricket Board. But we thought we were badly done by, which we were, and we did something about it.

From that 'us against them' situation the PCA has become a well-established and well-respected organisation which I am delighted about.

It also does a terrific job for present and former players, particularly the excellent work that the team of Personal Development and Welfare Managers do in preparing lads for life after cricket.

When you join a county you are all starry-eyed and you think: this is the life. The reality is that you will play cricket for about 10 years if you are lucky.

When I was coaching I would always say to the lads: 'this isn't an ordeal, enjoy yourself. Make your job enjoyable because you are a long time retired.

The way the PCA now looks after current players to push them forward, encourage them to go to college, get degrees, to get qualifications and to move on makes it easier for them when they finish playing.

When I finished playing at 36 I was quite vulnerable. Initially I was drawn back to Old Trafford. I used to just wander in, but you quickly come to understand that it's not your workplace anymore.

I tried my hand as a brewery rep and a double glazing salesman but I was really lucky that whilst I was playing I took all my coaching badges at the National Sports Centre at Lilleshall. That was an absolute boon for me as it helped me to move into umpiring, then work for the Test and County Cricket Board in junior cricket and to work my way through the age groups and then on to all the other things I have done since.

I can't stress how important it is for the lads who are playing now to get something to fall back on and the PCA can help them with that.

The PCA Benevolent Fund also plays an important role in supporting past and current players and their dependants who are in need.

Two of my former Lancashire team-mates, Jack Bond and Ken Shuttleworth, have been helped by the Benevolent Fund in recent years and they are among many good news stories generated by an organisation that I am so proud to be associated with.



# JIMMY ANYON'S TRADITIONAL ROMAN PASTA CECE

Sussex seamer **Jimmy Anyon** loves a hearty, rustic meal. While on holiday in Rome visiting family, he found a recipe book with traditional Roman recipes, including this for Pasta Cece – which means chickpeas in Italian.

With his 'chuck it the pan and see what happens' style of cooking, this is one of his favourite concoctions!

## INGREDIENTS

SERVES 2-4

- 3 rashers of smoked streaky bacon
- 2 tins chickpeas
- 1 tablespoon of chopped fresh chili or, 1 teaspoon of dried crushed chili
- 1 teaspoon dried rosemary
- 1 clove garlic, finely chopped
- 500ml chicken stock
- Dried pasta
- Parmigiano Reggiano (parmesan) to garnish
- Good quality Italian olive oil to finish

## METHOD

In a deep, heavy-based frying pan, sweat the bacon - then add garlic and fry for two minutes. Add the chili and rosemary to the pan. Meanwhile, drain the chickpeas; add them straight to the pan. Cover with the chicken stock and reduce the heat to simmer for 10 minutes. In a separate pan, add the pasta to boiling water and simmer until cooked, stirring occasionally to stop the pasta sticking. Crush the chickpeas (using a fork or the back of a spoon) and serve atop the pasta in lovely Italian pasta bowls. Season with black pepper, sprinkle with parmesan and drizzle with olive oil. Serve with focaccia bread.













# THE RIDE STUFF



THE BIG BIKE RIDE 2 BROUGHT TOGETHER TEST AND COUNTY CRICKETERS, A SUPERMODEL, SPONSORS, CRICKET FANS AND CYCLING ENTHUSIASTS OVER FIVE MEMORABLE DAYS – AND RAISED A SIX FIGURE SUM FOR TWO CRICKET CHARITIES ALONG THE WAY









**F**und-raising, fun and friendship were the key themes of Big Bike Ride 2 which covered more than 400 gruelling miles from Truro to the Kia Oval in October and raised significant funds for the PCA Benevolent Fund, sponsored by Royal London, and the Tom Maynard Trust.

The ride followed the success of the first Big Bike Ride in 2013 and raised more than £100,000 which will be divided between the two cricket charities.

More than 70 riders took part in some or all of the five demanding days including 2005 Ashes winners Marcus Trescothick and Geraint Jones, Darren Gough, Rob Key, Hamish Marshall supermodel Jodie Kidd and a strong Surrey contingent that included Chairman Richard Thompson, Chief Executive Richard Gould, captain Gareth Batty, second team coach Ali Brown, paceman Stuart Meaker and physio Alex Tysoe.

The journey included two gruelling days of hill climbing in Cornwall, Devon and Somerset, a 100 mile trek from Somerset's Taunton headquarters to Hampshire's Ageas Bowl and a punishing climb at Titsey in Surrey ahead of arrival at the Kia Oval and a champagne reception.

"Many thanks to everybody involved at every stage. The whole event has required help on a number levels with organisation from health and safety, to route planning, mechanical support, luggage courioring, multiple hotel accommodation plans to food and drink provision," said PCA Assistant Chief Executive Jason Ratcliffe.

"Needless to say, all of this takes a lot of time and planning. It all lays the foundations for the event to work and support the multiple riders, who have given up their time to train, given up their allocated holidays from work, spent time away from loved ones over a weekend, raised significant monies from friends and colleagues and also spent their own money on bike equipment and travel.

"We've raised significant money that will be vital for the work we do within both charities.

"It's an enormous collective effort and we are hugely appreciative of each and every person involved at every level. Many many thanks."

Trescothick and Jones also topped

the bill at fund-raising dinners in Truro, Instow in Devon and Hove despite feeling tired from riding every mile of the journey.

"To cycle from Truro to the Kia Oval was absolutely amazing. It's up there with some of the best things I have done," Jones said.

"It wasn't that long ago that I was being carried off at Lord's after winning the Royal London One Day Cup in my last match for Gloucestershire. That was special but this has got a different sense of achievement. Just the physical effort that has been put in and the people I have been with. It's definitely up there with what I have done on the pitch."

The Big Bike Ride 2 peloton also included three England Women internationals in Lydia Greenway, Heather Knight and Tammy Beaumont who rode the first three days.

Beaumont rejoined the group on the last day ahead of the most punishing hill climb on the journey.

"I'm not going to say I loved every minute because some of those hills were an absolute mental test for me but I have really enjoyed it," Beaumont said.

"There was such great camaraderie with all the groups. I wanted to come back and see it home."

The riders were welcomed by the Somerset, Hampshire, Sussex and Surrey county clubs as well as grassroots cricket clubs across the south of England who provided sumptuous breakfasts, lunches and teas at Lanhydrock, Holsworthy, North Devon, Sparkford, Sutton Veny and Wivelsfield Green.

"It was cricket coming together. Of the 60-plus people riding bikes on this trip it was great to have three people from the ECB there to get to know players, administrators and other areas of the game. It's really important that we do that," said former Northamptonshire opener Alan Fordham, one of three England and Wales Cricket Board staff on the ride.

"I am really conscious it doesn't happen at my desk or any of our desks. It happens out on the field whether it's at grassroots, first class or Test level. We do it for them but it's nice to get out and see some of the people we are working for."

Jodie Kidd joined Big Bike Ride 2 for the last two days having been made aware of the event by Surrey



raising funds for



and



Chairman Thompson, her manager.

"I have done a few bike rides, but not one where there is such a great bond between wonderful people for such worthy causes," Kidd said

"A lot of the legs have been so tough. You are pretty exhausted by the end of the day so it hasn't been easy.

"Normally when you do charity bike rides they are not so tough. There were some tough climbs, long hours in the saddle and long distances covered. The riders work really hard for the money they have raised."

For Matt Maynard, the Somerset Director of Cricket who set up the Tom Maynard Trust following the tragic death of his son in 2012, the efforts and commitment of the Big Ride 2 riders were an inspiration.

"The ride into The Oval was very emotional. Physically you are tired which brings on the emotions. To pitch up at the club Tom finished playing for and receive that kind of support it was incredible," Maynard said.

"It was actually unexpected as well, so that makes it harder. When you see something like that it makes it tougher - but the fantastic level of support from everyone has exceeded my expectations."

**"I HAVE DONE A FEW BIKE RIDES, BUT NOT ONE WHERE THERE IS SUCH A GREAT BOND BETWEEN WONDERFUL PEOPLE FOR SUCH WORTHY CAUSES" JODIE KIDD**

You can still donate to Big Bike Ride 2: <https://mydonate.bt.com/events/bbr2pcabftmt/193332>

## PCA BENEVOLENT FUND



## CHERRY WELL DONE DAN

**F**ormer Glamorgan batsman Dan Cherry raised money for the PCA Benevolent Fund by completing his first Ironman Challenge in just under 16 hours.

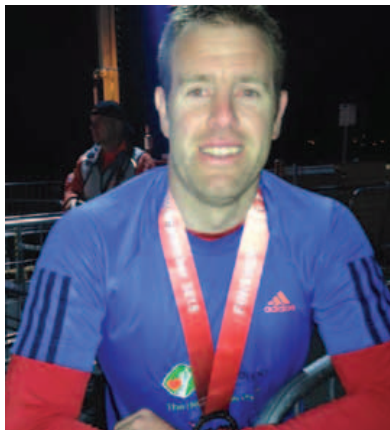
Cherry, who now works as Glamorgan's Head of Operations, competed in the Ironman Wales event around a particularly gruelling course at Tenby in Pembrokeshire.

He swam 2.4 miles in the sea, cycled 112 miles and then completed the challenge by running a marathon.

More than 2,150 started but only 1,700 finished - with Cherry coming in a very creditable 1,440th.

The Ironman event was the first leg of a demanding autumn of fund-raising for Cherry who also took part in Big Bike Ride 2 to raise money for the PCA Benevolent Fund and the Tom Maynard Trust.

"The money that I raised through Ironman was for the Benevolent Fund.



I was keen to support the PCA as I have seen some of the great causes they have supported and how they have helped former playing colleagues too," Cherry said.

## WASELL IS ON THE MEND

Alan Wassell, the former Hampshire slow left-arm, is making good progress after suffering a debilitating stroke last year, thanks to help from the PCA Benevolent Fund.

Wassell, 75, lost his speech and was confined to a wheelchair after he suffered the stroke in January 2014 but he has now regained some of his mobility after having regular physiotherapy sessions that were funded by the PCA Benevolent Fund, which is sponsored by Royal London.

Peter Haslop, another former Hampshire player, suggested that Wassell approach the PCA for help and the Benevolent Fund put him in touch with Hobbs Rehabilitation, which are based near his home in Fareham.

"The physio that Alan has been working with has done wonders for him," said Wassell's wife Joan.

"He's now walking with a stick and he is able to walk round the block. He's had regular sessions with the physio coming to the house. She has been a great help to him and he has got a lot of faith in her."

Wassell, who played for Hampshire from 1957 to 1966, is an active member of the PCA and had attended one of the Association's regular Past Player Days.

"Alan knows all about the PCA and we went up to one of their Past Player Days at Arundel a couple of years ago which we thoroughly enjoyed," Joan said.

"It was Peter Haslop who suggested to Alan that he got in touch with the PCA to see if they could help him because he knew other people in different circumstances who had been helped by the Benevolent Fund."





# HOOD HITS THE ROAD

## Brave Jamie set to take delivery of new customised vehicle, thanks to PCA Benevolent Fund help...

**J**amie Hood, the former Yorkshire all-rounder, is to take delivery of a specially-adapted vehicle which will increase his mobility thanks to the PCA Benevolent Fund, sponsored by Royal London.

Hood, now 34, was about to start his third season on Yorkshire's staff when he broke his neck in a car accident in Cape Town early in 1998.

The accident, which happened when a tyre blew out at low speed, left Hood with no mobility below his neck and wheelchair-bound ever since.

Despite his injuries, Hood remains actively involved in cricket as a coach at his local club Redcar and as a spectator at Yorkshire matches at Headingley and Scarborough.

The specially-adapted vehicle is similar to the one that the PCA Benevolent Fund provided for Winston Davis, the former West Indies, Glamorgan and Northamptonshire fast bowler, and will enable Hood to be driven more easily by his carers.

"It's unbelievable for me. I am the type of person who never likes to stay in. I like to be always out doing things, living life to the full," Hood said.

"Without a car I would be stuffed. I still like to watch local cricket every

Saturday. My carers take me over to Headingley and Scarborough to watch Yorkshire once or twice a season to catch up with old friends and old team-mates.

"Without the vehicle I wouldn't be able to go out. With this vehicle I can drive my wheelchair straight into the back and away we go."

Hood travelled to the Kia Oval in August to attend the third day of the fifth Ashes Test and help to raise awareness of Cricket United Day which brought together the PCA Benevolent Fund with two more cricket charities, Lord's Taverners and Chance to Shine, in a joint fund-raising appeal.

Hood was also filmed by Sky Sports for a feature that was screened during the Test match highlighting the work of the PCA Benevolent Fund, which is sponsored by Royal London.

"The PCA have been brilliant. They have bought me equipment for physiotherapy that helps keep my joints and posture in a good position," he said

"They have also paid for five holidays abroad which I would not be able to have without their support. They have been absolutely fantastic."

Hood's accident happened at the start of the year which he hoped would

be his breakthrough into Yorkshire's first team having toured South Africa with the senior squad in 1995.

"It was definitely going to be a breakthrough season for sure. I had been on tour with the first team so I wasn't too far away," he said.

"I was overseas professional for a club in Cape Town. It was my fifth season with them. I had been out for a meal with friends and I was driving home through the middle of Cape Town.

"It was a freak accident because I was going no more than 30mph and I think there was a blow out of a tyre on the car which slid into a barrier.

"When I locked my arms out straight the impact from hitting the crash barrier broke my neck. The break was high up in my neck so it left me paralysed from the neck down.

"It was just a freak. I didn't have any marks on me or bruises or cuts. It was just the impact on my neck that broke it. It was like whiplash.

"I knew it was serious straight away because I couldn't move but I accepted it from day one. I still live my life to the full and do as much as I can. I'm very positive. I don't let it get to me."

**"WITHOUT A CAR I'D BE STUFFED. I STILL LIKE TO WATCH LOCAL CRICKET - WITH THIS VEHICLE I CAN DRIVE MY WHEELCHAIR STRAIGHT INTO THE BACK AND AWAY WE GO"**

# CRICKET UNITED DAY

BLUE IS THE COLOUR:  
THE KIA OVAL WAS  
AWASH WITH BLUE  
AS CRICKET UNITED  
TOOK OVER THE  
SATURDAY OF THE  
FINAL INVESTEC  
ASHES TEST

THE DISTINCTIVE  
COLOUR MADE  
ITS WAY INTO  
BROADCASTING  
STUDIOS AS WELL AS  
PLAYER'S CAPS, THE  
MATCH STUMPS AND  
IN THE STANDS

THE KIA OVAL AGAIN TURNED BLUE FOR THE THIRD CRICKET UNITED DAY WHERE THE PCA BENEVOLENT FUND TEAMED UP WITH TWO MORE CRICKET CHARITIES.

**T**he PCA Benevolent Fund was one of the three cricketing charities that benefitted from a hugely successful Cricket United Day on the Saturday of the final Ashes Test at the Kia Oval.

The annual event was staged for the third time and raised almost £100,000 for the Benevolent Fund, the Lord's Taverners and Chance to Shine.

The event is the biggest cricket charity day in the UK and, thanks to player and sponsor engagement which has improved on the momentum gained in the opening two years of the exciting concept.

The aim of Cricket United to turn The Oval blue while raising money and raising awareness through the media which was helped this year by Michael Vaughan acting as lead ambassador.

Merchandise, including Cricket United t-shirts, caps, raffle tickets were in sale and fans from across the country were invited to support the fund-raiser by donating via their mobile phones.

Mark Butcher, Matthew Hoggard and Adam Hollioake performed an ambassadorial role on the day, joined by celebrities Davina McCall and Lucy Verasamy who helped spread the Cricket United message and encouraged donations.

All England sponsors joined in as over 90% of the in-ground perimeter advertising boards turned blue while Toyota and Marston's even changed their social media icons in support of the three charities.

Fundraising for Cricket United now happens all year round. A pre-Ashes dinner in June kick-started proceedings and over £21,000 was raised through the Cricket United portraits as the 2015 Ashes squad were tasked with drawing the 2005 team and vice versa. The sketched provided a great talking point amongst media and supporters which was headlined by Andrew Flintoff's doodle of Joe Root which sold for an incredible £8,000 on eBay.

Cricket United could not happen without the unwavering support of the ECB. This year Cricket Australia also backed the campaign as both sides displayed the Cricket United logo on their Test shirts. One-off blue Test caps were also produced and handed to beneficiaries of the three charities, including Jamie Hood. These unique items were then auctioned off which raised over £6,000.

The Benevolent Fund also received fantastic exposure with features throughout Cricket United day during the third day of the final Investec Ashes Test on Sky Sports.

Cricket United is a concept all three charities are aiming to expand in the future.



JOS BUTTLER, ALONG WITH THE REST OF THE ENGLAND PLAYERS, SKETCHED THEIR '05 COUNTERPARTS WHICH WERE AUCTIONED OFF IN AID OF CRICKET UNITED







## MASTERS IN ACTION

### CLUB CLASS



2015 PCA ENGLAND MASTERS MVP USMAN AFZAAL GETS DOWN WITH THE KIDS AT BANSTEAD CC EARLIER IN THE SUMMER

**Neil Fairbrother**, the former England and Lancashire batsman, believes that a fixture against a star-studded PCA England Masters XI is “a must-look-at opportunity” for cricket clubs around the country.

Fairbrother now helps manage the PCA England Masters and his own club, Grappenhall CC near Warrington, were set up financially for almost five years from the first of two matches they successfully staged against the side made up of recent England internationals in 2013.

Banstead CC in Surrey raised almost £20,000 from a successful PCA England Masters match this year organised by Tom Lancefield, the former Surrey and England batsman, and Fairbrother believes that other former players can help their clubs by staging similar events.

“I would say to PCA members who are involved in local cricket clubs that they should look at hosting a PCA England Masters fixture. It’s a lot of planning and a lot of hard work but the potential benefits of that planning and hard work are massive,” Fairbrother said.

“The first event that we staged set our club up financially for the foreseeable future. For clubs who are struggling to make ends meet it’s a must look-at opportunity.

“It’s all set up, it’s a really good day. From the outset the PCA helps the club or school all along the way.

“Once there is an agreement to stage a day the PCA will visit the club two, three or four times leading up to the day. We have a

template of how you should run your event from the day you sign the contract to the day after it finishes.

“That template now has been used over 50 times and it works. Nobody has not made a considerable profit out of one of our days.”

Apart from generating important revenue, as Banstead did for the PCA Benevolent Fund, their clubhouse appeal and a local charity, matches against the PCA England Masters help to raise the profile of cricket clubs in their local community.

“It was a great day and an opportunity to have those guys turn up and play at your local cricket club to inspire the younger generation and also some of the older members of the club who would have seen the Masters guys play,” Lancefield said.

“I’m really glad we did it. It gave us a focal point in our cricketing calendar and it also enhanced the reputation of the club and got people who have not been involved in the club for a while to come back and support the day. Hopefully they will keep coming back for years to come.

“One of the aims of the club is to become a focal point for the local club and not to just be this thing in the corner of Banstead that people feel dis-engaged with.

“Our stated aim is to continue to put on events such as that and try and involve the local community as much as possible and make the cricket club the hub of that.”

The PCA England Masters side could be playing at your club next year, helping to generate important revenue and raising its profile in the local community. For more information please contact [pcamasters@thepca.co.uk](mailto:pcamasters@thepca.co.uk) or visit [thepca.co.uk/pca\\_masters](http://thepca.co.uk/pca_masters)

## GLAM CONTEST

Some well-known faces from Glamorgan’s recent past were back in action when the recently-formed Glamorgan Masters XI played their inaugural fixture against Welsh club Bridgend Town.

The idea was floated at the annual Glamorgan Former Players Association reunion at the SSE SWALEC Stadium in June and received warm support.

“Hopefully, it can become a once a year event besides giving the former players another chance to meet up, as well as acting as ambassadors for Glamorgan County Cricket Club, and helping to raise valuable funds for good causes,” said former Glamorgan batsman Ian Thomas, who now works as the PCA’s National Personal Development Manager.

Despite the array of talent arrayed against them Bridgend celebrated their 175th anniversary with a resounding win but the fixture raised valuable funds for the Glamorgan Academy tour to the Middle East in December.



## PAST PLAYERS' DAY



AROUND 100 FORMER COUNTY CRICKETERS, WHO BETWEEN THEM HAVE SCORED ALMOST 489,000 FIRST-CLASS RUNS AND TAKEN MORE THAN 2,100 WICKETS, ENJOYED THE ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL CRICKETERS' ASSOCIATION PAST PLAYERS' DAY AT CHELTENHAM COLLEGE.

**T**he 2015 Past Players' Day, held this year on the opening day of Gloucestershire's LV= County Championship match against Leicestershire, brought together former players from across the generations.

Roy Booth, the former Yorkshire and Worcestershire wicketkeeper, was the oldest past player present at 88 with Adam Rouse, the former Hampshire and Gloucestershire wicketkeeper, the youngest at 23.

The past players spanned more than 60 years from Booth's debut in 1951 to Rouse's final appearance for Gloucestershire last season.

There were 16 Test players among those who gathered for a sociable day of reminiscing with former team mates and opponents including Mike Watkinson, the former England and Lancashire all-rounder.

Watkinson proved a popular choice as lunchtime speaker and he also enjoyed his first PCA Past Players' Day.

"Having been a player, a coach, a cricket director and now

a former player you begin to realise that the PCA operates across a number of levels from supporting and educating the young professional who is making his way in the game, giving him a safety net



in case his career doesn't work out by giving him other skills," Watkinson said.

"At the other end of the scale you see some of the older guys who have been out of cricket for a while who might need help - whether it's medical or financial.

"The PCA really cover many bases and the fact that we have got so many ex-players here this year shows that there is pleasure and enjoyment in being able to reflect on your careers.

"Reminiscing is an enjoyable part of life and this day is about the same people being in the same room, swapping stories and enjoying the camaraderie of having played the same sport."

George Sharp, the former Northamptonshire wicketkeeper, also attended the Past Players' Day for the first time having retired from umpiring at the end of the 2014 season.

"It's an excellent day. It's great to see so many old players who you have played against, some of whom I haven't seen for 20 years or more," Sharp said.

"The PCA do a fantastic job for the players through the Benevolent Fund for people who fall on hard times. They do a wonderful job."

Neil Smith, the former Warwickshire captain, attended the event with his father MJK, the former England captain, and enjoyed meeting fellow former players from different generations.

"I have been three times now and it's a great day. For the older generation it's real opportunity to get together," Smith said.

"Everybody knows each other, we have all got that common link and these days are great fun.

"A lot of ex-players will have contributed to the PCA and, thankfully, won't need help in an emergency. But this event is one way for the PCA to put a bit back and all the past players glean something from it."

Duncan Fearnley, the former Worcestershire batsman and Chairman, is also a strong supporter. He thinks it is an important part of the county cricket calendar.

"I am a big believer in this sort of event at county level as well. We have all got one thing in common and that is cricket," Fearnley said.

"It's wonderful to meet your old colleagues again, those you played against as well as with. Long may it continue."

**"IT'S A GREAT DAY - A REAL OPPORTUNITY TO GET TOGETHER AND REMINISC. EVERYBODY KNOWS EACH OTHER, WE HAVE ALL GOT THAT COMMON LINK"**



# THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'

ENGLAND SEAMER **GEORGIA ELWISS** GIVES THE INSIDE TRACK ON HOW THE WOMEN'S GAME IS EVOLVING...



CLARE CONNOR AND ENGLAND CAPTAIN CHARLOTTE EDWARDS FACE THE TV CAMERAS; GEORGIA ELWISS IN ACTION THIS SUMMER; ENGLAND'S VICTORIOUS WOMEN'S RUGBY WORLD CUP TEAM 'REFLECT THE CURRENT SUCCESS OF WOMEN'S SPORT IN GENERAL'

"WITH INCREASED COVERAGE IN THE MEDIA COMES MORE SCRUTINY - WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO ACCEPT THAT THERE WILL BE MORE OPINIONS VOICED"

**T**here have been exciting developments in women's cricket in the last 18 months or so with the introduction of full-time contracts for England players.

Until now I have been studying for a degree in Sports Science with Management at Loughborough University so going full-time fitted in well with what I was doing.

Before I was balancing studies and cricket but now I will be able to focus more on training. Full-time contracts have allowed us to train more frequently and work on our skills. We have more time on-task than we did before.

Financially, I should now start to feel the benefits. Having graduated with a 2:1 during the summer, there isn't the urgency to find a job.

When I started my degree, playing cricket professionally wasn't an option. I am interested in nutrition, particularly performance and sports nutrition, and I was lucky enough to get an internship with a company called Mac-Nutrition in Loughborough.

I have done a day a week with them for the past year to 18 months which has been good experience. Hopefully, moving forward, it's something that I can get a career in because your time in professional sport is very short. We are fortunate to work with Purdy Miller, the ECB's National Lead for Personal Development and Welfare, who is always there for a chat and to give you a bit of perspective to make sure that your life is not focused completely around cricket. Yes, sport is important, but you need other things in your life to focus your time and energy on.

We've just finished the Women's Ashes series. We were disappointed not to retain the trophy over the three formats but we were overwhelmed with the media coverage we got.

There are challenges when there is a bit of negative media but overall the coverage this year has had only a positive impact on the women's game.

This summer's media exposure was much bigger than I have experienced before and I think that reflects the success of women's sport generally at the moment. England did well in the recent football World Cup and the rugby team are the reigning world champions.

In think the Women's Ashes coverage built on that. People got behind us and some of the crowds we had this summer were unbelievable. Playing in front of capacity crowds at Chelmsford and Hove were memorable experiences for both teams.

It was great to see women's cricket on the back pages of some of the national newspapers as well as getting live coverage on Sky Sports and BBC Radio and that has helped to raise the profile of the players.

I must admit I was a bit taken aback by how many people stopped me in the street during the season to wish me well. That is something I had not experienced before but it's brilliant to have that recognition. Hopefully we will have more of that in the future.

With increased coverage in the media comes more scrutiny. If we are going to have more people writing about women's cricket then we have to accept that there will be more opinions voiced.

It's important to try to keep a level head and not get too carried away by the praise when you do well or too upset by the criticism when you have a bad day.

Looking ahead to next season there will be an exciting new development in our domestic game with the creation of the Women's Cricket Super League.

That is a massive step towards bridging the gap between international cricket and the county game and will hopefully to raise the profile of domestic competitions and attract more spectators and media interest.

The aim is to inspire and encourage grassroots participation alongside helping to raise standards to ensure that England can compete in World Cups, win back the Women's Ashes and get back to being number one in the world.

# GLOBAL SUPERSTARS

THE ENGLAND PHYSICAL DISABILITY TEAM'S SUCCESS IN THE RECENT FIVE NATION TOURNAMENT IN BANGLADESH WAS A TRIUMPH OUT OF ADVERSITY FOR THEIR PLAYERS AND ASSISTANT COACH **IAN SALISBURY**

**T**he personal challenges that Ian Salisbury has faced over the past two years helped him to appreciate the efforts that the players of the England Physical Disability team put into winning the first multi-nation tournament in September.

Salisbury lost his job as Surrey coach midway through the 2013 season and then spent a year out of work caring for his wife, Emma, who was diagnosed with a brain tumour.

The former England, Sussex, Surrey and Warwickshire leg-spinner returned to coaching earlier this year as cricket professional at Trinity School in Croydon and was then appointed assistant coach of the England Physical Disability side midway through the season.

Salisbury travelled to Bangladesh with the squad for the five team International Committee of the Red Cross International T20 Tournament for people with Physical Disabilities and was humbled by the experience.

"It was unbelievable and it was very humbling just to be part of it. The guys were just incredible. They were away for two-and-a-half weeks in conditions they would not have experienced before," Salisbury said.

"We lost our first match to Bangladesh and we knew that we would then have to win every match after that.

"Like most English teams who go to the sub-continent, first up we didn't play spin particularly well.. We changed a few things with the batting to turn things around, which we did. To then win the tournament was fantastic. You could



GOLDEN TOUCH: THE ENGLAND TEAM AND ASSISTANT COACH IAN SALISBURY CELEBRATE A MOMENTOUS VICTORY IN BANGLADESH

make a film out of it."

England went on to beat Afghanistan, India and Pakistan with a squad that included two players with a prosthetic leg each, one with a prosthetic arm, one with titanium knees as a result of suffering cancer, two with club feet and others suffering from cerebral palsy. Callum Flynn was player of the tournament seven years after he was told on his 14th birthday, that he had bone cancer.

"Every person has an amazing story to tell. Just for them to be playing cricket, let alone to be part of a winning England side playing other physical disability teams and being world champions, is a dream come true for them," Salisbury said.

"I am sure the tournament is going to get bigger and more competitive as we go along. But at the moment they are the best in the world at what they do.

"Fair play to them for playing cricket and for being part of something so special. Each player has his own individual support network of family and friends that surround them.

"A couple of them are over 30 and have kids but

the rest are youngsters. One has just finished school and two or three are at university.

They are just young men really.

"They have all gone through some dark times and that is the beauty of sport. It gives someone a chance and a dream to get over an injury or a disability and to represent their country."

The tournament in Bangladesh was also significant for Salisbury who had previously done some coaching with the England Under-19 team.

"I was given the sack by Surrey, was out of work for a bit and had a year off to look after my wife while she was having chemo and radiotherapy," he said.

"I only started working again in January but life has changed so much for me. Maybe that helps me with these guys. They say that I am the most relaxed person they know but I think life has taught me to be that way now.

"That is why it is a pleasure working with these guys. We have a mutual trust and respect for one another.

"My coaching CV is getting bigger and bigger and more versatile you start seeing life a lot differently rather than being blinkered at times in being involved in the county game.

"There is a world out there. If I ever got the chance to coach again at whatever level I know so much now than I used to, that's for sure."

**"THEY SAY THAT I AM THE MOST RELAXED PERSON THEY KNOW BUT I THINK LIFE HAS TAUGHT ME TO BE THAT WAY NOW. WE HAVE A MUTUAL TRUST AND RESPECT FOR ONE ANOTHER"**



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## DRESSING ROOM NOTICES



### The PCA England Masters

If you have missed our article on the Masters in the back section of this addition of your magazine, we urge you to check it out because they could be playing at a club near you. Fixtures updated throughout the year at [www.thepca.co.uk/pca\\_masters](http://www.thepca.co.uk/pca_masters)

### Keep in touch

Find players past and present and stay in contact with the PCA by searching for our facebook page. Follow us on Twitter: @PCA



### Help your own charity

Raise money and awareness for the PCA Benevolent Fund and support players past and present in times of need.

Call Jason Ratcliffe on 07768 558 050



## The PCA Past Player Day 2016

The date for next year's PCA Past Player Day - a relaxed, enjoyable chance to catch up with old friends and foes - will be released in the New Year. Please keep an eye on [thepca.co.uk](http://thepca.co.uk) website for full details in due course...



Follow the leaderboard on the PCA website as it develops throughout the season, and see if anyone can know Durham's Chris Rushworth from his perch in 2016!

**County MVP** - [www.thepca.co.uk/county-mvp](http://www.thepca.co.uk/county-mvp)  
**England MVP** - [www.thepca.co.uk/england-mvp](http://www.thepca.co.uk/england-mvp)

### Got a story to tell?

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Applicable to current and full PCA members, there have been important changes to the PCA Travel Policy.

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is now +44 (0)208 763 3155

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Visit: [www.thepca.co.uk/travel\\_policy](http://www.thepca.co.uk/travel_policy)

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**Jason Ratcliffe**  
Assistant Chief Executive  
Mobile: 07768 558 050  
Email: [jratcliffe@thepca.co.uk](mailto:jratcliffe@thepca.co.uk)

**Angus Porter**  
Chief Executive  
Mobile: 07584 262 083  
Email: [aporter@thepca.co.uk](mailto:aporter@thepca.co.uk)

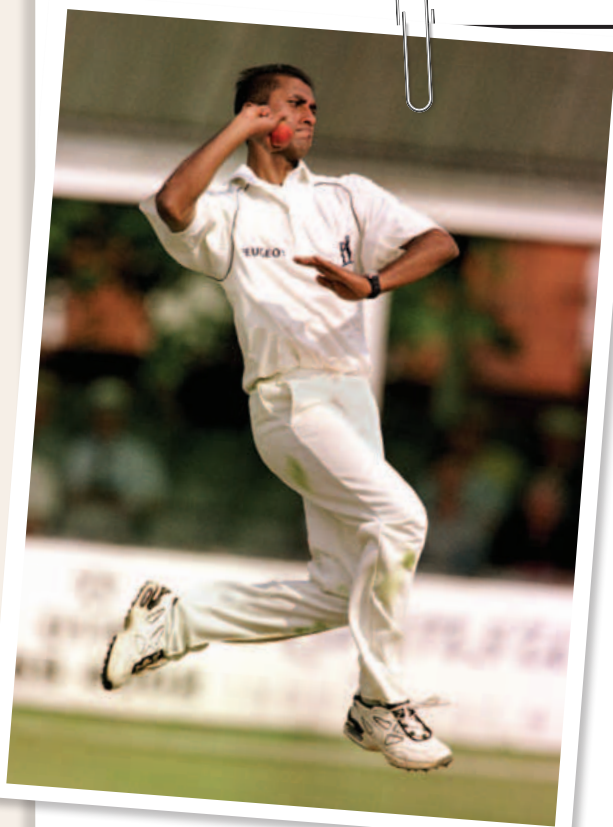


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THE PCA ADDRESS BOOK  
THIS ISSUE WE LAND ON AN 'M'

## MOHAMMAD SHEIKH

He was twice released by counties but Mohammad Sheikh, the former Warwickshire and Derbyshire all-rounder, has no regrets about his playing career...

### SO MO, HOW DID YOUR CAREER END?

"Derbyshire released me at the end of the 2003 season. The disappointment was that my last year was probably my best at Derbyshire, but they went with the option of a younger staff."

"I had already been released by Warwickshire so I knew what it is like to be told that your contract is not going to be renewed."

### WHAT DID YOU DO AFTER WARWICKSHIRE RELEASED YOU?

"I landed the job as cricket coach at Solihull School through John Cloughton, the former Warwickshire batsman, who was headmaster there at the time."

"We had an agreement that if a county came in I would be able to join them. I had just come out of a meeting when David Houghton, who was coaching Derbyshire, called me to say there was a possibility of a contract at Derby."

"I had played with Dave for West Bromwich Dartmouth in 1992 so I drove straight from Solihull to Derby and it went from there."

### WHAT DO YOU DO NOW?

"I help my brother, Uzeir, to run a shisha café in Leicester. We started it when I was playing for Derbyshire so on my days off I used to go over to Leicester and help out."

"It's called Shisha Café on Belgrave Road and it's now fairly well-established."

"I've also done a lot of coaching in Warwickshire's youth system this year and I've been helping Tony Frost with the county's Second XI."

"I have still managed to spend a fair amount of time in Leicester helping out in the café though."

"When Derbyshire released me I knew I was going to go into the business - but I also wanted to pro in the Birmingham League and play some Minor Counties cricket, which I did for Staffordshire. At first I went back to West Bromwich Dartmouth but now I'm playing for Smethwick."

### YOU CAME INTO CRICKET QUITE LATE. DID YOU EVER GIVE UP HOPE OF BECOMING A COUNTY CRICKETER?

"I played in Warwickshire Under-19s with quite a few players who went on to get county contracts - Charlie Mulraine, Anurag Singh, Mark Wagh, Wasim Khan, Michael Powell, Darren Altree and Parvaz Mirza - but I didn't get one."

"I made my way back through the leagues. I had good seasons in the Birmingham League in 1993 and 1994 having scored 1,000 runs and that got me trials in Warwickshire's second team. I performed well and got offered a contract midway through the 1996 season."

"I hadn't given up hope of playing cricket. That's what kept me going in the leagues. But the year I broke through was the one where I thought that if it didn't happen then, I wasn't going to make it."

### WHAT DID YOU DO OUTSIDE OF CRICKET?

"I did some coaching and worked in my uncle's ice cream business in Birmingham. When you are family in a business you don't really have a job title - you do everything. I took the orders, the deliveries and helped out in production. I was just a good handyman but a trustworthy one being part of the family."

### WHAT WERE THE HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR CAREER?

"A highlight was putting on 37 for the last wicket with Charlie Dagnall to win a Benson & Hedges Cup against Worcestershire at New Road in 2001."

"But when I look back the real highlights were taking the field with some of the greats of Warwickshire cricket, playing alongside the likes of Brian Lara, Allan Donald, Shaun Pollock and Waqar Younis."

"It was always a wish of mine to represent Warwickshire, even if it was only one game, and I did it."

"I can't look back with any regrets apart from the fact that maybe I should have worked harder."

"As a coach that is the one thing I am telling the kids now. They must savour every day and savour every game."

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Emily Lewis, *Head of Events & Fundraising* [elewis@thepca.co.uk](mailto:elewis@thepca.co.uk) 020 7449 4225

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The Heart of the Game





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